




U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

JUN 11 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL PROGRAM DIRECTORS

FROM: Michael J. Garcia
Assistant Secretary 

SUBJECT: Implementation of the Interim ICE Firearms Policy
and Interim ICE Use of Force Policy

Today I have signed and authorized the release of the interim U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Firearms Policy and interim ICE Use of Force Policy. These documents shall serve as interim policies for ICE and shall supersede all legacy agency policies, becoming effective on July 7, 2004. These policies were the result of a great amount of dedication, effort and work by many representatives from each ICE operational component and the ICE National Firearms and Tactical Training Unit (NFTTU). The interim policies retain the best of each legacy agency's policies and national firearms programs. These documents are intended to create a strong and comprehensive policy to unify our many operational elements in the critical area of firearms and the related disciplines.

The interim ICE Firearms Policy standardizes the basic firearms certification requirements for all ICE programs, and also provides for the delivery of advanced firearms training. This guidance can be found in Part 3: Firearms Proficiency and Use of Force Training, Section A, Subsection 3, Part d. Program Directors shall ensure that their armed officers receive program specific advanced firearms training exercises as outlined in the interim ICE Firearms Policy. This training should reflect the appropriate standard of proficiency deemed necessary to perform their missions. These exercises and standards must be developed and delivered in conjunction with guidelines established by the NFTTU.

The NFTTU shall electronically distribute the interim policies to all of the ICE senior firearms instructors (SFIs) and post it on the NFTTU intranet website (<http://10.49.25.40>) for immediate access and distribution to all ICE armed officers. The NFTTU has already provided interim policy training to over two hundred and fifty (250) ICE SFIs as of the release of these important interim policies. All ICE armed officers are required to fully read and understand the new policies prior to the July 7, 2004 implementation date.

Program offices should commence familiarization to the new course of fire beginning with the qualification period in July of 2004. ICE armed officers shall have two quarters to transition to the new course of fire. Effective January 1, 2005 this new course of fire will become mandatory for all ICE armed officers.

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The new ICE OT targets may be ordered from (b)(7)(E) or (b)(7)(E) for practice and preparation for the transition. It is anticipated that in the future these targets will be available through (b)(7)(E) @dhs.gov. The NFTTU will provide additional guidance to the SFIs and field to assist in the implementation of these policies.

The implementation of these interim policies is a significant undertaking and is a milestone in the progress ICE is making in the establishment of our new agency. If you have any questions or require assistance in implementing this new policy in any way, please contact (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Director, NFTTU at (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @dhs.gov, or by telephone at (202) 616- (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)