

# FIREARMS REGISTRY

## Prohibited Weapons Silencer Permit

This FACT sheet provides information on obtaining a prohibited weapon permit for a silencer and if applicable, a firearm permit for possession and use of the firearm to which the silencer is attached.

It is an offence in NSW to possess a prohibited weapon without the authority of a permit.

### **What is a silencer?**

**Definition:** Silencers or any other device designed for attachment to a firearm for the purposes of muffling, reducing or stopping the noise created by firing the firearm.

### **Why are two permits required to possess and use a silencer?**

A silencer is classified as a prohibited weapon under clause 4(3) of Schedule 1 of the *Weapons Prohibition Act 1998* (the Weapons Act) .

To lawfully possess or use a prohibited weapon listed in Schedule 1 of the Weapons Act, a person must hold a prohibited weapon permit authorising possession or use of the weapon. In order to obtain such a permit a person must have a genuine reason for possession and use of the silencer.

Where a silencer is attached to a firearm, the firearm is classified as a prohibited firearm by item 10 of Schedule 1 of the *Firearms Act 1996*. Accordingly, the following licence/permits are required:

- \* **Prohibited Weapon Permit** to authorise the possession and use of the silencer, and
- \* **Firearms Licence** to authorise the possession and use of firearms, and
- \* **Firearms Permit** to authorise the possession and use of the prohibited firearm.

### **Who would be able to establish a genuine reason to possess and use a silencer?**

The applicant must demonstrate that the possession and use of a silencer is necessary in the conduct of the applicant's business or employment or for the activity concerned.

#### **Business/Employment Purposes:**

- \*A person employed by a government agency, such as the National Parks and Wildlife Service or the Local Lands Service who can demonstrate it is necessary in the conduct of that employment to possess and use the silencer, OR
- \*A person who is a professional licensed contract shooter and is contracted to control feral animals or vermin on behalf of a government agency or on behalf of another person and can demonstrate it is necessary in the conduct of that employment to possess and use the silencer, OR
- \*A person on behalf of a registered pest control business who is required to control feral animals or vermin and can demonstrate it is necessary in the conduct of that employment to possess and use the silencer, OR

#### **Recreational/Sporting Purposes:**

- \* A person who can demonstrate that their recreational/sporting activity requires the possession and use of a silencer.

Note: A genuine reason may be established to possess or use a silencer which falls under a separate and specific prohibited weapons permit (A prohibited weapons dealer, theatrical armourer, collector or museum etc). These permits have a separate application process. Please refer to the Permits page on the Firearms Registry Internet site for further information.

### **What is the term of the permit?**

The permit will be issued for a maximum term of 5 years.

### **How much will the permit cost?**

The prescribed fee for this permit is \$127. Your payment must accompany the application. You may pay by cheque or money order made payable to the NSW Police Force or by filling out the credit card details on the reverse of the application form. An additional \$25 fee is required for each person, other than the permit holder, completing a P639 form to be listed and authorised by the permit.

### **What do I need to send with the application?**

- \* A completed P638 'Application for a Prohibited Weapons Permit' form, and
- \* A completed 'Prohibited Weapon Silencer Genuine Reason' form, and
- \* A completed 'Business Declaration', and
- \* Supporting documentation as requested on the genuine reason form.

### **What safe keeping level applies to this permit?**

Level 2 safe storage is prescribed for a silencer. See the FACT Sheet '*Safe Storage Prohibited Weapons Level 1, 2 & 3*' & '*Prescribed Safe Storage for Schedule 1 Prohibited Weapons*'. You must meet or exceed the prescribed safe storage for the weapon concerned.

### **How do I apply for a Silencer Permit?**

You must complete the P638 'Application for a Prohibited Weapons Permit' form and the 'Prohibited Weapon Silencer Genuine Reason' form and where applicable provide any supporting documentation. Please see the reverse of this FACT Sheet for instructions on how to complete the P638 form.

# Instructions for completing the PW Permit Application Form

## PROHIBITED WEAPONS PERMIT APPLICATION FORM (P638)

### NEW APPLICATION / REAPPLICATION

Mark the appropriate box, new application or reapplication. If you currently hold, or have previously held, a firearms licence or firearms or prohibited weapon permit, enter your licence or permit number.

### SECTION A - PERMIT TYPE

From the drop down list select the type of permit for which you are applying. If the permit is not listed in the drop down list, enter 'Other' and describe the type of permit you require in the space provided.

### SECTION B - NOMINATED PERSON / PERMIT HOLDER

Insert the full name, date of birth, gender, NSW drivers licence (if held), contact phone numbers, email address and supply details for the nominated person (business) or nominated permit holder (individual). If you have been known by any other names enter your alias here.

### SECTION C - RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Insert your full residential address in this section.

### SECTION D - POSTAL ADDRESS

If the postal address is the same as the residential address, mark the box. If your postal address is different to your residential address, insert your postal address in this section.

### SECTION E - BUSINESS, CLUB OR GOVERNMENT AGENCY DETAILS

If this application is being made by a Business, Club or Government Agency, complete this section and attach supporting documentation.

### SECTION F - SAFEKEEPING ADDRESS OF WEAPONS

If the safekeeping address is the same as the residential address, select 'YES' in the box. If your weapon safekeeping address is different to your residential address, select 'NO' and insert the address in this section.

### SECTION G - PERSONAL HISTORY

Answer each question by selecting a 'YES' or 'NO' from the drop down list. If you answer 'YES' to any question, provide details as an attachment.

### SECTION H - DECLARATION

The application must be signed and dated by the applicant.

### SECTION I - FEE

The prescribed fee for a prohibited weapon permit is \$127. Your payment must accompany the application.

### RELATED INFORMATION

See FACT Sheets:

'100 Point Identification'

'Schedule 1 Prohibited Weapons - Safe Storage Levels 1, 2 & 3',

'Prescribed Safe Storage for Schedule 1 Prohibited Weapons'.

## Firearms Registry

### Address

Locked Bag 1  
Murwillumbah NSW 2484

### Telephone

1300362562

### Interstate

02 66708590

### Fax

02 66708558

### Email

firearmsenq@police.nsw.gov.au

### Website

[www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms)

## Where can I find more information?

The information provided in the FACT Sheet is for general guidance only. Applicants and permit holders should familiarise themselves with the *Weapons Prohibition Act 1998* and the *Weapons Prohibition Regulation 2009*, which are available on the NSW Legislation website - [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au).



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[www.police.nsw.gov.au](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au)

