



Chief Firearms Office of Ontario Compromised Firearms Licences Inspector Steve Ridout





Impacts of Bill C-19 & Information Reg

- ◆ Significant decline in individuals renewing their licence expected
 - ◆ 80% of licensees own long guns only
 - ◆ Elimination of registration of long guns has caused confusion
 - ◆ Many licensees now believe licence is not required to legally own long guns
 - ◆ 200K new licences issued since 2006 however number of licensees has remained static
- ◆ Increased potential for crimes around licencing due to low level of accountability for transfers
 - ◆ Pre Bill C-19, transferee had to have appropriate licence
 - ◆ Post Bill C-19, transferor must have no reason to believe transferee does not have licence
- ◆ Increasing incidents around identity theft/compromised licenses





Trend #1

 Compromised licences





Case Study...Mr. X

- ❖ A licensed client attempts to purchase a handgun through a website called UsedFirearms.ca
- ❖ Locates a Sig Sauer and interacts with Mr. X
 - ❖ Conversation
 - ❖ Faxed/scanned copy of license is obtained by Mr. X
- ❖ The deal 'dies' (i.e. licensed client never gets the firearm)





Case Study...Mr. X

- ❖ Mr. X changes address on licence and this licence is used to purchase 12 firearms and a large quantity of ammunition
- ❖ Subsequent police investigation...
 - ❖ Search warrant executed
 - ❖ Large quantity of firearms and ammunition recovered...all stored improperly/unsafely
 - ❖ Mr. X arrested at highschool with a loaded 9mm handgun in his backpack





How does this happen?

- ❖ Is the deal too good to be true?
- ❖ How did Mr. X circumvent processes in the Firearms Program?
 - ❖ What information about you is on-line?
 - ❖ What do you disclose in conversation?





Impact to you?

- ❖ Impact on public safety?
- ❖ Reputation of the firearms community?
- ❖ Your reputation?
- ❖ Status of your licence?





What do you do if it happens to you?

- ❖ Call the police
- ❖ Contact the CFO with your licence number
- ❖ What happens:
 - ❖ Your licence is frozen
 - ❖ You must apply for a new licence...you will get a new licence number
 - ❖ Your compromised licence will be expired and any associated ATT/ATC revoked
 - ❖ Any registered firearms will be linked to the new licence





Changes in the process

- ❖ Possible enhanced time to process transactions as additional security measures are in place
- ❖ Enhanced security checks and verification at CFP/CFO around address changes





Trend #2

Straw Purchasers





Description

- ❖ Criminal element enlists 'candidates' to obtain firearms licence
- ❖ Once licenced, 'candidate' legally purchases firearms which subsequently find their way to the hands of criminals
- ❖ First came on our 'radar' in late 2012 with a TPS investigation involving 46 unaccounted for firearms.
 - ❖ These firearms are now showing up at crime scenes in Toronto





Role of the CFO

- Enhanced screening of restricted firearms purchases





Impacts on you?

- ❖ Public safety?
- ❖ Reputation of firearms community?
- ❖ Increased wait times for firearms transactions?

