



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



MEMORANDUM

FOR : **See Distribution**

FROM : OIC, DIDM/TF USIG Commander

SUBJECT : **Mandatory Conduct of all Applicable and Available Forensic Examination on the Collected Evidence by SOCO Team in All Cases Handled by SITG**

DATE : **MAY 22 2012**

1. References:

- a. European Union – Philippines Justice Support Program (EPJUST);
- b. SOP Number 02/11 re: Procedures in the Creation of Special Investigation Task Group (SITG) to Handle Heinous and Sensational Crimes dated January 26, 2011; and
- c. Memo Directive from TDIDM re: Mandatory Examination of All Firearms, Shells and Slugs Recovered During Police Operations dated February 11, 2011.

2. This pertains to the pieces of evidence collected by the SOCO Team that are subjected to forensic examination. The European Union (EU) experts thru the EPJUST program observed that not all available and applicable forensic examinations are being performed on the pieces of evidence collected at the crime scene. Consequently, when the need for another forensic examination arises, the same can no longer be made since such evidence is no longer available or was already contaminated.

3. It was also observed that there were instances of miscommunications between the Crime Lab personnel and the investigator-on-case (IOC) with respect to the availability of the result of the forensic examination. Thus, although the result of the forensic examinations is already available for pick up at the Crime Lab office, the IOC is not aware of it.

4. It must be noted that utmost diligence must always be exerted to ensure that the utilization of all available evidences are maximized so that efforts exerted and resources used will not be wasted.

5. Based on the foregoing, concerned PNP units/offices are hereby directed to undertake the following directives:

a. In all cases handled by SITG, Crime Lab shall ensure that all available and applicable forensic examinations, relevant to the crime committed, are performed on the pieces of evidence collected at the crime scene by the SOCO team.

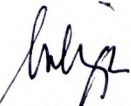

b. In addition, within 24 hours upon the completion of the forensic examinations, the Crime Lab should immediately notify, thru radio message, the IOC concerned that the official result of the forensic examination is already available.

c. On the other hand, the IOC shall pick up the official result of the forensic examination within three (3) days upon receipt of said notice or such longer period, taking into account the weather condition, availability of transportation and the travel time from post to Crime Lab office.

6. This directive is applicable only to cases being handled by the SITG and to those pieces of evidences collected by the SOCO team considering the financial and manpower requirement it entails.

7. It is also imperative that the rule on chain of custody be strictly and meticulously observed.

8. For strict compliance and widest dissemination.


CHRISTOPHER A LAXA, CSEE
Police Senior Superintendent 

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