

From: Grindler, Gary (OAG)
To: Weinstein, Jason (CRM); Breuer, Lanny A. (CRM); Raman, Mythili (CRM)
Sent: 2/16/2011 1:17:05 PM
Subject: RE: Sen Grassley allegations about ATF

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From: Weinstein, Jason (CRM)
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 1:15 PM
To: Grindler, Gary (OAG); Breuer, Lanny A. (CRM); Raman, Mythili (CRM)
Subject: RE: Sen Grassley allegations about ATF

Per ATF and USAO:

(1) Bottom line is that ATF did NOT persuade a reluctant dealer to participate.

(2) Two of the guns sold during the investigation were found near the scene of the shooting of Agent Terry. These guns had been purchased about 11 months earlier, by a person later determined to be part of the trafficking ring. ATF was not notified of the sales until after they had been completed.

If you need more info, I can provide additional details about the two guns and about ATF's/USAO's dealings with the gun dealers in this case.

-----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

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----- 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,

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From talking to Jason, my understanding is that

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DP 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.

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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.

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Best, Lanny