



Australian
BORDER FORCE

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(COMMONWEALTH)**

Operational Safety Order (2021)

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7. Definitions

Term	Acronym	Definition
Australian Border Force	ABF	<p>As defined in section 4 of the <i>Australian Border Force Act 2015</i>, (the ABF Act) the ABF means the part of the Department of Home Affairs (the Department) known as the Australian Border Force.</p> <p>The Australian Border Force (ABF) as an operationally independent body within the Department of Home Affairs, is Australia's frontline border law enforcement agency and is a single, integrated frontline operational border entity within the department that is charged with enforcing customs and immigration laws and protecting Australia's borders. The ABF delivers critical border protection and national security outcomes while facilitating the movement of people and goods across the border.</p>
ABF Accoutrements		Any approved firearm and other approved personal defence equipment endorsed by the Comptroller-General of Customs (Commissioner) or the Operational Safety Committee (OSC), including batons, oleoresin capsicum spray, handcuffs and other approved restraints. While anti-ballistic clothing referred to as body armour is an approved item of PDE for the purposes of the <i>Customs Act 1901</i> , (the Customs Act) it is not considered to be 'ABF Accoutrements'
ABF Armourer		An ABF Employee who has attained and maintains the appropriate qualifications for ABF weapons systems, which qualifies them through manufacturer approved training to service the weapons they are qualified in. These officers must be appointed as an ABF Armourer and are responsible for the servicing and repair of ABF approved firearms and PDE.
ABF Employee		A person who is working for the Australian Border Force. For the purposes of this Order an ABF Employee is an "officer" as defined in section 4 of the Customs Act.
Action Condition		In relation to a firearm means the firearm has a round in the chamber, the firearm may or may not have a magazine fitted to be in the action condition. In an operational context, the firearm must have a magazine containing rounds seated in the magazine well.
Appointment		Refers to the formal appointment of an ABF Employee who has completed and continues to maintain currency in the required recognised training to one or more of the following positions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABF Armourer; • Armoury Registrar or Deputy Registrar; • Authorised Arms Issuing Officer (AAIO); or • Operational Safety Trainer (OST).
Appointment Authorities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Armourer; • Armoury Registrar; • Deputy Armoury Registrar; or • AAIO.
Approved Firearm	Firearm	Has the same meaning as 'approved firearm' under subsection 189A(5) of the <i>Customs Act 1901</i> (Customs Act) and means a firearm of a kind declared by regulation 119 of the <i>Customs Regulation 2015</i> (Customs Regulation) to be an approved firearm

Term	Acronym	Definition
		for the purpose of subsection 189A(5) of the Customs Act. To avoid doubt any reference to firearm in this order is an approved firearm unless explicitly stated.
Approved Restraints		Restraints approved by the OSC, used to restrict the movement or actions of a person.
Approved Storage		<p>For the purposes of this Order approved storage is a secured or lockable storage space or container with restricted access that allows safe and secured stowage of equipment, accoutrements and other PDE and includes vehicle mounted and home storage firearms facilities (HSFF). If transportable, it is a container that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is of solid construction; and • has at least two latch points which are double action; and • has at least two padlocking points to fit the shackle diameter of approved/endorsed padlocks; and • has a single steel pin hinge (“pelican” case or similar). <p>HSFF will be a commercially manufactured pistol storage container with a combination lock outer door and a lockable inner storage area for ammunition securable with a key or combination, fixed by a minimum of two fixing points within a cupboard or concealed hiding place.</p>
Armoury		An approved secure storage facility used to safely store firearms, ammunition, dangerous goods, accoutrements, PDE or other restricted items and includes those based on vessels and excludes any ABF custodial armoury.
Armoury Registrar	Registrar	An ABF Employee who has completed the necessary training and is appointed by the Comptroller-General of Customs or their authorised representative. The Armoury Registrar has the responsibility for all firearms and PDE assigned to their armoury.
Australian Border Operations Centre	ABOC	The centralised and unified operations centre, providing a single source of situational awareness on ABF operations. The ABOC is also the primary point of contact for partner agencies and stakeholders engaging with the ABF.
Authorised Arms Issuing Officer	AAIO	Has the same meaning as ‘authorised arms issuing officer’ under subsection 189A (5) of the Customs Act – an officer of Customs authorised under subsection 189A (6) of the Customs Act to exercise powers or is appointed to perform the functions of an ‘authorised arms issuing officer’ under section 189A of the Customs Act.
Authorised Representative		For the purposes of this Order: Assistant Commissioner or above is an authorised representative of the Comptroller-General of Customs.
assetDNA		The approved asset management system used by the ABF to maintain accountability and tracking of ABF armoury assets.
Basic Operational Safety Training Course	BOST	An ABF Employee will attend and successfully complete a Basic Operational Safety Training Course in order to be qualified in use of force and to be issued with a Use of Force Permit. The training will provide the necessary skills and tactics required to undertake and perform the role of a Use Of Force designated officer.
Basic Operational Safety Training Recertification Course	BOST Recertification	An ABF Employee will attend and successfully complete a Basic Operational Safety Training Recertification Course annually in order to maintain their operational safety Use of Force qualification. They will undertake revision of knowledge, skills and

Term	Acronym	Definition
		tactics from the BOST course, then complete the associated assessments. Successful completion results in an ABF Employee having their operational safety use of force qualification recertified and Use of Force Permit authorised for a further 12 month period, to expire on the last day of the month in which recertification occurs.
Baton		An approved impact weapon and item of PDE.
Body Armour	BA	Approved item of PDE designed to provide ABF Employees with protection from ballistic threats. For the purposes of this Order body armour covers the term anti-ballistic clothing, which is the definition within the Customs Act 1901.
Chemical Munition		An approved substance, namely oleoresin capsicum (OC spray), discharged from an approved delivery mechanism that delivers a chemical in liquid, foam or gas.
Child		A person who is under the age of 18 years.
Commander		An APS employee of the Department who has attained the rank of Commander (SES Band 1). A Commander Generally holds the responsibility for the management of a Branch (or equivalent) within the ABF.
Compliant Escort		The process of escorting a person who is detained or in lawful custody, including application of a holding technique that does not induce pain where it is necessary and reasonable and the person voluntarily complies, and without the requirement for any other use of force or threat of force, including verbal, to achieve the person's compliance. If, during or after applying an escort hold, a person physically or verbally resists an ABF Employee's directions or is injured, the incident is no longer a compliant escort.
Compliant Handcuffing		The application of handcuffs or approved restraints to a person where the person complies with verbal commands for the application of the handcuffs or restraints without the requirement for any other use of force or threat of force. If, during or after being compliantly restrained a person physically or verbally resists an ABF Employee's directions or is injured, the incident is no longer a compliant handcuffing.
Compliant Search		A lawful search conducted on a person who is complying with directions, not offering resistance and without the requirement for any other use of force or threat of force (excluding compliant handcuffing), including verbal, to achieve the person's compliance. If, during or after applying a compliant search, a person physically or verbally resists an ABF Employee directions or is injured, the incident is no longer a compliant search.
Comptroller-General of Customs		A person appointed under section 11 of the ABF Act. The ABF Commissioner is also the Comptroller-General of Customs.
Critical Incident		A critical incident means an incident involving an ABF Employee that has resulted in the death or serious injury of a person. It may also relate to any other incident that could attract significant attention, interest or criticism and the public interest will be best served by investigating the matter.
Death or Serious Injury		Death or serious injury resulting from or associated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discharge of an approved firearm by an ABF Employee; • any other use of force by an ABF Employee; • custody-related operations such as warrants and arrests, which include where an ABF Employees is attempting to detain a person;

Term	Acronym	Definition
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> persons in the process of escaping or attempting to escape from lawful custody; persons being in lawful custody, whether in holding rooms, on board a vessel or elsewhere, including where either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> there is suspicion on the part of any ABF Employee; there is an allegation made by any person; or the circumstances indicate. that any death or serious injury occurring subsequent to a period of ABF detention is because of that detention; or any other action or omission by an ABF Employee in the course of their duties.
Deck Mounted Weapon	DMW	A fixed machine gun deployed on an ABF vessel in support of maritime operations.
Deputy Armoury Registrar		An ABF Employee appointed by the Armoury Registrar to assist with management of firearms and PDE assigned to their armoury.
Excessive Force		Force beyond that which is considered necessary and reasonable in the circumstances of any particular incident, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> any force when none is needed; more force than is needed; or any force or level of force continuing after the necessity for it has ended.
Fitness for Duty		ABF Employees must meet the ABF fitness requirement relevant to their age and gender to be deemed operationally ready and to ensure they are psychologically and physically suited to undertake certain tasks or fill a particular position or appointment. This includes fitness, medical and psychological assessments.
Handcuffs or Flexi-cuffs		The approved restraints endorsed by the Operational Safety Committee to restrain a person's hands.
Lawful Custody		A person will be in lawful custody if they are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> under arrest; being detained; being restrained; or in a place of detention.
Load Bearing Vest (Land Based Officers)	LBV	A lightweight, non-ballistic vest that may be used for stowing administrative items which has also been designed to integrate with accoutrements and PDE for ABF Employees who hold a current Use of Force Permit. The LBV may be utilised by non-use of force qualified ABF Employees undertaking duties requiring equipment carriage.
Load Bearing Vest (Marine)		A lightweight vest that may be used for stowing administrative items which has also been designed to integrate with accoutrements and PDE for ABF Employees who hold a current Use of Force Permit. To be used in conjunction with an approved personal floatation device for at sea activities.
Lethal Force		Force that is likely to cause death or serious injury.
Munitions		Approved ammunition, cartridges, or chemical canisters that can be discharged from an approved weapon delivery system.
M2		A M2HBQCB MG = 12.7mm, Mark 2, heavy barrel, quick change barrel, machine gun.

Term	Acronym	Definition
Non-reportable Use of Force		Use of force (that is not reportable as an incident) performed as part of an ABF Employee's operational duties and is an action which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • verbal commands in the absence of any other use of force; • compliant escort (including to effect an arrest); • compliant handcuffing including for search and transport purposes; • compliant search of a person; • removing or breaking locks or similar devices on baggage/containers
Notifiable Incident		Under section 35 of the <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Cth)</i> (the WHS Act) a notifiable incident arises out of the conduct of a business or undertaking of the Department including the ABF and results in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the death of a person; • a 'serious injury or illness' of a person; or • a 'dangerous incident'.
Officer Authorised to Carry Arms		An ABF Employee authorised by the Comptroller-General of Customs (Commissioner) or their authorised representative under subsection 189A(7) of the Customs Act to carry and use approved firearms and approved items of PDE issued by an AAIO.
Officer of Customs		Has the same meaning as 'officer of Customs' under section 4 of the Customs Act.
Operational Safety Capability Section	OSCS	The OSCS Section works jointly with ABF Armouries and is responsible for the development of robust policies and practices that underpin the safe and lawful use of force when required, operational safety performance management, and also provides secretariat functions in support of the Operational Safety Committee and management of use of force reporting
Operational Safety Committee	OSC	The ABF advisory body for operational safety and use of force policy, training, equipment and administration and related issues. The OSC performs functions in accordance with the OSC Terms of Reference.
Operational Safety Committee Chair	OSC Chair	An ABF Assistant Commissioner performing the role of OSC Chair as described within the OSC Terms of Reference. The OSC Chair is accountable to the relevant ABF tier 2 governing committee.
Operational Safety Equipment		An item that is approved at Commander level and endorsed by the OSC that is an accompaniment to accoutrements or PDE that may form part of an ABF Employee's personal issue items. It may include but not limited to alternate carriage belts, firearm seated torches or other attachments, firearm retaining devices or firearm slings.
Operational Safety Order	the Order or OSO	The Operational Safety Order forms part of Legislative Instrument <i>Comptroller-General of Customs (Operational Safety) Directions 2021</i> made under subsection 189A(2) and section 183UC of the Customs Act.
Operational Safety Trainer	OST	A person qualified, appointed and endorsed to train and assess an ABF Employee or partner agency in operational safety, in accordance with this Order.
Operational Safety Trainer Qualifying Program	OSTQP	An endorsed training program that qualifies an ABF Employee in order to be appointed as an Operational Safety Trainer. The training will provide the necessary skills and tactics and instructional techniques required to undertake and perform the role.

Term	Acronym	Definition
Personal Defence Equipment	PDE	Has the same meaning as 'approved item of PDE' under subsection 189A(5) of the Customs Act – and means an extendable baton, oleoresin capsicum spray or anti-ballistic clothing (body armour). It also includes any other item that is declared by the Customs Regulation to be an approved item of PDE for the purposes of section 189A of the Customs Act. Note: at time of writing there are no items listed in the Customs Regulation.
Personal Issue		The approved equipment, ABF Accoutrements and body armour individually issued to an ABF Employee for the safe exercise of powers in the performance of their duty.
Place of Detention		A place where persons in lawful custody are held and can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a place of Immigration Detention or equivalent; • a prison or remand centre of the Commonwealth; • a state or territory location or facility; • a Police station or watch house; or • a vessel.
Prescribed Range		A live firing range that accords with Departmental policy concerning range regulations.
Reasonable Force		The minimum amount of force necessary and reasonable in the circumstances of a particular incident.
Remedial Training		Remedial training is extra training offered to an ABF Employee who has failed to demonstrate competence on an assessment or assessments of operational safety training. The training is captured in a remedial plan. The training is targeted to meet the ABF Employee's knowledge or skills deficit that was required by the particular assessment/s.
Revocation		The permanent removal of an ABF Employee's Use of Force Permit or appointment authorities and includes the cancellation of all armoury access privileges.
Rules of Engagement	ROE	Rules of engagement refer to the orders issued by a competent authority that delineates when, where, how, and against whom force may be used,
Serious Injury (excluding for WHS purposes)		Types of injuries which, by their nature, are likely to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be life threatening; • require emergency admission to a hospital and significant medical treatment; • result in permanent impairment or long term rehabilitation; or • constitute grievous bodily harm.
Skills Enhancement Training	SET	Delivery of training to upgrade existing skills of ABF Employees who hold a current BOST qualification and Use of Force Permit.
Skills Maintenance Training	SMT	Revision and/or application of knowledge, skills and/or tactics under the supervision of a full-time or part-time OST. An OST can only provide Skills Maintenance Training (SMT) within the scope of their appointment, or if the OST is from another Law Enforcement Agency, within a formally agreed scope of practice endorsed by the OSC. SMT has previously been referred to as 'continuation training'.
Supervisor		A person who supervises an ABF Employee, regardless of rank.
Surge		A reserve capability of basic operational safety qualified ABF Employees. An ABF Employee who may not currently occupy a designated use of force position but who is able to be deployed operationally in a use of force designated role if extra personnel

Term	Acronym	Definition
		are required. All surge officers must maintain the fitness for duty requirements and maintain a Use of Force certification.
Suspension		The short term removal of Use of Force Permit or appointment authorities and will include the removal of armoury access.
Temporary Access Restriction	TAR	The temporary removal of armoury access. Differs from a Suspension. The TAR may be modified dependant on circumstances to allow an ABF Employee to conduct other armoury related duties whilst the restriction is in place on their permit.
Unauthorised Absence		Is when an ABF Employee fails to present at their designated place of work without having previously had leave approved, or does not contact an appropriate supervisor within a reasonable time to report their reason for absence.
Unauthorised Discharge		Discharging an approved firearm, whether or not it is used to deploy lethal or less lethal munitions, contrary to this Order. This includes unintentional discharge of an approved firearm, misconduct, unsafe or uncontrolled handling practices without endangering any person.
Under the Influence		For the purposes of this Order, ABF Employees must not be impaired by any alcohol (a requirement of Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) & Breath Alcohol Concentration (BrAC) of 0.00), drug or any other substance, prescribed or other, that may impair performance or judgement while on duty such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • being issued or deploying with ABF Accoutrements; or • accessing an ABF Armoury.
Unsafe Practice		Any activity by an ABF employee which is not in accordance with the-required (or prescribed) safety practices for the discharge of firearms as outlined in the OSO 2021 and related documents.
Use of Force		Any situation where ABF Employees use physical force or other approved techniques, including a firearm and/or PDE in the exercise of powers, or to respond to an actual or perceived threat, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • verbal commands used to gain compliance; • any physical interaction with a person in the exercise of their duties; • approved restraints as a security/transportation procedure of a person in custody; or • force to enter a building, vehicle, vessel, or other secured area to search, recover or seize, where there is no application of force against a person.
Use of Force Permit		A permit that is issued to an officer after successful completion of BOST or BOST Recertification and all other prerequisites as detailed in the <i>Operational Safety Procedural Instruction</i> and the officer has been authorised under subsection 189A(7) of the Customs Act by the Comptroller-General of Customs (Commissioner), or their representative, to use approved firearms and approved items of PDE.
Vulnerable Person		An individual who, because of any condition or circumstances, has a reduced capacity to look after or manage their own interests.
Work Health and Safety	WHS	The term used to describe the function of ensuring people are safe whilst at a workplace or undertaking work. This includes not just physical health but also psychological (mental) health.

3. Introduction

- 3.1 This Operational Safety Order (2021) (this Order), replaces the Operational Safety Order 2020. The Order may be referred to as the Operational Safety Order (2021), the Commissioner's Order or the OSO.
- 3.2 This Order is intended for internal ABF use only.
- 3.3 Disclosing any content must comply with Commonwealth laws, the *Australian Border Force Act 2015* (Cth) (ABF Act) and ABF's information management policy.
- 3.4 This Order sets out the ABF operational safety and use of force practice, reporting, training, assessment, qualification and administration requirements.
- 3.5 This Order gives effect to the policy of the ABF for the use of necessary and reasonable force and its implementation. The purpose is to ensure that an ABF Employee effectively manages the response to conflict or potential conflict situations using the ABF Use of Force Model and Operational Safety Principles stipulated within this Order.
- 3.6 This Order specifically applies to an ABF Employee whose roles and duties require them to exercise statutory powers, or anything that is reasonably incidental to that statutory power, which may require:
 - a) use, or potential use of force, including self-defence and defence of others;
 - b) management of operations and incidents that involve operational safety and the potential or actual use of force;
 - c) possession, use or storage of ABF accoutrements approved items of PDE and ammunition;
 - d) training or qualifying persons in use of force and operational safety; or
 - e) monitoring and reporting on use of force.
- 3.7 This Order also applies to an ABF Employee and a supervisor of an ABF Employee, who has a basic operational safety qualification or who in the course of their duties as an ABF Employee in specific roles require compliance to this Order.
- 3.8 This Order does not apply to contracted immigration detention service providers who are designated as Authorised Officers under the *Migration Act 1958*.
- 3.9 This Order must be read in conjunction with all relevant legislation, operational safety policy, procedures and associated governance.
- 3.10 Where a list is used, the word 'and' is implied unless expressly stated otherwise.

4. Governance

4.1 Operational Safety Committee

- 4.1.1 The Operational Safety Committee (OSC) is the governing body for all operational safety training, administration and policy for the ABF. The OSC is the primary source of advice for the ABF for operational safety and use of force policy, equipment suitability, procurement, training and administration. The OSC reports to the appropriate Tier 2 governing committee, with OSCS performing the role of secretariat for the committee.
- 4.1.2 The OSC performs duties in accordance with the Order and the OSC terms of reference.

4.2 Operational Safety Order

- 4.2.1 This Order and associated policies and procedures will be implemented by:
- a) establishing and maintaining appropriate performance standards;
 - b) training and appointing OSTs in accordance with this Order;
 - c) qualifying and recertifying an ABF Employee in operational safety and use of force; and
 - d) maintaining appropriate reporting mechanisms and management structures for operational use of force, operational safety training, monitoring and improvement.

5. Order Framework

5.1 Use of Force in the Exercise of Statutory Powers

- 5.1.1 The Comptroller-General of Customs (Operational Safety) Directions 2021 made under subsection 189A(2) of the Customs Act 1901 (the Customs Act) and subsection 189A(2) of the Customs Act 1901 (NI) (the NI Customs Act), and the Comptroller (Operational Safety) Directions made under subsection 189A(2) of the Customs Act 1901 (C.K.I.) (the C.K.I. Customs Act) and subsection 189A(2) of the Customs Act (C.I.) (the C.I. Customs Act) refer to the Order. These provisions provide that the Comptroller-General of Customs, and the Comptroller-General of Customs in his capacity as the Comptroller of the Indian Ocean Territories Customs Service, may give directions relating to the deployment of approved firearms and other approved items of Personal Defence Equipment (PDE).
- 5.1.2 Subsection 11(3) of the ABF Act states that while a person holds the office of the ABF Commissioner, the person is also the Comptroller-General of Customs. Throughout this Order, any reference to the Commissioner is also a reference to the Comptroller-General of Customs, and vice versa.
- 5.1.3 Paragraph 189A(1)(a) of the Customs Act provides that an AAIO may issue approved firearms and other approved items of PDE to officers authorised to carry arms, for the purpose of enabling the safe exercise, by such officers, of powers conferred on them under the Customs Act or any other Act.
- 5.1.4 'Any other Act' includes Commonwealth Legislation that ABF Employees have power under and is not limited to, the *Migration Act 1958* (Migration Act), the *Maritime Powers Act 2013* (Cth) and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth).
- 5.1.5 Subsection 189A(7) of the Customs Act provides that an officer of Customs may be authorised in writing to use approved firearms and approved items of PDE for the purpose specified in paragraph 189A(1)(a) by the Comptroller-General of Customs or their authorised representative..
- 5.1.6 An *officer* in section 189A means an '*officer of Customs*' which is defined in section 4 of the Customs Act and includes (among others):
- a) the Secretary of the Department of Home Affairs (the Department);
 - b) the ABF Commissioner (including in their capacity as the Comptroller-General of Customs) (Commissioner);
 - c) an APS employee in the Department; or

- d) a person authorised under section 4 (1B) to exercise all powers and perform all functions of an officer.
- 5.1.7 Employees for the purposes of this Order, or Departmental employees whose duties may involve operational safety or the use of force (including lethal force), are in a position of privilege and great responsibility and are required to adhere to this Order and any associated policies and procedures.
- 5.1.8 The meaning of 'powers' in section 189A of the Customs Act is not restricted to powers which expressly authorise the use of force. Accordingly, approved firearms and approved items of PDE may be issued for the purpose of the safe exercise of any power conferred on an ABF Employee under Commonwealth legislation.
- 5.1.9 Approved accoutrements and PDE may be issued where ABF Employees are about to perform a role in which it is foreseeable that ABF accoutrements or PDE may be required to safely exercise a statutory power. However only ABF Employees who have attained and maintain a use of force certification will be issued with approved ABF Accoutrements and PDE. These circumstances are limited and policy guidance must be strictly adhered to.

5.2 Self-Defence

- 5.2.1 If an ABF Employee is exercising a statutory power, the ABF Employee would be authorised to use such force as is necessary and reasonable to defend themselves or another person in those circumstances. This applies regardless of whether an ABF Employee is the holder of a Use of Force Permit, or whether or not they have received any other level of use of force training.
- 5.2.2 However, in circumstances where an ABF Employee is not exercising a statutory power, the use of force will not be authorised.
- 5.2.3 Where use of force is not authorised, there may be circumstances in which an ABF Employee may make a personal choice to use force in self-defence. This is not required or expected of ABF Employees. It is the same choice available to any private individual.
- 5.2.4 Where an ABF Employee is not exercising a statutory power and uses force, they may rely on the common law of self-defence as a defence to criminal or civil liability arising from that use of force.
- 5.2.5 For further information regarding self-defence refer to the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)*.

6. ABF Operational Safety

6.1 Operational Safety Principles

- 6.1.1 Any use of force against another person by an ABF Employee in the safe exercise of statutory powers must be in accordance with this Order.
- 6.1.2 Any use of force against the property of another person by an ABF Employee in the exercise of statutory powers must be in accordance with this Order.
- 6.1.3 Any application of force must be the minimum force necessary and reasonable in the circumstances of a particular incident and be proportionate and appropriate in all of those circumstances

- 6.1.4 The ABF Use of Force Model is underpinned by a number of operational safety principles. These are detailed in the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)*.

6.2 Use of Force

- 6.2.1 An ABF Employee may use force in the exercise of statutory powers, however any force used must be in accordance with relevant legislation and this Order for a range of purposes, including but not limited to:
- a) execution of warrants;
 - b) effecting an arrest;
 - c) restraining or detaining another person (including escorting a detainee);
 - d) directing another person;
 - e) performing a search of a person;
 - f) entering or remaining on coasts, airports, ports, bays, harbours, lakes and rivers;
 - g) to force entry to a property or location to effect the execution of warrants, or to search, seize, detain or arrest;
 - h) removal of persons from a restricted area;
 - i) boarding or detaining vessels; or
 - j) other circumstances where use of force is implicitly or explicitly authorised by legislation.
- 6.2.2 The principles of negotiation and conflict de-escalation are always emphasised as the first consideration prior to using physical force. The safety of ABF Employees and members of the public is of paramount importance.
- 6.2.3 When effecting an arrest, restraining or detaining another person, or where any situation may involve the use of force, an ABF Employee must not:
- a) use more force, or subject the person to greater indignity, than is necessary, reasonable and proportionate and:
 - i. make the arrest or to prevent the escape of the person after arrest;
 - ii. restrain or detain the person; or
 - b) do anything that is likely to cause death or serious injury to a person unless they believe on reasonable grounds that doing that thing is necessary to protect life or prevent serious injury to another person (including the ABF Employee).
- 6.2.4 An ABF Employee responsible for the supervision or management of an operation or incident that may involve the use of force, must have regard to the Order and relevant supporting Operational Safety Procedural Instruction and Operational Safety Procedural Instruction and Departmental Policy or Procedures, particularly in relation to:
- a) incident command, control and coordination;
 - b) decision making;
 - c) risk management;
 - d) work health and safety; and
 - e) reporting obligations
- 6.2.5 Where operational planning identifies a potential need to deploy with ABF accoutrements and or body armour, ABF operational risk management practices, policies and procedures must be

considered and used to assess and mitigate identified risks in accordance with the ABF Operational Risk Management Framework.

- 6.2.6 Classes of ABF Employees or role types must not be assumed to automatically deploy with ABF Accoutrements or body armour. Deployment with ABF Approved Firearms, other Accoutrements and PDE:
- a) must occur in teams with two or more ABF Employees who hold a Use of Force Permit to provide mutual support while carrying ABF Approved Accoutrements; or
 - b) is permitted if an ABF Employee is seconded in a team, or as a single officer to the AFP and involved in an operational activity, or where an ABF Employee is involved in a joint operation with a State or Territory law enforcement agency where that agency has a supporting use of force capability.
- 6.2.7 However, paragraph 6.2.6 (a) above does not apply if the ABF Employee is travelling alone to meet a second ABF Employee prior to conducting operational duties. It also does not apply to ABF Employees working in the National Surveillance Unit where they are conducting specific tasks individually but are performing their duties as part of a surveillance team.
- 6.2.8 An ABF Employee who is required to have an operational safety training qualification must maintain their prerequisites and currency in the qualification. The ABF will, within operational requirements, provide opportunities to maintain operational safety skills through undertaking skills maintenance training between recertification periods.
- 6.2.9 The ABF must ensure all ABF Employees who are required by the Order to maintain a basic operational safety qualification are trained appropriately, and in the case of specialist teams, to their requisite specialist qualifications.

6.3 Use of Lethal Force

- 6.3.1 Lethal force is an option that must only be used when necessary and reasonable in the following circumstances:
- a) in self-defence from the imminent threat of death or serious injury;
 - b) in defence of others against whom there is an imminent threat of death or serious injury; and;
 - c) only when other use of force options are insufficient to achieve these objectives.
- 6.3.2 An ABF Employee who considers using lethal force to be necessary and reasonable must:
- a) not use more force, or subject the person to greater indignity, than is necessary, reasonable and proportionate to the seriousness of the circumstances; and
 - b) minimise risk of injury to other people with a view to preserving human life.
- 6.3.3 An ABF Employee who used lethal force, or who is present at the time another ABF Employee has used lethal force, must ensure that, as soon as practicable and safe to do so in the circumstances, all necessary assistance and medical aid is rendered to any injured or affected person.
- 6.3.4 An ABF Employee present at a location where lethal force has been used must secure the scene and treat the area as a crime scene as per the appropriate Critical Incident Procedures for land based or maritime environments.
- 6.3.5 In the event of a lethal force incident, investigations will be undertaken by the state or territory police and/or the coroner and Comcare as the federal Work Health and Safety (WHS) regulator.
- 6.3.6 Any lethal force incident must be reported in accordance with the:

- a) applicable *Critical Incident Procedural Instruction*;
- b) *Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Cth)*;
- c) Work Health and Safety incident reporting requirements outlined in the *Work Health and Safety Incident Management Reporting Procedural Instruction (HR2186)*; and
- d) Use of Force Reporting requirements specified in this Order.

6.4 Non Use of Force Incidents Requiring General Notification

- 6.4.1 The supervisor of an ABF Employee who receives a report in relation to an injury to an ABF Employee, any other person or damage to property, as a result of incidents that fall outside the requirement of a Use of Force Report but in the conduct of their operational duties will ensure that all directions and reporting frameworks are followed. Any recommendations resulting from the incident are forwarded through their Superintendent to OSCS for review.
- 6.4.2 For further direction in reporting non-use of force reportable incidents refer to the relevant *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and other Departmental policy or procedure.

6.5 Reportable Use of Force Incidents Requiring General Notification

- 6.5.1 A reportable use of force incident means any situation (excluding approved training delivered by, or under instruction of an OST) where an ABF Employee performing ABF duties, uses:
 - a) a firearm;
 - b) a chemical munition;
 - c) a baton;
 - d) a restraint hold;
 - e) strike or kick;
 - f) non-compliant handcuffing; or
 - g) forced entry at points to enter a building, vehicle, vessel, or other secured area (including where a lock is broken) to exercise powers.
- 6.5.2 A reportable use of force incident in relation to a firearm or chemical munition, includes actual attempts at one or more of the following:
 - a) drawing (other than a rifle or shotgun);
 - b) aiming;
 - c) striking; or
 - d) discharging.
- 6.5.3 A reportable use of force incident, in relation to a baton, includes actual attempts at one or more of the following:
 - a) drawing, in the defence or apprehension of violence;
 - b) raising with the intention to strike, or deter attack; or
 - c) striking, or attempting to strike, a person with the baton.
- 6.5.4 A reportable use of force incident, in relation to handcuffs or restraints, means their application not relating to a 'compliant handcuffing' to a non-compliant person to restrain a person's hands

in the course of exercising statutory powers. This does not include compliant handcuffing for safety, search and transport purposes.

- 6.5.5 Verbal commands, in the absence of other use of force options, are a non-reportable use of force incident. The circumstances of each non-reportable use of force incident however must be recorded in any relevant case management system and an official notebook.
- 6.5.6 Where an ABF Employee discharges a firearm, the ABF Employee will as soon as practicable in the circumstance report the incident in accordance with the applicable *Critical Incident Procedural Instruction* for land or maritime environments
- 6.5.7 The supervisor of an ABF Employee who receives a report in relation to the discharge of a firearm will, as soon as practicable, ensure that all directions stipulated by the applicable *Critical Incident Procedural Instruction* for land or maritime environments are actioned.
- 6.5.8 All reportable use of force incidents must be recorded on an ABF Use of Force Incident Report, as soon as practicable in the circumstance. A Work Health and Safety incident report in easySAP must be lodged in the event of any injury, illness or dangerous incident (near miss).
- 6.5.9 The supervisor of an ABF Employee who uses force must ensure that an ABF Use of Force Incident Report is submitted as soon as practicable in the circumstances, consistent with the requirements of this Order and *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policy or Procedures.
- 6.5.10 Notwithstanding any specific provision in this Order, when an ABF Employee uses force against another person, they shall ensure that as soon as practicable in the circumstance and it is safe to do so, any person affected by the use of force receives appropriate medical attention.
- 6.5.11 A Use of Force Report is not required when Accoutrements are used for Basic Operational Safety Certification, Skills Maintenance, Remedial or recertification purposes.
- 6.5.12 For further direction in relation to reporting use of force and operational incidents refer to *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policy or Procedures.

6.6 Use of Force Incidents Requiring Immediate Notification

- 6.6.1 Under the WHS Act 2011 the Commonwealth through the Department, which includes the ABF, as 'a person who conducts a business or undertaking' must ensure that Comcare is notified immediately after becoming aware that a notifiable incident arising out of the conduct of the business or undertaking has occurred.
- 6.6.2 Under section 35 of the WHS act, a notifiable incident means:
 - a) the death of a person; or
 - b) a 'serious injury or illness'; or
 - c) a 'dangerous incident'.
- 6.6.3 Any person or persons involved in a notifiable incident must report it to the area responsible for WHS Incident Management immediately after becoming aware that a notifiable incident has occurred, to enable the relevant team to determine if it is a notifiable event and make the Department's undertaking immediately.
- 6.6.4 For further direction in relation to use of force incidents requiring urgent notification, refer to *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policy or Procedures.

6.7 Vulnerable Person

- 6.7.1 A vulnerable person is an individual who, because of any condition or circumstances, has reduced capacity to look after or manage their own interests.
- 6.7.2 An ABF Employee will interact with a diverse range of people while they perform duties across different operational domains. It is important that ABF Employees are aware that as part of this interaction they may encounter vulnerable person/s including children. Any use of force against a vulnerable person must be necessary and reasonable and in accordance with relevant statutory provisions, this Order and Departmental policy.
- 6.7.3 For further direction in relation to vulnerable persons, refer to *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policy or Procedures.

7. ABF Accoutrements

7.1 Firearms

- 7.1.1 An ABF Employee must only use approved firearms lawfully and in accordance with the Order and the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policy or Procedures. This includes during approved training delivered by, or under the instruction of an OST.
- 7.1.2 An ABF Employee must use an approved load/unload station or approved portable unloading device when loading or unloading their approved firearms. If an approved unloading bay or portable unloading device is not available then ABF Employees must load and unload their firearms in accordance with their training and this Order.
- 7.1.3 **REDACTED**
- 7.1.4 **REDACTED**
 - a) **REDACTED**
 - b) **REDACTED**
- 7.1.5 Before discharging an approved firearm, an ABF Employee must first consider alternative courses of action in line with their training, including negotiation, withdrawal, and other Use of Force options.
- 7.1.6 An ABF Employee must only use munitions, firearms and PDE approved by the OSC.

7.2 Discharging Firearms – Lethal Munitions

- 7.2.1 An ABF Employee will only discharge an approved firearm using approved munitions in limited circumstances. These circumstances may include:
 - a) **REDACTED**
 - b) **REDACTED**
 - c) **REDACTED**
 - d) **REDACTED**
 - e) **REDACTED**
 - f) **REDACTED**

g) REDACTED

h) REDACTED

7.2.2 REDACTED

a) REDACTED

b) REDACTED

c) REDACTED

i. REDACTED

ii. REDACTED

iii. REDACTED

7.2.3 When an ABF Employee discharges a firearm against another person, the ABF Employee must ensure the person receives, as soon as practicable (and provided it is safe to do so), adequate medical attention.

7.2.4 REDACTED

7.2.5 An ABF Armourer who has received an appointment may carry or discharge an approved firearm at a prescribed range, in accordance with their duties, in order to test the firearm, support training, or for the purposes of test firing the weapon post servicing.

7.3 Discharging Firearms – Deck Mounted Weapons

7.3.1 REDACTED

7.3.2 REDACTED

a) REDACTED

b) REDACTED

c) REDACTED

d) REDACTED

e) REDACTED

7.4 Unauthorised Discharge of an Approved Firearm

7.4.1 Where an ABF Employee discharges an approved firearm in contravention of this Order it is a notifiable incident and they must immediately report the discharge to their supervisor, Inspector or Superintendent, who must in turn report the matter immediately to the Superintendent OSCS and Integrity & Professional Standards Branch (I&PS Branch).

7.4.2 If an ABF Employee is undertaking approved firearms training and has been authorised to discharge their firearm but performs an unintentional discharge,

a) as a result of misconduct, misuse or unsafe practice; or

b) in contradiction to the range OIC directions; or

c) in contradiction to the provided safety brief; or

d) in contradiction to any other instruction provided by safety officers.

The directions specified in paragraph 7.4.1 of this Order must be followed and the incident must be reported to Comcare via the WHS Management Team and Superintendent OSCS as soon

as practicable in the circumstances. Superintendent OSCS will make a determination as specified in paragraph 7.4.5 of this Order.

- 7.4.3 The ABF Employee's firearm must be immediately surrendered to an AAIO and sent for a safety check by an ABF appointed armourer. The ABF Employee's Use of Force Permit must immediately have a Temporary Access Restriction imposed, pending the completion of a review of their competence in safe handling of firearms. This section also applies to an unintentional discharge in the training environment as per 7.4.2.
- 7.4.4 Regardless of the severity of the circumstances, the ABF Employee must complete an Incident Report as soon as practicable and by no later than end of shift. If the officer is injured and is unable to submit an Incident Report, the ABF Employee's supervisor must submit it on the officer's behalf.
- 7.4.5 Where the discharge exposed any person to a serious or dangerous risk to their health or safety where no immediate treatment was required (as per the WHS Act), then it must also be reported to Comcare via the WHS Incident Management team as soon as practicable in the circumstances.
- 7.4.6 Where the Superintendent OSCS receives a report under subsection 7.4.1 of this Order, they shall determine if the matter is to be investigated and notify the Commander Operational Readiness Branch (ORB) of their decision. The process for investigating an unauthorised discharge will be determined as per the Department's Integrity and Professional Standards Framework.
- 7.4.7 Where an ABF Employee or another person is injured or dies due to an unauthorised discharge, including during training or practice, section 6.5 of the Order will apply.

7.5 Batons

- 7.5.1 An ABF Employee must only use batons lawfully and in accordance with this Order and Operational Safety Procedural Instruction and Departmental Policy or Procedures. Approved training delivered by, or under instruction of an OST, is considered to be in accordance with this Order.
- 7.5.2 **REDACTED**
 - a) **REDACTED**
 - b) **REDACTED**
- 7.5.3 **REDACTED**
 - a) **REDACTED**
 - b) **REDACTED**
 - c) **REDACTED**
 - i. **REDACTED**
 - ii. **REDACTED**
 - iii. **REDACTED**
- 7.5.4 When an ABF Employee uses a baton against another person, the ABF Employee must ensure the person receives, as soon as practicable and provided it is safe to do so in the circumstances, medical attention, where necessary.

7.6 Body Armour

- 7.6.1 An ABF Employee must only use approved body armour lawfully and in accordance with this Order, Operational Safety Procedural Instruction and Operational Safety Procedural Instruction and Departmental Policy or Procedures and manufacturer's instructions.
- 7.6.2 Body armour, anti-ballistic inserts and soft armour inserts for the purposes of this Order are considered items of PDE as referred to in s189A of the Customs Act and not included in the definition of ABF Accoutrements for the purposes of this Order.
- 7.6.3 If required for operational purposes, an ABF Employee or any other person may be issued with body armour and do not require a basic operational safety qualification or Use of Force Permit to do so, nor must they need to be issued with ABF Accoutrements in order to be issued only with body armour. However, ABF Employees must complete the required training in order to be issued with body armour unless it is an emergency situation.
- 7.6.4 The decision to deploy or not to deploy with body armour and or the requirement for additional protective levels (such as anti-ballistic inserts) should be assessed as stipulated in the ABF Risk Management Framework. Body Armour and anti-ballistic inserts are to be available to an ABF Employee when undertaking their operational duties.

7.7 Handcuffs and other Approved Restraints

- 7.7.1 An ABF Employee must only apply approved handcuffs and other approved restraints to place a person in lawful custody and in accordance with this Order and Departmental policies and procedures.
- 7.7.2 Approved training delivered by, or under instruction of an OST, is considered to be in accordance with this Order.
- 7.7.3 Only an ABF Employee who has a basic operational safety qualification and Use of Force Permit is authorised to carry and apply handcuffs and other approved restraints.
- 7.7.4 Before applying handcuffs, an ABF Employee must first consider whether the use of handcuffs, in the circumstance, is in accordance with their powers and necessary and reasonable.
- 7.7.5 Only ABF Employees who have an operational safety qualification and Use of Force Permit are authorised to maintain custody of a person who is handcuffed or restrained with other approved restraints.

7.8 Handcuffing and other Approved Restraints Considerations

- 7.8.1 When deciding whether to use handcuffs or other approved restraints on a person, an ABF Employee must consider whether the use of handcuffs is lawful and in the circumstances, is necessary and reasonable for the safe transportation, the welfare and/or security of the person or ABF Employee or another person. Considerations may include but are not limited to:
 - a) whether the person in custody is violent, or believed to be violent, or their demeanour gives rise to the apprehension of violence;
 - b) whether the person in custody has attempted, or is likely to attempt to escape;
 - c) whether the person in custody is required to be escorted with other persons in custody;
 - d) the necessity to prevent the person in custody from injuring themselves, or any other person;
 - e) the necessity to restrain the person in custody to prevent the loss, concealment or destruction of evidence; or

f) whether the person threatens to expel a bodily fluid or has done so.

7.8.2 Where there is a requirement to use handcuffs or other approved restraints, the person being restrained must not be further secured to any stationary, fixed, moveable, or other object of any description. An ABF Employee must never secure the subject to themselves.

7.8.3 Where there is a requirement to transport the person in a vehicle while handcuffed or in other approved restraints, due consideration must be made concerning the safety of the person, other ABF Employees or people in the vehicle, as well as the comfort of the person, in determining how the person is to be handcuffed or restrained with approved restraints. This may be determined according to the considerations outlined in section 7.8.1 of this Order.

7.9 Restraining Children

7.9.1 An ABF Employee must try to avoid the use of handcuffs or other approved restraints on a child or young person. However, they may do so only if it is in accordance with a statutory power and they believe it is necessary and reasonable to restrain the child or any other young person.

7.9.2 For this section, an ABF Employee may take into account the considerations outlined in section 7.8 above when determining whether or not a child or young person is to be handcuffed

7.10 Chemical Munitions

7.10.1 An ABF Employee may only use ABF approved chemical munitions lawfully and in accordance with this Order and Departmental policies and procedures. Approved training delivered by, or under instruction of an OST, is considered to be in accordance with this Order.

7.10.2 **REDACTED**

a) **REDACTED**

b) **REDACTED**

7.10.3 **REDACTED**

a) **REDACTED**

b) **REDACTED**

c) **REDACTED**

i. **REDACTED**

ii. **REDACTED**

iii. **REDACTED**

7.10.4 An ABF Employee who uses a chemical munition against another person must ensure that the person receives, as soon as practicable and provided it is safe to do so, adequate medical attention or decontamination treatment.

7.10.5 Where a person who has been exposed to a chemical agent, and is in or taken into lawful custody, the ABF Employee(s) responsible for that person must take all necessary and reasonable steps in order to prevent further contamination of the person or contamination of others.

7.10.6 When delivering a person exposed to a chemical agent to a place of detention, for example, an immigration detention facility or a watch house, the ABF Employee(s) responsible for the person in lawful custody must advise the OIC of the exposure and any treatment provided.

7.11 Issuing ABF Accoutrements

- 7.11.1 An ABF Employee must only be issued with, or seek to be issued with, ABF Accoutrements and or other operational safety equipment if they are qualified and / or authorised to do so.
- 7.11.2 ABF Employees are to be aware of their basic operational safety qualification and permit status prior to seeking entry to an armoury or seeking to be issued with ABF Accoutrements.
- 7.11.3 It is the responsibility of an ABF Employee to provide evidence to an AAIO that they are qualified, authorised to carry and use ABF Accoutrements, and are the holder of a current Use of Force Permit.
- 7.11.4 Prior to issuing any ABF Accoutrements, an AAIO must be satisfied the ABF Employee is qualified and authorised to carry and use ABF Accoutrements and is the holder of a current Use of Force Permit.
- 7.11.5 Sections 7.11.3 and 7.11.4 of the Order do not apply if the ABF Accoutrements are being used by an ABF Employee while undertaking training under the direct supervision of an OST.
- 7.11.6 An ABF Employee must disclose as soon as practicable if for any reason they do not meet the prerequisite requirements of, or are no longer able to maintain the fitness for duty requirements of their basic operational safety qualification.
- 7.11.7 An ABF Employee must complete a Declarable Circumstances form and/or a Change of Health Circumstances Questionnaire and Declaration outlining the complete change of circumstances and submit the form and/or declaration as soon as practicable if they are not fit for duty or for any other reason they should not be issued ABF Accoutrements and PDE. If the ABF Employee is unable to complete these processes, their supervisor must do so on their behalf.
- 7.11.8 An ABF Employee must not attempt to be issued with ABF Accoutrements if they are under any influence of alcohol, drug or any other substance that may impair the ABF Employee's performance or judgement.
- 7.11.9 An ABF Employee must not seek or attempt to access an armoury or be issued with any ABF Accoutrements or PDE if they are not fit for duty, or if they have a Temporary Access Restriction (TAR) or suspension in place until such time as the TAR or suspension is removed or modified and they are officially notified.
- 7.11.10 Supervisors and/or an officer-in-charge of operational activity must prevent an ABF Employee from seeking to be issued with ABF Accoutrements if they reasonably suspect that an ABF Employee is not fit for duty.
- 7.11.11 An AAIO must not issue ABF Accoutrements or PDE to an ABF Employee if:
 - a) they reasonably suspect, that the ABF Employee is not fit for duty; or
 - b) if an ABF Employees supervisor or officer-in-charge of operational activity directs that ABF Accoutrements must not be issued to the relevant ABF Employee.
- 7.11.12 An ABF Employee must only handle, carry, use, store and transport ABF Accoutrements in accordance with:
 - a) applicable legislation;
 - b) this Order;
 - c) Departmental policies and procedures; and
 - d) their training and qualifications.
- 7.11.13 When it is foreseeable that use of force may be required to exercise a statutory power, an ABF Employee will adopt a risk-based approach to the issuing and carrying of ABF Accoutrements in consultation with a supervisor, unless:

- a) carriage is prohibited by law;
- b) carriage is prohibited or not required in accordance with the provisions outlined in this Order; or
- c) a variation from the order is approved.

7.11.14 REDACTED

7.11.15 When ABF Employees intend to deploy without an approved firearm but with other items of approved ABF Accoutrements and PDE, they must take a risk based approach in accordance with the ABF Operational Safety Risk Management Framework. For further guidance refer to the work area responsible for managing the ABF Risk Management Framework.

7.11.16 An ABF Employee must carry ABF Accoutrements in an approved holster, attachment or pouch or attached to an approved accoutrement belt, load bearing vest (marine or land based variant), ballistic vest or other approved manner as instructed on their operational safety training qualification or recertification.

7.11.17 REDACTED

7.11.18 REDACTED

7.11.19 For further direction in relation to ABF Accoutrements refer to the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policy or Procedures.

7.12 Deploying with ABF Accoutrements

7.12.1 The decision to deploy with ABF Accoutrements will be assessed as stipulated in the ABF Risk Management Framework. An ABF Employee must only seek to be issued, carry and use ABF Accoutrements if:

- a) endorsed for the ABF by the OSC, as listed on the ABF Operational Safety Authorised Equipment Register; and
- b) they are qualified and approved to carry and use in accordance with this Order; and
- c) they meet and maintain the ABF pre-requisite requirements appropriate to their designated position and/or appointment in accordance with this Order.

7.12.2 **REDACTED**

a) **REDACTED**

b) **REDACTED**

c) **REDACTED**

d) **REDACTED**

7.12.3 If an ABF Employee's work area identifies an operational need, an ABF Employee may, upon receiving approval from their Commander, qualify and or be authorised to use various types of approved ABF Accoutrements, holsters and operational safety equipment as required by their duties.

7.12.4 REDACTED

7.12.5 Where ABF Employees performing duties in plain clothes carry ABF Accoutrements in an unconcealed manner, they must carry and display an ABF identification that is clearly visible to members of the public. If an ABF Employee does not carry an ABF identification they must wear other signage clearly identifying themselves as an ABF Employee.

7.12.6 REDACTED

a) REDACTED

b) REDACTED

- 7.12.7 ABF Employees who are issued with any ABF Accoutrement for operational purposes will not modify or alter any item in any way unless such modifications have been approved by the OSC.
- 7.12.8 All trials of operational safety equipment, either in the training or operational environment, must be approved by the OSC Chair prior to the commencement of the trial. The equipment must only be operated within the parameters of the trial.
- 7.12.9 The OSC Secretariat will maintain a register of all relevant details of any operational trials, including results and recommendations.

8. Management of ABF Accoutrements & Personal Defence Equipment

8.1 Storage in Armouries

8.1.1 REDACTED

8.1.2 REDACTED

8.1.3 REDACTED

8.2 ABF Accoutrement & Personal Defence Equipment Storage

8.2.1 ABF Employees are individually accountable for the security of any ABF Accoutrements and PDE issued to them.

8.2.2 REDACTED

8.2.3 REDACTED

8.2.4 REDACTED

8.2.5 REDACTED

8.2.6 REDACTED

8.3 Administration of ABF Accoutrements and Personal Defence Equipment

8.3.1 The following are authorised to manage, possess and transport ABF Accoutrements and PDE for armoury, logistical or training purposes, or when handling is required as part of their direct duties:

- a) Armoury Registrar(s);
- b) Deputy Armoury Registrar(s);
- c) Armourer(s);
- d) AAIO(s);
- e) An ABF Employee with a current Use of Force Permit;
- f) ABF Armouries Section;

- g) Authorised contractors engaged to transport ABF Accoutrements;
- h) OST(s); and
- i) Marine Logistics

8.4 Returning ABF Accoutrements & Personal Defence Equipment

8.4.1 An ABF Employee must immediately return all issued ABF Accoutrements and PDE to an AAIO when:

- a) their Use of Force Permit is temporarily restricted, suspended, revoked or expired;
- b) they no longer require ABF Accoutrements for operational duties;
- c) they are suspended from duty;
- d) they are transferring to a non-operational work area;
- e) they are transferring to another geographical region;
- f) they will be absent from duty for a period of more than 16 weeks; or
- g) they separate or resign from the ABF.

8.4.2 An ABF Employee must immediately advise their supervisor in writing if they become subject to any circumstances referred to in section 8.4.1 of this Order. The supervisor of an ABF Employee who becomes subject to any of the circumstances referred to in section 8.4.1 of this Order must ensure the ABF Employee returns all ABF Accoutrements to an AAIO in accordance with this Order.

8.4.3 If the ABF Employee for medical or other justifiable reasons, is unable to return ABF Accoutrements, the supervisor must ensure that a suitably qualified ABF Employee collects and returns the ABF Accoutrements in accordance with the Order.

8.4.4 An ABF Employee transferring to another geographical region must apply to the Registrar or Deputy Registrar for ABF Accoutrements to be issued in their new work area as required.

8.4.5 An ABF Employee who returns ABF Accoutrements that are items of personal issue under the provisions of section 8.4 of this Order, must only apply for ABF Accoutrements to be reissued if they have a current basic operational safety qualification and valid Use of Force Permit.

8.5 Auditing ABF Accoutrements and Personal Defence Equipment

8.5.1 ABF Accoutrements, PDE and body armour must be audited at regular intervals as stipulated in the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policy or Procedures.

8.5.2 For further direction in relation to auditing ABF Accoutrements contact ABF Armouries Section.

8.6 Armoury Registrar and Deputy Armoury Registrar

8.6.1 The ABF Commissioner or their authorised representative may appoint an ABF Employee to perform the role of an Armoury Registrar.

8.6.2 An Armoury Registrar must be appointed for every ABF armoury, including those on ABF vessels.

8.6.3 An Armoury Registrar may appoint Deputy Armoury Registrars as required and appropriate.

8.6.4 **REDACTED**

a) **REDACTED**

b) **REDACTED**

c) **REDACTED**

8.6.5 For further direction in relation to Armoury Registrars and Deputy Armoury Registrars contact ABF Armouries Section and refer the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)*.

8.7 Chief Armourer

8.7.1 The ABF Commissioner, or an authorised representative, may appoint an ABF Employee to be the Chief Armourer.

8.7.2 The Chief Armourer must successfully complete approved armourer training, be found suitable as a result of a psychometric assessment and must also continue to maintain the fitness for duty requirements. In addition, they must also have completed the approved Custodial Firearms Safety and Handling Course and hold a current certification.

8.7.3 Duties include:

- a) the maintenance of armoury policies and procedures;
- b) the planning and delivery of a servicing regime of ABF operational firearms; and
- c) the repair of damaged or unserviceable firearms.

8.7.4 An ABF Employee performing the role of an ABF Armourer will report to the Chief Armourer.

8.8 ABF Armourers

8.8.1 The ABF Commissioner, or their authorised representative, may appoint an ABF Employee to be an ABF Armourer. Armourers will report to the Chief Armourer with respect to armoury-related duties.

8.8.2 **REDACTED**

8.8.3 Servicing of operational firearms will only be conducted by a qualified Armourer.

8.8.4 All full time ABF Armourers are authorised under this Order to attend a prescribed range to test fire firearms.

8.8.5 For further direction in relation to ABF Armourers refer to the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policy or Procedures.

8.9 Authorised Arms Issuing Officer

8.9.1 The ABF Commissioner or their authorised representative, may appoint an ABF Employee to perform the role of an AAIO once they complete all the fitness for duty requirements and successfully complete the AAIO training.

8.9.2 **REDACTED**

8.9.3 An AAIO is an authorised ABF Employee appointed to issue approved firearms and approved items of PDE.

8.9.4 An AAIO may issue ABF Accoutrements to an ABF Employee who demonstrates they are the holder of a current Use of Force Permit.

8.9.5 **REDACTED**

a) **REDACTED**

b) **REDACTED**

c) **REDACTED**

8.10 Firearm and Personal Defence Equipment Maintenance, Modification or Repair

- 8.10.1 Approved firearms must only be serviced or repaired by an authorised ABF Armourer in accordance with manufacturer recommendations or specifications.
- 8.10.2 On the authorisation of the Chief Armourer, a certified service provider may service or repair ABF approved firearms in accordance with manufacturer recommendations or specifications.
- 8.10.3 Alterations or modifications to approved firearms must be approved by the OSC and reported to the relevant Tier 2 committee.
- 8.10.4 Alterations or modifications to approved firearms that have been ratified by the OSC must be conducted by an ABF Armourer.
- 8.10.5 Alterations or modifications to approved firearms that have been ratified by the OSC will be authorised and assigned to an ABF Armourer by the Chief Armourer.
- 8.10.6 All repairs, modifications and altering of approved firearms must be recorded in the relevant armoury inventory management system by the ABF Armourer.
- 8.10.7 Disassembly, cleaning and maintenance of a firearm beyond field strip, must be conducted by authorised Armourers or ABF Employees appointed as ABF Armourers.
- 8.10.8 All ABF Employees are responsible for the cleaning, care and primary maintenance of ABF Accoutrements and body armour and reporting of identified faults or issues as provided in accordance with their operational safety training qualification and the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction and Departmental Policy or Procedures*.

8.11 ABF Armoury Access

- 8.11.1 An ABF Employee who requires access to operational ABF Armouries as a part of their duties must obtain and maintain the required qualification or certification in accordance with the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policies and Procedures.
- 8.11.2 **REDACTED**
- 8.11.3 **REDACTED**
- 8.11.4 **REDACTED**
- 8.11.5 An ABF Employee who has a TAR or Suspension placed on their permit or has access to the armoury restricted, must not attempt or be given access to an armoury until such time the TAR or Suspension is removed or modified and they are officially notified.
- 8.11.6 **REDACTED**
 - a) **REDACTED**
 - b) **REDACTED**
 - c) **REDACTED**

9. Operational Safety Training

9.1 Basic Operational Safety Training

- 9.1.1 Operational safety training and assessments must comply with this Order. All Operational Safety Training course materials must be endorsed by the OSC prior to being used for delivery and assessment unless under pilot or being prepared for evaluation. For further direction in relation to operational safety training, refer to the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645 and Departmental Policy or Procedures)*.
- 9.1.2 The OSC may request the Superintendent responsible for operational safety training (or their authorised representative) to review or quality audit any operational safety training and assessment materials, as deemed necessary or appropriate.
- 9.1.3 All operational safety qualification data must be recorded in the Department's approved records management system.

9.2 Operational Safety Trainers

- 9.2.1 Operational Safety Trainers (OSTs) must hold a current Use of Force Permit. OSTs must only deliver operational safety training courses independently within the scope of their training endorsement. The pre-requisite clearances, training and processes required to be qualified, current, appointed and endorsed are in the relevant *OSTU policy or procedures*.
- 9.2.2 Superintendent OSTU must ensure that only qualified, current and appointed ABF Employees are endorsed to deliver as OSTs.
- 9.2.3 OSTs may have their OST appointment suspended if:
 - a) their Use of Force Permit has a TAR, suspension or revocation placed on it, or it expires as described in section 10 of this Order;
 - b) they do not maintain OST currency or pre-requisites (unless circumstances are outside of the OST's control) as outlined in the relevant *OSTU policy or procedures*
 - c) they fail to disclose a circumstance relevant to their role as an OST and in accordance with section 10.10 of this Order and the relevant the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policy or Procedures;
 - d) they are the subject of an I&PS investigation; or
 - e) they fail to meet compliance standards for instructors as part of a quality auditing process and continue to fail to meet minimum standards after remediation as set out in the relevant *OSTU policy or procedures*
- 9.2.4 OSTs who have their appointment suspended will have their appointment reviewed by the Superintendent OSTU and the Commander who has oversight of OSTU. OSTs who have a suspension placed on their appointment must not deliver operational safety training until the situation leading to the suspension is resolved and their currency is revalidated, or permission is granted in writing by the delegate in line with processes in the relevant *OSTU policy or procedures*.
- 9.2.5 OSTs or specialist trainers external to the ABF must be endorsed by the OSC before they can deliver operational safety training courses for the ABF, as outlined in the relevant *OSTU policy or procedures*.
- 9.2.6 The managing OST of any use of force training course who receives a notification in relation to an injury to an ABF Employee as a result of that training including equipment use or

malfunction, techniques demonstrated or employed will ensure that all directions and reporting frameworks are followed. Any recommendations resulting from the incident are to be forwarded through Superintendent OSTU to the OSC for review.

- 9.2.7 For further direction in relation to reporting training injury or incidents refer to *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policy or Procedures.

10. Managing Operational Safety Qualifications and Use of Force Permits

10.1 Basic Operational Safety Training Course

- 10.1.1 The Basic Operational Safety Training Course (BOST) is the ABF's use of force qualification. ABF Employees must successfully complete BOST to be issued with a Use of Force Permit. Use of force qualified ABF Employees must maintain competence in all aspects of BOST and successfully complete a BOST Recertification Course annually to maintain their use of force operational safety qualification and Use of Force Permit unless extenuating circumstances exist or are permitted through a variation of this Order. Extenuating circumstances are approved by the relevant Assistant Commissioner and endorsed by the OSC.

10.2 Use of Force Permit Expiry

- 10.2.1 A Use of Force Permit allows access to ABF Armouries and for firearms and PDE to be issued to the use of force qualified ABF Employee. A Use of Force Permit expires immediately after the last day of the twelfth month from the date the ABF Employee successfully completed BOST or BOST Recertification. The Use of Force Permit is considered to be expired on the first day of the thirteenth month after BOST qualification or recertification.
- 10.2.2 A Use of Force Permit remains active while an ABF Employee undertakes recertification training unless the ABF Employee fails an assessment, or a suspension or revocation is placed on the permit. This allows ABF Employees to attend operations if redeployed while undertaking recertification.
- 10.2.3 If a use of force qualified ABF Employee who is enrolled on or has started a BOST Recertification Course and their Use of Force Permit expires due to no fault of their own, their permit will be considered not to have expired. The Use of Force Permit will remain active as long as the ABF Employee is enrolled on and attends the next suitable BOST Recertification Course, as set out in the relevant *OSTU policy or procedures*.
- 10.2.4 If a use of force qualified ABF Employee's Use of Force Permit has expired, or has a TAR, suspension or revocation placed on it, the ABF Employee must return any ABF Accoutrements in their possession to the armoury immediately, unless under training to recertify and under the supervision of a qualified OST. Their supervisor must ensure that this procedure is followed.
- 10.2.5 If a use of force qualified ABF Employee is not able to attend a BOST Recertification Course before their Use of Force Permit is due to expire, the ABF Employee may apply for an extension of no greater than three months provided the application is submitted before their permit expires and the ABF Employee's prerequisites are current. Use of Force Permit extensions can only be granted in special circumstances as outlined in the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction*.
- 10.2.6 An extension is not available if the Use of Force Permit is subject to a TAR, been revoked or has been suspended.

- 10.2.7 A use of force qualified ABF Employee who's Use of Force Permit has expired may apply for recognition of their competence as described in the *relevant OSTU policy or procedures*. ABF Employees who have an existing operational safety use of force qualification or knowledge and skill gained in another agency may also apply for recognition.

10.3 Training Related Use of Force Permit Revocation

- 10.3.1 All assessments must be successfully completed within a three month period from the date of commencement of the BOST Recertification Course. ABF Employees who do not meet all assessment requirements of BOST Recertification will have their permit revoked on the day they exhaust all assessment opportunities or the three month window expires unless extenuating circumstances apply. Further detail on revocation delegations and processes are in *OSTU policy or procedures and the Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)*.
- 10.3.2 ABF Employees who have had their Use of Force Permit revoked may be repanelled on a BOST Course but must successfully complete the full course before regaining their basic use of force qualification and Use of Force Permit.

10.4 Operational Safety Training DMW

- 10.4.1 Assessments that qualify an ABF Employee in the use of the DMW must be conducted by a qualified M2 DMW trainer.
- 10.4.2 An M2 DMW qualification may be granted in accordance with the M2 Training Package.

10.5 Skills Maintenance Training

- 10.5.1 Skills Maintenance Training (SMT) must be offered to ABF Employees, and be undertaken and completed at least once per recertification period, when available. This is to maintain the knowledge and practical application of skills related to use of force techniques. SMT is not a recertification assessment.
- 10.5.2 SMT may be required to be undertaken by an ABF Employee if their basic operational safety qualification has expired or been extended prior to undertaking a recertification. This may be determined by the outcome of a recognition process.

10.6 Skills Enhancement Training

- 10.6.1 Skills Enhancement Training (SET) involves the delivery of training by qualified OSTs for the upgrade of existing skills of ABF Employees who hold a current basic operational safety qualification and Use of Force Permit.
- 10.6.2 SET may be required to be undertaken by ABF Employees within specialist operational areas that due to specific roles require alternate items of accoutrements, PDE and carriage platforms to perform their duties.

10.7 Transferring to a Non-Use of Force Designated Position

- 10.7.1 An ABF Employee, who permanently or for a period exceeding one month, transfers to a non-use of force designated position will have a TAR placed on their Use of Force Permit and their access to ABF Firearms, PDE, ABF Accoutrements and ABF Armouries restricted. Both the Commander (or Superintendent or higher in charge of a regional location) of the ABF Employee and the Commander of the operational area that may use the ABF Employee for surge must

approve the ABF Employees continuation of their basic use of force qualification and Use of Force Permit.

- 10.7.2 The supervisor of an ABF Employee who is transferring to a non-use of force designated position, and who will not be endorsed by a supporting operational Command to retain their Use of Force Permit, must ensure that the Use of Force Permit is surrendered to the Armoury Inventory Management Team prior to the transfer of the ABF Employee.

10.8 Temporary Access Restriction

- 10.8.1 Where an ABF Employee has a TAR applied to their Use of Force Permit or access restricted for any reason, this restriction will prevent a firearm and PDE being issued to the ABF Employee for operational purposes and will also restrict access to an ABF Armoury. An ABF Employee may be issued with a firearm other ABF Accoutrements and/or PDE for training and assessment purposes but must remain under the supervision of a qualified OST while in possession of the firearm and/or accoutrements.
- 10.8.2 An ABF Employee who has a TAR applied to their permit due to a physical injury or restriction may have armoury access granted, when authorised and informed of the TAR modification, to still have the ability to perform the duties of an AAIO or Registrar but must not be issued ABF Accoutrements or PDE for operational duties while the TAR remains in place.
- 10.8.3 When an ABF Employee receives notification that their Use of Force Permit has been temporarily restricted they must immediately comply with the requirements of Section 8.4 of the Order unless under remedial training.
- 10.8.4 For further direction in relation to TARs, refer to the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policy or Procedures.

10.9 Training Related Temporary Access Restrictions

- 10.9.1 Basic use of force qualified ABF Employees who fail to demonstrate competence on a BOST Recertification assessment or perform an unsafe practice during training will have a TAR placed on their Use of Force Permit.
- 10.9.2 For further direction in relation to delegations TARs, refer to the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policy or Procedures.

10.10 Change of Circumstances

- 10.10.1 An ABF Employee must immediately submit the appropriate declaration and inform their supervisor and I&PS if they are subject to a declarable circumstance.
- 10.10.2 An ABF Employee must submit a change in health circumstances form to ABF Health & Fitness if there is any change in the health of an ABF Employee that may cause them to be unable to perform their duties as an AAIO, Armourer, Armoury Registrar, Deputy Armoury Registrar or Use of Force designated officer.
- 10.10.3 For further direction in relation to a TAR of a Use of Force Permit, refer to the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental Policy or Procedures.

10.11 Permit Suspension

- 10.11.1 An ABF Employee's Use of Force Permit may be suspended if the ABF Employee is deemed not fit for duty as a result of medical or psychometric assessments.
- 10.11.2 When an ABF Employee transfers to a non-use of force designated position, and is not endorsed by a supporting Command to retain their Use of Force Permit, the ABF Employee will have their Use of Force Permit suspended.
- 10.11.3 When an ABF Employee receives notification that their Use of Force Permit has been suspended they must immediately comply with the requirements of Section 8.4 of this Order.
- 10.11.4 Access to a firearm, PDE and the armoury will have a TAR placed on immediately pending a suspension decision.
- 10.11.5 Where an ABF Employee has their Use of Force Permit Suspended for any reason, access to a firearm, PDE and the armoury will be prohibited.
- 10.11.6 For further direction in relation to a suspension of a Use of Force Permit, refer to the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645) and Departmental Policy or Procedures*.

10.12 Revocation of a Use of Force Permit

- 10.12.1 An ABF Employee's Use of Force Permit may be revoked at any time by a Commander or above if reasonable grounds exist.
- 10.12.2 The supervisor of an ABF Employee whose Use of Force Permit is revoked must ensure the ABF Employee complies with Section 8.4 of this Order. If the ABF Employee is unable for medical or other justifiable reasons to return their personally issued ABF Accoutrements, the supervisor must ensure an authorised ABF Employee takes possession of the equipment and ensures it is returned in accordance with this Order.
- 10.12.3 For further direction in relation to a revocation of a Use of Force Permit, refer to the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645) and Departmental Policy or Procedures*.

10.13 Sensitive or Time Critical Temporary Access Restriction, Suspension or Revocation

- 10.13.1 On the authority of a Commander or above, the notification processes surrounding TAR, suspension or revocation may be altered, due to sensitivities of ongoing I&PS, Security or medical matters.

10.14 Reinstatement of a Temporarily Restricted or Suspended Use of Force Permit

- 10.14.1 If an ABF Employee's Use of Force Permit was subject to a TAR or suspended due to being unable to demonstrate competence in an operational safety assessment during recertification, it may be reinstated by the Superintendent OSTU or their authorised representative once the ABF Employee has successfully completed all components of re-assessment.
- 10.14.2 If an ABF Employee's Use of Force Permit was subject to a TAR following a recommendation or suspended for any other reason, such as a change in circumstances, including health and fitness, the restriction or suspension may be removed by the Superintendent OCS or Superintendent ABF Armouries once written advice has been provided that the issues leading to the TAR or suspension have been resolved.

10.15 Process Post Revocation

- 10.15.1 An ABF Employee who has had a Use of Force Permit revoked must successfully complete a full BOST to obtain a new Use of Force Permit.

10.16 Recognition of Current Competence

- 10.16.1 An ABF Employee may apply to the OSTU to be granted recognition of current competence if they hold current and relevant operational safety skills, regardless of where they have built these skills and knowledge. For further direction refer to the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)* and Departmental policies and procedures.

10.17 Extended Absence from Duty

- 10.17.1 If an ABF Employee is on a notified absence from duty for a period in excess of sixteen consecutive weeks, their Use of Force Permit will be subject to a TAR. The validity of the basic operational safety qualification or Use of Force Permit will not be affected. If the Use of Force Permit expires while it is subject to a TAR and the ABF Employee wishes to have their qualification and permit reinstated, determining the currency of the qualification is subject to special circumstances consideration via a recognition process. Special circumstances are those approved by the appropriate delegate or approver of that ABF Employee as detailed in the *Operational Safety Procedural Instruction (BE-6645)*.
- 10.17.2 Access to ABF Accoutrements and the armoury will be reinstated on the ABF Employee's return to work if the basic operational safety qualification and Use of Force Permit is still valid.
- 10.17.3 If an ABF Employee is absent from duty for a period of seven days and this absence is an unauthorised absence, their Use of Force Permit can be subject to a TAR (as per section 10.8 of this Order), or suspended by request by or on approval by the delegate (as per section 10.11 of this Order).

11. Variations from the Order

- 11.1 ABF Employees must comply with this Order unless non-compliance has been approved in writing by the Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner (a variation).
- 11.2 An application for a variation to this Order may be submitted by an ABF Employee and must be submitted in writing. A single application may be submitted for multiple ABF Employees or a class of ABF Employees.
- 11.3 Where an application for a variation is made for a class of ABF Employees (a Class Application) the application will be submitted by a Commander to the OSC prior to escalation to the Deputy Commissioner. A Class Application needs to clearly identify the class of ABF Employee to which the variation application is intended to apply. The class of an ABF Employee does not need to exist at the time of the Class Application. The variation will only apply to the ABF Employee while they are a part of the class.
- 11.4 The Commander of an ABF Employee who submits an application to vary this Order, or Assistant Commissioner in respect of whom a Class Application is made, must review and endorse the application prior to submission for approval.
- 11.5 If an application for a variation of this Order proceeds to the Deputy Commissioner or the Commissioner for decision, they may approve the application for a variation in full or in part, amend the terms of the variation or reject the variation application. The Deputy Commissioner

or the Commissioner must ensure the outcome of the variation application is recorded in writing on the variation.

- 11.6 In deciding whether to approve an application for variation from this Order, the decision maker will consider the purpose of the variation and balance this against the potential risk to the ABF Employee (or class of ABF Employees), the community and the ABF.
- 11.7 An ABF Employee or classes of ABF Employees subject to an application for a variation of this Order must continue to comply with the Order as written until approval in writing is provided in accordance of section 11.5 of this Order.
- 11.8 An ABF Employee or class of ABF Employees must comply with the decision of the decision maker.
- 11.9 A variation from this Order is valid for the period specified on the face of the application for the variation.
- 11.10 The Commander of an ABF Employee whose application for a variation from this Order is approved, or Assistant Commissioner in respect of whom a Class Application was approved, must submit the approved application to the next OSC meeting following the date of approval, for their review.
- 11.11 The OSC must review all applications for a variation from this Order during their quarterly meetings and report to the relevant Tier 2 governing body.
- 11.12 The Commander of an ABF Employee whose application for a variation of this Order is approved, or an Assistant Commissioner in respect to whom a Class Application was approved, must monitor the efficacy of the variation during the approval period.
- 11.13 If an ABF Employee who is subject to a variation of this Order, or their supervisor/Commander discovers any reason why the variation should not continue to apply, the ABF Employee must cease to operate under the variation immediately and report to the Deputy Commissioner and OSC.
- 11.14 If the Commander Operational Readiness Branch (ORB) or Assistant Commissioner who has received approval for a Class Application discovers any reason why the variation of the class should not continue, they must report to the Deputy Commissioner and OSC. The Assistant Commissioner who receives approval for an application to vary from the Order for a class of ABF Employees, must review the efficacy of the variation on the expiration of the approval period and report any relevant findings to the Deputy Commissioner and OSC.

12. Other Associated Orders, Instruments or Guidelines

- 12.1 No other orders, instruments, notifications, directions, procedures or guidelines are to be established that may affect the provisions of this Order without first seeking the endorsement (through the Operational Safety Committee) of the relevant Assistant Commissioner, and the Commissioner.

13. Version Control

Version Number	Date of Issue	Author(s)
0.1	September 2021	<u>REDACTED</u>
0.2	November 2021	<u>REDACTED</u>
0.3	02 December 2021	Legal Approved
0.4	22 December 2021	ABF Commissioner Endorsed