Federal Police Division for the Combat of Crimes Against Patrimony and Firearms Trafficking

UNODC – Vienna – 2nd and 3rd May 2018
Practical measures under the Firearms Protocol
Combating Firearms Trafficking

- Bilateral and regional agreements on information exchange and tracing:
  - Brazil/Argentina;
  - Brazil/Paraguay;
  - Brazil/Colombia;
  - Brazil/United States (eTrace)

- Federal Police Attaches in many strategic countries: close contact with foreign authorities;

- Improvement of marking technologies;
Federal Police began, in 2010, with the collaboration of the Military Police of São Paulo, tests for the marking of their weapons through RFID chips directly introduced into the firearm assembly.
Ammunition Marking

All ammunition acquired by Brazilian Public Forces must have barcode sign printed in the packaging unit (box) and an alphanumeric marking (in each cartridge or round) to allow for identification of the production lot and the purchasing institution.
Combating Firearms Trafficking

- international cooperation – **formal evidence collection** in police investigations (MLAT: documents exchange, witness and suspicious testimonials) through Brazilian Central Authority;

- Border Inspections: **scanners** in border posts, ports and airports (containers, express delivery packages in airports, car and line buses coming from borders);

- **Surveillance Technology** on city streets and Federal highways:
The SINIVEM (National Integrated System for the Identification of Moving Vehicles):

- This system has OCR cameras (Optical Character Recognition) that capture the passage of vehicles in various parts of the country, including the borders;
- It allows police officers (mainly highway patrol) to check patterns and find suspicious vehicles, based on their route and number of trips, for instance.
Combating Firearms Trafficking

- Record-keeping on firearms seizures;
- Systematic firearms tracing: creation of the FEDERAL POLICE NATIONAL TRACING CENTER
FEDERAL POLICE NATIONAL TRACING CENTER

- Project started in 2014
- Requirement to attend the UNO ‘s resolutions and recommendations
- An attempt for firearms trafficking diagnosis and orientation
Firearms Tracing

- Procedure that aims to identify the path taken by the weapon from its manufacture until the moment it became illegal
- One of the main techniques to fight international firearms trafficking
- Premises:
  - marking on firearms
  - electronic system to maintain firearms and owner’s records (including seizures)
  - international police cooperation
Advantages and Benefits:

- Identify routes, sources, person and criminal groups involved and their *modus operandi* from the analysis of seized firearms;

- Allows to present a criminal case to foreign authorities to begin an investigation in the origin country of the weapon;

- Prompt interruption of the firearms flow identified from the country of origin with the action of the local authorities;

- Guide the government to adopt public or economic policies and diplomatic interventions to request imports/exports measures in supplier countries.
Firearms Tracing Center Results (2014/2017):

2014: analysis of 790 seized weapons
2015: analysis of 951 seized weapons
2016-2017: more than 9,879 seized weapons

Total of 11,000 weapons analyzed and trace requested

Quantity of tracing requests:

2014: **1,038 requests** (Interpol, ATF/USA and manufacturers)
2015-2017: **10,000 requests** (Interpol, Federal Police Attachés, ICE, ATF and manufacturers)

Email: rastreamento.dpat@dpf.gov.br
Firearms Tracing Center

Rules for the samples:

- Analysis of firearms seized with or intended for criminal groups and organizations in crimes such as firearms trafficking, drug trafficking, homicides, bank robberies and other violent crimes;

- The samples refer mainly to seizures carried out from 2014 to 2017, but also from major operations that occurred in previous years, including by other police forces.
Firearms Tracing Center

✓ Analysis disclose concentration of seizures in states with large urban centers and border regions:

Seized and traced by state
Beside the capitals, border cities are among the first
USA, Austria, Turkey, Israel and the Czech Republic are among the leading manufacturers outside the South American region.
Firearms Tracing Center

Quantity by make

- TAURUS (Brazil)
- GLOCK (Austria/USA)
- Not Identified
- BERSA (Argentina)
- ROSSI (Brazil)
- CZ (Czech Republic)
- FN/FM (Argentina)
- BUL Cherokee (Israel)
- Smith & Wesson (USA)
- COLT (USA)
- RUGER (USA)
- IMI/IWI (Israel)
Substantial growth was observed in the seizure of pistols – increasing imports by a neighbor country.
Comparison of the main rifle calibers

- .50 (.50 BMG)
- 7,62x51mm (or .308 Win)
- 7,62x39mm ("AK-47")
- 5,56x45mm (or .223 Rem)
Firearms Tracing Center

AK Type Rifles - Quantity by Make

- CN Romarm (Romania/USA)
- Century Arms Inc. (USA)
- Zastava Kragujevac...
- Not Identified AK (part kits)
- FEG - Fegyver-es-Gépgyár...
- Norinco (China/USA)
Firearms Tracing Center

Individuals abroad: 116 (USA), 70 (Uruguay), 24 (Paraguay) and 09 (Argentina)
Last Known Record

- **Paraguay**: 920
- **USA**: 351
- **Brazil**: 255
- **Uruguay**: 96
- **Argentina**: 57
- **Bolivia**: 56
Firearms Tracing Center

Main importers/intermediaries of the sample
Firearms Tracing Center

Main Retailers (last registered)

- SIT S.A. (Paraguay)
- Vinnie & Sons (USA)
- Sports South (EU)
- "A Tampa Retailer" / USA
- Miami Police Supply...
- Family Firearms (USA)
- Cml Rossi Caza y Pesca...
- Guns Masters (USA)
Firearms Tracing Center

Main difficulties:

- Search for seizure information across a large country (many seizures are not recorded in the systems by police forces);
- Wrong information about the firearm in systems and tracing requests;
- Incomplete information received after tracing request;
- Large number of firearms with obliterated numbers and unrecovered markings.
Firearms Tracing Center

Characteristics of the sample:

- With serial number: 10272
- Obliterated: 183
- Obliterated and Remarked (with other number): 26
- Obliterated and Recovered (chemical exam): 1097
- Not Identified/No Markings/Homemade: 70
- Assembled Rifle (parts kits - No serial number): 14
Firearms Tracing Center Results:

- Ongoing investigation by ATF and ICE in the USA of purchasers and suppliers of 5.56mm, 7.62mm and .50 rifles recently seized by PF;

- More involvement and cooperation of foreign police authorities in combating firearms trafficking;

- Information exchange about Brazilians buying firearms in USA (Federal Police Liaison Officer in Miami);

- Search for means to enable interviews of buyers abroad (Interpol in PY and UY, internacional cooperation – MLAT in USA) and prosecution of international dealers in Brazil.
Thank you!

MARCUS VINICIUS DA SILVA DANTAS
FEDERAL POLICE COMMISSIONER

+55 (61) 2024-8089
+55 (61) 2024-8343

E-mail: dpat.dcor@dpf.gov.br
rastreamento.dpat@dpf.gov.br
dantas.mvsd@dpf.gov.br