


<p>California Department of Justice DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT Kevin Gardner, Chief</p> 	<h1>INFORMATION BULLETIN</h1>	
<p><i>Subject:</i></p> <p>Evidence and Crime Guns Automated Firearms System</p>	<p><i>No.</i></p> <p>2018-BOF-03</p>	<p><i>Contact for information:</i></p> <p>Bureau of Firearms (916) 227-7527</p>
	<p><i>Date:</i></p> <p>August 23, 2018</p>	

**TO: All Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs
All Agency CLETS Coordinators**

The purpose of this Information Bulletin is to remind all California law enforcement agencies of the requirement to report the recovery of a firearm by entering an Evidence and Crime Gun record into the California Department of Justice's (Department) Automated Firearms System (AFS). The required submission of Evidence and Crime Gun data provides agencies with important historical firearm information from the Department and firearm trace summaries from the National Tracing Center of the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF).

Pursuant to California Penal Code section 11108.3, local law enforcement agencies shall, and any other law enforcement agency may, report to the Department the recovery of firearms that are illegally possessed, have been used in a crime, or are suspected of having been used in a crime. This information is electronically forwarded to the National Tracing Center to aid in the identification and tracing of these firearms. Firearm tracing is the systemic tracking of the movement of a firearm recovered by law enforcement officials from its first sale by the manufacturer or importer through the distribution chain (wholesaler/retailer) to the first retail purchaser. As Crime Gun data is electronically forwarded to the National Tracing Center on a daily basis, the entering agency will receive a Firearms Trace Summary from the ATF via mail or via the agency's eTrace account if the agency has an active eTrace account with the ATF. This report contains investigative results of all tracing information located by the ATF on each Crime Gun record submitted. The requirement to enter Evidence and Crime Gun data into the AFS became effective on January 1, 2002.

If the recovered firearm does not meet the definition of a Crime Gun as defined in California Penal Code section 11108.3, or if the agency is unable to determine whether or not the firearm was used in a crime, is suspected of being used in a crime, or was illegally possessed, the agency shall enter an Evidence or Safekeeping record, as appropriate, to indicate that the agency has custody of the firearm.

If you have any questions regarding this Information Bulletin, please contact the Department of Justice, Bureau of Firearms, at (916) 227-7527.

Sincerely,



KEVIN GARDNER
Chief, Division of Law Enforcement

For XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General