

## Enclosure

The enclosed documents include emails derived from our ongoing search of the accounts of Agents Gillett, Newell, and ATF. Below the routing information at the top of these emails, there appears a “Categories” line that was not part of the original email transaction. These categories represent the tags being used by document reviewers as they search for responsive materials. We are working to prevent these tags from appearing on future emails.

Our search produced some documents, attached to emails, that have already been made available to the Committee. In these cases, we thought that the cover email, demonstrating who sent or received the documents, and when, might provide useful information; thus, we have provided the cover email and the first page of the document to which the Committee has already had access. Some documents produced in this collection are also included in the group of documents being made available for Committee review, with fewer redactions. Neither the first pages of documents already reviewed by the Committee, nor those also prepared for review with fewer redactions, are counted in the page numbers set forth in our letter to the Committee.

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**From:** Booth, David S. (IAO)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 27, 2010 4:42 PM  
**To:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Subject:** FF

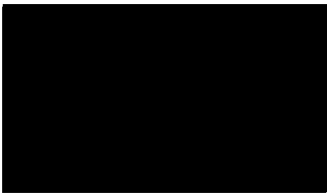
**Categories:** Fast and Furious

Good Afternoon George-

I apologize for the short notice, I just had this given to me. On Thursday morning the director is going to speak before the committee on oversight here in DC. one of the cases he will be talking about will be Fast and Furious. Do you have a ½ page synopsis on it that would give someone an idea about the case? The briefing is classified for whatever that means.

If it is easier, I will reach out to the group directly with your permission

ATF SA David S. Booth  
International Affairs Office  
Program Manager-Mexico



**From:** Kraft, Mark E.  
**Sent:** Friday, January 28, 2011 11:42 AM  
**To:** Newell, William D.; Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Cc:** McMahon, William G.; Mokos, Joseph P.; **ATF** Needles, James R.; Chait, Mark R.  
**Subject:** RE: Access to Fast and Furious

**Categories:** Fast and Furious

Understood

Mark Kraft  
Senior Special Agent  
Firearms Operations Division  


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**From:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Friday, January 28, 2011 11:18 AM  
**To:** Gillett, George T. Jr.; Kraft, Mark E.  
**Cc:** McMahon, William G.; Mokos, Joseph P.; **ATF**; Needles, James R.; Chait, Mark R.  
**Subject:** Re: Access to Fast and Furious

I would caution that this case is marked "6(e)" because it does in fact contain a vast amount of Grand Jury material. All individuals granted access will have to sign a 6(e) agreement forwarded to them by the AUSA. In addition, this case is still active and on-going and thus all information should be restricted on a strictly "Need to Know" basis only.

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**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**To:** Kraft, Mark E.  
**Cc:** Newell, William D.; McMahon, William G.; Mokos, Joseph P.; **ATF** Needles, James R.  
**Sent:** Fri Jan 28 11:14:30 2011  
**Subject:** Access to Fast and Furious  
Hello Mark –

SA Mokos will have full access to the Fast and Furious case as soon as the case agent can access the case and grant the access.

Please advise if there is anything further that we can assist with.

**George T. Gillett**  
Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
ATF - Phoenix Field Division  


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**From:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 05, 2011 1:10 PM  
**To:** McMahon, William G.  
**Subject:** Fast and Furious Talking Points for DAD doc  
**Attachments:** Fast and Furious Talking Points for DAD doc.docx  
  
**Categories:** Yellow Category, Red Category, Green Category

Revised.

Phoenix Press Conference Key Messages and Talking Points:  
(Some will be specific to Fast and Furious and some will address all the cases)

**Key Messages:**

Since the second GRIT initiative ended in August, 2009 the Phoenix Field Division has continued to proactively address firearms trafficking to Mexico in support of ATF's Project Gun Runner

These investigations demonstrate the commitment on the part of ATF and its Federal, State, Local, Tribal and International partners to address the criminal activity involved in the trafficking of firearms to Mexico

These investigations address the key goals of ATF's Southwest border firearms trafficking strategy which are:

- Prevent violent crime
- Ensure the safety of the communities situated along the Southwest Border
- Disrupt and dismantle the firearms trafficking networks responsible for the diversion of firearms from lawful commerce and into the hands of the Mexican Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs)

These investigations all involved tireless effort on the part of ATF employees using a wide variety of investigative methods to fully identify those responsible for trafficking firearms to Mexico

ATF's firearms tracing system, eTrace, played a key role in assisting in identifying the individuals involved in violating Federal firearms laws in these investigations

In all of these cases a large number of certain types of rifles, such as AR and AK variants with detachable magazines were purchased by straw purchasers as part of complex firearms trafficking organizations and then recovered in violent crimes in Mexico, according to ATF trace data, investigative experience, and Mexican law enforcement official reports

Substantiates the fact that Mexican DTOs and other associated criminal groups operating along the SWB are actively pursuing "weapons of choice" in U.S. commercial firearms market

These cases demonstrate the ongoing trafficking of firearms by Mexican DTOs and other associated groups operating in Arizona and the need for the reporting of multiple sales for certain types of rifles in order to ferret out those intent on providing firearms to these criminal groups

HOCR ATF 000833

## **Talking Points:**

**(Using the “Ws” method – you can change if you desire)**

### **What:**

- Proactive investigations focused on eliminating the entire firearms trafficking network, not just the straw purchasers
- ATF led firearms trafficking investigations into several firearms trafficking networks based in metro Phoenix
- Some initiated as early as October, 2009
- OCDETF Strike Force effort.
- Multi-agency (ICE, IRS, DEA, Phoenix PD)
- Almost exclusively "weapons of choice" which we have openly discussed many times before
- Alleged violations of Federal firearms laws by individuals involved in the illegal acquisition and transfer of firearms, money laundering, etc (the USAO will cover specific charges per case in more detail). Thus we should only state what is in the indictment when it comes to numbers of firearms. The indictment for Fast and Furious will not have the total number of firearms trafficked. Note: We have seized 352 firearms here in the U.S. in our effort to stop the trafficking while still making the larger case, and about 250 have been seized in Mexico. We will update the numbers again next week.

### **Who:**

- Metro Phoenix area based complex firearms trafficking organizations

For Fast and Furious:

- [REDACTED]
- Firearms primarily destined for Sinaloa DTO (based on traces, seizures in Mexico and other investigative data gathered during investigations)
- A large group of straw purchasers [REDACTED] were used extensively to spread out purchases and evade detection (another time to address Multiple Sale on Long Guns issue)

### **How:**

- Trafficking organizations used a large number of straw purchasers to spread out sales
- Shows straw purchases and the use of straw purchasers is still a major issue (lack of criminal history, need money, unlimited resource, etc)
- Firearms were purchased at numerous FFLs in the metro area

HOCR ATF 000834

- Firearms were trafficked to Mexico in a variety of ways but mainly in small loads using vehicles crossing into Mexico via POEs

**For Internal ATF Use Only:**

**At no time during the Fast and Furious investigation, or ANY investigation conducted by the Phoenix Field Division highlighted above, did ATF personnel knowingly allow firearms to be trafficked. Every available resource as well as every possible investigative and judicial process was used to prevent this from taking place. As a result of these efforts in the Fast and Furious case and as of October of 2010 to the best of our knowledge all firearms purchasing and trafficking activity by this organization has ended. This is due to several factors not the least of which are the many proactive measures taken by the agents assigned to Phoenix Group VII. It should also be noted that throughout the course of the investigation numerous seizures were made by other State, local and Federal law enforcement agencies at the direction of Phoenix Group VII in order to ensure the seized firearms did not reach their intended destination but also to ensure the leadership of this firearms trafficking organization was not “tipped off” to the proactive measures taken while the larger conspiracy case was being prepared for the USAO. To date 350 firearms have been taken into ATF custody as a result of these combined efforts.**

HOGR ATF 000835

AZ0276917

DOJ-FF-41040

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**From:** ATF  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 03, 2011 9:55 PM  
**To:** Newell, William D.  
**Subject:** Re: Great work!

**Categories:** Yellow Category, Red Category, Green Category

Thanks Mr. Newell, you could not have timed this e-mail any better...I am really feeling disappointed and frustrated with the whole situation. Thanks for the much needed encouragement!

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----- Original Message -----

**From:** Newell, William D.  
**To:** ATF  
**Sent:** Thu Feb 03 21:39:19 2011  
**Subject:** Great work!

Heard the 3+ hour interview with [REDACTED] was very productive. Great work and continuing effort amidst all the current "chaos". You two are doing outstanding work so don't let the detractors get to you, they aren't worth it. I'm very proud of everything you have accomplished and so are many many others. Screw the rest.

\*\*\*\*\*

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**From:** ATF  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2011 6:33 PM  
**To:** Newell, William D.; Needles, James R.; Gillett, George T. Jr.; ATF Mangan, Thomas G.; ATF; France, Layne  
**Subject:** After Action  
**Categories:** Yellow Category, Red Category, Green Category

Command post began operation at 0530 hours and ended operations at 1227 hours.

Search Team 1 and 2 executed their warrants at 0601 hours and 0602 respectively. The remaining arrests teams were giving the green light by OCS ATF at 0611 hours.

12/15/10 Arrest - 1 ATF by ATF)  
01/24/11 Arrest - 1 (Francisco PONCE by PPD)  
01/25/11 Arrest - 1 ATF in Nogales POE)  
01/25/11 Arrests - 15

Fugitives: 2 (Manuel CELIS-ACOSTA & Juan MARTINEZ-GONZALEZ)

[REDACTED]

A good day's work indeed.

ATF Senior IRS  
Acting Intel Group Supervisor  
[REDACTED]



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**From:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 30, 2011 6:46 PM  
**To:** Needles, James R.; Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ)  
**Subject:** Coordination with Mexican authorities - as requested  
**Attachments:** us versionAT-GoM Dec 15 Meeting Draft kmt edits (2).docx

**Categories:** Yellow Category, Red Category, Green Category

The PGR rep in Phoenix, Carlos Luque Ordonez, was briefed by the ATF Special Agent in Charge as early as December 2009, when the case first began to develop. On several occasions during the course of the following year I briefed the Phoenix PGR rep on the status of this investigation as well as other investigations we were working related to firearms trafficking to Mexico. It should be noted however that these briefings were general in nature and did not get into specifics regarding the identification of each suspect, investigative techniques, [REDACTED], etc. I would inform him of a "large-scale" firearms trafficking investigation being worked out of Group VII and that once arrests were planned I fully expected him to participate in any interviews of Mexican nationals and/or cooperating individuals in order to obtain information that would be of value to the PGR for use in prosecutions in Mexico, if applicable.

In late 2010 as the date for indictment and arrests became more firm I began to coordinate with the Phoenix PGR rep and our ATF Mexico Country Office regarding having SIEDO prosecutors be present for the "take down" and any post-arrest interviews that might provide valuable information about the Mexico side of this firearms trafficking network. The ATF Mexico Country Office coordinated this with the UEITA office in SIEDO, OPDAT and others in the Embassy. UEITA is the group that handles Federal firearms prosecutions for the PGR.

In preparation for this expected visit of Mexican prosecutors the following meetings/briefings took place:

On December 3, 2010, during a Phoenix "GC Armas" meeting at the ATF Phoenix Field Division office, I arranged for the case agent and supervisor to brief our Acting Country Attaché and the head of UEITA on the "Fast and Furious" investigation and what our plans were once the indictments were received and arrest operation planned. In this meeting an invitation was extended to UEITA to send personnel they deemed most appropriate to participate in post-arrest interviews of cooperating individuals. It was agreed in this meeting that once a firm date for the "take down" was secured that UEITA would send two prosecutors to participate in any post-arrest interviews in which those detained were willing to cooperate.

On December 15, 2010 at PGR HQ in Mexico City, in a meeting sponsored by OPDAT (see attached), this investigation was briefed to several Mexican counterparts including David Najera from SRE, Yessica de la Madrid from PGR International Affairs, as well as CENAPI and

SIEDO reps. This was not an in-depth briefing but did discuss that two large-scale firearms trafficking cases out of Arizona (Fast and Furious and Wide Receiver) and that Fast and Furious was coming to a close in the Phoenix area. The purpose of this meeting was to coordinate bilateral investigative and prosecution efforts and it was explained that ATF Phoenix was looking to cooperate fully with our Mexican counterparts to turn over information gleaned during this case in order for them to follow-up on their end.

On January 23, 2011, UEITA prosecutors Sacnite Ruiz and Armando Lopez Hernandez traveled to Phoenix for the initial arrest phase of this investigation.

On January 24, 2011, an operational briefing was held for all U.S. law enforcement personnel assisting in the arrest phase of this investigation. Both UEITA prosecutors were present for this briefing.

On January 25, 2011, the initial arrest phase took place. The two UEITA prosecutors, in the presence of ATF personnel and with cooperating defendants, conducted two interviews. In one interview they obtained a confession. The Phoenix PGR rep was present for these interviews conducted by UEITA.



*Joint Mexico-U.S. Workshop*  
Dismantling the Tools of Transnational Crime  
Arms and Explosives Trafficking

December 15, 2010  
US version

Tuesday, December 14

5:00pm USG meets at Embassy to discuss the presentation of the 2 US investigations and how to improve ETrace, collaboration, and working cases together. Tentative location is Kiki Camarena room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Embassy.

**Purpose:** A working level meeting will be held to discuss continued joint Mexico –US efforts. At this meeting, the USG will present 2 investigations to PGR to be worked bi-nationally. PGR will present 2 investigations to the USG to be worked bi-nationally. In addition, future training needs will be discussed and coordinated by the participants.

Weds, December 15

9:30 am Depart Embassy

09:45 am [REDACTED]

10:00 – 10:30 Introductions and exchange of business cards.

10:30 - 11:30 Discussion of general areas of cooperation

- ETrace
- Cell phones
- Explosives
- Shared protocols

11:30-12:30 PGR to present 2 investigations (15 minutes per case – and 15 discussion per case)  
Determine how points of contact will be decided for GOM and USG for each case;  
Establish next steps in investigations for each case

12:30- 1:30 USG to present 2 investigations (15 minutes per case – and 15 discussion per case)  
Determine how points of contact will be decided for GOM and USG for each case;  
Establish next steps in investigations for each case

Presenters of 2 USG Cases by AUSA's/Case Agents (Approximately 2 slides regarding each investigation);  
Handouts (in Spanish) with detailed information regarding investigation to be provide to MX identifying nature of bilateral assistance needed

1:30 – 2:00 Break

2:00-2:30 Training opportunities and needs to advance the investigations (30 minutes)

2:30-3:30 Establish next meeting time/place/participants and deliverables for each case  
Establish a reporting update to keep track of the progress of the cases

3:00 Depart PGR

**Participants:**

USG –

[Redacted] Senior RLA  
[Redacted], RLA  
[Redacted], AUSA Arizona  
[Redacted] AUSA Arizona  
[Redacted] AUSA Arizona  
[Redacted], Criminal Division Gang Unit  
[Redacted], FSN Legal Advisor  
[Redacted] (ATF)  
[Redacted] DOJ

ATF will drop off at airport  
ATF will pick up and drop off at airport  
ATF will pick up and drop off at airport  
ATF will pick up and drop off at airport

TBD (ICE);  
and the US case agents involved in the US proposed investigations.  
(Tentative list of participants)

MX – PGR ?

**ATF**

February 1, 2011

In reviewing the news article in question concerning allegations of impropriety by either ATF or individual licensed Firearms Dealers in this matter concerning weapons purchased in Arizona that find their way into Mexico, We need to keep things in their proper perspective.

Let it be stated that while certain legislative officials not directly living here or directly familiar with this ongoing problem would suggest willful negligence on the part of federal Agencies charged with the enormous task of interdicting the flow of weapons crossing our border with Mexico, It should be known to the public that these Federal Agencies speaking strictly from my personal experience through many years act and conduct themselves in a very professional and proper manner. Any comparison to the contrary should be rejected completely.

On balance, The Mexican Cartels that use every available means at their disposal to procure any weapons to further their illegal drug trade do not run out of time or money. Federal Agencies have limited resources of money and manpower allotted to them by legislative officials who approve said budgets, While the Mexican Cartels are under no such restriction. Senator Grassley's office contacted us regarding "any" impropriety by ATF and we have stated that there exists no indication to that effect.

Lastly, It should be noted that our border is immense with Mexico and not every vehicle going into Mexico is stopped and searched for weapons, narcotics, or cash. Perhaps a more "Pro-Active" legislative approach would be to stop pointing blame at either Federal or State agencies attempting to do their job, And increase through legislation the budgets of all agencies on a more equitable level with the Drug Cartels and addition use all available means to secure our border. It appears that any State or Federal agency charged with said tasks are damned if they do, And damned if they don't. An appropriate response has to be to give them the tools to accomplish this monumental problem confronting them.

HOCR ATF 000843

AZ0276925

DOJ-FF-41048

**ATF**

January 26, 2011

So there remains no confusion to the accuracy regarding these events culminating with the Federal Indictment and arrests Monday, And to set the record straight and assure the public, We have issued the following statement.

We have worked closely in conjunction with several Federal agencies including the Phoenix office of ATF within the guidelines of both the Southwest Border Initiative and Operation Gunrunner, as well as within the guidelines of being an existing Federal Firearms Licensed dealer, as well as many other licensed Arizona dealers as well.

Due to the sensitivity and nature of any ongoing Federal Investigation we obviously are precluded from making any further statement other than we defer respectfully to the United States Attorney's Office and the Phoenix ATF field office on our behalf for any further comment they determine appropriate at this time.

Thank You.

HOCR ATF 000844



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**From:** Needles, James R.  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2010 11:32 AM  
**To:** Newell, William D.  
**Subject:** RE: AUSA Meeting

**Categories:** Red Category, Green Category

FYI...I just spoke with ICE ASAC Armando Garcia and invited he and Ed Hammel who is now the supervisor of the group that **ATF** has been working with. They are going to attend.

-----Original Message-----

From: Newell, William D.  
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2010 6:35 AM  
To: Needles, James R.  
Subject: Re: AUSA Meeting

Bring up "cross border" prosecutions again using Arizona AGs office and PGR rep Bill Newell Special Agent in Charge ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)  
Cell: 602-859-0882

\*\*\*  
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----- Original Message -----

From: Needles, James R.  
To: Newell, William D.  
Sent: Wed Aug 11 09:27:13 2010  
Subject: AUSA Meeting

Myself and **ATF** are meeting this morning with several supervisory level AUSAs to "brainstorm" and discuss possible prosecution strategies for "firearms to Mexico" investigations. If there are any topics/ideas/questions etc. You would like for me to discuss let me know.

\*\*\*  
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**From:** McMahon, William G.  
**Sent:** Friday, April 23, 2010 10:27 AM  
**To:** Webb, J. Dewey; Champion, Robert R.; Newell, William D.; Torres, John A.  
**Cc:** Chait, Mark R.; ATF  
**Subject:** Fw: TALKING POINTS FOR MEETING WITH DOJ ON APRIL 23, 2010  
**Attachments:** SWB Issues Paper for EAD Hoover regarding ICE and CBP.docx

**Categories:** Green Category

Guys,

Thanks for your help in putting together this document for Billy's meeting today.

I hope the issues you have laid out have been addressed or attempted to be addressed with your counterparts there locally.

Thanks again,

Bill

\*\*\*

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**From:** ATF  
**To:** Hoover, William J.  
**Cc:** Chait, Mark R.; McMahon, William G.  
**Sent:** Thu Apr 22 18:36:13 2010  
**Subject:** TALKING POINTS FOR MEETING WITH DOJ ON APRIL 23, 2010  
Billy:

Please let me know if the attached document meets your needs.

Ray

ATF

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
Chief, Firearms Enforcement Programs  
National Southwest Border Coordinator  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

The following summary was compiled on April 22, 2010 as a result of information provided by the Los Angeles, Phoenix, Houston and Dallas Field Divisions. This document highlights some of the significant issues that ATF continues to face regarding our relationship with ICE and CBP.

- The Houston Division reports that on the whole most interagency issues are resolved cooperatively. However, some disputes/disagreements concerning tactics when working firearms trafficking cases continue. Specifically, in the Houston Division ATF and ICE have disagreed about the necessity of following suspected traffickers to the border when GCA violations have already been established. For instance, when a felon or illegal alien is the suspected trafficker and is in possession of firearms. The Houston Division believes that continuing to follow the trafficker to the border in such cases runs the unnecessary risk of losing the firearms and causes an unnecessary use of limited manpower. It appears that ICE wants to take the guns all the way to the border to support charges involving the Armed Export Control Act.

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]



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**From:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 22, 2011 1:12 PM  
**To:** Booth, David S. (IAO)  
**Subject:** FW:

**Categories:** Red Category, Green Category

Bill Newell  
Special Agent in Charge  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)  
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** ATF  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 22, 2011 10:56 AM  
**To:** Newell, William D.  
**Subject:** FW:

**ATF**

ATF National Coordinator  
Southwest Border/Project Gunrunner  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** Johnston, Deborah A. (ODAG) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 22, 2011 11:06 AM  
**To:** ATF  
**Subject:**



Project Gunrunner  
2011-02 (Hag...)

Deborah A. Johnston  
Associate Deputy General  
950 Pennsylvania Ave. NW [REDACTED]  
Washington, DC 20530



## Southwest Border – Project Gunrunner

- Project Gunrunner, implemented in 2006 as ATF's southwest border strategy, works in conjunction with its domestic and international law enforcement partners to identify, disrupt and dismantle the firearms trafficking infrastructure of transnational criminal organizations operating in Mexico and along the border.
- Through Project Gunrunner ATF has targeted and prosecuted firearms trafficking organizations in all parts of the United States, from Minnesota to Florida to all our border states, where ATF tracing data and intelligence has provided valuable leads in identifying individuals bent on providing guns to the cartels.
- Today, there are over 4,600 open Project Gunrunner investigations throughout the United States looking into the firearm traffickers that facilitate such violence in Mexico.
- Since its 2006 inception, ATF's Project Gunrunner investigations have seized in excess of 10,000 firearms and 1.1 million rounds of ammunition destined for Mexico.
- In December 2009, ATF deployed Spanish eTrace, which allows our Mexican law enforcement partners and other Spanish-speaking nations to enter information about recovered crime guns into ATF's National Tracing Center.
- eTrace allows law enforcement representatives to electronically submit firearm trace requests, to retrieve completed trace results, and to query firearm trace-related data in a real-time environment.
- In response to the State Department funding of Integrated Ballistics Identification Systems (IBIS) machines in Mexico, ATF has developed an international correlation server for bilateral sharing of forensic evidence recovered in relation to shootings on both sides of the border. In addition, ATF is developing a mobile IBIS capability that will allow us to capture more forensic firearms identification from US law enforcement agencies that now do not have access to the NIBIN program. NIBIN continues to be an important tool in the identification and investigation of active shooters domestically and abroad.
- Project Gunrunner proves that valuable investigative information is obtained when all crime guns are traced. Numerous illegal purchasers have been identified and trafficking networks investigated and prosecuted based on leads generated by eTrace.
- Since 2009, ATF has tripled its Project Gunrunner personnel in Mexico which has increased its capabilities for intelligence sharing and scene response. As a result, the Government of Mexico is able to perfect additional cases and prosecute offenders.
- As part of ATF's Project Gunrunner contributions within the Merida initiative, ATF continues to train Government of Mexico officials in firearms and explosives



identification, firearms tracing procedures, post blast investigations, crisis negotiations, and the training and use of explosive detection canines.

- ATF has partnered with the Government of Mexico to create the Combined Explosives Investigation Team (CEIT). This team is a deployable, bi-national unit composed of Mexican law enforcement officers, ATF Special Agents, and ATF Explosives Enforcement Officers. The team responds to, and investigates, the rapidly increasing number of incidents involving the use or recovery of improvised explosive devices (IED's) and Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Devices (VBIED's) in Mexico.
- ATF has partnered with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Government of Mexico to form the DC Arms Group. Based in Washington, DC, this group is a multi-agency effort to coordinate strategic efforts of the participating agencies.
- Further Project Gunrunner statistics, FY 2006 – 2010 (only that information coded as Project Gunrunner, not ATF as a whole):
  - 2,451 defendants were recommended for prosecution.
  - 809 defendants were serving an average of 104 months in prison and an additional 260 were under the supervision of the court for an average of 39 months
  - 300 additional defendants were convicted and are awaiting their sentence.
  - 1,573 defendants (64% of all Gunrunner defendants recommended for prosecution) faced charges related to firearms trafficking.
  - ATF conducted 11,745 firearms licensee compliance inspections.
  - ATF Industry Operations Investigators (IOIs) identified 92,871 firearms that FFLs could not locate in inventory or account for by sale or other disposition. By working with industry members, IOIs located either the firearms or records to confirm the disposition of 76,436, or 82% of the missing firearms.
  - ATF's IOIs reviewed over 1.75 million firearm transaction records to both validate their correct and accurate completion as well as glean investigative leads regarding patterns of purchases.

*Success Stories:*

- During a routine FFL inspection in Houston, Texas, a large-scale trafficking operation was discovered, in which a high-ranking Los Zetas member recruited and paid straw purchasers up to \$500 per transaction. After purchase, the firearms were transported to Mexico and passed along to a Gulf cartel member. There were 338 firearms illegally purchased from FFLs at a retail value in excess of \$360,000. All of the firearms were purchased in 97 separate transactions. As of 01/21/10, 102 firearms have been recovered:

97 in Mexico, 4 in Guatemala and 1 in the U.S. (in home of one defendant). There have been 63 deaths associated with these guns: 18 law enforcement officers and civilians, and 45 cartel gunmen. Thus far, 16 individuals have been charged with firearms trafficking related charges and 13 have been sentenced.

- An ATF trace of a firearm recovered in Mexico revealed that the purchaser resided in Minnesota and had purchased in excess of 100 firearms. ATF also determined that this individual has numerous Mexico-U.S. border crossings near the dates of firearms purchases. ATF also determined that this individual has had nearly \$70,000 (non-declared on taxes) wired to his bank account from Mexican sources. ATF established a **ATF** intercept on the individual's cellular telephone. ATF then established a 1,400 mile surveillance tracking the individual to Laredo, Texas where ATF asked CBP to stop the individual prior to crossing the border. Fourteen (14) firearms were recovered from the vehicle. The Minnesota resident that ran the operation in the United States was sentenced to 36 months imprisonment. As of 01/25/11, 18 individuals have been charged in this investigation. ATF cooperation with GOM officials has led to several prosecutions in Mexico as well as evidence recovery.

- In December 2009, ATF released eTrace 4.0, the bilingual version of the application allowing law enforcement agencies to capitalize on the full benefits of eTrace in English or Spanish. eTrace 4.0 was produced at the request of Spanish-speaking countries and its concept was supported by the U.S. Department of State. It allows users to input and retrieve data in Spanish and, at the same time, the information is retrievable and searchable in English. It also allows international law enforcement agencies to capitalize on the full benefits of eTrace in Spanish or English and provides data conventions in accordance with international standards.

- The NTC conducted Spanish eTrace training in Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras, Panama, Guyana and El Salvador. The NTC has provided briefings to representatives of selected South American governments to further expand the use of the system in order to have the majority of countries in the western hemisphere participating, thereby substantially improving ATF's understanding of the illegal trafficking of firearms within the entire region.

❑ **Long guns, including semiautomatic assault rifles, purchased in the United States are being smuggled to Mexico by drug cartels and used in violent criminal activity along the southwest border.**

- **Increase in U.S. Long Guns Recovered in Mexico:** According to a recent Department of Justice, Office of the Inspector General (OIG) report, the percentage of crime guns recovered in Mexico that are long guns increased from 20% in 2004 to 48% in 2009.
  - OIG also found that long guns tend to have shorter "time-to-crime" than handguns and Mexican cartels are buying these assault rifles in multiples.

- OIG report recommended that ATF obtain multiple long gun sales reports to identify trafficking patterns and improve investigative leads.
- According to OIG and ATF, 90 percent of firearms recovered and traced in drug cartel crimes in Mexico originated from the United States.
- Drug gangs are responsible for 30,100 deaths in Mexico

February 2011 (Prepared by John Hageman v. 1)

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**From:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 04, 2011 6:19 PM  
**To:** McMahon, William G.  
**Subject:** FW: Tentative indictments for Group VII  
**Attachments:** Fast and Furious Talking Points for DAD.doc.docx; PHX GRIT Briefing - Sept 15th.pdf; Strike Force examples.pptx

**Categories:** Yellow Category, Red Category, Green Category

We plan on discussing all the cases below at the press conference. In all of them the main ATF charge is 18 USC 924(a)(1)(A) but also include 371, Dealing w/o a License, etc.

Since we just had the GRIT press conf in August and most if not all of the very same reporters will be coming I plan on creating a nexus between that last press conference and our most recent efforts to show the constant and ongoing efforts on our part to address the illegal trafficking of firearms to Mexico. We are also finalizing a handout very similar to the one we used for the GRIT (which Melson liked). (Copy attached of GRIT example as a reminder of what it looked like).

For Fast and Furious and a couple of the below cases we are going to plug the OCDETF Strike Force and the Gunrunner Group's role on the Strike Force, basically using the Arizona Strike Force's mission statement which is "focus investigations on the command and control elements of the Sinaloa Cartel and Arizona-based cells associated with the Cartel". The Strike Force's 5 investigative strategies include "#1 – Intelligence driven investigations that target CPOT-level members of the Sinaloa Cartel", "#2 - Identification and investigation of not only the northern transportation routes for narcotics, but a strict focus on the methods of operation used by the subordinate cartel cells in Arizona to transport drug related proceeds and weapons back to Mexico from and through Arizona", and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. We did these very things in the Fast and Furious so I feel strongly we lived up to our commitment to the OCDETF Strike Force concept as do our partners.

Also, the case listed under #4 below highlights very well the intermingling of [REDACTED], drug trafficking and firearms trafficking the Phoenix metro area. This case had it all and is a great example of how we work well with a local PD in quickly addressing not only [REDACTED] but also the associated firearms trafficking of 49 AKs that were purchased in very short order by a diverse group of straws (another reason to mention the long gun reporting issue). The short PowerPoint attachment highlights this case as well as an example of a map we used for GRIT that we are going to redo to include info on the seizure info of these cases. Use "ATF" to open.

Bill Newell  
Special Agent in Charge  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)  
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Needles, James R.  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 04, 2011 1:33 PM  
**To:** Newell, William D.  
**Subject:** FW: Tentative indictments for Group VII

1. 785115-10-0036, Indicted November 30, 2010, 1 – individual, Gabriel Espinoza  
Gabriel Espinoza, 785115-10-0036, purchased twenty-two (22) AK-47 variant rifles in seven days from September 8-14, 2010.
2. 785115-10-0021, Indicted November 30, 2010, 6 – individuals, Erick Morales  
Morales is the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) person indicted to date in this investigation (Jeffery Broome et al) involving firearms trafficking to Mexico. This investigation is over 80 firearms trafficked by this organization.
3. 785115-10-0004, Criminal Complaint, December 16, 2010, 1 – individual, ATF  
On December 15, 2010, after the shooting death of a U.S. Border Patrol agent in Southern Arizona law enforcement officers/agents conducted a search of the area. Two (2) of the AK-47 variant rifles purchased by ATF on 01/16/2010 were recovered in the area during this search.
4. 785115-10-0030, Indicted December 21, 2010; 8 - individuals (the 49 gun Phoenix PD stash house seizure)  
On or about August 18, 2010, the Phoenix Police Department responded to a disturbance call. Subsequent follow-up investigative leads resulted in the execution of multiple search warrants whereby hundreds of pounds of marijuana and forty-nine (49) AK-47 variant rifles were recovered. ATF Group VII agents initiated a firearms trafficking investigation and learned that these firearms were all purchased during an eleven (11) day period just prior to the execution of the search warrant by nine (9) straw purchasers.
5. 785115-10-0035, Indicted January 4, 2011, 1 – individual, Jose Aguilar  
In April 2010 Aguilar purchased three FN 5.7mm pistols from a Phoenix area FFL. In August of 2010 two of these firearms were recovered in Mexico. Aguilar was subsequently interviewed and confessed to straw purchasing these firearms.
6. 785115-10-0004, *Scheduled* to be Indicted January 19, 2011; 20 - individuals (Fast & Furious)  
From October 2009 to October 2010 agents have documented that this organization spent approximately 1.25 million dollars in cash at various Phoenix area Federal Firearms Licensees to acquire in excess of 1,900 firearms. The firearms are then being trafficked into Mexico. This is an approved OCDETF case which included seven (7) ATF T-III audio intercepts.
7. [REDACTED], *Scheduled* to be Indicted January \_\_, 2011 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Phoenix Press Conference Key Messages and Talking Points:  
(Some will be specific to Fast and Furious and some will address all the cases)

**Key Messages:**

Since GRIT press conference in August, 2009 the Phoenix Field Division has continued to proactively address firearms trafficking to Mexico in support of ATF's Project Gun Runner

These investigations demonstrate the commitment on the part of ATF and its Federal, State, Local, Tribal and International partners to address the criminal activity involved in the trafficking of firearms to Mexico

These investigations address the key goals of ATF's Southwest border firearms trafficking strategy which are:

- Prevent violent crime
- Ensure the safety of the communities situated along the Southwest Border
- Disrupt and dismantle the firearms trafficking networks responsible for the diversion of firearms from lawful commerce and into the hands of the Mexican Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs)

These investigations all involved tireless effort on the part of ATF employees using a wide variety of investigative methods to fully identify those responsible for trafficking firearms to Mexico

ATF's firearms tracing system, eTrace, played a key role in assisting in identifying the individuals involved in violating Federal firearms laws in these investigations

In all of these cases a large number of certain types of rifles, such as AR and AK variants with detachable magazines were purchased by straw purchasers as part of complex firearms trafficking organizations and then recovered in violent crimes in Mexico, according to ATF trace data, investigative experience, and Mexican law enforcement official reports

Substantiates the fact that Mexican DTOs and other associated criminal groups operating along the SWB are actively pursuing "weapons of choice" in U.S. commercial firearms market

These cases demonstrate the ongoing trafficking of firearms by Mexican DTOs and other associated groups operating in Arizona and the need for the reporting of multiple sales for certain types of rifles in order to ferret out those intent on providing firearms to these criminal groups

HOCR ATF 000858

**Talking Points:**

**(Using the “Ws” method – you can change if you desire)**

**What:**

- Proactive investigations focused on eliminating the entire firearms trafficking network, not just the straw purchasers
- ATF led firearms trafficking investigations into several firearms trafficking networks based in metro Phoenix
- Some initiated as early as October, 2009
- OCDETF Strike Force effort.
- Multi-agency (ICE, IRS, DEA, Phoenix PD)
- Almost exclusively "weapons of choice" which we have openly discussed many times before
- Alleged violations of Federal firearms laws by individuals involved in the illegal acquisition and transfer of firearms, money laundering, etc (the USAO will cover specific charges per case in more detail). Thus we should only state what is in the indictment when it comes to numbers of firearms. The indictment for Fast and Furious will not have the total number of firearms trafficked. Note: We have seized 352 firearms here in the U.S. in our effort to stop the trafficking while still making the larger case, and about 250 have been seized in Mexico. We will update the numbers again next week.

**Who:**

- Metro Phoenix area based complex firearms trafficking organizations

**For Fast and Furious:**

- [REDACTED]
- Firearms primarily destined for Sinaloa DTO (based on traces, seizures in Mexico and other investigative data gathered during investigations)
- A large group of straw purchasers [REDACTED] were used extensively to spread out purchases and evade detection (another time to address Multiple Sale on Long Guns issue)

**How:**

- Trafficking organizations used a large number of straw purchasers to spread out sales
- Shows straw purchases and the use of straw purchasers is still a major issue (lack of criminal history, need money, unlimited resource, etc)
- Firearms were purchased at numerous FFLs in the metro area

HOCR ATF 000859

- Firearms were trafficked to Mexico in a variety of ways but mainly in small loads using vehicles crossing into Mexico via POEs

HOCR ATF 000860

AZ0276942

DOJ-FF-41065



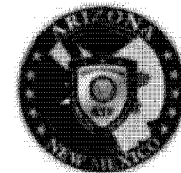


**Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives**  
**Gun Runner Impact Team (GRIT)**  
**Phoenix Field Division**  
**May 1 – August 6, 2010**

HOCR ATF 000861



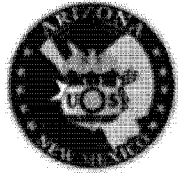
## Gun Runner Impact Team



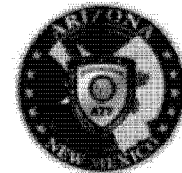
- The U.S. Department of Justice's Southwest Border (SWB) Initiative is a focused and comprehensive approach to address the violence inflicted by the Mexican Drug Cartels on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico Border. ATF's part in this initiative is ***Project Gunrunner***
- Project Gunrunner's primary goal is to stem the trafficking of firearms to Mexican Drug Cartels by identifying and investigating those responsible and to combat firearms related violence affecting communities on both sides of the border
- Gun Runner Impact Teams (GRIT) were developed as a supplement of ATF resources along the SWB and from May 1 through August 6, 2010 a GRIT was deployed to ATF's Phoenix Field Division. The Phoenix GRIT consisted of 84 ATF personnel including Special Agents, Industry Operations Investigators, and Support Staff from around the country.

Source – Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

HOCR ATF 000862



# GRIT Impact



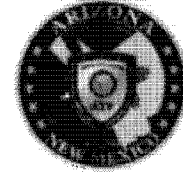
- 174 investigations were initiated by the Phoenix GRIT.
- To date 66 defendants have been referred for prosecution.
- Follow up on all investigative leads is ongoing.

Source – Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

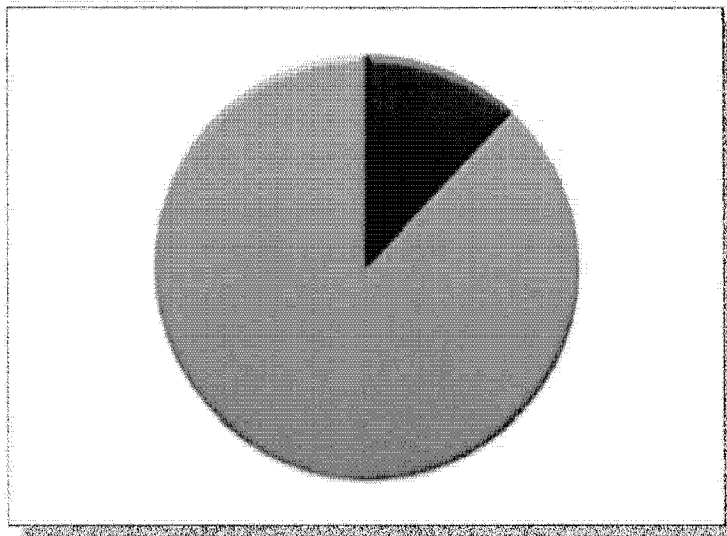
HOCR ATF 000863



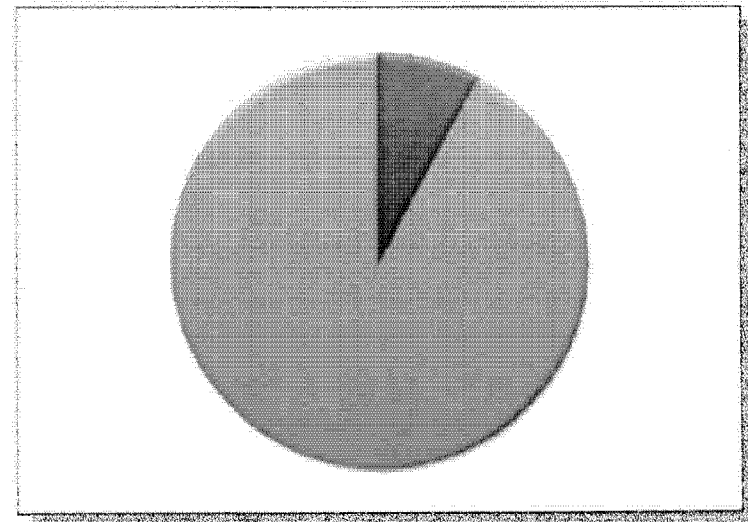
# Completed FFL Inspections (GRIT)



Warning Letters / Warning Conferences / Revocation  
110



Voluntary Surrender  
69



## Total FFL Inspections – 806

Source – Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

HOCR ATF 000864



# Completed FFL Inspections



When violations of the law and regulations are disclosed during an inspection, a report of violations is issued to the licensee that outlines the discrepancy and the requirements for corrective action. ATF also works to gain cooperation and compliance from federal firearms licensees (FFLs) by issuing warning letters and holding warning conferences. Despite these remedial actions, on rare occasions ATF encounters a licensee who fails to comply with the law and regulations and demonstrates a lack of commitment to improving his or her business practices. In such cases where willfulness is demonstrated, ATF's obligation to protect public safety may require revocation of the federal firearms license.

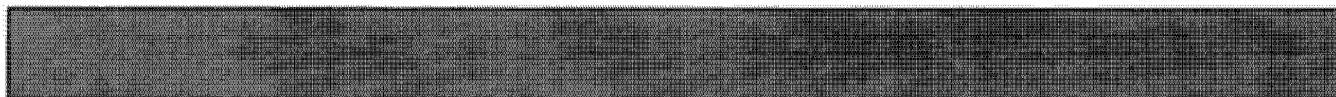
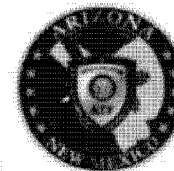
- There were 806 completed FFL inspections in the Phoenix Field Division during GRIT.
- 69 FFLs voluntarily surrendered their licenses.
- ATF took administrative action against 110 FFLs:
  - 1 Revocation was recommended
  - 109 warning letters or warning conferences were completed.

Source – Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

HOCR ATF 000865



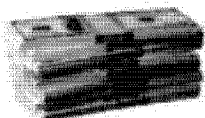
# PHOENIX GRIT SEIZURES



**1285** Firearms Seized



**71,774** Rounds of Ammunition Seized



**\$7763** in Currency Seized



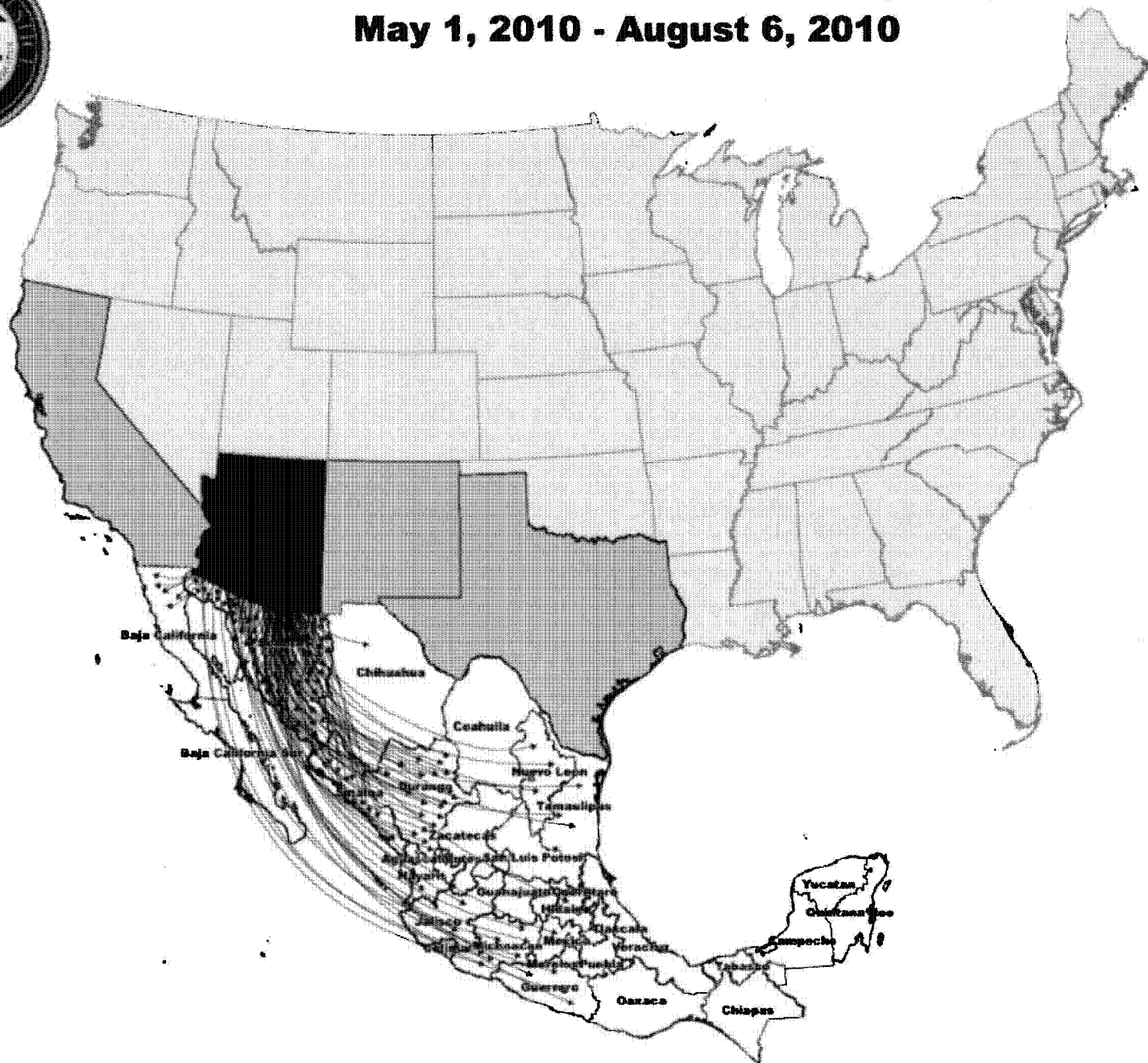
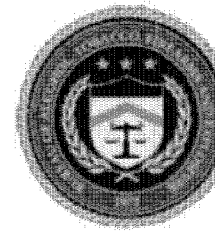
**676.2** Grams of Cocaine Seized

Source – Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

HOCR ATF 000866



**Arizona Gunrunner Impact Team (GRIT)**  
**May 1, 2010 - August 6, 2010**



HOGR ATF 000867



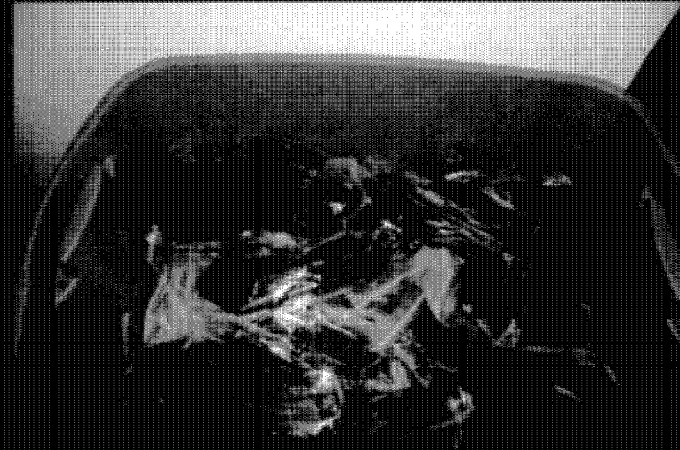


# Phoenix (Aug 20)

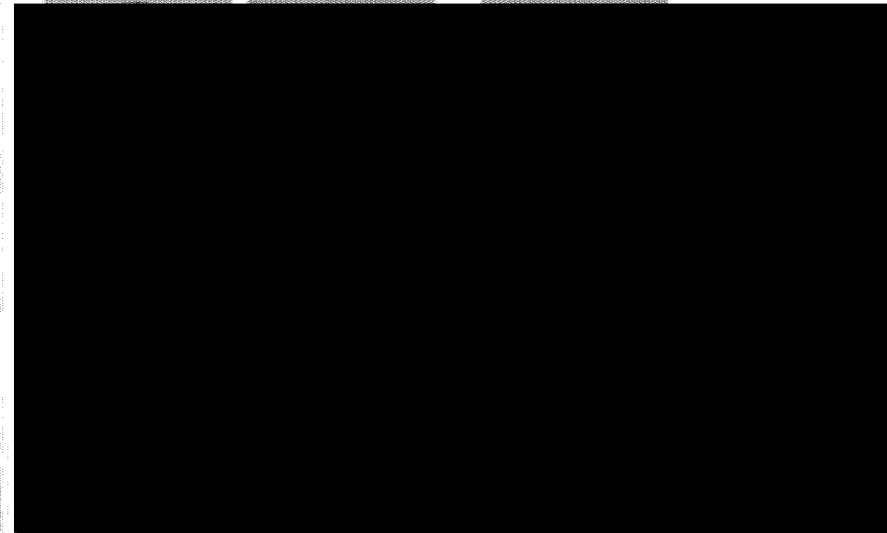


HOGR ATF 000868

## Gun and Drug Bust



Purchasers of the 50 gun seizure





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**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 27, 2009 12:43 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] ATF; Quinonez, Louis A.; Nallin, Michael T.  
**Cc:** Newell, William D.; Schultejan, Catherine Y.  
**Subject:** Conference Call  
**Attachments:** cartel strategy2.doc

Folks –

There will be a conference call tomorrow at 10:00 AM.

The Department of Justice has produced a strategy in support of addressing the SWB/Cartel led violence and surrounding issues. As this directly impacts and affects ATF's mission, the purpose of the call will be to discuss this strategy (see attachment) in preparation for the SWB conference in San Diego next Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

Please read the attached document before the conference call. Katie Schultejan will schedule the call and forward the details to you.

Thank you,

**George T. Gillett**  
Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
ATF - Phoenix Field Division  
[REDACTED]

## **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE STRATEGY FOR COMBATING THE MEXICAN CARTELS**

It is a priority of the Department of Justice to stem the growing violence and associated criminal activity perpetrated by the Mexican drug cartels, along the Southwest Border and throughout the nation. In order to maximize the efficacy of its limited resources, which are spread through numerous components of the Department, it is necessary that the Department deploy those resources pursuant to a single, coherent strategic plan.

An essential aspect of the DOJ plan must be ensuring a productive partnership with the government of Mexico, as well as with our state and local law enforcement counterparts. Equally important, we must avoid wasteful overlap and duplication with the activities of our other federal partners, particularly the law enforcement agencies at the Department of Homeland Security.

The following document sets forth the policy considerations that will guide the Department in this process.

### **The Strategy**

The Department will implement its Strategy for Combating the Mexican Cartels under the supervision of the newly-created Southwest Border Strategy Group.

Operationally, the strategy will be executed through the proven mechanism of prosecutor-led, multi-agency task forces, using the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) Program as the primary coordinating platform. The Strategy's key objectives are to:

- Increase the safety and security of U.S. citizens throughout the United States by enforcing violations of federal law along the Southwest Border.
- Reduce the flow of narcotics and other contraband entering the United States.
- Reduce the flow of illegal weapons, ammunition, explosives, and currency exiting the United States and entering Mexico.
- Strengthen Mexico's operational capacities and enhance its law enforcement institutions.
- Increase bilateral cooperation between Mexico and the United States on fugitive capture and extradition activities.

HOCR ATF 000870

- Increase intelligence and information sharing to achieve focused targeting of the most significant criminal organizations.
- Improve case building through interagency coordination, leveraging the expertise and authority of each investigative and prosecutorial agency.
- Maximize the effectiveness of prosecution by locating, arresting, extraditing, and trying all levels, including most importantly the leadership, of these criminal organizations, and disrupting and dismantling the organizations' domestic transportation and distribution cells.

### **Division of Responsibilities with DHS**

Addressing the Southwest Border threat has two basic elements: policing the actual border to interdict and deter the illegal crossing of undocumented persons or contraband goods, and confronting the large criminal organizations operating simultaneously on both sides of the border.

Given its statutory mission and the resources it can bring to bear at the border, DHS clearly bears primary responsibility for the policing function. DOJ fully supports DHS in that endeavor by sharing relevant intelligence and by prosecuting the most egregious offenders DHS arrests in the course of its policing function. The Department of Justice prosecutes tens of thousands of these reactive law enforcement cases in federal court every year.

However, the root cause of the explosion of violence along the Southwest Border is the conflicts within and among a limited number of sophisticated, transnational criminal organizations. These hierarchical, Mexico-based cartels are responsible for smuggling into the United States most of our nation's illegal drug supply. While the cartels' primary business is drug trafficking, they also sponsor a panoply of other crimes that support their illegal operations. These other crimes include extortion, torture, murder, corruption of public officials, sheltering of wanted fugitives, kidnapping and human smuggling, laundering of illicit criminal proceeds through the existing financial system and through bulk cash smuggling, and the illegal acquisition, trafficking, and use of firearms and explosives.

It is in taking down these organized, multi-faceted criminal enterprises that DOJ plays the primary role and brings to bear its special expertise. DOJ's success in this endeavor assists, in turn, DHS in the performance of its policing and enforcement function, by disrupting the operations of the cartels, thereby decreasing the pressure on the border. For its part, DHS, and in particular ICE, provides invaluable assistance to the attack on these criminal organizations, by bringing to bear its unique expertise on cross-border transit of contraband.

Border policing and interdiction, and the resulting prosecutions, are key elements of the U.S. government's overall border security strategy. However, the investigation, apprehension, extradition, and prosecution of key cartel

HOCR ATF 000871

leaders and their associates, and the deprivation through forfeiture of their ill-gotten gains, is the most effective means by which we can move past merely addressing the symptoms of our problems along the Southwest Border and attack, instead, the underlying causes.

### **Deployment of Resources**

The Department's view – based on its decades of experience in investigating, prosecuting, and dismantling organized criminal groups, such as the Mafia, international terrorist groups, and domestic and transnational gangs – is that the best way to fight large scale criminal organizations is through intelligence-based, prosecutor-led, multi-agency task forces that blend the strengths, resources, and expertise of the complete spectrum of federal, state, local, and international investigative and prosecutorial agencies. Through their participation in such task forces, the Department's prosecutors, together with its component law enforcement agencies – DEA, ATF, FBI, and USMS – give the Department the capacity to carry out the full range of activities necessary to succeed against these organizations.

The Department has embraced a model to achieve these comprehensive goals that is proactive, in which we develop priority targets through the extensive use of intelligence. This intelligence is obtained from law enforcement sources, as well as through the careful and disciplined use of classified information from intelligence community agencies to provide unclassified leads. Sharing information, we build cases, coordinating long-term, extensive investigations to identify all the tentacles of a particular organization. Through sustained coordination of these operations, we are able to execute a coordinated enforcement action, arresting as many high-level members of the organization as possible, disrupting and dismantling the domestic transportation and distribution cells of the organization, and seizing as many of the organization's assets as possible, whether those assets be in the form of bank accounts, real property, cash, drugs, or weapons. Finally, we prosecute the leaders of the cartels and their principal facilitators, locating, arresting, and extraditing them from abroad as necessary. In this effort, we coordinate closely with our Mexican counterparts to achieve the goal: destruction or weakening of the drug cartels to the point that they no longer pose a viable threat to U.S. interests and can be dealt with by Mexican law enforcement in conjunction with a strengthened judicial system and an improved legal framework for fighting organized crime.

The principal platform for the support and oversight of these prosecutor-led, multi-agency task forces is the OCDETF Program. In most places, along the border and throughout the country, OCDETF provides an effective mechanism for law enforcement agencies from within DOJ, from elsewhere in the federal government (including DHS and Treasury), and state and local law enforcement, to combine with federal prosecutors to form a "virtual task force" for the purpose of investigating and prosecuting a particular high-value drug trafficking

organization. In certain key locales, OCDETF has established actual, brick-and-mortar Co-Located Strike Forces, for the pursuit of the highest level traffickers of drugs, guns, and money. For instance, the San Diego Major Mexican Traffickers Task Force has been responsible for coordinating the U.S. government's successful efforts against the Arellano-Felix Organization. The Houston OCDETF Strike Force has directed our most damaging blows against the Gulf Cartel. And in the first several months of its existence, the Arizona OCDETF Strike Force has been responsible for the indictment of a leader and other members of a major Mexican cartel and the seizure of over \$43 million in cartel assets.

The Department will use the OCDETF Strike Force concept to target all the organized crime activities of the drug cartels – not just those crimes directly related to the drug trade. By further leveraging and coordinating the investigative expertise and jurisdiction of law enforcement agencies outside the drug enforcement area, the Department will task the Strike Forces to disrupt and dismantle every area of the cartels' infrastructure and undermine their ability to operate successfully in any illegal activity.

On a local level, each Strike Force co-locates law enforcement resources that are supplemented by one or more on-site Assistant United States Attorneys. Retaining the current Strike Force structure, specifically the co-location and intensive and early prosecutorial involvement, ensures that the Department capitalizes upon the proven synergy of these Strike Forces to maximize the effectiveness of long-term investigations of these organizations.

In those locations where they currently exist, DOJ will make the OCDETF Co-Located Strike Forces the focal point for interagency efforts against the Mexican criminal organizations.<sup>1</sup> Elsewhere along the border, and throughout the nation, DOJ will seek to replicate, to the extent possible, the OCDETF Strike Force model, in particular the characteristics of interagency cooperation, information sharing, and strategic, intelligence-based targeting that have been embodied in these Strike Forces. Depending on local conditions, existing institutions, such as HIDTA task forces, Southwest Border Initiative Groups, VICIT teams, or Safe Streets Task forces may serve as the appropriate focal point for this interagency cooperation in locations that do not have OCDETF Strike Forces.

The OCDETF Strike Force is a proven law enforcement strategy with a proven history of success in combating the major drug trafficking organizations. The synergy created by co-locating the diverse expertise of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies with prosecutors from the U.S. Attorney's Office,

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<sup>1</sup> OCDETF Co-Located Strike Forces are currently located in San Diego, Phoenix, El Paso, Houston (with satellites in Laredo and McAllen), Tampa, San Juan, Atlanta, New York, and Boston.

has had demonstrable success against major criminal organizations operating throughout the country.

Supplementing the regional operations of the Strike Forces with a comprehensive national policy and coordination body run out of the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, will give the Department a unified and comprehensive vehicle through which the United States government can disrupt the influence of the cartels. This unified and coordinated approach to law enforcement is not only the best way to use the formidable resources of the United States government, but also the most effective way to decrease the influence of these violent criminal enterprises while enhancing the public safety.

While the prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency task force model is a key component of the Department's Southwest Border Strategy, it will not be the only component. We must also recognize and support the important daily work performed by our investigators and prosecutors in stopping and seizing the flow of massive amounts of narcotics, firearms, and bulk cash from flowing across the border in both directions. These more reactive narcotics cases are important to the overall cartel strategy, because in the process we are seizing millions of pounds of drugs, thousands of firearms, and millions of dollars in bulk cash as they enter and exit the country. In addition, these commodity-focused cases yield significant intelligence that is then fed into the Special Operations Division (SOD), the OCDETF Fusion Center (OFC), and the El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC) for use in supporting more proactive, intelligence-driven investigations that are designed to attack all of the cartels' diverse lines of illegal business. Therefore, the Department's Strategy for Combating the Mexican Cartels must include an assessment of the resource needs of all our components, and a plan for how they intend to achieve the stated goals of the Strategy in light of the specific cartel activity impacting their jurisdictions.

### **Intelligence**

Law enforcement agencies must have the ability to access, link, and interpret voluminous intelligence information from as wide a community as possible. We use this shared information to identify and target the most significant organizations, so that we can achieve the greatest impact with our finite resources. We also use shared information to develop coordinated, multi-jurisdictional investigations of those high-impact targets, making sure that investigations are mutually reinforcing, without duplicating or jeopardizing other investigations targeting overlapping organizations.

Several multi-agency endeavors are particularly important to the provision of tactical intelligence and operational support in targeting the largest and most dangerous Mexican cartels.

The Attorney General's Consolidated Priority Organization Target (CPOT) List

The CPOT list of international “Most Wanted” drug kingpins will be used to help focus our critical resources on the greatest threats from the Mexican cartels. Of the 59 worldwide cartels currently on the list, 25 of them are Mexico-based.

#### The El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC)

EPIC is a DEA-led multi-agency organization that provides case-specific tactical intelligence, focusing specifically on the Southwest Border. The ATF Firearms Intelligence Analysis Team is a specialized component of EPIC that serves as a central point of analysis and repository for all Southwest Border firearms-related intelligence. FBI recently created the Southwest Intelligence Group (SWIG), a clearinghouse of all FBI activities involving Mexico, and it is in the process of moving that clearinghouse to EPIC. EPIC houses the National Seizure System, which collects and maintains data on seizures of drugs, guns, and money by law enforcement agencies throughout the nation.

#### The Special Operations Division (SOD)

SOD is a DEA-led multi-agency coordination center that targets the communication devices the criminal organizations’ leaders use to communicate with each other. SOD actively supports multi-jurisdictional, multi-national, and multi-agency electronic surveillance investigations, coordinating overlapping investigations and ensuring that tactical and operational intelligence is shared between law enforcement agencies.

#### The OCDETF Fusion Center (OFC)

The OFC is a comprehensive, multi-agency data center containing drug and related financial data from DEA, ATF, FBI, ICE, CBP, IRS, USMS, EPIC, USMS, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, the State Department’s Bureau of Consular Affairs, and other key agencies. It conducts cross-agency and cross-jurisdictional integration and analyses to create comprehensive pictures of targeted organizations and to pass usable leads through SOD to participants in the field.

### **Current Areas of Focus**

Pursuant to the principles articulated above, DOJ is pursuing initiatives in the following areas:

1. Ramping up Establishment and Use of Vetted Units in Mexico

An important aspect of case building in Mexico involves U.S. cooperation with specially vetted Mexican law enforcement units. DOJ law enforcement agents work in an advisory capacity to develop elite vetted units of Mexican

federal police officers, training them to conduct law enforcement operations that lead to the discovery and seizure of drugs, guns, explosives, money, and documentary evidence to support bilateral investigations and prosecutions. The Mexican units also arrest active members of the cartels, who may eventually become either cooperating witnesses, defendants, or both. These units are essential to our operations. In order to properly leverage and support these crucial operations, the Department must expand their number, to include more drug trafficking units, a firearms trafficking unit, a money-laundering/financial unit, and a fugitive apprehension unit.

## 2. Continued Focus on Attacking Cartel Finances

A particular point of emphasis in recent years has been the dismantlement of the financial infrastructure of the drug trafficking organizations. These efforts have been hampered by the fact that financial cases are complex and time-consuming, and the pool of experienced financial investigators is finite. Since the curtailment of IRS involvement in drug investigations in 2005, ATF, DEA, FBI, and USMS have hired additional financial investigators and forfeiture specialists. OCDETF has established the Financial Investigative Contractor (FIC) Program to bring additional experienced financial investigators to bear on the largest cartels, and has buttressed the analytical and document exploitation capabilities of its Co-Located Strike Forces in San Diego, Phoenix, El Paso, Houston, and Atlanta. DEA has implemented Financial Investigation Teams (FITs) in its field divisions to target the financial assets of drug traffickers. Analysts and attorneys in the U.S. Attorney's Offices and in the Department's Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section have also stepped up their efforts to assist. In addition, Southwest Region federal agencies are working with state and local law enforcement agencies on an OCDETF bulk currency initiative that targets the highest level drug cartels and their transportation routes in the Southwest. These efforts must be supported and expanded.

## 3. Attacking the Southbound Flow of Firearms

Addressing the flow of weapons into Mexico from the United States is also a primary focus of our efforts. ATF's intelligence has shown that the prevalence of firearms and explosives trafficking into Mexico has a direct nexus to the cartels' national domestic drug distribution network. Thus, given the national scope of this issue, merely seizing firearms through interdiction will not stop firearms trafficking to Mexico. We must identify, investigate, and eliminate the sources of illegally trafficked firearms and the networks that transport them. Since 2006, Project Gunrunner has been ATF's comprehensive strategy to combat firearms-related violence perpetrated by the drug cartels along the Southwest Border. Increasingly close collaboration between ATF and the efforts of the multi-agency drug task forces along the border, including, most particularly, the OCDETF co-located Strike Forces, ensures that scarce ATF resources are directed at the most important targets.



4. Increased Focus on Locating and Apprehending Fugitives

[REDACTED]

5. Expanded Use of the Extradition Process

[REDACTED]

6. Continued Pursuit of Corrupt Public Officials Who Facilitate the Drug Trade

[REDACTED]

7. Merida

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Friday, October 30, 2009 4:33 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] ATF; Nallin, Michael T.  
**Subject:** FW: Gunrunner background info docs  
**Attachments:** SWB ProjGunRnr\_INTERNAL 01-02-08.pdf; SWB ProjGunRnr\_EXTERNAL 01-02-08.pdf; DIRECTORs SWB Internal Memo 06 07 2007.pdf

Per the SAC's instructions....

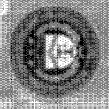
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**From:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 29, 2009 12:34 PM  
**To:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Subject:** Gunrunner background info docs

Please have Mike Nallin and [REDACTED] ATF read through these docs before San Diego. Thanks.

Bill Newell  
Special Agent in Charge  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)  
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)  
[REDACTED]

U.S. Department of Justice  
Department of the Treasury

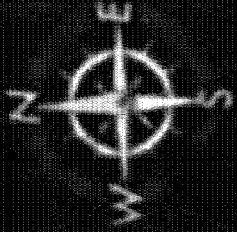
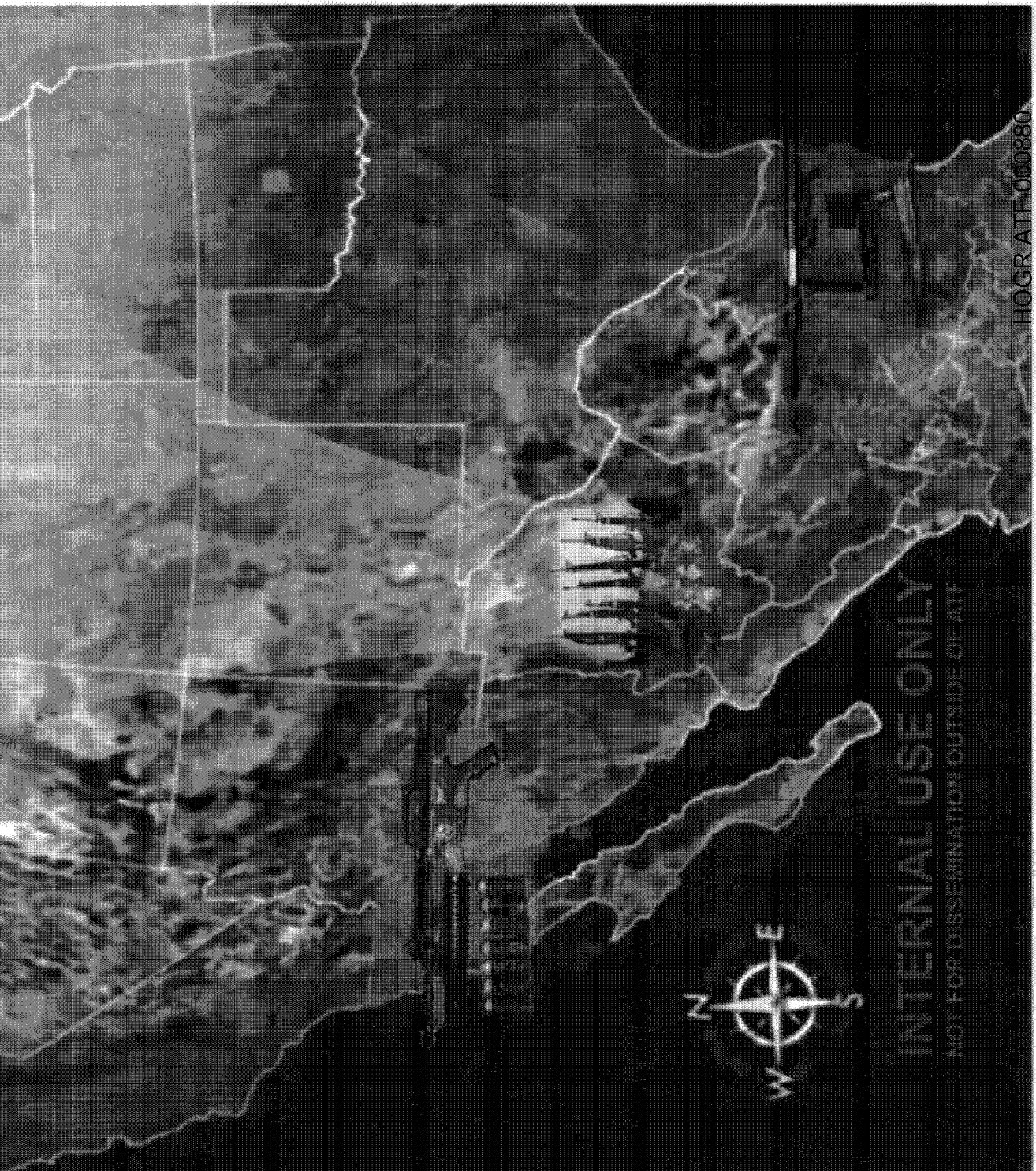


# **ATF**

## **SOUTHWEST BORDER INITIATIVE**

# **PROJECT GUNRUNNER**

*December 2007*



**INTERNAL USE ONLY**  
NOT FOR DISSEMINATION OUTSIDE OF ATF

HOCR:ATF:00880

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**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Monday, November 23, 2009 10:54 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] ATF Quinn, Brent; Celaya, Sigberto F.; Nallin, Michael T.;  
[REDACTED] ATF Ratliff, Mark D.; Palmer, Douglas R.; Gonzales, Jake A.  
**Cc:** Quinonez, Louis A.; Simpson, Kevin; Needles, James R.; Newell, William D.; Cook, Nancy F.;  
Chavarria, Arthur; Perez, Carmelo  
**Subject:** FW: SWB Project Gunrunner Collection Plan final 2010  
**Attachments:** SWB Project Gunrunner Collection Plan final 2010.pdf; OSII-ATF Project Gunrunner-Update  
FY 2010 Survey Form.pdf  
  
**Categories:** ISSA, IG

Folks –

I am forwarding this to you all, as you should all be versed on the contents of this SWB Gunrunner Collection Plan. Please review and familiarize yourself.

**George T. Gillett**  
Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
ATF - Phoenix Field Division  
[REDACTED]

---


**From:** Duvall, Antonio V.  
**Sent:** Monday, November 23, 2009 5:58 AM  
**To:** All Special Agents in Charge; All ASACS; All Directors, Industry Operations  
**Cc:** Intel-Group Supervisors; Intel-Field Intelligence Support Branch  
**Subject:** SWB Project Gunrunner Collection Plan final 2010

LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE (LES)

Attached please find an updated version of the Southwest Border Project Gunrunner Collection Plan that your field division received last year. This version contains more references to Industry Operations' role in the process of information/intelligence gathering; it contains updated language on certain ATF offices and programs; and some language previously construed as too provocative has been removed. Please use this collection plan in place of the early version. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE (LES)

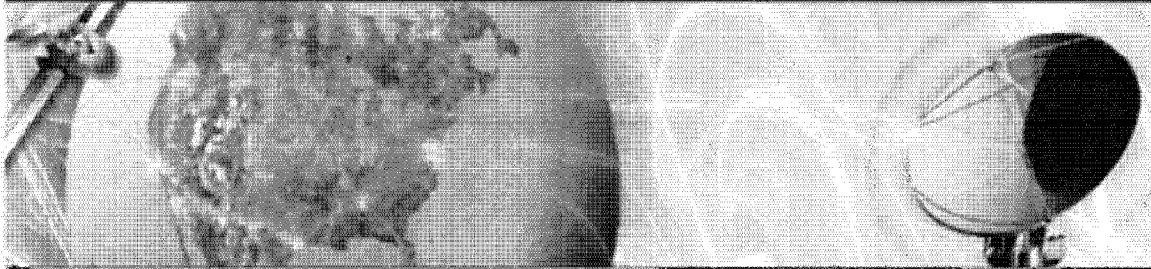
Antonio "**Tony**" Duvall  
Intelligence Operations Specialist  
Office of Strategic Intelligence and Information  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
Field Intelligence Support Team (eastern Region)  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]



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# ATF - Project Gunrunner Southwest Border Initiative Intelligence Collection Plan Update FY 2010



Law Enforcement Sensitive (LES)

11/12/09

HGR ATF 000883

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**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Friday, December 04, 2009 10:46 AM  
**To:** Knapp, Joshua G.  
**Cc:** Newell, William D.; ATF  
**Subject:** SA ATF

**Categories:** F&F

Hello Josh –

ATF is scheduled to attend medic tactical re-cert next week in El Paso, TX.

She is the case agent on a southbound firearms trafficking investigation that is being closely monitored by DAD McMahon (FO) and DAD Martin (OSII). We are anticipating significant investigative movement in the next 5-10 days and need Hope to be in Phoenix to coordinate the investigation.

Could she please be excused from re-cert and rescheduled to the March training to satisfy the re-cert requirement?

Thank you, and please contact me if you have any questions.



---

**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 08, 2009 11:48 AM  
**To:** ATF  
**Subject:** Fw: Conference

**Categories:** F&F, ISSA, IG

Fyi -

I hope all this was discussed with Sig. If not, please keep this between us and we can discuss tonight.

George T. Gillett  
Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
ATF - Phoenix Field Division  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

\*\*\*

NOTICE: This electronic transmission is confidential and intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail and destroy this message in its entirety (including all attachments).

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Celaya, Sigberto F.  
**To:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Tue Dec 08 11:37:48 2009  
**Subject:** RE: Conference

They have a case open that they are wanting to make an OCDETF case out of. I support their effort. I would only recommend that some action is taken in attempts to slow down the purchasing and exportation of the firearms and ammunition. Our agents have now been involved in two incidents that have had major seizures relating to their case. We are being told that they have documented over 300 firearms being purchased by this group. Our investigative efforts reflect that the suspect in this recent seizure is responsible for purchasing over \$25,000 of ammunition. Only \$10,000 worth of ammo was seized.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 08, 2009 9:24 AM  
**To:** Celaya, Sigberto F.  
**Subject:** Re: Conference

Thank you. What did you both decide?

George T. Gillett  
Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
ATF - Phoenix Field Division  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

\*\*\*

NOTICE: This electronic transmission is confidential and intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail and destroy this message in its entirety (including all attachments).

----- Original Message -----  
From: Celaya, Sigberto F.  
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.  
Sent: Tue Dec 08 11:22:53 2009  
Subject: RE: Conference

Done

-----Original Message-----  
From: Gillett, George T. Jr.  
Sent: Tuesday, December 08, 2009 9:14 AM  
To: Celaya, Sigberto F.; ATF  
Subject: Conference

Sig -

If you and GS ATF haven't spoke yet, please contact ATF as soon as possible.

Thank you,

George T. Gillett  
Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
ATF - Phoenix Field Division  
[REDACTED]

\*\*\*

NOTICE: This electronic transmission is confidential and intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail and destroy this message in its entirety (including all attachments).

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**From:** [redacted] ATF  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 09, 2009 6:16 PM  
**To:** [redacted] ATF  
**Subject:** FW: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, SG4818

**Categories:** IG, F&F

For your enjoyment

---

**From:** Searcy, Lucia B.  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 09, 2009 3:16 PM  
**To:** [redacted] ATF  
**Cc:** [redacted] ATF; Henderson, Frank J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; [redacted] ATF  
Lauffer, Kristen E; Kruthaupt, Alex J.; Fasciani, Dennis C.; Ballesteros, Jose J.; Nelson, Helgi P.; Gamboa, Aaron J.  
**Subject:** RE: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, SG4818

Suspect Gun File Number: **SG4818**  
Suspect Gun submission request date: **11/13/2009**  
Case Agents: [redacted] ATF

Recovered **11/20/2009**  
Location: **NACO, AGUA PRIETA, SO, MEXICO**  
Suspects: **VERONICA ALVAREZ TOSCANO**

Remarks: Please contact Aaron Gamboa on the CC: line if you need access to this general case file to view PGR report and EPIC 10 results.

**NFORCE:** 164020-10-0001  
**Title:** DECOMISO - SEIZURE BULLETIN - 11/20/2009 - NACO, SONORA (Auga Prieta)

**FIST SWB:** [redacted] ATF  
**Date:** 24 November 2009  
**Event:** On November 20, 2009 the Mexican Army and Customs authorities detained one female and a juvenile transporting 42 firearms and ammo in a black Chevy Tahoe bearing Arizona license plates.  
**Location:** Aduana de Naco, Sonora  
**Case Number:** Previa- AP/PGR/SON/AGP-1/492/2009

**Arrests:**  
- VERONICA ALVAREZ TOSCANO - 21 YOA- US CITIZEN  
- [redacted] 15 YOA - US CITIZEN  
**Criminal Group/Org.:** Unkown

**Firearms:**  
-41 AK-47 Rifles and Pistols  
1- Colt/Beowulf- 50 caliber rifle  
**Explosives:** n/a

**Magazines:**  
-43 Magazines for various calibers

**Ammunition:**

-168 cartridges of various calibers

**Tactical Equipment:**

1-Telescopic scope

1-Bipod

Uniforms: n/a

Communication Equipment: n/a

Currency: n/a

**Other Objects:**

-3 bayonets/knives

Drugs: n/a

**Vehicles:**

-One 2003 Tahoe black in color bearing Arizona tags; AHH0273

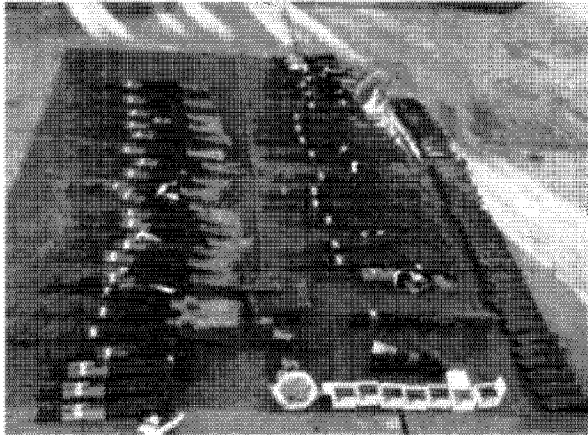
**Synopsis:** On November 20, 2009 the Mexican 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Company located in Agua Prieta, Sonora and Mexican Customs agents stopped a black 2003 Chevy Tahoe bearing Arizona license plates [REDACTED] occupied by Veronica Alvarez Toscano and [REDACTED]. Canine dog, Binomio "Shadow" was deployed. A search of the vehicle revealed 42 firearms, 43 magazines, 3 bayonets and 168 rounds of ammunitions.

**MEXICAN NEWS ARTICLES RELATED TO THIS SEIZURE**

## **Consignan a detenida con armas en Naco**

-Verónica Álvarez Toscano fue capturada en la Garita Aduanal de Naco, Sonora

Por: Jesús Zúñiga C.



**Agua Prieta, Son; A 27 de Noviembre de 2009.-** El Agente del Ministerio Público de la Federación consignó ante el Juzgado Noveno de Distrito en la Entidad, a Verónica Álvarez Toscano, por su presunta responsabilidad en la comisión del delito de violación a la Ley Federal de Armas de Fuego y Explosivos, en el diverso de posesión de cartuchos, Introducción Clandestina a Territorio Nacional, acopio de armas explosivas de las reservadas para uso exclusivo del Ejército, Armada y Fuerza Aérea.

De acuerdo con la con la causa penal 284/09. Álvarez Toscano fue detenida por personal de la Administración Central para la Inspección Fiscal Aduanera comisionados en Naco, Sonora.

Allí los elementos Fiscales apoyados del binomio canino "Sombra", detectaron en una camioneta Chevrolet tipo Tahoe, modelo 2003, el cargamento de armas y municiones.

Del interior de la unidad aseguraron a la inculpada, así como 41 armas largas tipo AK-47, todas calibre 7.62x39 mm, de diferentes marcas, modelos y países de origen; un fusil calibre .50, marca Colt; 40 cargadores calibre 7.62x39; tres cargadores calibre .50; 160 cartuchos, calibre .50; una mira telescópica; un bipie para arma de fuego; tres cuchillos y un estuche.

La mujer originaria de Florida los Estados Unidos, era acompañada de un menor de edad, mismo que quedó a disposición del Juzgado Especializado en Justicia para Adolescentes.

En consecuencia, la traficante fue puesta a disposición del Fiscal Federal quien inició la averiguación previa AP/PGR/SON/AGP-I/492/2009, en su contra por los delitos antes referidos.

Source: [http://www.certezasonorense.com/notas/consignan\\_a\\_detenida\\_en\\_naco.html](http://www.certezasonorense.com/notas/consignan_a_detenida_en_naco.html)

## Mujer estadounidense detenida en México por presunto contrabando de armas

26 de Noviembre de 2009, 03:02pm ET  
MÉXICO, 26 Nov 2009 (AFP) -

Una mujer estadounidense de origen latino fue detenida por las autoridades mexicanas cuando viajaba con un niño por traficar en su automóvil un cargamento de armas presuntamente introducido a México de manera ilegal, informó el jueves la Procuraduría General de la República (PGR).

La fiscalía federal puso a disposición de un juzgado a "Verónica Álvarez Toscano por su probable responsabilidad en la comisión del delito de violación a la ley de armas de fuego en su modalidad de posesión e introducción clandestina a territorio nacional", dijo la PGR en un comunicado de prensa.

La detención se registró en el estado mexicano de Sonora (noroeste), fronterizo con Estados Unidos, cuando agentes de aduanas descubrieron en una revisión 41 rifles tipo Ak-47 y un fusil Colt de calibre .50, así como una mira telescópica, entre otros, añadió la fiscalía.

La mujer y el menor con el que iba acompañada son originarios del estado de Florida (sureste de Estados Unidos), precisó la PGR.

Entre 2007 y 2008 el gobierno mexicano decomisó 16.000 armas de asalto, de las cuales el 90% provenían de Estados Unidos, según cifras oficiales.


En la frontera sur de Estados Unidos se han detectado unos 10.000 puntos de venta de armas.

El gobierno de México enfrenta con 50.000 militares desplegados en el país una lucha frontal contra los cárteles de la droga, cuya disputa ha generado una ola de violencia con más de 14.000 muertos desde 2006.

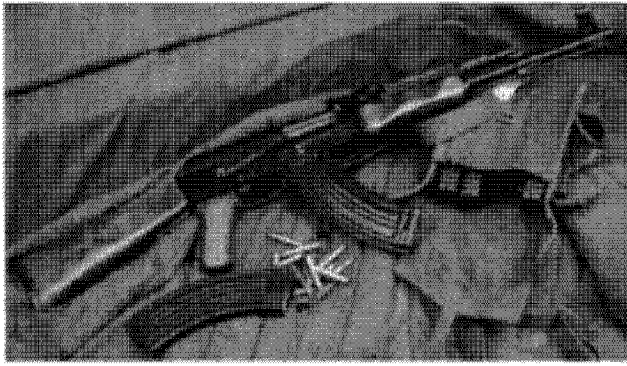
lp/rpl

Source:

<http://www.univision.com/contentroot/wirefeeds/50noticias/mexico/8090709.shtml;jsessionid=KRTK5XLMCSN1WCWIAAPCFEYKZAADYIWC>

publicado por Administrador en 05:33 PM 0 comentarios 

### Capturan en Sonora a una estadounidense con un arsenal



Con 41 fusiles AK-47, un rifle marca Colt, además de 40 cargadores para AK-47 y tres para el fusil Colt, una mira telescópica y tres cuchillos, fue detenida una mujer de nacionalidad estadounidense, informó la Procuraduría General de la República

Su nombre, Verónica Álvarez Toscano, quien junto con un menor de edad, de quien no se proporciona el nombre, intentó ingresar a territorio mexicano el arsenal, señaló la PGR en un comunicado.

La mujer, procedente de DeLand, Florida, viajaba en una camioneta y fue detenida en un retén de inspección en la frontera entre Sonora y Arizona por el personal de aduanas.

Álvarez Toscano fue presentada al Juzgado Noveno de Distrito en Sonora por su probable responsabilidad en los delitos de posesión de armas de fuego de uso exclusivo del Ejército, introducción clandestina a territorio nacional y por posesión de cartuchos para ese tipo de armas.

Source: <http://narcotraficoenmexico.blogspot.com/>

## **Mujer intenta traficar fusiles de Estados Unidos a México**

(AP)— Una estadounidense fue acusada de intentar introducir clandestinamente a México 42 fusiles de alto calibre desde Estados Unidos, informó el jueves la Procuraduría General de la República (PGR).

La mujer fue detenida el 20 de noviembre en la frontera entre Sonora, México, y Arizona, Estados Unidos, cuando viajaba acompañada de un menor a bordo de una camioneta, en cuyo interior localizaron 41 fusiles AK-47 calibre 7,62×39 mm. y uno más calibre .50 marca Colt, señaló la dependencia en un comunicado.

Durante una operación de inspección en una aduana mexicana, las autoridades también encontraron 40 cargadores para los fusiles AK-47 y tres para el fusil calibre .50; 160 cartuchos calibre .50; una mira telescópica; un bipie para arma de fuego; tres cuchillos y un estuche.

La PGR señaló que finco cargos contra la mujer, identificada como Verónica Álvarez Toscano, por la posesión ilegal de los fusiles, introducción clandestina y acopio de armas de uso exclusivo de las fuerzas armadas.

El menor, del que no se dio su edad, quedó a disposición de un juzgado especializado en justicia para adolescentes.

La PGR señaló que la mujer y el menor son originarios de DeLand, Florida.

El gobierno mexicano ha señalado en diversas ocasiones que parte de la violencia de los carteles de las drogas se ve alimentada con las armas de alto calibre que los narcotraficantes consiguen en Estados Unidos, por lo que ha insistido en que las autoridades del vecino país del norte hagan más para detener ese tráfico.

Las autoridades también han dicho que una forma de conseguir las armas es contratar terceras personas que las adquieran en territorio estadounidense.

Etiquetas: AK-47, Estados Unidos, frontera, fusiles, México, Sonora, Verónica Álvarez Toscano, y Arizona

Source: <http://www.ahorasi.com/mujer-intenta-trafficar-fusiles-de-estados-unidos-a-mexico/#more-14777>

## Mujer intentó trafficar fusiles de EU a México

Nota



Una estadounidense fue acusada de intentar introducir clandestinamente a México 42 fusiles de alto calibre. ARCHIVO

⊙ Fue identificada como Verónica Álvarez Toscano

*La mujer fue detenida el 20 de noviembre en la frontera entre Sonora y Arizona*

**CIUDAD DE MÉXICO.-** Una estadounidense fue acusada de intentar introducir clandestinamente a México 42 fusiles de alto calibre desde Estados Unidos, informó el jueves la Procuraduría General de la República (PGR).

La mujer fue detenida el 20 de noviembre en la frontera entre Sonora y Arizona, cuando viajaba acompañada de un menor a bordo de una camioneta, en cuyo interior localizaron 41 fusiles AK-47 calibre 7,62x39 mm. y uno más calibre .50 marca Colt, señaló la dependencia en un comunicado.

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Las autoridades también han dicho que una forma de conseguir las armas es contratar terceras personas que las adquieran en territorio estadounidense.

Source: <http://www.informador.com.mx/mexico/2009/157568/6/mujer-intento-traficar-fusiles-de-eu-a-mexico.htm>

## **CONSIGNAN A MUJER QUE FUE DETENIDA CON ARMAS Y CARTUCHOS EN SU CAMIONETA**

Escrito por: [marcos1965](#) Estados, [Noticias al minuto](#) Nov 26, 2009

México, D.F. 26 de noviembre 2009.- La Procuraduría General de la República (PGR) a través de su Delegación Estatal en Sinaloa consignó ante el Juzgado Noveno de Distrito en esa entidad a Verónica Álvarez Toscano por su probable responsabilidad en la comisión del delito de violación a la Ley Federal de Armas de Fuego y Explosivos, en las modalidades de posesión, introducción clandestina a territorio nacional, acopio de armas de fuego de uso exclusivo del Ejército, Armada y Fuerza Aérea y posesión de cartuchos para dichas armas.

La PGR explicó que personal de la Administración Central para la Inspección Fiscal Aduanera comisionados en Naco, Sonora, con el apoyo del perro entrenado "Sombra", lograron descubrir que la mujer, quien iba acompañada por un menor de edad, llevaba en la camioneta Chevrolet Tahoe modelo 2003, que se disponía a abordar: 41 armas largas tipo AK-47 de las llamadas "cuervo de chivo", todas calibre 7.62 x 39 mm, pero de diferentes marcas, modelos y países de origen; también llevaba un fusil calibre .50 marca Colt, 40 cargadores calibre 7.62 x 39 para fusil AK-47, tres cargadores calibre .50, 160 cartuchos calibre .50, una mira telescópica, un bipie para arma de fuego, tres cuchillos y un estuche.

La mujer fue puesta a disposición del agente del Ministerio Público de la Federación quien inició la averiguación previa AP/PGR/SON/AGP-I/492/2009 en su contra por el delito de posesión y acopio de armas de fuego de uso exclusivo del Ejército, Armada y Fuerza Aérea; en tanto que el menor de edad quedó a disposición del Juzgado Especializado en Justicia para Adolescentes.

Verónica Álvarez Toscano y el menor son originarios de DeLand, Florida, informó la PGR.

Source: <http://enlamira.net/?p=8178>

jueves 26 de noviembre de 2009

### **CONSIGNAN VERÓNICA ÁLVAREZ TOSCANO POR POSESIÓN DE MÁS DE 40 FUSILES AK-47, EN NACO SONORA**

COMUNICADO PGR La Procuraduría General de la República a través de su Delegación Estatal consignó ante el Juzgado Noveno de Distrito en la entidad a Verónica Álvarez Toscano por su probable responsabilidad en la comisión del delito de violación a la Ley Federal de Armas de Fuego y Explosivos, en las modalidades de posesión, introducción clandestina a territorio nacional, acopio de armas de fuego de uso exclusivo del Ejército, Armada y Fuerza Aérea y posesión de cartuchos para armas de fuego de uso exclusivo del Ejército, Armada y Fuerza Aérea. De acuerdo con la causa penal 284/09, personal de la Administración Central para la Inspección Fiscal Aduanera comisionados en Naco, Sonora, apoyados del binomio canino "Sombra", lograron descubrir que Álvarez Toscano, quien iba acompañada por un menor de edad, llevaba en el vehículo que iba a abordar, marca Chevrolet tipo Tahoe, modelo 2003, 41 armas largas tipo AK-47, todas calibre 7.62x39 mm, de diferentes marcas, modelos y países de origen; un fusil calibre .50, marca Colt; 40 cargadores calibre 7.62x39; tres cargadores calibre .50; 160 cartuchos, calibre .50; una mira telescópica; un bipie para arma de fuego; tres cuchillos y un estuche. En consecuencia, fue puesta a disposición del agente del Ministerio Público de la Federación quien inició la averiguación previa AP/PGR/SON/AGP-I/492/2009 en su contra por el delito referido; en tanto que el menor de edad quedó a disposición del Juzgado Especializado en Justicia para Adolescentes. Cabe destacar que Verónica Álvarez Toscano y el menor son originarios de DeLand, Florida. Lo anterior forma parte de las acciones del Gobierno Federal para erradicar la introducción clandestina de armas al país y garantizar la tranquilidad de la ciudadanía.



Source: <http://guerracontraelnarco.blogspot.com/2009/11/consigan-veronica-alvarez-toscano-por.html>

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**From:** Nelson, Helgi P.  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 09, 2009 10:20 AM  
**To:**   
**Cc:**  Searcy, Lucia B.; Henderson, Frank J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.  
**Subject:** Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, SG4818

**Subject:** Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO.

**Case Agents:**

The National Tracing Center (NTC) has received a Trace request for the above listed firearm. To prevent the NTC from releasing information that may jeopardize your investigation, please choose one of the following. It is extremely important that if your case is still active that you state whether or not we may conduct a Trace on this firearm.

A written response (email communication is sufficient) is required within 7 days of initial notification regarding this email. If a response is not received within this time frame the NTC may be compelled to release trace summary information to the requestor.

*All information regarding this and any other trace requests can be obtained by using On-Line LEAD and/or eTrace. In the event that you do not have access, access can be requested by contacting the Law Enforcement Support Branch at 304-260-1500 or 800-788-7133.*

Please advise as to whether your case is:

- a) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors for only this firearm.
- b) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors. (This is to be applied to all remaining firearms in this Suspect Gun file)
- c) Active - NTC may not release Trace disposition history to other Requestors.
- d) Inactive - NTC will release Trace disposition to other Requestors.

**Suspect Gun Details:**

ATF IN Number: **785115-10-0004**

Suspect Gun File Number: **SG4818**

Suspect Gun submission request date: **11/13/2009**

**Trace details regarding firearm recovery:**

Serial Number: **1971DF3886**  
Manufacturer: **RMC**  
Type: **R**  
Caliber: **762**  
Model: **GP WASR**

Recovered **11/20/2009**  
Location: **NACO, AGUA PRIETA, SO, MEXICO**  
Suspects: **VERONICA ALVAREZ TOSCANO**

Trace Requestor: **C-4 CENAPI, INFORMATION CENTER COMBATTING, [REDACTED]**  
Requesting Agency: **MEXICO CITY, MEXICO**  
Phone Number: **None Provided**

**THIS US SOURCED FIREARM WAS RECOVERED IN MEXICO. FOR DETAILS RELATING TO THE SEIZURE, PLEASE CONTACT ATF-EPIC BRANCH CHIEF, FRANK HENDERSON VIA E-MAIL OR AT 915-760-2015.**

Helgi Nelson  
Program Analyst  
ATF National Tracing Center  
244 Needy Rd.  
Martinsburg, WV 25405-9431



Seizure of 48 Firearms in Mexicali, Baja California, by Mexican Military on December 9, 2009, along with 2, 000,000 USD, 1,000,000 Mexican Pesos, 500 Kilos of Cocaine, 85 pounds of Methamphetamine and 12 suspects arrested.  
Organization Suspected: Sinaloa Cartel

1. Maadi Egypt 7.62 X39 rifle, Model MISR Receiver, S/N [REDACTED], Made in Egypt, Imported by CAI St. Albans, VT.
2. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model SAGPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
3. NORINCO 7.62X39 rifle, Model NHM91, Made in China, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CSI, Ontario, CA.
4. NORINCO 7.62X39 rifle, Model MAK90, Made in China, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI, ST. Albans, VT.
5. Maadi Egypt 7.62X39 rifle, Model UNKNOWN, Made in Egypt, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by PARS Intl., Louisville, KY.
6. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
7. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
8. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
9. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
10. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
11. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
12. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
13. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
14. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
15. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
16. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
17. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
18. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
19. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
20. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
21. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
22. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.

HOCR ATF 000895

AZ0276977

DOJ-FF-41100

23. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
24. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
25. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
26. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
27. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
28. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
29. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
30. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
31. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
32. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
33. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
34. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
35. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
36. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
37. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED] or S/N 1969BL4539, Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
38. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
39. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
40. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
41. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
42. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
43. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
44. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
45. ROMARM/CUGIR 7.62X 39 rifle, Model GPWASR10-63, Made in Romania, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by CAI Georgia, VT.
46. Norinco 5.56X45 rifle, Model BWK-92 Sporter, Made in China, S/N [REDACTED], Imported by
47. Eagle Arms 5.56X45 rifle, Model M15A2, Made in USA, S/N [REDACTED].

HOCR ATF 000896

AZ0276978

DOJ-FF-41101

48. FN HERSTAL, 5.7X28mm pistol, Model 57, Made in Belgium, Imported by FN  
HERSTAL, S/N [REDACTED]

HOCR ATF 000897

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**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2009 10:17 AM  
**To:** ATF  
**Subject:** RE: Latest Trafficking Case

**Categories:** F&F, IG, ISSA

10-4. Coffee??

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**From:** ATF  
**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2009 8:15 AM  
**To:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Subject:** RE: Latest Trafficking Case

I just spoke with ATF and she stated she sent him the list last week, maybe are talking apples and oranges but according to SA ATF she sent ATF what he requested last week...

Thanks,

ATF

---

**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2009 6:45 AM  
**To:** ATF  
**Cc:** ATF; Quinonez, Louis A.; O'Keefe, Kevin C.  
**Subject:** Fw: Latest Trafficking Case  
**Importance:** High

ATF

Please coordinate with Intel and see if ATF can assist with this request.

Thanks.

George T. Gillett  
Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
ATF - Phoenix Field Division  
[REDACTED]

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NOTICE: This electronic transmission is confidential and intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail and destroy this message in its entirety (including all attachments).

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**From:** O'Keefe, Kevin C.  
**To:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Mon Dec 14 08:03:51 2009  
**Subject:** Latest Trafficking Case

George – I know my folks made contact last week while I was away from the office. DAD McMahon has tasked us with doing a link analysis on [ATF] case, in order for him to brief AD Chait, who will in turn brief a DOJ Attorney on new SWB operational plans and use this case as an example. Sorry, if this word did not come down the field ops chain to you all.

My folks are under a time crunch, need to print out link analysis by tomorrow (Tuesday). They still need the Suspect Gun List that NTC provided [ATF] at the end of last week, in order to complete their chart. Can you please remind her to send it to [ATF] Alex Kruthaupt and Kristen Lauffer? Much appreciated.

Call me if you have questions or concerns. [REDACTED] is cell.

Kevin O'Keefe  
Chief, Criminal Intel Div  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [ATF]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 13, 2009 11:53 PM  
**To:** O'Keefe, Kevin C.  
**Subject:**

I HAVE NOT RECEIVED THE SUSPECT GUN LIST FROM PHOENIX WITH THE PURCHASERS NAMES IN ORDER TO COMPLETE YOUR REQUEST.

[ATF]

***TEAM LEADER***

Field Intelligence Support Team - Southwest Border  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
Intelligence Operations Specialist  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** ATF  
**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2009 11:07 AM  
**To:** ATF  
**Subject:** FW: THIRTEEN Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, SG4818  
**Categories:** IG, F&F

We had fourteen it looks like their missing one. I'll call Helgi

**From:** Nelson, Helgi P.  
**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2009 8:24 AM  
**To:** ATF  
**Cc:** Searcy, Lucia B.; Henderson, Frank J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.  
**Subject:** THIRTEEN Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, SG4818

**Subject:** Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO.

**Case Agents:** ATF

These traces have been stopped and closed at your direction.

The National Tracing Center (NTC) has received a Trace request for the above listed firearm. To prevent the NTC from releasing information that may jeopardize your investigation, please choose one of the following. It is extremely important that if your case is still active that you state whether or not we may conduct a Trace on this firearm.

A written response (email communication is sufficient) is required within 7 days of initial notification regarding this email. If a response is not received within this time frame the NTC may be compelled to release trace summary information to the requestor.

*All information regarding this and any other trace requests can be obtained by using On-Line LEAD and/or eTrace. In the event that you do not have access, access can be requested by contacting the Law Enforcement Support Branch at 304-260-1500 or 800-788-7133.*

Please advise as to whether your case is:

- a) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors for only this firearm.
- b) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors. (This is to be applied to all remaining firearms in this Suspect Gun file)
- c) Active - NTC may not release Trace disposition history to other Requestors.
- d) Inactive - NTC will release Trace disposition to other Requestors.

SERIAL #:	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
SERIAL #:	ICE, T20090363707,	Joshua Moore,	ATF	11/10/2009
SERIAL #:	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
SERIAL #:	ICE, T20090363699,	Joshua Moore,	ATF	11/10/2009
SERIAL #:	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
SERIAL #:	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
SERIAL #:	ICE, T20090363516,	Joshua Moore,	ATF	11/10/2009
SERIAL #:	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]



SERIAL #: [REDACTED] ICE, T20090363511,  
SERIAL #: [REDACTED] ICE, T20090363509,  
SERIAL #: [REDACTED] ICE, T20090363499,  
SERIAL #: [REDACTED] ICE, T20090363468,

[REDACTED]  
Joshua Moore, ATF 11/10/2009  
Jacob Chambers, ATF 10/26/2009

**Suspect Gun Details:**

ATF IN Number: 785115-10-0004  
Suspect Gun File Number: SG4818  
Suspect Gun submission request date: 11/27/2009

**Trace details regarding firearm recovery:**

Serial Number: 1985ZS4894  
Manufacturer: RMC  
Type: R  
Caliber: 762  
Model: GP WASR  
Recovered: 12/10/2009, ICE lists recovery as 12/9/2009  
Location: MEXICALI, BJ, MEXICO  
Suspects: [REDACTED]

Trace Requestor: ATF  
Requesting Agency: ATF, TUCSON, AZ  
Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Trace Requestor: C-4 CENAPI, INFORMATION CENTER COMBATting, [REDACTED]  
Requesting Agency: MEXICO CITY, MEXICO  
Phone Number: None Provided

Trace Requestor: [REDACTED]  
Requesting Agency: IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENF.  
Phone Number: [REDACTED]

**THIS US SOURCED FIREARM WAS RECOVERED IN MEXICO. FOR DETAILS RELATING TO THE SEIZURE, PLEASE CONTACT ATF-EPIC BRANCH CHIEF, FRANK HENDERSON VIA E-MAIL OR AT 915-760-2015.**

Helgi Nelson  
Program Analyst  
ATF National Tracing Center  
244 Needy Rd.  
Martinsburg, WV 25405-9431  
[REDACTED]



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**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2009 1:39 PM  
**To:** ATF  
**Subject:** RE:

**Categories:** IG, ISSA, F&F

Anticipatory mi amigo. Let me know when "the eagle is in the nest."

Below is an excerpt from ATF Order 3310.4B

Please see 148 (a)(1) and (2).

148. "WEAPONS TRANSFERS".

- a. Considerations. During the course of illegal firearms trafficking investigations, special agents may become aware of, observe, or encounter situations where an individual(s) will take delivery of firearms, or transfer firearm(s) to others. In these instances, the special agent may exercise the following options:
- (1) In cases where probable cause exists to believe a violation of law has occurred and the special agent determines there is a need to intervene in the weapons transfer (e.g., the recipient of the firearms is a known felon; it is known the firearms will be used in crime of violence), the special agent shall do so but should place concerns for public safety and the safety of the involved special agents as the primary determining factor in exercising this option.
  - (2) In other cases, immediate intervention may not be needed or desirable, and the special agent may choose to allow the transfer of firearms to take place in order to further an investigation and allow for the identification of additional coconspirators who would have continued to operate and illegally traffic firearms in the future, potentially producing more armed crime.
- b. Alternative Intervention Methods. In the event it is determined by the special agent that a weapons transfer should not take place, the special agent may consider alternative methods of intervention other than arrest and/or search warrants that will prevent the culmination of the weapons transfer but allow the investigation to continue undetected. These alternative methods are considered to be a course of action that must be approved by the RAC/GS or SAC as previously noted. These alternative interventions may include, but are not limited to:
- (1) A traffic stop (supported by probable cause to search or supported by a traffic violation allowing for plain view observations) by a State or local marked law enforcement vehicle that would culminate in the discovery and retention of the firearms. This would prevent the weapons transfer from fully occurring and may in turn produce new investigative leads. Should

the occupants of the vehicle be new/unknown participants in the organization under investigation, they may be fully identified which in turn will yield additional information for followup investigation. Should the occupants of the vehicle be known participants in the investigation, requesting telephone tolls for these individuals (or if a Penn Register/T-III interception order is in use) for the period shortly after the traffic stop may show calls and yield identifying information relating to the intended receivers of the firearms.

- (2) If the firearms are being shipped out of the United States via a common carrier via checked luggage or freight, the firearms may be seized/or recovered by the special agents, in coordination with the U.S. Customs Service under border search authority, without detection by the traffickers. This would prevent the weapons transfer from fully occurring and may in turn produce new investigative leads. The investigation may then continue with the traffickers led to believe the shipment of firearms was stolen in transit. Requesting telephone tolls for these individuals (or if a Pen Register/T-III interception order is in use) for the period shortly after the recovery of the firearms may show calls and yield identifying information relating to the intended receivers of the firearms.
- (3) If the firearms are being shipped via the U.S. mail, coordination with the U.S. postal inspectors will assist the special agents in recovery of the firearms without detection by the traffickers. This would prevent the weapons transfer from fully occurring and may in turn produce new investigative leads. The investigation may then continue with the traffickers led to believe the shipment of firearms was stolen in transit. Requesting telephone tolls for these individuals (or if a Penn Register/T-III interception order is in use) for the period shortly after the recovery of the firearms may show calls and yield identifying information relating to the intended receivers of the firearms.
- (4) If the special agent chooses to arrest the individual(s) with the firearm(s), the possibility exists that a debriefing of this individual will yield other members of the organization, or the individual(s) will agree to participate in a controlled delivery of the firearm(s) to the original intended receivers.

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**From:** ATF  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2009 11:37 AM  
**To:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Subject:** RE:

Not yet...?

---

**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2009 11:28 AM  
**To:** Newell, William D.  
**Cc:** ATF  
**Subject:**

Bill-

OSII has not yet finished a link diagram on this investigation. Therefore, there is no "chart" in existence diagramming this investigation. [ATF] and crew are currently working on such a link-diagram chart, but it is not yet complete. Mr. [ATF] did have a power point that gave an overview of the case and that has been forwarded to GS [ATF]. However, that power point is about 1 week old, so the info is already a bit dated. GS [ATF] and Mr. [ATF] are speaking on a regular basis, so the lines of communication are now the equivalent of the proverbial fire hose. During one of their conversations, [ATF] told [ATF] that [ATF] received a briefing on the investigation this week and mentioned the possibility of needing to shut the investigation down due to the large number of guns that have already been trafficked. Therefore, I spoke with [ATF] today and explained that even though the identified straw-purchasers bought approximately 175 guns last week alone, we have slowed down the FFL on future purchases and are obtaining intelligence directly related to this investigation [REDACTED]. [ATF] did express some concern regarding the total number of guns that have been purchased by this straw-purchase scheme. I cautioned [ATF] on not doing any type of informal calculations on purchase numbers as that likely will result in double counting of firearms (counting purchased guns as well as recovered guns). I have also advised that we will slow the purchasers down as much as possible, but we have not identified the network yet. The result will be that the responsible conspirators will have new straw-purchasers operational before we complete the booking paperwork. I have asked [ATF] to consider me his direct point of contact on any future questions and/or concerns and I will do the same with him. I have also spoken with Kevin O'Keefe today and maintain those lines of communication.

As for plans to proceed, I have asked Mr. [ATF] to begin preparing a white paper that outlines progress to date as well as a plans for proceeding with the investigation. I know that he wants to take the information [REDACTED] involving these subjects. I have also asked Mr. [ATF] to prepare a list of resources that HQ can provide (personnel and equipment) to support this investigation. I will keep you posted as things arise.

**George T. Gillett**  
Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
ATF - Phoenix Field Division  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2009 1:45 PM  
**To:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Cc:** ATF  
**Subject:** Re: [REDACTED]

**Categories:** ISSA, IG, F&F

Well done, thank you. I will address ATF concerns with McMahon.  
Bill Newell  
Special Agent in Charge  
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)  
[REDACTED]

\*\*\*

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**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**To:** Newell, William D.  
**Cc:** ATF  
**Sent:** Thu Dec 17 13:27:49 2009  
**Subject:**  
Bill-

OSII has not yet finished a link diagram on this investigation. Therefore, there is no "chart" in existence diagramming this investigation. ATF and crew are currently working on such a link-diagram chart, but it is not yet complete. Mr. ATF did have a power point that gave an overview of the case and that has been forwarded to GS ATF. However, that power point is about 1 week old, so the info is already a bit dated. GS ATF and Mr. ATF are speaking on a regular basis, so the lines of communication are now the equivalent of the proverbial fire hose. During one of their conversations, ATF told ATF that ATF received a briefing on the investigation this week and mentioned the possibility of needing to shut the investigation down due to the large number of guns that have already been trafficked. Therefore, I spoke with ATF today and explained that even though the identified straw-purchasers bought approximately 175 guns last week alone, we have slowed down the FFL on future purchases and are obtaining intelligence directly related to this investigation [REDACTED]. ATF did express some concern regarding the total number of guns that have been purchased by this straw-purchase scheme. I cautioned ATF on not doing any type of informal calculations on purchase numbers as that likely will result in double counting of firearms (counting purchased guns as well as recovered guns). I have also advised that we will slow the purchasers down as much as possible, but we have not identified the network yet. The result will be that the responsible conspirators will have new straw-purchasers operational before we complete the booking paperwork. I have asked ATF to consider me his direct point of contact on any future questions and/or concerns and I will do the same with him. I have also spoken with Kevin O'Keefe today and maintain those lines of communication.

As for plans to proceed, I have asked ATF to begin preparing a white paper that outlines progress to date as well as a plans for proceeding with the investigation. I know that he wants to take the information [REDACTED] involving these subjects. I have also asked ATF to prepare a list of resources that HQ can provide (personnel and equipment) to support this investigation. I will keep you posted as things arise.

**George T. Gillett**

Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
ATF - Phoenix Field Division



**From:** ATF  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2009 2:39 PM  
**To:** ATF  
**Subject:** FW: Updated with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
**Categories:** IG, F&F

Dave: See below. I understand that Steward has more to be added.

**From:** Lauffer, Kristen E  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2009 10:58 AM  
**To:** Kruthaupt, Alex J.; ATF  
**Cc:** O'Keefe, Kevin C.  
**Subject:** Updated with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

This is updated with [REDACTED] and (1) more for [REDACTED] who are Friends on Facebook...Had Firearms Seized in Mexicali

Suspect Gun (TOTAL)

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	0	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	0	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	0	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	20	
ATF		5	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	5	(5) seized in Naco
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	8	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	0	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	0	
Celis	Alfredo	18	*trace
Chambers	Jacob	58	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	3	* trace (1) seized in Mexicali (2) seized in Naco
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	13	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	0	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	0	
Hercegovac	Dejan	32	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	1	* Trace (1) Naco
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	20	
Ireland	Kristi	0	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	0	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	1	* Trace (1) Naco
Martinez Gonzalez	Juan	0	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	0	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	1	*Trace



Moore	Joshua	110	*Trace (1) Mexicali (1) Naco
ATF		104	
Polanco	Jose	3	*Trace (1) NACO (1) Phoenix 11/19/09)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	1	*Trace (1) Naco
ATF		103	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	0	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	25	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	16	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	1	*trace
TOTAL		548	

**Kristen Lauffer**  
**Intelligence Research Specialist**  
**Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives**  
**SWB Field Intelligence Support Team**

