



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

Washington, DC 20226

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## **FR 5.7 (FABRIQUE NATIONALE) PISTOL IS A SEMI-AUTOMATIC PISTOL IN 5.7 X 28 MM CALIBER**

In response to numerous questions that ATF has received regarding the capabilities of the 5.7 X 28mm cartridge, the following technical information is provided.

**FTB classified SS196 ammunition as not armor piercing.**

**The FR 5.7 (Fabrique Nationale) pistol is a semiautomatic pistol in 5.7 X 28 mm caliber.**



Type: Double Action Only or Single Action (in Tactical model)  
Chambering: 5.7x28mm  
Length: 208mm  
Barrel length: 122.5mm  
Magazine: 20 rounds

The FR 5.7 (Fabrique Nationale) pistol is a semiautomatic pistol in 5.7 X 28 mm caliber approved for importation as a sporting firearm.

The classification of all ammunition is governed strictly by the definitions presented in the GCA. Specifically, as defined in 18 U.S.C. Section 921(a)(17)(B), the term “armor piercing ammunition” means —

1. *a projectile or projectile core which may be used in a handgun and which is constructed entirely (excluding the presence of traces of other substances) from one or a combination of tungsten alloys, steel, iron, brass, bronze, beryllium copper, or depleted uranium; or*
2. *a full jacketed projectile larger than .22 caliber designed and intended for use in a handgun and whose jacket has a weight of more than 25 percent of the total weight of the projectile.*

FTB has also examined a 5.7 X 28 mm projectile that FR Herstal has designated the “SS196.” The SS196 is loaded with a Hornady 40 grain, jacketed lead bullet. FTB classified SS196 ammunition as **not armor piercing** ammunition under Federal firearms statutes. According to FNH USA, FR Herstal tested the SS192 ammunition. SS192 ammunition did not penetrate the Level IIIA vests that were tested. FNH USA states that SS196, Hornady V-Max 40 gr. bullets fired from a 4-3/4 inch barrel did not penetrate the Level II vests that were used in testing.

FNH USA has informed FTB that SS192 is no longer imported for commercial sale to the United States and that **commercial sales of 5.7 X 28mm ammunition are restricted to the SS196** (not armor piercing).

### **FR Herstal 5.7 X 28mm Ammunition**

- SS190 — Armor piercing (AP)
- SS191 — AP Tracer
- SS192 — Hollow Point (not AP)
- SB193 — AP Subsonic
- SS195 — “Green” – lead free hollow point projectile with copper jacket (not AP)
- SS196 — Sporting round (Hornady 40 gr. V-max, hollow point lead), (not AP)
- 10700004 — Blank (not classified as ammunition under Federal law)
- 10700005 — Dummy