

**From:** Newell, William D.

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 17, 2010 9:04 AM

**To:** Needles, James R.; Gillett, George T. Jr.

**Subject:** Fw: RESPONSE Requested by C.O.B. Thursday February 18th - SWB Briefing Paper

**Attachments:** SWB Briefing Paper - February 8, 2010.doc

Please ensure each office is submitting something to this. I know for a fact that each office has something SWB related on-going in their offices. Phoenix VII and Tucson I seem to be the only groups consistent with this.

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

Cell: **ATF**

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**From:** **ATF**

**To:** Phoe-CE Supervisors; Phoe-IO Supervisors;

**ATF**

**Cc:** Cook, Nancy F.

**Sent:** Tue Feb 16 19:30:19 2010

**Subject:** RESPONSE Requested by C.O.B. Thursday February 18th - SWB Briefing Paper

Supervisors,

Please respond by C.O.B. this Thursday February 18<sup>th</sup> with any case summaries/updates (include title and case number) you might have for our division's submission to the SWB Briefing Paper. The latest paper is attached for your review.

Thank you.

**ATF**

Acting Division Operations Officer

U.S. Department of Justice - ATF

201 E. Washington Street - Suite 940

Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

**ATF**

fax -776-5429

**ATF**

LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

**Southwest Border Initiative  
(Project Gunrunner)****Biweekly Update****February 8, 2010**

The following is a biweekly update on significant events related to the Southwest Border Initiative. The information is collected from the different ATF offices involved in this initiative and intended for ATF use only.

**FIELD OPERATIONS****DALLAS FIELD DIVISION****Investigations:****El Paso Field Office**A large, bold, black sans-serif font spelling 'ATF' is centered within a dashed rectangular border that occupies the lower half of the page.

**PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION****Investigations:****Phoenix Group VII****ATF**

785115-10-0004

**ATF****ATF**

**ATF** Last week, this case was presented by ATF and granted OCDETF status by the Phoenix committee who will forward the proposal to the Houston Regional Committee. **ATF**

**ATF****Tucson Group I****ATF**

**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Friday, February 26, 2010 3:37 PM  
**To:** Newell, William D.  
**CC:** Needles, James R.  
**Subject:** FW: Phoenix Field Division Submissions Related to Mexico Cartels  
**Attachments:** Phoenix Field Division-MexCartelNex.docx

I have reviewed the attached document and made subtle changes to hone accuracy. For your review and forwarding.

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

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**From:** ATF  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2010 4:18 PM  
**To:** Needles, James R.  
**Cc:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Subject:** Phoenix Field Division Submissions Related to Mexico Cartels

Jim,

Attached for your review you will find summaries of the cases provided by our group supervisors. ATF request asked for the following response. **Please respond by 12:00 p.m. (Eastern), on Friday, February 26, 2010, by e-mail to FMS Program Analyst ATF and Special Agent ATF** Negative replies are required.

ATF

ATF Acting Division Operations Officer  
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF  
201 E. Washington Street - Suite 940  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

ATF  
Fax - 776-5428

ATF

Phoenix Field Division – Project Gunrunner Investigations with a Nexus to Mexico Cartels  
*February 25, 2010*

**Phoenix Group I**

**ATF**

**Yuma Satellite Office**

**ATF**

**Phoenix Group VII**

**ATF**

**ATF**

785115-10-0004

**ATF**

et al

This case is

**ATF**

**ATF**

This is an approved ATF OCDETF investigation (SWAZP0496). ATF is continuing

**ATF**

**ATF**

**Tucson Group I**

**ATF**

**Tucson Group II**

**ATF**

**From:** Newell, William D.

**Sent:** Thursday, December 16, 2010 3:27 PM

**To:** Gillett, George T. Jr.; **ATF**

**Subject:** December Fast and Furious BP for SAC (2)

**Attachments:** December Fast and Furious BP for SAC (2).docx

Please review and send back to me with “LE Sensitive – For Official Use Only” watermark in the appropriate places. Thanks

## Briefing Paper

Phoenix Field Division

Phoenix Group VII (OCDETF Strike Force/Gunrunner)

ATF Investigation 785115-10-0004

Operation: Fast & Furious, OCDETF No. SW-AZP-0496

### Case Background

The Phoenix Group VII Field Office is leading an investigation entitled “Operation Fast & Furious” in conjunction with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Phoenix Police Department (PPD). This operation was approved as an OCDETF case by the Southwest Region as SW-AZP-0496.

Since October 2009, ATF and the other partners listed above have been investigating a firearm trafficking organization that is being funded by the Sinaloa drug trafficking organization (DTO), a narcotics trafficking organization well known for violent criminal activity in Mexico. This organization is also involved in trafficking firearms to Mexico, and smuggling cocaine and marijuana into southern Arizona to be distributed throughout the United States. The OCDETF investigation of this organization is addressing violations of Federal Laws to include Firearms, Narcotics, Money Laundering, and Conspiracy Laws.

Agents believe that the Phoenix-based firearm trafficking group is actively purchasing firearms through “straw” purchasers using narcotics proceeds. From October 2009 to October 2010 agents have documented that this organization spent approximately 1.25 million dollars in cash at various Phoenix area Federal Firearms Licensees to acquire in excess of 1,900 firearms. The firearms are then being trafficked into Mexico using false compartments in various vehicles through various international Ports of Entry in Arizona and Texas.

**ATF**

ATF

Through these investigative techniques agents have been able to identify a large number of additional co-conspirators and disrupt the illegal activities of this firearms trafficking organization by seizing numerous firearms and narcotics. To date, over three hundred firearms and over fifty pounds of marijuana have been recovered by agents in addition to the numerous firearms and narcotic seizures in Mexico related to this investigation.

Over the past several weeks agents, in conjunction with the investigative partners and the United States Attorney’s Office (USAO) have been preparing for the indictment of ATF individuals in this investigation.

ATF

**ATF**

# ATF

On December 3<sup>rd</sup> SAC Newell and ASAC Needles met with USA Burke, Chief of Criminal Cunningham and the lead AUSA for this case and discussed all these matters.

# ATF

**List of Defendants Referred to USAO for Prosecution:**

# ATF

**ATF**

**Proposed Charges:**

**ATF**

the United States;

11

12

13

14

15

# ATF

**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.

**Sent:** Friday, December 11, 2009 10:19 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] **ATF**

**Subject:** FW: Updated Phoenix Field Division SWB Briefing Paper Submissions

**Attachments:** Phoenix SWB Submissions 12-10-2009.doc

Hello [REDACTED] **ATF** --

Phoenix Submission.

Thank you,

George

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**From:** [REDACTED] **ATF**

**Sent:** Thursday, December 10, 2009 2:05 PM

**To:** Gillett, George T. Jr.

**Cc:** [REDACTED] **ATF**

**Subject:** Updated Phoenix Field Division SWB Briefing Paper Submissions

George,

Attached you will find the updated briefing paper that includes submissions from Phoenix VII and Tucson I.

[REDACTED] **ATF**

Intelligence Officer

Phoenix FIG

U.S. Department of Justice - ATF

201 E. Washington Street - Suite 940

Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

[REDACTED] **ATF**

fax -776-5519

[REDACTED] **ATF**

**PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION**

# ATF

**ATF**

**Investigations:**

**Phoenix Group VII**

**ATF**

785115-10-0004, **ATF** et al

This case is **ATF**

**ATF**

**Tucson Group I**

**ATF**

**From:** ATF

**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 10:51 AM

**To:** ATF; Needles, James R.; O'Keefe, ATF; Gillett, George T. Jr.; ATF; Torres, John A.; ATF

ATF

**CC:** ATF; Newell, William D.; Webb, J. Dewey; Golson Sr., Michael ATF

**ATF**

**Subject:** SWB Briefing Paper - December 14, 2009

**Attachments:** SWB Briefing Paper - December 14, 2009.doc

THIS MESSAGE WAS AUTHORIZED BY THE SOUTHWEST BORDER WORKING GROUP

Attached is the approved edition of the Southwest Border briefing paper, dated December 14, 2009. New updates to the SWB paper are now due to ATF by **COB Monday, December 28, 2009.**

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you.

ATF

Program Analyst

Southwest Border Working Group

Office of Field Operations

Bureau of ATF

202-648

ATF

ATF

**Southwest Border Initiative  
(Project Gunrunner)**

**Biweekly Update**

**December 14, 2009**

The following is a biweekly update on significant events related to the Southwest Border Initiative. The information is collected from the different ATF offices involved in this initiative and intended for ATF use only.

**FIELD OPERATIONS**

**DALLAS FIELD DIVISION**

**Investigations:**

**El Paso Field Office**

**ATF**

**ATF**

785115-10-0004.

**ATF**

et al: This case is

**ATF**

**ATF**

**Tucson Group I**

**ATF**

**OFFICE OF STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION**

**ATF**

**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.

**Sent:** Monday, December 28, 2009 10:35 AM

**To:** [REDACTED] **ATF**

**Subject:** FW: Phoenix Field Division SWB Briefing Paper Submissions

**Attachments:** Phoenix SWB Submissions 12-23-2009.docx

[REDACTED] **ATF**

I hope you had a great Christmas. Here's the Phoenix Division submission.

Thanks,

George

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**From:** [REDACTED] **ATF**

**Sent:** Thursday, December 24, 2009 8:26 AM

**To:** Gillett, George T. Jr.

**Subject:** Phoenix Field Division SWB Briefing Paper Submissions

George,

Please review and forward our division's SWB Briefing Paper submissions to [REDACTED] **ATF** at [REDACTED] **ATF** by C.O.B. Monday December 28<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you.

[REDACTED] **ATF**

Acting Division Operations Officer

U.S. Department of Justice - ATF

201 E. Washington Street - Suite 940

Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

[REDACTED] **ATF**

fax -776-5429

[REDACTED] **ATF**

**PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION****Investigations:****ATF****Phoenix Group VII****ATF**785115-10-0004: **ATF** et al

This case is a:

ATF

**ATF**

Las Cruces Group I

**ATF**