



Quality Division Use Only

Quality Tracking #	2018-PAR7	Date Quality Division Notified:	8/8/2018
Date Submitted to Management for Review:	10/17/2018	Date Submitted to Quality for Review:	10/23/2018

Division:	Comparative & Analytical Division	Section:	Firearms
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Forensic Case Number(s), if applicable:	Agency Case Number(s), if applicable:
2018-11330	096972618

Identified Through: Casework Related

If other, state source: _____

Description of proposed preventive action:

During administrative review of a case, the reviewer remembered from an email months before that the firearm was recalled by the manufacturer. The recall on this particular gun included the potential for barrel rupture during firing. Prior to the administrative review, the primary examiner in this case did not realize this firearm was recalled and proceeded with examination as normal, which included test firing the firearm. The HFSC safety specialist was also notified of this occurrence. The firearms section does not currently have a reliable, first hand source of information for recalls or an effective way of communicating these recalls to the staff. The section also does not currently have a procedure on how to handle firearms with major safety recalls. To prevent any safety issues from occurring in the future, the following preventive actions have been taken: The following language was added to the pre-firing safety section of the SOP published on 8/29/2018: "Analysts should be aware of firearm safety, including potential recalls, prior to test firing a firearm. If an analyst encounters a weapon he or she is not familiar with, the analyst should attempt to determine if the weapon has a recall or safety warning associated with it." The Section Manager downloaded the Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE) maintained list of safety warnings and recalls. It was converted it into Excel format and columns were added to the table of contents categorizing the warning/recall and listing a brief description of the issue. The excel spreadsheet is available to all staff logged in to an HFSC networked computer in the firearms section, and it is in a format that is easily updateable any time new information is obtained. A "hot list" of firearms that have been known to have catastrophic failures has been posted behind the monitor of each gun workstation and the list was emailed to staff. These are also highlighted red in the spreadsheet to make them stand out. While many firearm malfunctions can lead to serious bodily injury (SBI) or



death, most injuries can be avoided by following standard safety rules. The red highlighted ones are failures that can result in SBI even when a trained individual is following all the normal safe firearm handling rules.

Documents and/or Procedures Requiring Update (if applicable):

Firearms SOP Firearms Section recall list

Staff Member: Ryan Hookano

Date: 10/16/2018

Immediate Supervisor: Kim Zeller

Date: 10/18/2018

Division Director: Amy Castillo

Date: 10/22/2018

Quality Director: Lori Wilson

Date Closed: 10/24/2018