
From: Weinstein, Jason
To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ)
Sent: 2/16/2011 5:53:20 PM
Subject: Re: Sen Grassley allegations about ATF

Perfect - thanks!

Jason M. Weinstein
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530
Office: (202) 305-9827
Cell: (202) 330-1514

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

From: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ) <Dennis.Burke@usdoj.gov>
To: Weinstein, Jason
Sent: Wed Feb 16 12:52:35 2011
Subject: RE: Sen Grassley allegations about ATF

Yep. I think you already nailed it but I figured if they wanted to dig deeper, I would arm you w/ Emory's full response for your use as you see fit.

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

From: Weinstein, Jason (CRM)
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 10:50 AM
To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ)
Subject: Re: Sen Grassley allegations about ATF

Thanks! I can provide longer explanation if they want, but from Emory's description sounds like shorter version is OK, right?

Jason M. Weinstein
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530
Office: (202) 305-9827
Cell: (202) 330-1514

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

From: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ) <Dennis.Burke@usdoj.gov>
To: Weinstein, Jason
Sent: Wed Feb 16 12:44:39 2011
Subject: FW: Sen Grassley allegations about ATF

Here you go.

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

From: Hurley, Emory (USAAZ)
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 10:21 AM
To: Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ); Burke, Dennis (USAAZ); Pimsner, David (USAAZ); Scheel, Ann (USAAZ); Hernandez, Rachel (USAAZ)
Cc: Morrissey, Mike (USAAZ)

Subject: RE: Sen Grassley allegations about ATF

Number two is easiest and most straight forward, as stated in the January 28 Memo:

DP

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

From: Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ)
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 9:37 AM
To: Hurley, Emory (USAAZ)
Subject: Fw: Sen Grassley allegations about ATF

Need ASAP. Pjc

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

From: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ)
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 11:22 AM
To: Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ); Massey, Debra (USAAZ)
Subject: Fw: Sen Grassley allegations about ATF

Can u get Emory to look at this now? Seems straightforward but if he wants to edit, need it ASAP.

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

From: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ)
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 11:20 AM
To: Hurley, Emory (USAAZ); Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ)
Subject: Fw: Sen Grassley allegations about ATF

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

From: Weinstein, Jason (CRM)
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 11:17 AM
To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ); Newell, William D. (ATF); Chait, Mark R. (ATF)
Subject: FW: Sen Grassley allegations about ATF

Let me know if this response is OK:

DP

DP

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

From: Grindler, Gary (OAG) [mailto:Gary.Grindler@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 10:35 AM
To: Breuer, Lanny A.; Weinstein, Jason; Raman, Mythili
Subject: FW: Sen Grassley allegations about ATF

Questions from the AG:

DP

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

From: Breuer, Lanny A. (CRM)
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2011 03:19 PM
To: Grindler, Gary (OAG)
Subject: Sen Grassley allegations about ATF

Gary,

To follow up on our conversation of Friday morning, prior to the Senate staff briefing on Thursday, Jason checked with the USAO in AZ and with ATF (both HQ and AZ) and was advised that the specific allegation in Sen. Grassley's most recent letter -- that ATF encouraged a reluctant FFL to continue to make sales to suspected traffickers - is false.

From talking to Jason, my understanding is that OLA made the judgment not to address any of the specific allegations in Sen. Grassley's letters during the briefing. Instead, Jason and the ATF reps. provided a tutorial of sorts on how cases against sophisticated gun trafficking organizations like the one in AZ are built. They walked the staffers through the kind of tactical and investigative judgments involved at each stage of the investigation, drawing an analogy between gun trafficking cases and drug conspiracy cases. The goal - and by all accounts it seems to have worked - was to communicate that the ATF's work in the AZ case and others like it reflected sound judgment and investigative work.

During the Q&A at the briefing, Sen. Grassley's staffers asked a number of specific questions about the AZ investigation, which our folks declined to answer, with one exception. A staffer asked whether as part of the AZ case, ATF ever encouraged a reluctant FFL to continue unlawful sales. Jason and the ATF reps. responded that based on their knowledge of the case, they were unaware of that ever having happened in this investigation.

Up to this point, our inquiries about the Grassley allegations have been at the U.S. Attorney/SAC level.

DP

DP

Just let us know

how you'd like us to proceed.

Best, Lanny