

FOR PRODUCTION
TO THE COMMITTEE

BATCH #

18

STARTING DATES _____

ENDING DATES _____

From: ATF

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2011 12:28 PM

To: Phoe-Group VII

Subject: Please read, enough said

Attachments: Chait memo, 3-28-11.pdf

ATF

Group Supervisor
Phoenix Group VII
[REDACTED]

HOCR ATF - 001994

DOJ-FF-47130



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives

Assistant Director

Washington, DC 20226
www.atf.gov

701800:MRC
3310

MEMORANDUM TO: All Special Agents
Office of Field Operations

FROM: Assistant Director
(Field Operations)

SUBJECT: Guidance on Firearms Trafficking Investigations

This memo serves to reinforce the importance of adhering to Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and Department of Justice (DOJ) policy on firearms trafficking investigations and to reiterate the DOJ-wide position that component law enforcement agencies must not plan or conduct undercover operations in which firearms are crossing the U.S. border. DOJ guidance further requires that if a law enforcement official has any knowledge that guns are about to cross the border, he/she must take immediate action to prevent that from occurring, even if doing so will jeopardize an investigation.

ATF guidance is contained in the Firearms Enforcement Program Order, ATF O 3310.4B; in the Firearms Trafficking Investigation Guide, ATF P 3317.1; and in the September 2010 document entitled "Project Gunrunner - A Cartel Focused Strategy." ATF O 3310.4B outlines policy and discusses a number of investigative techniques consistent with the DOJ-wide guidance. ATF P 3317.1 contains, among other resources, an investigative checklist for international trafficking-in-arms cases in Section X, as well as a detailed outline of firearms trafficking indicators in Section V. "Project Gunrunner - A Cartel Focused Strategy" notes practical considerations that may require bringing investigations to a conclusion or dictate a change in investigative tactics prior to the identification of persons directly affiliated with drug trafficking organizations. Field Special Agents in Charge are also reminded that they must closely monitor and approve high volume trafficking investigations and must assess the associated risks. Lastly, field divisions should continue to coordinate with the U.S. Attorney's Offices for the districts in which they conduct operations to ensure a mutual understanding of the criteria for both prosecutions and seizures.


Mark R. Chait

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HOCR ATF - 001995

DOJ-FF-47131

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 4:18 PM
To: ATF
Subject: RE: Phoenix Group VII biweekly update 12-18-09

No problem. I'll make the change.

Kevin Simpson, Intelligence Officer
Phoenix FIG
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - Suite 940
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

From: ATF
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 2:18 PM
To: Simpson, Kevin
Cc: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Subject: RE: Phoenix Group VII biweekly update 12-18-09

Thanks for catching that, it should read 500 (five hundred) not 5,000. Again sorry but thanks for proofing what I put out!

ATF

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 1:16 PM
To: ATF
Subject: RE: Phoenix Group VII biweekly update 12-18-09

ATF

Thank you for getting back to me so quickly.

Did this group purchase over 5000 firearms or should it be 500 firearm or am I not reading your description correctly?

Please let me know. Thanks.

ATF This case is a large scale conspiracy of over a fifteen interconnected straw purchasers. Thus far in the investigation (September through present) the group has purchased over 5000 firearms; most of which are the AK-47 variant 7.62 assault rifles and or the F.N. Herstal 5.7 mm pistols. Of those 500 firearms purchased by the group approximately 50 have been recovered in Mexico or near the Mexican Border (the serial numbers are continually being updated and changed thus affecting the trace results) with a short time-to-crime; some as little as one day.

Kevin Simpson, Intelligence Officer
Phoenix FIG
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - Suite 940

HOGRA ATF - 001996

DOJ-FF-47132

Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

From: [REDACTED] ATF

Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 11:21 AM

To: Simpson, Kevin; Gillett, George T. Jr.

Subject: Phoenix Group VII biweekly update 12-18-09

HOCR ATF - 001997

DOJ-FF-47133

From: ATF

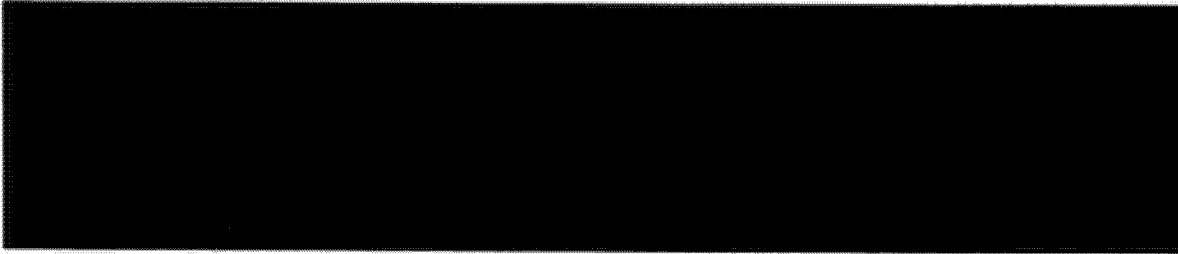
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 1:20 PM

To: Simpson, Kevin; Gillett, George T. Jr.

Subject: Phoenix Group VII biweekly update 12-18-09

Attachments: Phoenix Group VII biweekly update 12-18-09.docx

Phoenix Group VII



ATF

This case is a large scale conspiracy of over a fifteen interconnected straw purchasers. Thus far in the investigation (September through present) the group has purchased over 5000 firearms; most of which are the AK-47 variant 7.62 assault rifles and or the F.N. Herstal 5.7 mm pistols. Of those 500 firearms purchased by the group approximately 50 have been recovered in Mexico or near the Mexican Border (the serial numbers are continually being updated and changed thus affecting the trace results) with a short time-to-crime; some as little as one day. In once such recovery on or about December 10, 2009, Mexican authorities recovered 500 kilos of cocaine, 85 pounds of methamphetamine, two million dollars US currency, and over 40 firearms. Of those 40 firearms approximately 14 firearms were originally purchased by this crew. Additionally, Group Supervisor and agents from Group VII met with DEA officials as they have a current ongoing Mexican DTO investigation with



From: ATF

Sent: Friday, November 19, 2010 4:29 PM

To: ATF

Subject:

Attachments: Suspect Gun firearm recovered in MEXICO, [REDACTED]; Suspect Gun firearm recovered in MEXICO, [REDACTED]

HOCR ATF - 002000

DOJ-FF-47136

From: Haddix, Serena

Sent: Friday, November 19, 2010 9:35 AM

To: [REDACTED] ATF

Cc: Searcy, Lucia B.; Gamboa, Aaron J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; Nelson, Helgi P.

Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered in MEXICO, [REDACTED]

Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO.

Case Agents:

ATF

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 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: [REDACTED]

Suspect Gun submission request date: 2/17/2010

Trace details regarding firearm recovery:

Trace id: [REDACTED]
Serial Number: [REDACTED]
Manufacturer: **BARRETT FIREARMS MFG CO**
Type: **RIFLE**
Caliber: **50 BMG**
Model: **82**
Recovered: **10/12/2010**
Location: **TEPIC, NA, MEXICO**
Suspects: [REDACTED]

Trace Requestor: **ATF, ALEX KRUTHAAPT**

HOGR ATF - 002001

DOJ-FF-47137

Requesting Agency: **WASHINGTON, DC 20226**

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

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.**

Serena Haddix
Suspect Gun Program
Team Sage-Research Assistant
ATF National Tracing Center
[REDACTED]

From: Haddix, Serena

Sent: Friday, November 19, 2010 9:31 AM

To: ATF

Cc: Searcy, Lucia B.; Gamboa, Aaron J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; Nelson, Helgi P.

Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered in MEXICO, [REDACTED]

Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO.

Case Agents:

ATF

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 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: [REDACTED]

Suspect Gun submission request date: 11/17/2009

Trace details regarding firearm recovery:

Trace id: [REDACTED]
Serial Number: [REDACTED]
Manufacturer: ROMARM/CUGIR
Type: RIFLE
Caliber: 762
Model: WASR-10/63KR
Recovered: 10/11/2010
Location: SARIC, SO, MEXICO
Suspects: N/A

Trace Requestor: ATF, ALEX KRUTHAUP
Requesting Agency: WASHINGTON, DC 20226
Phone Number: [REDACTED]

HOGR ATF - 002003

DOJ-FF-47139

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.

Serena Haddix
Suspect Gun Program
Team Sage-Research Assistant
ATF National Tracing Center
[REDACTED]

From: Hernandez, Armando
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2011 11:05 PM
To: ATF
Subject: Re: FN 57 PICTURES

Both options are readable. High resolution allows you to zoom more in depth. I'll send u some samples tomorrow and you let me know but we can do either. No problem from this end.

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).

From: ATF
To: Hernandez, Armando
Sent: Mon Jan 10 21:28:36 2011
Subject: Re: FN 57 PICTURES

Let's try the disk. That way the serial number should be easier to read with more detail. Thanks again!

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).

From: Hernandez, Armando
To: ATF
Sent: Mon Jan 10 20:13:44 2011
Subject: RE: FN 57 PICTURES

It just occurred that I can send them in a lower resolution if you want via e-mail. Your choice?

Armando Hernandez
Supervisory Special Agent/Assistant Attaché
Tijuana Field Office



From: ATF
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2011 1:05 PM
To: Hernandez, Armando
Subject: RE: FN 57 PICTURES

I just realized that this seizure besides the FN 57 pistols mentioned below had numerous AK-47 variants purchased (and entered into Suspect Gun database) on ATF case 785115-10-0004, Operation Fast and Furious. If you want the purchaser information let me know. I know it is a lot to ask because of the volume but if there are pictures of these AK-47 variant firearms can we get them as well? I hope I am not a bother as I know you guys are busy down there. We are just trying to give the AUSA all the information we can. If it helps the case is scheduled to be indicted on Jan 19th, 2011 so the chaos should be coming to an end for the both of us!

Thanks,

HOCR ATF - 002005

DOJ-FF-47141

ATF

From: Hernandez, Armando
Sent: Thursday, January 06, 2011 4:37 PM
To: ATF
Subject: FW: FN 57 PICTURES

ATF

Here are the photos for the FN 57 seized in Puerto Peñasco, Sonora. We are still working on getting the report. They were not the most cooperative.

Armando Hernandez
Supervisory Special Agent/Assistant Attaché
Tijuana Field Office



HOCR ATF - 002006

DOJ-FF-47142

From: Needles, James R.

Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2011 6:41 PM

To: [REDACTED] ATF; Ratliff, Mark D.; Palmer, Douglas R.; [REDACTED] ATF; Gonzales, Jake A.; Simpson, Kevin

CC: Atteberry, Thomas G.

Subject: Firearms cases

As discussed on our conference call; any questions let me know.

From: Clemens, Shelley (USAAZ) [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2011 7:42 AM

To: Crocker, Richard L; Bartlett, S. Annette (FBI); Nallin, Michael T.

Subject: Firearms cases

Yesterday, we received a directive from the DAG, instructing on DOJ's policy regarding guns going south into Mexico. "We should not design or conduct undercover operations which include guns crossing the border. If we have knowledge that guns are about to cross the border, we must take immediate action to stop the firearms from crossing the border, even if that prematurely terminates or otherwise jeopardizes an investigation." This would include cases where we are working with the Mexican government to have them follow the vehicles once they are in Mexico in order to find the purchaser. If a vehicle is lost in surveillance, take all steps to notify the ports to be on the look out to stop the vehicle/person at the POE.

Please distribute this to your agents to ensure they are clear on this policy.

If you have any questions about this policy, please call me.

Thanks

Shelley Clemens

[REDACTED]

HOGR ATF - 002007

DOJ-FF-47143

From: ATF
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2011 6:54 PM
To: Phoe-Group VII
Subject: FW: Firearms cases

Please see attached below. Thanks

From: Needles, James R.
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2011 3:42 PM
To: ATF Ratliff, Mark D.; Palmer, Douglas R.; ATF Gonzales, Jake A.; Simpson, Kevin
Cc: Atteberry, Thomas G.
Subject: Firearms cases

As discussed on our conference call; any questions let me know.

From: Clemens, Shelley (USAAZ) [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2011 7:42 AM
To: Crocker, Richard L; Bartlett, S. Annette (FBI); Nallin, Michael T.
Subject: Firearms cases

Yesterday, we received a directive from the DAG, instructing on DOJ's policy regarding guns going south into Mexico. "We should not design or conduct undercover operations which include guns crossing the border. If we have knowledge that guns are about to cross the border, we must take immediate action to stop the firearms from crossing the border, even if that prematurely terminates or otherwise jeopardizes an investigation." This would include cases where we are working with the Mexican government to have them follow the vehicles once they are in Mexico in order to find the purchaser. If a vehicle is lost in surveillance, take all steps to notify the ports to be on the look out to stop the vehicle/person at the POE.

Please distribute this to your agents to ensure they are clear on this policy.

If you have any questions about this policy, please call me.

Thanks

Shelley Clemens

[REDACTED]

From: ATF
Sent: Friday, December 10, 2010 12:17 AM
To: Hernandez, Armando
Subject: Re:

Great, Thanks again! Tell Rick thanks as well.

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From: Hernandez, Armando
To: ATF
Sent: Fri Dec 10 00:02:26 2010
Subject: Re:

I'm here with Rick Serrano I am going to give him a CD with the photos in their true resolution.

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From: ATF
To: Hernandez, Armando
Sent: Thu Dec 09 23:59:59 2010
Subject: Re:

Wow great! This will help a ton with our local USAO to prosecute the case in D/AZ. Thanks so much!

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From: Hernandez, Armando
To: ATF
Sent: Thu Dec 09 20:18:59 2010
Subject: RE:

These should be all but let me know if you need. I can also burn them and put them on a CD.

Armando Hernandez
Resident Agent in Charge
Tijuana Field Office



From: ATF
Sent: Thursday, December 09, 2010 12:40 PM
To: Hernandez, Armando
Subject: RE:

Armando,

I am not trying to be a bother, but rather just checking in to see the status of some of these reports and photos?

Thanks for your help,

Dave

From: Hernandez, Armando
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 2:02 PM
To: ATF
Subject: RE:

We will translate the report and send you a copy of the RGI. Also, I'll scan the reports and e-mail them.

Armando Hernandez
Resident Agent in Charge
Tijuana Field Office



From: ATF
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 12:37 PM
To: Hernandez, Armando
Subject: RE:

Can we get a copy of the reports from the seizure and the photos?


We may have a lead on the TNW .50 caliber. We stopped a guy after he bought one of these and we roadside interviewed him, called the AUSA, and the AUSA said we did not have enough to seize the

gun and instructed us to let him go. I would not be surprised if this is that gun... let me track it down.

From: Hernandez, Armando
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 1:30 PM
To: ATF; Fasciani, Dennis C.
Cc: Reed, Chris L.; ATF; ATF; Vara, Angelo A.
Subject: RE:

We did. We also have full reports of the seizure. Let me know what you need from us.

Armando Hernandez
Resident Agent in Charge
Tijuana Field Office



From: ATF
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 12:28 PM
To: Hernandez, Armando; Fasciani, Dennis C.
Cc: Reed, Chris L.; ATF; ATF
Subject: RE:

Hope is off sick today but I looked it up and yes the first 7 firearms below (the 7.62 caliber rifles) come back to Fast and Furious, 785115-10-0004. Was anyone able to view these firearms?

Thanks,


Dave

From: Hernandez, Armando
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 1:13 PM
To: Fasciani, Dennis C.
Cc: Reed, Chris L.; ATF; ATF
Subject: FW:

This is the trace numbers for the guns just seized in Mexicali over the weekend. I think they may hit on one of Hope's cases.

Hope when you have a chance can you let us know if it comes back to any of your cases.

Armando Hernandez
Resident Agent in Charge
Tijuana Field Office



From: Meneses Valle, Jose L.
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 12:05 PM
To: Hernandez, Armando
Subject:

From: Arredondo, Francisco J.
Sent: Sunday, August 15, 2010 5:22 PM
To: ATF
Subject: Re: 80 gun seizure

No. It just seems like a lot of guns are coming out of that area. Things just don't work the same in your area as they do in ours. Didn't mean to offend you.

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From: ATF
To: Arredondo, Francisco J.
Sent: Sun Aug 15 17:17:05 2010
Subject: RE: 80 gun seizure

Have I offended you in some way? Because I am very offended by your e-mail.

Define walk...? Without Probable Cause and concurrence from the USAO it is highway robbery if we take someone's property. We have conducted hundreds of hours of surveillance [REDACTED] and the idea that our suspects purchase the guns and drive them directly to the border is not the case, not even close. We have seized firearms weeks and months after they were purchased and they had not yet gone south to Mexico. If a non-prohibited person purchases firearms, puts the firearms in his/her car and drives straight home what is our PC to stop and seize the firearms? Two weeks ago we stopped a suspect after he purchased a TNW 50 caliber belt-fed rifle for over \$10,000.00. We conducted a field interview and after calling the AUSA he said we did not have sufficient PC to take the firearm so our suspect drove home with said firearm in his car...any ideas on how we could not let that firearm "walk"...?

Additionally, we have stopped "some" of these guys and seized hundreds (plural) of firearms in this case to date.

From: Arredondo, Francisco J.
Sent: Sunday, August 15, 2010 1:52 PM
To: ATF ; Herrera, Juan H.
Subject: Re: 80 gun seizure

Are you all planning to stop some of these guys any time soon? That's a lot of guns that have been seized. Are you just letting these guns walk?

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From: ATF
To: Herrera, Juan H.; Arredondo, Francisco J.
Sent: Sun Aug 15 16:40:20 2010
Subject: RE: 80 gun seizure

Any luck we have not heard anything here locally? Obviously we are interested as 63 of the 80 firearms were part of open/active ATF Phoenix cases, especially the 57 as part of Operation Fast and Furious.

Thanks,

HOGF ATF - 002011

DOJ-FF-47147

From: Herrera, Juan H.

Sent: Monday, August 09, 2010 12:54 PM

To: ATF

Subject: RE: 80 gun seizure

Hello David,

I will be talking to ICE soon. I will forward any updates I get from them.

Jh Herrera

From: ATF

Sent: Monday, August 09, 2010 2:24 PM

To: Herrera, Juan H.; Arredondo, Francisco J.

Subject: 80 gun seizure

Gentlemen,

Just checking to see if there are any updates or reports that can be forwarded to us here in Phoenix. I think I forwarded a spreadsheet but like 63 out of the 80 (14 were obliterated) are from open/ongoing Phoenix ATF cases thus any information is appreciated!

Thanks,

ATF

Group Supervisor

Phoenix Group VII

HOCR ATF - 002012

DOJ-FF-47148

From: ATF
Sent: Friday, August 13, 2010 12:23 PM
To: ATF
Subject: FW: MEXICO RECOVERY Suspect Gun firearm recovered, DNT, [REDACTED]

From: Haddix, Serena
Sent: Friday, August 13, 2010 5:30 AM
To: ATF
Cc: Searcy, Lucia B.; Gamboa, Aaron J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; Nelson, Helgi P.
Subject: MEXICO RECOVERY Suspect Gun firearm recovered, DNT, [REDACTED]

Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO.

Case Agents: ATF

The National Tracing Center (NTC) has received a Trace request for the above listed firearm.

All information regarding this and any other trace requests can be obtained by using 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.

Suspect Gun Details:

ATF IN Number: 785115-10-0004
Suspect Gun File Number: [REDACTED]
Suspect Gun submission request date: 6/8/2010

Trace details regarding firearm recovery:

Serial Number: [REDACTED]
Manufacturer: BARRETT FIREARMS MFG CO
Type: RIFLE
Caliber: 50 BMG
Model: 82
Recovered: 08/01/2010
Location: SINALOA DE LEYVA, SL, MEXICO
Suspects: [REDACTED]

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.

Serena Haddix

Suspect Gun Program

Team Sage-Research Assistant

ATF National Tracing Center



From: ATF
Sent: Friday, November 26, 2010 12:04 PM
To: ATF
Subject: FW: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO [REDACTED]

From: Nelson, Helgi P.
Sent: Wednesday, November 24, 2010 11:30 AM
To: ATF
Cc: Searcy, Lucia B.; Gamboa, Aaron J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; Haddix, Serena
Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO [REDACTED]

Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO.

Case Agents: ATF

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 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:

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- 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: [REDACTED]

Suspect Gun submission request date: 11/27/2009

Trace details regarding firearm recovery:

Serial Number: [REDACTED]
Manufacturer: RMC
Type: R
Caliber: 762
Model: GP WASR 10/63
Recovered: 11/22/2010
Location: NOGALES, SO, MEXICO

Suspects: **NONE LISTED**

Trace Requestor: **C-3 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
[REDACTED]

From: Newell, William D.

Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2010 11:43 PM

To: ATF Needles, James R.; Gillett, George T. Jr.

CC: ATF L.; Serrano, Ricardo

Subject: Re: ATF in custody

Great job.

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From: ATF

To: Newell, William D.; Needles, James R.; Gillett, George T. Jr.

Cc: ATF Serrano, Ricardo

Sent: Wed Dec 15 23:41:30 2010

Subject: Avila in custody

We (ATF) have ATF in our custody. We are coordinating with the USAO to charge him in the morning via Complaint. We are holding him overnight in custody.

We are charging ATF with a standalone June 2010 firearms purchase where he used a bad (old) address on the 4473. [924(a)(1)(A) – False records required to be kept by dealer.] This way we do not divulge our current case (Fast & Furious) or the Border Patrol shooting case.

Thanks,

ATF

Group Supervisor
Phoenix Group VII



HOCR ATF - 002017

DOJ-FF-47153

From: Nallin, Michael T.

Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 5:11 PM

To: ATF

Subject: RE: FYI...complaint for ATF signed by federal magistrate judge

ATF

Just a heads up...

The FBI has been asking for the trace info on the 2 recovered guns, as part of their investigation. After discussion with George, I met with Robin Andrews, Supervisory Special Agent (FBI) and gave her the basics on the trace results and how it ties into a PHX ATF case.

I explained ATF had been arrested yesterday by you guys and charged with Lying and Buying.

I also explained that he was part of a larger investigation ATF was conducting and that their SAC had been briefed, in the past, by our SAC.

She wanted to know the name of the case agent for the PHX case. I suggested she call you if she wished to garner more information regarding the PHX investigation. I don't know that she will call, but I wanted to give you a heads up.

THX

Mike

From: ATF

Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 2:18 PM

To: Newell, William D.; Needles, James R.; Gillett, George T. Jr.


Cc: ATF Serrano, Ricardo; Nallin, Michael T.

Subject: FYI...complaint for ATF signed by federal magistrate judge

ATF

Group Supervisor

Phoenix Group VII



HOCR ATF - 002018

DOJ-FF-47154

[REDACTED]

From: ATF [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 3:39 PM
To: Garza, Peter W.
Subject: RE: scanned copies per your request

I know the FBI is more guarded then other agencies with Op-Sec issues, but needless to say these documents are "Law Enforcement Sensitive." The reports I sent are part of a [REDACTED] case scheduled to be indicted in January 2011 by the USAO and ATF. I know my ATF SAC as briefed your FBI SAC but I thought it still worth mentioning.

From: Garza, Peter W. [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 3:35 PM
To: ATF
Subject: RE: scanned copies per your request

Received...thank you.

Pete

Peter Garza
Intelligence Analyst
FBI Phoenix

[REDACTED] - desk
[REDACTED] BB

From: ATF [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 3:32 PM
To: Garza, Peter W.
Subject: scanned copies per your request

******* 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: ATF
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2011 11:27 AM
To: Hall, Steven M.
CC: ATF
Subject: Any assistance you could provide would be appreciated

From: Henderson, Frank J.
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2011 9:12 AM
To: ATF
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, [REDACTED]

ATF

I spoke with Steve Hall yesterday and he had just examined this firearm, along with some others, in Juarez. He may be able to give you the circumstances surrounding the recovery. Aaron Gamboa, at the Gun desk, is trying to match it up with our seizure bulletins.

Frank

From: ATF
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2011 8:37 AM
To: Henderson, Frank J.
Cc: ATF
Subject: FW: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, [REDACTED]

Frank,

Can you provide any additional information on the below recovery? Thanks

ATF

From: Campbell, Serena M.
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2011 8:13 AM
To: ATF
Cc: Searcy, Lucia B.; Gamboa, Aaron J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; Nelson, Helgi P.
Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, [REDACTED]

Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO.

Case Agents:

ATF

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.

HOCR ATF - 002020

DOJ-FF-47156

All information regarding this and any other trace requests can be obtained by using 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: [REDACTED]

Suspect Gun submission request date: **2/2/2010**

Trace details regarding firearm recovery:

TRACE ID: [REDACTED]
Serial Number: [REDACTED]
Manufacturer: **BARRETT FIREARMS MFG CO**
Type: **RIFLE**
Caliber: **50 BMG**
Model: **82**
Recovered: **02/04/2011**
Location: **CIUDAD JUAREZ, CH, MEXICO**
Suspects: **N/A**

Trace Requestor: **ATF, STEVEN HALL**
Requesting Agency: **EL PASO, TX 7990**
Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Trace Requestor: **C-4 CENAPI, INFORMATION CENTER COMBATTING, ARMAS DE FUEGO GRUPO DE**
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.

Serena Campbell
Suspect Gun Program
Team Sage-Research Assistant
ATF National Tracing Center
[REDACTED]

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
To: Arellano, Bernardo
CC: Celaya, Sigberto F.

BCC:

Subject: Fw: Gun seizure in Agua Prieta, Sonora
SentOn: 11/24/2009 12:01:38 PM
ReplyTo:
Body: Fyi -

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

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

From: Newell, William D.
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Tue Nov 24 11:59:39 2009
Subject: Re: Gun seizure in Agua Prieta, Sonora

OK, also Bernie needs to retrace guns, it appears original traces were messed up. See if he can gain access, if not I'll put our PGR rep to work.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)
[REDACTED]

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

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
To: Newell, William D.
Sent: Tue Nov 24 11:57:49 2009
Subject: Re: Gun seizure in Agua Prieta, Sonora

Just spoke with Sig. Bernie is on it and will handle. Sig will forward an e-mail update when available.

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

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HOCR ATF - 002022

DOJ-FF-47158

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

From: Newell, William D.

To: Gillett, George T. Jr.

Sent: Tue Nov 24 11:51:20 2009

Subject: FW: Gun seizure in Agua Prieta, Sonora

I know you're off but I don't want to cut you out of the loop on this since this seizure has the potential of being a "hot" issue in many ways. Please verify asap what the status of Bernie responding is and let me know. Thanks.

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Phoenix Field
Division (Arizona and New Mexico) Office - [REDACTED]

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

From: McMahon, William G.

Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 9:48 AM

To: Newell, William D.

Subject: RE: Gun seizure in Agua Prieta, Sonora

Bill,

Were you able to get one of your people down there on this seizure? I understand ICE is all over this and the info we have up here on the serial numbers is wrong. Thanks,

Bill

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

From: Newell, William D.

Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 11:35 AM

To: McMahon, William G.; Martin, Steve K.

Subject: Gun seizure in Agua Prieta, Sonora

Friday's Agua Prieta, Sonora (across from Douglas, AZ) gun seizure. 45 semi-auto rifles, mags, ammo, etc. Woman and juvenile from Florida. Mexican Customs dog alerted. Curious to see if it was one of our dogs.

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Phoenix Field
Division (Arizona and New Mexico) Office - [REDACTED]

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HOGR ATF - 002023

DOJ-FF-47159

From: [redacted] ATF
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 6:51:21 PM
To: [redacted] ATF
Subject: RE: Mexicali Seizure

We have tentatively identified one of these guns as one of our suspect guns, haven't had time to run the rest

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

From: [redacted] ATF
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 2:35 PM
To: [redacted] ATF
Cc: Arellano, Bernardo
Subject: Fw: Mexicali Seizure

Hope these are the guns. Rustin is going to trace them. The pgr is thinking that these are all going to sinaloa. The reason is they are avoiding nogales where the Z are hunting them. Chapo is arming for a war.

[redacted] ATF

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

From: Hernandez, Armando
To: [redacted] ATF
Cc: Fasciani, Dennis C.; Gil, Darren D.
Sent: Fri Dec 11 15:54:01 2009
Subject: Mexicali Seizure

This is the list of guns from the Mexicali seizure that occurred from 12/09/09 through 12/10/09. The totals are included in the heading of the attached document. We are suspecting that these guns are coming from a trafficking crew based out of phoenix who have bought approximately 500 WASR/10. [redacted] ATF is the case agent out of Phoenix and we are in contact with her.

These will be traced by Tijuana.

Armando Hernandez
Assistant Country Attache
Tijuana Field Office

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

From: AHernandez [redacted]
To: Hernandez, Armando

HOCR ATF - 002024

DOJ-FF-47160

Sent: Fri Dec 11 15:08:18 2009

HOCR ATF - 002025

DOJ-FF-47161