

From: Cook, Nancy F.
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2010 5:47 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: FW: GRIT Performance Report - June 11 2011
Attachments: GRIT Performance Report - June 11 2011.doc

ATF is waiting for your okay before she sends this forward. Is there anything you want changed?

From: **ATF**
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2010 11:58 AM
To: Cook, Nancy F.; Newell, William D.; Needles, James R.; **ATF** Mangan, Thomas G.
Subject: GRIT Performance Report - June 11 2011

Good afternoon,

This is the GRIT report for the period June 4 – June 11, 2010. If you should have any corrections, additions or deletions, please advise me. After I make the changes, I will forward the report to Christine.

Thank you.

Phoenix Gun Runner Impact Teams (GRIT)
Performance Report
June 11, 2010

GRIT Performance for Reporting Period May 21 -- June 3, 2010		
	Reporting Period	Since Inception
Number of Investigative Leads at the Start of GRIT (May 1, 2010)		
Number of New Investigative Leads		
Total Leads		
Number of Leads Investigated		
Number of New Actual Criminal Cases Opened		
Number of Existing Investigations Supported by GRIT		
Number of Defendants Recommended for Prosecution		
Number of Referrals to U.S. LE Agencies		
Number of Liaison Activities with the Gov. of Mexico		
Number of Firearms/Other Evidence Seized/Recovered by ATF or Other LE Agencies Acting on ATF Information		
Number of FFL Inspections Initiated		
Number of FFL Inspections Completed		
FFL Adverse Actions Recommended:		
Number of Warning Letters/Warning Conferences		
Number of Revocations (Recommended by Division and Concurred by HQ)		
Number of Licenses Surrendered in Lieu of Revocation		
Number of Criminal Enforcement Referrals Made by IOIs to ATF LE		

ATF ATF

ATF

Phoenix Group VII (OCDETF Strike Force)

785115-10-0020,

ATF

ATF

785115-10-0004, Operation Fast and Furious

This OCDETF investigation

ATF

ATF

ATF

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2010 9:33:54 AM
To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ)
CC: Hurley, Emory (USAAZ)
Subject: TNW .50 caliber rifle

Attachments: IMG00026-20100210-1431.jpg; 3297430.jpg

This is the picture two weeks ago in Baja Norte, Mexico. In the picture ATF SA [ATF] is inspecting the TNW, .50 caliber rifle. If you recall two years ago we seized 42 "weapons of choice" out of a storage locker in Yuma following a Phoenix gun show operation. Also seized was approx 500 rounds of linked .50 caliber ammo. All were headed to Mexico and all are still in our ATF vaults here in Phoenix. [ATF]

ATF

ATF

Since then several

TNW, .50 caliber rifles have been seized in Mexico [ATF]

ATF

One of the TNW, .50 caliber rifles seized was the one in April, 2009 in Sonora from the [DEA] DTO (see second photo attachment). The pictures of this gun, mounted in the back of a pickup behind a man-made shooting platform, fed the rumor mill on the internet and the media of the people who believe that this gun, and many more like it, come from the Central/South American black market or are "stolen" from the Mexican military. Not true at least not in this case and from what we see on a daily basis - including the 42 AK-47 rifles we seized this past Saturday west of Tucson and a mile from the border. The Casa Grande Border Patrol folks assisted us in an outstanding manner with this. [ATF]

ATF

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)
Office - (602) 776-5400





From: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ) [Dennis.Burke@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2010 7:04 PM
To: Newell, William D.; Hurley, Emory (USAAZ); [DEA] (DEA-US)
Subject: Re:

Thx. Very helpful to know.

From: Newell, William D. (ATF)
To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ); Hurley, Emory (USAAZ); [DEA] (DEA-US)
Sent: Sat Feb 27 13:05:38 2010
Subject: Fw:

FYI - big Mexican Army seizure last night in Sinaloa from "Chapo" Guzman's guys. Seems something big is brewing down there which is why there's been such a flurry of gun purchasing activity of late in our area. [ATF]
[ATF] We've gotten the same info about this brewing issue from recent interviews but DEA are the ones truly in the know so I'll defer to them. We don't have specifics on the firearms in seizure yet, most likely get that w/n next 24 hours. [ATF]

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)
Cell: [ATF]

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From: [ATF]
To: [ATF] Newell, William D.
Cc: [ATF]
Sent: Sat Feb 27 12:31:12 2010
Subject:

Here is a list of the firearms that were seized last night by SEDENA during two separate seizure events in Culiacan and Zacatecas.

104 firearms in Sinaloa

2 .50 cal Barrett's
41 7.62 rifles
14 AR 15's
8 PS 90's 5.57
1 40mm grenade
16,000 plus assorted rounds of ammo

Zacatecas

67 rifles in unknown caliber at this time.
Unknown quantity of Tovex and Det cord.

MCO is in contact with SEDENA and SIEDO in order to accurately report these events. More info is forthcoming in the next few days.

ATF

Assistant Country Attache, Mexico City

Office **ATF**

Mexico cell **ATF**

Nextel Direct **ATF**

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From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wednesday, March 03, 2010 5:29 PM
To: Zapor, Bernard J. [REDACTED] **ATF**
Subject: RE: Assistance with Southwest Border investigation

I meant to call you earlier today to advise you this request was going out – my apologies. Whatever support you can lend to this effort would be greatly appreciated. This is a great case that keeps growing by leaps and bounds and we are running out of bodies for surveillance support. Once **ATF** is up and running we are going to be even more shorthanded so the surveillance support will be greatly appreciated, if you can swing it. Thank you.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)
Office - (602)776-5400

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Wednesday, March 03, 2010 3:19 PM
To: [REDACTED] **ATF**
Cc: Newell, William D.; Needles, James R. [REDACTED] **ATF**
Subject: Assistance with Southwest Border investigation

Gentlemen –

The Phoenix Field Division currently has an ongoing firearms trafficking investigation involving a large straw-purchasing network with significant firearms seizures in Mexico and along the border. This investigation is an approved OCDETF case, and it is anticipated that we will be engaging in **T-III intercept** in the next 3-4 weeks. In preparation for this **ATF** **ATF** Phoenix is looking for special agents that would be willing to assist with surveillance. Ideally we would need a total of five (5) agents that can begin March 15, 2010.

Obviously we are willing to pay all travel expenses, and Phoenix isn't a bad place to be this time of year. Would you please advise if you are willing to support this request by providing special agent personnel. To minimize hardships on your Divisions and personnel, I would like to schedule 2 week rotations.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

George T. Gillett
Assistant Special Agent in Charge
ATF - Phoenix Field Division
Office: (602) 776-5400

From: ATF

Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2010 8:08 AM

To: Hoover, William J.; ATF; Newell, William D.; Chait, Mark R.; Boxler, Michael B.;
Needles, James R.; Gillett, George T. Jr.; Cook, Nancy F.; ATF

ATF
CC: ATF

ATF

Subject: Attached is DD Melson's Itinerary for GRIT Press Conf. in Phoenix, AZ. Thank you.

Attachments: KEM Itinerary for Phoenix GRIT Close Out News Conference Phoenix, Arizona September 16-17, 2010.docx

Importance: High

ATF

Office of the Director

Room 5.S-100

Office - 202-648-8700

Fax - 202-648-9622

Email: ATF

ITINERARY
PHOENIX GRIT CLOSE OUT NEWS CONFERENCE
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
SEPTEMBER 16-17, 2010

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2010

3:50PM DEPART BUREAU HEADQUARTERS EN ROUTE TO WASHINGTON
REAGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

4:20PM ARRIVE WASHINGTON REAGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

5:15PM DEPART WASHINGTON REAGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
ON US AIRWAYS FLIGHT 43

7:06PM ARRIVE PHOENIX, ARIZONA SKY HARBOR AIRPORT

7:30PM DEPART PHOENIX, ARIZONA SKY HARBOR AIRPORT
EN ROUTE TO THE HYATT REGENCY PHOENIX

HYATT REGENCY PHOENIX
122 NORTH SECOND STREET
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
PHONE: 602-252-1234

ARRIVE AT HYATT REGENCY PHOENIX AND RON

MELSON'S CONFIRMATION #: 44925198

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2010

7:45AM DEPART FROM HYATT REGENCY PHOENIX EN ROUTE
TO THE PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION
201 E WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 940
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85004
PHONE: 603-776-5400

-2-

8:00AM ARRIVE PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION AND MEET WITH
SAC WILLIAM NEWELL

8:45AM DD MELSON TO GREEN ROOM TO MEET WITH U.S. ATTORNEY
DENNIS BURKE, DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

9:00AM NEWS CONFERENCE – PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

9:45AM NEWS CONFERENCE ENDS AND DD MELSON ENTERS GREEN
ROOM

10:00AM ONE-ON-ONE WITH REPORTERS IN ROOM - (TBD)

10:30AM DD MELSON TO MEET WITH PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION STAFF

10:45AM DD MELSON DEPARTS FROM PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION EN ROUTE
TO PHOENIX, ARIZONA SKY HARBOR AIRPORT

ARRIVE AT PHOENIX, ARIZONA SKY HARBOR AIRPORT

12:10PM DD MELSON DEPARTS PHOENIX, ARIZONA ON US AIRWAYS
FLIGHT 42

7:31PM ARRIVES AT WASHINGTON REAGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

8:00PM DEPART WASHINGTON REAGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT EN
ROUTE TO RESIDENCE

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 9:33 AM
To: McMahon, William G.
Subject: RE: Fast and Furious case
Attachments: Operation FAST AND FURIOUS.DOCX; Wide Receiver.docx

Will do. This is what I sent two weeks ago. As you can see the USAO has pushed the indictment date back to December 7, saying they need this time to "prepare". I have a meeting scheduled with Dennis to discuss but they aren't budging so there's not much we can do. I will get a more detailed document to you today. Also, the Tucson Wide Receiver case (prosecuted by the detailed Main Justice AUSA) is also on hold until the Fast and Furious case goes to indictment since they are connected.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)
Office - (602)776-5400

From: McMahon, William G.
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 6:19 AM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Fw: Fast and Furious case

Bill,

I know you sent me something the other day but could you update an overview with answers to Mark's questions below?

Thanks,

Bill

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From: Chait, Mark R.
To: McMahon, William G.
Sent: Tue Oct 19 08:52:14 2010
Subject: Fast and Furious case

Bill – can we get an update on this indictment and potential arrests (when and how many defendants etc.). The DD would like to put a place holder on his schedule to be in Phoenix for some media etc. at the right time. Thanks

Mark R. Chait
Assistant Director
Field Operations
202-648-8410

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2010 6:24 PM
To: McMahon, William G.
Subject: Mtng with USAO, re: Phoenix "Fast and Furious" case

Met with the USAO today on the status of this case. They want us to proceed with [redacted ATF] before conducting any overt investigative activity. [redacted ATF]

[redacted ATF]

[redacted ATF] Even though I don't like it I have to agree and we are doing everything possible to slow these guys down. I need help though, in the form of detailees to conduct surveillance. I was hoping to wait until the GRIT but this case has progressed so fast, much quicker than any other case we've been involved with, that I need bodies asap. If it's OK with you I'll start reaching out to non-SWB SACs tomorrow to feel them out about letting us have some bodies to assist with surveillance. We are coordinating with ICE, they have a former ATF IOI now an ICE SA assigned to this case with us. It's a Strike Force case so we are also coordinating with ICE and DEA through the Strike Force coordination process.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
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