



## **National Rifle Association of America**

**INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION**

**11250 WAPLES MILL ROAD**

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International Affairs Office

James M. Baranowski

19 May 2022

**Comments pertaining to the extension, without change, of Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection Form 4457, OMB Control Number 1651-0010**

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing on behalf of the National Rifle Association of America – Institute for Legislative Action to offer the following comments on the extension, without change, of Customs and Border Protection Form 4457, OMB Control Number 1651-0010.

As I am sure you are aware, United States Customs and Boarder Protection Form 4457 “Certificate of Registration for Personal Effects Taken Abroad” is used by our members to temporarily export privately owned firearms and associated material, such as optics, when travelling abroad for hunting and shooting activities. While envisioned solely to provide proof of ownership for re-importation of these items, Form 4457 has become much more than this, especially to foreign customs and border control agents.

To these agents, Form 4457 functions like a permission slip for American travelers, authorizing foreign travel with the items listed on the form. Accordingly, it is almost exclusively relied on by foreign customs and border agents to issue firearm import permits and is an essential document for any American temporarily travelling abroad with privately owned firearms.

While the use of an expiration date on Form 4457 is a necessity under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the inclusion of an expiration date has caused a substantial burden to our members, as most foreign (and even some domestic) customs and border agents fail to recognize that a legible Form 4457 remains valid under United States law even after its OMB expiration date (19 CFR § 148.1(c)).

The current Form 4457 has an expiration date of 30 September 2022. Accordingly, American citizens looking to temporarily export privately owned firearms after this date may encounter difficulties entering foreign countries with their privately owned firearms beginning in October. Furthermore, Americans who are looking to obtain a Form 4457 to travel with their firearms after 30 September 2022 will likely be forced to cancel their

trips unless Form 4457 is extended, as there is a high likelihood that they will be denied the ability to temporarily import their firearm into a foreign country without it.

Accordingly, we submit this comment to encourage the expeditious extension, without change, of Customs and Border Protection Form 4457, OMB Control Number 1651-0010.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JB', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

James Baranowski  
Director of International Affairs  
NRA ILA