

# SSANZ News December 2019

[www.sportingshooters.nz](http://www.sportingshooters.nz) SSANZ, PO Box 275, Whangarei 0140

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## Is There No End To This Nonsense?

Just when we all think we have dealt with a new amendment to the Arms Act (Arms Legislation Bill 2019) by making submissions to the Select Committee and are preparing ourselves to follow up with oral submission, Stuart Nash drops another change in our laps, SOP 408 in mid November. This time he is going after pistol owners, in an attempt to capture a few 100 short MSSAs that became pistols as a result of Police changing their policy on how they should be measured and were thus excluded from the original prohibition and buyback. A clear illustration of how rushed and ill considered the first Arms Amendment was.

SOP 408 is another piece of rushed and ill prepared legislation, with only 2 weeks allowed for preparing submissions. A new definition of a “small semi automatic pistol” overturns the long held simple legal definition of a pistol and has the effect of making many historical and collectable pistols into prohibited firearms, despite these already being held on C or B endorsed licences, requires shoulder stocks for pistols to be held on an endorsed licence and makes virtually any firearm based on the AR 15 platform a prohibited firearm regardless of calibre (i.e .22 or less). It also allows for any pump action rifle to be declared a prohibited firearm by Order in Council. No mention was made of providing compensation for these newly prohibited firearms and no doubt owners who wish to retain them and their shoulder stocks will need to apply and pay for yet another P endorsement. No advice on this yet from Police National Headquarters.

Next at the end of November we had Arms (Prohibited Magazine) Order 2019, which makes any drum magazine that can be fitted to a pistol into a prohibited magazine. Such things as the historic Luger snail drum magazine. Then the Arms (Prohibited Firearms, Magazines, and Parts) Amendment Regulations (No 2) 2019. This set of regulations redefines prohibited parts in relation to upper and lower receivers, provides protection against prosecution for owners whose applications for exemptions or modifications are not complete before 20 December and establishes additional criteria for compensation. Another concern in this additional set of regulations is the power granted to the Commissioner of Police to determine what is a reasonable number of parts for a person to own when compensation is considered, he also has the discretion to require proof of ownership or original cost, something that is very hard to provide when they have been owned for many years.

Not that this will be the end of the story there is no doubt more grief to come.

## **Police are Responsible**

Obviously it was all started by our Dear Leader who wanted to make a name for herself by being decisive after the March mosque attacks. However it is quite clear to us that the ongoing process is being driven by the bosses at Police National HQ who have an agenda to divert attention from their own departments failings in providing Tarrant with a licence and at the same time remove as many firearms as possible from public hands while arming the police as a para military organisation.

Why do Police need 2,913 M4 MSSAs when licensed members of the public are not allowed such “evil and dangerous” firearms? Most LFOs are far more safety conscious and better shots than your average cop.

Why are Police drafting legislation, both Bills and Regulations that are then rubber stamped by their Minister Stuart Nash? Bills that are then rushed through the Select Committee process with only 5 minutes allowed for expert witnesses to provide oral testimony. That in itself is a travesty. Regulations that are rubber stamped by the Governor General and become law for 12 months before any parliamentary scrutiny.

Throughout this process police have steadfastly declined to consult with experts in the firearm community in drafting these Bills and Regulations. Yet the legislation they are producing is so complex that when asked questions for a better understanding their own staff are unable to provide answers.

We understand they have even bullied their own employees to hand in their private firearms early, to set an example. Now they are bullying LFOs by threatening raids and retribution to those who have failed to comply with all these changing laws when the amnesty ends on 20 December.

## **Police Are Also Responsible for Firearm Licence Owners Data Breach**

The news released by COLFO Fair and Reasonable Campaign on the 2nd December that the details of licensed firearms owners personal information, including bank accounts and firearms licence numbers and addresses, was exposed to anyone who cared to look at the Police Buyback online notification website came as a shock to us all. The police and government have tried to down play the the seriousness of the breach, by claiming it was only accessed by one dealer and only 35 LFOs were fully exposed.

IT MATTERS NOT if one person accessed the Buyback data or 100 people accessed it. It matters not if 35 people's data was exposed or 38,000 LFOs data was exposed. IT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. The data was visible to anyone who went looking for 5 days before it was shut down.

**This is clear proof that the police are not to be trusted with a register of our firearms.**

## **Our Mood is Changing**

Most firearm owners in NZ are decent law abiding people, who like to enjoy their sport or hobby alone or in the company of like minded mates, they are not particularly political and certainly not radical. They are not protestors by nature.

However, as shown by the growing number and attendance at protest meetings LFOs are getting more and more upset by the repeated attacks (law changes) on our culture and way of life by those in authority. The December data breach has added fuel to the fire and how this ends will be down to the government.

## **Are You a Club Member?**

With all these changes to the Arms Act and Regulations it is apparent that many firearm owners are in the dark as to how they are affected. Even as we approach the end of the amnesty there are some who don't realise that their favourite hunting rifle is now prohibited, or their antique collectable pistol is to be banned.

If you don't belong to a gun club how do you keep informed?

The answer to this is join SSANZ for only \$ 20 per year and keep yourself informed with regular e-mail updates.

**[www.sportingshooters.nz](http://www.sportingshooters.nz)**

**NZGUNZ** (formally NZ Guns & Hunting) has gone digital, view and register here:

<http://www.nzguns.co.nz/>

*A discounted Premium Subscription is available for SSANZ members.*

## **Notice of SSANZ AGM**

To be held at 2.00pm on Saturday 8 February 2020, at the Bounty Room, Forum North, Rust Avenue, Whangarei. Nominations for Officers and Committee should reach the Secretary by 25 January 2020. All members are invited to attend.

### **AGENDA**

1. Roll call
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the last meeting
4. Matters arising
5. Presidents Report
6. Financial Report
7. Election of Officers
8. General Business

## 2020 AGM NOMINATION FORM

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for the position of \_\_\_\_\_

Proposer Name \_\_\_\_\_ Second Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee Signed \_\_\_\_\_

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## PROXY VOTING FORM

I (name) \_\_\_\_\_ being a financial member of SSANZ wish to nominate  
(name) \_\_\_\_\_ as my proxy at the 2020 SSANZ AGM.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2020 Subscription Notice

Annual subscriptions are now due for 2020, and should be paid before the 1 March 2020.  
**If you have recently paid your subscription please ignore this notice.** To save on our costs we no longer issue membership cards as they serve no practical purpose for this Association. We value your continued support.

The subscription remains the same at \$20 for SSANZ full member. Include additional family members (non-voting) for \$1 each.

Payment may be made by direct credit or cheque or via [www.sportingshooters.nz](http://www.sportingshooters.nz) .

**Direct Credit to:** Account # **03-0179-0160150-00**. Please use your name as reference.

**Payment by Cheque:** Please complete the form below and send with your cheque (payable to **SSANZ**) to: SSANZ, PO Box 275, Whangarei 0140.

**PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE ANY MEMBERSHIP ISSUES.**

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### SSANZ Subscription Renewal

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Family members \_\_\_\_\_

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Note: Your e-mail address is important as it helps us reduce postage costs