

**[ REPUBLIC ACT NO. 157, June 19, 1947 ]**

**AN ACT CREATING A BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. There is hereby created a Bureau of Investigation under the Department of Justice which shall have the following functions:

- a. To undertake investigations of crimes and other offenses against the laws of the Philippines, upon its own initiative and as public interest may require;
- b. To render assistance, whenever properly requested in the investigation or detection of crimes and other offenses;
- c. To act as a national clearing house of criminal and other informations for the benefit and use of all prosecuting and law-enforcement entities of the Philippines, identification records of all persons without criminal convictions, records of identifying marks, characteristics, and ownership or possession of all firearms as well as of test bullets fired therefrom;
- d. To give technical aid to all prosecuting and law enforcement officers and entities of the Government as well as to the courts that may request its services;
- e. To extend its services, whenever properly requested in the investigation of cases of administrative or civil nature in which the Government is interested;
- f. To undertake the instruction and training of a representative number of city and municipal peace officers at the request of their respective superiors along effective methods of crime investigation and detection in order to insure greater efficiency in the discharge of their duties;
- g. To establish and maintain an up-to-date scientific crime laboratory and to conduct researches in furtherance of scientific knowledge in criminal investigation;
- h. To perform such other related functions as the Secretary of Justice may assign from time to time.

SEC. 2. The Bureau of Investigation shall be headed by a Director who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines with the consent of the Commission on Appointments of the Congress of the Philippines, and shall receive an annual compensation of seven thousand two hundred pesos.

SEC. 3. The composition and size of the personnel of the Bureau of Investigation shall be determined by the Director of the Bureau of Investigation: *Provided*, That