

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 585, December 11, 2006]

PROVIDING FOR THE SURRENDER AND LICENSING OF LOOSE FIREARMS AND THE UTILIZATION OF FUNDS FROM THE PROCEEDS THEREOF

WHEREAS, despite the issuance of Executive Order Nos. 171 and 390, an estimated 304,262 loose firearms remain to be accounted and licensed;

WHEREAS, it is consistent with the national interest that these loose firearms be submitted for licensing and the holders of loose firearms be encouraged and given an opportunity to obtain the required firearm license;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the registration and licensing of loose firearms will be accomplished if the appropriate technology and resources are made available to exploit the firearm ballistic data bank;

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the state to encourage the use of IT resources by governmental entities and offices in the delivery of services to the public.

WHEREAS, Executive Order 171 was approved on January 22, 2003 to address these issues but its implementation was limited due to the COMELEC imposed gun ban during the election period of 2004;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 171 was extended thru Executive Order 390 but the duration was limited only to seven months;

WHEREAS, there is a need to implement another firearm amnesty program to license all loose firearms in the possession of natural and juridical persons who were not able to take advantage of EO 171 and EO 390.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order;

SECTION 1. Any natural and juridical person who possess loose firearms may surrender the same to the Philippine National Police for custody and apply for the corresponding license as required by existing laws within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Order, excluding the election period (January 14, 2007 to June 13, 2007), which was declared by the COMELEC pursuant to COMELEC Resolution 7707. Concerned holders of said firearms may avail of this amnesty only within the period. Each firearm submitted for licensing shall have its own distinct firearm description.

SECTION 2. As a general rule, high-powered rifles/paItik firearms may not be allowed for licensing, however, the Chief, PNP may allow the licensing of some high-powered firearms. Those who will surrender the same will not be prosecuted for