

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

June 3, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to express our serious concerns about the Administration's response to investigations of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' (ATF) "Project Gunrunner" and its offshoot known as "Fast and Furious."

Reports of the tactics used in this operation are extremely troubling. The ATF allegedly encouraged gun store owners to sell thousands of firearms to customers whom store employees considered suspicious. Our concerns were heightened with news that one of the firearms sold may have been used in the murder of a Border Patrol agent. These allegations call into question the judgment of the agents involved. It is equally troubling that the Department of Justice has delayed action and withheld information from Congressional inquiries.

We stand firm in our support for our federal law enforcement agents, but concerned Americans—regardless of where they stand on gun control issues—deserve prompt and complete answers to the questions surrounding this operation. While the Department of Justice can and should continue its investigation, those activities should not curtail the ability of Congress to fulfill its oversight duties.

We urge you to instruct the Department of Justice to promptly provide complete answers to all Congressional inquiries on this issue. These investigations should not be used as a platform for partisan criticism of the Administration; rather, they should be an opportunity to get to the bottom of this serious allegation of federal law enforcement misconduct. We believe it is essential for you to seize this opportunity, and we stand willing to provide the Administration our support in any way we can.


Sincerely,



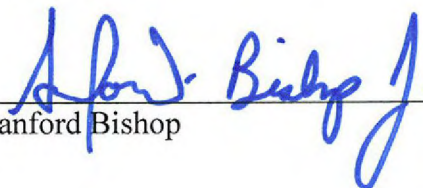
Jason Altmire



Joe Baca



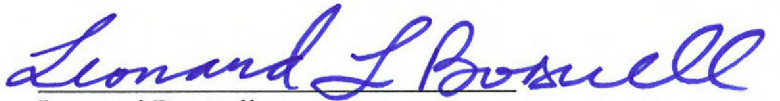
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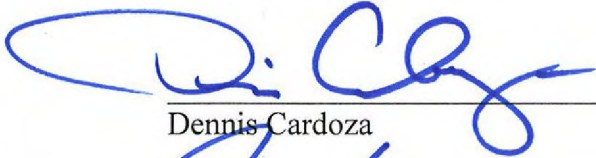
Sanford Bishop



Dan Boren



Leonard Boswell



Dennis Cardoza



Ben Chandler



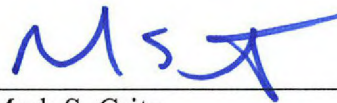
Jim Cooper



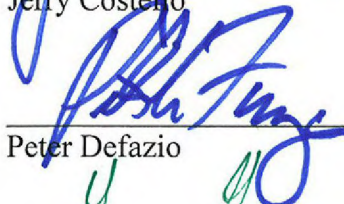
Jim Costa



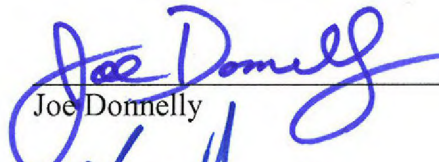
Jerry Costello



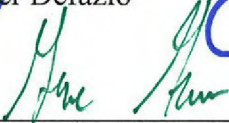
Mark S. Critz



Peter Defazio



Joe Donnelly



Gene Green



Martin Heinrich



Tim Holden




Ron Kind



Larry Kissell



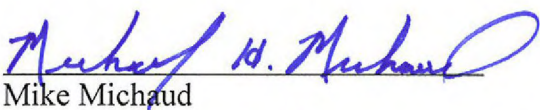
Ben Ray Lujan



Jim Matheson



Mike McIntyre



Mike Michaud



Bill Owens



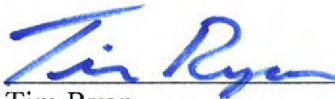
Collin Peterson



Nick Rahall



Mike Ross



Tim Ryan

*Kurt Schrader*

Kurt Schrader

*Heath Shuler*

Heath Shuler

*Tim J. Walz*

Tim Walz