



UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE

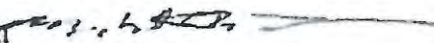
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 27, 2021

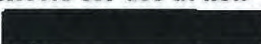
INSPECTOR GENERAL



MEMORANDUM



TO: Thomas J. Manger
Chief of Police

FROM: Michael A. Bolton 
Inspector General

SUBJECT: *Management Advisory Report: Issuance of Ammunition for Use at Non-USCP Ranges* (Report Number: OIG-2022-01)

During our work related to the Fiscal Year 2021 Financial Statement Audit, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) became aware of a new practice the United States Capitol Police (USCP or the Department) used for issuing ammunition to officers for use at non-USCP firing ranges. According to the newly issued USCP Bulletin  dated June 18, 2021, "Officers may be issued one box of ammunition per month for use at non-USCP firing ranges. Officers must complete an issued ammunition utilization form, which must be provided to the Property and Asset Management Division (PAMD) within thirty (30) calendar days, along with a receipt from the range, following the use of a non-USCP firing range." OIG noted several issues with implementation of the Bulletin.

OIG reviewed the first 2 months of ammunition issued to officers for use at non-USCP firing ranges. Of the 66 boxes of ammunition issued to officers during June and July 2021, as of October 2021 officers did not complete 23 of the required  forms. While Bulletin  does require that officers submit the attestation form within 30 days of use, no specific requirement exists that officers use the ammunition within a specific time period. As of the date of this report, some of the ammunition USCP issued more than 4 months ago was not used or its use was not reported to the Department. Without prompt and appropriate reporting of utilized ammunition, USCP risks Department-issued ammunition becoming unaccounted for. Additionally, without prompt use of issued ammunition, the risks increase that issued ammunition could become lost, stolen, or used in ways the Department did not intend.

For those officers submitting attestation forms, we noted several instances of improperly completed forms. For example, one officer issued a 50-round box of ammunition submitted a  attesting that the number of rounds fired during the session was "approx. 40" but failed to explain or account for the remaining 10 rounds. Additionally, another officer issued a 50-round box of ammunition in July submitted a  stating he

Page 1 of 3

Management Advisory Report: Issuance of Ammunition for use at Non-USCP Ranges OIG-2022-01, October 2021

fired 100 rounds of personally procured ammunition. As of October 2021, however, that officer had not submitted a [REDACTED] for the USCP-issued ammunition. We also noted one attestation form was not signed by the officer submitting it, and another form was undated.

Several of the range receipts officers provided were insufficient. For example, some of the range receipts were illegible, and OIG was unable to read critical fields such as the date on the receipt. In one instance, the entire receipt was so blurry that virtually the entire receipt was unreadable. In another instance, an officer provided a portion of a screenshot that had his name and the name of a range on it, but it was unclear what the screenshot was intended to demonstrate. OIG also noted two instances in which two officers submitted the exact same range receipt. It is possible that the two officers visited the range together with one officer paying for both to use the range; however, neither the range receipts nor the [REDACTED] explained the duplicate receipts or why one officer submitted receipts signed by another officer. Furthermore, rather than providing receipts from the range, five officers provided documentation demonstrating that they were members at certain ranges. For example, in lieu of a range receipt, one officer provided his Maryland hunting license demonstrating that he paid a \$20 fee to use a range for a 1-year period that the Maryland Department of Natural Resources operated. While a membership demonstrates that officers have a venue for utilizing Department provided ammunition, it does not demonstrate that issued ammunition was actually utilized, especially in instances in which an officer could obtain a monthly box of Department provided ammunition and submit the same source of documentation each month. Several officers also had daily permits from the same range cited above. For daily permits that range utilizes a system allowing users to place payment into a money box and fill out their own permit by writing their name and date on a form obtained at the money box. Such self-service permits may not provide the level of documentation the Department intended when the program was implemented. Finally, two officers submitted [REDACTED] without accompanying range receipts as Bulletin [REDACTED] requires.

OIG also noted an instance in which officers may have used the program in a way the Department did not intend when issuing Bulletin [REDACTED]. Two of the officers submitted attestation forms indicating that they utilized their ammunition on individually owned private property rather than at an official range. Bulletin [REDACTED] does not specify what constitutes a range for the purposes of the program. It was unclear whether the individually owned private property where the ammunition was used included safety features commonly found at official shooting ranges, such as a backstop or berm that stops fired rounds from continuing beyond the intended target.

Without proper documentation of utilization forms and receipts, USCP lacked proper accountability for issued ammunition, which increases the risk that Government-furnished ammunition could be used in ways the Department did not intend. Additionally, the use of USCP ammunition on individually owned private property could place USCP at additional risk.

Recommendation 1: We recommend that the United States Capitol Police re-evaluate the implementation of Bulletin [REDACTED] [REDACTED] dated June 18, 2021, and evaluate whether the program is achieving its intended benefits.

Due to the nature and brevity of this work, OIG did not conduct this work in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Had we followed such standards, other matters might have come to our attention, and we may have identified additional issues.

cc: Assistant Chief Yogananda D. Pittman, Protective and Intelligence Operations
Acting Assistant Chief Sean P. Gallagher, Uniformed Operations
Mr. Richard Braddock, Chief Administrative Officer
[REDACTED] Audit Liaison