

**[ BJMPNHQDL MEMO CIRCULAR NO. 2014-005,  
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**BJMP POLICY ON THE DISTRIBUTION AND ISSUANCE OF  
FIREARMS**

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**I. RATIONALE**

The jail profession is a public service of great importance. It plays a vital role in the protection of the right to life, liberty and security of the public and there is, therefore, a need to maintain and, whenever necessary, to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of jail officers to guarantee their safety.

However, in the process of acquiring firepower capabilities, it should be emphasized that the use of firearms by jail officers should be commensurate with due respect for human rights. And if it will be issued, the officer is aware of his/her full responsibility attached to his/her firearms aside from the indispensable requisite that it beseeched in the lawful performance of duties.

**II. OBJECTIVES**

- a. To ensure that all firearms to be issued shall be properly monitored and utilized according to its purpose, and
- b. To ensure that all issuances of firearms shall be in accordance with the existing laws and treaties governing it.

**III. SCOPE OF COVERAGE**

This policy shall apply to the issuance and distribution of firearms.

**IV. GENERAL GUIDELINES**

- a. Firearms shall be issued only to officers who have been trained and authorized in a particular class of weapon. Officers issued with firearms must attend regular refresher courses and those failing to do so or reach the qualifying standard will lose their authorization;
- b. All officers are authorized to be issued with one (1) firearm only unless the subsequent issue has been authorized by the Chief, BJMP;
- c. Those personnel performing escorting duties must be given preference in the issuance of firearms from among those performing custodial and office functions;
- d. The following circumstances shall be the grounds for recall or non-issuance of firearms and automatic revocation of authority to possess: