GUNSLINGER'S GUNS

MARYLAND ESTATE & INHERITED GUNS GUIDE

How to secure, document, value, and lawfully sell or transfer a firearm collection

Prepared for Maryland families, heirs, executors, and estate representatives

FREE RESOURCE • COURTESY OF GUNSLINGER'S GUNS

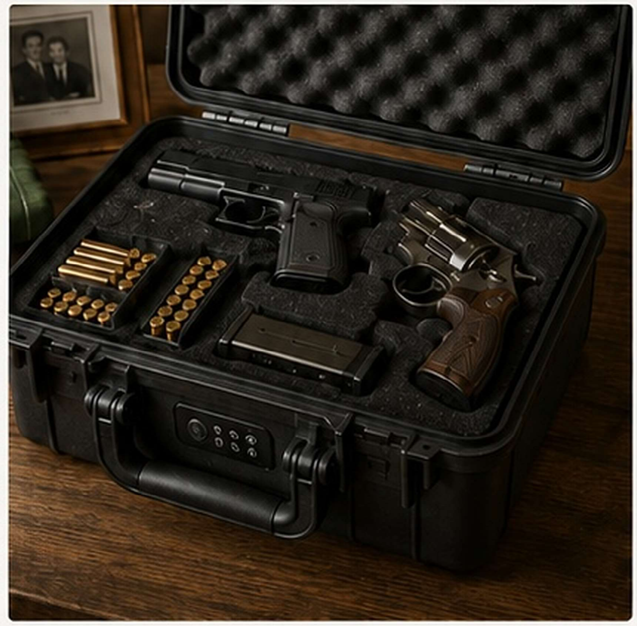
THIS GUIDE IS A PRACTICAL CHECKLIST, NOT LEGAL ADVICE.
Firearms laws can change and individual estates can be complicated. For unusual firearms, out-of-state heirs, contested estates, or NFA items, confirm the process with Maryland State Police, ATF, an attorney, or a qualified FFL before moving or transferring firearms.

contact@gunslingersguns.com | 240-285-9556 | www.gunslingersguns.com | Licensed Federal Firearms Dealer (FFL)
Frederick, Maryland

THE BASIC PROBLEM

MOST FAMILIES ARE NOT SURE WHAT THEY HAVE

When someone passes away and leaves firearms behind, the family usually has three immediate concerns: safety, legality, and value. The mistake is trying to value or sell the collection before it is secured, identified, and screened for legal issues.



THE RIGHT ORDER IS SIMPLE

Secure the firearms first. Document what is there. Identify legal red flags. Then decide whether to keep, transfer, or sell the collection.

1. SECURE THE FIREARMS

BEFORE DOING ANYTHING ELSE

- Treat every firearm as loaded until someone qualified confirms otherwise.
- Keep children, visitors, and prohibited persons away from the collection.
- If there is a gun safe, keep the collection locked inside.
- If there is no safe, use a locked room, locked container, or cable locks until you get help.
- Do not bring firearms into a police station, gun shop, or public place without calling first.
- If you are not comfortable checking whether a firearm is unloaded, do not handle it. Call a qualified instructor, law enforcement agency, or FFL.
- **DO NOT PUT FIREARMS IN STORAGE.** Storage facilities and similar buildings typically aren't properly climate controlled for firearms. Storing firearms improperly will quickly cause damage and rust.

MARYLAND TRANSPORT REMINDER

For handguns, Maryland guidance says the handgun should be unloaded, in a case or enclosed holster, ammunition should be separate, and the trip must be directly to or from a location allowed by law.

2. MAKE A SIMPLE INVENTORY

KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE BEFORE YOU DECIDE

Use **Appendix A**, the Estate / Inherited Firearm Inventory Sheet, on the last page to organize the collection before requesting an offer.

- Count the firearms and separate them by obvious type: handgun, rifle, shotgun, receiver/frame, suppressor, or unknown item.
- Take clear photos of both sides of each firearm, plus close-up photos of markings, model names, caliber markings, boxes, magazines, optics, and accessories.
- Record where the firearms are stored and who has access to them.
- Gather paperwork: will, letters of administration, receipts, gun trust documents, ATF forms, old registration papers, manuals, and boxes.
- Do not clean, polish, reblue, sand, refinish, test-fire, or repair firearms before getting a value opinion.

3. WATCH FOR RED FLAGS

BEFORE SELLING OR TRANSFERRING ANYTHING

Most estate collections are ordinary handguns, rifles, and shotguns. Some collections include items that require extra care. If you see any of the following, pause before moving or selling them.

1 NFA ITEMS

Suppressors, short-barreled rifles, short-barreled shotguns, machine guns, AOWs, and destructive devices require special handling and paperwork.

2 NO SERIAL NUMBER

Homemade firearms, 80% lowers, or unmarked receivers should not be sold casually. Get FFL guidance first.

3 VERY SHORT BARREL

A cut-down rifle or shotgun may be unlawful or may need further review before transfer.

4 MARYLAND RESTRICTIONS

Some AR/AK-style rifles, older restricted models, and large-capacity magaines issues can complicate a Maryland sale.

5 OUT-OF-STATE ISSUES

If the heir lives out of state or the firearms came from another state, use an FFL and confirm the transfer rules first.

4. MARYLAND TRANSFER BASICS

WHAT FAMILIES SHOULD KNOW

Maryland has different processes depending on the firearm and the type of transaction. For most families, the safest approach is to involve a Maryland FFL before selling, gifting, or transferring firearms to another person.

HANDGUN / REGULATED FIREARM

Do not treat an inherited regulated firearm like ordinary personal property. Confirm the MSP 77R / HQL issue or other applicable exemption process before transfer.

RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS

For most ordinary long guns, a dealer-facilitated transfer is the cleanest path. Maryland FFLs run the required process for these transactions.

UNSERIALIZED OR PRIVATELY MADE FIREARMS

Do not sell or transfer a ghost gun or unfinished receiver without FFL guidance.

NFA FIREARMS IN AN ESTATE

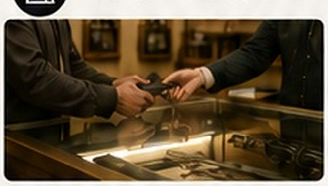
Find the ATF paperwork first. Do not consign, loan, or transfer NFA items casually.

5. DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH THE COLLECTION

KEEP IN THE FAMILY

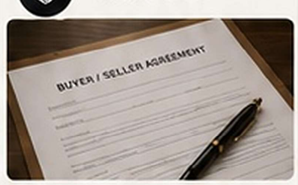
Best for sentimental firearms if the heir can lawfully receive and safely store them.

SELL TO A LICENSED DEALER



Best for a fast, documented, local sale without meeting strangers or handling retail buyers.

PRIVATE SALE

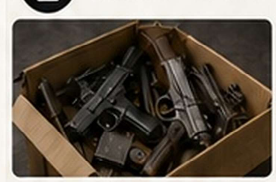


May bring more money, but takes more time, more effort, and more transfer responsibility.

SHIP TO OUT-OF-STATE FFL

Legal and secure when both parties use an FFL. You handle less in person, but shipping and fees apply.

SURRENDER / DISPOSE



Used when firearms are unsafe, illegal, unwanted, or too probler

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DEALER OFFER VS. RETAIL VALUE

A dealer cash offer is not the same as the highest possible retail sale price. A dealer has to account for compliance, inspection, cleaning, storage, slow-moving inventory, payment costs, listing work, and resale risk. The benefit to the estate is speed, simplicity, documentation, and a clean local transaction.

6. WHAT AFFECTS THE VALUE OF INHERITED GUNS

Value depends on more than brand name. A plain-looking firearm can be valuable, and a famous brand can be worth much less if condition is poor or demand is weak.

- **Condition:** rust, pitting, refinishing, cracks, missing parts, or neglect reduce value.
- **Make, model, variation, and caliber:** exact model and configuration matter.
- **Original box, paperwork, magazines, optics, and accessories** can help.
- **Maryland restrictions** can affect local demand and resale options.
- **Estate collections** often contain a mix: a few good sellers, some average guns, and some low-value or problem firearms.
- **Family stories** do not always equal market value. A firearm needs real buyer demand to support a higher price.

7. HOW GUNSLINGER'S GUNS CAN HELP

Gunslinger's Guns is a licensed Federal Firearms Dealer in Frederick, Maryland that buys used guns, inherited firearms, and estate collections. The goal is a simple, documented cash sale through a licensed dealer.

- **Maryland-based FFL** in Frederick, MD.
- **Cash offers** for inherited firearms and estate collections.
- **Online submission** process for photos and basic collection details.
- **Offer** for submitted inherited gun collections generally within 24 hours after submission.
- **Cash paid on the spot** when an offer is accepted and the transaction is completed.
- **Free pickup** for larger inherited firearm collections near Frederick, MD, subject to Gunslinger's Guns website details.

GET A CASH OFFER FOR AN INHERITED GUN COLLECTION

Visit gunslingersguns.com/sell-inherited-guns or scan the QR code.

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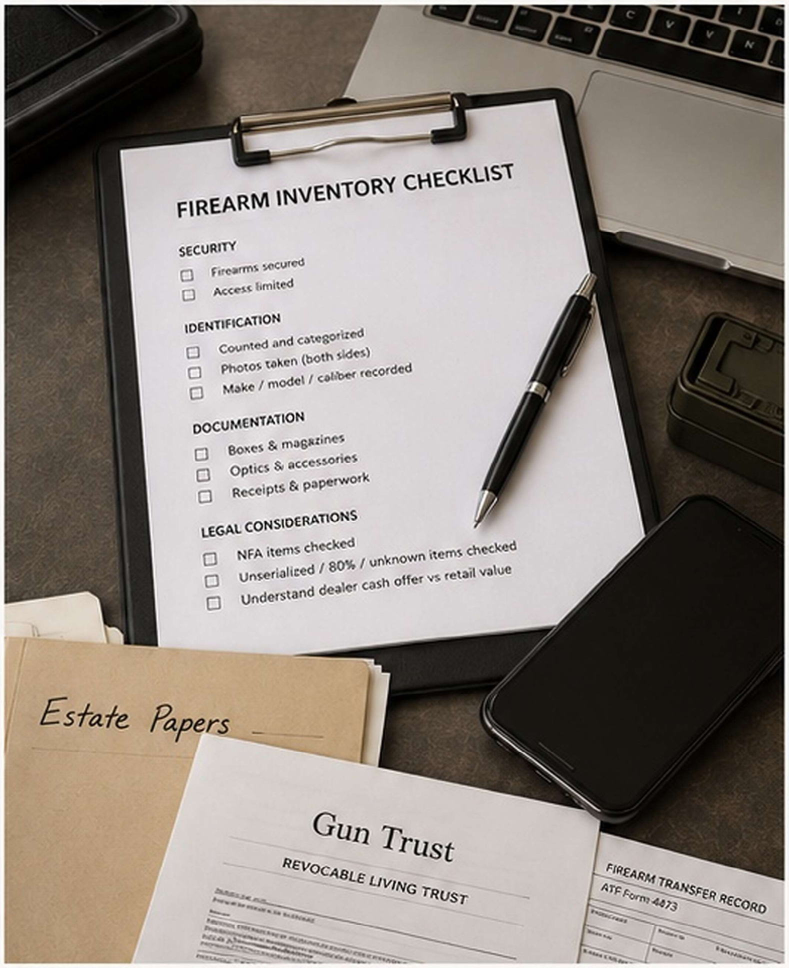
8. BEFORE REQUESTING AN OFFER

QUICK CHECKLIST

- ☐ I am the lawful owner, beneficiary, executor, personal representative, or authorized estate representative for the firearms.
- ☐ The firearms are secured from children, visitors, and anyone prohibited from possessing firearms.
- ☐ I have not cleaned, refinished, repaired, test-fired, or altered the firearms before valuation.
- ☐ I have counted the firearms and separated obvious handguns, rifles, shotguns, receivers/frames, and unknown items.
- ☐ I photographed both sides of each firearm and any visible make/model/caliber markings.
- ☐ I gathered boxes, magazines, optics, receipts, gun trust documents, ATF forms, and estate paperwork if available.
- ☐ I checked for possible NFA items such as suppressors, short-barreled rifles, short-barreled shotguns, or machine guns.
- ☐ I checked for unserialized firearms, homemade firearms, 80% receivers, or unknown frames/receivers.
- ☐ I understand that a dealer cash offer is a wholesale offer, not a retail auction estimate.
- ☐ I am ready to choose speed, simplicity, and a documented FFL transaction over trying to get the highest possible private sale price.



9. SIMPLE MESSAGE TEMPLATE

TO REQUEST HELP

"I am handling an inherited firearm collection in Maryland. I am the [owner / beneficiary / executor / personal representative / authorized estate representative]. There are approximately [number] firearms, including [handguns / rifles / shotguns / unknown items]. The collection is currently secured at [city/county]. I would like help identifying the firearms and understanding whether selling the collection to a licensed dealer makes sense. I can provide photos and basic information."

10. COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID

- **Do not** let relatives take guns before the estate and transfer requirements are clear.
- **Do not** sell a firearm to a friend, neighbor, or online buyer without confirming the required Maryland and federal transfer process.
- **Do not** mail or ship firearms yourself unless you understand carrier rules, federal law, and FFL requirements.
- **Do not** assume a firearm is legal to possess or sell in Maryland simply because the deceased person owned it.
- **Do not** post full collection details publicly if you are concerned about theft, privacy, or low-quality buyers.
- **Do not** guess on NFA items, homemade firearms, or unusual firearms. Pause and ask first.

BOTTOM LINE

For most Maryland families, the safest path is: secure the firearms, inventory the collection, identify legal red flags, then work through a licensed dealer if the family wants a clean sale. If the goal is a fast, local, documented transaction, selling the collection to a Maryland FFL is often the simplest option. Gunslinger's Guns can review photos, identify the likely category of firearms, and provide a dealer cash offer for inherited firearm collections in Frederick and nearby Maryland areas.

APPENDIX A

ESTATE / INHERITED FIREARM INVENTORY SHEET

Use this page to create a simple working inventory before requesting an offer or dividing the collection.

Estate / Family Name ______ | Prepared By ______ | Date ______

Phone ______ | Email ______

Collection Location ______ | Approximate Number of Firearms ______

ITEM #	TYPE	MAKE	MODEL	CALIBER / GAUGE	SERIAL NUMBER	ACCESSORIES / PAPERWORK	CONDITION NOTES	PHOTO TAKEN	LOCATION FOUND

PHOTOS TO TAKE

- ☐ Left side of each firearm
- ☐ Right side of each firearm
- ☐ Close-up of make / model
- ☐ Close-up of serial number
- ☐ Close-up of caliber / gauge markings
- ☐ Photos of boxes, magazines, optics, suppressors, and paperwork

DOCUMENTS / NOTES

- ☐ Will or letters of administration
- ☐ Receipts or prior appraisals
- ☐ Gun trust documents
- ☐ ATF forms or registration papers
- ☐ Manuals, boxes, and accessory notes
- ☐ Questions to ask the FFL

HELP REQUEST

We're here to help you handle your loved one's firearms safely and legally.

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