From: ATF
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 3:41 PM
To: ATF
Subject: RE: December Fast and Furious BP for SAC (2)

No changes, that is the briefing paper I previously sent up to SAC/ASAC. They added a couple of paragraphs to the end explaining the new timeline for ATF but I have no changes and/or corrections to this.

From: ATF
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2010 1:31 PM

To: ATF

**Subject:** FW: December Fast and Furious BP for SAC (2)

Thanks



From: Newell, William D.

**Sent:** Thursday, December 16, 2010 1:27 PM **To:** Gillett, George T. Jr.; ATF

**Subject:** December Fast and Furious BP for SAC (2)

Please review and send back to me with "LE Sensitive – For Official Use Only" watermark in the appropriate places. Thanks

From: ATF	
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2010 2:26 PM	
To: ATF	
Subject: RE: Today's operation	
We don't have totake it!	
From: ATF  Sent: Friday, October 29, 2010 11:21 AM  To: ATF  Subject: RE: Today's operation	
Thanks, I appreciate your support. I only sent her an ema	Il because I've been trying to get in contact with ATF but
haven't heard back from him.	
or through ATF	
ATF	
From: ATF Sent: Friday, October 29, 2010 11:16 AM	
To: ATF	
Subject: Today's operation	
ATF	
I am very happy with the group's efforts on this matter an	d I want you to know that I support you 100% in this matter.
	(TF
ATF	If she supports us great, but we have an obligation and
I think we are 100% correct in our actions and I and ASAC	Needles and SAC Newell will support your actions to the end.
ATF	said so or failed to take appropriate
action	
I appreciate your efforts in this matter, please keep me in	formedI
ATF	

3		
From: ATF		
Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2010 6:49 PM		
To: ATF		
<u> </u>		
Subject: no more rose colored glasses		
If you have not heard a Border Patrol agent was shoot and killed here in Arizona.	ATF	
\(\begin{align*}		i
ATF		
Ugh! Call as soon as you can, things will most likely get ugly!		
Commission as your carry times with most many out ago,		
ATF		
Group Supervisor		
Phoenix Group VII		
ATF		
<u>i</u>		

ATF Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2011 1:38 PM ATF **Subject:** RE: Acting Dir Melson coming for F/F press conf I was not aware...I will get with soon. I have a meeting at Division with Needles @ noon. ----Original Message----From: ATF Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2011 11:23 AM ATF Subject: FW: Acting Dir Melson coming for F/F press conf Just in case you are not aware Bill advised me that Mr Melson will be attending the upcoming FF press conference. I attached the GRIT work product that was used in that press conference and would like to mirror it to some degree. Anything that we can start producing now as far as visuals, charts, stats... would be very helpful. ATF I have the outline of proposed cases that you sent to Jim Needles which is helpful. ATF and I will be working from that and will need to firm up numbers of guns seized north of the border, other states...(tied to other crimes?). Number of gun recoveries in Mexico...significant crime scenes or incidents. What were the majority of guns % - AK's, AR's, 5.7mm. This will help our proposed multiple sales requirement for long guns. I welcome your feedback. thanks ----Original Message----From: Newell, William D. Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2011 7:31 AM To: Needles, James R.; Gillett, George T. Jr.; Subject: Acting Dir Melson coming for F/F press cont

Just advised he's coming for the 25th press conf.

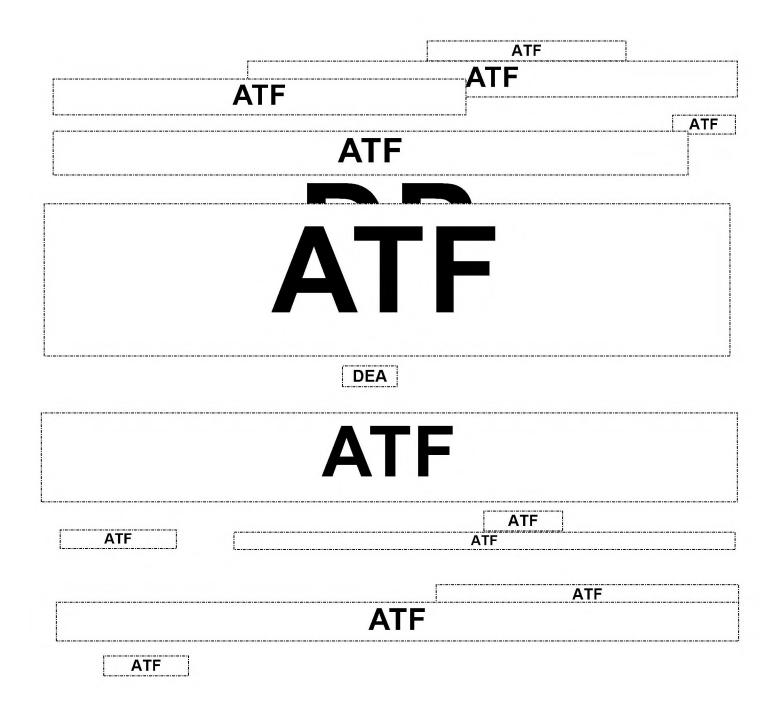
\*\*\*

NOTICE: This electronic transmission is confidential and intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail and destroy this message in its entirety (including all attachments).

**ATF** Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011 5:48 PM To: Needles, James R. Subject: FW: draft memo Attachments: Memo DKB **ATF** Jim, This document was drafted/typed by ATF to be submitted to Dennis Burke. ATF came over to my office this morning and we worked on this together. Please review and let me know what you think. Thanks, ATF From: **ATF** (USAAZ) **ATF** Sent: Friday, January 28, 2011 Subject: draft memo <<Memo DKB **ATF** 

Here is the draft of the memo from this morning.

Thank you for all of your help.



Memo to DKB January 28, 2011 Page - 2

ended to be used in a crime, that he could complete t	
AI	
During this meeting, ATF agents also described ployees might receive from purchasers which would	
apter 44 of Title 18 to be kept in his records, but wh	
ATF As of the date of this meeting,	ATF
ATF	
the vehicle driven by ATF the vehicle they found three AK-47 type rifles purch tols purchased by DEA, ATF on January 9, 2010, from tols purchased by another. U.S. Border Patrol agent urned the firearms to the occupants of the vehicle. T s notified of the observation of the firearms on May	They did not trace any other criminal conduct and something they did not trace any of the firearms. ATF Phoen 17, 2010, after ATF Las Cruses forwarded
the vehicle driven by ATF the vehicle they found three AK-47 type rifles purch tols purchased by DEA, ATF on January 9, 2010, from tols purchased by another. U.S. Border Patrol agent urned the firearms to the occupants of the vehicle. T	due to suspicious driving behaviorased by DEA, ATF three FN Herstal Five-Sever ATF and two Ruge is did not observe any other criminal conduct and so They did not trace any of the firearms. ATF Phoen 17, 2010, after ATF Las Cruses forwarded investigation in New Mexico involving ATF is still on going, ATF
the vehicle driven by ATF the vehicle they found three AK-47 type rifles purch tols purchased by DEA, ATF on January 9, 2010, from tols purchased by another. U.S. Border Patrol agent urned the firearms to the occupants of the vehicle. To s notified of the observation of the firearms on May cormation in connection with a firearms trafficking in ATF and others. The investigation of ATF ATF and must be viewed as close-hold.	due to suspicious driving behavious driving and two Ruge and two Ruge is did not observe any other criminal conduct and so they did not trace any of the firearms. ATF Phoen 17, 2010, after ATF Las Cruses forwarded avestigation in New Mexico involving ATF is still on going, ATF  arrested for using a false address on the ATF Former arrested for using a false address on the ATF Former acquisition of a firearm. On January 19, 2011, 10 decays driving and two Ruge a

DEA, ATF

DEA, ATF

DEA, ATF

# DP

From: ATF
From: ATF Sent: Sunday, August 15, 2010 5:17 PM
To: ATF
Subject: RE: 80 gun seizure
Subject ILL 60 gair seizare
Have I offended you in some way? Because I am very offended by your e-mail.
Define walk? Without Probable Cause and concurrence from the USAO it is highway robbery if we take someone's
property. We have conducted hundreds of hours of surveillance ATF and the idea that our suspects
purchase the guns and drive them directly to the border is not the case, not even close. We have seized firearms weeks
and months after they were purchased and they had not yet gone south to Mexico. If a non-prohibited person
purchases firearms, puts the firearms in his/her car and drives straight home what is our PC to stop and seize the
firearms? Two weeks ago we stopped a suspect after he purchased a TNW 50 caliber belt-fed rifle for over \$10,000.00.
We conducted a field interview and after calling the AUSA he said we did not have sufficient PC to take the firearm so
our suspect drove home with said firearm in his carany ideas on how we could not let that firearm "walk"?
Additionally, we have stopped "some" of these guys and seized hundreds (plural) of firearms in this case to date.
- ATE
From: ATF Sent: Sunday, August 15, 2010 1:52 PM
To: ATF
Subject: Re: 80 gun seizure
Are you all planning to stop some of these guys any time soon? That's a lot of guns that have been seized. Are you just
letting these guns walk?
*****
NOTICE: This electronic transmission is confidential and intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. If you
have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail and destroy this message in its entirety (including all attachments).
(molading all attachmonts).
From: ATF
To: ATF
<b>Sent</b> : Sun Aug 15 16:40:20 2010 <b>Subject</b> : RE: 80 gun seizure
Any luck we have not heard anything here locally? Obviously we are interested as 63 of the 80 firearms were part of
open/active ATF Phoenix cases, especially the ATF
<u> </u>
Thanks,
From: ATF
Sent: Monday, August 09, 2010 12:54 PM
To: ATF Subject: RE: 80 gun seizure
Subject. N.E. 66 gun scizure
Hello ATF
L
I will be talking to ICE soon. I will forward any updates I get from them.
ATE
AIF
From: ATF
Sent: Monday, August 09, 2010 2:24 PM



Gentlemen,

Just checking to see if there are any updates or reports that can be forwarded to us here in Phoenix. I think I forwarded a spreadsheet but like 63 out of the 80 (14 were obliterated) are from open/ongoing Phoenix ATF cases thus any information is appreciated!

Thanks,

ATF
Group Supervisor
Phoenix Group VII
ATF

From: ATF
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2010 12:53 PM
To: ATF
Subject: RE: 3rd one in three months

To the best of our knowledge three and we have all three in our ATF custody/vault.

From: ATF

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2010 9:35 AM

To: ATF

Subject: RE: 3rd one in three months

ATF how many of these were purchased in the fast and furious case?

From: ATF
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2010 11:07 AM
To: ATF
Subject: 3rd one in three months

Gentlemen,

For what is worth this is our third TNW .50 caliber semi-auto that we have seized this summer. Possible escalation in fire power or maybe it is just really cool to have...?

Anyway thought I would let you know for what it is worth.

ATF
Group Supervisor
Phoenix Group VII
ATF

ATF

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 3:18 PM

To: Newell, William D. CC: ATF

Subject: Briefing paper - 3 pages with; Case Background, defendants, list of charges.

Attachments: Oct write up for SAC.docx

Mr. Newell,

Here it is, I hope it is what you are looking for. It is 3 pages with;

- 1. case background,
- 2. defendants submitted, and
- 3. proposed charges

Please advise if you need or want changes/additions.

Thanks,



#### Phoenix Field Division

#### Phoenix Group VII (SWB group)

Briefing Paper on ATF Investigation 785115-10-0004

Operation: Fast & Furious, OCDETF No. SW-AZ-0496

#### **Case Background**

The Phoenix Group VII Field Office is conducting this investigation; Operation Fast & Furious, in conjunction with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Phoenix Police Department (PPD). This operation, sponsored by ATF, was approved as an OCDETF case by the Southwest Region as SWAZP-0496.

Since October 2009, ATF, and other partners listed above, have been investigating a firearm trafficking organization that is being funded by a drug trafficking organization (DTO) that is involved in violent criminal activity in Mexico, Southern Arizona and many other regions of the United States. This organization is involved in trafficking firearms to Mexico, and smuggling cocaine and marijuana into Southern Arizona to be distributed throughout the United States. In support of this criminal activity the organization often uses violent/deadly enforcement tactics. These acts contribute to violations of Federal Laws to include Firearms, Narcotics, Money Laundering, and Conspiracy Laws.

Agents believe that the Phoenix-based firearm trafficking group is actively purchasing firearms through straw purchasers using bulk narcotics proceeds. From October 2009 to October 2010 agents have documented that this organization has spent approximately 1.25 million dollars in cash at various Phoenix area FFLs to acquire in excess of 1,900 firearms. The firearms are then being trafficked into Mexico using non-factory compartments in various vehicles through various Ports of Entry (POE's) in Arizona and Texas.

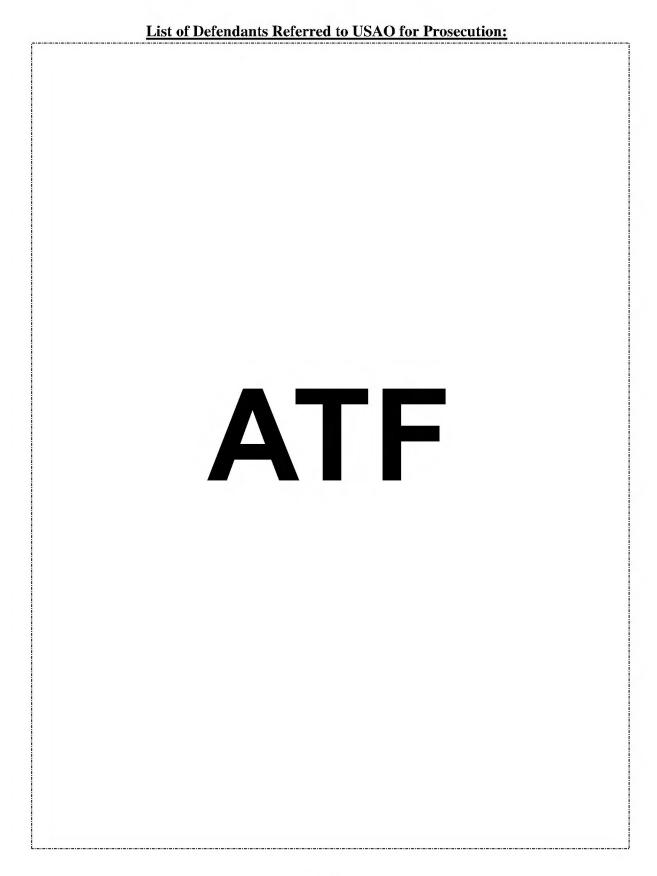
#### ATF

#### ΔTF

and other investigative

techniques to further the investigation. Through these investigative techniques, agents have been able to identify additional co-conspirators and disrupt the firearms trafficking organization by seizing numerous firearms and narcotics. To date, over three hundred (300) firearms and over fifty (50) pounds of marijuana have been recovered by ATF agents in addition to the numerous firearms and narcotic seizures in Mexico related to this investigation.

Agents are in the process of transitioning to the prosecutorial phase of the investigation. Agents







From: ATF
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 2:13 PM
To: ATF
Subject: Oct write up for ATF
Attachments: Oct write up for ATF docx

The Phoenix Group VII Field Office is conducting this investigation; **Operation Fast & Furious**, in conjunction with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Phoenix Police Department (PPD). This operation, sponsored by ATF, was approved as an OCDETF case by the Southwest Region as SWAZP-0496.

Since October 2009, ATF, and other partners listed above, have been investigating a firearm trafficking organization that is being funded by a drug trafficking organization (DTO) that is involved in violent criminal activity in Mexico, Southern Arizona and many other regions of the United States. This organization is involved in trafficking firearms to Mexico, and smuggling cocaine and marijuana into Southern Arizona to be distributed throughout the United States. In support of this criminal activity the organization often uses violent/deadly enforcement tactics. These acts contribute to violations of Federal Laws to include Firearms, Narcotics, Money Laundering, and Conspiracy Laws.

Agents believe that the Phoenix-based firearm trafficking group is actively purchasing firearms through straw purchasers using bulk narcotics proceeds. From October 2009 to October 2010 agents have documented that this organization has spent approximately 1.25 million dollars in cash at various Phoenix area FFLs to acquire in excess of 1,900 firearms. The firearms are then being trafficked into Mexico using non-factory compartments in various vehicles through various Ports of Entry (POE's) in Arizona and Texas.

#### **ATF**

#### ATF

other investigative

techniques to turther the investigation. Through these investigative techniques, agents have been able to identify additional co-conspirators and disrupt the firearms trafficking organization by seizing numerous firearms and narcotics. To date, over three hundred (300) firearms and over fifty (50) pounds of marijuana have been recovered by ATF agents in addition to the numerous firearms and narcotic seizures in Mexico related to this investigation.

## **ATF**

#### **List of Defendants Referred to USAO for Prosecution:**







From: ATF
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 1:29 PM
To: ATF
Subject: for you
Attachments: Oct write up for ATF docx

ATF

Here is a non-PowerPoint summary of our best OCDETF case we are working here in Phoenix. SAC Newell, DAD McMahon, Hoover, Chait etc are also aware of this case as I am tasked often for updates. I hope this will work for your purposes as well.

Thanks,

The Phoenix Group VII Field Office is conducting this investigation; **Operation Fast & Furious**, in conjunction with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Phoenix Police Department (PPD). This operation, sponsored by ATF, was approved as an OCDETF case by the Southwest Region as **SWAZP-0496**.

Since October 2009, ATF, and other partners listed above, have been investigating a firearm trafficking organization that is being funded by a drug trafficking organization (DTO) that is involved in violent criminal activity in Mexico, Southern Arizona and many other regions of the United States. This organization is involved in trafficking firearms to Mexico, and smuggling cocaine and marijuana into Southern Arizona to be distributed throughout the United States. In support of this criminal activity the organization often uses violent/deadly enforcement tactics. These acts contribute to violations of Federal Laws to include Firearms, Narcotics, Money Laundering, and Conspiracy Laws.

Agents believe that the Phoenix-based firearm trafficking group is actively purchasing firearms through straw purchasers using bulk narcotics proceeds. From October 2009 to October 2010 agents have documented that this organization has spent approximately 1.25 million dollars in cash at various Phoenix area FFLs to acquire in excess of 1,900 firearms. The firearms are then being trafficked into Mexico using non-factory compartments in various vehicles through various Ports of Entry (POE's) in Arizona and Texas.

#### ATF

#### **ATF**

and other investigative

recomiques to turturer the investigation. Through these mivestigative techniques, agents have been able to identify additional co-conspirators and disrupt the firearms trafficking organization by seizing numerous firearms and narcotics. To date, over three hundred (300) firearms and over fifty (50) pounds of marijuana have been recovered by ATF agents in addition to the numerous firearms and narcotic seizures in Mexico related to this investigation.



**ATF** From: Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 9:43 AM To: ATF Subject: Fw: Fast and Furious case **Attachments:** Operation FAST AND FURIOUS.DOCX Please get with me 1st thing this morning so we get the SAC this info...thanks NOTICE: This electronic transmission is confidential and intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail and destroy this message in its entirety (including all attachments). From: Newell, William D. **ATF** To Sent: Tue Oct 19 09:36:00 2010 Subject: FW: Fast and Furious case Since both Jim and George are out I need you to provide me with a more detailed breakdown of the info you sent two weeks ago. Also, send me an updated defendant chart. Call me later this morning to discuss. Bill Newell Special Agent in Charge Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico) ATF From: McMahon, William G. Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 6:19 AM To: Newell, William D. Subject: Fw: Fast and Furious case Bill, I know you sent me something the other day but could you update an overview with answers to Mark's questions below? Thanks,

BIII

\*\*\*

NOTICE: This electronic transmission is confidential and intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail and destroy this message in its entirety (including all attachments).

**From**: Chait, Mark R. **To**: McMahon, William G.

**Sent**: Tue Oct 19 08:52:14 2010 **Subject**: Fast and Furious case

Bill – can we get an update on this indictment and potential arrests (when and how many defendants etc.). The DD would like to put a place holder on his schedule to be in Phoenix for

some media etc. at the right time. Thanks

Mark R. Chait
Assistant Director
Field Operations
ATF

#### **Operation FAST AND FURIOUS - Phoenix Group VII**

Proposed Indictment Date: December 7, 2010

Proposed Charges:



From: ATF
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2010 11:10 AM
To: ATF
Subject: Briefing paper per SACs request
Attachments: Oct write up for SAC.docx

From: ATF
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2011 4:05 PM
To: ATF
Subject: RE: FN 57 PICTURES

I just realized that this seizure besides the FN 57 pistols mentioned below had numerous AK-47 variants purchased (and entered into Suspect Gun database) on ATF case 785115-10-0004, Operation Fast and Furious. If you want the purchaser information let me know. I know it is a lot to ask because of the volume but if there are pictures of these AK-47 variant firearms can we get them as well? I hope I am not a bother as I know you guys are busy down there. We are just trying to give the AUSA all the information we can. If it helps the case is scheduled to be indicted on Jan 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011 so the chaos should be coming to an end for the both of us!

Thanks,

#### ATF

From: ATF
Sent: Thursday, January 06, 2011 4:37 PM
To: ATF

Subject: FW: FN 57 PICTURES

#### ATF

Here are the photos for the FN 57 seized in Puerto Peñasco, Sonora. We are still working on getting the report. They were not the most cooperative.

Supervisory Special Agent/Assistant Attaché
Tiinana Field Office

ATF

From Sent: Friday, January 07, 2011 11:35 AM To: ATF Subject: RE: ATF Case # 785115-10-0004 From: ATF
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 2:28 PM
To: ATF
Subject: RE: **ATF** From: ATF
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 2:02 PM To: ATF Subject: RE: We will translate the report and send you a copy of the ROI. Also, fill scan the reports and e-mail them. ATF Resident Agent in Charge From: ATF Sept: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 12:37 PM To ATF Subject: RE: Can we get a copy of the reports from the seizure and the photos? ATF From: ATF Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 1:30 PM To: ATF Subject: RE: We did. We also have full reports of the seizure. Let me know what you need from us. ATF i Resident Agent in Charge Tijuana Field Office ATF From Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 12:28 PM To: Cc: **ATF** ATF is off sick today but I looked it up and yes the first 7 firearms below (the 7.62 caliber riffes) come back to Fast and Furious, 7853.15-10-0004. Was anyone able to view these firearms? Thanks. **ATF** From: ATF Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 1:13 PM To: **ATF** Subject: FW: This is the trace numbers for the guns just seized in Mexicall over the weekend. I think they may hit on one of ATF when you have a chance can you let us know if it comes back to any of your cases. ATF Resident Agent in Charge Tijuana Field Office

From! ATF		 	 
Sent: Tuesday, Novem	<u>per 30, 2010 12:05 PM</u>		
To: ATF	per 30, 2010 12:05 PM		

**Sent:** Friday, January 14, 2011 12:56 PM To ATF **Subject:** RE: another request...? Sorry my fault; 785115-10-0004, Fast and Furious From: **ATF Sent:** Friday, January 14, 2011 10:54 AM ATF Subject: RE: another request...? What case number is this seizure tied to again? Thanks, Supervisory Special Agent/Assistant Attaché Tijuana Field Office **ATF** From: **Sent:** Friday, January 14, 2011 8:39 AM To: **ATF** Subject: another request...? **ATF** Sorry to keep bugging you guys down there. **ATF** ATF report reads in part, "...ATF Tijuana Foreign Service National Investigator (FSNI) drove to the Baja California Forensic Services laboratory where he was permitted to inspect and photograph the rifles..." Can we get a copy of the photos, and did any US LEO go with the FSNI? Thanks again for all of your help! Are you ever traveling to Phoenix so we can meet and grab a beer? We have OCDETF travel money for this case, perhaps you need to come meet with the AUSA or something in 2011? Thanks again,

From: ATF
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 11:08 AM
To: ATF

Subject: briefing paper for round-up with correct "firearms in ATF custody" numbers

Attachments: briefing paper for round-up.docx

ATF

Per our discussion I queried N-Force vault and in Phoenix Group VII we have 218 firearms in this case, El Paso has 60 = 278 firearms in ATF custody. Bear in mind there are other domestic recoveries of firearms at the Port by CBP etc... these numbers are only "in ATF custody."

I hope this works, please let me know if you want other changes or corrections.

Thanks,

#### **Briefing Paper**

## Phoenix Field Division Phoenix Group VII (SWB group)

**ATF Investigation 785115-10-0004** 

Operation: Fast & Furious, OCDETF No. SW-AZ-0496 January 12, 2011

**Purpose:** Indictment and arrest of approximately nineteen individuals involved in firearms trafficking to Mexican Drug Trafficking Organizations/Cartels.

Date of Operation: January 25, 2011.

**Background:** Since October 2009, ATF, and other partners, have been investigating a firearm trafficking organization that is being funded by a drug trafficking organization (DTO) that is involved in violent criminal activity in Mexico, Southern Arizona and many other regions of the United States. These acts contribute to violations of Federal Laws to include Firearms, Narcotics, Money Laundering, and Conspiracy Laws.

Agents believe that the Phoenix-based firearm trafficking group is actively purchasing firearms through straw purchasers using bulk narcotics proceeds. From October 2009 to October 2010 agents have documented that this organization has spent approximately 1.25 million dollars in cash at various Phoenix area FFLs to acquire in excess of 1,900 firearms. The firearms are then being trafficked into Mexico.

# ATF ATF and other investigative techniques to further the investigation. Through these investigative techniques, agents have been able to identify additional co-conspirators and disrupt the firearms trafficking organization by seizing numerous firearms and narcotics. To date, 278 firearms and over fifty (50) pounds of marijuana have been recovered by ATF agents in addition to the numerous firearms and narcotic seizures in Mexico related to this investigation. Evidence in ATF Custody: 278 firearms, 250 "drum" magazines, thousands of rounds of various caliber ammunition. OPERATION DETAILS: Command Post: ATF Incident Commander(s): Incident Commander ASAC Jim Needles. Arrest Teams: ATF

**Additional ATF Support:** No additional ATF support outside the reporting division will be needed to complete the operation.

**Specialized ATF Support:** ATF Special Response Team, (SRT).

**Issues/Problems:** No issues or problems that are anticipated.

Anticipated Seizures: No significant seizures are anticipated during the enforcement operation.

**Media:** Acting Director Melson, SAC Newell, and United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Dennis Burke will hold press conference.

Action or Follow-up: This is considered "Phase I" of the judicial process. Approximately

ATF

Participants: ATF, IRS, DEA, ICE (HSI), USMS, Phoenix PD, USDA-OIG.

Case Agent Telephone: ATF

RAC/GS: Telephone ATF

From: ATF
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 6:43 PM
To: ATF
Subject: SWB paper - USE THIS ONE!
Attachments: PHOENIX GROUP VII biweekly update 02-03-2011.docx

ATF

I added something to this submission, please use this version.

Thanks,

ATF

Group Supervisor
Phoenix Group VII

#### PHOENIX GROUP VII

785115-10-0004, Operation Fast and Furious: (OCDETF investigation) As previously noted on January 19, 2011, the Federal Grand Jury in the District of Arizona returned a fifty-three (53) count indictment charging twenty (20) individuals with a variety of charges to include; Conspiracy (371), Dealing in Firearms without a License (922 a 1 A), False Statement in Connection with the Acquisition of a Firearm (924 a 1 A), Conspiracy to Possess a Firearm in Furtherance of a Drug Trafficking Offense (924 o), Money Laundering (1956), Possession/Conspiracy to Possess a Controlled Substance with Intent to Distribute (841 & 846), Aid and Abet (2).

On January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011, the ATF Phoenix Field Division, Phoenix Group VII, along with numerous other federal and local law enforcement agencies, concluded this firearms trafficking investigation with the arrest of eighteen (18) individuals and the execution of four (4) search warrants.

During the execution of the above mentioned arrest and search warrants, as well as an additional consent search, twelve (12) firearms, body armor, ammunition, two (2) pounds of methamphetamine, numerous pounds of marijuana, scales, computers, documents, and packaging material, were recovered.

# ATF

One defendant **DEA** still remains at large as a Federal fugitive; his location is currently being sought by the United States Marshals Service.

Additional indictments are anticipated in this investigation.

# Phoenix Field Division Phoenix Group VII (SWB Group) Briefing Paper on: 785115-10-0004

#### **Background**

1. This investigation has currently identified more than ATF individual connected s purchasers. More suspects are being identified as the scope of the investigation			
	ATF		
4	ATF	To date	
i	(September 2009 – present) this group has purchased in excess of 650 firearr AK-47 variants) for which they have paid cash totaling more than \$350,000.		
2.	To date there have been five (5) notable seizure events connected with this g approximately 53 firearms originally purchased by this group have been record Three of these seizures have been in the Country of Mexico, one recovery in AZ, and one recovery in Nogales, AZ. The U.S. recoveries were both believed destined for Mexico.	overed. Douglas,	
3.	ATF		
4.	ATF		
5.	DEA, ATF	•	

#### Investigative Techniques Used to Date

6. To date in this investigation we have utilized numerous proactive, advanced investigative techniques:



#### **Strategy**

7. This investigation is currently being conducted in conjunction with the Phoenix DEA OCDETF strike force. ATF Phoenix VII is the lead investigating enforcement group. A formal OCDETF proposal is completed and will be presented on January 26, 2009, in furtherance of this investigation.

ATF

**ATF** 

8.

9. The ultimate goal is to ATF

ATF

#### **Additional Resources**

10. This investigation is a Southwest Border "Gunner" investigation initiated by Phoenix Group VII. Group VII did not exist in FY'09 and was newly formed FY'10 under the Southwest Border Strategy to focus on investigations involving the trafficking of firearms to Mexico. As such, Group VII currently is comprised of ATF Special Agents; ATF of which are journeymen grade, ATF of which are still in the OJT program and one Group Supervisor.

12. It is hereby respectfully requested that 6 additional special agents be brought in for an initial 30 day detail the purpose of aiding/assisting in this investigation, mainly in the canacity of surveillance.

ATF

**ATF**