

STATEN VAN ST. MAARTEN				
Ingek. 15 AUG 2012				
Volgnr. 15/515/11-12				
Par.				

To: The President of Parliament
Drs. Rodolphe E. Samuel
Parliament Building
Wilhelminastraat #1
Philipsburg
St. Maarten

Ref: Questions to the Minister of Justice regarding gun permits and policies

Philipsburg, August 15, 2012

Honorable Chairman:

By means of this medium, I would like to request through you that the attached list of questions be forwarded to the attention of the Minister of Justice.

Regards,


MP Jules James

To Minister of Justice of St. Maarten
Mr. Roland E. Duncan
Philipsburg
St. Maarten

STATEN VAN ST. MAARTEN			
Ingek.	15 AUG 2012		
Volgnr.	15/S/S/11-12		
Par.			

Philipsburg, August 15, 2012

Subject: Questions regarding gun permits and policies

Dear Mr. Duncan:

Please note out of sincere concern, I would like to ask the below following questions to you for your response.

1. How many gun permits have you issued since you took over as Minister of Justice in 2010 to present?
2. Please advise which Ministers and or MP's have requested and received any gun permits since 2010?
Please specify:
 - a). By dates of requests
 - b). Name of applicants
 - c). Date of issuance
3. Please indicate what the requirements are for Ministers and or MP's to qualify for a gun permit. Further, please specify whether any physiological, manic depression, bipolar, schizophrenic, paranoia or unbalanced tests are required before a gun permit is issued as well as whether any ongoing tests are required if the permit is issued?
4. Please specify on what grounds any person would not qualify before a gun permit is issued to him/her or what would be grounds for a gun permit to be recalled or person/s disqualify to maintain a gun permit?
5. Please inform if and when MP Romain Laville received his gun permit?
6. What system do you have in place to issue gun permits, please explain in detail.



7. In the case of MP Romain Laville did he receive his gun permit prior to his death threat to his colleague MP Jules James or after? Are you aware that an official complaint has been filed about this death threat and the complaint has not been retracted, with the current investigation on this still ongoing?

8. Please advise whether a permit is issued for a specific gun or whether once a permit is issued the licensee could have multiple guns?

9. Please advise of any licensed store operator/s on St. Maarten where guns may be purchased?

10. Please outline the policy for renewal of gun permits?

11. Please indicate whether a Minister and or MP must turn in their gun upon expiration of their permit if and when no longer in office?

12. Please provide account of how many requests were received by your ministry as of 10-10-10 for gun permits?

Please specify:

a). By dates of requests

b). Name of applicants

c). Date of issuance if any

d). Why certain requests have not been processed as yet

e). What is the average length of time for processing gun permit requests

13. It is my understanding that from the stack of requests presently being handled, instructions were issued to have the request/s of a certain MP or MP's file removed and sent to your office for expeditious handling. Please could you confirm whether this is true or not. If this indeed was the case, please advise what may have prompted the urgency for this or these particular handling of this/these gun permits?

14. Please advise what proof for safe keeping a concealed weapon at home or otherwise must be provided, before a gun permit is issued?

15. Also please advise whether once a gun permit is issued to an individual, whether they are allowed to walk around with their gun on them or not? Simply put, who are allowed to carry concealed weapons on them?

16. In the absence of Parliament passing the new gun policy, please advise what policy is being used?



I maintain that a loaded weapon in the hands of inexperienced, easily irritated, incited, angered or unstable individual/s without proper evaluation and training should never be allowed!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jules C. James', written in a cursive style.

MP Jules C. James