

## U.S. Department of Justice

## Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

June 10, 2011

The Honorable Darrell E. Issa Chairman Committee on Oversight and Government Reform U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter provides additional information and documents responsive to the Committee's subpoena of March 31, 2011.

We fully appreciate the Committee's legitimate oversight interest in the genesis and strategy pertaining to Fast and Furious. We are committed to working with you to accommodate the Committee's information needs, consistent with our law enforcement responsibilities. Toward that end, we have delivered to your office 379 pages of documents to date and an additional 69 pages are enclosed with this letter. These documents were identified in our search of the emails of ATF Agents Newell, Gillett, and Voth. They bear limited redactions, like other documents we have previously provided, to protect specific details about the pending investigations, including text that would identify targets and sensitive techniques, plus information relating to line employees. We also have redacted text unrelated to the Committee's request in multi-subject documents. Many of these documents are not appropriate for public disclosure.

We understand your letter, dated June 8, 2011, requested the complete production of all documents by June 10, 2011. While this is not possible, we are continuing to work expeditiously to identify, process and provide or make available to the Committee additional information responsive to the its subpoena as quickly as possible and we intend to provide additional documents next week. We are also making available for review at the Department by Committee staff an additional 88 pages. This is in addition to the 800 pages of material that has previously been made available for review by Committee staff. We have substantial confidentiality interests in these documents because they contain information that relates to the pending criminal investigations. They bear limited redactions, similar to those set forth in the 466 pages reviewed by Committee staff on May 5.

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To the extent that the Committee has already obtained many of the records covered by your subpoena, our search might be streamlined by your identification of any that you do not need from us. We welcome any suggestions about how we might accommodate your oversight needs efficiently, consistent with our own responsibilities.

We understand your interest in our completion of the document search as soon as possible and we share that goal. In light of the pending investigations, however, we ask for your understanding that we are making a substantial effort in the extraordinary context of pending criminal investigations. We will continue our efforts and ask that you continue to work with us to find accommodations that meet both the Committee's oversight needs and the Department's need to avoid harm to these pending investigations.

We hope this information is helpful and look forward to working with the Committee as this matter continues.

Sincerely,

Ronald Weich

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Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Elijah Cummings

Ranking Member