



Republic of the Philippines
Department of the Interior and Local Government
National Police Commission
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE
DIRECTORATE FOR INVESTIGATION AND DETECTIVE MANAGEMENT
Camp Crame, Quezon City



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MEMORANDUM

TO : All RDs and D, NOSUs

FROM : TDIDM

SUBJECT : **Mandatory Examination of All Firearms, Shells and Slugs Recovered During Police Operations**

DATE :

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1. Reference: a. Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS) Project;
b. CPNP's Eight Foundation Initiatives.
c. PNP Criminal Investigation Manual.
 2. This is in connection with the practice of a number of PNP field investigators of not submitting firearms recovered from crime scenes or as a result of police operations to the Crime Laboratory for examination and cross-matching. This is particularly common for firearms seized during the conduct of checkpoint operations or those seized as a result of the service of Search Warrants. In most cases the investigator directly submits the firearm to the office of the prosecutor or to the court. In other instances some firearms particularly those recovered after an armed encounter are merely kept in the storage/armory.
 3. Such practices not only deprive the PNP the opportunity to cross-match the firearms, slugs/bullets and shells which could possibly lead to the solution of one or even several firearm-related cases but the PNP also loses the prospect of building up its ballistics **Crime Database** (data from ballistic evidence gathered from crime scenes).
 4. Be informed that the PNP has very recently acquired the **Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS)** and it is now being operated and maintained by the **PNP Crime Laboratory**. The IBIS is a computer-based system which has the capability to capture, store, rapidly compare and retrieve digital images of cartridge casings (shells) and bullets for the purpose of connecting or tracing this to the guns from which these were fired. The IBIS therefore provides a more efficient firearm cross-matching capability for the PNP.
 5. The IBIS technology greatly enhances the capability of the PNP to investigate and cross-match criminal incidents that involve firearms. However, this multi-million investment of the PNP will not be effective or it might even put to naught if it cannot build up on its crime database which can only be obtained from the field thru the submission of all seized/recovered/captured firearms, cartridges and slugs to the CL for processing and examination.

6. Therefore, henceforth, you are directed to ensure that **all firearms, cartridges and slugs** seized, captured or recovered during checkpoints or pursuit operations or in any other police operations including those seized during the service of warrants and more importantly those recovered from crime scenes **shall immediately be submitted to the local Crime Laboratory Office (CLO)** which shall in turn process it for capturing and cross-matching by the IBIS.

7. The field investigator or Investigator-on-case (IOC) shall henceforth no longer submit firearms/cartridges/slugs directly to the prosecutor or the court but shall instead **submit the photo of the firearm and the receipt issued by the local Crime Laboratory Office** for the said firearm/cartridges/slugs. Should the prosecutor eventually require the physical submission of the firearm, the Investigator-on-case shall manifest with the prosecutor or court that a subpoena be issued for the Crime Laboratory which issued the receipt to present the said firearm.

8. It is also imperative that the chain of custody be strictly observed and documented and therefore as much as practicable it shall be Investigator-on-case (IOC) who shall **personally submit** the recovered firearms/shells/slugs to the local Crime Laboratory.

9. All Regional Directors/Directors NOSUs shall be held accountable for any failure by their Investigators-on-case to observe this procedure.

10. For widest dissemination and strict compliance.


ARTURO G CACDAC JR, CEO VI
Police Director

Cc:
CPNP
Command Group
D, CL