

Baird, Kevin (WSP)

From: Baird, Kevin (WSP)
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2023 9:34 AM
Subject: *****SAFE Transferee Name Order - CHANGE*****

Hello –

Due to the overwhelming response to our survey last week asking for your preference on the entry order of transferee names into SAFE, we will be updating SAFE on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 7am to change the entry order to LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, and then middle name.

At the same time, we are also adding a new step to the final review page. Just like FBI E-check, you will be required to reenter the full name (same order last, first, middle) and date of birth before being able to click the submit button. We believe this will significantly reduce the number of misspelled names and incorrectly entered dates of birth, which means fewer background checks cancelled by us and redone by you.

I would also like to address three comments left in the survey:

1. Regarding an *'auto kickback any names that don't match the license at DOL'*. We cannot have SAFE connected to the Department of Licensing (DOL) driver system at the FFL entry level. We looked into doing so early in the project (to confirm the license/ID was valid) and found that the technical hurdles were significant, and DOL was not in favor of allowing essentially direct public access into their database.
2. *What if there is no transfer? There shouldn't be a fee for that.* RCW 43.43.580 which is law requiring the fee states: *(a) The Washington state patrol shall require a dealer to charge each firearm purchaser or transferee a fee for performing background checks in connection with firearms transfers.* We are performing the background check, regardless of if the transfer ultimately occurs or not, therefore the fee is charged for each transaction when you click the submit button. Pawn redemption and pre-pawn checks are exempt from the fee. In the case of a cancelled background check, the fee is reversed.
3. *Still won't be as fast as NICS* – can't argue with that, it's true for non-SAR long guns and shotguns. But, here's the deal: NICS only has one database to check, and is only for non-SAR long guns and shotguns. We, on the other hand, check the exact same database the FBI checks, but 7 other databases to also check, plus a bunch of state laws that we have to apply to all firearms, that the FBI doesn't. So, we're checking significantly more information than the FBI does, and applying it to a whole lot more guns than they do. It takes longer, because we are doing more. It's that simple. Even with all the additional checking we are required to do, we have been able to provide proceed notifications in under an hour on many checks, and a denial or two in less than a minute!

Thank you,

Kevin

Kevin L. Baird

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