



Bill C-42, the *Common Sense Firearms Licensing Act*

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Snapshot

Implementation of Bill C-42, the *Common Sense Firearms Licensing Act*

Implications

On June 18, 2015, the *Common Sense Firearms Licensing Act* received Royal Assent. This legislation amends the *Firearms Act* and the *Criminal Code*.

Upon Royal Assent, the following legislative amendments came into force:

- The Government has final say on classification decisions, following the receipt of independent expert advice;
- Classroom participation in firearms safety training is mandatory for first-time licence applicants;
- The *Criminal Code* is amended to strengthen the provisions relating to orders prohibiting the possession of firearms where a person is convicted of an offence involving domestic violence; and
- The discretionary authority of Chief Firearms Officers (CFOs) is subject to limit by regulation.

The Canadian Firearms Program (CFP) must make significant system and process changes to implement certain elements of the legislation. The following legislative amendment will come into force three months after Bill C-42 receives Royal Assent:

- Streamline the licensing system by eliminating the Possession Only Licence (POL) and converting all existing POLs to Possession and Acquisition Licences (PALs).

The following legislative amendments will come into force nine months after Bill C-42 receives Royal Assent:

- Provide a six-month grace period at the end of the five-year licence period; and
- Make Authorizations to Transport (ATTs) a condition of a licence for certain routine and lawful activities.

The following legislative amendment will come into force 21 months after Bill C-42 receives Royal Assent:

- Authorize firearms import information sharing when restricted and prohibited firearms are imported into Canada by businesses.

The implementation dates will be communicated to clients and partners through various channels, including the CFP website.

For more information, call the CFP toll-free information line at 1-800-731-4000 or visit online at <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cfp-pcaf/index-eng.htm>.

