



SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE

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CENTRAL FIREARMS CONTROL REGISTER

PRETORIA

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2006-02-13

All Provincial Commanders  
Firearms and Liquor Control  
SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE

**RE: COMPLETION OF APPLICATION FOR A COMPETENCY  
CERTIFICATE (SAPS 517): PRIVATE COLLECTORS.**

1. In terms of regulation 5 of the Firearms Control Regulations, 2004 there is an obligation on collectors associations to endorse a private collector to be classified as a category A, category B or category C collector, whichever is applicable.
2. Such endorsement must be provided by means of a founding document from the accredited collector's association.
3. Regulation 14 (4) of the Firearms Control Regulations, 2004 further directs that a competency certificate issued to a private collector to possess a firearm must specify the category of collection i.e, category A, category B or category C.
4. The current SAPS 517 (Application for a Competency Certificate) form do not make provision for the category of collection to be specified.
5. The following process need to be adhered to in order to streamline the application process of private collectors who apply for competency certificates to possess firearms in a private collections:
  - 5.1 The Designated Firearms Officer must ensure that a founding document from an accredited collector's association which classify the categorization of collection is received from the applicant.

-2-

- 5.2 The Designated Firearm Officer must endorse the top right side of page 1 of the SAPS 517 form with the category of collection (i.e category A, category B or category C) in red ink and in print.
- 5.3 The above endorsement must be followed with the applicant's signature and date.
- 5.4 The completed and processed SAPS 517 form and supporting documents must be forwarded to Central Firearms Register for further handling.
6. This directive must be disseminated to all Designated Firearms Officers at the various Firearm Registration Centres and police stations for immediate compliance.
7. Your kind assistance is appreciated.

  
**HEAD, CENTRAL FIREARMS CONTROL REGISTER**  
**JJ BOTHMA**  
CHIEF/BOVENKOPPELDE WAPENREGISTER

**DIRECTOR**  
**REGISTER**