

### Firearms, the Law, and Forensic Ballistics, Third Edition (International Forensic Science and Investigation)

Tom Warlow

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While gun design has undergone only minimal change over the centuries, investigative tools surrounding firearm use have grown significantly in sophistication. Now in its third edition, **Firearms, the Law, and Forensic Ballistics** has been updated to reflect recently published research and new technology developed since the last volume. Beginning with a discussion of the development of arms and ammunition from the fourteenth century to the present day, this book examines:

- Firearms laws around the world, including legal challenges raised in the U.S. by the *Daubert* decision
- Firearms manufacturing processes, the mechanisms of various firearms, and the linking of a particular bullet or spent cartridge with a suspected weapon
- The origins and development of new science in firearms, including controversies, pioneers, and an exposé of the "quack" purveyors of pseudo-science
- Internal, external, and terminal (wound) ballistics
- The nature, composition, and analytical detection of discharge residue left on a suspect
- The role of the ballistics expert at all stages of a case, ranging from the scene of the shooting incident, the post mortem examinations, the examination and testing of exhibits at the laboratory, and the presentation of evidence in court
- Recently introduced computer search techniques applied to captured and digitally stored images of marks left on fired bullets and spent cartridge cases
- Manual microscopic comparison work and computer-based searches on digital images of bullet and cartridge case marks to determine if a particular weapon has been fired in previous cases

Written by an expert with more than 50 years of experience using and handling firearms, this text is enhanced with nearly 250 illustrations, making it a premier guide to the fundamentals of firearms and related evidentiary considerations.



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