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**From:** Burton, Faith (SMO)  
**To:** Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG); Reich, Steven (ODAG); Colborn, Paul P (SMO); Schmalzer, Tracy (SMO); Weich, Ron (SMO); Richardson, Margaret (SMO)  
**CC:** **Admin. Assistant**; Gaston, Molly (SMO); Kellner, Kenneth E. (ATF)  
**Sent:** 7/7/2011 6:06:48 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Tiahrt Amendments are Blocking Investigation of ATF's Fast & Furious - Letter from Mayors Against Illegal Guns

Assume that you all have seen this - FYI

From: Karen Marangi [mailto:kmarangi@rabengroup.com]  
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 12:17 PM  
To: Gross, Charles R. (SMO); Thiemann, Robyn (OLP)  
Cc: Mark Glaze; Janey Rountree  
Subject: Tiahrt Amendments are Blocking Investigation of ATF's Fast & Furious - Letter from Mayors Against Illegal Guns

Chuck and Robyn,

this went out to the Hill last eve - regarding Issa and Grassley seeking gun trace data from Mexican officials since Tiahrt blocks their direct access from ATF.

Karen

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From: Janey Rountree [mailto:JRountree@cityhall.nyc.gov]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 7:59 PM  
To: rabengroup\_list@mailmanager.net  
Subject: Tiahrt Amendments are Blocking Investigation of ATF's Fast & Furious - Letter from Mayors Against Illegal Guns

Banner<<http://i1126.photobucket.com/albums/l617/KevinCallRabenGroup/MAIGBanner.jpg>>

Dear Megan:

Today, New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, co-founders of Mayors Against Illegal Guns, wrote to Speaker Boehner and Majority Leader Reid urging Congress to repeal the Tiahrt Amendments to the federal budget because they are obstructing Congressional investigation of ATF's Operation Fast and Furious.

Whistleblowers allege that under a controversial ATF surveillance program, code-named "Operation Fast and Furious," ATF agents were instructed to allow guns bought by known criminals to be illegally trafficked across the border to Mexico in an effort to connect those guns to Mexican drug cartels. To investigate these allegations, Senator Grassley and Chairman Issa requested from the Mexican Government and Arizona law enforcement officials the serial numbers of guns recovered in violent crimes and submitted for tracing. This data is critical to understanding which crime guns were traced back to dealers in the United State who were cooperating with Fast & Furious.

ATF itself maintains the eTrace system and has immediate access to all of the data Chairman Issa and Senator Grassley have requested. Unfortunately, the congressionally-imposed Tiahrt restrictions prohibit ATF from releasing the data, even to members of Congress who are conducting oversight of ATF. Thus, Chairman Issa and Senator Grassley find it necessary to request this same information from the Mexican government and Arizona law enforcement officials.

Mayor Bloomberg and Mayor Menino have repeatedly called on Congressional leadership to lift the restrictions that currently prevent members of Congress from accessing data that is essential for this ongoing investigation. On behalf of the coalition co-founders, we hope that your member will review this letter (linked here <[https://filemanager.capwiz.com/filemanager/file-mgr/rabengroup/Letter\\_to\\_Congress\\_re\\_Tiahrt\\_and\\_Fast\\_Furious\\_\\_July\\_6.pdf](https://filemanager.capwiz.com/filemanager/file-mgr/rabengroup/Letter_to_Congress_re_Tiahrt_and_Fast_Furious__July_6.pdf)> ) and urge Speaker Boehner and Leader Reid to remove the Tiahrt Amendment restrictions without delay.

Sincerely,

Janey Rountree

Janey Rountree

Firearms Policy Coordinator

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