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**From:** Schmalzer, Tracy (SMO)  
**To:** Reich, Steven (ODAG); Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG); Weich, Ron (SMO); Burton, Faith (SMO); Colborn, Paul P (SMO); Ramirez, Monica (CRT); Wilkinson, Monty (OAG); Richardson, Margaret (SMO); Miller, Matthew A (SMO)  
**Sent:** 7/7/2011 12:29:10 AM  
**Subject:** WaPo tomw

...going to report that Melson indicated to the congressional investigators that the AG did not know about Fast and Furious; that it would have been unusual for other DOJ officials in DC to know the details and that the U.S. Attys office in Phoenix was overseeing it. apparently USAO in AZ learned this and gave a comment that they give case related legal advice to agencies, but don't direct them -- ATF and their tactical decisions are supervised by ATF. There's also reference to Melson having come forward on his own because he feels Dept's handling of the whole thing has been "problematic" and was harming ATF ... as well as reference to other information given to Congress indicating that Melson was in fact briefed on Fast and Furious and asked questions about it.