

Having 'proper secure storage' means that, depending on the number of firearms you hold or intend to hold at any one address and also being cognisant of other firearms held at that address by a parent or other siblings, you must be in accord with Statutory Instrument 307 of 2009 which states:-

NUMBER OF FIREARMS (Kept in the same place)	STORAGE REQUIREMENTS
1 Shotgun (i.e. non Restricted type)	- No safe required but disassemble the shotgun and affix a trigger lock.
Up to 3 firearms (or 1 Restricted Firearm)	- A Gun Safe to standard BS.7558 is required.
Up to an incl. 5 firearms (or 2 Restricted Firearms)	- A Gun Safe to standard BS.7558 is required plus your house or the room where the gun safe is located or the Gun Safe itself must be alarmed.
6 firearms or more (or 3 Restricted Firearms)	- A Gun Safe to standard BS.7558 plus a monitored Alarm System is required.

Section 8 of the Firearms Act 1925 (as amended) covers the area of disqualification. This Section sets out the categories of persons who are 'disqualified to hold a firearms certificate'. That is to say persons who may not under any circumstances be granted a firearms certificate.

These include persons who:-

- are under the age of sixteen years
- are of intemperate habits
- persons who are of unsound mind
- persons who have been convicted for various offences and who have received custodial sentences within the previous seven (7) years and
- persons who are under the supervision of the Gardai or persons who are bound by a Court Order to keep the peace or to be of good behaviour, a condition of which is that such person will not have in his/her possession any firearm or ammunition.

The NARGC delegation also made reference to the delays and difficulties sometimes encountered when making a firearm substitution, especially when it relates to a 'like for like' firearm. The Gardai said they will look to simplify this process in the period ahead but equally stated that firearm substitutions cause something of a nightmare for the Gardai with some owners making multiple changes during the currency of a firearms certificate. One factor that would greatly help all concerned is to **avoid firearm substitutions near the expiry date of a licence**. In this regard we ask members not to apply to substitute during the last **3 months** of a firearms certificate, so as to ease the administrative burden. Wait until the new licence issues and then apply to make the necessary amendments.

Finally, we remind you of the contact details for the National Fund Office which are thus:-

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