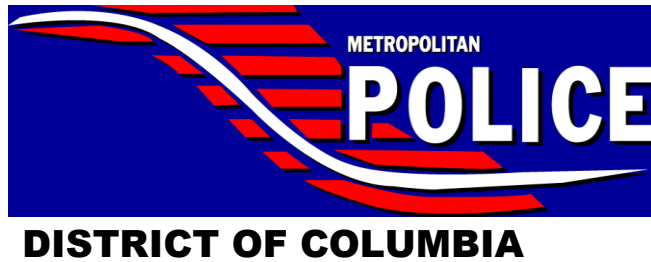


# CIRCULAR



Title	<b>Ghost Guns Prohibition Emergency and Temporary Amendment Acts of 2020</b>
Number	<b>CIR-20-01</b>
Effective Date	<b>May 18, 2020</b>
Expiration Date	<b>May 18, 2022</b>
Related Orders:	GO-SPT-902.01 (Firearms Registration and Receipt of Abandoned or Found Weapons)

The purpose of this circular is to introduce members to the “Ghost Guns Prohibition Emergency and Temporary Amendment Acts of 2020”, which defines ghost guns and unfinished frames and receivers, and bans their registration, sale, and possession.

Ghost guns generally refer to guns that are undetectable, untraceable, or both. They include firearms that are built to avoid detection, missing serial numbers, or are able to be manufactured using 3-D printers and other cutting-edge technology. Ghost guns are able to be manufactured or assembled through commercially available kits without the expenditure of substantial time and effort. The attached Intelligence Bulletin provides information on the two most common types of ghost guns that have been recovered in the District.

## GHOST GUNS PROHIBITION EMERGENCY AND TEMPORARY AMENDMENT ACTS OF 2020

<b>Prohibits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ghost guns cannot be registered.</li> <li>• Ghost guns and unfinished frames or receivers cannot be sold, transferred, or otherwise disposed of in the District and are subject to seizure by law enforcement. However, ghost guns may be voluntarily and peaceably surrendered to the Chief of Police pursuant to DC Official Code § 7-2507.05.</li> </ul>
<b>Penalties</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All other penalties for possession or use of a firearm or dangerous weapon apply.</li> <li>• Unregistered firearm: 1 year imprisonment; \$2,500; or both</li> <li>• Illegal sale, transfer, disposal: 1 year imprisonment; \$2,500; or both</li> </ul>
<b>Definitions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generally a ghost gun is defined as both a firearm (§ 7-2501.01(9B)) and dangerous weapon (§ 22-4514(a)). All related penalties apply.</li> <li>• “<b>Ghost gun</b>” means a firearm that, after the removal of all parts other than a receiver, is not a detectable as the Security Exemplar, by walk-through metal detectors calibrated and operated to detect the security exemplar; or</li> </ul>

	<p>any major component of which, when subjected to inspection by the types of detection devices commonly used at secure public buildings and transit stations, does not generate an image that accurately depicts the shape of the component. The term “ghost gun” includes an unfinished frame or receiver.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Receiver”</b> means the part of a firearm that provides the action or housing for the hammer, bolt, or breechblock and firing mechanism.</li> <li>• <b>“Security Exemplar”</b> means an object, to be fabricated at the direction of the Mayor, that is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Constructed of 3.7 ounces of material type 17-4 PH stainless steel in a shape resembling a handgun; and</li> <li>○ Suitable for testing and calibrating metal detectors</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>“Unfinished frame or receiver”</b> means a frame or receiver of a firearm, rifle or shotgun which is not yet a component part of a firearm, but which may without the expenditure of substantial time and effort be readily made into an operable frame or receiver through milling, drilling, or other means. “Unfinished frame or receiver” includes any manufactured object, any incompletely manufactured component part of a firearm, or any combination thereof which is not a functional frame or receiver but is designed, manufactured, assembled, marketed, or intended to be used for that purpose, and can be readily made into a functional frame or receiver. For purposes of this paragraph, the word “manufacture” means to fabricate, make, form, produce or construct, by manual labor or by machinery, and the word “assemble” means to fit together component parts.</li> </ul> <p><b>References</b></p> <p>DC Official Code § 7-2502.02 (Registration of certain firearms prohibited)  DC Official Code § 7-2505.01 (Sales and transfers prohibited)  DC Official Code § 7-2507.06 (Penalties)  DC Official Code § 22-4504 (CPWL)  DC Official Code § 22-4514 (Possession of certain dangerous weapons prohibited)  DC Official Code § 22-4515 (Penalties)</p>
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Please note that while the emergency legislation will expire 90 days from enactment, it is expected to be superseded by additional authorizing legislation. While this circular will expire on May 18, 2022, changes made to District law as described in this circular will become permanent upon passage of the permanent bill and remain so until such time as the law as amended. Members will be notified in the event that the permanent legislation does not move forward.



Peter Newsham  
Chief of Police



# Metropolitan Police Department Intelligence Bulletin



## Identification of Ghost Guns

Currently within the District of Columbia, two common forms of ghost guns have been recovered. The first form comes in two styles of semi-automatic handguns. The first style possesses both an unnumbered lower receiver and unnumbered upper receiver/slide (top right). The second style typically has a manufactured upper/slide and an unnumbered polymer lower (top left). The second form of ghost gun is an AR style assault rifle (bottom right). Some have been found to fire fully automatic.

The *Ghost Gun Emergency Amendment Act* expressly prohibits the sale/transfer, registration, and possession of the Poly 80 kits such as those pictured (bottom left), that are designed, manufactured, assembled, marketed, or intended to be used as a functional frame or receiver. **Any member who needs guidance please contact a member of the Gun Recovery Unit through the CIC 202.727.9099.**

ex: Poly80 w/ Glock Slide

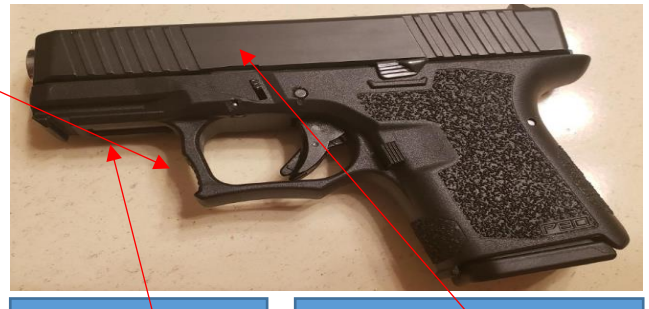


**EASIEST IDENTIFIER**  
No serial plate

Common to see Glock manufactured slide affixed to Polymer 80 Lower – This will contain a serial number

The majority of “Poly 80” receivers will have a distinctively different trigger guard from that of a manufactured Glock and **will not** contain a serial number

ex: Poly 80 w/ unnumbered upper



**EASIEST IDENTIFIER**  
No serial plate

No manufacturing number or serial number on the slide or barrel

**Prohibited possession, registration, and sale/transfer by Ghost Gun emergency law:**

Members should note these kits that are associated with ghost guns. Any member observing these kits or the parts associated with them should seize them and notify a GRU official with all details.

ex: AR-15 Poly 80 Kit



ex: Pistol Poly 80 Kit



ex: Ghost AR Pistol



No serial # or make/manufacturer information above magazine

Safety selector switch can move to the third, commonly, full auto position