
From: Hoover, William J. (ATF)
To: Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG)
Sent: 7/8/2011 11:03:24 PM
Subject: Fw: Operation Castaway - Firearms Trafficking to Honduras

Please see below. This is re the Sipsy Street blog I spoke to you about yesterday. We have reviewed our case and it is nothing like F and F. We can provide you with a brief if you would like.

Billy

William J. Hoover
Deputy Director
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives
O) 202-648-8710

From: Chait, Mark R.
To: Hoover, William J.
Sent: Fri Jul 08 18:12:29 2011
Subject: Fw: Operation Castaway - Firearms Trafficking to Honduras

See below.

NOTICE: This e-mail message and any attached files are intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) named above in connection with official business. This communication may contain Sensitive But Unclassified information that may be statutorily or otherwise prohibited from being released without appropriate approval. Any review, use, or dissemination of this e-mail message and any attached file(s) in any form outside of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives or the Department of Justice without express authorization is strictly prohibited.

From: McMahon, William G.
To: Chait, Mark R.; Torres, Julie M
Cc: Kumor, Daniel J.
Sent: Fri Jul 08 17:29:49 2011
Subject: FW: Operation Castaway - Firearms Trafficking to Honduras

FYI from Central America Post.

William G. McMahon
Deputy Assistant Director (West)
Office of Field Operations
Office - (202) 648-7374

NOTICE: This e-mail message and any attached files are intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) named above in connection with official business. This communication may contain Sensitive But Unclassified information that may be statutorily or otherwise prohibited from being released without appropriate approval. Any review, use, or dissemination of this e-mail message and any attached file(s) in any form outside of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives or the Department of Justice without express authorization is strictly prohibited.

From: Jones, Mark D [mailto:JonesMD2@state.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 4:12 PM
To: Kumor, Daniel J.; McMahon, William G.
Cc: O'Brien, Virginia T.
Subject: Operation Castaway - Firearms Trafficking to Honduras

Dan & Bill

I just had a call from Charge d' Affairs (acting ambassador) Simon Henshaw in Guatemala who related that he's been contacted by Univision who will run a story on Operation Castaway (767015-09-0090) later today or tomorrow. The crux of the call was the Univision reporter told Mr. Henshaw that the Orlando case is analogous to Fast and Furious because ATF deliberately let guns come to Honduras and asked for Mr. Henshaw's comments.

I forwarded the emails below to Mr. Henshaw to provide him some background material. You both should know that this is coming and make whatever additional notifications are necessary. ~~Also, please~~ provide me whatever guidance you feel is appropriate in handling the inevitable inquiries from other embassies in the region.

Thanks
Mark

Mark D. Jones
Regional Firearms Advisor - Central America
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives
U.S. Embassy San Salvador
(503) 2501-2220 desk
(503) 7736-9784 mobile

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Lauffer, Kristen E [mailto:Kristen.E.Lauffer@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 6:11 AM
To: Oquendo, Jose L.; O'Keefe, Kevin C.; Feingold, Edward D.; Jones, Mark D
Subject: OP Castaway background re: article that came out yesterday saying it was another FnF

So I looked up Crumpler stuff...

Looks like they seized 323 firearms in Jan/Feb 2010.

His guns have turned up in 7 Nforce Cases 5 colombian cases and 1 PR homicide

764045-11-0019	PR
764040-10-0028	PR
764040-06-0030	PR
ea1046 sijn deant g	Colombia
ea1016 sijn meval	Colombia
ea1015 sijn meval	Colombia
ea971 sijn meval	Colombia
764040-10-0010	PR
764045-10-0031	PR
ea827 sijn deant gi	Colombia
09-01-266-04299	homicide 66 days
764045-09-0040	PR

There are 646 Firearms purchased in Multiple Sales Transactions (But looks like he's acquired some from other people)

There are 636 listed in Suspect guns.

Here's some open source stuff



Orlando FL Major International Firearms Trafficking Investigation Convicts Bass Fishing Pro Hugh Crumpler of Selling "Cop Killer Guns" to Drug Dealers in Medellin Colombia.

COP KILLER GUNS...FN Herstal Hand Guns (Pistols) \$1,083.99 ea. Fabrique Nationale Herstal 5.7x28mm semi-automatic handgun. MFG ID: 3868929130 FN Herstal Five-seveN USG – Semi-Auto, Full Size, 5.7x28mm, 4.25" barrel, Polymer, Blue, 10rd capacity, Fired Case, Ambidextrous, Adjustable Sights.

This 10-round pistol fires a 5.7mm bullet that will defeat most body armor in military service around the world today. Essentially, the Five-seveN represents a quantum leap forward in the handguns suitability for close engagements by delivering the type of performance that was previously confined to rifles or carbines. The Five-seveN's extremely low recoil impulse results in virtually no muzzle climb, thereby facilitating fast and controllable follow-up shots. Weighing 30% less than most 9mm pistols, the smoothly contoured Five-seveN is comfortable to carry and quick to deploy.



Fishing pro Hugh Crumpler sentenced for firearms trafficking. ORLANDO, Fla. — An Orlando bass tournament pro, who authorities say was involved in international firearms trafficking, was sentenced to just over two years in prison in Orlando federal court.

Hugh Crumpler III pleaded guilty in June to charges of unlicensed firearms dealing and possession of unregistered firearms. Authorities say guns linked to Crumpler were tied to crimes in other countries and that he mostly bought guns that are preferred by drug cartels in South and Central America.

United States Attorney's Office, ATF, and ICE Announce Results of Major International Firearms Trafficking Investigation. Orlando, Florida — United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton, Virginia O'Brien, Special Agent in Charge of central and northern Florida Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) operations, and Susan McCormick, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations, Tampa Field Office announce the initial results of Operation Castaway, an intensive and wideranging Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force ("OCDETF") firearms trafficking investigation conducted by ATF, ICE, the Orange County Sheriff's Office, the Osceola County Sheriff's Office, the Brevard County Sheriff's Office, and the Miami-Dade Police Department. ATF describes Operation Castaway as the most significant firearms trafficking investigation in Central Florida history.



According to court documents, a group of defendants connected to Hugh Crumpler, III, were involved in a major international gun trafficking operation. Crumpler has trafficked, for several years, more than 1000 firearms to various groups and defendants who have exported these weapons all over Central and South America and to Puerto Rico.

The defendants trafficked in Glock semi-automatic handguns, Fabrique Nationale Herstal 5.7x28mm semi-automatic handguns (“FN pistols”), and AR-15 styled short-barreled rifles, among other firearms. The FN pistols in particular are weapons of choice for drug trafficking organizations and paramilitary groups. Easily concealed and capable of firing a rifle round of ammunition that can penetrate law enforcement body armor, the pistols are referred to by cartel members in Mexico, South America, Central America, and Puerto Rico as “matapolicias” or “cop killers.” AR-15-styled rifles are popular among the same criminal groups.

Firearms like those involved in this investigation are often smuggled through Honduras and other Central and South American countries before being used in violent crimes in Mexico and other countries in the region. A number of the firearms trafficked by the defendants in Operation Castaway have been linked to violent crimes around the world. Several firearms trafficked by Crumpler and Ramon Lopez, Jr. were used in crimes associated with the Torres Sabana Drug Trafficking Organization, a notorious and violent drug trafficking organization in Puerto Rico.

Another firearm, a Glock pistol, was recovered in Medellin, Colombia, South America, after being used to commit a homicide. Yet another firearm was found in the possession of a hitman for Oficina de Envigado, an organization described by the Department of Treasury as “a violent Medellin-based organized crime group that engages in large-scale drug trafficking and money laundering activities in Colombia.”

On Monday and Tuesday of this week, U.S. District Judge Gregory A. Presnell sentenced several of the Operation Castaway defendants. Hugh Crumpler, III (age 63, of Palm Bay) was sentenced to 30 months in

federal prison for dealing firearms without a license and unlawfully possessing short barreled rifles; Ramon Lopez, Jr. (age 29, of Kissimmee) was sentenced to 74 months in federal prison for dealing firearms without a license and unlawfully possessing short barreled rifles; Carlos Humberto Guillen-Rivera (age 29, of Honduras) was sentenced to 84 months in federal prison for conspiring to possess and illegally possessing short barreled rifles; Cesar Augusto Guillen-Rivera (age 31, of Honduras) was sentenced to 65 months in federal prison for conspiring to possess and illegally possessing short barreled rifles; Erlin Javier Guillen-Rivera (age 25, of Honduras) was sentenced to 63 months in federal prison for conspiring to possess and illegally possessing short barreled rifles; and Hector Saenz (age 38, of Honduras) was sentenced to 46 months for conspiracy.

Operation Castaway defendant Jesus Puentes pleaded guilty on August 31, 2010 to conspiring to possess and illegally possessing short barreled rifles and will be sentenced on November 18, 2010. Defendant Jorge Acosta has pleaded guilty to conspiring to possess and illegally possessing short barreled rifles. Acosta will be sentenced at a future date.

Two additional defendants, Antonia Ruiz-Varela and Manuel Dejesus Carrasco-Ruiz, are still at large and have yet to be arrested by authorities. Any information about their whereabouts should be forwarded to ATF.

“Eliminating this type of organization and taking its high-level weaponry off the streets will increase safety not only for our citizens but for people abroad. I commend the work of the federal agents in bringing this group down, as well as the contributions of our local partner agencies,” said U.S. Attorney Albritton.

“ATF investigates unlicensed firearm dealers across the country, this one unlicensed individual revealed a firearms trafficking ring so far reaching it funneled hundreds of firearms to criminal markets both domestic and international,” said Virginia O’Brien, Special Agent in Charge of central and northern Florida ATF operations.

ICE Homeland Security Investigations Special Agent in Charge in Tampa Susan McCormick said, “Gun and drug trafficking fuels violence by criminal organizations and threatens the security of the people along our borders and throughout the country. ICE special agents will continue working jointly with our law enforcement partners to utilize our expertise in import and export enforcement in order to keep our citizens safe and secure.”

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys J. Bishop Ravenel and E. Jackson Boggs. Operation Castaway remains an ongoing investigation

Kristen Lauffer
Intelligence Research Specialist
Central and South America Analyst
Tobacco Analyst
Internship Coordinator

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

From: Jones, Mark D
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 1:44 PM
To: Henshaw, Simon
Subject: Operation Castaway - Firearms Trafficking to Honduras

Simon, the blog article below ran on the 6th and is most likely the basis of the upcoming Univision piece.
M

Mark D. Jones
Agregado Regional para Centroamérica
de la Oficina de Alcohol, Tabaco, Armas de Fuego
y Explosivos (ATF)



Breaking News: Source claims ATF's Tampa SAC walked guns to Honduras

By [David Codrea](#), Gun Rights Examiner

Part of 'Operation Castaway'?

Exclusive Special Report by [Mike Vanderboegh](#) and David Codrea

Virginia O'Brien, Special Agent in Charge at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Tampa Field Division, ran a gun-running investigation that was walking guns to Honduras using the techniques and tactics identical to Fast and Furious, it was reported to these correspondents this evening via private correspondence from a proven credible source.

On 21 September, 2010, A. Brian Albritton, United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida issued a [press release on Operation Castaway](#):

United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton, Virginia O'Brien, Special Agent in Charge of central and northern Florida Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) operations, and Susan McCormick, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations, Tampa Field Office announce the initial results of Operation Castaway, an intensive and wideranging Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) firearms trafficking investigation conducted by ATF, ICE, the Orange County Sheriff's Office, the Osceola County Sheriff's Office, the Brevard County Sheriff's Office, and the Miami-Dade Police Department. ATF describes Operation Castaway as the most significant firearms trafficking investigation in Central Florida history.

According to court documents, a group of defendants connected to Hugh Crumpler, III, were involved in a major international gun trafficking operation. . . . Firearms like those involved in this investigation are often smuggled through Honduras and other Central and South American countries before being used in violent crimes in Mexico and other countries in the region. A number of the firearms trafficked by the defendants in Operation Castaway have been linked to violent crimes around the world.

The press release concluded, "This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys J. Bishop Ravenel and E. Jackson Boggs. Operation Castaway remains an ongoing investigation."

SAC O'Brien was previously the Special Agent in Charge of the Phoenix Field Division, was later promoted to the Deputy Assistant Director of ATF, but then stepped down to the position in Tampa. Whether the allegations of our source refer to the ongoing Operation Castaway remains at this hour unclear, but our source is certain that O'Brien has allowed the "walking" of straw-purchased firearms to Honduras using the same failed strategy as the Phoenix Field Division's Operation Fast and Furious. That Operation Castaway involved arms smuggling to Honduras is also certain.

"This is confirmed as accurate," the correspondence continued. "There are emails in existence where O'Brien

has advised those involved that Tampa does not have to report their walked guns because Tampa FD is not a part of Southwest Border or Project Gunrunner."

"From a first person source she is sh*tting herself trying to cover it up," the report stated.

No one from ATF is available at this late hour to approach for comment. This information has also reportedly been disclosed to Chairman Darrell Issa of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and Ranking Senate Judiciary Committee Member Charles Grassley for follow-up and investigation.

Note to newcomers to this story: "Project Gunrunner" is the name ATF assigned to its Southwest Border Initiative to interdict gun smuggling to Mexico. "Project Gunwalker" is the name I assigned to the scandal after allegations by agents that monitored guns were allowed to fall into criminal hands on both sides of the border through a surveillance process termed "walking" surfaced.

<http://www.examiner.com/gun-rights-in-national/breaking-news-source-claims-atf-s-tampa-sac-walked-guns-to-honduras?render=print#print>

NOTICE: This e-mail message and any attached files are intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) named above in connection with official business. This communication may contain Sensitive But Unclassified information that may be statutorily or otherwise prohibited from being released without appropriate approval. Any review, use, or dissemination of this e-mail message and any attached file(s) in any form outside of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives or the Department of Justice without express authorization is strictly prohibited.

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Google Alerts [mailto:googlealerts-noreply@google.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 11:32 AM
To: Adinolfi, David R.
Subject: Google Alert - ATF

News

2 new results for ATF

[Breaking News: Source claims ATF's Tampa SAC walked guns to Honduras](#)

[Examiner.com](#)

ATF describes Operation Castaway as the most significant firearms trafficking investigation in Central Florida history. According to court documents, a group of defendants connected to Hugh Crumpler, III, were involved in a major international gun ...

[See all stories on this topic »](#)

Tip: Use site restrict in your query to search within a site (site:nytimes.com or site:.edu). [Learn more.](#)

DOJ-FF-48423

[Remove](#) this alert.
[Create](#) another alert.
[Manage](#) your alerts.

******* NOTICE: This e-mail message and any attached files are intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) named above in connection with official business. This communication may contain Sensitive But Unclassified information that may be statutorily or otherwise prohibited from being released without appropriate approval. Any review, use, or dissemination of this e-mail message and any attached file(s) in any form outside of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives or the Department of Justice without express authorization is strictly prohibited.**