

Privacy Act Statement

This information is provided pursuant to sections 3 and 7(b) of the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. § 552a(e)(3)):

Authority: The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) is authorized to solicit this information under 18 U.S.C. § § 922 and 923. ATF is authorized to collect this information as part of its regulatory and law enforcement responsibilities concerning firearms transfers.

Purpose: ATF uses the information collected on this form to determine eligibility of the transferee/buyer to receive and possess firearms under federal law. The statutes require federal firearms licensees (FFL) to verify the transferee/buyer's identity and conduct a National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) background check before transferring a firearm. This information helps ensure compliance with federal laws and regulations governing firearms transactions and public safety.

Routine uses: ATF may disclose the collected information as permitted by the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. § 552a) and in accordance with System of Records Notice (SORN) JUSTICE/ATF-008, Regulatory Enforcement Record System. ATF may share it with federal, state, local, and foreign law enforcement agencies, regulatory bodies, and other entities as required for law enforcement investigations, regulatory oversight, litigation, or national security purposes.

Disclosure: Providing this information is mandatory under 27 CFR 478.124 for persons to lawfully transfer a firearm. However, it is optional to disclose your social security number (SSN). The government may use the SSN to verify identity and prevent misidentification during the NICS background check, but does not require it to complete the transaction. Failing to provide required information or providing false information on the Form 4473 may result in enforcement actions, including denying the firearms transfer, revoking a license, and potential civil or criminal penalties under federal law.