



Media Release – 1 September 2025

SAGA ALERT 3 | Unmandated, Unconstitutional and Unacceptable: FCA amendment Bill Exists within an Illegitimate amendment Process.

Issued by the SAGA Board of Trustees

Within the past week, the South African firearms community obtained irrefutable evidence of an illegitimate law-making process relating the FCA amendment Bill.

Business forums such as NEDLAC and BUSA are spear heading a new 2025 FCA Bill while the very citizens whose rights, livelihoods and safety are directly at stake are being deliberately excluded.

This is not only indefensible; it is unconstitutional – unacceptable.

A Secret Bill, a Secret Process

The Safe Citizen Alliance formally requested confirmation from the Civilian Secretariat for Police Service as to whether a new draft Bill exists. The Civilian Secretariat's response **confirmed the existence of a revised FCA Bill**.

Meanwhile, independent evidence shows that BUSA has circulated invitations to its members to engage NEDLAC on proposed FCA amendments — prior proof that draft proposals are in circulation.

The Civilian Secretariat for Police confirmed in writing to the Safe Citizen Alliance that there is indeed a Firearms Control Amendment Bill of 2025 and that NEDLAC had been involved in the drafting of this new FCA Bill ! They refused to make the document public!



No Mandate, No Authority – No Jurisdiction

NEDLAC has no statutory authority to deal with a new FCA Bill, as the correct entity that should deal with the FCA amendment Bill would be The Civilian Secretariat for Police Service. The constitutional rights of stakeholders must be considered in good faith, as these laws that directly impact their lives.

The firearms sector is a recognised and regulated part of South Africa's economy, with tens of thousands of law-abiding members, billions in private security investment and billions more in hunting, sport and conservation.

An Attack on Rights and Democracy

Firearms legislation is not a technical footnote, it is a direct regulation of the constitutional right to life, security, trade and property. Any attempt to subvert due process — by hiding Bills, misdirecting stakeholders, or laundering policy through unmandated structures — is a direct attack on the rule of law.

The firearms community will **not accept** a process that is unlawful, opaque and exclusionary - on behalf of the firearms sector we **DEMAND:**

1. **Immediate publication** of any and all draft amendments under consideration;
2. A **full and transparent public consultation** process;
3. Parliamentary **oversight restored to its rightful place** as the custodian of law-making.

Public Voices Echo the Concern

Police Portfolio Committee Chair Ian Cameron, himself the recent victim of a violent Cape Town attack, was forced to defend his life and those of colleagues in a high-profile self-defence incident (controversial article - Daily Maverick, 26 Aug 2025). His experience underscores both the vulnerability of citizens and the imperative of transparent, accountable governance in matters of security.

Cameron's ordeal has become a national reminder that secrecy and unmandated processes — whether in policing or in law-making — erode public trust. SAGA's warning is clear: just as citizens must act lawfully and transparently in moments of crisis, so too must government in drafting legislation.

Our Position Is Clear

South Africa cannot afford law-making by stealth. If NEDLAC and the government insist on pursuing amendments through secrecy and deception, they will be met with **legal challenge, public resistance and the united opposition of every law-abiding citizen** who refuses to be ruled by unmandated entities lacking jurisdiction!



This is not just about firearms. It is about whether South Africa is still a constitutional democracy, or whether our rights can be bargained away behind closed doors and in secret!

*Endorsed by the SAGA Board of Trustees,
a trusted voice in the firearms sector for over four decades.*



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Acknowledgements:

- *Drafted by SMS Lyle, endorsed by the Board*
- *Civilian Secretariat for Police response dated 26 August 2026*
 - *Safe Citizen Alliance reply to CSP 26th August 2025*

