

HOW TO COMPLETE ATF FORM 6 Part I,

An Application and Permit for Importation of Firearms, Ammunition and Implements of War is generally needed to import defense articles into the United States. The most recent PDF, non-fillable version of the ATF Form 6 Part I import permit application may be found on our website at <http://www.atf.gov/forms/pdfs/f53303a.pdf>. You may also search our website at www.atf.gov under Forms or contact our ATF Distribution Center at 7943 Angus Court, Springfield, VA 22153-5950, (703) 455-7801, to order a year's supply of any of our forms and publications.

It generally takes the Firearms and Explosives Imports Branch (FEIB) personnel approximately four-to-six weeks to process a properly completed ATF Form 6. To assist us with the timely processing of your forms, we ask that you ensure:

- the form contains **accurate and complete information.**
- item 1 contains your complete and valid **15-digit Federal firearms license number** and **your expiration date** (located in the box directly to the right of the FFL box), especially the 7th and 8th digits which identifies your type of license. The 9th digit of your FFL number indicates the year your license expires, and the 10th digit indicates the month. **A=Jan, B=Feb, C=Mar, D=APR, E=May, F=June, G=Jul, H=Aug, J=Sept, K=Oct, L=Nov, and N=Dec.**

REMEMBER: If you are a Federal firearms licensee Type "08" or "11" but you have not registered as an importer under the Arms Export Control Act, you are restricted to importing sporting shotguns, sporting shotgun ammunition, and sporting shotgun parts for resale.

- item 2 contains your **business and fax telephone numbers.** Please note the letter B next to your business telephone number, and F next to your fax telephone number.
- item 3 contains the name of the country the firearm is being exported from. Pursuant to 27 CFR §447.52, be advised that **ATF is precluded from approving applications to import articles that were manufactured in, or being exported from a proscribed country.**
- item 5 contains **your name and address**, not the name and address of the person you may be importing the articles on behalf of.
- item 6 contains the **foreign seller's** name and address.
- item 7 contains the **foreign shipper's** name and address. If this information is identical to the information in item 6, you may note the words "See item 6."

- items 8a-k requires you to provide a specific **detailed description** of the defense article you wish to import. You may complete one Form 6 to import numerous defense articles but list ONLY the articles that correspond with that Form 6. If the space provided in Items 8a-k is not sufficient to list all the articles you wish to import, please note only the words “see attachment” on the face of the ATF Form 6, under the Firearms, Ammunition, or Implements of War category, whichever is applicable. Use a separate sheet of paper to precisely describe and itemize the articles you wish to import, following the identical format in items 8a-k on the Form 6. This information is needed to determine the import status of the articles. List firearm component parts, (which do not include a firearm frame or receiver) under the Implement of War (IOW) category. IOWs include magazines, grips, barrels, mounts, scopes, and night visions, etc. Note the magazine capacity as well as the type and model designation of the firearm associated with the parts. When importing IOW, you must complete items 8a-f and list additional information under Description of the IOW category.
- item 8a contains the name, address and/or country where the firearm was **manufactured**. Pursuant to 27 CFR §447.52, be advised that ATF is precluded from approving applications to import articles that were manufactured in, or being exported from, a proscribed country.
- item 8b contains only the **acronyms**: SG=shotgun, RI=rifle; PI=pistol; RE=revolver; DD=destructive device; SI=silencer; SR=short-barreled rifle; SS=short-barreled shotgun, MG=machinegun; and AW=any other weapon (Marble Game Getters, pen and cane guns, etc.) Any information you can provide to further identify articles may be noted in item 8b. For example, if you know the firearm is an assault, non-sporting, or NFA weapon, you may note this information separately, directly under columns item 8b-d, after you have already described the articles in items d 8a-k.
- item 8c contains the firearm’s **caliber and gauge**. If you are importing articles of various calibers and gauges, you must itemize and specifically identify the caliber and gauge of each article.
- item 8d contains the **quantity**. If you are importing articles of various models, you must itemize and specifically identify each article by its model designation.
- item 8e contains the **unit cost**.
- item 8f - contains the **US MIL Category** of the article to be imported that corresponds to the categories of defense articles enumerated under 27 CFR §447.21. For example, firearms and firearms components=Category/Roman numeral I and ammunition=Category/Roman numeral III.
- item 8g contains the firearm’s exact **model designation**. If you are unable to determine the model designation, please attach close-up photographs and/or

scaled tracings (for handguns only) together with a listing of all markings appearing on the firearm and the location of these markings. This information will assist us in determining the import status of the firearm, and it should be attached to the completed Form 6.

- items 8h-i note the firearm's **barrel and overall length**. Please provide inches instead of centimeters or millimeters.

REMEMBER: the barrel and overall length are not the only criteria used to determine the import status of firearms. To meet the sporting criteria and qualify for importation under the law at section 925(d)(3): (1) rifles must have a barrel length of 16 inches or more and overall length 26-inches or more; (2) shotguns must have a barrel length of 18 inches or more and overall length of 26-inches or more; (3) pistols must have an overall length of 6 inches and achieve a minimum score of 75 points on ATF F 5330.5, Factoring Criteria for Weapons; and, (4) revolvers must have a minimum barrel length of 3 inches or more, pass the safety test and achieve a minimum score of 45 points on ATF F 5330.5, Factoring Criteria for Weapons.

- item 8j contains the firearm's **serial number**.
- item 8k notes the **condition** of the firearm: N=new and U=used.
- item 9 b or c is checked only if the items to be imported are **U.S. origin military defense articles** and not commercially manufactured goods. If the U.S. military defense articles "contain U.S. manufactured parts or components and/or foreign manufactured parts or components that were manufactured with U.S. technical data or assistance," you must first obtain **written retransfer authorization** from the U.S. Department of State, Office of Defense Trade Controls, Political Military (PM/DTC), Room 1200 SA-1, 241 E Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037, (202) 663-1282, <http://www.pmdtc.state.gov>, to be attached to the initial completed Form 6. *New production of U.S. military defense articles would still require retransfer authorization to qualify for importation into the United States.*
- item 10 contains the **specific purpose of importation**, such as Gun Show, personal use, "on behalf of", demonstration, or resale, .etc. If importing NFA and non-sporting weapons, please ensure an official government contract, purchase order, or letter typed on official law enforcement and/or government letterhead, bearing the original signature of the chief law enforcement official having jurisdiction over that area, is attached to the completed Form 6.
- item 11 must be checked "yes" or "no." In order to engage in the business of importing articles on the U.S. Munitions Import List, other than sporting shotguns, shotgun parts, or shotgun shells, for resale, you must be registered as an importer under the Arms Export Control Act (AECA). ATF Form 4587,

Application to Register as an Importer of U.S. Munitions Import List Articles, may be found on our website at <http://www.atf.gov/forms/pdfs/f53304.pdf>.

- item 12 contains your **10-digit AECA number** which was issued by this office when you completed Form 4587.
- item 13 contains your **original** signature.
- item 14 contains your **title**, such as Importer, CEO, or President.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PLEASE ENSURE :

- the **detachable perforated strip** located at the top of the triplicate Form 6 is completely removed.
- all **carbon sheets** are completely removed, if located inside the original Form 6 import permit application.
- your information is **legible and readable** on all copies of the form.
- three (**triplicate**) copies of the Forms 6 are submitted with each form listing different articles. You must submit three copies each of any supporting documentation submitted pertaining to the application, which includes faxed copies. The three copies and any supporting documentation must be stapled to the affected Form 6.
- it generally takes FEIB personnel four-to-six weeks processing a properly completed Form 6. Your processing period begins the day FEIB receives your form (not the day you completed or mailed the form). Please allow the normal processing period to surpass before contacting FEIB to **inquire** about our receipt or the processing status of your Forms 6, as it interrupts and delays the processing of your applications.
- supporting documentation **list only those articles listed on the completed affected Form 6**, and those articles are identical and distinctly identified by the manufacturer's name and address, type, caliber/gauge, model designation, and serial number(s) if known.
- Forms 6 are processed on a "**first-come, first-serve**" concept. Any Forms 6 resubmitted because your initial processed Form 6 has or will soon expire will be treated like new Form 6. 27 CFR §447.43, states that Form 6 import permit applications are **valid for one year** from their issuance date. Only the defense articles which are listed on the approved permit are to be imported within that year.
- generally firearms returned to the United States for **repair**, replacement, or customizing must be imported with the execution by a temporary imports licensed issued by the U.S. State Department, Directorate of Defense Trade Controls, Bureau of Political Military Affairs (PM/DTC), 241 E Street, NW, Room 1200, SA-1, Washington, DC 20037, (202) 663-1282, www.pmdtc.org

A FEW EXCEPTIONS TO THE FORM 6.

Generally an ATF approved Form 6 is needed to import defense articles into the United States. Some exceptions are as follows:

- **Accessories** such as sporting type telescopic sights, gun cases, slings, cleaning kits, etc. [27 CFR §447.41(c)(2)]
- **Air** rifles, air pistols, pellet guns, starter guns and flare guns, mostly calibers 177 are not firearms, provided they are neither designed nor readily convertible to expel a projectile. [Title 18, U.S.C. §921(a)(3)]
- **Antique** firearms are defined under the law at Title 18, U.S.C., §921(a)(16) as (1) any firearm (including those with a matchlock, flintlock, percussion cap or similar ignition system) manufactured in or before 1898, or (2) any replica of such firearm is such replica is not designed or redesigned for using rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition or uses rimfire or conventional centerfire fixed ammunition which is no longer manufactured in the United States, and which is not readily available in ordinary commercial channels, or (3) any muzzle loading rifle, pistol, or shotgun designed to use black powder or a powder substitute. [27 CFR 478.115(c)]
- Firearms determined by the Department of Defense (DOD) to be a war **trophy/souvenir** and properly registered on DD Form 603 on or before March 13, 1972.
- **Non-resident U.S. citizens** temporarily bringing sporting firearms and sporting ammunition into the United States for legitimate hunting and lawful sporting purposes. Such firearms and ammunition must be taken out of the United States by such person upon conclusion of the shooting activity [27 CFR 478.115(d)(1)]. These importations must be effected on ATF Form 6 NIA.
- Persons returning **firearms previously possessed** in the United States with a U.S. Customs Border Protection Forms 4455 or 4457 or other satisfactory proof. [27 CFR 478.115(a)]