

From: Spencer, Lashawna
To: Weinstein, Jason
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Holder Says "Gunwalking" Is Wrong. [CBS News](#) (3/11) reports, "Prior to this week, the position of the Justice Department was that ATF has never knowingly allowed guns to get into the hands of suspected gunrunners. However," Attorney General Holder "no longer appears to be denying the allegations, which have been made by a dozen veteran ATF agents. At a hearing" on Thursday, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX) "asked Holder to comment on the case. Holder emphasized 'The mission of ATF.. is to stop the flow of guns. That is the focus of ATF and why they are bravely working in Mexico and in this country.' Holder went on to say for the first time that letting guns 'walk' into the hands of criminals for any reason is wrong."

[Main Justice](#) (3/11) reports that Holder said "he has informed Justice Department officials that allowing guns to 'walk' is unacceptable. 'Guns are different than drug cases or cases where we're trying to follow where money goes,' Holder said. 'We cannot have a situation where guns are allowed to walk and I've made that clear to the United States Attorneys as well as the agents in charge of the various ATF offices.'"

Mexican Lawmakers Demand Probe Of ATF Gun-Smuggling Allegations. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/11, Murphy, Ellingwood, 681K) reports, "Lawmakers in Mexico are demanding an investigation into a US law enforcement operation that allowed hundreds of weapons to flow into the hands of Mexican drug cartels amid claims from a ranking legislator that at least 150 Mexicans have been killed or wounded by guns trafficked by smugglers under the watch of US agents." The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives "has acknowledged that at least 195 weapons sold in Arizona under Operation Fast and Furious have been recovered in Mexico, traced as a matter of routine via serial numbers after their recovery from crime scenes, arrests and searches."

The [AP](#) (3/11, Castillo) reports that the Mexican Senate "called a hearing over reports that US agents allowed guns to be smuggled into Mexico as part of investigations into drug traffickers," and "voted to summon US Ambassador Arturo Sarukhan to discuss the issue, though it set no date. The lawmakers also asked Foreign Relations Secretary Patricia Espinoza to demand information from the US State Department."

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