



For Immediate Release  
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### **CALL FOR CONGRESSIONAL ACTION TO GET 'COP KILLER' GUN OFF THE STREETS**

**Washington, DC** – The Police Foundation today called on Congress to take action to get a new ‘cop killer’ gun off of the streets before an officer is fatally wounded.

Police nationwide have been notified to be on the lookout for the Herstal Five-SeveN, a small, easily concealable handgun that fires bullets that penetrate soft body armor, including the bulletproof vests that police wear on the job everyday. “This gun is a new and lethal threat to law enforcement officers,” said Police Foundation President Hubert Williams. “It has the power of an assault rifle, yet it fits right in your pocket. Congress must act quickly to rid the streets of this killer gun.”

The Five-SeveN handgun is manufactured by FN Herstal of Belgium; it is lightweight and easily concealable. It is marketed by the company on its website as intended “to defeat the enemy in all close combat situations in urban areas, jungle conditions, night missions and any self defense action. Enemy personnel, even wearing body armor can be effectively engaged up to 200 meters. Kevlar® helmets and vests as well as the CRISAT protection will be penetrated” (<http://www.fnherstal.com/html/Index.htm>).

“We’re concerned about the safety of local law enforcement officers,” Williams continued. “To date, no police officer has been killed with this weapon, but it’s only a matter of time before the Five-SeveN is used for its marketed purpose – penetrating body armor. No officer should have to worry about facing this gun and the extraordinary danger it poses in the line of duty.”

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Since most police shootings involve a handgun, officers must be aware of this new firepower that comes with three 20-round magazines—60 rounds of body-armor-piercing ammunition. Because of the range and accuracy of this weapon, a gunman could easily hold law enforcement officers at bay for hours, making service weapons virtually powerless.

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*The Police Foundation is a national, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting innovation and improvement in policing through its research, technical assistance, training, technology, and communications programs. For more information about the foundation, visit [www.policefoundation.org](http://www.policefoundation.org)*

*Hubert Williams has been president of the Police Foundation since 1985. From 1974 to 1985, headed the Newark, New Jersey, Police Department which he joined in 1962.*