

From: Carroll, Carson W.  
Sent: Saturday, October 06, 2007 5:25:01 PM  
To: Hoover, William J.  
Subject: Re: Phoenix Case

Billy,

I have had much conversation with Phx. And we are prepared for Tuesdays briefing. My role is to keep the AD clear on the case and this did not occur.

**ATF**

Much more for Tuesday. I am personally upset with myself on the handling of information that was passed to you and I am bothered about a couple of other issues that can wait untill Tuesday.

I would like to speak with you (just you and I) prior to the conference call if that is ok.

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: Hoover, William J.  
To: Carroll, Carson W.  
Sent: Sat Oct 06 13:54:49 2007  
Subject: Re: Phoenix Case

Carson,

I hope you know my frustration is with PHX and not you!

Billy  
William J. Hoover  
Assistant Director, Field Operations

**ATF**

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: Carroll, Carson W.  
To: Hoover, William J.

Sent: Sat Oct 06 07:08:52 2007  
Subject: Re: Phoenix Case

Received and reviewing below.

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: Hoover, William J.  
To: Carroll, Carson W.  
Sent: Fri Oct 05 18:34:34 2007  
Subject: Fw: Phoenix Case

Carson,

**ATF**

Billy

William J. Hoover  
Assistant Director, Field Operations

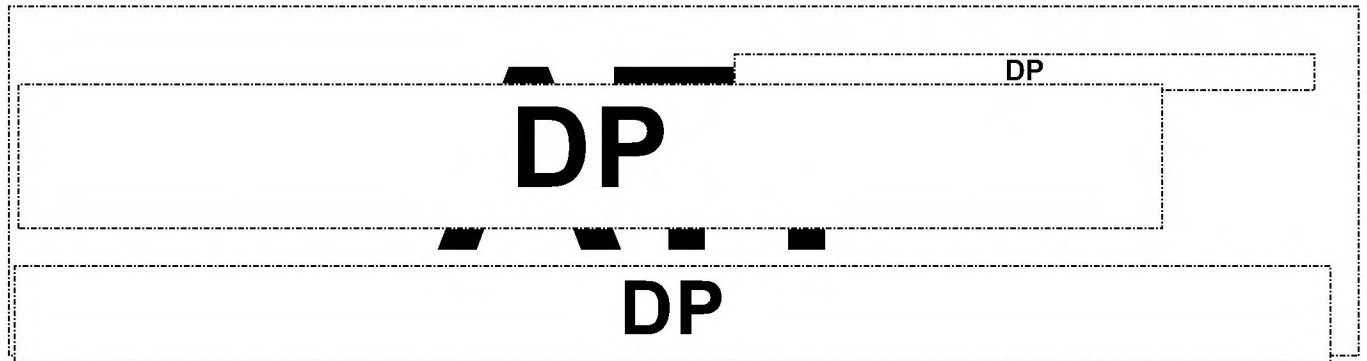
**ATF**

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

**ATF**



**DP, ATF**

Finally, we have a call into the Office of International Affairs over at DOJ.

**DP**

**DP, ATF**

We can discuss in more detail on Tuesday but I hope you feel a bit better about this issue. I did discuss getting something in writing and I can explain more on Tuesday.

Have a good weekend.

**ATF**

Senior Counsel, Field Operations

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

**ATF**

ATF

**ATF**

12/2/20

From: **ATF**  
Sent: Friday, October 05, 2007 8:59:30 AM  
To: Hoover, William J.  
Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

Sure. We will work this out.

**DP**

**DP**

Are you in or at the range

**ATF**

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: Hoover, William J.  
To: **ATF**  
Sent: Fri Oct 05 08:37:27 2007  
Subject: FW: PHX case with Mex

**ATF**

**DP**

Thank you,

Billy

William J. Hoover  
Assistant Director, Field Operations

**ATF**

-----Original Message-----

From: Newell, William D.  
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2007 10:50 PM  
To: Hoover, William J.  
Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

**DP**

Bill Newell  
ATF - SAC  
Phoenix Field Division

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: Hoover, William J.  
To: Newell, William D.; Carroll, Carson W.  
Sent: Thu Oct 04 21:56:10 2007  
Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

We can scrap the call for tomorrow.  
William J. Hoover  
Assistant Director, Field Operations

ATF

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: Newell, William D.  
To: Hoover, William J.  
Sent: Thu Oct 04 20:44:54 2007  
Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

DP

ATF

ATF - SAC  
Phoenix Field Division

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: Hoover, William J.  
To: Newell, William D.; Carroll, Carson W.  
Sent: Thu Oct 04 20:24:21 2007  
Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

DP

William J. Hoover  
Assistant Director, Field Operations

ATF

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: Hoover, William J.  
 To: Newell, William D.; Carroll, Carson W.  
 Sent: Thu Oct 04 20:18:17 2007  
 Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

I am not sure what Carson's schedule is tomorrow. As soon as I hear from him I will let you know the time.



Billy  
 William J. Hoover  
 Assistant Director, Field Operations

ATF

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: Newell, William D.  
 To: Hoover, William J.; Carroll, Carson W.  
 Sent: Thu Oct 04 18:56:13 2007  
 Subject: RE: PHX case with Mex

Early morning is perfect for me. If you shoot me the issues you want addressed I can hopefully provide you some up to date info by morning. They are out on surveillance right now and the situation is fluid. Just let me know what you want and I'll get it.

Bill Newell

Bureau of ATF

Special Agent in Charge

Phoenix Field Division

ATF

---

From: Hoover, William J.  
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2007 3:54 PM  
To: Carroll, Carson W.; Newell, William D.  
Subject: PHX case with Mex

Carson and Bill,

I would like for the three of us to get on a call tomorrow to discuss this investigation and cover a few issues.

Thank you,

Billy

William J. Hoover

Assistant Director, Field Operations

**ATF**



From: Hoover, William J.  
 Sent: Friday, October 05, 2007 6:13:07 PM  
 To: ATF  
 Subject: Re: Phoenix Case

Thank you! We can discuss next week. I hope to have more and much better information next week!!!!

William J. Hoover  
 Assistant Director, Field Operations

ATF

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: ATF  
 To: Hoover, William J.  
 Cc: ATF  
 Sent: Fri Oct 05 17:22:19 2007  
 Subject: Phoenix Case

Hi Billy:

ATF spoke with Bill Newell, Tim Needles and one of the case agents on the Phoenix case.

DP, ATF

**DP, ATF**

DP, ATF

I really think maybe there was a disconnect somewhere when being briefed on this case.

DP, ATF

DP

DP

ATF

DP

DP, ATF

**DP, ATF**

Finally, we have a call into the Office of International Affairs over at DOJ.

DP

# DP, ATF

We can discuss in more detail on Tuesday but I hope you feel a bit better about this issue. I did discuss getting something in writing and I can explain more on Tuesday.

Have a good weekend.

**ATF** did I forget anything???????

**ATF**

**ATF**

Senior Counsel, Field Operations

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

# ATF

**ATF**

From: Hoover, William J.  
Sent: Friday, October 05, 2007 9:01:42 AM  
To: [REDACTED] **ATF**  
CC: Carroll, Carson W.; Newell, William D.  
Subject: FW: PHX case with Mex

[REDACTED] **ATF**

[REDACTED] **DP**  
[REDACTED] **ATF**  
[REDACTED] **ATF**

[REDACTED] **DP**  
[REDACTED] **DP**

William J. Hoover  
Assistant Director, Field Operations

[REDACTED] **ATF**

-----Original Message-----

From: Hoover, William J.  
Sent: Friday, October 05, 2007 8:37 AM  
To: [REDACTED] **ATF**  
Subject: FW: PHX case with Mex

[REDACTED] **ATF**

[REDACTED] **DP**

Thank you,

Billy

William J. Hoover  
Assistant Director, Field Operations

[REDACTED] **ATF**

-----Original Message-----

From: Newell, William D.  
Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2007 10:50 PM  
To: Hoover, William J.  
Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

[REDACTED] **DP**

Bill Newell  
ATF - SAC

Phoenix Field Division

\*\*\*\*\*

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Sent: Thu Oct 04 21:56:10 2007  
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William J. Hoover  
Assistant Director, Field Operations

**ATF**

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----- Original Message -----

From: Newell, William D.  
To: Hoover, William J.  
Sent: Thu Oct 04 20:44:54 2007  
Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

**DP**

ATF - SAC  
Phoenix Field Division

\*\*\*\*\*

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From: Hoover, William J.  
To: Newell, William D.; Carroll, Carson W.  
Sent: Thu Oct 04 20:24:21 2007  
Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

**DP**

William J. Hoover  
Assistant Director, Field Operations

**ATF**

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**ATF**

DP

Billy  
William J. Hoover  
Assistant Director, Field Operations

**ATF**

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Bill Newell

Bureau of ATF

Special Agent in Charge

Phoenix Field Division

**ATF**

---

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To: Carroll, Carson W.; Newell, William D.  
Subject: PHX case with Mex

Carson and Bill,

I would like for the three of us to get on a call tomorrow to discuss this investigation and cover a few issues.

Thank you,

Billy

William J. Hoover

Assistant Director, Field Operations

ATF



From: Hoover, William J.  
 Sent: Friday, October 05, 2007 8:22:44 AM  
 To: Newell, William D.  
 Subject: RE: PHX case with Mex

Wow, I feel so much better.

William J. Hoover  
 Assistant Director, Field Operations

**ATF**

-----Original Message-----

From: Newell, William D.  
 Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2007 10:50 PM  
 To: Hoover, William J.  
 Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

**DP**

Bill Newell  
 ATF - SAC  
 Phoenix Field Division

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From: Newell, William D.  
 To: Hoover, William J.  
 Sent: Thu Oct 04 20:44:54 2007  
 Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

Standard protocol and they (Amb and DCM) are very used to it. Used to do it all the time in Colombia. Davy did tell me he was going to do it and he told me that the Amb was not suprised that the Mexicans missed the load. Also, just got notified that the subjects are heading south with another load of guns - right now. [ATF] is at port of entry on Mexican side. I will advise Carson right now.  
 Bill Newell

ATF - SAC  
 Phoenix Field Division

\*\*\*\*\*

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From: Hoover, William J.  
 To: Newell, William D.; Carroll, Carson W.  
 Sent: Thu Oct 04 20:24:21 2007  
 Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

Also, did the Mexico Country Office speak to anyone in Field Op's prior to briefing the Ambassador? What exactly did we tell him? Why was this necessary at this time in the Inv?

William J. Hoover  
 Assistant Director, Field Operations

[ATF]

\*\*\*\*\*

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[ATF]

**DP**

Billy  
 William J. Hoover  
 Assistant Director, Field Operations

[ATF]

\*\*\*\*\*

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Bill Newell

Bureau of ATF

Special Agent in Charge

Phoenix Field Division

**ATF**

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Thank you,

Billy

William J. Hoover

Assistant Director, Field Operations

**ATF**

From: Hoover, William J.  
 Sent: Thursday, October 04, 2007 8:35:32 PM  
 To: Newell, William D.  
 Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

10-4!

William J. Hoover  
 Assistant Director, Field Operations

**ATF**

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: Newell, William D.  
 To: Hoover, William J.  
 Sent: Thu Oct 04 20:24:26 2007  
 Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

Ok, am prepared to discuss all points now but will wait to hear from Carson.

Bill Newell

ATF - SAC

Phoenix Field Division

\*\*\*\*\*

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 Subject: Re: PHX case with Mex

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**ATF**

**DP**

Billy  
 William J. Hoover  
 Assistant Director, Field Operations

**ATF**

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Bill Newell

Bureau of ATF

Special Agent in Charge

Phoenix Field Division

ATF

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To: Carroll, Carson W.; Newell, William D.  
Subject: PHX case with Mex

Carson and Bill,

I would like for the three of us to get on a call tomorrow to discuss this investigation and cover a few issues.

Thank you,

Billy

William J. Hoover

Assistant Director, Field Operations

**ATF**

From: Carroll, Carson W.  
 Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2007 6:53:00 AM  
 To: Hoover, William J.  
 Subject: Re: Updated Briefer

Billy,

It took awhile but I just got through this document and [DP] [DP] In talking with JJ and [ATF] there have cases in the past where we have walked guns. I am ok with the rest.

[ATF] [ATF] called me only because he could not get in touch with [ATF]. We may be missing at times because [ATF] has little oversight.

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: Hoover, William J.  
 To: Carroll, Carson W.  
 Sent: Thu Nov 15 06:43:01 2007  
 Subject: Re: Updated Briefer

Thanks Carson!!!  
 William J. Hoover  
 Assistant Director, Field Operations  
 [ATF]

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: Carroll, Carson W.  
 To: Hoover, William J.  
 Sent: Thu Nov 15 06:37:52 2007  
 Subject: Fw: Updated Briefer

Billy,

Please see the attachment and emails below. This will give you more background prior to meeting with the Director. FYI - [ATF] is the Acting DAG, Criminal Division, Narcotics Section.

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED] ATF  
 To: Carroll, Carson W.  
 Sent: Wed Nov 14 21:20:13 2007  
 Subject: Fw: Updated Briefer

Fyi

[REDACTED] ATF

\*\*\*\*\*

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----- Original Message -----

From: Swartz, Bruce [REDACTED] ATF  
 To: Swartz, Bruce [REDACTED] ATF; Rodriguez, Mary [REDACTED] ATF; Roth, John [REDACTED] ATF; Raabe, Wayne [REDACTED] ATF; [REDACTED] doj.gov>; Warlow, Molly [REDACTED] ATF; [REDACTED] doj.gov>  
 Cc: Stevens, Gregory (Mexico City) [REDACTED] ATF; state.gov>; Tisi, Andrea [REDACTED] ATF; [REDACTED] doj.gov>; Thomas, Robert P.; Warren, Mary L [REDACTED] ATF; state.gov>; Mandelker, Sigal [REDACTED] ATF; [REDACTED] doj.gov>; Painter, Christopher [REDACTED] ATF; [REDACTED] doj.gov>; O'Connor, Kathleen [REDACTED] ATF; [REDACTED] doj.gov>; Ho-Gonzalez, William [REDACTED] ATF; [REDACTED] doj.gov>; McNally, Edward [REDACTED] ATF; [REDACTED] doj.gov>; Carwile, Kevin [REDACTED] ATF; [REDACTED] doj.gov>; Shave, Betty [REDACTED] ATF; [REDACTED] doj.gov>; Weber, Richard [REDACTED] ATF; [REDACTED] doj.gov>; Claman, Daniel [REDACTED] ATF; [REDACTED] doj.gov>; Kouame, Marie-Flore [REDACTED] ATF; [REDACTED] doj.gov>  
 Sent: Wed Nov 14 19:53:10 2007  
 Subject: RE: Updated Briefer

All:

Attached is a revised briefer that incorporates (I hope) your suggestions and additions (except where your suggestions shocked my conscience, or I just arbitrarily decided to ignore them). Please review this one more time: it has to be sent to OAG and ODAG tomorrow morning. Thanks, [REDACTED] ATF

---

From: Swartz, Bruce  
 Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2007 6:43 PM  
 To: Swartz, Bruce; Rodriguez, Mary; Roth, John; Raabe, Wayne; Warlow, Molly  
 Cc: 'Stevens, Gregory (Mexico City)'; Tisi, Andrea; 'robert.thomas@atf.gov'; 'Warren, Mary L'; Mandelker, Sigal; Painter, Christopher; O'Connor, Kathleen; Ho-Gonzalez, William; McNally, Edward; Carwile, Kevin; Shave, Betty  
 Subject: RE: Updated Briefer  
 Importance: High



All - revised draft attached, DP

DP

ATF

DP We need to have this in final form by COB tomorrow (Wednesday).

This draft also includes Talking Points, which I trust you all will find suitably moving.

Thanks, Bruce

---

From: Swartz, Bruce  
 Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2007 12:51 AM  
 To: Swartz, Bruce; Rodriguez, Mary; Roth, John; Raabe, Wayne; Warlow, Molly  
 Cc: 'Stevens, Gregory (Mexico City)'; Tisi, Andrea; 'robert.thomas@atf.gov'; 'Warren, Mary L'; Mandelker, Sigal; Painter, Christopher; O'Connor, Kathleen; Ho-Gonzalez, William; McNally, Edward; Carwile, Kevin  
 Subject: RE: Updated Briefer  
 Importance: High

With my apologies, and contrary to the stated goal of bullet two below, I have not yet completed the talking points for the AG's meeting w/ Medina Mora. But I have revised the briefer (wh was excellent), and added a covering memo. Could I ask you to circulate this to anyone who needs to see/supplement this? (NB: a number of sections are flagged for additional material, including by AFMLS, NDDS, CCIPS, ATF, and others). In addition to the original recipients, I am adding a number of other lucky individuals. Should have the TPs tomorrow; until then, feel free to say whatever you like. Thanks, Bruce

---

From: Swartz, Bruce  
 Sent: Monday, November 12, 2007 4:31 PM  
 To: Rodriguez, Mary; Roth, John; Raabe, Wayne; Warlow, Molly  
 Cc: 'Stevens, Gregory (Mexico City)'; Tisi, Andrea  
 Subject: RE: Updated Briefer

EXPRESS OPENING THANKS

\* Thanks, Mary.



**DP**

\* Best, Bruce

---

From: Rodriguez, Mary  
Sent: Friday, November 09, 2007 3:49 PM  
To: Swartz, Bruce; Roth, John; Raabe, Wayne; Warlow, Molly  
Cc: 'Stevens, Gregory (Mexico City)'; Tisi, Andrea  
Subject: Updated Briefer

Asset forfeiture and Money Laundering, and Arms trafficking issues were not covered in this briefer. It reflects updates on Sections A, B, and D. Gracias

Mary D. Rodriguez

Associate Director

Office of International Affairs

U.S. Department of Justice

1301 New York Ave., NW

Washington, D.C. 20530

**ATF**

From: Hoover, William J.  
Sent: <sup>26</sup>Sunday, February 21, 2010 1:56:57 PM  
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.  
Subject: Re: Seizure

No doubt. Thank you for your leadership!!!!  
William J. Hoover  
Assistant Director  
Bureau of ATF



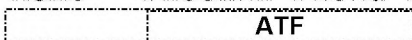
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----- Original Message -----  
From: Gillett, George T. Jr.  
To: Hoover, William J.  
Sent: Sun Feb 21 13:46:31 2010  
Subject: Re: Seizure

Thank you, Billy. My people here are doing great work. They deserve all the credit!

George T. Gillett  
ASAC - Phoenix Field Division



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----- Original Message -----  
From: Hoover, William J.  
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.  
Sent: Sun Feb 21 03:16:24 2010  
Subject: Re: Seizure

Thanks G! I got a call earlier from Mark who gave me a heads up on this. Great Work!!!!!!

Thanks again!!!  
William J. Hoover  
Assistant Director  
Bureau of ATF



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27

----- Original Message -----

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.

To: Hoover, William J.

Sent: Sat Feb 20 22:47:44 2010

Subject: Fw: Seizure

Hey Billy -

I hope you're having a good weekend.

ATF

ATF

There will be a SIR forthcoming on Monday AM.

Wanted to get this to you "back channel.". Let me know if you have questions.

George

George T. Gillett

ASAC - Phoenix Field Division

Cell: ATF

\*\*\*

NOTICE: This electronic transmission is confidential and intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail and destroy this message in its entirety (including all attachments).

----- Original Message -----

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.

To: Newell, William D.

Cc: ATF

Sent: Sat Feb 20 22:33:44 2010

Subject: Seizure

Update -

ATF

ATF

ATF

The actual number of guns seized today is 42 NOT 20. Of the 42 seized, there are some AR type rifles that were not sold by any of our known dealers.

ATF

ATF

Sir first thing Monday morning.

George T. Gillett  
ASAC<sup>28</sup> Phoenix Field Division

Cell: [ ] ATF

\*\*\*

NOTICE: This electronic transmission is confidential and intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail and destroy this message in its entirety (including all attachments).

**From:** Torres, Julie M

**Sent:** Thursday, September 23, 2010 4:43 PM

**To:** Hoover, William J.

**Subject:** FW: Project Gunrunner - A Cartel Focused Strategy (3317)

**Attachments:** Cartel Strategy NFORCE screens 091610.pptx; Cartel Strategy 9-7-10.docx; Cartel Strategy ADFO Memo 090810 scan.pdf

Billy

Here's the email that was forwarded to the field on last Thursday, Sep 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Julie

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**From:** ATF

**Sent:** Thursday, September 16, 2010 3:24 PM

**To:** All Special Agents in Charge

**Cc:** ATF; Firearms Operations Division (FOD); ATF

Chait, Mark R.; McMahon, William G.; Torres, Julie M; Boxler, Michael B.; ATF

**Subject:** Project Gunrunner - A Cartel Focused Strategy (3317)

All Special Agents in Charge:

Attached is a memorandum from the Assistant Director (Field Operations) discussing and transmitting a document entitled *Project Gunrunner – A Cartel Focused Strategy*. The memorandum and the strategy document outline our increased national emphasis on firearms trafficking enforcement related to the Southwest border, as well as the importance of identifying and prioritizing those investigations in which a nexus to Mexican drug trafficking organizations and cartels may be established.

Initially implemented in our four Southwest border field divisions, Project Gunrunner has evolved into a national strategy as we have seen cartels reach further into the interior of the U.S. to acquire firearms in support of their lucrative drug trafficking operations. The revised strategy acknowledges and incorporates an investigative approach already implemented by several ATF field divisions and reiterates the primary responsibility of the field special agents in charge for implementation of the strategy. This document recognizes that Project Gunrunner is both an ATF strategy and a component of a larger U.S. Government counternarcotics strategy. Our success is contingent upon the effective use of our regulatory, investigative, technical, intelligence, training, liaison, and public/industry outreach capabilities. The success of Gunrunner is also dependent on our ability to secure prosecutions appropriate to the criminal conduct. It is imperative that comprehensive, complex criminal investigations that link firearms traffickers to violent drug trafficking organizations and operations be conducted in order to leverage the prosecutorial advantages afforded by a wider array of criminal and civil statutes.

Vital to our ability to track and report our efforts is the timely and accurate reporting of information in our case management system (e.g., N-Force and N-Spect). The Cartel Strategy document and the attachments to this memorandum provide detailed guidance for agents and industry operations investigators on coding investigative activity in N-Force and N-Spect. Recent enhancements to N-Force allow us to document investigations involving specific Mexican cartels in the same manner as U.S. street gangs and outlaw motorcycle organizations. All special agents and industry operations investigators should be familiar with these procedures.

Please review and internally disseminate the memorandum, the *Project Gunrunner – A Cartel Focused Strategy* document, and other attachments to ensure complete understanding and proper implementation of our revised priorities. Please address any questions about this material to ATF ATF Southwest Border National Coordinator at (202) 648-ATF or ATF Chief, Firearms Operations Division at (202) 648-ATF

**ATF**

Chief, Firearms Operations Division

ATF HQ - Room 6.S.129

202.648. **ATF** Cell 202.391 **ATF**