



## **Safe custody of Firearms and Ammunition**

- The firearms and ammunition to which the certificate relates must at all times, when not in use, be kept in secure storage, to prevent, so far as is a reasonably practical, unauthorised persons taking or using them.
- Firearms should at minimum be stored in an approved Gun safe, it should be made from sheet steel at least 2 mm thick. All seams should be continuously welded, or the cabinet body formed by bend construction. All hinges should be on the inside of the cabinet, but if they are external or exposed, then hinge bolts, blocks or anti-lever bars should be provided, Lock mechanisms should be on the inside of the cabinet. The lock should contain at least 5 levers to BS 3621 standard or equivalent The cabinet may contain, or have attached, a separate lockable container to store ammunition
- The Gun Cabinet should be securely fixed to a wall that is built from bricks or concrete block and or to the floor.
- The gun cabinet should be out of sight, preferably in a corner, as it will make it more difficult to attack.
- A Multi Zoned Alarm system is highly recommended. (required for some types of Firearms), the Gun safe should be on a separate zone on your house alarm system, protecting your equipment 24 hours a day, and where possible this should be monitored.
- Firearms should be stored broken down if possible in multiple gun cabinets or safes and with component elements removed. The use of clamps, trigger locks or high tensile steel cable with a quality hardened padlock as an added security element.
- The theft or the loss of the certificate or any firearm or ammunition to which it relates must be notified to An Garda Síochána immediately upon discovery. We would remind all shooters to check their secure storage on a regular basis and ensure that all items are accounted for and separated appropriately.

## **Safe Transport of Firearms and Ammunition**

- When travelling with firearms, the vehicle should not be left unattended.



- When on a rest break an essential component part such as a bolt or top slide should remain with the shooter and any remaining parts of equipment, should be adequately secured before the vehicle is parked where it can be overlooked.
- Where possible, they should be parked in a position that would frustrate attempts to enter the vehicle unlawfully. (e.g. with the boot close to a wall).
- The firearms should be stored in the locked boot or other secured load carrying area of the vehicle. They should be out of sight from passers-by.
- If you do not transport firearms and ammunition very often, you should not normally need to have a security device fitted in the vehicle, however this would be recommended and is essential for anyone continually transporting Firearms or Ammunition. In the absence of a lock box or safe in a boot, we consider that at a minimum a secure cable lock should be in use.
- If your vehicle is left unattended at any time, it is normally safe enough to remove some essential component and keep it in your personal possession; for example the bolt from a rifle or the fore-end from a shotgun or the top slide from a Pistol.
- If you are a frequently traveller by car with your equipment. You could, for example, keep them in a secured metal container in the boot. A car alarm and immobiliser will provide extra security.