Police Certificates - Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. What are Police Certificates issued for?

A. Foreign Consular Authorities, Foreign Visas & Establishing a Business in another EU State.

Q. How do I submit an application?

A. You should submit a completed application form accompanied by a certified copy of your passport, driving licence or similar for identification purposes and proof of address and or previous addresses by post.

Q. Where do I make an application?

A. Superintendent and/or Assistant Principal Officer within the Division where the relevant applicant resides, or formerly resided, in the Republic of Ireland

Q. If I reside in Northern Ireland, can I apply for a Police Certificate in the Republic of Ireland?

A. No, it is suggested you contact your local Police Service of Northern Ireland (P.S.N.I) station for further information regarding the process in Northern Ireland.

Q. Are Police Certificates the same as Garda Vetting?

A. No, a Police Certificate CANNOT be construed as Garda Vetting, a security clearance or a character reference. Garda vetting is not conducted for persons on an individual basis. It is only conducted in respect of personnel working in full-time, part-time, voluntary or in a student placement capacity in a position in an organisation, through which they have unsupervised access to children and/or vulnerable adults. Garda vetting application forms can only be obtained from an organisation registered with the Garda Central Vetting Unit to vet its prospective employees.

Q. Is there a charge for making an application?

A. No, the Police Certificate is issued free of charge and will take approximately three weeks to process.