
From: Spencer, Lashawna
To: Weinstein, Jason
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Rep. West Calls For Holder's Resignation Over Operation Fast And Furious. [Daily Caller](#) (7/11, Boyle) reports, "Florida Republican Rep. Allen West is demanding that President Barack Obama force Attorney General Eric Holder to resign" over Operation Fast and Furious. During an appearance on Steve Gill's radio show in Nashville last week, "West said Obama would be 'complicit' with what he sees as Justice Department attempts to slow down and avoid a congressional investigation into Operation Fast and Furious and Project Gunrunner if he didn't push his attorney general to resign." West stated, "The president needs to realize that Eric Holder needs to be removed from the Department of Justice. ... Or else I believe President Obama is complicit and he is in approval of the actions of his attorney general." When asked if a special prosecutor should be named to investigate the program, West said that "he thought so."

Meanwhile, [FOX News](#) (7/10, 12:45 p.m. EDT, Lajeunesse) aired a segment recapping the controversy that also mentioned that some Congressional leaders are calling for an independent investigation of the operation.

More Than 600 Mayors Urge Obama To Release ATF Records. [The Hill](#) (7/11, Yager) reports, "A group of more than 600 mayors are calling on President Obama to strengthen and increase enforcement of the nation's gun laws in the wake of a controversial gun tracking operation that may have contributed to the death of at least one federal agent. The group, Mayors Against Illegal Guns, is pushing Obama to lift a rider known as the Tiahrt Amendment" so that they can "gain access to records of guns sold through" the ATF's "operation 'Fast and Furious.'" Co-chairs New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Boston Mayor Thomas Menino "also pushed for Obama to expand mandatory reporting requirements for gun dealers who sell multiple assault rifles and variants."

The [Daily Caller](#) (7/11) notes that in an online addendum to [Fox News Sunday](#) (7/10), Brit Hume argued that "the Operation Fast and Furious scandal could rank up there with the Nixon administration cover-up of the Watergate break-in." Hume is quoted as saying, "This is a real scandal. And once again, we have the classic question of what did the attorney general, for example, know? When did he know it?"

NYTimes Faults Obama's Enforcement Of Gun Purchase Restrictions. The [New York Times](#) (7/11, Subscription Publication, 950K), in an editorial, notes that "Congress approved a law, signed by President Bush in 2008, authorizing new grant money and penalties to encourage states to submit to the federal system pertinent records regarding individuals judged to be severely mentally ill, as well as others barred from buying or possessing firearms." The Times says President Obama "has failed to follow up with a strong bureaucratic effort to overcome the technological challenges, the privacy concerns, and the inattention of state officials who maintain mental health and other underreported records. Nor has he thrown his weight behind a promising measure, sponsored by two New York Democrats," that "would impose tougher monetary penalties on states that do not submit required reports to the national background check system."

Hogsett Announces DOJ Commitment To Prosecuting Gun Crimes. The [Indianapolis Star](#) (7/8, Karas, 180K) reports, "U.S Attorney Joseph H. Hogsett said during a press conference this morning that his office is making good on its commitment to prosecute gun crimes. 'I promise to increase firearms prosecutions and we have done that and are continuing to do so at a record pace,' he said. As of Thursday, 47 people have faced firearms-related charges since the start of the year. The total for all of 2010 was 37, Hogsett said."

[WRTV-TV](#) Indianapolis, IN (7/11) also reports on the announcement.

ATF Tracking Gun Used In Michigan Shooting Spree. The [AP](#) (7/11) reports that Rodrick Dantzer, 34, the suspect in Michigan shooting spree that eventually killed seven on Thursday, was an "ex-con whose criminal past barred him from owning firearms used a stolen .40-caliber" in the murders. "The U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is working to trace the gun's history." Investigators are still piecing together their case and have yet to announce a motive.

Anonymous Hacks FBI Partner IRC Federal. ComputerWorld (7/11, Storm) reports, "On Friday, AnonymousIRC tweeted it was Happy Hacker Independence Day and dumped information from IRC Federal, a contractor for the FBI and other government agencies, to celebrate their holiday with a F**k FBI Friday. The hacktivists claimed to have 'laid nuclear waste to their systems.' The attack was waged against IRC Federal because of the company's record of 'selling out their 'skills' to the US empire.'"

On its "Faster Forward" blog, the Washington Post (7/8, Tsukayama, 572K) reports, "In its release, Anonymous claims that to have hacked into the company's e-mails and databases." On its "Bits" blog, the New York Times (7/9, Richmond, 950K) reports that the release was part of Anonymous' ongoing AntiSec campaign.

On its "Technolog" blog, MSNBC (7/11, Choney) reports that the released batch of information "includes an FBI proposal for a 'Special Identities Modernization (SIM) Project' to 'reduce terrorist and criminal activity by protecting all records associated with trusted individuals and revealing the identities of those individuals who may pose serious risk to the United States and its allies,' Anonymous said. ... This is the second very public attack on an FBI partner site within a month. The first, by hacking group LulzSec, which was allied with Anonymous, took down the website of InfraGard, a partnership between the FBI and the private sector to share security information."

Hactivist Groups Profiled. NetworkWorld (7/9, Messmer) reports, "Hacker groups that attack or steal -- some estimates say there are as many as 6000 of such groups online with about 50,000 'bad actors' around the world drifting in and out of them -- are a threat, but the goals, methods, effectiveness of these groups varies widely. When they're angry, they hack into business and government systems to steal confidential data in order to expose information about their targets, or they simply disrupt them with denial-of-service attacks. These are the hackers with a cause, the 'hacktivists' like the shadowy but well-publicized Anonymous or the short-lived Lulz Security group (which claimed to have just six members and just joined forces with Anonymous)." PC World also takes a look at other hactivist groups, including the Zeus Gangs and Dogma Millions, and details China's possible connection to hactivism.

FBI Agent Says Botnet Attacks "Very Common." The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (7/11, Schossow, 202K) reports on the four-day DDoS attack that Hartland-based Batteries Plus endured beginning Saturday. The Sentinel notes that "the website was attacked in an attempt to make it unavailable to users, resulting in what the company estimates was \$40,000 in losses. ... Cyber attacks of this nature are very common, and not just among businesses, said Lance Barnes, supervisory special agent for Milwaukee's FBI cyber crimes unit. It can happen to individual users, too." Barnes is quoted at length about what users can do to protect themselves from a cyberattack.

FBI Investigates Kiplinger Data Breach. Bloomberg News (7/9, Riley) reports, "Kiplinger Washington Editors Inc., the publisher of Kiplinger's Personal Finance, warned customers that hackers breached its computer network at least as early as June 25 and stole account data, including credit card numbers. Doug Harbrecht, the company's director of new media, said the attackers stole user names, passwords and encrypted credit card numbers from as many as 142,000 subscribers to the magazine or the company's various newsletters, including the Kiplinger Letter. Harbrecht said the company notified the Federal Bureau of Investigation and is working with the agency on a probe of the incident." Reuters (7/11) also reports on the breach.

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