

## Temporary storage of firearms in a vehicle – South African Law

### Did you know that you can legally secure your firearm in your vehicle?

Within the **Firearms Control Act No. 60 of 2000** and the accompanying **Firearms Control Regulations, 2004** there is allowance for the temporary storage of a firearm in a vehicle. Some of the key points are presented below.

### FIREARMS CONTROL ACT 60 OF 2000

#### Chapter 9

#### Storage, transport and carrying of firearms or ammunition

#### 83. Storage and transport of firearms and ammunition

Firearms and ammunition must be stored and transported in the prescribed manner.

### FIREARMS CONTROL REGULATIONS 2004

#### Chapter 10

#### Safe custody of firearms and ammunition : Safes and safe custody

86. (1) When a firearm is not under the direct personal and physical control of a holder of a licence, authorisation or permit to possess the firearm, **the firearm and its ammunition must be stored in a safe or strongroom that conforms to the prescripts of SABS Standard 953-1 and 953-2**, unless otherwise specifically provided in these regulations.

(12) A lock-away safe, apparatus, device and instrument for safe custody of a firearm or ammunition, must to the satisfaction of the Registrar comply with the following requirements –

- (a) be manufactured from steel of at least 2 mm thick;
- (b) be capable of enclosing or covering the firearm concerned wholly;
- (c) have an effective integral locking mechanism;
- (d) have a hinge mechanism for the cover or lid thereof which shall ensure that when the locking pin thereof is removed, the cover or lid shall not be capable of being opened or removed;
- (e) have a facility with the aid or use of which the lock-away safe, apparatus, device or instrument may be securely affixed to another structure such as a wall or a floor, or the **body of a vehicle**

### SANS 953-1:2018 STORAGE OF FIREARMS & AMMUNITION

#### Part 1: Safes

3.12 **Type B3 firearms safe**  
**a lighter safe intended for the temporary storage of firearms and ammunition in motor vehicles and caravans**

#### 4.6 Means of securing a safe

##### 4.6.1 General

A safe of net mass 300kg or less containing and firearm(s) shall always be permanently fixed either inside a structure (see 4.6.2) or in a vehicle (see 4.6.3). Safes shall never be left standing loose.

##### 4.6.3 In Vehicles

When a safe is installed in a vehicle it shall be affixed non-conspicuously to the floor or the body of the vehicle, and the owner the owner of the firearm shall obtain a certificate issued by the installer wherein the following particulars are specified:

- a) Date of installation;
- b) Name and address of installer;
- c) Registration number, engine and chassis number and make of vehicle; and
- d) That the vehicle is equipped with an immobilizer.

#### 6.2 Means of securing a type B safe

6.2.4 Type B3 safes. In the case of a type B3 safe, there shall be an arrangement for bolting the safe to the body or to the floor of a vehicle.