

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1043 Session of  
2009

INTRODUCED BY THOMAS, JOSEPHS, M. O'BRIEN, YOUNGBLOOD AND  
PAYTON, MARCH 23, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 23, 2009

AN ACT

1 Establishing the Bureau of Illegal Firearms Trafficking within  
2 the Office of Attorney General; providing for its powers and  
3 duties; and requiring an annual report to the General  
4 Assembly.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Illegal  
9 Firearms Trafficking Act.

10 Section 2. Definitions.

11 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
12 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
13 context clearly indicates otherwise:

14 "Bureau." The Bureau of Illegal Firearms Trafficking within  
15 the Office of Attorney General.

16 "State agency." An administrative department, board or  
17 commission and an independent administrative department, board  
18 or commission of the executive branch.

19 Section 3. Bureau of Illegal Firearms Trafficking.

1 (a) Establishment.--There is hereby established in the  
2 Office of Attorney General a bureau to be known as the Bureau of  
3 Illegal Firearms Trafficking. The bureau shall be under the  
4 direction of the Attorney General or his designee.

5 (b) Duties.--The bureau shall:

6 (1) Investigate potential violations of 18 Pa.C.S.  
7 (relating to crimes and offenses) relating to illegal  
8 firearms trafficking.

9 (2) Bring prosecutions relating to illegal firearms  
10 trafficking.

11 (c) Duties of Attorney General.--The Attorney General or his  
12 designee shall:

13 (1) Receive complaints from individuals concerning  
14 illegal firearms trafficking.

15 (2) Investigate and assist in county prosecutions  
16 relating to illegal firearms trafficking and, as necessary,  
17 coordinate with Federal, State and local law enforcement  
18 agencies in the investigation of similar crimes.

19 Section 4. Report to General Assembly.

20 Commencing in 2010, the Attorney General or his designee  
21 shall report to the General Assembly on an annual basis, on or  
22 before January 31, detailing the activities engaged in by the  
23 bureau under this act.

24 Section 5. Commencement of activities.

25 The bureau shall commence its duties under this act no later  
26 than 90 days after the effective date of this section.

27 Section 6. Effective date.

28 This act shall take effect immediately.