

Investigation and Review of the Sheriff's Office Gun Inventory

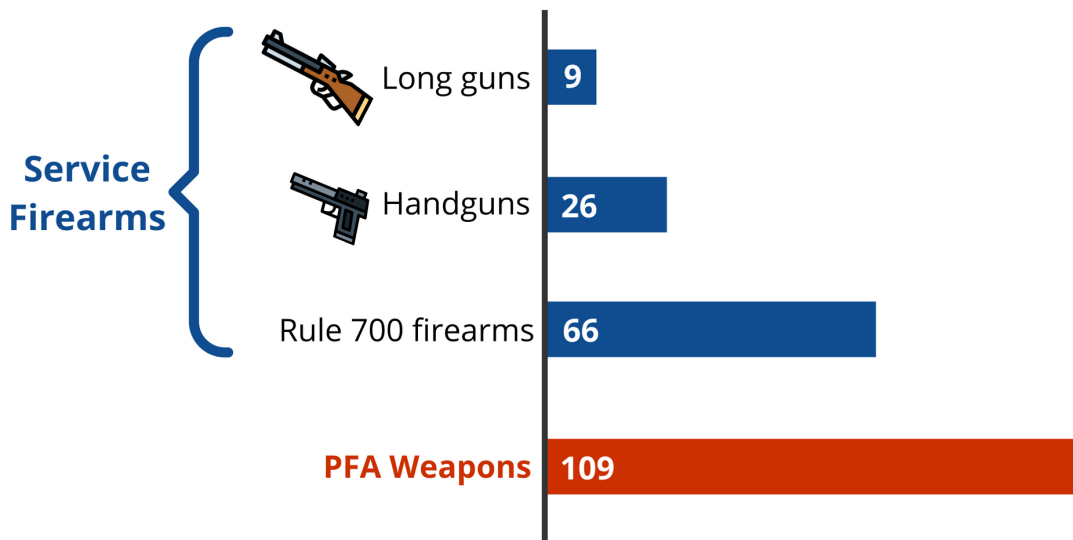
OFFICE OF THE CITY CONTROLLER

In response to a complaint alleging that 15 rifles and shotguns had been missing from the Sheriff's Office gun inventory since 2016, the Controller's Office opened an investigation into all firearms under the purview of the Sheriff's Office.

The investigation included an on-site inspection of firearms; a review of any policies and procedures related to the Firearms Unit and Armory; interviews; and a review and analysis of all recordkeeping data maintained by the Sheriff's Office related to firearms.

Missing Sheriff's Office Guns

In total, 101 service firearms and 109 PFA weapons are missing



Service Firearms are firearms carried by Deputy Sheriff Officers (DSOs) while executing their official duties and responsibilities.

PFA Weapons are firearms and other weapons temporarily relinquished to the Sheriff's Office for safekeeping by individuals subject to the Protection from Abuse Act.

In addition to finding that 101 service firearms and 109 PFA weapons were missing from the Sheriff's Office inventory, the review also identified other issues with the overall management of the Sheriff's Office gun inventory.

Key Findings

Recordkeeping for service firearms and PFA weapons within the Sheriff's Office Armory was inadequate and incomplete. Prior to the investigation, the Sheriff's Office had not performed a thorough inventory of service firearms or PFA weapons.

The Sheriff's Office lacks formal procedures regarding inventory management, including gun tracking and gun disposal, for service firearms and PFA weapons. This includes policies for returning service firearms upon separation from service. Of the 101 missing service firearms, 25 were still assigned to former DSOs and there are no records of these service firearms being returned.

The Sheriff's Office Armory was disorganized and lacked policies and procedures for maintaining its physical inventory. Investigators found firearms piled on the floor and haphazardly stored in various boxes, cabinets and barrels. Some weapons were stored still loaded.