

MINISTRY PAPER...

34/20

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FIREARM LICENSING AUTHORITY FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2017

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The matter for tabling in the Houses of Parliament is the Annual Report and Audited Financial Statement of the Firearm Licensing Authority (FLA) for the period April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Pursuant to Section 26A of the Firearms (Amendment) Act, 2005, the Firearm Licensing Authority (FLA) was established in 2005 and commenced operations on March 1, 2006. The FLA was formed to streamline and finalize the granting, renewal and revocation of firearm licences, certificates and permits and attendant processes, to modernize and regulate the licensing of firearms in Jamaica in keeping with worldwide standards, and to act as a centralized administrative body and database repository.
- 2.2 Paragraph 14(2) of the Third Schedule of the Firearms Act, provides that *“The Minister shall cause a copy of the Report together with the Annual Statement of Accounts and the Auditor-General’s Report thereon to be laid on the Table of the House of Representatives and of the Senate.”* The Annual Report attached to this Ministry Paper therefore contains the Auditor-General’s Independent Audited Report and the Financial Statements which are appended to the Report.

3.0 ACTIVITIES OF THE AUTHORITY

- 3.1 Activities of the Authority are contained in the Annual Report for the period under review, which is attached to this Ministry Paper as **APPENDIX I**.

3.2 Significant achievements and activities of the FLA for the period under review include the following:

- Opening of the Mandeville Regional Office on August 2, 2016, as a part of the Authority's expansion efforts;
- Receipt and processing of seven thousand four hundred and five (7,405) applications for Firearm User's Licences (to include the granting of approvals for two thousand seven hundred and eighty-six (2,786) licences and the denial of seven hundred and fifty-five (755) licences);
- Capturing of ten thousand six hundred and twenty-eight (10,628) ballistic signatures, under the Authority's Brasstrax Project;
- Completion of forty percent (40%) of the Storeroom Inventory Project, as at March 31, 2017. The Project involved the computerization of store room (assets) using the Fixed Asset Management System; and
- Completion of eighty percent (80%) of the processing of outstanding late renewal files, under the Authority's Late Renewal Project.

4.0 INCOME AND EXPENITURE

4.1 A comprehensive audit of the FLA's Financial Statement was done for the period under review and is included in the Annual Report attached herewith. At the end of the Financial Year 2016/2017, the FLA realised a net operating surplus of **\$180,134,232.00**. However, this net surplus was reduced to **\$39,134,232.00** after the Authority made payments totalling **\$141,000,000.00** to the Accountant General's Department for budgetary support, in keeping with the Public Bodies Regulations 2015 of the Public Bodies Management and Accountability Act. At the end of March 31, 2017 the FLA retained earnings amounted to **\$414,465, 289.00**.

- 4.2 The Firearm Licensing Authority generated its income from revenue collected from the core services offered by the Authority.
- 4.3 Additional details regarding the annual compensation for the Board of Directors and all Senior Management Executives can be seen at page 16 of the Annual Report.



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Minister of National Security
June 25, 2020