
From: Grindler, Gary (OAG)
To: Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG); Goldberg, Stuart (ODAG)
CC: Richardson, Margaret (SMO)
Sent: 6/21/2011 3:03:51 PM
Subject: Re: Issa/Fast and Furious

Thanks Matt--this is very helpful.

From: Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG)
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2011 02:50 PM
To: Grindler, Gary (OAG); Goldberg, Stuart (ODAG)
Cc: Richardson, Margaret (SMO)
Subject: RE: Issa/Fast and Furious

Gary,

We are close to completing the review of approximately 48,000 self-selected documents. Nearly forty lawyers and a dozen ATF agents have been involved in this review process. ATF directed all of its employees, task force officers, and contractors to search for responsive documents. It created close to 7,500 online electronic document vaults to store responsive documents. A total of 697 users submitted information that they self-identified as responsive, resulting in a total of 88,565 individual records submitted. More than half of those records consisted of documents, as opposed to media files (photos, videos, audio files, etc.), that have been reviewed at three different levels. Twenty-nine lawyers conducted the first-level review. Five teams of lawyers and ATF agents worked together to conduct the second-level review. An additional team of two lawyers (one from OLA and one from OLC) conducted the final-level review.

As of June 17, 2011, more than thirty lawyers and ATF agents have started reviewing 124,000 ATF emails and attachments. ATF collected all email of those users who were most likely to have had direct knowledge of Operation Fast and Furious – a total of 278 users. It captured all email from their hard drives, network folders, and reserve tapes dating back to June 2009. Given the large volume of emails, we met with Committee staff and agreed to focus on a subset of nineteen specific users for initial email review. The nineteen users yielded 190 gigabytes of data, which an outside contractor processed for twelve straight days, twenty-four hours a day, using 150 computers, at a cost of \$137,000. That process yielded a total of 724,801 emails and attachments – an estimated volume of more than three million pages. After running search terms on the email, the total number of emails and attachments was reduced to approximately 124,000. As with the self-selected documents, we are reviewing emails and attachments in three stages. Approximately twenty attorneys are conducting the first-level review. Five teams of lawyers and ATF agents are starting to conduct the second-level review. Four teams of lawyers and agents will be conducting the final-level review. As of this morning, four of the nineteen user accounts had already been processed through first- and second-level review.

I've attached the cover letter that accompanied last Thursday's production. Since Thursday's letter, we've produced an additional 33 pages and made available 11 more. We did not make a production yesterday, but anticipate making one today.

Matt

<<Letter to Chairman Issa - 6 16 11.pdf>>

From: Grindler, Gary (OAG)
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2011 2:29 PM
To: Goldberg, Stuart (ODAG); Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG)

Cc: Richardson, Margaret (SMO)

Subject: Issa/Fast and Furious

The AG wanted me to get a report on the pace at which documents are being reviewed and to get the most recent production letter that included a compilation of the documents produced to date, etc...Also, please send me a copy of the production letters going forward.

How many attorneys are working on the email review?

Gary