

Genuine Reason 8 – Show or Exhibition

Note: This information sheet does not constitute legal advice and is for general information purposes only. Applicants and licensees are required to understand and comply with the *Firearms Act 1996* (“the Act”) and associated Regulations, which are available on the Tasmanian legislation website – www.legislation.tas.gov.au. This document was prepared in April 2023 based on the relevant legislation at that time.

A person must have a ‘genuine reason’ to possess or use a firearm to apply for a firearms licence. This information sheet explains how to apply for a firearms licence for the genuine reason of show or exhibition.

Exhibition of firearms

A person must not possess a firearm for show or exhibition unless the person is the holder of a firearms museum licence in respect of that firearm.

Firearms museum licence

A firearms museum licence authorises the holder to exhibit or show only a firearm of a category specified in the licence at premises specified in the licence.

What documents are required to apply for a Firearms Museum Licence?

Evidence in relation to the applicant’s intention to show or exhibit the firearm to which the application relates is required. Firearm Services requests that this evidence be provided in the form of an affidavit or statutory declaration by the applicant, including information in relation to the applicant’s intention to show and/or exhibit the relevant firearm.

Firearms museum licences requirements

Section 87 of the Act imposes requirements on firearms museum licence holders in relation to the premises specified in the licence and the place of storage for firearms in those premises:

- (a) the premises are to be in a structurally sound condition;
- (b) the doors giving access to the premises and their locks, bolts, hinges and other fastenings are to be strong, stout and in good condition;
- (c) any windows, skylights or other covers of openings giving access to the premises are to be in good condition and their locks, bolts, hinges and other fastenings are to be strong, stout and in good condition;
- (d) all doors and windows, skylights and other covers are to be capable of being secured against unlawful entry;



- (e) all reasonable steps are to be taken to secure the premises and the place of storage from unlawful entry;
- (f) the premises and place of storage are to be equipped with an anti-intrusion alarm that is able to detect, to the maximum extent reasonably practicable, any unauthorised entry to the premises or place or any unauthorised interference with any firearm;
- (g) the anti-intrusion alarm is to be activated at any time the premises are unoccupied;
- (h) in the case of the holder of a firearms dealer licence, if the premises or place of storage are premises or a place to which the public have access, all firearms at those premises or that place that are not in the physical possession of the holder or any employee of the holder, or that are not being displayed to a customer under the immediate continuous personal supervision of the holder or the employee, are to be –
 - (i) dismantled, rendered temporarily incapable of discharging a shot, bullet or other missile by the removal of a part of the firing mechanism or otherwise or secured, whether in a display cabinet, rack or otherwise, in a manner that prevents them from being readily removed and fired; or
 - (ii) locked up in a metal container of sturdy construction that is secured to the premises, a metal safe of sturdy construction or a steel and concrete strongroom of sturdy and sound construction;
- (i) if any firearm has been dismantled or rendered temporarily incapable of discharging a shot, bullet or missile by the removal of a part of the firing mechanism, that part is to be stored on the premises in a locked receptacle of an approved type that is kept separate from any receptacle containing the firearm;
- (j) in the case of the holder of a firearms dealer licence, all ammunition that is not in the physical possession of the holder or any employee of the holder, or that is not being displayed to a customer under the immediate continuous personal supervision of the holder or the employee, is to be stored in a locked receptacle that is –
 - (i) of an approved type; and
 - (ii) kept separate from any receptacle containing a firearm;
- (k) such other requirements as may be prescribed.

Display of firearms

Section 97 of the Act requires firearms museum licence holders to ensure that any firearm displayed in any part of the premises to which the licence relates –

- (a) is under the immediate supervision and control of the holder or an employee of the holder; and
- (b) is not displayed to the public unless reasonable precautions are taken to prevent it from being stolen; and
- (c) is secured in a manner that would reasonably prevent its removal by a person other than the holder or an employee of the holder.

