



MULTNOMAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Exemplary service for a safe, livable community

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MEMORANDUM

TO: LYNDA GROW, BOARD CLERK

FROM: SHERIFF DANIEL STATON

DATE: JUNE 14, 2011

RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR FIREARM DISPOSAL

Through the course of Law Enforcement services (investigations, calls for service, etc.) our deputies routinely take firearms into their possession. The Sheriff's Office uses due diligence in attempting to locate rightful owners of the firearms at the conclusion of the investigations or judicial process. After 30 days, Multnomah County Code 15.650 provides for the Sheriff to seek authorization from the Board to dispose of unclaimed property through transference to Multnomah County for County use, selling the unclaimed property or disposal through destruction.

All of the firearms in the attached list 11-03 have been in the Sheriff's possession for over 90 days. The firearms consist of handguns, long rifles, shotguns, pellet and BB guns, totaling 197 weapons. These weapons are from adjudicated cases, closed investigations, firearms turned over for by citizens for disposal, and firearms transferred from the Multnomah County Medical Examiner's Office. All of which we were unable to identify an owner, or the citizen released interest in the firearm to the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office.

The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office has identified a Multnomah County law enforcement need for 98 of these weapons to be transferred to the Oregon State Police Forensics Laboratory, Firearms Section. This section of the Oregon State Police is the only laboratory that analyzes firearms for the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, and other law enforcement agencies within the County of Multnomah. Forensic Examiners have identified these firearms as needed exhibits in the forensic processing of firearms. The ability to have a sample make, model, and caliber of a suspect weapon allows the forensic examiner the ability to manipulate a true replica, prior to handling the actual firearm evidence. The firearms are also used for training and forensic research. Please reference the attached informational letter from the Director of the Oregon State Police Crime Laboratory.

The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office Property Evidence Control Unit and Inspections Unit have created the attached list, detailing which weapons will be transferred to the Oregon State Police Forensics Laboratory and which will be destroyed, upon the Board's approval.

I believe this to be an appropriate disposition for the identified firearms. I look forward to the Boards approval for destroying the remainder of firearms in the attached list.