



For Immediate Release

Date: January 5, 2024

Press Release

Appointment of Firearms and Ammunition Control Board

Belmopan – Hon. Kareem Musa, Minister of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries informs of the appointment of the Firearms and Ammunition Control Board in accordance with the Firearms (Amendment) Act, No. 43 of 2023 which amends the Firearms Act, Chapter 143 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020.

The Board is comprised of the following members:

- Sharole Carr-Saldivar – Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries
- Mannon Dennison - Magistrate
- Clement Cacho – Sr. Superintendent of Police

The powers and functions of the Board include receiving, screening, and processing firearm applications, and designating approved Firearm Safety Instructors; receiving and investigating complaints in respect to a breach of any term or condition of a firearm authorization; ensuring general compliance with the provisions of the Firearms Act; causing to be conducted audits of firearms and ammunitions, reviews of the issuance and denials of licenses, and inquisitions and investigations; and developing and implementing a digital management of firearms and ammunition system.

This newly adopted structure is to revolutionize and reform how the Government of Belize regulates the sale, purchase, importation, exportation, trans-shipment, disposal, possession, and use of firearms and ammunition. The Board is mandated to issue and revoke firearm licenses, certificates, or permits, and reform the regulatory structure in respect to firearms and ammunition. This will allow for transparency, consistency, oversight, accountability and control.

An inaugural meeting of the Board was held on Thursday, January 4, 2024.

END.