

**THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

**ARMS OFFENCES ACT  
(CHAPTER 14)**

**Act  
61 of 1973  
Amended by  
6 of 1978  
25 of 1984**

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1986

# Arms Offences Act

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

### Section

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An Act relating to the unlawful possession of arms and ammunition and the carrying and using of arms.

[8th February 1974]

1. This Act may be cited as the Arms Offences Act. Short title.
2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires — Interpre-  
tation.

“arm” means any firearm, air-gun, air-pistol, automatic gun, automatic pistol and any other kind of gun or pistol from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged or noxious liquid, flame or fumes can be emitted, and any component part thereof and includes any bomb or grenade and any component part thereof;

“imitation arm” means anything which has the appearance of being an arm;

“import” means to bring or cause to be brought into Singapore by any means from any place;

“scheduled offence” means any offence specified in the Schedule;

“trafficking in arms” means —

(a) to import, manufacture or deal in arms in contravention of the provisions of the Arms and Explosives Act; or

(b) to lend, give, sell, hire or offer for sale or hire any arm to a person who has no licence to possess such arm issued under the Arms and Explosives Act;

“unlawful possession” means possession or control contrary to the provisions of the Arms and Explosives Act;

“use”, with its grammatical variations, means —

(a) in relation to a firearm, air-gun, air-pistol, automatic gun, automatic pistol and any other kind of gun or pistol from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged or noxious fluid, flame or fumes can be emitted — to cause such shot, bullet or other missile to be discharged or such noxious liquid, flame or fumes to be emitted with intent to cause physical injury to any person; and

(b) in relation to a bomb or grenade — to throw the same, or to cause the same to explode, with intent to cause physical injury to any person or property.

Cap. 13.

Penalty for being in unlawful possession of arms or ammunition.  
25/84.

3.—(1) Subject to subsection (4), any person who, after the commencement of this Act, is in unlawful possession of any arm or ammunition shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than 5 years and not more than 10 years and shall also be punished with caning with not less than 6 strokes.

(2) Subject to subsection (4), any person who unlawfully carries any arm shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than 5 years and not more than 14 years and shall also be punished with caning with not less than 6 strokes.

(3) Where any person at the time of his committing or at the time of his apprehension for any scheduled offence has on his person any arm, he shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment for life and shall also be punished with caning with not less than 6 strokes.

(4) Where any person convicted of an offence punishable under subsection (1) or (2) is proved to have been previously convicted of a scheduled offence, he shall on conviction be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than 5 years and not more than 20 years and shall also be punished with caning with not less than 6 strokes.

4. Subject to any exception referred to in Chapter IV of the Penal Code which may be applicable, any person who uses or attempts to use any arm shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be punished with death.

Using or attempting to use arms.  
Cap. 224.

5. Where any arm is used by any person in committing or in attempting to commit any offence, each of his accomplices in respect of the last-mentioned offence present at the scene of the offence who may reasonably be presumed to have known that that person was carrying or had in his possession or under his control such arm, shall, unless he proves that he had taken all reasonable steps to prevent the use of such arm, be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be punished with death.

Punishment for accomplices.

6.—(1) Any person trafficking in arms shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be punished with —

Trafficking in arms.

(a) death; or

(b) imprisonment for life and caning with not less than 6 strokes.

(2) Any person proved to be in unlawful possession of more than two arms shall, until the contrary is proved, be presumed to be trafficking in arms.

7. Any person who consorts with, or is found in the company of, another person who is unlawfully carrying or is in unlawful possession of any arm in circumstances which raise a reasonable presumption that he knew that that other person was carrying or had in his possession or under his control any such arm shall, unless he proves that he had

Consorting with persons carrying arms.

reasonable grounds for believing that that other person was not unlawfully carrying or not in unlawful possession of such arm, be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to the like punishment as that other person with whom he was consorting or in whose company he was found.

Penalty for exhibiting imitation arm when committing scheduled offence.

**8.** Any person who at the time of committing or attempting to commit or abetting the commission of any scheduled offence exhibits any imitation arm in a manner likely to put any person in fear of death or hurt shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term which may extend to 10 years and shall also be punished with caning with not less than 3 strokes.

Presumption.

**9.** Where any arm is found in or on any premises, the occupier of such premises shall be deemed to be in possession of such arm unless he proves that some other person was in possession thereof, or that he had no knowledge or reasonable means of knowing that such arm was in or on such premises and that he had taken all reasonable precautions against such arm being kept in or on such premises.

Exemptions.  
6/78.

**10.** Nothing in section 3 shall apply to —

- (a) a member of any visiting force lawfully present in Singapore or of the police force or of a volunteer force or local force constituted under any written law for the time being in force in Singapore when such member is carrying any arm in, or in connection with, the performance of his duty;
- (b) any person who carries an arm as part of his official or ceremonial dress on any official or ceremonial occasion;
- (c) any person licensed or authorised to carry or possess an arm under or by virtue of any written law relating to arms for the time being in force in Singapore; or
- (d) a member of any organisation or association specially authorised by the Minister by notification in the *Gazette*, when such member is carrying any arm in, or in connection with, the performance of his duty.

**11.** The provisions of this Act shall have effect without prejudice to the provisions of the Arms and Explosives Act or of any other written law for the time being in force in Singapore relating to unlawful possession of arms or ammunition.

Saving.  
Cap. 13.

**12.** The President may at any time by order add to, amend or vary the Schedule.

Power to  
amend  
Schedule.

### THE SCHEDULE.

Sections 3 (3)  
and (4), 8  
and 12.

#### SCHEDULED OFFENCES.

- (1) Being a member of an unlawful assembly under sections 143 to 145 of the Penal Code. Cap. 224.
- (2) Rioting under sections 147, 148 and 152 of the Penal Code.
- (3) Offences against the person under sections 302, 304, 307, 324 to 327, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 356, 357 and 506 of the Penal Code.
- (4) Abduction or kidnapping under sections 361, 363 to 367 of the Penal Code; and sections 3 to 5 of the Kidnapping Act. Cap. 151.
- (5) Extortion under sections 384 to 389 of the Penal Code.
- (6) Housebreaking and house-trespass under sections 448 to 460 of the Penal Code.
- (7) Robbery under sections 392 to 397, 399 and 402 of the Penal Code.
- (8) Preventing or resisting arrest under sections 224 and 225 of the Penal Code.
- (9) Vandalism under section 3 of the Vandalism Act. Cap. 341.
- (10) Mischief under sections 435, 436, 438 and 440 of the Penal Code.