

Branches of the NTC:

**National Tracing
Center Division**

**Firearms Tracing
Branch**

**Law Enforcement
Support Branch**

**Industry Records
Branch**



Contact the NTC:

ATF National Tracing Center
244 Needy Road
Martinsburg, WV 25401
Tel: 1-800-788-7133
Fax: 1-800-578-7223
Email: NTC-Info@atf.gov



ATF

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives

**NATIONAL TRACING
CENTER DIVISION**

**Information for Law
Enforcement Agencies**

What is the National Tracing Center Division (NTC)?

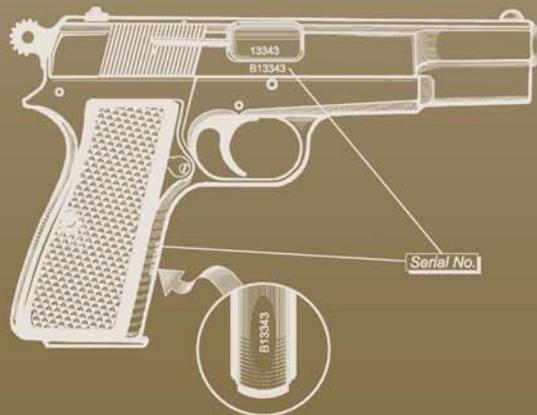
The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' (ATF) National Tracing Center Division (NTC) is the only organization authorized to trace U.S. and foreign manufactured firearms for international, Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies. Its purpose is to provide investigative leads in the fight against violent crime and terrorism and to enhance public safety.

What is Firearms Tracing?

Firearms tracing is the systematic tracking of the movement of a firearm recovered by law enforcement officials from its first sale by the manufacturer or importer through the distribution chain (wholesaler/retailer) to the first retail purchaser.

Why Trace Firearms?

- To link a suspect to a firearm in a criminal investigation;
- To identify potential traffickers, whether licensed or unlicensed sellers; and
- When sufficiently comprehensive tracing is undertaken by a given community, to detect in-state, interstate, and international patterns in the sources and kinds of crime guns.



Services Available at the NTC:

Firearms Tracing requests may be submitted by any law enforcement agency in the course of a criminal investigation. Trace Request Forms are available from the NTC by calling 1-800-788-7133, Ext. 1500. Trace requests may be submitted via:

- Facsimile by dialing 1-800-578-7223;
- Telephone by dialing 1-800-788-7133;
- Or **eTrace** (recommended by the NTC as the most efficient way to submit trace requests).

eTrace allows for the secure submission of trace requests and enables the user to receive trace results and perform limited analysis of the data, all via the Internet.

- To establish an **eTrace** account or for technical questions regarding **eTrace**, contact the **eTrace Program Manager** at 1-800-788-7133.

Stolen Firearms Program manages reports of theft/loss of firearms from Federal firearms licensees, interstate shipments, and the military; makes notifications of thefts and stolen firearms recoveries to ATF field offices and affected law enforcement agencies; and supports investigations of firearms thefts, NCIC use, and theft patterns.

- For questions or additional information, contact the **Stolen Firearms Program Manager** at 1-888-930-9275.

Obliterated Serial Number Program

researches and analyzes obliterated serial number data in order to facilitate the tracing process and develop investigative leads.

- For questions or additional information, contact the **Obliterated Serial Number Program Manager** at 1-800-788-7133.



Record Search Request (RSR) is a request for information in connection with a bona fide criminal investigation by a law enforcement agency. It involves a record search of the NTC's Out-of-Business Records Center.

- For questions or additional information, contact the **Law Enforcement Support Branch** at 1-800-788-7133.

International Tracing Program conducts electronic tracing of foreign-manufactured firearms and provides expertise in domestic firearms tracing to numerous foreign entities.

- For questions or additional information, contact the **International Tracing Project Officer** at 1-800-788-7133.

ACCESS 2000 is a partnership between ATF and firearms industry members, such as importers, manufacturers, and wholesalers. It provides the NTC with online access to records to assist in the tracing process.

- For questions or additional information, contact the **ACCESS 2000 Program Manager** at 1-800-788-7133.

For general questions and assistance, contact the **Law Enforcement Support Branch** at 1-800-788-7133.

For assistance in identifying a firearm in order to submit a trace request, contact the **Comprehensive Tracing Group** at 1-800-788-7133.