

CHAPTER 95
DISPOSITION OF SEIZED AND FORFEITED WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION

[Prior to 5/9/07, see rules 661—4.51(809A) to 661—4.59(809A)]

661—95.1(809,809A) Definitions. The following definitions apply to rules in this chapter:

“Ammunition reference file” means the physical collection of ammunition received, collected and maintained by the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory for testing and evaluation purposes.

“Firearms inventory” means a listing of firearms received, collected, maintained, and disposed of by the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory and of transactions regarding firearms completed by the laboratory. Firearms in the temporary custody of the laboratory for evidentiary examination are not included in the firearms inventory.

“Firearms reference file” means the physical collection of firearms received, collected and maintained by the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory for comparison and identification purposes.

“Law enforcement purpose” means use by a peace officer in the execution of the officer’s duties or use in training of peace officers or training offered by law enforcement agencies to peace officers or other persons.

661—95.2(809,809A) Ammunition and firearms. The division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory shall examine and evaluate all firearms and ammunition submitted to the laboratory pursuant to Iowa Code section 809A.17. All firearms submitted to the laboratory shall be evaluated and disposed of as provided in Iowa Code sections 809.21 and 809A.17 and these rules. Any ammunition submitted to the laboratory may be entered into the laboratory’s ammunition reference file and may be utilized by the laboratory for testing and evaluation purposes.

661—95.3(809,809A) Firearms inventory. There is established a continuous firearms inventory in the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory. All firearms transactions covered by any of the provisions noted herein, other than receipts and returns of weapons for evidentiary examination, shall be recorded as and made a part of the continuous firearms inventory. Each individual entry in the inventory shall be maintained for a period of no less than 20 years. Inventory entries which refer to firearms retained in the firearms reference file shall be maintained permanently.

661—95.4(809,809A) Deposit of firearms in the firearms reference file. There is established a division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory firearms reference file. Firearms submitted to the laboratory, other than firearms submitted solely for evidentiary examination, shall be evaluated as to their possible worth for testing and evaluation purposes. Any firearms deemed useful for such purposes shall be deposited in the firearms reference file.

661—95.5(809,809A) Disposition of firearms (interstate). Any firearm in the possession of the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory pursuant to Iowa Code section 809A.17 which is not entered into the firearms reference file pursuant to the provisions of rule 661—95.4(809,809A) and which the commissioner of public safety deems appropriate for distribution to other crime laboratories may be offered to them.

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661—95.6(809A) Transfer of rifles and shotguns to the department of natural resources. Any rifle or shotgun in the possession of the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory pursuant to Iowa Code section 809A.17 which is not entered in the firearms reference file pursuant to rule 661—95.4(809,809A) or distributed to another crime laboratory pursuant to rule 661—95.5(809,809A) may be transferred to the Iowa department of natural resources for disposition pursuant to the rules of that department.

661—95.7(809,809A) Disposition of firearms (intrastate). Any firearm not entered in the firearms reference file pursuant to rule 661—95.4(809,809A) and still in the possession of the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory pursuant to Iowa Code section 809A.17, subsequent to the procedures set out in rules 661—95.5(809,809A) and 661—95.6(809A), shall be evaluated for usefulness to Iowa law enforcement agencies. Any firearm which is deemed suitable for law enforcement purposes may be distributed to an Iowa law enforcement agency which has made a request for such firearm. This distribution shall be made in accordance with the reasonable needs of the requesting agency as determined by the commissioner of public safety. Any firearm received by a law enforcement agency pursuant to this rule is for the internal use of the receiving agency and may not be resold or otherwise distributed outside of the receiving agency, other than to be returned to the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory.

661—95.8(809,809A) Final disposition and destruction of firearms. All firearms in the possession of the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory pursuant to Iowa Code section 809A.17 which are not disposed of by the procedures provided in rules 661—95.2(809,809A) through 661—95.7(809,809A) shall be destroyed. Destruction shall be accomplished by grinding and chopping at a scrap metal facility or meltdown at a suitable foundry operation. All destruction shall be supervised and conducted by the staff of the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory. Documentation of the destruction of the firearms shall be made in the firearms inventory.

661—95.9(809,809A) Claims. Any disputed claim of ownership or right of possession of a firearm or of ammunition subject to rules 661—95.1(809,809A) through 661—95.8(809,809A) shall be adjudicated in accordance with the procedures regarding contested cases set forth in 661—Chapter 10.

661—95.10(809,809A) Disposition of explosives. Any law enforcement agency in possession of forfeited explosives shall contact the arson and explosives bureau of the fire marshal division for instructions and shall follow the instructions received from the fire marshal division for the disposition of the forfeited explosives.

661—95.11(809,809A) Disposition of weapons other than firearms and explosives. Any law enforcement agency in the possession of a forfeited weapon other than a firearm, ammunition, or explosives may contact the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory for instructions regarding the disposition of the forfeited weapons.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 809.21 and 809A.17.

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