
From: Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ)
To: Morrissey, Mike (USAAZ)
Sent: 7/17/2011 5:33:05 PM
Subject: FW: Case Opening dates for F and F

From: Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ)
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 12:00 PM
To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ); Scheel, Ann (USAAZ)
Cc: Morrissey, Mike (USAAZ)
Subject: Case Opening dates for F and F

Case opening dates:

You have asked about approvals for the ♦Fast and Furious♦ investigation. Operation ♦Fast and Furious♦ is an ongoing criminal investigation of an extensive gun-trafficking enterprise.^[1] It was opened as an investigation by ATF on November 16, 2009 and by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona (USAO) on November 25, 2009. As is customary, the opening of the investigation was approved by a Section Chief within the USAO on November 25, 2009, and by a Division Review on November 24, 2009 by the Special Agent in Charge in the ATF's Phoenix Field Office. Subsequently, the investigation was approved by the multi-agency Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) Program on January 26, 2010 by the Phoenix Coordinators Group, and on February 4, 2010 by the Regional Coordination Group in Houston, Texas.

From: Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ)
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 1:20 PM
To: Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG) (SMO)
Cc: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ); Morrissey, Mike (USAAZ)
Subject: Your questions

M: got your voice mail and here are the answers:

1. The DEA case you referenced was being prosecuted by a state prosecutor and we will get you the DEA case number. We do not believe it was related to Gunrunner in any way. ATF's Management Log will show when they first discussed opening our case in October and the leads on gun trafficking sent by DEA to ATF in September or October 2009.
Our case was opened later (November) and here is the time line from our draft Smith letter:

You have asked about approvals for the ♦Fast and Furious♦ investigation. Operation ♦Fast and Furious♦ is an ongoing criminal investigation of an extensive gun-trafficking enterprise.^[2] It was opened as an investigation by ATF on November 16, 2009 and by the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona (USAO) on November 25, 2009. As is customary, the opening of the investigation was approved by a Section Chief within the USAO on November 25, 2009, and by a Division Review on November 24, 2009 by the Special Agent in Charge in the ATF's Phoenix Field Office. Subsequently, the investigation was approved by the multi-agency Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) Program on January 26, 2010 by the Phoenix Coordinators Group, and on February 4, 2010 by the Regional Coordination Group in Houston, Texas.

2. Got you message about the deposition of an agent and am available to discuss. Cell: 602.377.7803
Thanks. PJC

From: Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG) (SMO)
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 11:53 AM
To: Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ)
Subject: Can you call me when you get a chance?

Matthew S. Axelrod
Associate Deputy Attorney General
Office of the Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Desk (202) 305-0273
Cell (202) 532-3087

[1] Operation Fast and Furious, which is one law enforcement investigation, should not be confused with Project Gunrunner, which is the broader initiative to deal with weapons trafficking along the Southwest Border generally. As was recently noted by the Congressional Research Service, [a]s of March 2010, Project Gunrunner had led to the arrest of 1,397 defendants - 850 of which had been convicted - and the seizure of over 6,688 firearms. Congressional Research Service Report RL32724, *Mexico-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress*, February 15, 2011, at 19.

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