



WEAPONS LAWS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

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EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

The following is a translation into English of the weapons laws of the Russian Federation. The translation is not an official translation by the Russian government. Accordingly, if you intend to use or possess firearms in Russia, you should consult with a Russian Embassy or Consulate in order to ascertain the lawfulness of what you plan to do.

In general, this Issue Paper directly and closely translates the Russian statutes into English, rather than re-phrasing the statutes as if they had been originally written in English.

The Russian language legal texts that were used for this translation are available at: <http://www.zakonrf.info/zoboruzhii/>.

To summarize the Russian weapons laws for civilians who are not government employees:

- No permission or registration is needed to purchase and carry chemical defense weapons (e.g., tear gas guns) or electric defense devices such as stun guns.
- Citizens have the right to acquire shotguns for self-defense and sport.
- After five years of lawful ownership of a shotgun, a citizen may obtain a permit to purchase and use rifles for sporting purposes.
- An individual may own up to five rifles and five shotguns.
- Handguns are prohibited.
- All firearms must be registered.
- Before obtaining one's first firearm, one must receive instruction in firearms laws and safety. Every five years, the firearms owner must pass a test demonstrating continuing knowledge of these subjects.
- The first-time owner must also obtain a medical certification that he or she does not have any disqualifying conditions, such as mental illness or alcoholism.
- In order to use a firearm for lawful self-defense, the crime victim must first attempt to give the criminal a warning, if practicable. Defensive use

of firearms against women, the disabled, and minors is prohibited, unless they are attacking as part of a gang.

David B. Kopel

FEDERAL LAW "ON WEAPONS,"

December 13, 1996 N 150-FZ

Adopted by the State Duma November 13, 1996

(See Federal laws from 21.07.1998 N 117-FZ from 31.07.1998 N 156-FZ, of 17.12.1998 N 187-FZ from 19.11.1999 N 194-FZ, of 10.04.2000 N 52-FZ from 26.07.2001 N 103-FZ, of 08.08.2001 N 133-FZ from 27.11.2001 N 152-FZ, of 25.06.2002 N 70-FZ, from 25.07.2002 N 112-FZ, of 10.01.2003 N 15-FZ, from 30.06.2003 N 86-FZ, of 08.12.2003 N 170-FZ, from 29.06.2004 N 58-FZ, of 26.04.2004 N 23-FZ)

The current Federal law regulates legal relationships regarding civilian, service, and combat hand-held and silent weapons in the territory of the Russian Federation, intended to protect the lives and health of citizens, property, public safety, to preserve the environment and conserve natural resources, and to strengthen international cooperation in the struggle against crime and illegal weapons proliferation. The provisions of this Federal Law shall also apply to trafficking in munitions and cartridge trafficking.

STATUTE I. BASIC CONCEPTS USED IN THE FEDERAL LAW

As a whole, the Federal Law shall employ the following concepts and definitions:

Weapon – devices and objects, structurally intended for the destruction of life or for other similar goals;

Firearm - a weapon intended to cause mechanical damage from a distance, with a projectile receiving directional motion from the energy generated by gunpowder or other powder charges;

Main parts of a firearm - barrel, bolt, drum, frame, receiver;

Cold weapon – a weapon designed to use muscular power directly against a target in order to cause damage;

Cold throwing weapon - a weapon designed to hit its target at a distance, with a projectile receiving directional motion from human muscle power or mechanical devices;

Pneumatic weapon – a weapon designed to hit its target at a distance, with a projectile receiving directional motion from compressed, liquefied or solidified gas;

Gas weapon – a weapon designed to temporarily disable a live target through the use of tear or irritant substances;

Ammunition - projectile equipment designed to destroy the target, containing an explosive, propellant, pyrotechnic or expelling charge or a combination thereof;

Cartridge - a construction intended to be shot from a firearm, integrated into one larger unit with the help of a cartridge sleeve, containing metal shot other munitions.

Signal guns – weapons constructed with the sole intention of supplying light, smoke or sound signals;

Circulation of firearms and of the main components of firearms (hereafter - “weapons”) - arms production, arms trade, sale, transfer, acquisition, collection, exhibition, registration, storage, possession, shipment, transportation, use, removal, destruction, import or export of weapons into on Russian Federation territory;

Weapons production - research, development, testing, manufacturing, and artistic decoration and repair of weapons, production of ammunition, cartridges and their main components.

The definition of arms does not include products that are certified for household and industrial

projects or as sports equipment, which are structurally similar to weapons (hereafter – products structurally similar to weapons).

STATUTE 2. TYPES OF WEAPONS

Weapons are hereby classified according to their function and use by relevant subjects, as well as by their basic parameters and characteristics, into the following categories:

1. civilian;
2. service;
3. combat, manual, infantry and silent.

STATUTE 3. CIVILIAN WEAPONS

Weapons belonging to this category are intended for use by citizens of the Russian Federation in self-defense, sports and hunting. Civilian firearms should exclude weapons with rapid-fire capabilities, and must have a magazine capacity (drum) no greater than 10 rounds.

Civilian weapons are divided into the following sub-categories:

1. Self-defense Weapons:
Automatic, smooth-bore, long-barreled weapons, including weapons with traumatic-action cartridges, in accordance with regulations of the Russian Federation Ministry of Health; automatic, tubeless, domestically produced weapons with traumatic ammunition, gas and light and sound action, in accordance with Russian Federation Ministry of Health regulations; gas weapons: gas pistols and revolvers, including ammunition, mechanical sprayers, aerosols and other devices filled with tear or irritating substances that are permitted by the Russian Federation Ministry of Health; domestically produced electro-shock devices and spark gap switches with output parameters that meet state standards of the Russian Federation and norms of the Ministry of Health;
2. Sporting weapons:
Automatic weapons with a rifled barrel; smooth-bore weapons; cold weapons; bladed and throwing weapons; pneumatic weapons with a muzzle energy greater than 3 J;
3. Hunting weapons:
Automatic weapons with a rifled barrel; smooth-bore weapons with a threaded

length no longer than 140 mm; automatic combination weapons (rifled and smoothbore), including those with removable and loose-rifled barrels; pneumatic weapons with a muzzle energy no greater than 25 J; cold/silent/bladed weapons;

4. Signal weapons;
5. Cold bladed weapons originally designed to be worn with a Cossack uniform, as well as part of the national costumes of the people of the Russian Federation, the attributes of which are specified by the government of the Russian Federation.

STATUTE 4. SERVICE WEAPONS

Service weapons are weapons intended for use by governmental officials and employees of entities permitted by Russian law to carry, store and use weapons to defend themselves, or to perform their federally-prescribed duties to protect the lives and health of citizens, property, nature conservation and natural resources, valuable and dangerous goods, and special correspondence.

Businesses and organizations that have been legally entrusted to use service weapons are legal entities with specific statutory objectives (hereafter - legal entities with specific statutory objectives).

Service weapons are automatic smoothbore and rifled short arms of domestic production with muzzle energies no greater than 300 J. This category also includes long-barreled smooth-bore weapons.

Service weapons should exclude rapid-fire and rifled service weapons, and should be different types and have different cartridge sizes from the military manual shooting weapons, and different from the civilian weapons by tracing information on the bullets and cartridge cases. Magazine capacity (drum capacity) of service weapons should not exceed 10 rounds. Bullet cartridges for smooth-bore and rifled handguns cannot have cores made of hard materials. Cartridges for official weapons must meet the state standards of the Russian Federation.

STATUTE 5. COMBAT, HAND AND BLADED/SILENT WEAPONS

Combat, hand and bladed/silent weapons are weapons designed for military and operational performance objectives adopted in accordance with the regulations of the Russian Government for the armament of the Russian Defense Ministry, Interior Ministry, the Federal Safety Service of the Russian Federation, Foreign Intelligence Service, the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation, Russian Federal Service for Control over Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, State Courier Service of the Russian Federation, Federal Agency for Special Construction, the Federal Penitentiary Service, the Federal Bailiff Service, the Federal Customs Service, Service of Special Objectives under the President of the Russian Federation, the Prosecutor's Office of the Russian Federation, the Civil Defense Forces (hereinafter – government military organizations), as well as for arms deliveries to foreign countries in the manner prescribed by the Government of the Russian Federation.

(See Federal laws from 21.07.1998 N 117-FZ, of 17.12.1998 N 187-FZ, of 10.04.2000 N 52-FZ, of 08.08.2001 N 133-FZ, of 27.11.2001 N 152-FZ from 30.06.2003 N 86-FZ, of 29.06.2004 N FL-58)

Examples of hand-held combat weapon models and their cartridges, whose structural parameters (already been addressed in the discussion of similar weapons) do not increase their destructive power, and silent/bladed weapons can be used by the heads of state military organizations in any manner determined by the Government of the Russian Federation.

The distribution procedure of hand-held combat (and other) weapons, ammunition, cartridges, and silent/bladed weapons in the state military organization shall be determined by the Government of the Russian Federation.

STATUTE 6. RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED ON THE CIRCULATION OF CIVILIAN AND SERVICE WEAPONS

In Russian Federation territory, the following actions are prohibited:

1. Circulation of civilian and service weapons:
Any automatic long-barreled weapons with a magazine capacity (drum) exceeding 10

rounds, where the length of the barrel, or the length of the barrel and receiver, is less than 500 mm with an overall length of less than 800 mm, also with the ability to be broken down to less than 800 mm long while still maintaining its ability to fire; automatic weapons designed to imitate other models; automatic smooth-bore weapons, designed to use cartridges originally intended for firearms with rifled barrels; bludgeons, brass knuckles, shurikens, boomerangs and other objects specially adapted for use as a weapon of shock-inducing or throwing actions, excluding sports equipment; cartridges with armor-piercing bullets, incendiary, explosive or tracer actions, as well as cartridges with shot shells for gas pistols and revolvers; weapons and other models which have an impact based on the use of radioactive or biological agents; weapons and other items which have an impact based on the use of electromagnetic, light, thermal, infrasound and ultrasound radiation and which have output parameters that exceed the value set by state standards Russian Federation and the relevant regulations of the federal executive authority in the field of health, as well as any of the indicated weapons and items produced outside the Russian Federation (See Federal law from 26.07.2001 N 103-FZ); gas weapons, nerve-curbing paralytics, toxins and other substances not permitted for use by the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation; gas weapons capable of causing moderate damage to human health at a distance greater than one meter; weapons and ammunition with specifications that do not meet forensic requirements of the RF's Ministry of Internal Affairs' agreement with the RF State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Certification; automatic tubeless self-defense weapons, stun devices, and spark dischargers, with output parameters that exceed the value set by the state standards of the Russian Federation and the relevant regulations of the RF Ministry of Health, as well as the same indicated weapons and parts, produced outside the territory of the Russian Federation; cold/silent bladed weapons, knives, swords and blades that are either automatically extracted

and fixed from the handle by pressing a button or lever, or extracted by the force of gravity or accelerated motion, and automatically fixed when the length of the blade exceeds 90 mm;

2. Possession or any use outside sports venues of sport firearms with a rifled barrel, or use of sport airguns with a muzzle energy exceeding 7.5 J and a caliber greater than 4.5 mm, as well as sports and cold-bladed throwing weapons, except for the storage and use of bows and crossbows for research and prevention activities related to the tranquilization or injection of wildlife;
3. Device installations on civilian and service weapons intended for silencers and scopes (aiming systems) and night vision (with the exception of hunting sights), the use and sale of which shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation;
4. Shipment of weapons;
5. Civilians carrying arms during rallies, marches, demonstrations, picketing and other mass public events;
6. Civilians carrying long-barreled weapons firearms and bladed weapons to defend themselves, except in cases of transportation of such weapons;
7. Sale, transfer, and acquisition of weapons and ammunition manufactured for export in accordance with specifications that meet the requirements of importing countries.

STATUTE 7. CERTIFICATION OF CIVILIAN AND SERVICE WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION

All weapons produced in the Russian Federation are subject to mandatory certification, as are weapons that are imported into RF territory, exported models of civilian and service weapons and their ammunition, and any other structurally similar weapons.

Certification of civilian and service weapons and their ammunition, as well as structurally similar

arms, will be performed by the RF State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Certification. A certificate of conformity is the basis for legal circulation of civilian and service weapons and ammunition in the territory of the Russian Federation. Technical requirements and test methods of civilian/service weapons and ammunition are established by state standards of the Russian Federation in accordance with the provisions hereof.

STATUTE 8. STATE REGISTER OF CIVILIAN AND SERVICE WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION

The state register of civilian and service weapons and ammunition (hereinafter - the register) is the official compendium containing systemized information on the civilian and service weapons and ammunition permitted for circulation in the territory of the Russian Federation.

The register is issued based on the list of models of civilian and service weapons and ammunition, for which details are entered or excluded from the inventory based on a quarterly approval by the RF Government or by the State Committee for Standards and Product Quality Management with the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The register does not include information about cold/bladed and throwing weapons, nor lone civilian weapons imported into the territory of the Russian Federation, produced in the territory of the Russian Federation or exported from the Russian Federation. The register is published and maintained by the State Committee for Standards and Product Quality Management of Russia. Any changes in the register made by this committee must occur no later than three months after the approval of the list of models of civilian and service weapons and ammunition. The conduct of business and publication of the register shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

STATUTE 9. WEAPONS LICENSING AND AMMUNITION ACQUISITION

(SEE FEDERAL LAW FROM 10.01.2003 N 15-FZ)

All acquisition of weapons and ammunition in the territory of the Russian Federation is subject to licensing, except for the acquisition of weapons and ammunition by government military organizations. A license to purchase arms and ammunition is

issued by the internal affairs agencies on the basis of statements by Russian citizens. The validity of a license to purchase arms and ammunition extends six months from the date of issuance of the license.

The license application is reviewed by the above authorities within one month from the date of its filing. The application includes information regarding the types of weapons that will be purchased, and the measures undertaken for accountability and security of the weapons. The applicant must also submit legal registration documents or documentation of citizenship, as well as other federally provided legal documents.

The grounds for denial of a license are:
Failure by the applicant to provide the required information or submission of false information;
Inability to account for and secure weapons or failure of these conditions;

Other federally provided legal grounds are hereby established.

In case of denial of a license, the authorities must inform the applicant in writing and state the reasons for rejection. Any refusal to license or violation of the terms of the application may be appealed by the applicant in court.

Regarding licenses for the development, production, repair, or disposal of weapons and military equipment, see Government Decree of 21.06.2002 N 456.

STATUTE 9.1. LICENSING THE PRODUCTION OF FIREARMS AND THEIR BASIC COMPONENTS, PRODUCTION OF CARTRIDGES AND AMMUNITION COMPONENTS, WEAPONS TRADE IN MAJOR PARTS OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION, COLLECTION AND DISPLAY OF WEAPONS, THEIR MAIN PARTS, AND AMMUNITION (SEE FEDERAL LAW FROM 10.01.2003 N 15-FZ)

The manufacture of weapons and basic components of firearms, manufacture of cartridges and ammunition components, arms trafficking, trafficking in ammunition for weapons, collection and exhibition of weapons, and the main parts of firearms and ammunition for weapons are all activities to be licensed in accordance with the

legislation of the Russian Federation.

STATUTE 10. SUBJECTS WITH THE RIGHT TO ACQUIRE WEAPONS

Subjects with the right to buy weapons in the territory of the Russian Federation are:

1. State paramilitary organizations;
2. Legal officials with specifically authorized missions;
3. Legal officials engaged in the manufacture or trade of weapons (hereinafter - suppliers);
4. Legal officials involved in the collection and exhibition of weapons;
5. Sports and hunting organizations;
6. Reindeer and horse breeding organizations as part of the division of the Russian Academy of Sciences, which conducts field work related to the exploration, conservation and natural resources found in the Far North and similar areas, and specialized businesses leading hunting or marine mammal hunting trips, as well as specialized groups undertaking hydrographic support of shipping along the Northern Sea Route; (Clause 6 as amended. Federal law from 19.11.1999 N 194-FZ)
7. Educational institutions;
8. Citizens of the Russian Federation;
9. Foreign nationals

STATUTE 11 – THE RIGHT OF STATE PARAMILITARY ORGANIZATIONS TO ACQUIRE WEAPONS

State paramilitary organizations have the right to acquire combat hand, infantry, or other weapons in accordance with the established regulatory acts of the Russian Federation.

For any firearms with a rifled barrel, the prospective buyer must conduct a test shot for entry in the Federal Shot and Cartridge Registry during a procedure defined by the government of the Russian Federation.

The enumeration of the firearms subject to the test shot, which takes place at the armory of the state paramilitary organization, shall be determined by the government of the Russian Federation. Requests for registration of shot and cartridges, which are transferred to the Federal Shot and Cartridge Registry, shall be determined by the federal agencies

of executive power that perform the functions of development and implementation of state policies and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs.

The federal agency of executive power, with jurisdiction extending to questions of domestic affairs, has the right to acquire types and models of weapons and cartridges stipulated by the regulatory legal acts of the government of the Russian Federation for issuance for temporary use by legal officials in compliance with the government of the Russian Federation.

In state paramilitary organizations, duties involving the registration, storage, distribution or use of firearms, ammunition and cartridges cannot be assumed by an official who has an outstanding conviction for intentionally committed crimes, or whom a judge has banned from assuming such duties or from engaging in specified professional or entrepreneurial activities in the area of weapons circulation.

STATUTE 12 – THE RIGHT TO ACQUIRE WEAPONS AND TEMPORARY USE OF WEAPONS BY LEGAL OFFICIALS WITH SPECIALLY AUTHORIZED MISSIONS

In accordance with the regulatory acts of the government of the Russian Federation, legal officials with specially authorized missions have the right to acquire civilian and service weapons at official legal suppliers after receipt of the necessary licenses from the domestic affairs agencies. The models, types, and quantities of civilian and service weapons to which they have the right to acquire shall be established by the government of the Russian Federation. Private security organizations have the right to acquire service firearms of limited destructive capabilities, civilian weapons of self-defense, with the exception of smooth-bore, long-barreled firearms. These organizations also have the right to receive service weapons at domestic affairs agencies for temporary use in accordance with the procedure determined by the government of the Russian Federation.

The acquisition of weapons is subject to registration with the corresponding agencies of domestic affairs in the two-week period after the day of acquisition. During registration of the weapon, legal officials

with specially authorized missions will be issued an authorization to store and use this weapon for the period of three years with a special document confirming the legality of the weapon's acquisition. The form of authorization shall be determined by federal agencies of executive power, performing the functions of development and implementation of state policies and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs. Extension of the authorization's validity period can be accomplished through the procedure stipulated for the receipt of licenses for weapons acquisition.

The Central Bank of the Russian Federation (including the Russian Joint Collection), Cberbank of the Russian Federation, the Primary Center of Special Connections of the Federal Agency of Executive Power (performing the functions of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of postal connections), the federal agency of executive power performing the role of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of international relations of the Russian Federation, and other legal officials with specially authorized missions - excluding private security enterprises, strategic enterprises, strategic action societies, their daughter societies, which engage in exploration of main oil provisions and act as its organizing proprietors of the United System of Gas Supply according to the specially regulatory legal acts of the Government of the Russian Federation - have the right to acquire at the Domestic Affairs Agency certain types and models of military firearms for temporary use in the fulfillment of assignments regarding federal laws of responsibility for security in production and storage of weapons, ammunition, military technology, special dangerous ecological products, natural resources, as well as security for locations of production and storage of monetary assets and valuables, the extraction, processing and storage of precious metals and precious stones, the locations of diplomatic representatives of the Russian Federation in foreign governments and other special important objectives, such as the transportation of dangerous cargo, weapons, ammunition, military technology, monetary assets, diplomatic mail, correspondence concerning government secrets, and any cargo containing carriers of information concerning

government secrets. In compliance with the Federal Law from December 13th 1994 N 60-F3 "Regarding Deliveries of Products for Federal Government Needs" in the special regulatory acts of the government of the Russian Federation, the previously mentioned strategic enterprises, strategic action societies, and their daughter societies have the right to acquire, according to the procedure stipulated by the government of the Russian Federation for legal officials with specially authorized missions, certain types and models of civilian and service weapons and special assets for use that are entrusted to them by the federal law of responsibility, involving guarantees of security of production of objects purchased by government contract that were designed for extraction, processing, transportation, storage of such products, and others necessary for the fulfillment of government equipment contracts.

Any use of types and models of combat hand weapons by legal officials with specially authorized missions on targets not specified by this federal law is prohibited.

The acquisition and defensive use of service quality firearms is authorized for the following organizations:

Organizations which, in accordance with Federal Law from April 24th, 1995 N-52-F3 "On the Living World," perform the functions of security, control, and regulation of the use of objects from the natural world and its surroundings;

Territorial agencies and organizations that are part of any specially authorized federal agency of executive power in the area of hydrometeorology and other contiguous areas, performing activities in stations for which access is difficult or limited, in accordance with the federal law from July 19th 1998 N 113-F3 "On Hydrometeorological Service;"

Government agencies and state institutions, which, in accordance with the Forest Code of the Russian Federation, perform state forest control and supervision of organizations producing, in accordance with the law of the Russian Federation from February 21st 1992 N 2395-1 "On Subsoil," field work for regional geologic studies of subsoil

and for geologic studies, including the search for and evaluation of the location of useful minerals in the area of the Far North (the Arctic) and the other similar areas, as well as in other sparsely populated locations for which access is difficult, the list of which shall be established by the government of the Russian Federation.

The issue of weapons to employees and legal officials with specially authorized missions takes place under the authorization by the leaders of the given officials after the officials have passed the necessary training and if they have no grounds to prevent the receipt of a license to acquire civilian weapons. These employees must undergo periodic verification of the validity of their aptitude in conditions involving the acquisition of firearms, and they must have authorization from the domestic affairs agencies in order to store and carry service weapons. Supplementary training programs and procedures for verification will be directed by federal agencies of executive power that perform the function of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the sphere of domestic affairs.

The training of employees of legal officials with specially authorized missions may take place in non-governmental study centers for the training of private detectives and security, in conjunction with the federal agencies of executive power and organizations, or, in the absence of these training conditions, at domestic affairs agencies.

In organizations with specially authorized missions, duties involving the registration, storage, and issue or use of firearms, ammunition and cartridges cannot be assumed by an official who has an outstanding conviction for an intentionally committed crime, or whom a judge has banned from assuming such duties or from engaging in specified professional or entrepreneurial activities in the area of weapons circulation.

STATUTE 13 – THE RIGHT OF CITIZENS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO ACQUIRE WEAPONS

Citizens of the Russian Federation who have reached the age of 18 years have the right to acquire long-barreled smooth-bore firearms for self-defense, or

civilian firearms of limited destructive capabilities, sporting weapons, hunting weapons, signal weapons, or cold bladed weapons, intended to be carried as part of the national costumes of the people of the Russian Federation or with Cossack uniforms, after the receipt of a license of acquisition for the specific kind of weapon at the Domestic Affairs agency in their place of residency.

The age at which citizens of the Russian Federation can receive, store and carry smoothbore hunting firearms can be decreased by no more than two years, if the citizen has permission from the lawmaking agencies of state power of the Russian Federation.

Citizens of the Russian Federation have the right to purchase a basic license for the acquisition of gas pistols, revolvers, signal weapons, or cold bladed weapons, intended to be carried as part of the national costumes of the people of the Russian Federation or with Cossack uniforms, with the registration of the weapon in the subsequent two-week time period at the domestic affairs agency in their place of residence. A maximum of five different units of the indicated type of weapon can be registered on each license of acquisition. The license is issued by the domestic affairs agency in the applicant's place of residence in the Russian Federation, simultaneously authorizing the applicant to store and carry the specified type of weapon. The license remains valid for 5 years. At the end of the period of validity, the license may be extended in accordance with Statute 9 of the current federal law.

Mechanic blowguns, aerosols, and other devices equipped with tear gas or other irritant substances, electroshock devices, spark weapons of domestic production, and pneumatic weapons with a muzzle energy no greater than 7.5 joules and a caliber of up to 4.5 mm are not included in the registration requirements. Citizens of the Russian Federation have the right to obtain them without receiving a license.

Citizens of the Russian Federation have the right to obtain smooth-bore long-barreled firearms, described in points 1, 2 and 3 of the second statute of the third current federal law, for the purpose

of self defense without the right to carry specified in the basic license issued by the Domestic Affairs agency in their place of residence.

Citizens of the Russian Federation have the right to obtain sporting and hunting smoothbore long-barreled firearms and hunting pneumatic weapons if they have been issued hunting permits.

Citizens of the Russian Federation have the right to obtain sporting smoothbore long-barreled weapons, sporting pneumatic weapons with a muzzle energy exceeding 7.5 joules, and hunting smoothbore long-barreled firearms for the purposes of types of sports involving the use of firearms, as long as the citizen belongs to a sporting organization or an educational institution and, in accordance with the activities of these organizations with given tasks in the area of physical education and sports, have been issued a "sports passport" or a permit confirming their participation in the type of sport involving the use of firearms.

Citizens of the Russian Federation have the right to acquire hunting firearms with a rifled barrel, if the citizen, in compliance with the stipulated hunting rights, has undertaken professional activities related to hunting, or if they have had in their possession hunting smoothbore long-barreled firearms for a period of no less than 5 years.

Citizens of the Russian Federation have the right to acquire sporting long-barreled firearms with a rifled barrel and their cartridges, as well as hunting long-barreled firearms with rifled barrels and their cartridges for the pursuit of sports, if they have been issued a "sporting passport" or a permit confirming their participation and title in the type of sport involving the use of sporting firearms under the condition that they are high-quality sportsmen in the indicated sport or if they have had in their possession sporting smoothbore long-barreled weapons for a period of no less than 5 years.

Citizens of the Russian Federation have the right to acquire sporting short-barreled firearms with rifled barrels and their cartridges if the citizen is a high-class sportsman and has been issued a "sporting passport" or a permit confirming their participation

and title in the type of sport involving the use of that sporting weapon. Herewith, the specified category of citizen has the right to acquire hunting firearms with rifled barrels and sporting firearms with rifled barrels, under the condition that they have not committed crimes involving breaking the laws of hunting, weapons trade, sale, transfer, acquisition, collection, exposition, registration, storage, carrying, shipping, transportation or use of weapons. The list of professions, the occupation of which gives a citizen the right to acquire hunting firearms with rifled barrels, shall be established by the agencies of executive power of the Russian Federation. The list of types of sports, the participation in which gives a citizen the right to acquire sporting firearms with rifled barrels, shall be established by federal agencies of executive power performing the functions of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of physical education and sports, in accordance with the federal agencies of executive power performing the functions of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs.

The total quantity of hunting firearms with rifled barrels acquired by citizens of the Russian Federation should not exceed five units for sporting firearms with rifled barrels – five units for smoothbore long-barreled firearms, or two units for firearms with limited destructive capabilities, excluding cases in which the types of weapon involved are collector's items.

Citizens of the Russian Federation have the right to obtain hunting cold bladed weapons if they have the authorization of the domestic affairs agencies to store and carry hunting firearms. Hunting cold bladed weapons are registered by trade organizations for the sale of these weapons in accordance with the previously specified federal agencies of executive power performing the functions of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs.

The acquisition by citizens of the Russian Federation of firearms, firearms of limited destructive capabilities, and hunting pneumatic weapons with

a muzzle energy greater than 7.5 joules require registration with the domestic affairs agency in their place of residence within a two-week period after the day of acquisition. In the event of a change of residence, the citizen of the Russian Federation is required, within the subsequent two-week period following the day of registration in the new place of residence, to transfer to the new corresponding agency of domestic affairs with a statement of the new location of the weapon's registration.

The domestic affairs agency of the Russian Federation in the citizen's place of residence will issue the following registrations for periods of 5 years: registration for smoothbore long-barreled weapons of self-defense and authorization for storage of the weapon; registration of hunting long-barreled weapons, sporting long-barreled weapons, pneumatic weapons or firearms of limited destructive capabilities and authorization for storage and carrying; documents confirming the legitimacy of acquisition of the corresponding weapon; registration of sporting short-barreled firearms with rifled barrels and authorization for storage and use without the right to carry. Authorization can be renewed in accordance with the previous Statute 9 of the current federal law.

For the receipt of a license for the acquisition of weapons, citizens of the Russian Federation are required to present to the domestic affairs agency in their place of residence a statement following the established format, verifying citizenship in the Russian Federation; documents demonstrating successful passage of training and periodic verification of the knowledge of the laws of safe handling of weapons and existence of skills for safe handling; medical releases confirming the absence any counter-indications for possession of weapons, including blurred eyesight, psychiatric illnesses, alcoholism or drug addiction; and other documents stipulated by federal law.

For the receipt of a license for the acquisition of firearms and/or pneumatic weapons with a muzzle energy greater than 7.5 joules for sporting purposes, citizens of the Russian Federation are required to present an application from a general Russian sporting Federation, which is accredited in

accordance with the standards of the government of the Russian Federation or issued with the license for the specific type of sport involving the use of sporting weapons.

Citizens of the Russian Federation who are acquiring for the first time civilian firearms, civilian firearms of limited destructive capabilities, gas pistols, revolvers, or hunting pneumatic weapons - with the exception of citizens who have authorization to store or to store and carry firearms, citizens in service to state paramilitary organizations, or who have a military title, a special title or rank, or has been discharged from these organizations with the right to a pension – are required to undergo training in order to study the rules of safe weapons handling and the acquisitions of skills of safe weapons handling. The list of organizations with the right to conduct training of officials for the study of the rules of safe weapons handling and acquisition of skills of safe weapons handling, shall be determined by the government of the Russian Federation. The request for supplementary programs of training for officials in order to study the rules of safe weapons handling and the acquisition of skills for safe weapons handling and the association of these programs shall be established by the federal agencies of executive power performing the role of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of education, in accordance with the federal agencies of executive power performing the functions of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs.

A license for weapons acquisition is issued to citizens of the Russian Federation after the completion of the corresponding training and verification of knowledge of the rules of and relevant skills necessary for safe weapons handling and in the absence of other obstacles to the receipt. Citizens of the Russian Federation who own firearms of limited destructive capabilities, gas pistols, revolvers, or civilian smoothbore long-barreled weapons of self-defense are required at least once every five years to undergo verification of knowledge of the laws and skills of safe weapons handling. The verification of knowledge and skills of safe handling of weapons will be conducted by organizations

specified by the government of the Russian Federation, in accordance with the determined federal agencies of executive power performing the functions of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs.

Citizens of the Russian Federation, who are acquiring weapons for the first time for participation in sports, and who have received a sporting passport or permit confirming their participation in the sport involving the use of firearms, and who are members of sporting organizations or educational institutions with the activities and given activities in the area of physical education and sports are required to undergo verification of knowledge of the laws and skills of safe weapons handling. The verification of knowledge and skills of safe handling of weapons will be conducted by organizations specified by the government of the Russian Federation, in accordance with the determined federal agencies of executive power performing the functions of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs.

License for the acquisition of weapons will not be issued to citizens of the Russian Federation who:

1. Have not reached the age specified by the current federal law;
2. Have not presented a medical statement confirming the absence of any counter-indications for the ownership of weapons, involving blurred vision, psychological illnesses, alcoholism or drug addiction. The form for the statement is distributed by the federal agencies of executive power performing the role of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of health;
3. Have outstanding convictions for intentionally committed crimes;
4. Are undergoing punishment for an intentionally committed crime;
5. Have intentionally repeated, in the period of a year, an administrative offense that violates social order and social safety or the established order of governance, or an administrative offence in the area of illegal trade of narcotic substances, psychotropic substances or their

equivalents and the consumption of narcotic or psychotropic substances without medical permission;

6. Do not have a current place of residence;
7. Fail to present to the domestic affairs agency all documents regarding enrollment in training or other documents required by the current federal law;
8. Have been deprived by judicial order of the right to acquire a weapon;
9. Are registered in medical institutions due to psychological illness, alcoholism, or drug addiction.

The list of the illnesses disqualifying a citizen from the legal ownership of weapons shall be established by the government of the Russian Federation.

Citizens of the Russian Federation who have been owners of civilian firearms, civilian firearms of limited destructive capabilities, gas pistols, revolvers, sporting pneumatic weapons, or pneumatic hunting weapons are required at least once every five years to present to the domestic affairs agency medical permission confirming the absence of any counter-indication for the ownership of weapons, including blurred vision, psychological illnesses, alcoholism or drug addiction.

Devices structurally similar to weapons, pneumatic weapons, pistols, revolvers with a muzzle energy no greater than 3 joules, signal pistols, revolvers of a caliber no greater than 6 mm and their cartridges acquired without a license or unregistered cannot be used in the capacity of firearms, firearms of limited destructive capabilities, and gas weapons, without special exception from a federal agency of executive power performing the function of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs

STATUTE 13.1 - TEST SHOTS FROM CIVILIAN FIREARMS WITH RIFLED BARRELS

For all civilian firearms with rifled barrels, a test shot must be conducted for entry in the Federal Shot and Cartridge Registry during the period of authorization by the domestic affairs agency for the storage and carrying of such a weapon, and after the conduction of maintenance of its basic parts, or replacement or

mechanical repair of given mechanisms or during the sale of the weapon to other officials. The procedure for conducting test shots from a civilian firearm with a rifled barrel and the request for the registration of the bullets and cartridge liners, which are transmitted to the Federal Shot and Liner Commission, shall be established by the federal agency of executive power performing the role of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs.

STATUTE 14 – ACQUISITION, IMPORT AND EXPORT OF CIVILIAN WEAPONS BY FOREIGN CITIZENS IN RUSSIAN FEDERATION TERRITORY

Foreign citizens can acquire civilian weapons in Russian Federation territory with a license issued by the domestic affairs agencies on the basis of a diplomatic petition by the foreign citizen's government, under the condition that the export of the weapon from the Russian Federation occurs no later than 10 days from the day of the weapon's acquisition.

In the Russian Federation, foreign citizens have the right to obtain without a license mechanical spray guns, aerosols, and other devices equipped with tear gas or other irritant substances, electric shock devices and spark weapons produced domestically, or pneumatic weapons with a muzzle energy no greater than 7.5 joules and a caliber up to 4.5 mm.

Sporting and hunting weapons can be imported by foreign citizens into the Russian Federation in the presence of an agreement regarding the rendering of services in the hunting economy or an invitation to take part in sporting events, and in compliance with authorization by federal agencies of executive power performing the role of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs. Sporting pneumatic weapons with a muzzle energy no greater than 7.5 joules and a caliber up to 4.5 mm can be imported by foreign citizens into the Russian Federation for participation in sporting events without authorization by federal agencies of executive power performing the role of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs, if the citizen has obtained an invitation from the organizers of

the sporting event, or a petition from the general Russian sports federation, accredited with the government of the Russian Federation and certified by this general Russian sporting federation on the list of imported weapons. The specified weapon should be removed from the Russian Federation in a timeframe established by the agreement or invitation.

It is forbidden for foreign citizens to import and use in the territory of the Russian Federation all kinds, types, and models of weapons for the purposes of personal security, defense of life and health of other citizens, possession, threats or for other goals not specified in part three of the current statute, if the purpose is not stipulated by the international agreements of the Russian Federation.

Offenses by foreign citizens in the period of export of weapons from the Russian Federation, as well as during the procedure of import and use on the territory of the Russian Federation shall lead to expropriation and confiscation of the weapon in accordance with the established order.

STATUTE 15 – THE RIGHT OF WEAPONS ACQUISITION FOR DIFFERENT SUBJECTS

For the fulfillment of specified tasks including conducting research, development, tests, training or artistic decoration of weapons and their cartridges, or the testing of ammunition, officials have the right to acquire the following types and models of weapons and cartridges (as stipulated by the license): legal officials engaged in the weapons trade and sale of weapons, basic parts of firearms, cartridges, component parts of cartridges and regulatory technical documents - civilian and service weapons; legal officials and individual entrepreneurs, engaged in activities in the sphere of hunting – hunting weapons; sporting organizations and educational institutions – sporting and hunting weapons. Agencies and organizations, specified in the 7th statute of the 12th current federal law, that are engaged in training and improving the qualifications of private security companies have the right to acquire weapons authorized for private security in accordance with the procedures established by the government of the Russian Federation for carrying and storage of weapons

under their service responsibilities. Organizations engaged in training citizens of the Russian Federation to study the rules and acquisition of skills for safe weapons handling have the right to acquire the relevant kinds of civilian weapons.

Organizations engaged in reindeer or horse husbandry, departments of the Russian Academy of Science conducting field work involving the exploration, environmental conservation, and conservation of resources in Arctic regions or similar localities, legal officials and individual entrepreneurs engaged in fishing for marine mammals, as well as specialized enterprises performing hydrographic support for shipping along the Northern Sea Route have the right to acquire and use hunting firearms, including those with rifled barrels. The procedure for the issue of licenses for the acquisition of the stipulated weapon and the rules of its use shall be established by the government of the Russian Federation.

In accordance with the laws of the Russian Federation, officials subject to government protection have the right to receive service weapons and, if necessary, military hand weapons for temporary use in accordance with the stipulations of the government of the Russian Federation.

Subjects, designated in the first and second parts of the current statute, can acquire a weapon with a license issued by the domestic affairs agency in accordance with the Statute 9 of the current federal law. The acquisition of weapons is subject to the registration in accordance with the provisions of Statute 12 of the current federal law.

STATUTE 16 – PRODUCTION OF WEAPONS AND CARTRIDGES

The production of weapons and cartridges can be performed by legal officials with a license for production in accordance with the rules of the Russian Federation. Legal officials, producing weapons and cartridges, should guarantee security of production, control over production, quality control, and safety.

Each weapon unit produced, with the exception of mechanical spray guns, aerosols and other devices

equipped with tear gas or other irritant substances, should have an individual tracking number.

Military hand weapons, with the exception of prototype examples, are produced only for the supply of state paramilitary organizations, as well as for the supply of other governments in accordance the rules established by the government of the Russian Federation.

The cartridges for hunting smoothbore firearms may be produced by the owner of the weapon for personal use under the condition of authorization for storage and carrying of said hunting smoothbore firearms. The maintenance and replacement of firearms hardware, with the exception of basic parts of the firearm, can be conducted by the owner of the weapon independently.

In organizations engaged in the production of weapons and cartridges, duties involving the production, registration, storage and sale of weapons, cartridges, and basic parts of firearms cannot be assumed by an official with an outstanding conviction for an intentionally committed crime, or whom a judge has banned from assuming such duties or from engaging in specified professional or entrepreneurial activities in the area of weapons circulation.

The basic parts of combat hand weapons and service firearms should not be used in the production of firearms of limited destructive capabilities, gas weapons, signal weapons and pneumatic weapons.

STATUTE 17 – IMPORT AND EXPORT OF WEAPONS AND CARTRIDGES IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The import and export to and from the Russian Federation of combat hand and cold weapons must be accomplished in compliance with the rules of the government of the Russian Federation.

The import and export of civilian and service weapons and cartridges in the Russian Federation take place under the authorization of the federal agencies of executive power performing the function of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs. The import and export of sporting pneumatic

weapons with a muzzle energy no greater than 7.5 joules and a caliber up to 4.5 mm and devices structurally similar to weapons take place by the agreement of federal agencies of executive power performing the functions of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs, after the supply of the mandatory confirmation of agreement for the specified weapon, cartridges or structurally similar devices.

Herewith, the import of weapons by legal officials to the Russian Federation can be accomplished by suppliers, but their export from the Russian Federation must be accomplished by legal officials with a license for weapons production.

Pneumatic sporting weapons with a muzzle energy no greater than 7.5 joules and a caliber of up to 4.5 mm can be imported temporarily into the Russian Federation and exported from the Russian Federation by legal officials and civilians for participation in sporting events without authorization from the federal agencies of executive power performing the functions of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs, under the condition of an invitation by the organizers of the sporting event, or a petition from the general Russian sporting federation, accredited in accordance with the government of the Russian Federation, regarding participation in sporting events and the guarantee by the general Russian sporting federation of the lists of imported weapons.

The import and export of weapons to and from the territory of the Russian Federation by other officials can be accomplished in accordance with the rules set forth by the government of the Russian Federation.

The import and export to and from the Russian Federation of a solitary sporting weapon, hunting weapon, firearm of limited destructive capability, gas weapon of self defense, or pneumatic weapon requires registration and authorization by the domestic affairs agency, as stipulated by the current federal law.

It is not permitted to permanently import firearms of limited destructive capabilities, their basic parts, or traumatic action cartridges produced outside the territory of the Russian Federation.

STATUTE 18 – TRADE OF CIVILIAN AND SERVICE WEAPONS AND CARTRIDGES

Legal officials producing civilian and service weapons and cartridges on a basic production license have the right to engage in trade of civilian and service weapons and cartridges in the territory of the Russian Federation, as do legal officials with a basic license for the trade of civilian and service weapons and cartridges.

Legal officials with the right to engage in trade of civilian and service weapons and cartridges are required to:

Have the corresponding institutional and registration documents and licenses for the production or trade of civilian and service weapons and cartridges;

Have certificates of agreement or declaration regarding the compliance of the sold civilian or service weapon and cartridges and authorization of the domestic affairs agency for the storage of the indicated weapon;

Request from the buyers the presentation of a license for the acquisition of the chosen weapon and cartridges, with the exception of those types of weapons and cartridges for which the acquisition of a license is not required.

Provide a record of the acquired and sold weapons, as well as the storage for the registration documents for a period of 10 years;

Present monthly statements to the domestic affairs agencies about the sold civilian and service weapons and cartridges, their buyers and the forms established by the federal agencies of executive power performing the functions of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the sphere of domestic affairs.

Register licenses for the buyers of gas pistols and revolvers, tubeless self-defense firearms of domestic

production, signal weapons, hunting cold bladed weapons, and cold bladed weapons intended to be carried as part of the national costumes of the people of the Russian Federation or with Cossack uniforms in accordance with the rules of the federal agencies of executive power performing the functions of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs,;

Demonstrate safeguards of weapons and the security of their storage;

Present to the Federal Shot and Casing Registry all bullets and cartridge sleeves shot from the sold service and rifled civilian weapons, in accordance with the rules of the federal agency of executive power performing the functions of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs.

It is forbidden to sell civilian and service weapons and cartridges or structurally similar devices that lack a number or stamp without a certificate of compliance or declaration of compliance.

It is forbidden to sell civilian or service weapons to legal officials who do not present a license for the acquisition, storage, and carrying of the specified weapon or cartridge. It is forbidden to sell weapons to citizens who do not present a license for acquisition of the weapon or cartridge, or authorization for the storage and carrying of such a weapon, excluding the types of weapons and cartridges for which a license of acquisition is not required.

It is forbidden for legal officials who have a license to trade civilian and service weapons and cartridges to combine the sale in one trade hall of weapons and other types of goods, excluding sporting, hunting, and fishing accessories and spare parts for weapons.

A license for the trade of civilian and service weapons and cartridges does not give the bearer the right to open subsidiaries of legal offices for the trade of civilian and service weapons and cartridges.

In organizations engaged in the trade of weapons and/or cartridges, duties involving the sale, storage, and registration of weapons and cartridges, basic parts of firearms, cannot be assumed by an official who has an outstanding conviction for intentionally committed crimes, or whom a judge has banned from assuming such duties or from engaging in specified professional or entrepreneurial activities in the area of weapons circulation.

STATUTE 19 – THE SALE OR TRANSFER OF WEAPONS BY STATE PARAMILITARY ORGANIZATIONS

State paramilitary organizations have the right to sell or transfer military hand weapons and cold weapons from their arsenal in accordance with the rules of the government of the Russian Federation, or to sell civilian or service weapons from their arsenal to legal officials who have a license to trade civilian and service weapons and cartridges.

The leaders of state paramilitary organizations have the right to transfer, store and carry short-barrel firearms to a separate category of military employees and staff of state paramilitary organizations who are retired, as well as to temporarily distribute weapons in compliance with the rules of the government of the Russian Federation to officials of government agencies who are authorized to store and carry weapons and are registered with the corresponding authority in accordance with the rules of the federal agencies of executive power performing the functions of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs.

In accordance with the current federal law for domestic affairs agencies, weapons and cartridges can be issued for temporary use to legal officials with specially authorized tasks for a fee established by the government of the Russian Federation.

The procedure of establishing a fee for the temporary use of weapons by legal officials with specially authorized tasks, the size of the fee, and the procedure of compensation shall be established by federal agencies of executive power with jurisdictions concerning questions of domestic affairs and expenses involving the acquisition, storage, and transportation of the weapon in question and its

cartridges, maintenance, and technical service of weapons.

STATUTE 20 – SALE, GIFTING, AND INHERITANCE OF WEAPONS

The first and second parts of this statute are now inactive.

Citizens of the Russian Federation have the right to sell weapons that they legally privately possess to legal officials with have a license to trade civilian and service weapons, or to collections or expositions of weapons, or to state paramilitary organizations (under the condition that they preliminarily notify the domestic affairs agencies, giving them authorization for the storage and carrying of weapons), or to citizens who have licenses for the acquisition, collection, or exposition of weapons after the re-registration of the weapon with the agency of domestic affairs in the specified weapon's new location.

The gifting or inheritance of civilian weapons registered with the domestic affairs agency can take place in accordance with the laws of the Russian Federation, under the condition that the heir or recipient has a license for the acquisition of a civilian weapon. In the event of the death of the owner of the civilian weapon before the resolution of questions regarding the inheritance and receipt of the license of acquisition of the civilian weapon by the heir, the weapon in question will be immediately expropriated for responsible storage by the domestic affairs agency.

STATUTE 21 – SALE OF CIVILIAN AND SERVICE WEAPONS AND THEIR CARTRIDGES BY DIFFERENT SUBJECTS

The subjects with the right to acquire weapons, outlined in points 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 of the Statute 10 of the current federal law can sell any civilian or service weapon and cartridges belonging to them on a legal basis to legal officials who have a license for trade of civilian and service weapons, with preliminary notification about this action of the domestic affairs agency in the new place of registration of the weapon in question.

STATUTE 22 – STORAGE OF CIVILIAN AND SERVICE WEAPONS AND CARTRIDGES

The storage of civilian and service weapons and cartridges is authorized for legal officials and citizens who have received authorization at the domestic affairs agency for storage and carrying of the weapon.

The storage of weapons and cartridges belonging to sporting organizations and to citizens and users for the purposes of sports and hunting is permitted for legal officials who have received authorization from the domestic affairs agency of the right to store and use weapons with shooting targets. The procedure of receipt of the storage of such weapons and cartridges and the procedure of issuance for direct use shall be established by federal agencies of executive power performing the role of development and implementation of state policy and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs.

The storage by foreign citizens of civilian and service weapons acquired in the Russian Federation is authorized for a period of 10 days on a basic license for acquisition, issued by the domestic affairs agency.

The storage and use of firearms found or transferred by legal officials or citizens who do not own them is not permitted, with the exception of situations outlined by the current federal law. Such a weapon should be instantly turned over to the domestic affairs agency.

Civilian and service weapons should be stored under conditions ensuring the safety and security of storage.

The stipulated conditions for storage of different types of civilian and service weapons and cartridges shall be established by the government of the Russian Federation.

In organizations authorized to store weapons and/or cartridges, duties involving the storage and registration of weapons and cartridges cannot be assumed by an official who has an outstanding conviction for intentionally committed crimes, or whom a judge has banned from assuming such

duties or from engaging in specified professional or entrepreneurial activities in the area of weapons circulation.

STATUTE 23 – PROCEDURE OF LEVY AND PAYMENTS DURING THE ISSUE OF LICENSES, AUTHORIZATION, AND EXTENSION OF VALIDITY

In order to be issued a license for acquisition of weapons or authorization for storage, carrying, import, and export of weapons and their cartridges, one-time, non-recurring charges will be collected during the authorization process. The amount of the charge shall be determined on the basis of organizational or other charges regarding the issue of the decreed documents and shall be approved by the government of the Russian Federation.

STATUTE 24 – THE USE OF WEAPONS BY CITIZENS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Citizens of the Russian Federation can use any weapons that they legally own in defense of life, health and possession of property or in situations of necessary defense or emergencies. The use of a weapon should be preceded by a clear warning to the person against whom the weapon is being used, with the exception of situations in which a delay in the use of the weapon would cause direct danger to human lives or could involve the person in different grievous circumstances. Herewith, the use of weapons in the event of unavoidable danger should not bring harm to third parties.

It is forbidden to use firearms against women, people with obvious disabilities, minors (when their age is obvious or known), with the exception of circumstances in which such individuals are committing military or group attacks. In each circumstance of a weapon's use, the owner of the weapon is required to immediately (no later than a day) alert the domestic affairs agency in the place of the weapon's use.

For individuals owning a weapon on a legal basis and having the right to carry it, it is illegal to carry the weapon at a time of participation in meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, marches, picketing, religious rites and ceremonies, cultural entertainment, sporting or other public events, with the exception of people taking direct part

in sporting events involving the use of sporting weapons, Cossacks taking part in Cossack society meetings, religious rites and ceremonies, cultural entertainment involving Cossack uniforms, people taking part in religious rites and ceremonies, cultural events involving national costumes in events when the carrying of bladed cold weapons is part of such a costume, as well as anyone authorized by the organizers of certain public events to guarantee social order and safety of citizens in compliance with the laws of conduct. The organizers of cultural entertainment and sporting events have the right to perform temporary storage of weapons belonging to citizens in accordance with the current federal law.

The rules of the use of sporting and hunting weapons shall be established by the government of the Russian Federation.

It is forbidden to bare a weapon in any situation if there is no basis for its use, according to the previously specified first part of the current statute (with the exception of situations stipulated by the government of the Russian Federation).

STATUTE 25 – THE REGISTRATION, CARRYING, SHIPMENT, TRANSPORTATION, DESTRUCTION, COLLECTION, AND EXPOSITION OF WEAPONS

The rules of registration, carrying, shipment, transportation and destruction of weapons shall be determined by the government of the Russian Federation.

Legal officials and citizens with the required licenses from a domestic affairs agency have the right to engage in the collection and exposition of weapons in the territory of the Russian Federation.

The laws of collection and exposition of weapons or objects structurally similar to weapons, the procedure of their production, trade, sale, transfer, acquisition, exposition, storage and transportation, and the nomenclature of such weapons shall be determined by the government of the Russian Federation.

STATUTE 26 – NULLIFICATION AND CONFISCATION OF LICENSES FOR THE ACQUISITION OF WEAPONS AND/OR THE AUTHORIZATION FOR STORING AND CARRYING WEAPONS

Licenses for the acquisition of weapons and the authorization for the storage or carrying of weapons can be annulled by the agencies that issued the licenses and authorizations in the following situations:

1. voluntary renunciation of the indicated license and/or authorization, the discharge of a legal official, or the death of the owner of the weapon;
2. the rendition of a judge's decision about the deprivation of a citizen's corresponding special rights, or about the annulment of the license and/or authorization;
3. the emergence of circumstances that, by the stipulation of current federal law, preclude the right to receive a license and/or authorization;
4. the annulment of a hunting permit in accordance with the government of the Russian Federation in the area of hunting and conservation of hunting resources (regarding hunting weapons);

In the situations of a detected violation by a citizen of the stipulated current federal law or, in accordance with the regulatory legal acts of the Russian Federation, of the rules of storage, carrying, destruction, production, sale, transfer, shipment, transportation or use of a weapon and its cartridges, as well as the circulation by citizens of the weapon for which they have been issued a license to acquire a weapon and/or authorization for the storage and carrying of a weapon, the license can be temporarily withdrawn by the domestic affairs agency until the resolution of a final decision in accordance with the rules of the government of the Russian Federation.

In the event of a judicial finding of an administrative violation by a legal official, suspension from administrative activities will result for the violation of rules in the area of the circulation of weapons and cartridges. The license to acquire a weapon and/or authorization for its storage that was issued to this legal official can be suspended by the agencies that

issued such a license and/or authorization on the established suit in the period after the detection of the crime.

A license for the acquisition of weapons and/or the authorization of storage of weapons can be annulled by the decision of a court on the basis of a statement of the agency that issued the license and/or authorization if, in the time period established by the suit, the administrative suspension of activities were not met by those who committed the violation of the rules in the area of circulation of weapons and cartridges, resulting in the imposition of punishment via administrative suspension from activities for the legal official in question.

In the event of the annulment of a license for the acquisition of weapons and/or authorization for storage, a legal official has the right to reapply for another license three years from the date of annulment of the license and/or authorization, and civilians have the right to reapply one year from the date of the end of the period during which they were deprived of the right to acquire a weapon and the right to store and carry a weapon in accordance with the current federal law.

In the event of voluntary renunciation of the license and/or authorization, time frames for re-applying for another license are not established.

STATUTE 27 – CONFISCATION OF WEAPONS AND THEIR CARTRIDGES

The confiscation of weapons and cartridges can be carried out by:

1. Domestic affairs agencies in the circumstances of:

gross violation by legal officials of the licensing requirements and conditions of production, sale, storage or registration of the weapon and cartridges, as well as illegal production, acquisition, sale, transfer, storage or shipment of firearms until the rendering of a final decision in accordance with the stipulations of the government of the Russian Federation.

Violation by citizens of the laws of storage,

manufacture, sale, transfer or use of weapons and cartridges, as well as the transfer of weapons before the final rendering of a decision in accordance with the rules of the government of the Russian Federation.

Annulment in direct accordance with the stipulations of the current federal law of license and/or authorization;

Death of the owner of the civilian weapon or death of citizens owning military or service weapons on a legal basis;

Dismissal of legal officials, who are owners of weapons;

2. Agencies that engage in government control and supervision in the area of hunting and conservation of hunting resources, fisheries and conservation of marine biological resources, the protection of the environment, including natural resources, if they detect a violation of the laws of the Russian Federation. The agency should subsequently transfer the confiscated weapon to the agencies of domestic affairs;
3. Customs agencies in situations stipulated by the lawmakers of the Customs Units in the constraints of the European Economic Community and/or the lawmakers of the Russian Federation in Customs Affairs;
4. In other circumstances stipulated by the government of the Russian Federation.

The procedure of confiscation of weapons and cartridges shall be determined by the government of the Russian Federation.

The disposal of weapons and cartridges that have been confiscated due to the violation of the laws in the area of weapons circulation, determined by the current Federal law or by other regulatory legal acts of the Russian Federation, shall be determined in conjunction with judicial decisions about the criminal act, civilian act, or the act of administrative violation of the agency.

Weapons and cartridges confiscated as a result of the death of the original owner shall be placed in storage at the domestic affairs agency until

the resolution of the question of inheritance of the property and the receipt of the right to ownership of the weapon, or until the disposal of the weapon, no more than one year later. After one year, the domestic affairs agency will receive arrangements determined by the civil legislation for the compulsory disposal of the specified weapon and cartridges.

STATUTE 28 – CONTROLS ON THE CIRCULATION OF WEAPONS

Control over the circulation of civilian and service weapons in the territory of the Russian Federation is performed by the domestic affairs agency and other agencies of the government of the Russian Federation that issue licenses for the production of civilian and service weapons, as well as agencies of government supervision for compliance with the state standards of the Russian Federation.

Control over weapons circulation in state paramilitary organizations is performed in accordance with direction from the government of the Russian Federation.

Officials of agencies authorized to engage in control over the circulation of civilian and service weapons, have the right to:

Conduct inspections of weapons in the place of their production, trade, storage or disposal;

In accordance with the determined procedure, to freely confiscate and dispose of weapons whose circulation is forbidden on the territory of the Russian Federation, with the exception of any weapons acquired before the current federal law takes effect and which are legally located at their owners' properties;

To request from legal officials and citizens the presentation of documents or copies of written or oral information, obligatory for compliance with control functions;

In the case of detection of violations of the established laws of control by citizens of the Russian Federation and officials, to give orders about addressing the violations;

To take legal action with a statement of the annulment of the license that was issued for the acquisition of weapons and/or authorization for storage and storage and carrying of weapons, to confiscate the specified license and/or authorization, weapons and cartridges, and compulsorily dispose of the weapons and cartridges, as well as take any other actions provided by the government of the Russian Federation.

STATUTE 29 – THE COMING INTO EFFECT OF THE CURRENT FEDERAL LAW

The current federal law will take effect after July 1st, 1997.

STATUTE 30 – INTRODUCTION OF REGULATORY LEGAL ACTS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CURRENT FEDERAL LAW

The president of the Russian Federation, government of the Russian Federation, agencies of state power of the subjects of the Russian Federation, and agencies of local administration must introduce their own regulatory legal acts in accordance with the current federal law in a period of three months from the day it takes effect.

The government of the Russian Federation must:

Before February 1st 1997, bring proposals about the establishment of administrative responsibilities regarding violations of the current Federal law to the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation;

Before March 1st 1997, define and approve the amount of the one-time fee collected at the issue, authorization and certification of licenses, as well as the extension of the term of its validity, with the registration of the interests of producers and consumers;

Before March 1st 1997, define the procedure for the receipt of a license at the domestic affairs agency for temporary use of the specified types and models of military hand weapons by legal officials with specially authorized missions, specified in Statute 12 of the current federal law.

STATUTE 31 – ENFORCEMENT OF THE CURRENT FEDERAL LAW

Legal officials with specially authorized missions involving militarized protection and the use of combat hand weapons – with the exception of the performance of responsibilities concerned with the security of production and storage of weapons, ammunition, military technology, especially dangerous ecologic production, environment and natural resources, places of the production and storage of monetary resources and valuables, extraction, processing and storage of precious metals and jewels, diplomatic officials representing the Russian Federation in foreign governments, and other valuable objects, as well as the transportation of dangerous cargo, weapons, ammunition, military technology, monetary resources and valuables, diplomatic mail, correspondence concerning state secrets and carriers of information concerning state secrets – must register their weapons before January 1st 1998. If the ownership is changed within three months from the date of registration, the registration documents will be subject to confiscation by the domestic affairs agency. For private security firms and security service organizations, the use of combat hand weapons is limited by the period of the weapon's lease from the federal agency of executive power performing the function of development and implementation of state policies and regulatory duties in the area of domestic affairs.

Between 1996 and 1998, the government of the Russian Federation must design and implement a federal program of government standardization of civilian and service weapons and their cartridges.

STATUTE 32 – ON THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE EXPIRATION OF SOME LEGAL ACTS DUE TO THE PASSAGE OF THE CURRENT FEDERAL LAW

In conjunction with the passage of the Current Federal Law, the following expirations are acknowledged:

1. The law of the Russian Federation "On Weapons" (the Register of the Convention of National Deputies of the Russian Federation and High Soviet of the Russian Federation, 1993, N 24, p. 860).
2. The Resolution of the High Council of the

Russian Federation "On the Procedure of the Introduction of the Laws of the Russian Federation 'On Weapons'" (The Register of the Congress of the People's Deputies of the Russian Federation and High Soviet of the Russian Federation, 1993, N 24, p. 861);

3. The Resolution of the High Council of the Russian Federation "On the Addition of Changes to the Resolution of the High Council of the Russian Federation 'On the Procedure of Introduction the Laws of the Russian Federation 'On Weapons'" (Russian Magazine, 1993, September 9th, N 174).

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES can be found at: <http://www.i2i.org/>, <http://davekopel.org/Russian/Kopel-Russian.htm> (materials in Russian), and <http://davekopel.org/2A/Foreign-gun-control.htm> (international firerams, law and policy).

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