

From: Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ)
To: McCormick, Glenn (USAAZ)
Sent: 3/24/2011 7:31:48 PM
Subject: RE: Six Smith Questions and Proposed Answers

Got it. Good attention to detail! Thanks PJC

From: McCormick, Glenn (USAAZ)
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2011 4:24 PM
To: Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ)
Subject: RE: Six Smith Questions and Proposed Answers

DP

Glenn

From: Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ)
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2011 3:42 PM
To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ); Scheel, Ann (USAAZ); Hernandez, Rachel (USAAZ); Morrissey, Mike (USAAZ); McCormick, Glenn (USAAZ); Hurley, Emory (USAAZ); Kelly, Kristen (USAAZ) 6
Subject: Six Smith Questions and Proposed Answers

Dennis and Friends:

DP

DP

DP

DP

Ok to send? pJC

Matt: Below are our proposed answers to the six questions:

DP

DP

From: Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG)

To: [redacted] ATF Burke, Dennis (USAAZ) ; Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ) ; Melson, Kenneth E.; Hoover, William J.

Sent: Wed Mar 23 21:22:02 2011

Subject: RE: Smith letter response
Tomorrow sometime would be great. Thanks, Chris.

Matt

From: [redacted] ATF

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2011 9:20 PM

To: Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG); Burke, Dennis (USAAZ); Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ); Melson, Kenneth E. (ATF); Hoover, William J. (ATF)

Subject: Re: Smith letter response

Matt

What is the timeline for a response to you?

[redacted] ATF

Acting Chief of Staff

ATF Office of the Director

O: 202-[redacted] ATF

C: [redacted] ATF

From: Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG)

To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ) ; Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ) ; Melson, Kenneth E.; Hoover, William J.; [redacted] ATF
A.

Sent: Wed Mar 23 21:17:04 2011

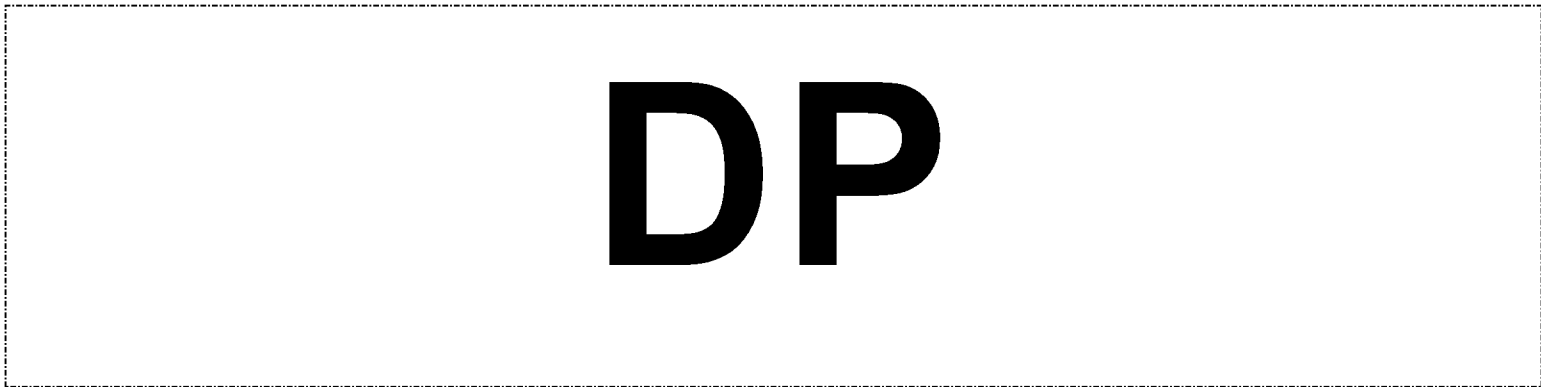
Subject: Smith letter response

All,

Thanks for your patience on the response to Congressman Smith. We in ODAG are still working on the letter. No final decision has been made about what the letter will look like, but depending on what folks here decide, [redacted] DP

[redacted] DP I already have a draft paragraph to address Question #5, which I've reprinted below, but I'm not sure of the answers to the remaining ones. Could you please send me the relevant information? Thanks. I've attached the incoming letter for ease of reference.

Matt



<<Untitled.PDF - Adobe Acrobat Pro.pdf>>

Matthew S. Axelrod

Associate Deputy Attorney General

Office of the Deputy Attorney General

U.S. Department of Justice

Desk (202) 305-0273

Cell (202) 532-3087

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DP

A. On the issue of "sanctioning" or "encouraging" gun sales-it did not happen:

ATF Agents and Lawyers from the US Attorney's Office did not "encourage" any FFL to "keep selling guns to known straw buyers." In the two meetings with FFLs, attorneys and agents advised the FFLs that the Government cannot advise them to sell multiple guns or advise not to sell multiple guns. The FFLs were advised that those decisions were up to FFLs as are all decisions to sell left up to the FFL to evaluate the sale and determine whether it is lawful. In short, the FFLs were advised that the Government cannot advise FFLs to halt a sale that appears lawful and we cannot authorize a sale that appears unlawful. There was no mistake as to the clarity of the Agents' and Attorneys' message.

FFLs need no encouragement to sell guns as that is their actual business, selling guns. By the time that the government met with the owners, they had made many multiple sales and the guns were gone.

Main Justice position on the issue of Sanctioning or encouraging arms sales, the Quote of Assistant Attorney General Ronald Weich in his February 4, 2011 letter:

DP

DP

From: Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG) (SMO)

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2011 6:17 PM

To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ); Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ); Melson, Kenneth E. (ATF); Hoover, William J. (ATF); ATF

ATF

Subject: Smith letter response

All,

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DP

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Matt

DP

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