

20 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 1651-00010

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to offer comments on behalf of the World Forum on Shooting Activities (WFSA) regarding the extensions, without change, of United States Customs and Border Protection Form 4457, OMB Control Number 1651-0010.

The WFSA is an organization composed of over 50 firearm user groups including hunters, sport shooters, collectors and civilian manufacturer associations, representing the majority of the firearm and ammunition production throughout the world. As a global voice for our community, we are in the unique position to speak for and represent well over 100 million firearm owners, users, manufactures and experts located throughout the world.

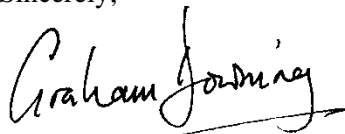
Given our unique composition, we are in a position to comment on the use of Customs and Border Protection Form 4457 outside of the United States. As I am sure you are aware, Form 4457 serves as the de-facto U.S. permit to temporarily export privately owned firearms from the United States into foreign countries for hunting and shooting activities. It is what most foreign customs and border patrol agents look for when assessing the validity for a United States citizen to temporarily enter their country with a firearm and issue them an import permit.

Many of these agents do not recognize the legalities behind the expiration date contained on Form 4457. For the vast majority of them, an expired OMB termination date means that the information contained on the form is no longer valid, despite the provisions of 19 CFR § 148.1(c). Accordingly, while Form 4457's can be reused, it is often unwise for American travelers to continue using a Form 4457 past its OMB expiration date.

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 countries beginning in October. Furthermore, Americans who are looking to obtain a Form 4457 to travel with 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 this form.

It is for this reason that I write on behalf of the WFSA to encourage the expeditious extension, without change, of United States Customs and Border Protection Form 4457, OMB Control Number 1651-0010.

Sincerely,



Graham Downing
President
WFSA

NGO in Roster Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

WFSA Secretariat – HQ

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