Third Session Twelfth Parliament Republic of Trinidad and Tobago



REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Act No. 2 of 2023

[L.S.]

An Act to amend the Firearms Act, Chap. 16:01 and for other related matters

[Assented to 24th February, 2023]

ENACTED by the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago as Enactment follows:

- 1. This Act may be cited as the Firearms short title (Amendment) Act, 2023.
- **2.** This Act comes into operation on such date as is Commencement fixed by the President by Proclamation.
 - 3. In this Act, "the Act" means the Firearms Act.

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- 4. Section 2 of the Act is amended—
 - (a) in the definition of "licence", by inserting after the word "Act", the words "and includes a Firearm User Identification Card"; and
 - (b) in the definition of "prohibited weapon" in paragraph (c), by inserting after the words "design which is", the words "designed, manufactured or".

Section 6 amended

- **5.** Section 6 of the Act is amended—
 - (a) by inserting after subsection (2A), the following subsection:

"(2B) A person who is and is acting in the capacity of a member of a Municipal Police Service within the meaning of Part III of the Municipal Corporations Act may have in his possession for the purpose of performing his functions any weapon of whatever description or design which is designed, manufactured or adapted for the discharge of any noxious liquid, gas or other thing.";

- (b) in subsection (3)(b), by deleting the words "subsection (2)" and substituting the words "subsections (2) and (2B)"; and
- (c) in subsection (4)(b), by deleting the words "subsection (2)" and substituting the words "subsections (2) and (2B)".

Section 7 amended

- **6.** Section 7(1) of the Act is amended by deleting paragraph (*a*) and substituting the following paragraph:
 - "(a) a person, whose firearm and ammunition are the property of the Government and

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are required in the performance of his duty as—

- (i) a police officer;
- (ii) a member of a Municipal Police Service within the meaning of Part III of the Municipal Corporations Act;

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- (iii) a member of the Defence Force:
- (iv) a Customs officer;
- (v) a prison officer;
- (vi) the Director, Strategic Services Agency established under the Strategic Services Agency Act; or

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(vii) an employee designated by the Director, Strategic Services Agency,

in each case acting in his capacity as such;".

7. The Act is amended by repealing section 8 and Section 8 repealed substituting the following section:

"Carrying any firearm or ammunition in public place

- 8. (1) Subject to subsection (2), any person who carries a firearm or ammunition in a public place so prescribed by the Minister commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars and to imprisonment for ten years.
- (2) Subsection (1) shall not apply to—
 - (a) the persons specified in section 7(1)(a) and (aa); and
 - (b) the holder of a valid Firearm User's Licence.".

New section 8A inserted

8. The Act is amended by inserting after section 8, the following new section:

"Carrying of any firearm or ammunition by a prison officer

- 8A. (1) Subject to subsection (2), a prison officer may have in his possession any firearm or ammunition which is the property of the Government.
- (2) The Commissioner of Prisons may grant permission to a prison officer to have in his possession any firearm or ammunition which is the property of the Government while off-duty where he considers the life or safety of the officer is under threat.
- (3) Where the Commissioner of Prisons grants permission to a prison officer to have in his possession any firearm or ammunition which is the property of the Government under subsection (2), he shall issue to the prison officer a Trinidad and Tobago Prison Services Firearm Identification Card.".

Section 9 amended

9. Section 9(4) of the Act is amended by deleting the words "in section 6(2)(a) to (f) who commits an offence under subsection (1) or (2)" and substituting the words "in section 7(1)(a) and (aa) who commits an offence under subsection (1) or (2)".

Firearms Regulations Chap. 16:01 amended

- 10. The Firearms Regulations are amended—
 - (a) in regulation 6 by—
 - (i) revoking subregulation (1) and substituting the following:

"Form of Firearm User's Licence

- (1) Every Firearm User's Licence granted under Part II of the Act shall be—
- (a) in the form set out as Form 2 in the First Schedule and

Form 3 First Schedule shall contain forms of the certificate set out in Form 3 of the First Schedule; and

- (b) for the purposes of production to a licensed dealer or police officer, in a form set out as a Firearm User Identification Card and which shall contain—
 - (i) the Firearm U s e r 's L i c e n c e number;
 - (ii) the name and address of the holder of the Firearm U s e r 's Licence;
 - (iii) a photograph of the holder of the Firearm User's Licence;
 - (iv) such electronic security features as the Commissioner of Police may determine;

- (v) such further particulars as may be stated on the Firearm User's Licence as the Commissioner of Police may determine; and
- (vi) any other conditions which the Commissioner of Police may determine.";
- (ii) inserting after subregulation (2) the following new subregulation:
 - "(3) Notwithstanding the revocation of subregulation (1), Form 2 and Form 3 as set out in the First Schedule shall continue in force until other forms are made in place of those forms under these Regulations."; and
- (b) in regulation 20, by deleting the word "President" and substituting the word "Minister".

Passed in the House of Representatives this 3rd day of February, 2023.

Clerk of the House

Passed in the Senate this 8th day of February, 2023.

Clerk of the Senate

2023

Senate amendments were agreed to by the House of Representatives this 10th day of February, 2023.

Clerk of the House