




**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

JUL 13 2006
INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Program Directors

FROM: Thomas L. Trotto 
Director, National Firearms and Tactical Training Unit (NFTTU)

SUBJECT: Modification to ICE Owned Firearms

Purpose

To provide guidance to all ICE armed personnel on limitations to the modification of ICE owned or approved firearms.

Background

Part 7.E. of the interim ICE Firearms Policy provides direction on the repair or modification of ICE firearms as follows. Firearms Instructors and ICE officers are permitted to adjust sights, requiring the use of an adjustment tool and replace grips as authorized. ICE officers are prohibited from making or having any other repairs and/or modifications to ICE owned or approved firearms unless expressly authorized by the Director of the NFTTU. Field Armorers, who are certified by the NFTTU, are authorized to make certain repairs and/or modifications as provided in the Field Armorers training and subsequent NFTTU directed repairs and/or modifications. The NFTTU Armorers and Field Armorers will document all repairs to firearms in the ICE automated firearms inventory system.

Discussion

The NFTTU has received numerous inquiries from Senior Firearms Instructors, supervisors, managers, and individual officers regarding the use of authorized accessories that can be attached to ICE owned firearms. Some of these items require modification to the firearm and/or disassembly beyond that allowed by an end-user. ICE firearms are thoroughly tested and evaluated as part of the acquisition process and are equipped for their intended purpose when they are shipped from the ICE Armory. Any accessories or modifications to the weapon have been carefully evaluated and modifications performed by skilled armorers. When repairs or modifications are required to be made in field offices, field armorers will be provided proper training, tools and guidance before they are asked to make these repairs. All of these repairs will be documented and tracked in the (b)(7)(E)

(b)(7)(E) The liability to ICE and to the individual officer is greatly increased when an end-user attempts to make their own repairs or modifications or adds accessories that have not been evaluated or approved by the NFTTU as directed by policy.

Modifications to ICE Owned Firearms

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The following guidelines are provided to ensure that ICE Firearms are maintained in the proper condition and that ICE armed personnel are afforded equipment that is appropriate for their assigned duties. These will also be incorporated in advanced training courses for firearms instructors and field armorers.

1. The NFFTU is the only entity that can authorize any modifications to an ICE firearm, on an individual basis or as a class. Modifications or repairs will only be conducted as outlined in Part 7. D and E of the interim ICE Firearms Policy.
2. As a reminder, no personally owned rifles, submachine guns or shotguns are authorized for use by ICE officers on duty, or off-duty in their capacity as an ICE armed officer. Accordingly, no personally owned accessories should be attached to ICE owned long-guns.
3. No personally owned (b)(7)(E) will be authorized on an ICE firearm. If individual programs or offices have purchased (b)(7)(E) for their rifles, these items must be equivalent to the sights acquired by the NFFTU. Only riflescopes evaluated and approved by the NFFTU will be installed on ICE firearms.
4. The use of (b)(7)(E) that are attached to firearms is addressed in depth in NFFTU Information Notice 06-001. A copy of that is attached for your information and will also be distributed to all ICE Senior Firearms Instructors.
5. Accessories or special parts installed on ICE firearms for the specific needs of an individual officer or mission may require the firearm to eventually be restored to its original configuration. The parts that are removed from an ICE firearm by a field armorer to accommodate the attachment of accessories must be retained by that armorer and returned to the NFFTU Armory or ultimately re-installed on the firearm as appropriate.

Part 7.C. of the interim ICE Firearms Policy requires all ICE firearms to be inspected at least annually to ensure safe functioning and those inspections are to be documented. If an ICE Senior Firearms Instructor or Field Armorer has inspected an ICE firearm and/or discovers that modifications have been made or accessories added since the firearm was shipped from the Armory, they must inspect the firearm and determine if it is serviceable, within the scope of their training and experience. The Senior Firearms Instructor or Field Armorer should consult the NFFTU Armory to make a determination if the accessories are authorized and/or if modifications warrant taking the firearm out of service for inspection or repairs by the Armory.

Please have your staff direct questions concerning this matter to the NFFTU at (b)(7)(E)@dhs.gov.

Attachment

Information Notice

ICE National Firearms and Tactical Training Unit

To All Senior Firearms Instructors:

(b)(7)(E)

While having an **(b)(7)(E)** this should not be attempted without proper preparation and skill development. The NFTTU has determined that several criteria must be adhered to before an officer deploys firearms with **(b)(7)(E)** attached. Those criteria are:

1.)

2.)

3.)

(b)(7)(E)

4.)

(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) @dhs.gov

April 26, 2006

NFTTU 06-001

Information Notice