



Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives

Firearms & Explosives Imports Branch



William E. Majors
Branch Chief

Mission Statement

The Firearms & Explosives Imports Branch (FEIB) is responsible for fulfilling ATF statutory responsibilities relative to the import provisions of the Gun Control Act of 1968, the National Firearms Act, and the Arms Export Control Act of 1976 by processing applications for the importation of firearms, explosives, ammunition, and defense articles.

Things to consider Before you import !

- What is being imported.
- Where is the item being imported from and where was it manufactured?
- Who is the importer and who are parties involved?

Proscribed & Embargoed Countries

- It is the policy of the United States to deny licenses and other approvals with respect to defense articles and defense services originating in certain countries or areas. Defense articles manufactured in or being exported from any of the countries listed below CANNOT be authorized for importation into United States. This list is subject to change without notice as foreign policy changes.

Proscribed

Afghanistan
Belarus
Iran
Libya
Mongolia
Iraq

North Korea
Sudan
Syria
Vietnam
Cuba

Embargoed

Burma Dem Rep Congo
China Somalia
Haiti Sudan
Liberia UNITA (Angola)
Rwanda

Obtaining Necessary Government Approvals

- 27 CFR 478.112-No firearm, firearm barrel, or ammunition shall be imported or brought into the United States by a licensed importer (as defined in 478.11) unless the Director has authorized the importation of the firearm, firearm barrel, or ammunition.

Obtaining Necessary Government Approvals

- **State Department Responsibilities**
 - Issuance of VRA/Proscribed Country Waivers
 - Maintain the Proscribed Country List
 - Provide Re-Transfer Authorizations for Certain U.S. Origin Defense Articles
 - Commodity Jurisdictions

ATF F6 Processing Times

Fiscal Year	0~10 Days	11~30 Days	31~45 Days	45+ Days
2008	25%	64%	7%	4%
2009	20%	64%	11%	5%
2010	20%	59%	14%	7%
2011	21%	62%	11%	4%
2012	29.7%	61.4%	6.6%	2.3%

This chart represents the total number of import applications received and the time in which they are processed.

Number of ATF F6 Parts I & II Processed by Fiscal Year

2007 - 7,973

2008 - 9,308

2009 - 7,646

2010 - 6855

2011 - 9,248

2012 - 7,791 (as of 7/19/2012)

Number of Non-immigrant Alien (NIA) Applications Processed

2007 - 6,755

2008 - 6,141

2009 - 6,156

2010 - 7,228

2011 - 9,000

2012 - 4322 (As of 7/16/12)

ATF FORM 6A

- 27 CFR 478.112(c) and (d) cite the proper method for filing ATF Form 6As.
- The Imports Branch will forward referrals to ATF Field offices for improperly executed ATF Form 6As. Field offices may cite violations for 6As completed improperly when errors are discovered during field investigations.

27 CFR 478.112(c)

- Imposes an additional requirement on all licensed and/or registered importers.
- Must submit a copy of export license to CPB.
- If issuance of export license not required, you must present a certification, signed under penalties of perjury.

27 CFR 478.112(d)

- Within 15 days of the date of release from Customs custody, the licensed importer must:
- Forward to the address specified on the form a copy of ATF Form 6A on which must be reported any error or discrepancy appearing on the ATF Form 6A certified by Customs and serial numbers if not previously provided on ATF Form 6A;
- Pursuant to §478.92, place all required identification data on each imported firearm if they did not bear such identification at the time of release from Customs custody; and
- Post in the records required to be maintained by the importer under subpart H of this part all required information regarding the importation.

ATF F6A Reconciliation

- When a Form 6 is approved, each line item on the permit is entered as a separate line item in our database, along with the quantity approved for import.
- When a Form 6A is received, we reconcile that 6A to the corresponding Form 6 in our database and the quantity of defense articles actually imported is decremented from the quantity approved.
- We must have the correct Form 6 permit number in block #6 in order to conduct this reconciliation.

ATF F6A Reconciliation

- If you are making an entry for articles approved for import on multiple Forms 6, you must file a SEPARATE Form 6A for the articles imported under each permit. Otherwise, we cannot reconcile the Form 6A to the database.
- Often, in blocks 9a-9c, description, an importer will state, “see attachment” and there is no attachment.
- Block 9b – Description. This description of the articles MUST be the same description used on the corresponding Form 6:

ATF F6A Reconciliation

- The information on the Form 6 and 6A must match exactly.
- If you bring in parts, we require that each part be listed as a separate line item on the Form 6. Consequently, you must list each part as a separate line item on the Form 6A. You cannot state "Misc. Parts." We cannot reconcile that to the database. You may attach additional sheets as necessary.
- If you bring in ammunition, each type and caliber/gauge is required to be a separate line item on the 6A as it is on the Form 6.

ATF FORM 6A SUBMISSION - THINGS TO REMEMBER

- You will receive two copies of the Form 6A. One copy you leave with CBP – CBP will complete Section II and mail it to ATF. CBP does **not** return this copy to the importer.
- The second copy of the Form 6A, with Section III completed, must be returned by you to ATF within 15 days of release from CBP custody. This copy DOES NOT have to have Section II completed.
- ONLY the licensed and/or registered importer may complete Section III of the 6A. CBP does not return this copy to the importer.

National Firearms Act

- When importing NFA firearms an ATF Form 2 (5320.2) must also be completed.
- The importer shall file a separate Form 2 notice on which firearms are imported during a single day no later than 15 days from the date the firearms are released from Customs custody.

Contact Information

Martinsburg Facility Address & Telephone Numbers:

244 Needy Road

Martinsburg, WV 25405

Telephone Number: (304) 616-4550

Facsimile Number: (304) 616-4551

NIA Facsimile Number: (304) 616-4554

William E. Majors: Imports Branch Chief (304) 616-4589

Contact Information – Page Two

William E. Majors	Branch Chief	(304) 616-4589
Desiree M. Winger	Industry Liaison/Analyst	(304) 616-4584
Marie Pollard	Specialist	(304) 616-4558
Cynthia E. Cheeks	Specialist	(304) 616-4561
Debbie D. Lee	Specialist	(304) 616-4593
Wonjiri M. Ridley	Specialist	(304) 616-4578
Linda J. Beach	Specialist	(304) 616-4580
Kimberly Ramsburg	Legal Instrument Examiner	(304) 616-4576
Deanna L. Fetterolf	Legal Instrument Examiner	(304) 616-4583
Melissa A. Grant	Legal Instrument Examiner	(304) 616-4577
Eric D. Leber	Legal Instrument Examiner	(304) 616-4568