
From: Burton, Faith (SMO)
To: Weich, Ron (SMO)
Sent: 5/27/2011 3:22:50 PM
Subject: Fw: Robbie Sherwood's Problematic Statements (USAO D. Ariz.)
Attachments: Article.pdf

FYI re last message.

From: Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG)
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2011 02:45 PM
To: Burton, Faith (SMO); Colborn, Paul P (SMO); Wilkinson, Monty (OAG); Richardson, Margaret (SMO); Schmalzer, Tracy (SMO)
Subject: FW: Robbie Sherwood's Problematic Statements (USAO D. Ariz.)

From: Castor, Stephen [mailto:Stephen.Castor@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2011 2:36 PM
To: Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG)
Subject: Robbie Sherwood's Problematic Statements (USAO D. Ariz.)

Hello again Matt

Attached is a pdf of a story from yesterday's La Opinion where a spokesman from the USAO-D. Ariz. Robbie Sherwood "says that the vast majority of guns seized in crimes across the border [come] from a small number of retailers, including Lone Wolf."

The first sentence of the story states that Lone Wolf sold 800 rifles to the Sinaloa cartel.

As you know, Lone Wolf is cooperating with our investigation. As you also know, we have real and specific concerns that the Justice Department will retaliate against and has retaliated against witnesses that agree to work with us. We have previously raised instances where witnesses were retaliated against by DOJ/ATF shortly after it became known that they were having communications with us. We believe this story raises the prospect that the USAO in Arizona is now meting out some retribution against Lone Wolf for agreeing to cooperate with us.

Furthermore, Sherwood's statement is a remarkable turnabout from the Department's position in April with regard to Lone Wolf. It was represented to us in April that the Department had concerns about identifying particular FFLs by name for safety reasons. Now, USAO has put a veritable target on Lone Wolf.

La Opinion is the largest Spanish-language daily in the US.

Can you find out why the USAO is feeding information to the press that can reasonably lead to the harm of a witness the Justice Department says it is relying on to succeed at trial?

I would also note that Sherwood – an official Department spokesman – just admitted that the vast majority of guns seized in crimes in Mexico came from Operation Fast and Furious.

Steve Castor
Committee on Oversight and Gov't Reform
Rep. Darrell Issa, Chairman
U.S. House of Representatives
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