

From: Nelson, Helgi P.
Sent: Thursday, May 06, 2010 10:32 AM
To: MacAllister, Hope A.
CC: Medina, Jose L.; English, Tonya A.; Medina, Jose L.; Sonnendecker, Mark; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.
Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, RC-5

Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered

The National Tracing Center (NTC) has received a Trace request for the above listed firearm. To prevent the NTC from releasing information that may jeopardize your investigation, please choose one of the following. It is extremely important that if your case is still active that you state whether or not we may conduct a Trace on this firearm.

A written response (email communication is sufficient) is required within 7 days of initial notification regarding this email. If a response is not received within this time frame the NTC may be compelled to release trace summary information to the requestor.

All information regarding this and any other trace requests can be obtained by using a Trace. In the event that you do not have access, access can be requested by contacting The Law Enforcement Support Branch at 304-260-1500 or 800-738-7133.

Please advise as to whether your case is:

- a) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors for only this firearm.
- b) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors. [This is to be applied to all remaining firearms in this Suspect Gun file]
- c) Active - NTC may not release Trace disposition history to other Requestors.
- d) Inactive - NTC will release Trace disposition to other Requestors.

Suspect Gun Details:

ATF IN Number: 785115-10-0004

Suspect Gun File Number: RC-5

Suspect Gun submission request date: 3/2/2010

Trace details regarding firearm recovery:

Serial Number: RC-5
Manufacturer: RMC
Type: RIFLE
Caliber: 762
Model: GP WASR

Trace Requestor: RC-1
Requesting Agency: IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENF.
Phone Number: RC-1

Helgi Nelson
Program Analyst
ATF National Tracing Center
244 Needy Rd.
Martinsburg, WV 25405-9431
RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002608

From: Nelson, Helgi P.
Sent: Thursday, May 06, 2010 9:28 AM
To: MacAllister, Hope A.; Sonnendecker, Mark; English, Tonya A.; Medina, Jose L.
CC: Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.
Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, RC-5

Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered

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All information regarding this and any other trace requests can be obtained by using eTrace. In the event that you do not have access, access can be requested by contacting the Law Enforcement Support Branch at 304-260-1500 or 800-784-7137.

Please advise as to whether your case is:

- a) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors for only this firearm.
- b) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors. (This is to be applied to all remaining firearms in this Suspect Gun file)
- c) Active - NTC may not release Trace disposition history to other Requestors.
- d) Inactive - NTC will release Trace disposition to other Requestors.

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Trace details regarding firearm recovery:

Serial Number: RC-5
Manufacturer: RMC
Type: RIFLE
Caliber: 762
Model: GP WASR

Trace Requestor: RC-1
Requesting Agency: IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENF.
Phone Number: RC-1

Helgi Nelson
Program Analyst
ATF National Tracing Center
244 Needy Rd.
Martinsburg, WV 25405-9431

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002609

From: Gamboa, Aaron J.
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2011 9:20 PM
To: MacAllister, Hope A.; English, Tonya A.; Medina, Jose L.
CC: Searcy, Lucia B.; Henderson, Frank J.; Trejo, Luis E.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; Nelson, Helgi P.; Campbell, Serena M.; Ballesteros, Jose J.; Leadmon, Lorren D.; Kruthaupt, Alex J.
Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, RC-5

ATF IN Number: 785115-10-0004
Suspect Gun File Number: RC-5
Suspect Gun submission request date: 2/2/2010
Model: 82
Recovered: 02/04/2011
Location: CIUDAD JUAREZ, CH, MEXICO
Suspects: N/A

- No files could be located for the gun recovery based on the information provided. Please resubmit another request should any additional information such as the name of the possessor(s) become available.

Aaron Joshua Gamboa
ATF Research Specialist
Project Gunrunner
Gun Desk, El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC)

RC-1

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: Campbell, Serena M.
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2011 8:13 AM
To: MacAllister, Hope A.; English, Tonya A.; Medina, Jose L.
Cc: Searcy, Lucia B.; Gamboa, Aaron J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; Nelson, Helgi P.
Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, RC-5

Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO

Case Agents: HOPE MACALLISTER
TONYA ENGLISH
JOSE MEDINA

The National Tracing Center (NTC) has received a Trace request for the above listed firearm. To prevent the NTC from releasing information that may jeopardize your investigation, please choose one of the following. It is extremely

HOCR ATF - 002610

important that if your case is still active that you state whether or not we may conduct a Trace on this firearm.

A written response (email communication is sufficient) is required within 7 days of initial notification regarding this email. If a response is not received within this time frame the NTC may be compelled to release trace summary information to the requestor.

All information regarding this and any other trace requests can be obtained by using eTrace. In the event that you do not have access, access can be requested by contacting the Law Enforcement Support Branch at 304-260-3500 or 800-283-7133.

Please advise us to whether your case is:

- a) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors for only this firearm.
- b) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors. (This is to be applied to all remaining firearms in this Suspect Gun file)
- c) Active - NTC may not release Trace disposition history to other Requestors.
- d) Inactive - NTC will release Trace disposition to other Requestors.

Suspect Gun Details:

ATF IN Number: 785115-10-0004

Suspect Gun File Number: RC-5

Suspect Gun submission request date: 2/2/2010

Trace details regarding firearm recovery:

TRACE ID: RC-5
Serial Number: [REDACTED]
Manufacturer: BARRETT FIREARMS MFG CO
Type: RIFLE
Caliber: 50 BMG
Model: 82
Recovered: 02/04/2011
Location: CIUDAD JUAREZ, CH, MEXICO
Suspects: N/A

Trace Requestor: ATF, STEVEN HALL
Requesting Agency: EL PASO, TX 7990
Phone Number: RC-1

Trace Requestor: C-4 CENAPI, INFORMATION CENTER COMBATTING, ARMAS DE FUEGO GRUPO DE
Requesting Agency: MEXICO CITY, MEXICO
Phone Number: None Provided

THIS US SOURCED FIREARM WAS RECOVERED IN MEXICO. FOR DETAILS RELATING TO THE SEIZURE, PLEASE CONTACT ATF-EPIC BRANCH CHIEF, RC-1 VIA E-MAIL OR AT RC-1

Serena Campbell
Suspect Gun Program
Team Sage-Research Assistant

HOCR ATF - 002611

ATF National Tracing Center

RC-1

HOGRA TF - 002612

From: Karmgard, Thomas E.
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 6:19 PM
To: Newell, William D.; Needles, James R.; Gillett, George T. Jr.
Subject: FW: DOJ FACT SHEET: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE EFFORTS TO COMBAT MEXICAN DRUG CARTELS

Due By: Tuesday, January 02, 1601 12:00 PM

FYI

Thomas E. Karmgard
Division Counsel (Phoenix)

RC-1
[REDACTED]



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FACT SHEET: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE EFFORTS TO COMBAT MEXICAN DRUG CARTELS

WASHINGTON – The increased efforts and reallocation of personnel recently announced by the Department of Justice builds on the foundation of expertise and experience gained from ongoing efforts to combat Mexican drug cartels in the United States and to help Mexican law enforcement battle cartels in its own country.

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES (ATF)

ATF is on the frontline in the fight against violent crime, particularly firearms trafficking and gun-related violence associated with organized gangs and drug trafficking organizations. Working in conjunction with domestic and international law enforcement partners, ATF's efforts deny the "tools of the trade" to the firearms trafficking infrastructure of criminal organizations operating in Mexico and along the border.

ATF is relocating 100 personnel to the Houston Field Division to support the new ATF intelligence-driven effort, known as Gunrunner Impact Teams (GRITs). The teams will focus ATF's violent crime-fighting and firearms trafficking expertise, along with its regulatory authority and strategic partnerships, to combat violence along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Project Gunrunner:

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Cooperation among federal, state and local law enforcement agencies and the government of Mexico is the foundation of Project Gunrunner. ATF's national initiative to stem firearms trafficking to Mexico by organized criminal groups. Project Gunrunner has resulted in approximately 650 cases by ATF, in which more than 1,400 defendants were referred for prosecution in federal and state courts and more than 12,000 firearms were involved.

As part of the Recovery Act funding, ATF received \$10 million for Project Gunrunner efforts, aimed at disrupting firearms trafficking between the U.S. and Mexico, to include hiring 25 new special agents, six industry operations investigators (IOIs), three intelligence research specialists and three investigative analysts. The funding will establish three permanent field offices, dedicated to firearms trafficking investigations, in McAllen, Texas; El Centro, Calif.; and Las Cruces, N.M. (including a satellite office in Roswell, N.M.). Previously, approximately 148 special agents were dedicated to investigating firearms trafficking on a full-time basis and 59 IOIs were responsible for conducting regulatory inspections of federally licensed gun dealers, known as federal firearms licensees (FFLs) along the Southwest border.

As the sole federal agency that regulates FFLs, ATF's cadre of IOIs work to identify and prioritize for inspection those FFLs with a history of noncompliance that represent a risk to public safety; who sell the weapons most commonly used by drug trafficking organizations in the region; and have numerous unsuccessful traces and a large volume of firearms recoveries in high-crime areas. Along the Southwest border, ATF inspected approximately 1,700 FFLs in FY 2007 and 1,900 in FY 2008.

eTrace:

The cornerstone of ATF's Project Gunrunner is eTrace, which allows law enforcement agencies to identify trends of drug trafficking organizations. In 2008, ATF deployed eTrace technology to the nine U.S. consulates in Mexico to facilitate the paperless exchange of gun crime data in a secure Web-based environment. eTrace allows law enforcement representatives to electronically submit firearms trace requests, to monitor the progress of traces, to retrieve completed trace results and to query firearm trace related data in a real-time environment. In FY 2008, Mexico submitted more than 7,500 recovered guns for tracing, most of which were traced to sources in Texas, California and Arizona.

ATF has analyzed firearms recovered in Mexico from 2005-2008 and has identified the following weapons most commonly used by drug trafficking organizations: 9mm pistols; .38-caliber revolvers; 5.7mm pistols; .223-caliber rifles; 7.62mm rifles; and .50 caliber rifles.

ATF is developing a Spanish-language eTrace to make firearms tracing easier and more accessible to law enforcement partners in Mexico and Central America. ATF's goal is to deploy the system to all 31 states in Mexico, giving law enforcement a better picture of firearms trafficking routes, trends and organizations throughout both nations.

Training and Awareness Efforts:

In calendar year 2008, ATF trained more than 750 law enforcement officers from various Mexican federal and state agencies on firearms identification, firearms trafficking, firearms tracing, eTrace, explosives identification and post-blast investigation. With the assistance of ATF's Mexico City office and the Narcotics Affairs Section of the U.S. Department of State, ATF anticipates conducting numerous additional courses in these subject areas in 2009.

ATF will also concentrate training and industry awareness efforts on the Southwest Border. In partnership with the firearms industry association National Shooting Sports Foundation, ATF will conduct "Don't Lie for the Other Guy" seminars in southern Texas, Arizona and California. The campaign educates licensed firearms dealers about the straw purchase of firearms, which is a federal felony offense, and helps them identify potential straw purchase transactions so they can confidently deny the sales.

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ATF in Mexico:

ATF's activities in Mexico are coordinated through the ATF attaché office located in Mexico City. ATF Southwest field divisions (Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles and Phoenix) have established border liaison special agent contacts with representatives from the Mexican Attorney General's Office. The border liaisons meet regularly to coordinate firearms trafficking investigations. ATF has five personnel in Mexico at this time and will add an additional four personnel using a portion of the \$10 million that ATF received in stimulus funding. The Mexican Attorney General's office also has a representative in ATF's Phoenix Field Division.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA)

In collaboration with Mexican law enforcement, DEA is actively working to systematically dismantle the cartels. As the largest law enforcement presence in Mexico with 11 offices, and a decades-long history of working with the Mexican government, DEA has a strategic vantage point from which to assess the drug trafficking situation in Mexico, the related violence, its causes and its historical context. DEA is placing 16 new positions in its Southwest border field divisions. With this increase, 29 percent of DEA's domestic agent positions (1,180 agents) are now allocated to its Southwest border field divisions. DEA is also forming four additional Mobile Enforcement Teams (METs) to specifically target Mexican methamphetamine trafficking operations and associated violence, both along the border and in U.S. cities impacted by the cartels. MET Teams will be placed in DEA's El Paso, Texas; Phoenix; Chicago; and Atlanta Field Divisions.

Shortly after Congress approved the Sensitive Investigative Unit (SIU) program in 1996, the Mexico City SIU was established, and DEA now works with a number of trusted counterparts throughout the country. DEA works closely with these vetted units to collect and analyze sensitive law enforcement information and to further the case development against and the prosecution of major drug trafficking organizations.

Working with Mexican counterparts, DEA and U.S. interagency partnerships have taken the offensive against Mexico-based cartels on their own turf and sought to systematically identify and dismantle U.S.-based cells of these Mexican cartels. Project Reckoning and Operation Xcellerator are recent examples of this U.S.-Mexico collaboration. Both actions were investigated and prosecuted in multiple Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) cases, involving DEA and other OCDETF investigative agencies, state and local law enforcement, numerous U.S. Attorneys' Offices, and the Department's Criminal Division.

Special Operations Division

The mission of the Special Operations Division (SOD), a multi-agency task force spearheaded by the DEA, is to establish seamless law enforcement coordination, strategies and operations aimed at dismantling national and international narco-trafficking, narco-terrorists and other criminal organizations by attacking their command and control structure. SOD is able to facilitate coordination and communication across and among multiagency networks with overlapping investigations to ensure that tactical and strategic intelligence is shared between all of SOD's participating agencies, including the U.S. Attorneys' Offices and various intelligence centers such as the El Paso Intelligence Center and the OCDETF Fusion Center.

Project Reckoning:

Project Reckoning was a 15-month operation targeting the Gulf Cartel and remains one of the largest, most successful joint law enforcement efforts ever undertaken between the United States and Mexico. Due to the intelligence and evidence derived from Project Reckoning, during 2008 the United States was able to secure indictments against Gulf Cartel leaders Ezekiel Antonio Cardenas-Guillen (brother of extradited Kingpin Osiel Cardenas-Guillen), Eduardo Costilla-Sanchez and Heriberto Lazcano-Lazcano, head of Los Zetas. Project Reckoning resulted in more than 600 arrests in the United States and Mexico, including 175 active Gulf Cartel/Los Zetas members, and the seizure of thousands of pounds of methamphetamine, tens of thousands of pounds of marijuana, nearly 20,000 kilograms of cocaine, hundreds of weapons, and \$71 million.

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Operation Xcellerator:

Operation Xcellerator began in May 2007 from an investigation in Imperial County, Calif., and targeted the Sinaloa Cartel. Operation Xcellerator was recently concluded and resulted in more than 700 arrests, the seizure of more than \$59 million in U.S. currency, 1,200 pounds of methamphetamine, 12,000 kilograms of cocaine, 1.3 million ecstasy pills, three aircraft and three maritime vessels.

El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC):

Led by the DEA, EPIC is a national tactical intelligence center that focuses its efforts on supporting law enforcement efforts in the Western Hemisphere, with a significant emphasis on the Southwest border. Through its 24-hour watch function, EPIC provides immediate access to participating agencies' databases to law enforcement agents, investigators and analysts. This function is critical in the dissemination of relevant information in support of tactical and investigative activities, deconfliction and officer safety. EPIC also provides significant, direct tactical intelligence support to state and local law enforcement agencies, especially in the areas of clandestine laboratory investigations and highway interdiction efforts.

EPIC's Gatekeeper Project is a comprehensive, multi-source assessment of trafficking organizations involved in and controlling movement of illegal contraband through "entry corridors" along the Southwest border. The analysis of Gatekeeper organizations not only provides a better understanding of command and control, organizational structure and methods of operations, but also serves as a guide for policymakers to initiate enforcement operations and prioritize operations by U.S. anti-drug elements.

Implementation of License Plate Readers (LPR) along the Southwest border has provided a surveillance method that uses optical character recognition on images that read vehicle license plates. The LPR Initiative combines existing DEA and other law enforcement database capabilities with new technology to identify and interdict devices being utilized to transport bulk cash, drugs, weapons, as well as other illegal contraband.

The National Seizure System (NSS) consists of seizure information relating to drugs, weapons, currency, chemicals and clandestine laboratory seizures reported to EPIC by federal, state and local law enforcement agencies from Jan. 1, 2000, to the present. The NSS database contains approximately 400,000 records of seizure events.

In support of the Bulk Currency Program, EPIC established a depository for detailed bulk currency seizure information from both domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies. In addition, EPIC analyzes volumes of bulk currency seizure data and develops various reports such as state link reports which are routinely sent to federal law enforcement agencies throughout the country to provide investigative leads. EPIC also responds to requests for bulk currency seizure data from agents and officers in the field.

The ATF Southwest Border Unit, which also houses the EPIC Gun Desk, serves as the focal point for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of weapons related investigative leads derived from federal, state, local and international law enforcement agencies.

DEA Work with Mexico

DEA and the Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs have provided training to Mexican officials on a variety of investigative, enforcement and regulatory methods related to methamphetamine trafficking and enforcement. This training included instruction on clandestine laboratory investigations, precursor chemical investigations and drug identification. During FY 2008, 1,269 Mexican federal, state and local counterparts were trained. DEA has also donated eight refurbished trucks used in clandestine laboratory enforcement operations to Mexico.

DEA established a joint program with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol to monitor and investigate the

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importation of precursor chemicals into the United States, headed for Mexico. The program targets containerized cargo consignments and air cargo.

U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE (USMS)

USMS has stepped-up its efforts along the Southwest border, deploying 94 additional Deputy U.S. Marshals during the last eight months and sending four additional deputies to Mexico City to assist the USMS Mexico City Foreign Field Office (MCFFO).

Twenty-five new Criminal Investigators-Asset Forfeiture Specialists have been placed in USMS asset forfeiture units in the field. The new positions are unique in that they will be solely dedicated to the USMS Asset Forfeiture Division and will support U.S. Attorneys' Offices and investigative agencies in investigations of cartels and other large-scale investigations.

International Fugitive Investigations:

The USMS Investigative Operations Division (IOD) coordinates international investigations with USMS-led district and regional fugitive task forces, and other U.S. law enforcement, and provides guidance and direction on the international process.

In FY 2008, the USMS opened 790 international fugitive investigations, with 303 fugitive cases sent to Mexico. Of these cases, 206 were investigated and closed. For FY 2009 to date, the USMS has opened 376 international fugitive investigations, with 143 fugitive cases sent to Mexico. A total of 120 arrests have been made in Mexico through March 31, 2009.

Foreign Fugitive Investigations:

Once a foreign fugitive is located, an investigation is conducted to determine if the fugitive is in the United States legally. In FY 2008, the USMS opened 707 foreign fugitive investigations, with 290 requests from Mexico. Sixty-six individuals were arrested and returned to Mexico. For FY 2009 to date, the USMS has opened 180 foreign fugitive investigations, with 69 requests from Mexico. A total of 37 have been arrested through March 31, 2009. There has been nearly a 250 percent increase in the number of fugitive arrests since 2003.

Mexico Investigative Liaison Program (MIL):

The Mexico Investigative Liaison Program (MIL) was created to address international fugitive matters along the Southwest border. The purpose of this district-based, cross-border violent crime initiative is to enhance the effectiveness of the USMS in the investigation and apprehension of U.S. fugitives located in Mexico and to coordinate the location and apprehension of foreign fugitives from Mexico.

The MIL currently has 33 Deputy U.S. Marshals assigned to the five Southwest border districts, as well as two adjoining USMS districts, who operate under the auspices of the MCFFO and Chief of Mission when conducting cross-border investigations. They were responsible for investigating more than 240 cross-border investigations and 50 arrests in 2008.

Mexico Foreign Field Office (MCFFO):

The MCFFO program helps to coordinate, support and train foreign law enforcement in an aggressive approach to apprehending and extraditing international fugitives – particularly those wanted in the United States – with special attention given to violent criminals and upper-level drug trafficking fugitives.

Located at the U.S. Embassy, the MCFFO is staffed by three full-time criminal investigators. Deputy U.S. Marshals in foreign field offices serve as the primary liaisons for fugitive investigations, provisional arrest warrants, extraditions and deportations, oversight of USMS cross-border investigations, and international law enforcement training.

The Marshals Service's chief law enforcement partners in Mexico are the Procuraduría General de la República (PGR-Mexico Attorney General's Office), the Agencia Federal de Investigación (AFI-Mexico Federal Law Enforcement Agency), the Instituto Nacional de Migración (INM-Mexico Immigration), and various state judicial police entities, including the Sonora State Police.

International Law Enforcement Training:

USMS will also enhance efforts under the International Training Program to meet the training needs of Mexican law enforcement agencies on the federal and state level, in the areas of fugitive apprehension, tactical operations, judicial security and dignitary protection, witness protection, prisoner custody, housing and transportation and asset forfeiture. The next two training classes are scheduled for April and May 2009. The USMS has been providing training to its Mexican counterparts since 2001.

Eighteen officers from the Instituto Nacional de Migración (INM-Mexico Immigration), a Special Unit from the Mexico State of Tamaulipas, and the newly-formed Secretaría de Seguridad Pública del Distrito Federal (SSP) in Mexico were trained as part of this program during a two-week fugitive investigative course sponsored by IIB and the USMS Southern District of Texas, Laredo Division.

Since the inception of the Mexico Fugitive Investigators Training Program in 2001, 185 law enforcement officers from Mexico have been trained in fugitive apprehension techniques. As a result, there has been a 240 percent increase in the number of cross-border fugitive felon arrests since the inception of the program.

Domestic Fugitive Investigations – Southwest Border Districts:

Currently, the USMS is the lead agency for 82 district-managed fugitive task forces, and seven Regional Fugitive Task Forces (RFTFs), including the following task forces in the five Southwest Border districts:

- The Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force (Southern California)
- The District of Arizona High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Enforcement Agencies Task Force
- The District of New Mexico Southwest Investigative Fugitive Team
- The Western District of Texas Lone Star Fugitive Task Force
- The Southern District of Texas Gulf Coast Violent Offenders Task Force

The task forces operate in areas ranging from major metropolitan cities to rural, isolated areas along the Mexican border. Most of the district task forces operating directly on the Southwest border are partnered with all federal agencies and specifically support the Southwest Border HIDTA and the initiatives sponsored by the various partner agencies. These partnerships permit the USMS to act as a force multiplier well beyond the traditional fugitive apprehension role.

For FY 2009 to date, these five task forces have arrested 6,912 federal, state and local fugitives, including 208 alleged gang members, 143 individuals wanted for murder, 376 individuals wanted on weapons charges and 2,242 individuals wanted on narcotics charges. Through March 31, 2009, the five task forces have closed 8,335 warrants. They also have seized 114 firearms, 19 vehicles, more than \$84,000 in cash, and approximately 240 kilograms of narcotics. In FY 2008, these five task forces arrested 15,564 federal, state, and local fugitives, closed 19,157 warrants, and seized 267 firearms, \$648,333 in cash, and more than 2,730 kilograms of narcotics.

The USMS has apprehension authority for approximately 90 percent of all fugitives wanted under the OCDETF program, which is an important element of the Department's drug supply reduction strategy. Of the more than 7,200 active OCDETF warrants nationwide, more than 1,100 originate in the Southwest region. In FY 2008, the OCDETF Program along the Southwest border cleared 189 fugitive warrants. In FY 2009 to date, the OCDETF Program along the Southwest border has cleared 44 fugitive warrants.

The USMS task force network is supported by the Technical Operations Group (TOG), which provides critical, state-of-the-art electronic and air surveillance in fugitive investigations, judicial security investigations and protection details, and supports other USMS missions. To increase its intelligence-gathering capabilities, the TOG has designed a radio system in response to a critical needs assessment in the Southern District of Texas with plans to begin construction soon along the Texas-Mexico border.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI)

The FBI is taking proactive measures to assess and confront this heightened threat to public safety on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border, by creating a Southwest Intelligence Group (SWIG), which will serve as a clearinghouse of all FBI activities involving Mexico. The FBI will also increase its focus on public corruption, kidnappings and extortion relating to Southwest border issues.

In addition, the FBI is participating in multiple bilateral multiagency meetings and working groups to hone strategies to address the problem. The FBI is well-equipped to deal with cartels, through established entities such as the National Gang Intelligence Center. The FBI has task forces throughout the country working to disrupt gang activity. The FBI's San Antonio division currently operates two Safe Street/Gang task forces addressing border violence in San Antonio, Texas, and the Rio Grand Valley.

In calendar year 2008, the FBI's offices in San Diego; Albuquerque, N.M.; Phoenix; El Paso, Texas; Houston; Dallas; Los Angeles; and San Antonio, Texas, maintained hundreds of Organized Drug Enforcement Task Forces Program (OCDETF) and criminal enterprise cases with a nexus to Mexican drug trafficking. The FBI has several hundred agents working these issues in these eight Divisions, resulting in thousands of arrests, indictments and convictions in FY2008.

The FBI has established six Border Corruption Task Forces focusing on drug and general border corruption tied to the southwest border, and is actively encouraging southwest border field offices to expand their use of Border Corruption Task Forces.

TAG Initiative:

The Transnational Anti-Gang (TAG) Initiative was developed and implemented in October 2007 to enhance cooperation, coordination and augmenting investigative capabilities between the FBI and law enforcement agencies in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. The goal of the initiative is to aggressively investigate, disrupt and dismantle violent gangs whose activities rise to the level of criminal enterprises and who pose the greatest multi-jurisdictional threat.

Already, the TAG has seen successes, such as in September 2008, when TAG investigators arrested five MS-13 gang members who were transporting a cache of anti-tank weapons and military small arms. Also, FBI agents from Charlotte, N.C., worked with TAG investigators in actions that led to the indictment of 26 MS-13 gang members in June 2008, including Manual Ayala, who allegedly directed gang activities in the United States from his jail cell in El Salvador.

CAFÉ Initiative:

The Central American Fingerprint Exploitation Initiative (CAFÉ), a criminal file/fingerprint retrieval initiative, was developed by the MS-13 National Gang Task Force and the Policia Nacional Civil (PNC) to store

criminal fingerprints of gang members from Chiapas, Mexico, and the Central American countries of El Salvador, Guatemala, Belize and Honduras. This information is incorporated into the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services database and is available to all U.S. local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. By incorporating these records into a searchable database, law enforcement agencies like the PNC can access the data through their own Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems.

Since 2006, the FBI has searched, processed and incorporated more than 72,000 criminal records from El Salvador, Guatemala, Belize, Honduras and Chiapas, Mexico, into the FBI's Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System.

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Office of International Affairs (OIA):

Mexico and the United States continue to make positive strides to increase the number of fugitives returned to the country where they committed serious crimes. Extradition records have been consistently broken for the past three years. In 2008, Mexico extradited a total 95 fugitives, 78 of whom were Mexican nationals, and 23 of whom were extradited for drug charges, to the United States. In addition, Mexico deported approximately 172 fugitives to the United States in 2008.

Extraditions from the United States to Mexico improved dramatically in 2008 as well. The United States surrendered 32 fugitives to Mexico in 2008, compared to 12 surrendered in 2007. Approximately 20 fugitives are currently undergoing extradition proceedings in U.S. courts.

In addition to achieving record numbers of extraditions from Mexico, OIA also increases the joint cooperation between Mexican and U.S. law enforcement authorities by responding to requests for mutual legal assistance from Mexico for evidence in hundreds of matters each year. OIA is represented at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City by a Department of Justice attaché and deputy attaché.

Narcotic and Dangerous Drug Section (NDDS):

NDDS has a broad mission to combat domestic and international drug trafficking and narco-terrorism.

NDDS litigation unit attorneys prosecute those individuals and criminal organizations posing the most significant drug trafficking threat to the United States. NDDS attorneys recently indicted 17 members of the Gulf Cartel, including three leaders, for violations involving the extraterritorial manufacture or distribution of cocaine and marijuana destined for the United States. Also, in May 2008, NDDS attorneys were the first federal prosecutors to secure a conviction under the new narco-terrorism statute.

NDDS attorneys are responsible for the oversight of several classified projects, as well as the integration and dissemination of classified intelligence information to domestic criminal prosecutions. These attorneys coordinate the efforts of law enforcement and prosecutors worldwide to maximize the Department's effectiveness against international narco-traffickers. NDDS attorneys assisted with the coordinated takedowns in Project Reckoning and Operation Xcellerator.

Merida Initiative:

The Merida Initiative was designed and presented to Congress as a U.S. interagency response to trans-border crime and security issues affecting the United States, Mexico and the countries of Central America. The Merida Initiative seeks to strengthen partner countries' capacities to combat organized criminal activities that threaten the security of the region. Merida assistance is focused three main areas: counter-narcotics, counterterrorism and border security; public security and law enforcement; and institution building and the rule of law.

Through the Criminal Division and law enforcement components, the Department is working now on Merida project planning, design, assessment and implementation. In fact, the Arms Trafficking Prosecution and Enforcement Strategy Session underway now is a bi-lateral Merida program, in which the Department of Justice, working with Mexican and U.S. interagency partners, played a substantial role in developing and presenting. Additional working-level assistance is anticipated to focus on effectively combating illegal arms trafficking.

The Department is working with Mexican counterparts on Merida projects designed to strengthen tracking and management of seized and forfeited assets; to enhance polygraph capability; and to review and strengthen internal integrity mechanisms. Additionally, the Department will be working with Mexican counterparts on prosecutorial capacity building programs; evidence collection, preservation and admissibility; forensics; extradition; and victim/witness protection.

Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section (AFMLS):

AFMLS and its Mexican counterpart co-chair the Anti-Money Laundering and Asset Forfeiture SLEP sub-working group where cooperation to combat money laundering and enhance asset forfeiture cooperation between the countries is discussed. Most recently, AFMLS provided a detailed paper with comments on draft Mexican legislation that would allow for non-conviction based forfeiture in Mexico and would enhance Mexico's ability to cooperate on asset forfeiture matters with foreign countries, including the United States.

AFMLS is also working on a project to provide software and training to Mexican officials that will allow Mexico to better track and maintain assets it seizes and freezes so that it can maximize the value of those assets once it has lawfully forfeited them.

Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT):

OPDAT has worked with Mexican counterparts since 2006 to develop greater collaboration and capacity in combating trafficking in persons. Most recently, an Assistant U.S. Attorney from Arizona has worked in Mexico City since October 2008 as an OPDAT Resident Legal Advisor (RLA) for Trafficking in Persons (TIP). The RLA is developing and coordinating workshops in collaboration with Mexican government officials and U.S. government partners (including DHS/ICE) to implement Mexico's newly passed anti-human trafficking law. Focus areas include greater cooperation between prosecutors and investigators on trafficking in persons cases; task force development concepts to include prosecutors, investigators, victim/witness specialists and members of relevant non-governmental organizations; and the importance of victim detection, rescue and protection in trafficking in persons cases.

The RLA has coordinated training for approximately 200 Mexican government officials in basic human trafficking law, victim identification, victim interviewing techniques, and trafficking case development. The Department and ICE have coordinated with the PGR to develop a training calendar for FY 2009, which includes more advanced trainings specifically tailored to human trafficking cases that focus on victim attention and assistance, evidence collection and preservation, crime scene management, and investigative techniques. Moreover, the RLA and ICE and the Government of Mexico regularly contact U.S. prosecutors regarding bi-national case coordination, as well as intelligence and information sharing related to ongoing investigations and prosecutions.

The Senior Law Enforcement Plenary (SLEP):

The SLEP is a U.S.-Mexico working group that consists of representatives from DHS, State Department and ONDCP, as well as DEA, FBI, USMS and ATF. SLEP working groups allow for information sharing between U.S. and Mexico representatives in the areas of: law enforcement and counternarcotics; interdiction; chemical controls; fugitives and legal issues; asset forfeiture and money laundering; organized migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons; arms trafficking; prisoner transfer; cyber and intellectual property crimes; and law

HOGF ATF - 002621

enforcement training and technical assistance.

U.S. ATTORNEYS' OFFICES

The U.S. Attorneys' Offices in the five Southwest border districts are on the frontlines of the national effort to prosecute criminal offenses arising at the border with Mexico, including the prosecution of narcotics trafficking, gun-smuggling, violent crimes and immigration offenses. The U.S. Attorneys' Offices also coordinate with Mexican prosecutors to share evidence in appropriate cases to ensure that justice is achieved either in U.S. courts or in Mexican courts.

Each of the Southwest border U.S. Attorneys' Offices work closely with ONDCP and federal, state, and local investigative agencies in initiatives such as the multi-agency Border Enforcement Security Task Forces, OCDETF Strike Forces, HIDTAs, and the Gatekeeper Initiative to attack complex criminal organizations; Project Gunrunner to reduce the smuggling of weapons across the border; bulk cash smuggling initiatives to restrict the flow of drug proceeds to Mexico; and the Border Fence Initiative, Tunnel Task Force, and maritime initiatives to detect illegal cross-border movement of people, drugs, money and guns.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS AND FUNDING

The Department's Office of Justice Programs and OCDETF will be investing \$30 million in stimulus funding to assist with state and local law enforcement to combat narcotics activity coming through the southern border and in high intensity drug trafficking areas. State and local law enforcement organizations along the border can apply for COPS and Byrne Justice Assistance grants from the \$3 billion provided for those programs in the stimulus package.

The OCDETF Fusion Center (OFC):

OFC is a comprehensive intelligence data center containing drug and related financial data. Through SOD, it provides critical support for long-term and large-scale investigations. OFC conducts cross-agency and cross-jurisdictional integration and analysis of drug related data to create comprehensive pictures of targeted organizations.

###

09-303

DO NOT REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE USE THE CONTACTS IN THE MESSAGE OR CALL THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT 202-514-2007.

HOCR ATF - 002622

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2010 6:19 PM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
CC: Quinonez, Louis A.; Needles, James R.
Subject: Phoenix Field Division SWB Briefing Paper Submissions
Attachments: Phoenix SWB Submissions 1-21-10.doc

George,

Please review our division's SWB Briefing Paper submissions (attached). These should be forwarded to Christine Gribble by C.O.B., tomorrow (January 22, 2010).

Thank you.

Kevin Simpson, Acting Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - RC-1
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

RC-1

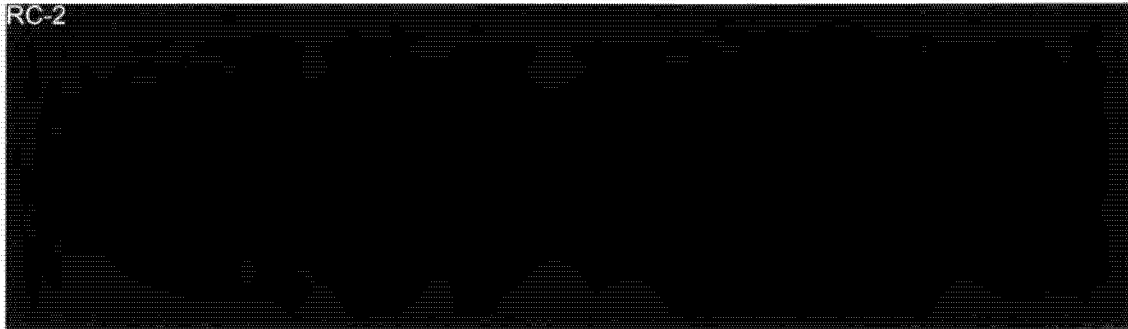
HOCR ATF - 002623

PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

Investigations:

Phoenix Group VII

RC-2



785115-10-0004 Jacob Chambers et al: This case is a large scale conspiracy between more than twenty straw purchasers. Thus far in the investigation (September through present) the group has purchased over 800 firearms; most of which are the AK-47 variant 7.62 assault rifles and or the F.N. Herstal 5.7 mm pistols. Of those 800 firearms purchased by the group approximately 150 have been recovered in Mexico or near the Mexican Border (the serial numbers are continually being updated and changed thus affecting the trace results) with a short time-to-crime; some as little as one day. ATF special agents continue to coordinate with the DEA ^{RC-3} as it affects this investigation and also to work with the USAO ^{RC-3}

RC-3



RC-3 Additionally, agents have employed the LETS system to consensually record calls to/from a friendly FFL and one of the suspects for the purpose of ordering and discussing large scale firearm purchases.

Tucson Group I

RC-2



From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2010 9:14 PM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
CC: Quinonez, Louis A.; Cook, Nancy F.; Needles, James R.
Subject: Phoenix Field Division Submission SWB Briefing Paper
Attachments: Phoenix SWB Submissions 2-18-10.doc

George,

Please review and forward the attached as our division's submissions for the next SWB Briefing Paper. This submission is due to Christine Gribble RC-1 [REDACTED] by C.O.B., tomorrow.

Thank you.

Kevin Simpson, Acting Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - RC-1 [REDACTED]
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2425
RC-1 [REDACTED]

HQGR ATF - 002625

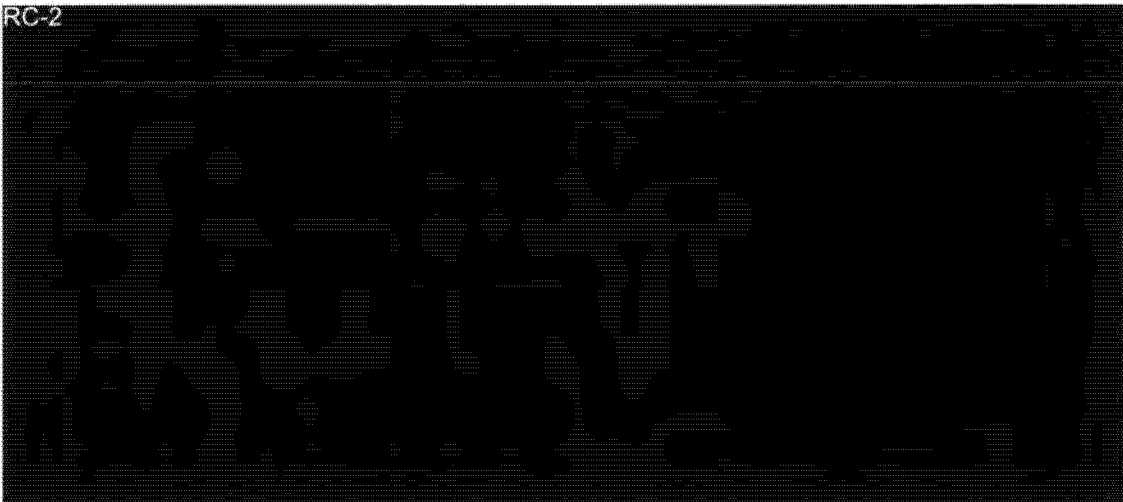
PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

Investigations:

Phoenix Group I



Phoenix Group VII



785115-10-0004, Jacob Chambers et al

This case is a large scale conspiracy of over a twenty interconnected straw purchasers. This group has purchased over 850 firearms; most of which are the AK-47 variant 7.62 assault rifles and or the F.N. Herstal 5.7 mm pistols. Approximately 150 firearms have been recovered in Mexico or near the Mexico Border with a short time-to-crime. New straw purchasers are continually being identified as part of this investigation.

This is an approved ATF OCDETF investigation. ATF is continuing to receive data from RC-3 [redacted] as part of this investigation which overwhelmingly shows the connection amongst these straw purchasers and the FFLs. RC-3 [redacted]



Las Cruces Group I

From: Gribble, Christine A.
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2010 3:55 PM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Subject: FW: SWB Briefing Paper - February 22, 2010
Attachments: SWB Briefing Paper - February 22, 2010.doc

Buenas tardes, Señor Gillett. Do you have the submission for the next report? Thanks, Christine

From: Gribble, Christine A.
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 2:31 PM
To: Chait, Mark R.; McMahon, William G.; Boxler, Michael B.; Torres, Julie M.; Then, Colleen M.; Torres, John A.; Newell, William D.; Champion, Robert R.; Webb, J. Dewey; O'Keefe, Kevin C.; Phoenix, Alfredo A.; Quinonez, Louis A.; Shaefer, Christopher C.; Sigler, Toni L.; Simpson, Kevin; Stucko, Audrey M.; Thomasson, Scot L.; Gillett, George T. Jr.; Hagerty, Paul C.; Alvarez, Gena B.; Salas, Armando; Fasciani, Dennis C.; Kumor, Daniel J.; Jones, Tarrance; Sellers, J. Anne; Reyes, Aurora O.; Jaquez, Rene J.; Chillcott, Dewey C.; Penate, Harry J.; Smith, Lamont F.; Canino, Carlos A.; Armentrout, Charlayne A.; Mullins, Daniel R.; Surotchak, Frank J.; Beebe, Carol B.; Cook, Nancy F.; Lowrey, Stuart L.; Hernandez, Armando; Wall, Jose T.
Cc: Rowley, Raymond G.; Powell, Jeffrey R.; Kolodka, Beau; Brady, Kelly D.; Golson Sr., Michael A.; Lauffer, Kristen E; Kruthaupt, Alex J.; Gonzales, Mary; Leadmon, Lorren D.; Velinor, Trevor A.; Wade, Drew J.; Hageman, John T.; Santamaria, Nilda I.; Gleysteen, Mike P.; Kemp, Janice L.; Whitworth, Melinda C.; Wicks, Joseph F.; Moncrief, Dennis R.; Munoz-Navarro, Hector; Kwiatkowski, Paul T.; Henderson, Frank J.; Carroll, Timothy J.; Mokos, Joseph P.; Gil, Darren D.; Booth, David S. (IAO); Milanowski, Frederick J.; Aguilar, Rodolfo; Gamboa, Aaron J.; Hopper, Casey E.; Simental Jr, Atalo; Frankel, David J.; Lotspeich, Cynthia M.; Searcy, Lucia B.; Alarcon, Raul A.; Warren, Mary H.; Molek, Theresa C.
Subject: SWB Briefing Paper - February 22, 2010

THIS MESSAGE WAS AUTHORIZED BY THE SOUTHWEST BORDER WORKING GROUP

Attached is the approved edition of the Southwest Border briefing paper, dated February 22, 2010. New updates to the SWB paper are now due to **Christine Gribble** by **COB Friday, March 5, 2010**.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thanks, Christine

Christine Gribble
Program Analyst
Southwest Border Working Group
Office of Field Operations
Bureau of ATF

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002627

LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

**Southwest Border Initiative
(Project Gunrunner)**

Biweekly Update

February 22, 2010

The following is a biweekly update on significant events related to the Southwest Border Initiative. The information is collected from the different ATF offices involved in this initiative and intended for ATF use only.

FIELD OPERATIONS

DALLAS FIELD DIVISION

Investigations:

El Paso Field Office

RC-2



1
LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE
INTERNAL USE ONLY
NOT FOR DISSEMINATION OUTSIDE ATF

HOCR ATF - 002628

DOJ-FF-58984

PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

Investigations:

Phoenix Group I

RC-2



Phoenix Group VII

RC-2



information)

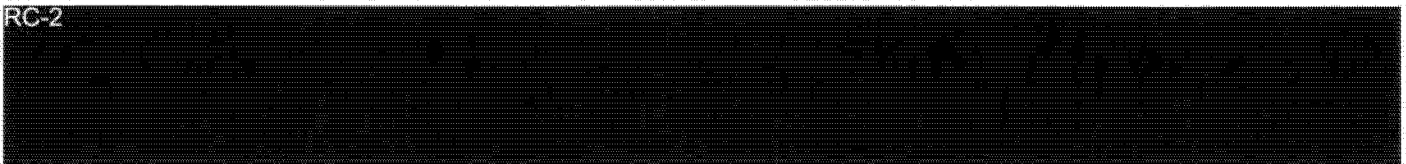
785115-10-0004 Jacob Chambers et al: This case is a large-scale conspiracy of over a twenty interconnected straw purchasers. This group has purchased over 850 firearms; most of which are the AK-47 variant 7.62 assault rifles and or the F.N. Herstal 5.7 mm pistols. Approximately 150 firearms have been recovered in Mexico or near the Mexico Border with a short time-to-crime. New straw purchasers are continually being identified as part of this investigation.

This is an approved ATF OCDETF investigation. ATF is continuing to receive data RC-3 as part of this investigation which overwhelmingly show the connection amongst these straw purchasers and the FFLs. RC-3

RC-3 (see 2/22/10 SIR for additional information)

Las Cruces Group I

RC-2



From: Merial, Yolanda M.
Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2010 3:30 PM
To: Zicha, Marjorie L.; Gillett, George T. Jr.
Subject: FW: June 14 GRIT Performance Report
Attachments: June 14 GRIT Performance Report.doc

From: Gribble, Christine A.
Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2010 12:01 PM
To: Newell, William D.; Needles, James R.; Cook, Nancy F.; Simpson, Kevin; Merial, Yolanda M.
Subject: June 14 GRIT Performance Report

Good afternoon. Attached is the subject Phoenix GRIT Performance report.

The next report will be due on June 18. Thanks, Christine

Christine Gribble
Program Analyst
Southwest Border Working Group
Office of Field Operations
Bureau of ATF

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002630

**Phoenix Gun Runner Impact Teams (GRIT)
Performance Report
June 14, 2010**

GRIT Performance for Reporting Period June 4 - June 10, 2010		
	Reporting Period	Since Inception
Number of Investigative Leads at the Start of GRIT (May 1, 2010)	N/A	25
Number of New Investigative Leads	4	37
Total Leads		62
Number of Leads Investigated	4	33
Number of New Actual Criminal Cases Opened	0	19
Number of Existing Investigations Supported by GRIT	34	46
Number of Defendants Recommended for Prosecution	3	3
Number of Referrals to U.S. LE Agencies	-	-
Number of Liaison Activities with the Gov. of Mexico	-	4
Number of Firearms/Other Evidence Seized/Recovered by ATF or Other LE Agencies Acting on ATF Information	25 firearms, 32 rounds of ammunition	35 firearms 3,726 rounds of ammunition \$0 in currency 22 g. cocaine 4.5 g. methamphetamine 7 g. marijuana other
Number of FFL Inspections Initiated	44	446
Number of FFL Inspections Completed	45	143
FFL Adverse Actions Recommended:		
Number of Warning Letters/Warning Conferences	3	18
Number of Revocations (Recommended by Division and Concurred by HQ)	-	-
Number of Licenses Surrendered in Lieu of Revocation	-	-
Number of Criminal Enforcement Referrals Made by IOIs to ATF LE	9	37

RC-2

Phoenix Group VII

785115-10-0020

RC-4

ATF Phoenix Group VII Strike Force has begun an investigation into the firearms trafficking activities of RC-4. To date, this investigation, aided by a reliable confidential source (hereinafter CS), has determined that at least 14 firearms (with many more suspected "straw" purchasers providing a large amount of additional firearms) have been purchased on behalf of and subsequently delivered to RC-4. By his own account (documented in audio recordings between RC-4 and the CS), RC-4 obliterates the serial numbers of these firearms prior to his delivering them "South (to Mexico)." The CS was able to successfully introduce undercover agent John Dodson to RC-4 as a new, potential "straw" purchaser and someone who may be able to meet RC-4's recent request for NFA type firearms (specifically military grade armament and ordinance).

Subsequently, S/A Dodson participated in a controlled meeting (meet and greet) with RC-4 during which RC-4 solicited S/A Dodson to "straw" purchase AK pistols from local FFLs and agreed to pay S/A Dodson \$100 profit for each one delivered. Additionally, RC-4 expressed his desire to purchase suppressors (in 9mm, .45, .223, 7.62), 40mm grenade launchers, and 40mm High Explosive (HE or other anti-personnel type) in whatever quantities that S/A Dodson was able to obtain. On June 1, acting in an undercover capacity, S/A Dodson delivered 6 AK "DRACO" pistols to RC-4. RC-4 reimbursed S/A Dodson \$300 for each pistol, plus provided S/A Dodson with \$600 for conducting the "straw" purchases and an additional \$100 bonus. During the U/C OP, RC-4 stated his intent to sell/traffic the pistols for profit and again expressed his interest in purchasing the military hardware/ammunition/firearms. RC-4 also requested that S/A Dodson have a "trap" installed in his (RC-4's) vehicle to assist with his trafficking activities. Immediately after the U/C OP, RC-4 was followed by agents to a storage locker facility.

785115-10-0004

Operation Fast and Furious

This OCDETF investigation has revealed 1,608 suspected straw purchases of firearms by 62 targets of this investigation. The core group of this investigation is constantly recruiting new straw purchasers and disassociating with others. Individuals who purchased in 2009 are not currently purchasing firearms and a new straw purchaser was just identified by ATF agents through surveillance on June 7, 2010, during the purchase of a .50 caliber rifle.

ATF agents are aware of or have caused 309 of these firearms to be recovered. To date, 179 crime guns have been recovered in the Republic of Mexico, and 130 have been recovered domestically in the United States. Of those domestic recoveries, all have been along or near the U.S. and Mexican border, i.e., El Paso, TX; Douglas, AZ; Nogales, AZ; Sells, AZ and

Casa Grande, AZ, with the farthest recovery north of the border being here in Phoenix, AZ. In order to purchase these 1,608 suspected firearms, this group has spent over one million in cash transactions at various Phoenix area FFLs. Due to the proximity to the border, bank subpoenas and financial investigations have yielded little or no results.

RC-3



RC-3

To date, Patino has personally purchased 606 firearms on behalf of the group. In support of these purchases, Patino has spent over four hundred thousand dollars in cash transactions at various Phoenix area FFLs. Patino is currently receiving Food Stamp benefits from the State of Arizona due to his lack of income. ATF agents are working with the USDA-OIG.

Phoenix ATF agents are conducting almost daily surveillance of these above-mentioned firearms transactions. This group is highly surveillance conscience and conducts counter surveillance. RC-3

RC-3

This group makes "U-turns," they pull over and start again for no apparent reason, and they alter their speed, and almost always enter residential cul-de-sacs where entry by a surveillance vehicle would certainly be noticed. ATF agents have tried to utilize the Phoenix Police department air wing unit as much as possible, but due to their mission and scheduling they are not always available to assist.

ATF agents have identified over a dozen different "stash houses" where this group deposits firearms prior to arranging for further transportation south. The firearms may stay at these stash houses for anywhere from hours to in excess of one week.

RC-2



From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Thursday, December 24, 2009 10:25 AM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Subject: Phoenix Field Division SWB Briefing Paper Submissions
Attachments: Phoenix SWB Submissions 12-23-2009.docx

George,

Please review and forward our division's SWB Briefing Paper submissions to Christine Gribble at
RC-1 [REDACTED] by C.O.B. Monday December 28th.

Thank you.

Kevin Simpson, Acting Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - Suite 940
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

RC-1 [REDACTED]

HOGR ATF - 002634

PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

Investigations:

Phoenix Group I

RC-2



Phoenix Group VII

RC-2



785115-10-0004; Jacob Chambers et al

HOCR ATF - 002635

This case is a large scale conspiracy with over fifteen interconnected straw purchasers. Thus far in the investigation (September through present) the group has purchased over 500 firearms. Most of these firearms are the AK-47 type 7.62 assault rifles and the F.N. Herstal 5.7 mm pistols. Of those 500 firearms purchased by the group approximately 50 have been recovered in Mexico or near the Mexico Border (the serial numbers are continually being updated and changed thus affecting the trace results) with short time-to-crimes; some as little as one day. In one recovery on or about December 10, 2009, Mexican authorities recovered 500 kilos of cocaine, 85 pounds of methamphetamine, two million dollars US currency and over 40 firearms. Of those 40 firearms approximately 14 firearms were originally purchased by this crew. Additionally, the group supervisor and special agents from Group VII met with DEA officials. RC-3

RC-3



Las Cruces Group I

RC-2



From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 1:20 PM
To: Simpson, Kevin; Gillett, George T. Jr.
Subject: Phoenix Group VII biweekly update 12-18-09
Attachments: Phoenix Group VII biweekly update 12-18-09.docx

HOGRAF - 002637

Phoenix Group VII

RC-2



785115-10-0004, Jacob Chambers et al: This case is a large scale conspiracy of over a fifteen interconnected straw purchasers. Thus far in the investigation (September through present) the group has purchased over 5000 firearms; most of which are the AK-47 variant 7.62 assault rifles and or the F.N. Herstal 5.7 mm pistols. Of those 500 firearms purchased by the group approximately 50 have been recovered in Mexico or near the Mexican Border (the serial numbers are continually being updated and changed thus affecting the trace results) with a short time-to-crime; some as little as one day. In once such recovery on or about December 10, 2009, Mexican authorities recovered 500 kilos of cocaine, 85 pounds of methamphetamine, two million dollars US currency, and over 40 firearms. Of those 40 firearms approximately 14 firearms were originally purchased by this crew. Additionally, Group Supervisor and agents from Group VII met with DEA officials

RC-3



RC-3

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Friday, January 08, 2010 12:38 PM
To: Gribble, Christine A.
Subject: FW: Phoenix Field Division Submissions - SWB Briefing Paper
Attachments: Phoenix SWB Submissions 1-7-10.doc

Hello Christine -

Attached is the Phoenix Submission

Happy New Year!

George

== HOGRAF - 002639 ==

PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

Investigations:

Phoenix Group I

RC-2
[REDACTED]

Phoenix Group VII

RC-2
[REDACTED]

785115-10-0004 Jacob Chambers et al:

This case is a large scale conspiracy that includes fifteen straw purchasers of firearms. Since September 2009 the group has purchased over 650 firearms; most of which are the AK-47 variant 7.62 assault rifles and or the F.N. Herstal 5.7 mm pistols. To date, approximately 53 crime guns have been recovered in Mexico or near the United States/Mexico Border. The time-to-crime on recovered firearms is consistently short with some surfacing in only one day. ATF special agents continue to coordinate with the DEA [RC-3] as it affects this investigation. Phoenix Group VII is working with the U.S. Attorney's Office [RC-3] targeting conspirators within this group. [RC-3]

RC-3
[REDACTED]

Tucson Group I

RC-2
[REDACTED]

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Friday, March 19, 2010 11:22 AM
To: Gribble, Christine A.
Subject: FW: Phoenix Field Division Submissions for SWB Briefing Paper
Attachments: Phoenix SWB Submissions 3-18-10.doc

Seniorita --

Por Phoenix!

Buenos Dias!!

George

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2010 2:53 PM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Cc: Quinonez, Louis A.; Needles, James R.
Subject: Phoenix Field Division Submissions for SWB Briefing Paper

George,

Please review our division's submissions for the SWB Briefing Paper and forward per the request, below.
Thank you.

New updates to the SWB paper are now due to **Christine Gribble** by **COB Friday, March 19, 2010**.

Kevin Simpson, Acting Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - RC-1
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

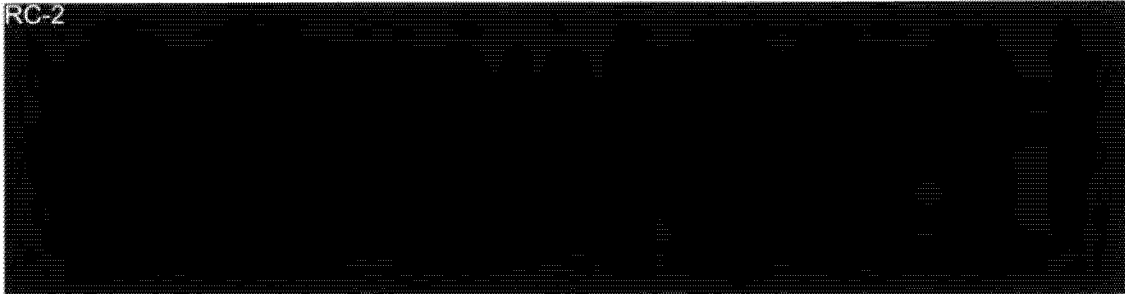
RC-1
[Redacted]

HGR ATF - 002641

PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

Liaison, Training, Media, and Other SWB Interaction:

Albuquerque II

RC-2


Investigations:

Phoenix Group VII (OCDETF Strike Force)

RC-2


785115-10-0004 Jacob Chambers et al

This is an approved ATF OCDETF investigation (# SWAZP0496) that is a large scale conspiracy of more than twenty straw purchasers. This group has purchased over 1,100 high power, high dollar firearms paying more than \$700,000.00 in cash. More than 150 crime guns have been recovered in Mexico with short times to crime. RC-3

RC-3

The Phoenix and Denver Field Divisions have brought in out of town special agents to assist in this ongoing investigation.

Tucson Group II

RC-2


From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Friday, April 02, 2010 5:22 PM
To: Gribble, Christine A.
Subject: FW: Phoenix Field Division SWB Briefing Paper Submissions
Attachments: Phoenix SWB Submissions 4-2-10.doc

Christine—

The submission from the Phoenix Division.

Gracias!

George T. Gillett
Assistant Special Agent in Charge
ATF - Phoenix Field Division
RC-1

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Friday, April 02, 2010 2:16 PM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Cc: Needles, James R.; Quinonez, Louis A.
Subject: Phoenix Field Division SWB Briefing Paper Submissions

George,

Please find our division's submissions to the SWB Briefing Paper attached for your review. This should be forwarded to Christine Gribble by C.O.B., today.

Thank you.

Kevin Simpson, Acting Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - RC-1
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2426
RC-1

HGR ATF - 002643

PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

Liaison, Training, Media, and Other SWB Interaction:

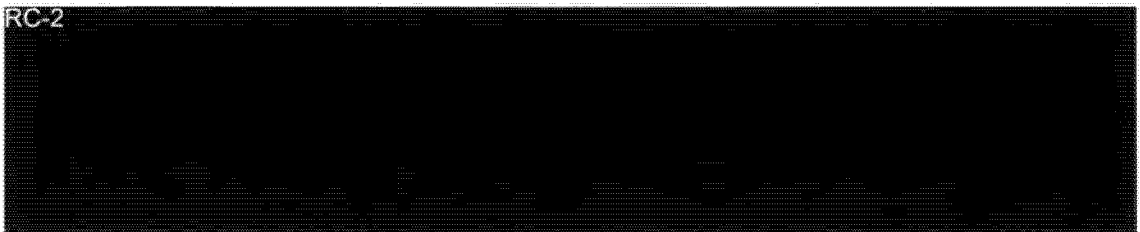
RC-2



Investigations:

Phoenix Group VII (OCDETF Strike Force)

RC-2



785115-10-0004, Jacob Chambers et al

This is an approved ATF OCDETF investigation (# SWAZP0496) that is a large scale conspiracy of more than twenty straw purchasers. This group has purchased over 1,100 high power, high dollar firearms paying more than \$700,000.00 in cash. More than 150 crime guns have been recovered in Mexico with short times to crime. RC-3

RC-3
RC-3

Surveillance has identified several additional target residences believed to be "stash" houses as well as additional straw purchasers. One suspect (Uriel PATINO) traveled to El Paso, Texas three times in one week. Telephone numbers RC-3 are being run through the DEA with several "hits" to narcotics trafficking cases they are actively investigating.

HOCR ATF - 002644

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Friday, July 16, 2010 4:33 PM
To: Gribble, Christine A.
Subject: FW: Phoenix Field Division Submissions - SWB Briefing Paper
Attachments: Phoenix SWB Submissions7-16-10.doc

Christine -

The Phoenix Division submission.

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Friday, July 16, 2010 10:44 AM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Subject: Phoenix Field Division Submissions - SWB Briefing Paper

George,

You will find our division's submissions to the SWB Briefing Paper attached for your review. Please forward to Christine Gribble upon your approval. Thank you.

Kevin Simpson, Acting Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - RC-1
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

RC-1
[Redacted]

HOGRAF - 002645

RC-2



Phoenix Group VII (OCDETF Strike Force)

785115-10-0004, Operation Fast and Furious

On July 12, 2010, Federal Parolee, Kenneth Thompson was arrested and charged on Arizona state charges of Hit and Run and Felon in Possession of a Firearm after fleeing from Peoria Police Department patrol units. ATF provided Peoria Police with information that Thompson was in possession of firearms as part of an active ongoing T-III case; Operation Fast & Furious, 785115-10-0004. Thompson fled from officers and crashed his vehicle into a cinder block wall after jumping the train tracks near the intersection of 67th Lane and Grand Avenue, Peoria, AZ. Both Thompson and the unidentified passenger fled the scene on foot and a short time later Peoria Police officers captured Thompson approximately ½ mile from the scene. Thompson suffered a broken leg and was transported to a local hospital for treatment, the passenger was never located. Thompson was released from Federal custody in September of 2009, after serving approximately 60 months after he entered a plea of guilty to 21 USC 846, Conspiracy to Possess Marijuana in February 2004. During an inventory search of the vehicle, Peoria police officers recovered (20) ROMARM/CUGIR, 7.62x39 caliber rifles

HOCR ATF - 002646

from the bed of the truck. The firearms had been purchased earlier that day by a subject identified as a straw purchaser in the coinciding ATF investigation. In addition, (2) pistols were recovered from the cab compartment of the vehicle. ATF agents took custody of the (20) ROMARM 7.62x39 caliber rifles as part of the ongoing ATF investigation. Peoria officer retained custody of the (2) pistols for further state prosecution.

On July 13, 2010 Phoenix Police Department (PPD) RC-5
RC-5 Carlon's Auto Service located at 3501 W. Lincoln Ave., Phoenix, AZ and
RC-5 numerous firearms in a backroom RC-5 being "loaded up."

The PPD Detective was aware of this ongoing ATF firearms trafficking investigation (Operation Fast and Furious) and coordinated with Phoenix Group VII agents. This business had previously been identified as being a related business for firearms trafficking activities as part of this investigation. ATF Group VII agents and PPD Detectives went to the business to conduct an interview. They obtained consent and subsequently recovered 73 firearms, as follows: 20 AK-47 variant rifles, 1 – Barrett .50 caliber rifle, 1 – AR-15 rifle, approximately 50 – semi-automatic pistols (mainly 9mm caliber), approximately 250 – 75 round drum magazines for 7.62 caliber rounds, as well as other various magazines and assorted ammunition. The traces of the firearms indicate that many are recently purchased by known straw purchasers in this investigation. Some of the 9mm pistols appear to be used (secondary market) firearms and this recovery took place following a large gun show in Phoenix, AZ the previous weekend (July 9-11, 2010). The 250 - 75 round drum magazines retail for over \$200.00 each which totals more than \$50,000.00 worth of magazines. This recovery adds to the total of 169 firearms recovered in the previous 25 days by Group VII agents and GRIT agents assigned to Group VII as part of Southwest Border Firearms Trafficking investigations.

RC-2



HOCR ATF - 002647

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2010 12:49 PM
To: Gribble, Christine A.
Subject: FW: Phoenix Field Division Submissions - SWB Briefing Paper - June 11, 2010
Attachments: Phoenix SWB Submissions 6-11-10.doc

Hello Christine -

The Phoenix submission is attached.

George

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2010 7:48 PM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Cc: Needles, James R.; Simpson, Kevin
Subject: Phoenix Field Division Submissions - SWB Briefing Paper - June 11, 2010

George,

Please review our division's SWB Briefing Paper submissions and forward per the request, below. Thank you.

Kevin Simpson, Acting Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - Suite 940
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428
RC-1

From: Gribble, Christine A.
Sent: Monday, June 07, 2010 6:33 AM
To: Chait, Mark R.; McMahon, William G.; Boxler, Michael B.; Torres, Julie M.; Then, Colleen M.; Torres, John A.; Newell, William D.; Champion, Robert R.; Webb, J. Dewey; O'Keefe, Kevin C.; Phoenix, Alfredo A.; Quinonez, Louis A.; Shaefer, Christopher C.; Sigler, Toni L.; Simpson, Kevin; Stucko, Audrey M.; Thomasson, Scot L.; Gillett, George T. Jr.; Hagerty, Paul C.; Alvarez, Gena B.; Salas, Armando; Fasciani, Dennis C.; Kumor, Daniel J.; Jones, Tarrance; Sellers, J. Anne; Reyes, Aurora O.; Jaquez, Rene J.; Penate, Harry J.; Smith, Lamont F.; Canino, Carlos A.; Armentrout, Charlayne A.; Mullins, Daniel R.; Surotchak, Frank J.; Beebe, Carol B.; Cook, Nancy F.; Lowrey, Stuart L.; Hernandez, Armando; Wall, Jose T.
Cc: Rowley, Raymond G.; Powell, Jeffrey R.; Brady, Kelly D.; Golson Sr., Michael A.; Lauffer, Kristen E; Kruthaupt, Alex J.; Gonzales, Mary; Leadmon, Lorren D.; Velinor, Trevor A.; Wade, Drew J.; Hageman, John T.; Santamaria, Nilda I.; Gleysteen, Mike P.; Kemp, Janice L.; Whitworth, Melinda C.; Wicks, Joseph F.; Moncrief, Dennis R.; Munoz-Navarro, Hector; Kwiatkowski, Paul T.; Henderson, Frank J.; Carroll, Timothy J.; Mokos, Joseph P.; Gil, Darren D.; Booth, David S. (IAO); Milanowski, Frederick J.; Aguilar, Rodolfo; Gamboa, Aaron J.; Hopper, Casey E.; Simental Jr, Atalo; Frankel, David J.; Lotspeich, Cynthia M.; Searcy, Lucia B.; Alarcon, Raul A.; Warren, Mary H.; Molek, Theresa C.; Reid, Sharon D.; Kopeck, Alexander J.; Senecal, Kellie L.
Subject: SWB Briefing Paper - June 1, 2010

THIS MESSAGE WAS AUTHORIZED BY THE SOUTHWEST BORDER WORKING GROUP

Attached is the approved edition of the Southwest Border briefing paper, dated June 1, 2010. New updates to the SWB paper are now due to **Christine Gribble** by **COB Friday, June 11, 2010**.

HOCR ATF - 002648

Thanks, Christine

Christine Gribble
Program Analyst
Southwest Border Working Group
Office of Field Operations
Bureau of ATF
RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002649

RC-2

Phoenix Group VII (OCDETF Strike Force)

785115-10-0020 RC-4

ATF Phoenix Group VII Strike Force has begun an investigation into the firearms trafficking activities of RC-4. To date, this investigation, aided by a reliable confidential source (hereinafter CS), has determined that at least 14 firearms (with many more suspected "straw" purchasers providing a large amount of additional firearms) have been purchased on behalf of and subsequently delivered to RC-4. By his own account (documented in audio recordings between RC-4 and the CS), RC-4 obliterates the serial numbers of these firearms prior to his delivering them "South (to Mexico)". The CS was able to successfully introduce undercover agent John Dodson to RC-4 as a new, potential "straw" purchaser and someone who may be able to meet RC-4's recent request for NFA type firearms (specifically military grade armament and ordinance). Subsequently, S/A Dodson participated in a controlled meeting (meet and greet) with RC-4 during which RC-4 solicited S/A Dodson to "straw" purchase AK pistols from local FFL's and agreed to pay S/A Dodson \$100.00 profit for each one delivered. Additionally, RC-4 expressed his desire to purchase suppressors (in 9mm, .45, .223, 7.62), 40mm grenade launchers, and 40mm High Explosive (HE or other anti-personnel type) in whatever quantities that S/A Dodson was able to obtain. On June 1st, acting in an undercover capacity, S/A Dodson delivered 6 AK "DRACO" pistols to RC-4. RC-4 reimbursed S/A Dodson \$300 for each pistol, plus provided S/A Dodson with \$600 for conducting the "straw" purchases and an additional \$100 bonus. During the u/c OP, RC-4 stated his intent to sell/traffic the pistols for profit and again expressed his interest in purchasing the military hardware/ammunition/firearms. RC-4 also requested that S/A Dodson have a "trap" installed in his (RC-4's) vehicle to assist with his trafficking activities. Immediately after the u/c OP RC-4 was followed by agents to a storage locker facility.

785115-10-0004 Operation Fast and Furious

This OCDETF investigation has revealed 1,608 suspected straw purchases of firearms by 62 targets of this investigation. The core group of this investigation is constantly recruiting new straw purchasers and disassociating with others. Individuals who purchased in 2009 are not currently purchasing firearms and a new straw purchaser was just indentified by ATF agents through surveillance on June 7, 2010 during the purchase of a .50 caliber rifle.

ATF agents are aware of or have caused 309 of these firearms to be recovered. To date, 179 crime guns have been recovered in the Republic of Mexico, and 130 have been recovered domestically in the United States. Of those domestic recoveries all have been along or near the U.S. and Mexican border; i.e. El Paso, TX, Douglas, AZ, Nogales, AZ, Sells, AZ, Casa Grande, AZ with the farthest recovery north of the border being here in Phoenix, AZ. In order to purchase these 1,608 suspected firearms this group has spent over one million (\$1,000,000.00) in cash transactions at various Phoenix area FFLs. Due to the proximity to the border; bank subpoenas and financial investigations have yielded little or no results.

RC-3




RC-3



To date Patino has personally purchased 606 firearms on behalf of the group. In support of these purchases Patino has spent over four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00) in cash transactions at various Phoenix area FFLs. Patino is currently receiving Food Stamp benefits from the State of Arizona due to his lack of income. ATF agents are working with the USDA-OIG.

Phoenix ATF agents are conducting almost daily surveillance of these above mentioned firearms transactions. This group is highly surveillance conscience and conducts counter surveillance. RC-3



RC-3



This group makes "U-turns", they pull over and start again for no apparent reason, and they alter their speed, and almost always enter residential cul-de-sacs where entry by a surveillance vehicle would certainly be noticed. ATF agents have tried to utilize the Phoenix Police department air wing unit has much as possible but due to their mission and scheduling they are not always available to assist.

ATF agents have identified over a dozen different "stash houses" where this group deposits firearms prior to arranging for further transportation south. The firearms may stay at these stash houses for anywhere from hours to in excess of one week.

RC-2



From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2010 3:30 PM
To: Booth, David S. (IAO)
CC: Voth, David J.; Needles, James R.
Subject: RE: not that you can or want to talk about it

All we would say is that this is an ongoing investigation.

Thanks!

George

From: Booth, David S. (IAO)
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2010 12:13 PM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Subject: FW: not that you can or want to talk about it

George, please see below about SIEDO. Can we share anything (what?) with them? Thank you,

ATF SA David S. Booth
International Affairs Office
Program Manager-Mexico
99 NY Ave. NE, RC-1
Washington, DC 20226

RC-1

From: Fasciani, Dennis C.
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2010 2:58 PM
To: Booth, David S. (IAO)
Subject: RE: not that you can or want to talk about it

Can you check with Phoenix and see how much I can share with SIEDO on PATINO? They have noticed all of his purchases and want to know what we are doing about him.

Dennis Fasciani
Analyst Chief
ATF Mexico Country Office

RC-1

From: Booth, David S. (IAO)
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2010 1:52 PM
To: Fasciani, Dennis C.
Subject: not that you can or want to talk about it

CASE TITLE: CHAMBERS, Jacob, et al **CASE NUMBER:** 785115-10-0004

On July 8, 2010, RC-3 ATF agents learned that Uriel PATINO was to purchase numerous firearms on behalf of Francisco Javier PONCE. Agents conducted surveillance as

HOGR ATF - 002652

PATINO purchased ten (10) WASR 7.62 caliber rifles from a local Phoenix FFL. PATINO was followed away and observed to meet with another vehicle and transfer the firearms. Surveillance units followed this vehicle away and coordinated with the Phoenix Police Department to conduct a traffic stop on this second vehicle. The driver was an admitted illegal alien with no valid driver's license. The passenger was identified as Francisco Javier PONCE. The vehicle was towed and an inventory search conducted. The ten (10) WASR 7.62 caliber rifles purchased by PATINO were recovered by ATF agents as part of this investigation. Additionally a handgun was located in the vehicle and the illegal alien driver was arrested and booked as a prohibited possessor for this firearm.

ATF SA David S. Booth
International Affairs Office
Program Manager-Mexico
99 NY Ave. NE, RC-1
Washington, DC 20226

RC-1

HOGRAF - 002653

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2010 3:39 PM
To: Gribble, Christine A.
CC: Simpson, Kevin
Subject: FW: Phoenix Field Division SWB Briefing Paper Submissions
Attachments: Phoenix SWB Submissions 10-29-10.doc

Christine—

Phoenix's submission for the SWB report.

Adios

George T. Gillett
Assistant Special Agent in Charge
ATF - Phoenix Field Division
RC-1

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2010 12:30 PM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Cc: Zicha, Marjorie L.
Subject: Phoenix Field Division SWB Briefing Paper Submissions

George,

Would you please review our division's submissions for the SWB Briefing Paper and forward those to Christine Gribble by COB, today?

Thank you.

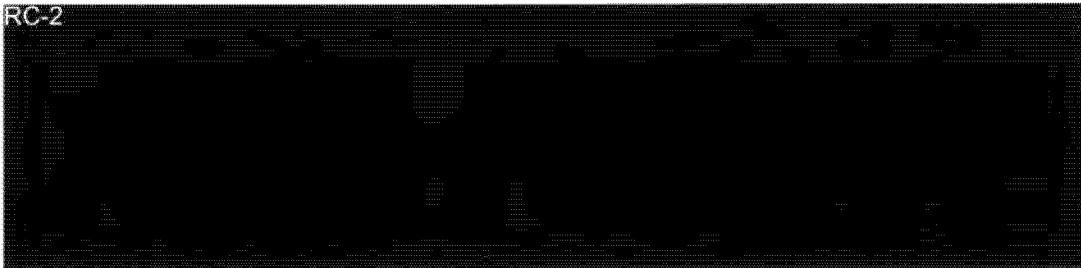
Special Agent Kevin Simpson
Intelligence Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - RC-1
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002654

PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

Liaison, Training, Media, and Other SWB Interaction:



Investigations:

Phoenix II

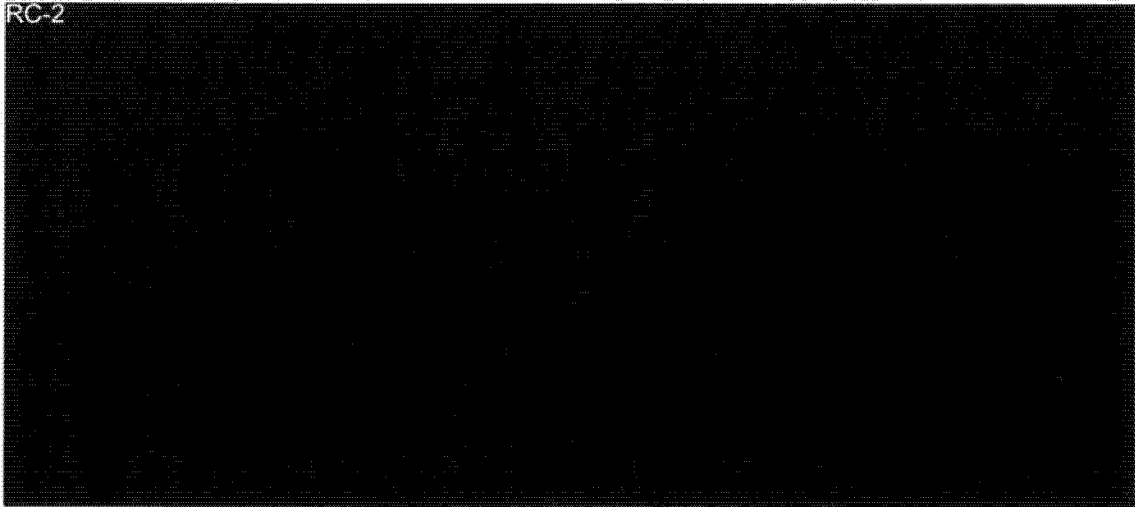


Phoenix VII Gunrunner

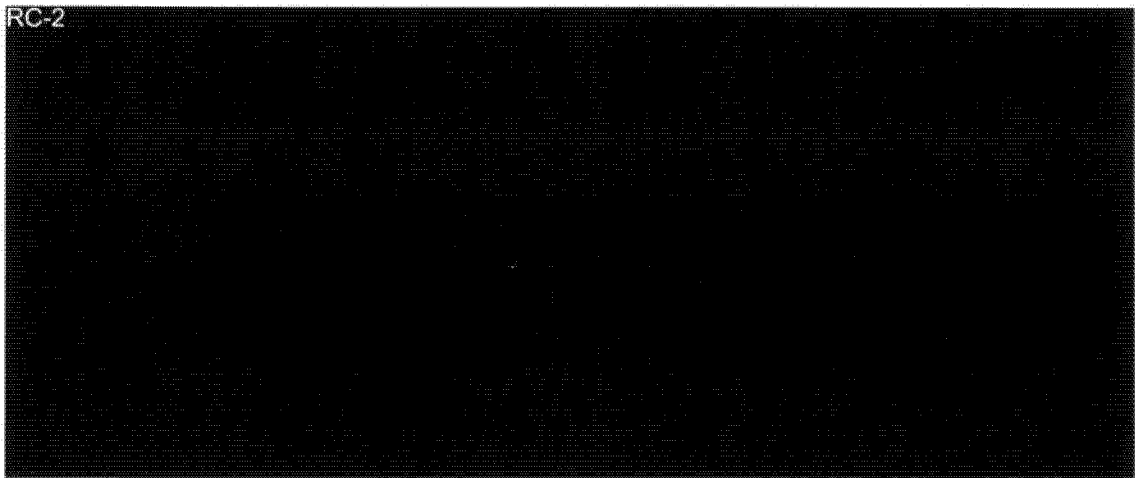
785115-10-0004 Operation Fast and Furious: ATF special agents collaborated with the Peoria, Arizona Police Department on this investigation. Phoenix Group VII participated in the execution of a search warrant conducted by Peoria Detectives. Approximately 30 pounds of marijuana was seized from a known stash house connected to the CELIS-ACOSTA organization. Based on evidence found on scene, special agents believe the marijuana was being shipped to Flint, Michigan for distribution. While on-scene, ATF agents contacted and arrested an ATF fugitive. The subject was allegedly involved in aiding and abetting the distribution of Marijuana, in Michigan. Group VII special agents

HOCR ATF - 002655

submitted this case to the District of Arizona United States Attorney's Office for prosecution.



Tucson II



Tucson IV Gunrunner



From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2011 9:13 AM
To: Gribble, Christine A.
Subject: Fw: Phoenix Field Division SWB Briefing Paper Submissions
Attachments: Phoenix SWB Submissions 01-21-2011.doc

George T. Gillett
ASAC - Phoenix Field Division
RC-1

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From: Simpson, Kevin
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Fri Jan 21 16:44:50 2011
Subject: Phoenix Field Division SWB Briefing Paper Submissions

George,

Please review and forward our division's SWB Briefing Paper Submissions to Christine Gribble by COB, today.
Thank you.

Special Agent Kevin Simpson
Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street RC-1
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

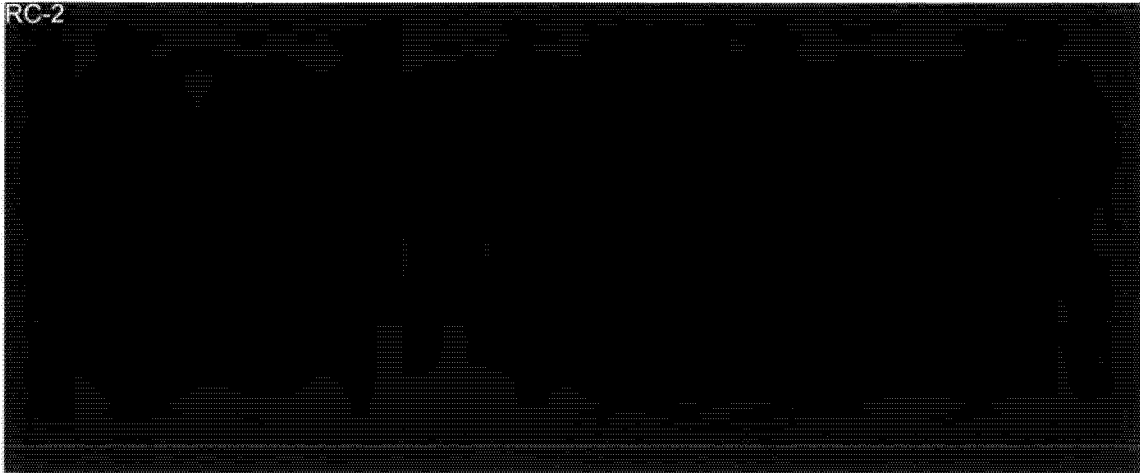
RC-1

HOGRAF - 002657

PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

Liaison, Training, Media, and Other SWB Interaction:

Phoenix VII and Phoenix III

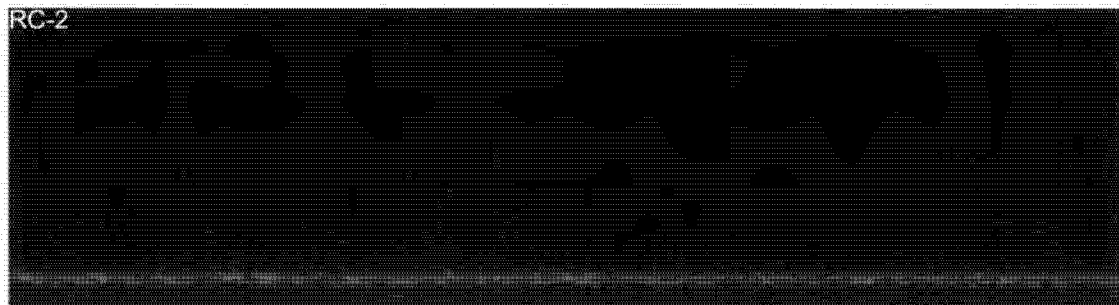


Investigations:

Phoenix VII Gunrunner

785115-10-0004, Operation Fast & Furious: (NOTE: Information is particularly sensitive due to large scale take-down scheduled next week) On January 19, 2011, the Federal Grand Jury in the District of Arizona returned a "true bill" indicting 20 individuals in this firearm trafficking investigation. This was a 53 count indictment charging 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). Twenty arrest warrants and several search warrants will be executed next week during a combined multi-agency law enforcement effort.

Tucson IV Gunrunner



From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 1:42 PM
To: Gribble, Christine A.
Subject: FW: SWB Briefing Paper - Phoenix Field Division Submissions
Attachments: Phoenix SWB Submissions 2-3-10.doc

Christine --

The Phoenix submission.

George

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2010 6:47 PM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Cc: Quinonez, Louis A.; Needles, James R.; Cook, Nancy F.
Subject: SWB Briefing Paper - Phoenix Field Division Submissions

George,

Please review our division's submissions for the SWB Briefing Paper. Our submissions should be forwarded to Christine Gribble by C.O.B. this Friday February 5th.

NOTE: The SAC advised he wanted to see entries from our industry operations groups. I spoke with DIO Cook and emailed each area supervisor. Each area supervisor has provided good submissions, in the past. Each explained they are continuing to look for any appropriate items to report. Many of our industry operations investigators are currently working on an explosives initiative which, to date, has lead to no southwest border related leads.

Thank you.

Kevin Simpson, Acting Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - RC-1
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428
RC-1

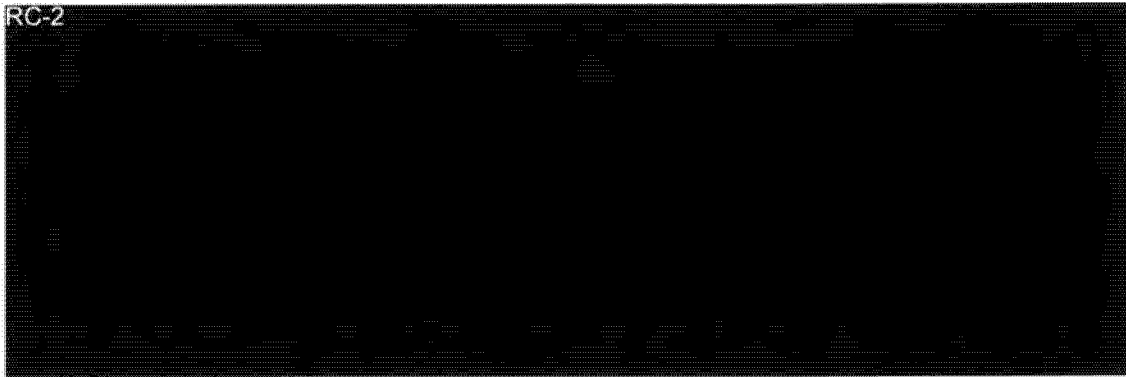
HOGRAF - 002659

PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

Investigations:

Phoenix Group VII

RC-2




785115-10-0004 Jacob Chambers et al

This case is a large scale conspiracy with more than twenty connected straw purchasers. Thus far in the investigation (September through present) the group has purchased over 850 firearms; most of which are the AK-47 variant 7.62 assault rifles and the F.N. Herstal 5.7 mm pistols. Approximately 150 of those firearms have been recovered in Mexico or near the Mexico Border. This past week, members of this organization have purchased two .50 caliber rifles (Bushmaster and Barrett). They have questioned the FFL concerning how to obtain NFA machineguns. Last week, this case was presented by ATF and granted OCDETF status by the Phoenix committee who will forward the proposal to the Houston Regional Committee. ATF is continuing to receive data RC-3

RC-3 as part of this investigation which overwhelmingly shows the connection amongst the straw purchasers and the FFLs. RC-3

RC-3



Tucson Group I

RC-2



From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wednesday, August 18, 2010 8:50 AM
To: Kevin RC; O'Reilly RC-1
Subject: Fw: Guns not viewed in Mexico

Want to give you a good example of the frustration we have in trying to assist Mexico with the firearms trafficking issue. In this judicial district (Arizona), in cases involving the "straw" purchase of firearms eventually recovered in Mexico and where we only have a confession by the "straw" and a falsified ATF F 4473 (form filled out by buyer and licensed gun dealer), the U.S. Attorney's office requests that we have a "U.S. Agent" physically inspect the firearms in Mexico in order to show the jury that the "straw" buyer was in fact part of a trafficking scheme. Other districts don't require this but hey it's Arizona. I appreciate and respect the struggles the USAO has to go through with juries in this State to convince them of the illegality of this. We routinely have "straw" purchasers tell us that "yeah, I knew what I was doing was wrong but the money was good and who cares - the guns are going to Mexico right?". A very typical attitude and until some of these folks start going to prison for violating Federal law then nothing will change. We have some "straw" purchasers who have purchased several hundred "weapons of choice" and made good money doing it but in reality may never get prosecuted. In trying to satisfy the Arizona USAO's request to have the firearms inspected in Mexico in order to be able to introduce that in US Federal court we need Mexico's help but as you can guess it's a major pain to get access to these guns. The longer the guns are in custody in Mexico (40 days+) the deeper in red tape they get buried. If it's less than 40 days since the seizure it "should be" fairly easy but as you know nothing in Mexico is easy or quick. As an example and regarding the August 4th seizure in Nogales, Sonora. Several of the firearms in that seizure are directly linked to a case we are ready to indict here in the Federal system. We had these guns entered into our "Suspect Guns" system so when they were traced in eTrace they "pinged" off this "Suspect Guns" list and our case agent was immediately notified. I then contacted the Sonora PGR "SAC" and had it all worked out to have 2 of my agents accompany 3 PGR reps to see the guns yesterday. There was an official order signed by the PGR which they can do in order to see any evidence being stored at a nearby military base during the prosecution of a case. In Mexico the military bases are used to store most evidence since they are deemed the most "secure". It was all arranged for my guys to travel to Nogales, Sonora yesterday at 9am which they did and where they met 3 very helpful PGR reps. They all then traveled to the nearby military base, order in hand, to view the 3 guns needed in our case in Arizona. Upon arriving at the military they were blocked from seeing the evidence even though the PGR had an properly executed order allowing it. The General ended up getting involved and of course nothing happened after that since it appears he was out of the loop on this which I partly blame myself for but that should have been handled by the Sonora PGR's office. In reality the PGR's "order" a legal document, should have trumped the General's objections but of course it's Mexico and once feelings get hurt all bets are off. Therefore after several unsuccessful attempts to explain our legitimate reasons for being there including our desire to prosecute those responsible for trafficking these firearms my guys came back to Phoenix. This is just one example, many more like it exist where we have repeatedly attempted to inspect firearms seized in Mexico for the specific purpose of using that as evidence in criminal proceedings. What should be a very simple process and something we should be doing all the time is not happening because the Mexicans make it impossible, even when we follow their rules. We are more than willing to address their repeated requests to hold all those involved in the trafficking of firearms accountable to the fullest extent of the law but they need to be part of the solution and not the problem. My agents desperately want to make this work because we see the damage caused by these illegal acts by "straw" purchasers and others involved in trafficking firearms to Mexico. We want to hold them accountable under US law but it won't take many more times of having doors slammed in their faces by the Mexicans before they give up and when that happens Mexico can stop complaining because we tried and they failed.

Bill Newell
 Special Agent in Charge
 ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)
 RC-1

 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: Voth, David J.
To: Newell, William D.
Sent: Fri Aug 13 17:15:23 2010
Subject: Guns not viewed in Mexico

SAC Newell,

Below is a list of guns recovered in Mexico, straw purchased here in Phoenix, that we are submitting for charging in August 2010 as part of GRIT initiative. As you are well aware the USAO in Phoenix wants a US law enforcement officer to view the firearms prior to charging. These firearms have not been previously viewed to the best of my knowledge. This list is only in preparation for the August charging initiative and does not contain every firearms we are alleging or charging.

ATF Case Number	Case Name	Recovery Date	Recovery Location	Firearm type	Serial Number
785115-10-0018	RC-4	4 Aug 10	Nogales, Sonora	TN 5.7 pistol	RC-5
					RC-5
					RC-5
785115-10-0021	RC-4	21-Apr-10	San Dimas, Durango	Romarm/Cugir 7.62 rifle	RC-5
					RC-5
					RC-5
163030-10-0012	RC-4	1-Feb-10	Tepic, Nayarit	Barrett .50 caliber rifle	RC-5
785071-10-0024	RC-4	15-Apr-09	San Miguel, Guerrero	Barrett .50 caliber rifle	RC-5

HOGRA ATF - 002661

785115-10-0023	RC-4	26-Feb-10	Culiacan, Sinaloa	FN PS90 5.7 rifle	RC-5
					RC-5
					RC-5

Thanks for assistance in this matter.

David Voth
Group Supervisor
Phoenix Group VII
RC-1

HGR ATF - 002662

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 2:32 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: RE: Recent ATF Firearms Trafficking Indictments

Would ATF be willing to put you or others in front of US media that gets pickup in Mexico (CNN en Español, perhaps) to tell this story?

Erwin Michael O'Reilly
Director for North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

From: Newell, William D. RC-1
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 1:22 PM
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Subject: Recent ATF Firearms Trafficking Indictments

Kevin as we discussed last night these are some examples of what we could get translated and use in the Mexican media. The first attachment is the press release which goes into some detail of the other cases. The "Fast and Furious" indictment is listed under "U.S. v Avila" and that's the one in which there's an "Introduction" of the techniques used by firearms traffickers and explains the reasons for the charges listed. Also, all these have been unsealed, they were unsealed the day of the press conference.

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HOCR ATF - 002663

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 7:50 PM
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Subject: RE: Wicked One
Attachments: One week in Phoenix - One ATF case.pdf

These pics are just an example of some of the guns, ammo and magazines seized within the past week in Phoenix related to the "large OCDETF case" I mentioned. When a 22 year old kid on State financial assistance walks into a gun store and plops down \$12,000 in cash to buy a tripod mounted .50 caliber rifle that's a clue (even for us) that he's involved in trafficking firearms for a Mexican DTO. Another picture shows the 225 drum magazines we seized from the same group. These are in BIG demand by the Mexican DTOs because each drum hold 75 rounds of 7.62x39mm (AK47) ammo. Each one costs about \$200, depending on where you go, so we they aren't happy we seized approx \$45,000 in merchandise from them but of course money is not a problem for them. If you have any questions, like "how in the hell...?" then feel free to call.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

RC-1

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 3:57 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Re: Wicked One

Well, now that Jeff Stirling is going back to the Mother Ship I expect they'll have the means to do more of that ... he's a good man & he'll be a good ally for you guys (& us).

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

From: Newell, William D. RC-1
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 18:53:52 2010
Subject: RE: Wicked One

Sure, just don't want ATF HQ to find out, especially since this is what they should be doing (briefing you).

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002664

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 3:51 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Wicked One

Wicked One

Even I'd remember that one.

This is great; very informative.

OK to share with Sr Director Dan Rostropo and with CT/CN Director Greg Gajanis?

Would not leave NSS, I assure you.

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

From: Newell, William D. RC-1
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 18:45:51 2010
Subject: RE: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Going very well actually. I attached the most recent weekly "report card" that we send to HQ on Fridays. (Please keep to yourself). I didn't include some of the case highlights because most are on-going criminal cases including a couple of large OCDETF investigations RC-3. Bottom line is that we are on-target to meet our FFL inspection goals as well as eliminate our backlog of "leads". A "lead" is where we have solid information regarding firearms trafficking activity but not enough manpower to work it. The best part about the GRIT for me has been the influx, albeit temporary (100 days), of Special Agents, inspectors, Support Staff, etc. They have allowed us to catch up on the backlog of leads as well as follow up on newer information. They have also been instrumental in supplying much needed ground-level support to several large-scale firearms trafficking investigations with direct links to Mexican DTOs. As an example I have had 10 Special Agents working exclusively in support of a very large OCDETF case involving firearms trafficking by the Sinaloa DTO. These agents have been so busy that they have expressed a desire to extend past the GRIT deadline due to the amount of work still needed on this case, a very good thing. One agent on detail from Miami (another hotbed of firearms trafficking activity as you well know) told me recently "I thought Miami was crazy!". He's never seen this level of illegal firearms trafficking activity before and wants to stay another 30 days just to help out with this case. Most of this has taken place in the Phoenix area. In Tucson we have been working hand in hand with the Tucson PD and have taken off several home invasion crews. This past Friday we arrested a crew whose leader has "Wicked One" tattooed across his forehead, easy to pick out in a lineup.

Bill Newell

HOCR ATF - 002665

Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

RC-1

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 2:56 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Re: GRIT Surge Phoenix

No rush, certainly no forcing action on this, just wondering how's it going.

Take care,

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

From: Newell, William D. RC-1
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 17:54:12 2010
Subject: Re: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Heading back to the office from Phoenix PD HQ, send you some info asap.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

RC-1

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----- Original Message -----

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
To: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 17:52:48 2010
Subject: Fw: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Just an informal "how's it going?"

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002666

DOJ-FF-59022

-----Original Message-----

From: Gatjanis, Gregory T.

To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.; Kendall, Sarah M.

Sent: Wed Jul 28 13:29:53 2010

Subject: RE: GRIT Surge Phoenix

No. Haven't

-----Original Message-----

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M.

Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 12:07 PM

To: Gatjanis, Gregory T.; Kendall, Sarah M.

Subject: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Have we gotten any readout on ATF's GRIT surge in Phoenix & in Arizona?

Regards,

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly

Director

North American Affairs

National Security Staff

The White House

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002667



(This is a TNW Firearms, Model M2HB, .50 caliber rifle. See for yourself at www.tnwfirearms.com)

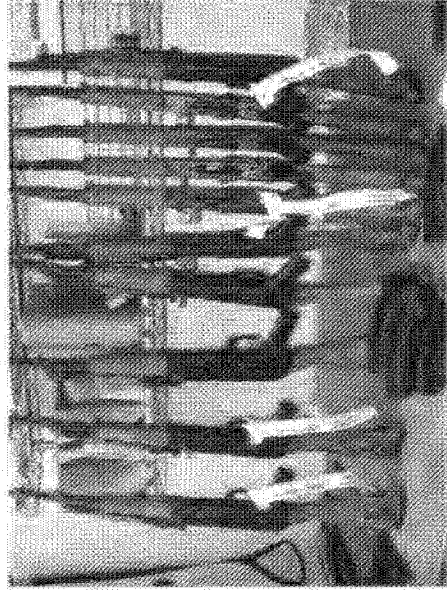
Remember this seizure (see below) in Sonora, Mexico from last year? It was related to the Beltran Leyva DTO. This is the picture that the so-called gun experts said is "***proof that the Mexican Army is supplying the DTOs with firearms because this is definitely a military gun***"....wrong, this gun is also a TNW and was purchased in Tucson, Arizona (part of another OCDEF case). I had two agents from Tucson travel to Hermosillo, Mexico and physically inspect this firearm and the other .50 caliber firearm seized – a Barrett, Model 82A from Tennessee



HOCR ATF - 002668



Each drum magazine holds about 75-100 rounds of ammo – it depends on the caliber, and each retails for about \$200. Mostly sold at gun shows and they'll sell out within an hour after the doors open and mostly to "suspicious looking" individuals....



10 AK-47 semi-auto rifles bought by two females headed south to Mexico through Nogales. We had Arizona DPS stop them in order not to compromise the bigger case and when asked about the guns their first response was "guns, what guns?" Since they didn't claim ownership we took an abandonment until the "real owners" come to claim them, which of course we aren't expecting anytime soon.



"Bag o guns" – they had just purchased these second-hand at the Phoenix gun show. Were headed to Mexico.



4,000 rounds of 7.62x39mm and 500 rounds of .38 Super – bound for Mexico now in our custody.

HOGRAF - 002670

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 6:45 PM
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Subject: RE: GRIT Surge Phoenix
Attachments: July 19 - 23 2010 GRIT Performance Report.NSC.docx

Going very well actually. I attached the most recent weekly "report card" that we send to HQ on Fridays. (Please keep to yourself). I didn't include some of the case highlights because most are on-going criminal cases including a couple of large OCDETF investigations [RC-3]. Bottom line is that we are on-target to meet our FFI inspection goals as well as eliminate our backlog of "leads". A "lead" is where we have solid information regarding firearms trafficking activity but not enough manpower to work it. The best part about the GRIT for me has been the influx, albeit temporary (100 days), of Special Agents, Inspectors, Support Staff, etc. They have allowed us to catch up on the backlog of leads as well as follow up on newer information. They have also been instrumental in supplying much needed ground-level support to several large-scale firearms trafficking investigations with direct links to Mexican DTOs. As an example I have had 10 Special Agents working exclusively in support of a very large OCDETF case involving firearms trafficking by the Sinaloa DTO. These agents have been so busy that they have expressed a desire to extend past the GRIT deadline due to the amount of work still needed on this case, a very good thing. One agent on detail from Miami (another hotbed of firearms trafficking activity as you well know) told me recently "I thought Miami was crazy!". He's never seen this level of illegal firearms trafficking activity before and wants to stay another 30 days just to help out with this case. Most of this has taken place in the Phoenix area. In Tucson we have been working hand in hand with the Tucson PD and have taken off several home invasion crews. This past Friday we arrested a crew whose leader has "Wicked One" tattooed across his forehead, easy to pick out in a lineup.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)
[RC-1]

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. [RC-1]
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 2:56 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Re: GRIT Surge Phoenix

No rush, certainly no forcing action on this, just wondering how's it going.

Take care,

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

[RC-1]

HOCR ATF - 002671

DOJ-FF-59027

From: Newell, William D. RC-1
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 17:54:12 2010
Subject: Re: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Heading back to the office from Phoenix PD HQ. send you some info asap.
Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
ATT Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

RC-1

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----- Original Message -----

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
To: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 17:52:48 2010
Subject: Fw: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Just an informal "how's it going?"

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

----- Original Message -----

From: Gatjanis, Gregory T.
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.; Kendall, Sarah M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 13:29:53 2010
Subject: RE: GRIT Surge Phoenix

No. I haven't

----- Original Message -----

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 12:07 PM
To: Gatjanis, Gregory T.; Kendall, Sarah M.
Subject: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Have we gotten any readout on ATT's GRIT surge in Phoenix & in Arizona?

Regards,

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002672

**Phoenix Gun Runner Impact Teams (GRIT)
Performance Report**

GRIT Performance for Reporting Period July 19 – July 23, 2010		
	Reporting Period	Since Inception
Number of Investigative Leads at the Start of GRIT (May 1, 2010)	N/A	25
Number of New Investigative Leads	5	135
Total Leads		160
Number of Leads Investigated	6	101
Number of New Actual Criminal Cases Opened	1	45
Number of Existing Investigations Supported by GRIT	0	76
Number of Defendants Recommended for Prosecution	1	21
Number of Referrals to U.S. LE Agencies	0	0
Number of Liaison Activities with the Gov. of Mexico	1	6
Number of Firearms/Other Evidence Seized/Recovered by ATF or Other LE Agencies Acting on ATF Information	5 firearms 26 Ammo Rounds \$0.00 Currency 17.6 Cocaine 67.1 grams Meth 0 grams Marijuana	1,096 Firearms 45,558 Rounds of Ammunition \$800.00 currency 552.6 grams Cocaine 415.1 grams Methamphetamine 104.9 g. Marijuana Other
Number of FFL Inspections Initiated	27	535
Number of FFL Inspections Completed	46	393
FFL Adverse Actions Recommended:		
Number of Warning Letters/Warning Conferences	4	46
Number of Revocations (Recommended by Division and Concurred by HQ)	0	0
Number of Licenses Surrendered in Lieu of Revocation	0	0
Number of Criminal Enforcement Referrals Made by IOIs to ATF LE	6	91

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2010 5:33 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: RE: Wicked One

Have you been pulled into this discussion about an arms trafficking roundtable/conference in Mexico City sometime in late Sept/early Oct?

Kevin Michael O'Reilly
Director for North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

From: Newell, William D. RC-1
Sent: Monday, August 09, 2010 9:17 AM
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Subject: RE: Wicked One

Got another one last week, a .50 caliber semi-auto. Headed for Sinaloa DTO. Part of the same "large OCDETF case" I mentioned previously. We should be indicting in early October.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

RC-1

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 4:50 PM
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Subject: RE: Wicked One

These pics are just an example of some of the guns, ammo and magazines seized within the past week in Phoenix related to the "large OCDETF case" I mentioned. When a 22 year old kid on State financial assistance walks into a gun store and plops down \$12,000 in cash to buy a tripod mounted .50 caliber rifle that's a clue (even for us) that he's involved in trafficking firearms for a Mexican DTO. Another picture shows the 225 drum magazines we seized from the same group. These are in BIG demand by the Mexican DTOs because each drum hold 75 rounds of 7.62x39mm (AK47) ammo. Each one costs about \$200, depending on where you go, so we they aren't happy we seized approx \$45,000 in merchandise from them but of course money is not a problem for them. If you have any questions, like "how in the hell...?" then feel free to call.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002674

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 3:57 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Re: Wicked One

Well, now that Jeff Stirling is going back to the Mother Ship I expect they'll have the means to do more of that ... he's a good man & he'll be a good ally for you guys (& us).

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

From: Newell, William D. RC-1
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 18:53:52 2010
Subject: RE: Wicked One

Sure, just don't want ATF HQ to find out, especially since this is what they should be doing (briefing you)

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

RC-1

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 3:51 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Wicked One

Wicked One.

Even I'd remember that one.

This is great, very informative.

OK to share with Sr Director Dan Restrepo and with CT/CN Director Greg Gatjanis?

Would not leave NSS, I assure you.

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

HOCR ATF - 002675

RC-1

From: Newell, William D. RC-1
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 18:45:51 2010
Subject: RE: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Going very well actually. I attached the most recent weekly "report card" that we send to HQ on Fridays. (Please keep to yourself). I didn't include some of the case highlights because most are on-going criminal cases including a couple of large OCDETF investigations. RC-3 Bottom line is that we are on-target to meet our FFL inspection goals as well as eliminate our backlog of "leads". A "lead" is where we have solid information regarding firearms trafficking activity but not enough manpower to work it. The best part about the GRIT for me has been the influx, albeit temporary (100 days), of Special Agents, Inspectors, Support Staff, etc. They have allowed us to catch up on the backlog of leads as well as follow up on newer information. They have also been instrumental in supplying much needed ground level support to several large-scale firearms trafficking investigations with direct links to Mexican DTOs. As an example I have had 10 Special Agents working exclusively in support of a very large OCDETF case involving firearms trafficking by the Sinaloa DTO. These agents have been so busy that they have expressed a desire to extend past the GRIT deadline due to the amount of work still needed on this case, a very good thing. One agent on detail from Miami (another hotbed of firearms trafficking activity as you well know) told me recently "I thought Miami was crazy!". He's never seen this level of illegal firearms trafficking activity before and wants to stay another 30 days just to help out with this case. Most of this has taken place in the Phoenix area. In Tucson we have been working hand in hand with the Tucson PD and have taken off several home invasion crews. This past Friday we arrested a crew whose leader has "Wicked One" tattooed across his forehead, easy to pick out in a lineup.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

RC-1

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 2:56 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Re: GRIT Surge Phoenix

No rush, certainly no forcing action on this, just wondering how's it going.

Take care,

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002676

From: Newell, William D. RC-1
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 17:54:12 2010
Subject: Re: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Heading back to the office from Phoenix PD HQ, send you some info asap.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)
RC-1

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----- Original Message -----

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
To: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 17:52:48 2010
Subject: Fw: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Just an informal "how's it going?"

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

----- Original Message -----

From: Gatjanis, Gregory T.
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.; Kendall, Sarah M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 13:29:53 2010
Subject: RE: GRIT Surge Phoenix

No, I haven't

-----Original Message-----

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 12:07 PM
To: Gatjanis, Gregory T.; Kendall, Sarah M.
Subject: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Have we gotten any readout on ATF's GRIT surge in Phoenix & in Arizona?

Regards,

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002677

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HGR ATF - 002678

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 6:57 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Re: Wicked One

Well, now that Jeff Stirling is going back to the Mother Ship I expect they'll have the means to do more of that ... he's a good man & he'll be a good ally for you guys (& us).

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

From: Newell, William D. RC-1
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 18:53:52 2010
Subject: RE: Wicked One

Sure, just don't want ATF HQ to find out, especially since this is what **they** should be doing (briefing you):

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

RC-1

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 3:51 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Wicked One

Wicked One.

Even I'd remember that one.

This is great; very informative.

OK to share with Sr Director Dan Restrepo and with CT/CN Director Grog Gatjanis?

Would not leave NSS, I assure you.

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

HOGR ATF - 002679

RC-1

From: Newell, William D. RC-1
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 18:45:51 2010
Subject: RE: GRIT Surge Phoenix

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Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

RC-1

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 2:56 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Re: GRIT Surge Phoenix

No rush, certainly no forcing action on this, just wondering how's it going.

Take care,

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002680

From: Newell, William D. RC-1
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 17:54:12 2010
Subject: Re: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Heading back to the office from Phoenix PD HQ, send you some info asap.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

RC-1

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----- Original Message -----

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
To: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 17:52:48 2010
Subject: Fw: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Just an informal "how's it going?"

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

----- Original Message -----

From: Gatjanis, Gregory T.
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.; Kendall, Sarah M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 13:29:53 2010
Subject: RE: GRIT Surge Phoenix

No, I haven't

-----Original Message-----

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 12:07 PM
To: Gatjanis, Gregory T.; Kendall, Sarah M.
Subject: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Have we gotten any readout on ATF's GRIT surge in Phoenix & in Arizona?

Regards,

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002681

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 6:53 PM
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Subject: RE: Wicked One

Sure, just don't want ATF HQ to find out, especially since this is what **they** should be doing (briefing you)!

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)
RC-1 [REDACTED]

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1 [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 3:51 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Wicked One

Wicked One.

Even I'd remember that one.

This is great: very informative.

OK to share with Sr Director Dan Restrepo and with CT/CN Director Greg Galjanis?

Would not leave NSS. I assure you.

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1 [REDACTED]

From: Newell, William D. RC-1 [REDACTED]
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 18:45:51 2010
Subject: RE: GRIT Surge Phoenix

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HOCR ATF - 002682

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Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)
RC-1

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 2:56 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Re: GRIT Surge Phoenix

No rush, certainly no forcing action on this, just wondering how's it going.

Take care,

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

From: Newell, William D. RC-1
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 17:54:12 2010
Subject: Re: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Heading back to the office from Phoenix PD HQ, send you some info asap.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)
RC-1

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----- Original Message -----

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1

HOGRAF - 002683

DOJ-FF-59039

To: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 17:52:48 2010
Subject: Fw: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Just an informal "how's it going?"

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

----- Original Message -----

From: Gatjanis, Gregory T.
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.; Kendall, Sarah M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 13:29:53 2010
Subject: RE: GRIT Surge Phoenix

No. I haven't

-----Original Message-----

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 12:07 PM
To: Gatjanis, Gregory T.; Kendall, Sarah M.
Subject: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Have we gotten any readout on ATF's GRIT surge in Phoenix & in Arizona?

Regards,

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002684

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 5:54:12 PM
To: 'Kevin RC-1 O'Reilly RC-1'
Subject: Re: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Heading back to the office from Phoenix PD HQ, send you some info asap.
Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)
RC-1 [REDACTED]

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----- Original Message -----

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M. RC-1 [REDACTED]
To: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 17:52:48 2010
Subject: Fw: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Just an informal "how's it going?"

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

RC-1 [REDACTED]

----- Original Message -----

From: Gatjanis, Gregory T.
To: O'Reilly, Kevin M.; Kendall, Sarah M.
Sent: Wed Jul 28 13:29:53 2010
Subject: RE: GRIT Surge Phoenix

No. I haven't

-----Original Message-----

From: O'Reilly, Kevin M.
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2010 12:07 PM
To: Gatjanis, Gregory T.; Kendall, Sarah M.
Subject: GRIT Surge Phoenix

Have we gotten any readout on ATF's GRIT surge in Phoenix & in Arizona?

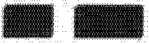
Regards,

Kevin O'

Kevin M O'Reilly
Director
North American Affairs
National Security Staff
The White House

HOCR ATF - 002685

RC-1



HOGRA TF - 002686

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Thursday, April 08, 2010 8:04 PM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.; Needles, James R.
Subject: FW: El Paso - Phoenix connections

Just FYI, no action needed.

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Thursday, April 08, 2010 4:54 PM
To: Hall, Steven M.; Kushner, Michael A.; Martinez, Jesus M. (DEA-US); Medina, Luis (DEA-US); Christian, Scott S.; Carrizal, Shannon L; English, Tonya A.; MacAllister, Hope A.
Subject: El Paso - Phoenix connections

To all;

My name is David Voth and I am the ATF Group Supervisor for Phoenix Group VII, which is the Southwest Border Firearms Trafficking Group.

On a current OCDETF case we are investigating here in Phoenix we have strong connections to El Paso, TX. Without going into too much detail we have over 60 firearms purchased by our suspects here in Phoenix recovered in El Paso, the most recent being last night/today. RC-3 [REDACTED] and one of our suspects has made multiple trips to El Paso, TX in the last few weeks. Also we have suspects that are residents of Phoenix, AZ that utilize the El Paso Port of Entry to cross into (or return from) Mexico.

My goal is not to hinder any agencies investigation but rather to enhance all of our cases. I am suggesting that we arrange a conference call between Phoenix (DEA & ATF) and El Paso (DEA & ATF) next Monday to share information.

Thanks to all in advance,

David Voth
Group Supervisor
Phoenix Group VII
RC-1 [REDACTED]

HOGRAF - 002687

From: Hoover, William J.
Sent: Wednesday, August 04, 2010 2:34 PM
To: Melson, Kenneth E.; Siskel, Edward N. (ODAG) (SMO) (JMD)
CC: Chait, Mark R.; Michalic, Vivian B.; McMahon, William G.; Michalic, Mark (ODAG) (SMO) (JMD)
Subject: Significant Incident Report
Attachments: 50handleupedited.jpg

Ken and Ed,

Please see the following report from Phoenix re the seizure of a TNW, 50. Caliber, Semi-automatic rifle. I have attached a photo of which represents the rifle seized.

On August 3, 2010 as part of an ongoing Southwest Border Firearms Trafficking OCDETF^{RC-3} investigation being conducted by Phoenix Group VII agents seized a TNW, U.S. Government Model HB M2, 50 caliber semi-auto rifle. This firearm sells at retail for over \$12,000.00. This is the second TNW 50 caliber firearm recovered by ATF agents during and in relation to this investigation. This firearm constitutes a substantial increase on behalf of the organization both financially and with respect to firepower; this firearm must be fired mounted on a tripod or vehicle, fires belt-fed ammunition, weighs over 100 pounds and is over 5 feet long.

Billy

William J. Hoover
Executive Assistant Director
RC-1

HOGRAF - 002688



M63 Mount Shown

HOCR ATF - 002689

From: Smith, Brad (ODAG) RC-1
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2011 2:58 PM
To: Hoover, William J.
Subject: FW: Follow Up From Conference Call

FYI

From: Johnston, Deborah A. (ODAG)
Sent: Friday, March 11, 2011 3:08 PM
To: Smith, Brad (ODAG)
Subject: FW: Follow Up From Conference Call

Here it is:

From: Cole, James (SMO)
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2011 8:22 PM
To: Grindler, Gary (OAG); Monaco, Lisa (ODAG); Goldberg, Stuart (ODAG)
Subject: FW: Follow Up From Conference Call

Jim

From: Cole, James (SMO)
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2011 8:22 PM
To: Moreno, Angel (USATXS); Murphy, John E. (USATXW); Burke, Dennis (USAAZ); Gonzales, Kenneth (USANM); Duffy, Laura (USACAS)
Subject: Follow Up From Conference Call

Dear USAs:

Thank you for your time this evening, I wanted to send this just to summarize our telephone conversation and inform those of you who were unable to participate.

First, thank you for the work you do to fight gun trafficking. It is very important.

As I said on the call, to avoid any potential confusion, I want to reiterate the Department's policy: We should not design or conduct undercover operations which include guns crossing the border. If we have knowledge that guns are about to cross the border, we must take immediate action to stop the firearms from crossing the border, even if that prematurely terminates or otherwise jeopardizes an investigation.

We know you have difficult jobs to do and we fully support and appreciate your efforts to stop the flow of firearms through the apprehension and prosecution of all responsible parties.

As I said on our call, please make sure the SACs in your districts understand the policy.

Jim

HOGRAF - 002690

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2010 1:06 PM
To: MacAllister, Hope A.; English, Tonya A.; Sonnendecker, Mark
Subject: FW: Investigations
Attachments: Voth Tracking.xlsx

RC-5	Avila, Jaime	5/21/2010	19:00	RC-5	Sale of a Handgun
	Montelongo, Jacob	5/21/2010	21:11		Sale of a Long Gun
	Patino, Uriel	5/22/2010	19:45		Sale of a Long Gun
	Patino, Uriel	5/22/2010	20:25		Sale of a Handgun and Long Gun

Wouldn't be great if we were up on RC-3 anyway 4 transactions, the only one I knew of was Montelongo.

From: chamberlain RC-1
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2010 10:02 AM
To: Voth, David J.
Subject: Investigations

David,

There were four more transactions over the weekend. The updated spreadsheet is attached. Let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks,
Marc

Marc Chamberlain
NICS Liaison Specialist
FBI NICS Section

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002691

From: Wall, Jose T.
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2010 4:10 PM
To: English, Tonya A.
CC: MacAllister, Hope A.
Subject: RE: guns from [RC-5] Gunmen

Tonya, I have not done an n-force on this since I had very little information. I now have some but am on leave.

Jose

From: English, Tonya A.
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2010 11:36 AM
To: Wall, Jose T.
Subject: RE: guns from [RC-5] Gunmen

Jose,

Ref this seizure? Is there a recovery report out there on it? Are you completing a report since you viewed the firearms?
(Please disregard if Hope already hit you up with these questions...)

Thank you,

Tonya

From: English, Tonya A.
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2010 3:04 PM
To: Voth, David J.; Wall, Jose T.
Cc: MacAllister, Hope A.
Subject: RE: guns from [RC-5] Gunmen

Of the serial numbers listed below:

1974DN3738 (Chambers)

1985ZS4516 [RC-4]

1971DD1479 (Moore)

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2010 1:44 PM
To: English, Tonya A.
Subject: FW: guns from [RC-5] Gunmen

From: Wall, Jose T.
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2010 1:02 PM
To: Hopper, Casey E.; Gamboa, Aaron J.
Cc: Henderson, Frank J.; Leadmon, Lorren D.; MacAllister, Hope A.; Voth, David J.
Subject: guns from "El Teo" Gunmen

Casey and Aaron, we just got back from viewing some guns that were taken last night from a group of gunmen tied to the "el teo" organization. Supposedly they were on their way to kill the Public Safety Secretary Lt Col. Leyzaola, when they were intercepted by the State Police (PEP). They were armed with five long guns and five handguns, vests etc.

From examination of the guns these look like the same type of weapons that are coming from Phoenix and that we have been seen in other cases tied to [RC-4]

HOGRAF - 002692

Below are the guns.

Four of the guns are Romania, Romarm GP WASR 10/63 UP AK-47 type rifles, 7.62X39mm, all had been converted to fire full auto and were in good condition. The Importer, as in the others, is CAI, Georgia, VT. With the following serial numbers: RC-5

One is an Alexander Arms LLC, US Army Radford Arsenal, BEOWULF .50 caliber rifle, made on a Rock River Arms LAR-15 receiver, Cleveland, Ill, serial number obliterated

Two are FN HERSTAL 5 7 semi-auto pistols, caliber 5.7mmX28mm, imported by FNH USA, Fredricksburg, VA one obliterated serial number the other RC-5

One Ruger P94, 9mm pistol, serial RC-5 made in Southport, Conn, USA by Ruger

One EAA Witness, caliber .38 super, semi-auto pistol, serial number RC-5 made in Italy imported by EAA Cocoa, Fla

One Smith and Wesson, Model 39-2, 9mm semi-auto pistol, serial number RC-5

Jose T. Wall
ATF Senior Special Agent
US Consulate General
Tijuana, Mexico

RC-1

HOGR ATF - 002693

DOJ-FF-59049

From: Gamboa, Aaron J.
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 2:46 PM
To: MacAllister, Hope A.; English, Tonya A.; Medina, Jose L.
CC: Searcy, Lucia B.; Henderson, Frank J.; Trejo, Luis E.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; Nelson, Helgi P.; Campbell, Serena M.; Ballesteros, Jose J.; Fasciani, Dennis C.; Leadmon, Lorren D.; Kruthaupt, Alex J.
Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered in MEXICO RC-5

ATF IN Number: 785115-10-0004
Suspect Gun File Number: RC-5
Suspect Gun submission request date: 12/17/2009
Recovered: 08/01/2010
Location: CHIHUAHUA, CH, MEXICO
Suspects: N/A

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO//USO OFICIAL SOLAMENTE

atfsealcolor

UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO//USO OFICIAL SOLAMENTE

NFORCE: 162080-11-0001

Title: DECOMISO – SEIZURE BULLETIN – 08/01/2009 – CHIHUAHUA, CHIHUAHUA

IRS: Atalo Simental Jr.

Date: August 1, 2009

Event: Authorities raided a “Safe-house” with suspected ties to the Juarez Cartel and seized firearms

Location: Chihuahua, Chihuahua

Case Number: Not Specified

Arrests:

- 1 subject, identification is pending

Criminal Group/Org.: Juarez Cartel

Firearms/Explosives:

- 3 unspecified caliber rifles

- 1 unspecified caliber handgun

Magazines: N/A

Ammunition: N/A

Tactical Equipment: N/A

Uniforms: N/A

Communication Equipment: N/A

Currency: N/A

Other Objects: N/A

Drugs: N/A

Vehicles: N/A

Synopsis: On August 1, 2009, Authorities raided a “Safe-house” with suspected ties to the Juarez Cartel and seized firearms in Chihuahua, Chihuahua. Authorities seized 3 rifles, and 1 handgun.

(Español): 1 de Agosto, 2009. - Cuatro armas detrás de 100 ejecuciones.

HOGR ATF - 002694

BOLETINES OFICIALES

PRENSA

Archivo de la etiqueta: chihuahua

Cuatro armas detrás de 100 ejecuciones.

- agosto 2, 2009 – 1:54 am
- Escrito en Sin categoría
- Etiquetado chihuahua, La Línea
- Dejar un comentario

Son tres rifles de asalto semiautomáticos y una pistola, que llegaron a manos de sicarios del cártel de Juárez o La Línea, como se autodenomina ahora. Con esas armas, aseguradas por el Ejército durante el cateo a una casa de seguridad del grupo criminal en la ciudad de Chihuahua, pudieron haberse cometido más de 100 asesinatos o ejecuciones ordenadas por el grupo criminal que heredó y comanda en la actualidad Vicente Carrillo Fuentes, El Viceroy.

El armamento, entre el que se hallaba un rifle entregado como arma de cargo a un comandante policiaco —que ahora está detenido por servir a los intereses del cártel de Juárez—, fue vinculado a una lista de 96 casos de narcoejecuciones y en las que hubo dobles y hasta triples homicidios. La sospecha es que los tres fusiles y la pistola tuvieron participación en esa lista de narcoejecuciones cometidas en diferentes puntos de Chihuahua.

A la Dirección General de Servicios Periciales de la Procuraduría General de Justicia de Chihuahua (PGJC) se le encargó cotejar el tipo de armas y cartuchos utilizados para cometer los más de 10 asesinatos. Sin embargo, el responsable de esa tarea, el director Pedro Aragonez, fue acribillado durante el transcurso de la investigación.

El crimen contra el funcionario, lo mismo que otros 100 más que se investigan, fue atribuido al cártel de Juárez, cuyos principales operadores en Chihuahua son José Luis Ledesma, El JL, El Mónico, y El Tapicero. Ellos, apoyados por el grupo de ex militares metidos a sicarios conocido como Los Lince y la red de policías corruptos que los protegen, han desatado una guerra en la entidad contra el cártel de Sinaloa, o los también llamados Gente Nueva, que ha cobrado miles de víctimas en los últimos tres años.

El actual jefe del cártel de Juárez o La Línea, Vicente Carrillo Fuentes, asumió el mando de la organización tras la muerte de su hermano, Amado Carrillo Fuentes, El señor de los cielos. Desde ese momento hasta ahora ha mantenido un férreo control de la organización, con el uso de la violencia sin límites. Ejemplo del nivel de terror que han impuesto sus acciones en Chihuahua, son precisamente los más de asesinatos presuntamente cometidos con las armas investigadas en este caso.

El aseguramiento La mañana del 17 de febrero de 2008, en el cuartel de la quinta Zona Militar, el general Felipe Espitia Hernández fue notificado de una llamada anónima que ubicaba a un grupo de gente armada en la granja situada en el número 601 de la Calle 87, esquina con la Calle 25, en la colonia Aeropuerto, en la capital de Chihuahua. La voz de un hombre —según el reporte oficial— informó que varios sujetos entraban y salían de ese inmueble con armas.

Fue todo lo que dijo el denunciante anónimo. Con esos datos, de inmediato se dispuso una operación militar para acudir al lugar. Sin embargo, como en casi todas las acciones de este tipo, al llegar los soldados no estaba ya ni uno de los sujetos que fueron vistos con las armas. Pero en su huida, los delincuentes no pudieron llevarse varios paquetes de marihuana, dos vehículos y cuatro armas y cartuchos que fueron asegurados de inmediato.

Lo que llamó la atención del general Espitia Hernández fue la presencia en aquel sitio de un arma larga con

HOCR ATF - 002695

registro oficial ante la Secretaría de la Defensa Nacional (Sedena), además de una serie de documentos oficiales.

Eran recibos de nómina de elementos de la Agencia Estatal de Investigación de Chihuahua, recetas médicas, solicitudes de vacaciones y hasta roles y zonas de trabajo de agentes de esa corporación. El jefe de la zona militar pidió de inmediato la intervención de las autoridades.

El grupo de fiscales y peritos de la PGJC que fue comisionado para recabar todas y cada una de las evidencias elaboraron un informe pormenorizado de lo hallado en el lugar.

Reportaron que además de los documentos oficiales, se decomisaron tres rifles de asalto semiautomáticos y una pistola Smith & Wesson, alrededor de 150 cartuchos útiles de diferentes calibres, una camioneta Suburban color azul, placas DZP 57-37, y una camioneta Toyota blindada, sin placas, de color plateado.

La participación de policías corruptos como parte de la red de protección al cártel de Juárez se veía venir casi de forma natural. Ahí estaban sus nombres, sus pertenencias y hasta un arma oficial. A final de cuentas, en el caso, la Subprocuraduría de Investigación Especializada en Delincuencia Organizada (SIEDO) defendría a seis elementos de la Agencia Estatal de Investigación de Chihuahua.

La investigación de las armas

Sólo hasta 67 días después del cateo en la granja donde se incautaron las armas, el fiscal encargado de la investigación pidió al entonces director de Servicios Periciales, Pedro Aragonez, aplicar los peritajes a las evidencias.

El 25 de julio de 2008 envió al extinto funcionario el oficio 207/2008 para elaborar los análisis de fotografía, planimetría, química, genética y balística, además del cotejo del tipo de armas usadas en 96 narcoejecuciones cometidas entre el 30 de enero de 2002 y el 7 de febrero de 2008.

Casi en forma inmediata, Aragonez informó al fiscal sobre el origen de las armas.

La pistola Browning calibre 40, número de serie 2W5NW50348 y un cargador para 15 cartuchos, fue fabricada en Bélgica por la empresa Smith and Wesson; el rifle de asalto GP WASR-10, con número de serie borrado, provenía de Rumania y podía abastecerse con cargadores de 35 a 45 cartuchos; el rifle Bushmaster XM15, con número de serie borrado y con porta cargadores de 30 cartuchos, fabricado en Estados Unidos; el rifle G36V, fabricado en Alemania por la empresa Heckler y Koch, número de serie 83-0005489, estaba registrado por la Defensa Nacional.

Tres días más tarde —70 días después de hallar del armamento—, el mismo fiscal pidió a la subprocuradora María del Pilar Pérez de la Fuente buscar en los registros oficiales si uno de los tres rifles detectados en el operativo del 17 de febrero era propiedad de la Procuraduría estatal. Ello no obstante que desde un principio el personal Ejército mexicano reportó que existía la probabilidad de que elementos de la Agencia Estatal de Investigación de Chihuahua pudieran estar asociados con el grupo delictivo que habitaba el sitio donde se efectuó el operativo militar.

Una semana más tarde, se agregó a la carpeta de investigación CAI-285/2008 la respuesta de la subprocuradora Pérez de la Fuente. El informe señalaba que el arma larga con matrícula 83-0005489 estaba registrada en la licencia colectiva de armas 192, expedida en favor de la Procuraduría del estado, y lo más inquietante era que ese rifle estaba asignado al agente A de la Policía Ministerial, Luis Humberto Peralta Hernández.

La muerte de Aragonez

La tarde del 11 de agosto, tres meses después de iniciar las investigaciones sobre las armas y la posible vinculación de éstas en las más de 10 narcoejecuciones, el director de Servicios Periciales de Chihuahua, Pedro

Aragonez, fue asesinado por un comando armado.

El crimen se cometió cuando el funcionario viajaba a bordo de una camioneta Durango por la calle de Itzalco, en la colonia El Saucito, en compañía de su chofer que sobrevivió al ataque de los sicarios, que huyeron por la avenida Francisco Villa, en la capital chihuahuense.

El homicidio del director de Servicios Periciales de Chihuahua fue ordenado por El Mónico, de acuerdo con la declaración de Martín Hugo Valenzuela Rivera, El H-8, hombre originario de Durango que fue reclutado por el cártel de Juárez, primero como vigilante de calles y al que posteriormente se le entrenó para asesinar.

Él confesó que estando con El Mónico en Ciudad Cuauhtémoc escuchó cuando fue informado de la ejecución del funcionario. "Vámonos, ya cayó otro", le dijo su jefe a El H-8 antes de emprender el regreso a Chihuahua. De vuelta a esa ciudad, El Chuma o H-9 le comentó a Valenzuela Rivera que "ya había caído el de servicios periciales. Que le había tocado ejecutarlo cuando se les había perdido a Los Lince, y que en esa ejecución también participaron de campanas policías ministeriales"

"Era uno de periciales que andaba en una camioneta Durango, que esta persona lo acompañaba su chofer, pero que solamente le había dado al objetivo. El H-9 ha participado en otras ejecuciones, es muy buen tirador. Hemos ido a entrenar tiro a la sierra y disparamos contra pinos o piedras con R-15 o Cuerno de chivo, siempre es muy preciso en sus disparos. He visto sus jales en el periódico", dijo a los fiscales.

Las "narcoejecuciones"

La primera de las más de 100 ejecuciones ligadas con el narcotráfico en las que pudieron estar involucradas las armas halladas por personal del Ejército mexicano, y que investigaba la Dirección de Servicios Periciales, fue la contenida en el expediente 277/02. Para ello se cotejaban 17 casquillos recogidos en la escena del crimen en la que asesinaron el 30 de enero de 2002 al ex agente judicial de esa entidad Federico Ceniceros Torres, a quien cesaron en aquel entonces por la desaparición de parte de un cargamento de droga confiscado a narcotraficantes en Ciudad Juárez.

El crimen contra Ceniceros Torres, de 39 años de edad, fue cometido con un arma de asalto AK-47, de las llamadas Cuerno de chivo —similar a la que investigaba la Dirección de Servicios Periciales—, cuando se dirigía de Ciudad Juárez a El Paso, Texas, a bordo de una camioneta tipo van, Chevrolet, modelo 1989. Una camioneta Dodge Durango se le emparejó y desde ahí le dispararon. La unidad de la víctima chocó contra una malla metálica, a un lado de la avenida Heroico Colegio Militar, casi a su cruce con la calle de Costa Rica, en la zona norte de Ciudad Juárez.

La última de las narcoejecuciones en las que se suponía fueron utilizadas algunas de las armas aseguradas el 17 de febrero de 2008, se trató de un doble homicidio cometido en el estacionamiento del centro comercial Wal-Mart de Chihuahua, apenas 10 días antes de que los militares las descubrieran en la granja de la colonia Aeropuerto.

En esa ocasión un comando armado asesinó con rifles de asalto a Osvaldo Loya Carmona y a Nicanor Loya Sánchez, cuando apenas salían del centro comercial y subían a una camioneta pick up Ford línea Lobo, de color rojo.

El doble crimen en Chihuahua aquella mañana del jueves 7 de febrero de 2008 sacudió al municipio de Camargo, ya que la familia Loya es ampliamente conocida e influyente en esa población.

Para aclarar este doble asesinato, los peritos de la procuraduría del estado de Chihuahua, al mando en ese momento de Pedro Aragonéz, se encargaban de cotejar los más de 80 casquillos del armamento tipo AK-47 que fueron recogidos por las autoridades en el estacionamiento del centro comercial, ubicado en la avenida Periférico de la Juventud, del fraccionamiento Haciendas del Valle de la entidad, pero hasta hoy se ignora cuál fue el

HOGRAF - 002697

resultado de las investigaciones de balística forense en todas las narcoejecuciones.

Source: <http://elblogdelnarco.wordpress.com/tag/chihuahua/>

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO//USO OFICIAL SOLAMENTE

Aaron Joshua Gamboa
ATF Research Specialist
Project Gunrunner
Gun Desk, El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC)

RC-1

Subject: Suspect Gun Firearm recovered, MEXICO

Case Agents: HOPE MACALLISTER
TONYA ENGLISH
JOSE MEDINA

The National Tracing Center (NTC) has received a Trace request for the above listed firearm. To prevent the NTC from releasing information that may jeopardize your investigation, please choose one of the following. It is extremely important that if your case is still active that you state whether or not we may conduct a Trace on this firearm.

A written response (email communication is sufficient) is required within 7 days of initial notification regarding this email. If a response is not received within this time frame the NTC may be compelled to release trace summary information to the requestor.

All information regarding this and any other trace requests can be obtained by using eTrace. In the event that you do not have access, access can be requested by contacting the Law Enforcement Support Branch at 304-260-1500 or 800-788-7133.

Please advise as to whether your case is:

- a) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors for only this firearm.
- b) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors. (This is to be applied to all remaining firearms in this Suspect Gun file)
- c) Active - NTC may not release Trace disposition history to other Requestors.
- d) Inactive - NTC will release Trace disposition to other Requestors.

Suspect Gun Details:

ATF IN Number: 785115-10-0004

Suspect Gun File Number:

RC-5

Suspect Gun submission request date: 12/17/2009

Trace details regarding firearm recovery:

Serial Number:

RC-5

Manufacturer:

ROMARM/CUGIR

HOCR ATF - 002698

Type: RIFLE
Caliber: 762
Model: GP WASR 10/63UF
Recovered: 08/01/2010
Location: CHIHUAHUA, CH, MEXICO
Suspects: N/A

Trace Requestor: C-4 CENAPI, INFORMATION CENTER COMBATTING, RC-1
Requesting Agency: MEXICO CITY, MEXICO
Phone Number: None Provided

Trace Requestor: C-4 CENAPI, INFORMATION CENTER COMBATTING, RC-1
Requesting Agency: MEXICO CITY, MEXICO
Phone Number: None Provided

THIS US SOURCED FIREARM WAS RECOVERED IN MEXICO. FOR DETAILS RELATING TO THE SEIZURE, PLEASE CONTACT
ATF-EPIC BRANCH CHIEF, FRANK HENDERSON VIA E-MAIL OR AT RC-1

Serena Campbell
Suspect Gun Program
Team Sage-Research Assistant
ATF National Tracing Center

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002699

From: Gamboa, Aaron J.
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 5:57 PM
To: MacAllister, Hope A.; English, Tonya A.; Medina, Jose L.
CC: Searcy, Lucia B.; Henderson, Frank J.; Trejo, Luis E.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; Nelson, Helgi P.; Campbell, Serena M.; Ballesteros, Jose J.; Leadmon, Lorren D.; Kruthaupt, Alex J.
Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered in MEXICO RC-5

ATF IN Number: 785115-10-0004
Suspect Gun File Number: RC-5
Suspect Gun submission request date: 12/17/2009
Recovered: 08/01/2010
Location: CHIHUAHUA, CH, MEXICO
Suspects: N/A

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO//USO OFICIAL SOLAMENTE



UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO//USO OFICIAL SOLAMENTE

NFORCE: 162080-11-0001

Title: DECOMISO – SEIZURE BULLETIN – 08/01/2010 – CHIHUAHUA, CHIHUAHUA

IRS: Atalo Simental Jr.

Date: August 1, 2010

Event: Authorities raided a “Safe-house” with suspected ties to the Juarez Cartel and seized firearms

Location: Chihuahua, Chihuahua

Case Number: Not Specified

Arrests:

- 1 subject, identification is pending

Criminal Group/Org.: Juarez Cartel

Firearms/Explosives:

- 3 unspecified caliber rifles

- 1 unspecified caliber handgun

Magazines: N/A

Ammunition: N/A

Tactical Equipment: N/A

Uniforms: N/A

Communication Equipment: N/A

Currency: N/A

Other Objects: N/A

Drugs: N/A

Vehicles: N/A

Synopsis: On August 1, 2010, Authorities raided a “Safe-house” with suspected ties to the Juarez Cartel and seized firearms in Chihuahua, Chihuahua. Authorities seized 3 rifles, and 1 handgun.

(Español): 1 de Agosto, 2009.- Cuatro armas detrás de 100 ejecuciones.

HOCR ATF - 002700

BOLETINES OFICIALES

PRENSA

Archivo de la etiqueta: chihuahua

Cuatro armas detrás de 100 ejecuciones.

- agosto 2, 2009 – 1:54 am
- Escrito en Sin categoría
- Etiquetado chihuahua, La Línea
- Dejar un comentario

Son tres rifles de asalto semiautomáticos y una pistola, que llegaron a manos de sicarios del cártel de Juárez o La Línea, como se autodenomina ahora. Con esas armas, aseguradas por el Ejército durante el cateo a una casa de seguridad del grupo criminal en la ciudad de Chihuahua, pudieron haberse cometido más de 100 asesinatos o ejecuciones ordenadas por el grupo criminal que heredó y comanda en la actualidad Vicente Carrillo Fuentes, El Viceroy.

El armamento, entre el que se hallaba un rifle entregado como arma de cargo a un comandante policiaco —que ahora está detenido por servir a los intereses del cártel de Juárez—, fue vinculado a una lista de 96 casos de narcoejecuciones y en las que hubo dobles y hasta triples homicidios. La sospecha es que los tres fusiles y la pistola tuvieron participación en esa lista de narcoejecuciones cometidas en diferentes puntos de Chihuahua.

A la Dirección General de Servicios Periciales de la Procuraduría General de Justicia de Chihuahua (PGJC) se le encargó cotejar el tipo de armas y cartuchos utilizados para cometer los más de 10 asesinatos. Sin embargo, el responsable de esa tarea, el director Pedro Aragonez, fue acribillado durante el transcurso de la investigación.

El crimen contra el funcionario, lo mismo que otros 100 más que se investigan, fue atribuido al cártel de Juárez, cuyos principales operadores en Chihuahua son José Luis Ledesma, El JL, El Mónico, y El Tapicero. Ellos, apoyados por el grupo de ex militares metidos a sicarios conocido como Los Linceos y la red de policías corruptos que los protegen, han desatado una guerra en la entidad contra el cártel de Sinaloa, o los también llamados Gente Nueva, que ha cobrado miles de víctimas en los últimos tres años.

El actual jefe del cártel de Juárez o La Línea, Vicente Carrillo Fuentes, asumió el mando de la organización tras la muerte de su hermano, Amado Carrillo Fuentes, El señor de los cielos. Desde ese momento hasta ahora ha mantenido un férreo control de la organización, con el uso de la violencia sin límites. Ejemplo del nivel de terror que han impuesto sus acciones en Chihuahua, son precisamente los más de asesinatos presuntamente cometidos con las armas investigadas en este caso.

El aseguramiento La mañana del 17 de febrero de 2008, en el cuartel de la quinta Zona Militar, el general Felipe Espitia Hernández fue notificado de una llamada anónima que ubicaba a un grupo de gente armada en la granja situada en el número 601 de la Calle 87, esquina con la Calle 25, en la colonia Aeropuerto, en la capital de Chihuahua. La voz de un hombre —según el reporte oficial— informó que varios sujetos entraban y salían de ese inmueble con armas.

Fue todo lo que dijo el denunciante anónimo. Con esos datos, de inmediato se dispuso una operación militar para acudir al lugar. Sin embargo, como en casi todas las acciones de este tipo, al llegar los soldados no estaba ya ni uno de los sujetos que fueron vistos con las armas. Pero en su huida, los delincuentes no pudieron llevarse varios paquetes de marihuana, dos vehículos y cuatro armas y cartuchos que fueron asegurados de inmediato.

Lo que llamó la atención del general Espitia Hernández fue la presencia en aquel sitio de un arma larga con

HOGRAF - 002701

registro oficial ante la Secretaría de la Defensa Nacional (Sedena), además de una serie de documentos oficiales.

Eran recibos de nómina de elementos de la Agencia Estatal de Investigación de Chihuahua, recetas médicas, solicitudes de vacaciones y hasta roles y zonas de trabajo de agentes de esa corporación. El jefe de la zona militar pidió de inmediato la intervención de las autoridades.

El grupo de fiscales y peritos de la PGJC que fue comisionado para recabar todas y cada una de las evidencias elaboraron un informe pormenorizado de lo hallado en el lugar.

Reportaron que además de los documentos oficiales, se decomisaron tres rifles de asalto semiautomáticos y una pistola Smith & Wesson, alrededor de 150 cartuchos útiles de diferentes calibres, una camioneta Suburban color azul, placas DZP 57-37, y una camioneta Toyota blindada, sin placas, de color plateado.

La participación de policías corruptos como parte de la red de protección al cártel de Juárez se veía venir casi de forma natural. Ahí estaban sus nombres, sus pertenencias y hasta un arma oficial. A final de cuentas, en el caso, la Subprocuraduría de Investigación Especializada en Delincuencia Organizada (SIEDO) detendría a seis elementos de la Agencia Estatal de Investigación de Chihuahua.

La investigación de las armas

Sólo hasta 67 días después del cateo en la granja donde se incautaron las armas, el fiscal encargado de la investigación pidió al entonces director de Servicios Periciales, Pedro Aragonez, aplicar los peritajes a las evidencias.

El 25 de julio de 2008 envió al extinto funcionario el oficio 207/2008 para elaborar los análisis de fotografía, planimetría, química, genética y balística, además del cotejo del tipo de armas usadas en 96 narcoejecuciones cometidas entre el 30 de enero de 2002 y el 7 de febrero de 2008.

Casi en forma inmediata, Aragonez informó al fiscal sobre el origen de las armas.

La pistola Browning calibre 40, número de serie 2W5NW50348 y un cargador para 15 cartuchos, fue fabricada en Bélgica por la empresa Smith and Wesson; el rifle de asalto GP WASR-10, con número de serie borrado, provenía de Rumania y podía abastecerse con cargadores de 35 a 45 cartuchos; el rifle Bushmaster XM15, con número de serie borrado y con porta cargadores de 30 cartuchos, fabricado en Estados Unidos; el rifle G36V, fabricado en Alemania por la empresa Heckler y Koch, número de serie 83-0005489, estaba registrado por la Defensa Nacional.

Tres días más tarde —70 días después de hallar del armamento—, el mismo fiscal pidió a la subprocuradora María del Pilar Pérez de la Fuente buscar en los registros oficiales si uno de los tres rifles detectados en el operativo del 17 de febrero era propiedad de la Procuraduría estatal. Ello no obstante que desde un principio el personal Ejército mexicano reportó que existía la probabilidad de que elementos de la Agencia Estatal de Investigación de Chihuahua pudieran estar asociados con el grupo delictivo que habitaba el sitio donde se efectuó el operativo militar.

Una semana más tarde, se agregó a la carpeta de investigación CAI-285/2008 la respuesta de la subprocuradora Pérez de la Fuente. El informe señalaba que el arma larga con matrícula 83-0005489 estaba registrada en la licencia colectiva de armas 192, expedida en favor de la Procuraduría del estado, y lo más inquietante era que ese rifle estaba asignado al agente A de la Policía Ministerial, Luis Humberto Peralta Hernández.

La muerte de Aragonez

La tarde del 11 de agosto, tres meses después de iniciar las investigaciones sobre las armas y la posible vinculación de éstas en las más de 10 narcoejecuciones, el director de Servicios Periciales de Chihuahua, Pedro

HOCR ATF - 002702

Aragonez, fue asesinado por un comando armado.

El crimen se cometió cuando el funcionario viajaba a bordo de una camioneta Durango por la calle de Itzalco, en la colonia El Saucito, en compañía de su chofer que sobrevivió al ataque de los sicarios, que huyeron por la avenida Francisco Villa, en la capital chihuahuense.

El homicidio del director de Servicios Periciales de Chihuahua fue ordenado por El Mónico, de acuerdo con la declaración de Martín Hugo Valenzuela Rivera, El H-8, hombre originario de Durango que fue reclutado por el cártel de Juárez, primero como vigilante de calles y al que posteriormente se le entrenó para asesinar.

Él confesó que estando con El Mónico en Ciudad Cuauhtémoc escuchó cuando fue informado de la ejecución del funcionario. "Vámonos, ya cayó otro", le dijo su jefe a El H-8 antes de emprender el regreso a Chihuahua. De vuelta a esa ciudad, El Chuana o H-9 le comentó a Valenzuela Rivera que "ya había caído el de servicios periciales. Que le había tocado ejecutarlo cuando se les había perdido a Los Linceos, y que en esa ejecución también participaron de campanas policías ministeriales"

"Era uno de periciales que andaba en una camioneta Durango, que esta persona lo acompañaba su chofer, pero que solamente le había dado al objetivo. El H-9 ha participado en otras ejecuciones, es muy buen tirador. Hemos ido a entrenar tiro a la sierra y disparamos contra pinos o piedras con R-15 o Cuerno de chivo, siempre es muy preciso en sus disparos. He visto sus jales en el periódico", dijo a los fiscales.

Las "narcoejecuciones"

La primera de las más de 100 ejecuciones ligadas con el narcotráfico en las que pudieron estar involucradas las armas halladas por personal del Ejército mexicano, y que investigaba la Dirección de Servicios Periciales, fue la contenida en el expediente 277/02. Para ello se cotejaban 17 casquillos recogidos en la escena del crimen en la que asesinaron el 30 de enero de 2002 al ex agente judicial de esa entidad Federico Ceniceros Torres, a quien cesaron en aquel entonces por la desaparición de parte de un cargamento de droga confiscado a narcotraficantes en Ciudad Juárez.

El crimen contra Ceniceros Torres, de 39 años de edad, fue cometido con un arma de asalto AK-47, de las llamadas Cuerno de chivo —similar a la que investigaba la Dirección de Servicios Periciales—, cuando se dirigía de Ciudad Juárez a El Paso, Texas, a bordo de una camioneta tipo van, Chevrolet, modelo 1989. Una camioneta Dodge Durango se le emparejó y desde ahí le dispararon. La unidad de la víctima chocó contra una malla metálica, a un lado de la avenida Heroico Colegio Militar, casi a su cruce con la calle de Costa Rica, en la zona norte de Ciudad Juárez.

La última de las narcoejecuciones en las que se suponía fueron utilizadas algunas de las armas aseguradas el 17 de febrero de 2008, se trató de un doble homicidio cometido en el estacionamiento del centro comercial Wal Mart de Chihuahua, apenas 10 días antes de que los militares las descubrieran en la granja de la colonia Aeropuerto.

En esa ocasión un comando armado asesinó con rifles de asalto a Osvaldo Loya Carmona y a Nicanor Loya Sánchez, cuando apenas salían del centro comercial y subían a una camioneta pick up Ford línea Lobo, de color rojo.

El doble crimen en Chihuahua aquella mañana del jueves 7 de febrero de 2008 sacudió al municipio de Camargo, ya que la familia Loya es ampliamente conocida e influyente en esa población.

Para aclarar este doble asesinato, los peritos de la procuraduría del estado de Chihuahua, al mando en ese momento de Pedro Aragonéz, se encargaban de cotejar los más de 80 casquillos del armamento tipo AK-47 que fueron recogidos por las autoridades en el estacionamiento del centro comercial, ubicado en la avenida Periférico de la Juventud, del fraccionamiento Haciendas del Valle de la entidad, pero hasta hoy se ignora cuál fue el

HOCR ATF - 002703

resultado de las investigaciones de balística forense en todas las narcoejecuciones.

Source: <http://elblogdelnarco.wordpress.com/tag/chihuahua/>

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED//~~FOUO~~//USO OFICIAL SOLAMENTE

Aaron Joshua Gamboa
ATF Research Specialist
Project Gunrunner
Gun Desk, El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC)

RC-1

From: Campbell, Serena M.
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2011 1:09 PM
To: MacAllister, Hope A.; English, Tonya A.; Medina, Jose L.
Cc: Searcy, Lucia B.; Gamboa, Aaron J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; Nelson, Helgi P.
Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered in MEXICO, RC-5

Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO.

Case Agents: HOPE MACALLISTER
TONYA ENGLISH
JOSE MEDINA

The National Tracing Center (NTC) has received a Trace request for the above listed firearm. To prevent the NTC from releasing information that may jeopardize your investigation, please choose one of the following. It is extremely important that if your case is still active that you state whether or not we may conduct a Trace on this firearm.

A written response (email communication is sufficient) is required within 7 days of initial notification regarding this email. If a response is not received within this time frame the NTC may be compelled to release trace summary information to the requestor.

All information regarding this and any other trace requests can be obtained by using eTrace. In the event that you do not have access, access can be requested by contacting the Law Enforcement Support Branch at 304-260-1500 or 800-744-7122.

Please advise as to whether your case is:

- a) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors for only this firearm.
- b) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors. (This is to be applied to all remaining firearms in this Suspect Gun file)
- c) Active - NTC may not release Trace disposition history to other Requestors.
- d) Inactive - NTC will release Trace disposition to other Requestors.

Suspect Gun Details:

ATF IN Number: 785115-10-0004

Suspect Gun File Number:

RC-5

Suspect Gun submission request date: 12/17/2009

HOCR ATF - 002704

Trace details regarding firearm recovery:

Serial Number: RC-5
Manufacturer: ROMARM/CUGIR
Type: RIFLE
Caliber: 762
Model: GP WASR 10/63UF
Recovered: 08/01/2010
Location: CHIHUAHUA, CH, MEXICO
Suspects: N/A

Trace Requestor: C-4 CENAPI, INFORMATION CENTER COMBATTING, RC-1
Requesting Agency: MEXICO CITY, MEXICO
Phone Number: None Provided

Trace Requestor: C-4 CENAPI, INFORMATION CENTER COMBATTING, RC-1
Requesting Agency: MEXICO CITY, MEXICO
Phone Number: None Provided

THIS US SOURCED FIREARM WAS RECOVERED IN MEXICO. FOR DETAILS RELATING TO THE SEIZURE, PLEASE CONTACT ATF-EPIC BRANCH CHIEF, FRANK HENDERSON VIA E-MAIL OR AT RC-1

Serena Campbell
Suspect Gun Program
Team Sage-Research Assistant
ATF National Tracing Center
RC-1

HOGR ATF - 002705

From: MacAllister, Hope A.
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2009 1:24 PM
To: English, Tonya A.; Medina, Jose L.
Subject: FW: Additional straw purchaser

From: Kruthaupt, Alex J.
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2009 8:58 AM
To: Zicha, Marjorie L.
Cc: MacAllister, Hope A.; Leadmon, Lorren D.
Subject: Additional straw purchaser

FYI

This trace just came in this morning. [RC-4] is associated to [RC-4] via [RC-3] [RC-4] also had a Ak come back to the Mexicali Seizure.

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES
NATIONAL TRACING CENTER**
Phone: (800) 788-7133 Fax: (800) 578-7223
Print Date: December 17, 2009



FIREARMS TRACE SUMMARY

FTS ID: [RC-5] Request Date: 12/11/2009

SALVADOR OCHOA
IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENF.
425 I STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20536

Badge No:
Investigation No:

PURCHASER INFORMATION

Purchase Date: 11/19/2009

[RC-4]

UNITED STATES

DOB: [RC-4]

POB: [RC-4] UNITED STATES

Race: WHITE Height: 5 0 10 in.

Sex: Male Weight: 200 lbs

ID 1: SOCIAL SECURITY # [RC-4]

ID 2: AZ DRIVER'S LICENSE # [RC-4]

FIREARM INFORMATION

Manufacturer: ROMARM/CUGIR

Model: GP WASR 10/63EF

Caliber: 762

Serial Number: [RC-5]

Type: RIFLE

Country: ROMANIA

Importer: CENTURY ARMS INC (CAI), ST. ALBANS, VT

Obliterated:

Identifying Marks:

NIBIN:

Gang Name:

RECOVERY INFORMATION

Recovery Date: 12/09/2009
Time to Crime: 20 days

MEXICALI, BJ
MEXICO

Possessor:

DOB:

POB:

DEALER INFORMATION

[RC-5]

[RC-5]

HOGRA ATF - 002706

UNITED STATES

Phone: RC-5

Ship Date: 10/16/2009

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

THE DESCRIBED FIREARM WAS TRACED TO AN INDIVIDUAL PURCHASER. THE NATIONAL TRACING CENTER HAS BEEN ADVISED BY THE FINAL FEDERAL FIREARMS LICENSEE THAT THE PURCHASER HAS ACQUIRED ADDITIONAL FIREARMS FROM THEIR BUSINESS.

Additional Remarks:

ADDED IMPORTER CENTURY ARMS

The information in this report must be validated prior to use in any criminal proceedings. This report does not constitute a fulfillment of the Interstate Nexus requirement in any Federal, State or Administrative legal process or litigation. That expert testimony or Interstate Nexus determination is made through trained experts who must be contacted at the local ATF Field Office or Field Division Directorate.

Sensitive but Unclassified - For Official Use Only

HQGR ATF - 002707

From: Searcy, Lucia B.
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2009 12:05 AM
To: MacAllister, Hope A.; English, Tonya A.; Medina, Jose L.
CC: Henderson, Frank J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; Greene, Amy J.; Shirley, Natalie M.; Nelson, Helgi P.; Lauffer, Kristen E.; Kruthaupt, Alex J.; Leadmon, Lorren D.; Ballesteros, Jose J.; Gamboa, Aaron J.
Subject: RE: URGENT TRACES Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO. RC-5

Due By: Tuesday, January 02, 1601 12:00 PM

ATF IN Number: 785115-10-0004
Suspect Gun File Number: RC-5
Suspect Gun submission request date: 11/27/2009
Recovered: 12/10/2009, ICE lists recovery as 12/9/2009
Location: MEXICALI, BJ, MEXICO
Suspects: RC-4

Case Agents: Hope MacAllister, Tonya English & Jose Medina

Remarks: Please contact Aaron Gamboa if you need access to this general case file to view PGR report and EPIC 10 results.

NFORCE: 164020-10-0001
Title: DECOMISO – SEIZURE BULLETIN – 12/09/2009 – MEXICALI, BAJA CALIFORNIA
IRS: Atalo Simental Jr.
Date: December 9, 2009
Event: Mexican Military seized over \$2 Million dollars, an arsenal, and drugs
Location: Inside a warehouse located in Colonia Industrial, in Mexicali, Baja California
Case Number: Not Specified
Arrests:

RC-4

Criminal Group/Org.: Not Specified

Firearms: Explosives:

- 47 rifles
- 1 handgun

HOGR ATF - 002708

Magazines:

- 57 magazines

Ammunition:

- 329 rounds of ammunition

Tactical Equipment: N/A

Uniforms: N/A

Communication Equipment: N/A

Currency:

- \$868,580 pesos

- \$ 2,126,450 dollars

Other Objects: N/A

Drugs: N/A

Vehicles:

- 2 buses

- 3 vehicles

Synopsis: On December 9, 2009, Mexican Military seized over \$2 Million dollars, an arsenal, and drugs inside a warehouse located in Colonia Industrial, in Mexicali, Baja California. Authorities arrested 9 subjects, seized 47 rifles, 1 handgun, 57 magazines, 329 rounds of ammunition, currency, and vehicles.

Aaron Joshua Gamboa

ATF Research Specialist

Project Gunrunner

Gun Desk, El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC)

RC-1

<https://www.opensource.gov/public/Holdings/11376982/11376982.html>

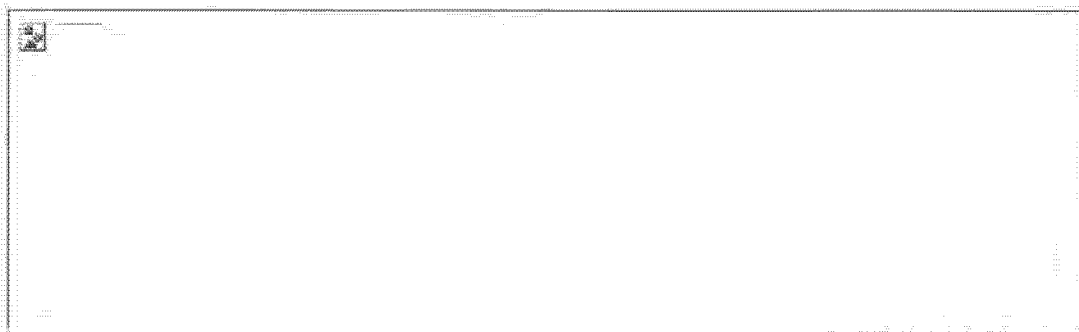
To download/view video. Click link below photo and save .wmv file. I will put the video in the NFORCE seizure event file as a source document

Video Clip -- Mexican Military Seizes Weapons, Drugs, Money in Mexicali

LAP20091212070002 Mexicali *La Cronica.com* in Spanish 11 Dec 09

[For assistance with multimedia elements, contact OSC at 1-800-205-8615 or oscinfo@rccb.osis.gov.]

Mexicali *La Cronica.com* on 10 December aired the following video of weapons, drugs, money, and trucks seized by military personnel from the 23rd Motorized Cavalry Regiment.



HOCR ATF - 002709

[Click here](#) to view the 4-minute clip

The following are the OSC-translated subtitles

The Army Presents

12 people [arrested], weapons, drugs, money, and trucks seized

The Army presents the weapons and drugs seized and individuals arrested during yesterday's seizure. The national defense secretary, through the 2nd Military Zone, announces the following information to all Baja California residents:

Military personnel from the 23rd Motorized Cavalry Regiment, responding to an anonymous citizen report, stated that at the Colonia Industrial neighborhood in Mexicali, two buses from the Transportes Integrados Mexicanos line went inside, suspiciously, a warehouse, where there were armed men. This resulted in the seizure of: 47 long weapons, one short gun, 57 magazines of various calibers, 340 shells 7.62 caliber 39 mm, and 52 .223 cal shells. Also seized were \$2,126,450 and 868,580 Mexican pesos. A total of 421,600 kg of cocaine and 60,700 kg of methamphetamines were also seized. Three compact vehicles and two buses were seized too, and 12 people holding this merchandise were arrested. The individuals detained are: Guahutemoc Quinoz Luna, 35; Jose Espinosa Flores, 39; Ruben Rocha Bojorquez, 36; Jose Armando Hernandez Iribe, 46; Jose German Madrigal Guzman, 32; Clemente Espinosa Sierra, 31; Francisco Javier Landeros Cardenas, 50; Jose Ismael Alvarez Sicauros, 54; Gonzalo Beltran Beltran, 31; Eduardo Ruiz Bustamantes, 49; and Mariano Garcia Aguilar, 42, all of them from Culiacan, Sinaloa. Additionally Gabriel Izarraga Martinez, 43, from Mazatlan, Sinaloa was arrested.

In its communique, the No.2 headquarters of the military region reports the following: these results reflects the active and decisive participation of citizens, the effectiveness of government agencies like the state's C4, and the effectiveness and timing of the Armed Forces, which means that the people and the government are making progress in the same path and with the same objective. However, for the Mexican Army and Air Force, it is clear that there is still a great deal to be done and that our best ally is the people. Therefore, the troops of the 2nd Military Zone will not take any steps back and will continue fighting with the same energy all around Baja California State to curb drug trafficking and organized crime in all its forms.

Finally, we encourage and invite the people to continue placing its trust in their Armed Forces in order to put an end to drug trafficking and organized crime in Baja California State and recover room for financial and social development. They end by encouraging people to place their anonymous reports at the following number [not given]. This communique is signed by the No.2 headquarters of the military region. For cronica.com, this was Yerson Martinez reporting.

[Description of Source: Mexicali La Cronica.com in Spanish -- Website of independent daily from Baja California State, part of Editores del Noroeste, S.A.; URL: <http://www.lacronica.com>]

Kristen Lauffer
Intelligence Research Specialist
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
SWB Field Intelligence Support Team

HOCR ATF - 002710

RC-1

From: Nelson, Helgi P.
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2009 7:17 AM
To: MacAllister, Hope A.; English, Tonya A.; Medina, Jose L.
Cc: Searcy, Lucia B.; Henderson, Frank J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; Greene, Amy J.; Shirley, Natalie M.
Subject: URGENT TRACES Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO RC-5

Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO.

Case Agents: MacAllister, Medina and English

These traces have been stopped and closed at your direction.

The National Tracing Center (NTC) has received a Trace request for the above listed firearm. To prevent the NTC from releasing information that may jeopardize your investigation, please choose one of the following. It is extremely important that if your case is still active that you state whether or not we may conduct a Trace on this firearm.

A written response (email communication is sufficient) is required within 7 days of initial notification regarding this email. If a response is not received within this time frame the NTC may be compelled to release trace summary information to the requestor.

All information regarding this and any other trace requests can be obtained by using On-Line LEAD and/or eTrace. In the event that you do not have access, access can be requested by contacting the Law Enforcement Support Branch at 309-260-1500 or 800-728-7133.

Please advise as to whether your case is:

- a) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors for only this firearm.
- b) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors. **(This is to be applied to all remaining firearms in this Suspect Gun file)**
- c) Active - NTC may not release Trace disposition history to other Requestors.
- d) Inactive - NTC will release Trace disposition to other Requestors.

Suspect Gun Details:

ATF IN Number: 785115-10-0004

Suspect Gun File Number: RC-5

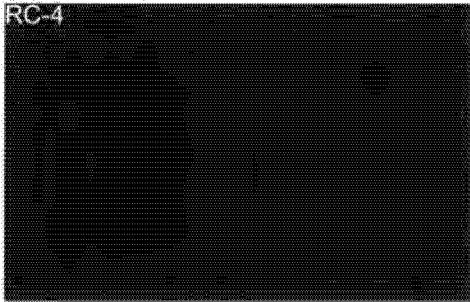
Suspect Gun submission request date: 11/27/2009

Trace details regarding firearm recovery:

Serial Number: RC-5
Manufacturer: RMC
Type: R
Caliber: 762
Model: GP WASR

HOCR ATF - 002711

Recovered: 12/10/2009, ICE lists recovery as 12/9/2009
Location: MEXICALI, BJ, MEXICO
Suspects:



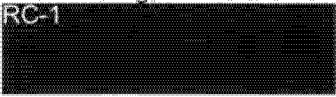
Trace Requestor: JOSE WALL
Requesting Agency: ATF, TUCSON, AZ
Phone Number: RC-1

Trace Requestor: C-4 CENAPI, INFORMATION CENTER COMBATTING, RC-1
Requesting Agency: MEXICO CITY, MEXICO
Phone Number: None Provided

Trace Requestor: SALVADOR OCHOA
Requesting Agency: IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENF.
Phone Number: RC-1

THIS US SOURCED FIREARM WAS RECOVERED IN MEXICO. FOR DETAILS RELATING TO THE SEIZURE, PLEASE CONTACT
ATF-EPIC BRANCH CHIEF, FRANK HENDERSON VIA E-MAIL OR AT RC-1

Helgi Nelson
Program Analyst
ATF National Tracing Center
244 Needy Rd.
Martinsburg, WV 25405-9431



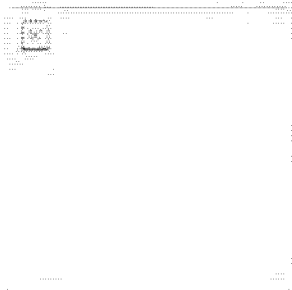
From: English, Tonya A.
Sent: Thursday, July 01, 2010 5:24 PM
To: MacAllister, Hope A.
Subject: Fw: MEXICO RECOVERY Suspect Gun firearms (5) recovered, MEXICO DNT, SG 4818.

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: Gamboa, Aaron J.
To: English, Tonya A.
Cc: Searcy, Lucia B.; Henderson, Frank J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.; Haddix, Serena; Ballesteros, Jose J.; Fasciani, Dennis C.; Leadmon, Lorren D.; Lauffer, Kristen E; Kruthaupt, Alex J.
Sent: Thu Jul 01 15:23:11 2010
Subject: MEXICO RECOVERY Suspect Gun firearms (5) recovered, MEXICO DNT, RC-5

ATF IN Number: 785115-10-0004
Suspect Gun File Number: RC-5
Suspect Gun submission request date: 11/30/2009, 12/07/2009
Recovered: 06/24/2010
Location: MEXICALI, BJ, Mexico
Suspects: RC-4 Sean STEWARD

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO//USO OFICIAL SOLAMENTE



UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO//USO OFICIAL SOLAMENTE

NFORCE: 162080-10-0001
Title: DECOMISO – SEIZURE BULLETIN – 06/24/2010 – TIJUANA, BAJA CALIFORNIA
IRS: Atalo Simental Jr.
Date: June 24, 2010
Event: Authorities received anonymous information, seized abandoned drugs and firearms
Location: Tijuana, Baja California
Case Number: Not Specified
Arrests:
- None
Criminal Group/Org.: Not Specified
Firearms/Explosives:
- 6 AK-47 type firearms
Magazines:
- 10 AK-47 type magazines
Ammunition:
- 355 7.62x39 caliber rounds

HOCR ATF - 002713

Tactical Equipment: N/A

Uniforms: N/A

Communication Equipment: N/A

Currency: N/A

Other Objects: N/A

Drugs:

- 900 grams of ICE

Vehicles: N/A

Synopsis: On June 24, 2010, Authorities received anonymous information, seized abandoned drugs and firearms in Tijuana, Baja California. Authorities seized 6 AK-47 type rifles, 10 magazines, 355 rounds of ammunition, and 900 grams of the drug known as "ICE".

(Español): 24 de Junio, 2010.- **ENCUENTRAN TIRADOS LA PEP, 6 CUERNOS, 14 CARGADORES, 355 BALAS Y UN KILO DE ICE**

BOLETINES OFICIALES

PRENSA

ENCUENTRAN TIRADOS LA PEP, 6 CUERNOS, 14 CARGADORES, 355 BALAS Y UN KILO DE ICE



Escrito por patrulla2

Friday, 25 de June de 2010



Con base en una denuncia ciudadana anónima al número 089 agentes de la Policía Estatal Preventiva (PEP) realizaron un operativo en una casa de la colonia Cuauhtémoc donde se encontraron "tiradas" en una bolsa, en la banqueta, 6 "cuernos", 1 kilo de "ice", cientos de balas, y cargadores, más no a persona alguna.

HOCR ATF - 002714

Eran como las 12:30 horas de este día y tras recibir un reporte del Centro de Control, Comando, Comunicación y Cómputo (C-4), en el que se les indicaba que varios sujetos armados que realizaban detonaciones en las inmediaciones de la colonia Cuauhtémoc Norte.

El operativo llegó a la avenida República de Chile donde no encontraron nada sospechoso, pero por precaución realizaron varios recorridos de vigilancia por la zona y encontraron frente al número 732, en una casa de dos pisos y puerta eléctrica una maleta que se encontraba tirada frente al domicilio indicado y al hacer una inspección minuciosa se encontró lo siguiente: 6 armas largas calibre 7.62X39; 355 cartuchos calibre 7.62X39; 10 cargadores para calibre 7.62X39; y 900 gramos de la droga sintética conocida como "ice". Debido a que les reportaron sujetos armados frente al lugar se tomaron las precauciones del caso, pero sin que se lograra ubicar a persona alguna, por lo que se recogió el armamento, balas y droga, que fueron puestas a disposición de las autoridades correspondientes, quienes se encargarán de realizar las averiguaciones que el caso amerite.

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED//POLICE//OFFICIAL USE ONLY

HOGRAF - 002715

Aaron Joshua Gamboa
ATF Research Specialist
Project Gunrunner
Gun Desk, El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC)

RC-1

From: Haddix, Serena
Sent: Thursday, July 01, 2010 10:10 AM
To: English, Tonya A.
Cc: Searcy, Lucia B.; Gamboa, Aaron J.; Hayes, Benjamin R.; Walsh, Daniel E.
Subject: MEXICO RECOVERY Suspect Gun firearms (5) recovered, MEXICO DNT, RC-5

Subject: Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO.

Case Agents: S/A English
S/A MacAllister

The National Tracing Center (NTC) has received a Trace request for the below listed firearms.

All information regarding this and any other trace requests can be obtained by using eTrace. In the event that you do not have access, access can be requested by contacting the Law Enforcement Support Branch at 804-260-1500 or 800-788-7133.

Suspect Gun Details:

ATF IN Number: 785115-10-0004
Suspect Gun File Number: RC-5
Suspect Gun submission request date: 11/30/2009, 12/07/2009

Trace details regarding firearm recovery:

Serial Numbers: RC-5
Manufacturer: ROMARM/CUGIR
Type: P
Caliber: 762
Model: DRACO
Recovered: 06/24/2010
Location: MEXICALI, BJ, Mexico
Suspects: RC-4 Sean STEWARD

Trace Requestor: ARMANDO HERNANDEZ, ATF International Affairs
Requesting Agency: TIJUANA, BJ, MEXICO
Phone Number: RC-1

Trace Requestor: C-4 CENAPI, INFORMATION CENTER COMBATTING, ARMAS DE FUEGO GRUPO DE
Requesting Agency: MEXICO CITY, MEXICO
Phone Number: None Provided

HOCR ATF - 002716

THIS US SOURCED FIREARM WAS RECOVERED IN MEXICO. FOR DETAILS RELATING TO THE SEIZURE, PLEASE CONTACT
ATF-EPIC BRANCH CHIEF, FRANK HENDERSON VIA E-MAIL OR AT RC-1

Serena Haddix
Suspect Gun Program
Team Sage-Research Assistant
ATF National Tracing Center

RC-1

HOGRA TF - 002717

From: McMahon, William G.

Sent: Monday, June 14, 2010 11:27 AM

To: Chait, Mark R.

Subject: FW: GRIT Performance Report - June 11 2011

Attachments: GRIT Performance Report - June 11 2011.doc

FYI

HOCR ATF - 002718

**Phoenix Gun Runner Impact Teams (GRIT)
Performance Report
June 11, 2010**

GRIT Performance for Reporting Period May 21 - June 3, 2010		
	Reporting Period	Since Inception
Number of Investigative Leads at the Start of GRIT (May 1, 2010)	N/A	58
Number of New Investigative Leads	4	
Total Leads		62
Number of Leads Investigated	4	31
Number of New Actual Criminal Cases Opened	9	19
Number of Existing Investigations Supported by GRIT	34	46
Number of Defendants Recommended for Prosecution	3	3
Number of Referrals to U.S. LE Agencies	-	-
Number of Liaison Activities with the Gov. of Mexico	-	4
Number of Firearms/Other Evidence Seized/Recovered by ATF or Other LE Agencies Acting on ATF Information	25 32 0 0 0 0 0 0	35 Firearms 3726 rounds of ammunition 0 blasting caps \$0 in currency 4.5 Cocaine 4.5 Methamphetamine 7 grams Marijuana
Number of FFL Inspections Initiated	44	446
Number of FFL Inspections Completed	45	143
FFL Adverse Actions Recommended:		
Number of Warning Letters/Warning Conferences	3	18
Number of Revocations (Recommended by Division and Concurred by HQ)	-	-
Number of Licenses Surrendered in Lieu of Revocation	-	-
Number of Criminal Enforcement Referrals Made by IOIs to ATF LE	9	37

RC-2

Phoenix Group VII (OCDETF Strike Force)**785115-10-0020, RC-4**

ATF Phoenix Group VII Strike Force has begun an investigation into the firearms trafficking activities of RC-4. To date, this investigation, aided by a reliable confidential source (hereinafter CS), has determined that at least 14 firearms (with many more suspected "straw" purchasers providing a large amount of additional firearms) have been purchased on behalf of and subsequently delivered to RC-4. By his own account (documented in audio recordings between RC-4 and the CS), RC-4 obliterates the serial numbers of these firearms prior to his delivering them "South (to Mexico)". The CS was able to successfully introduce undercover agent John Dodson to RC-4 as a new, potential "straw" purchaser and someone who may be able to meet RC-4 recent request for NFA type firearms (specifically military grade armament and ordinance). Subsequently, S/A Dodson participated in a controlled meeting (meet and greet) with RC-4 during which RC-4 solicited S/A Dodson to "straw" purchase AK pistols from local FFL's and agreed to pay S/A Dodson \$100.00 profit for each one delivered. Additionally, RC-4 expressed his desire to purchase suppressors (in 9mm, .45, .223, 7.62), 40mm grenade launchers, and 40mm High Explosive (HE or other anti-personnel type) in whatever quantities that S/A Dodson was able to obtain. On June 1st, acting in an undercover capacity, S/A Dodson delivered 6 AK "DRACO" pistols to RC-4. RC-4 reimbursed S/A Dodson \$300 for each pistol, plus provided S/A Dodson with \$600 for conducting the "straw" purchases and an additional \$100 bonus. During the u/c OP, RC-4 stated his intent to sell/traffic the pistols for profit and again expressed his interest in purchasing the military hardware/ammunition/firearms. RC-4 also requested that S/A Dodson have a "trap" installed in his RC-4(s) vehicle to assist with his trafficking activities. Immediately after the u/c OP RC-4 was followed by agents to a storage locker facility.

785115-10-0004, Operation Fast and Furious

This OCDETF investigation has revealed 1,608-suspected straw purchases of firearms by RC-5 targets of this investigation. The core group of this investigation is constantly recruiting new straw purchasers and disassociating with others. Individuals who purchased in 2009 are not currently purchasing firearms and a new straw purchaser was just indentified by ATF agents through surveillance on June 7, 2010 during the purchase of a .50 caliber rifle.

ATF agents are aware of or have caused 309 of these firearms to be recovered. To date, 179 crime guns have been recovered in the Republic of Mexico, and 130 have been recovered domestically in the United States. Of those domestic recoveries all have been along or near the U.S. and Mexican border; i.e. El Paso, TX, Douglas, AZ, Nogales, AZ, Sells, AZ, Casa Grande, AZ with the farthest recovery north of the border being here in Phoenix, AZ. In order to purchase these 1,608 suspected firearms this group has spent over one million (\$1,000,000.00) in cash transactions at various Phoenix area FFLs. Due to the proximity to the border, bank subpoenas and financial investigations have yielded little or no results.

RC-3



RC-3



To date Patino has personally purchased 606 firearms on behalf of the group. In support of these purchases Patino has spent over four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00) in cash transactions at various Phoenix area FFLs. Patino is currently receiving Food Stamp benefits from the State of Arizona due to his lack of income. ATF agents are working with the USDA-OIG.

Phoenix ATF agents are conducting almost daily surveillance of these above mentioned firearms transactions. This group is highly surveillance conscience and conducts counter surveillance and

RC-3



This group makes "U-turns", they pull over and start again for no apparent reason, and they alter their speed, and almost always enter residential cul-de-sacs where entry by a surveillance vehicle would certainly be noticed. ATF agents have tried to utilize the Phoenix Police department air wing unit has much as possible but due to their mission and scheduling they are not always available to assist.

ATF agents have identified over a dozen different "stash houses" where this group deposits firearms prior to arranging for further transportation south. The firearms may stay at these stash houses for anywhere from hours to in excess of one week.

RC-2



From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2010 8:14 PM
To: McMahon, William G.
Subject: Fw: SAC write up 04 26 2010
Attachments: SAC write up 04 26 2010.docx

Update on East and Furious. RC-3
RC-3

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

RC-1

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: Palmer, Douglas R.
To: Newell, William D.
Sent: Mon Apr 26 20:08:43 2010
Subject: FW: SAC write up 04 26 2010

Bill,

Attached is a one page update from Dave Voth.

*Doug Palmer
Bureau of ATF
Phoenix Field Division
Supervisor, Phoenix Y*

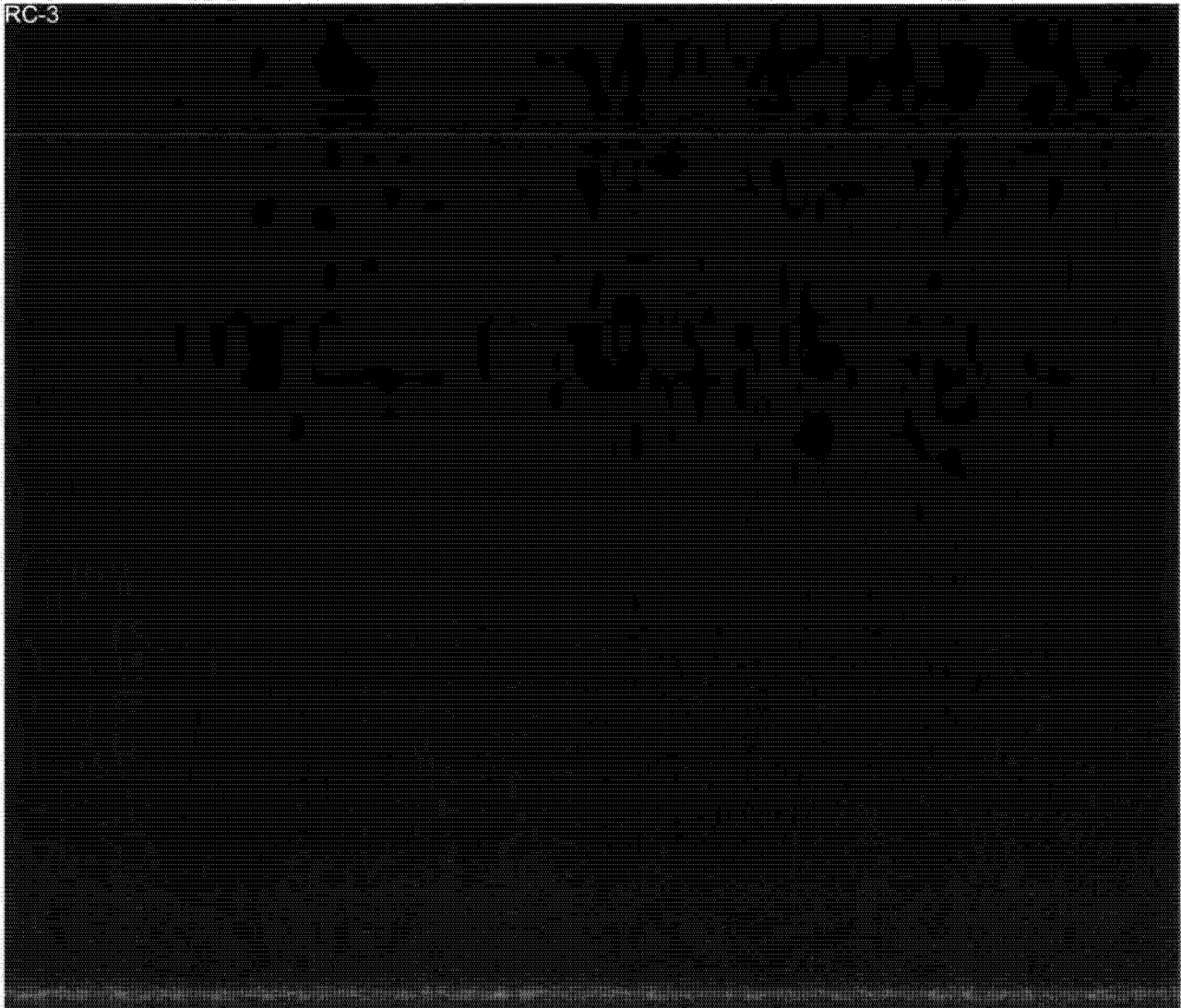
RC-1

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2010 4:20 PM
To: Palmer, Douglas R.
Subject: SAC write up 04 26 2010

HGR ATF - 002722

785115-10-0004, Jacob Chambers et al: This is an approved ATF OCDETF investigation (# SWAZP0496) that is a large scale conspiracy of **RC-5** interconnected straw purchasers. Thus far in the investigation (September through present) the group has purchased over 1,300 firearms; most of which are the AK-47 variant 7.62 assault rifles and or the F.N. Herstal 5.7 mm pistols, to include approximately 15 Barrett .50 caliber rifles. For these firearms they have paid over \$900,000.00 in cash. Of those firearms purchased by the group approximately 150 have been recovered in Mexico or near the Mexican Border (the serial numbers are continually being updated and changed thus affecting the trace results) with a short time-to-crime; some as little as one day.

The most recent seizure on this investigation occurred on April 7, 2010 when twenty (20) AK-47 style firearms were recovered in El Paso, TX along with approximately 300 pounds of marijuana. All twenty of these firearms were originally purchased by subjects of this investigation during the time frame of March 23-25, 2010.



HOCR ATF - 002723

From: Lowrey, Stuart L.
Sent: Friday, September 17, 2010 9:26 AM
To: McMahon, William G.; Stirling, Jeffrey B.
Subject: FW: GRIT Stats - AND Mex Reporter
Attachments: PHX GRIT Close Out Background 2010-09.docx

I wanted to make sure that both of you had this GRIT/Gunrunner info, which I assume was provided to DAD earlier.

The stats immediately below have been revised. I determined that PGA was working directly with PFD and using locally generated stats. I asked Pelletiere to validate, and he was able to determine that PFD was actually slightly underreporting their performance data. I'll send you the revised stats.

The attachment is really what I thought you would want. It was prepared by PGA for the DD's trip to Phoenix. It outlines the Phoenix GRIT, and the Gunrunner/SWB initiatives generally.

Stuart L. Lowrey
Chief, Firearms Operations Division
ATF HQ - RC-1
RC-1

From: Hageman, John T.
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2010 4:52 PM
To: Lowrey, Stuart L.
Subject: GRIT Stats - AND Mex Reporter

Stuart

GRIT

Thank you for the heads up about Chris P and the numbers Chris provided me with the necessary stats for Friday's news conference. For your reference, our main stats:

- Criminal cases opened – 176
- Defendants recommended – 66
- # of guns seized – 1285
- Ammo seized – 71,774
- FFL Insp – 806

I will begin working with DAD McMahon to ensure the Phoenix Division uses OSM stats in their handout materials.

Mexican Reporter

Below are the topics the reporter wishes to address (and our general responses are in red). I have also attached a general background sheet that was provided to Dep. Dir. – it includes

HOCR ATF - 002724

material from both GRITs and all of Gunrunner.

The reporter is conducting research with the Washington Post for a story concerning firearms trafficking from the U.S. to Mexico. Topics include:

- The work ATF is doing in the SWB states to prevent illegal firearms purchases (let's look at this as purchases, but also preventing trafficking)
 1. ATF's *Don't Lie for the Other Guy* program and sites where program was offered in last 18 months - El Paso, TX; Anaheim, CA
 2. During FFL compliance inspections, IOIs routinely educate the FFLs concerning detection of straw purchasers
 3. Gunrunner -- (see attached)
 4. From fiscal years 2004 through 2009, Project Gunrunner referred for prosecution 1,012 cases involving 2,096 defendants
 - a. Those cases include 510 firearms trafficking cases with an estimated 15,295 firearms trafficked
 5. Not just SWB states -- ATF's Project Gunrunner targets firearms traffickers anywhere in country where the goal is to transport illegal firearms to Mexico
- The challenges ATF is facing in conducting trafficking investigations
 1. (After defining straw purchasers) Identifying straw purchasers during the course of investigation is a challenge -- these violations often go undetected (we can never put a number on straw purchased guns -- only those we believe are trafficked as a result of our investigations)
 2. The more firearms that are traced -- the more valuable leads are developed -- more tracing!
- The strategies Mexican "narcotraffickers" are using to traffic firearms
 1. firearms are being trafficked across the border -- vehicle / foot (ATF does not have evidence of large-scale movement of firearms across border -- say 1,000 at a time)
 2. Existing drug trafficking routes are prized -- and fought over in Mexico
 3. Cartel members are involved in the U.S. to acquire firearms -- as well as free lance US citizens (looking to make a buck)
 - a. In border states and inland as well
- Coordination with ICE and other federal partners
 1. ATF / ICE attend each other's conferences and share information on best practices and intelligence on criminal investigations
 2. ATF runs the Gun Desk at EPIC -- all U.S. LE agencies sharing intelligence
 3. Sharing of intelligence with our GOM partners

HOCR ATF - 002725

The interview is set for 12:00 pm, Wednesday, Sept. 15. I am in the process of securing a conference room (unless you prefer to host interview in your office).

Thank you

Special Agent John Hageman
Program Manager
ATF HQ- Public Affairs Division

RC-1

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the contact information and signature area of the letter.

HOCR ATF - 002726

Briefing Paper

Phoenix Field Division

Phoenix Group VII

(OCDETF Strike Force/Gunrunner Group)

ATF Investigation 785115-10-0004

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

January 14, 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.

RC-3

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. An additional 72 firearms have been seized by U.S. law enforcement agencies in response to information received from ATF.

Evidence in ATF Custody: 278 firearms, 250 "drum" magazines, thousands of rounds of various caliber ammunition.

OPERATION DETAILS:

Command Post:

RC-5

Incident Commander(s): Incident Commander ASAC Jim Needles.

Arrest Teams: Four arrest teams, four search teams.

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 a press conference at the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Action or Follow-up: This is considered "Phase I" of the judicial process. Approximately twenty additional straw purchasers have been identified by ATF associated with this organization. Subsequent indictments and superseding indictments are anticipated.

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

Case Agent: Hope MacAllister

Telephone: RC-1

RAC/GS: David Voth

Telephone: RC-1

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2010 4:35 PM
To: Phoe-Group VII
Subject: meeting tomorrow

To all;

Tomorrow morning ASAC Gillett and myself are meeting with DEA ASAC Doug Coleman to discuss the Strike Force and our RC-3 [REDACTED]. Afterwards Mr. Gillett and I would like to meet with Group VII members to discuss the upcoming RC-3 [REDACTED] scheduling, and our expectations for the group. In summary this case being worked by Phoenix Group VII is the biggest SWB firearms trafficking case in the country and all eyes (at least all ATF eyes) are on us. We all need to join together for these next 30-90 days and make this case a huge success.

Thanks to everyone for their work thus far, your efforts are being noticed by others.

David Voth
Group Supervisor
Phoenix Group VII
RC-1 [REDACTED]

HOGR ATF - 002729

From: Melson, Kenneth E.
Sent: Friday, December 04, 2009 12:26 PM
To: Back, Michelle A.
Subject: FW: Weapons seizures in Mexico

Would you set up a meeting with Mr. Breuer. Billy, Mark, and Sam should go too. Thanks.

From: Breuer, Lanny A. [RC-1]
Sent: Friday, December 04, 2009 10:18 AM
To: Melson, Kenneth E.
Cc: Siskel, Edward N. (ODAG) (SMO); Hoover, William J.; Weinstein, Jason; Rosen, Paul; Raman, Mythili; Fagell, Steven
Subject: RE: Weapons seizures in Mexico

Ken,

We think this is a terrific idea and a great way to approach the investigations of these seizures. Our Gang Unit will be assigning an attorney to help you coordinate this effort. Please let us know who will be the POC at ATF on this, and we'll have the Gang Unit folks reach out to that person. I would love to see you to discuss this further and other issues of common interest. I hope you are well.

Best,

Lanny

From: Melson, Kenneth E. [RC-1]
Sent: Thursday, December 03, 2009 5:46 PM
To: Breuer, Lanny A.
Cc: Siskel, Edward N. (ODAG) (SMO); Hoover, William J.
Subject: Weapons seizures in Mexico

Lanny: We have decided to take a little different approach with regard to seizures of multiple weapons in Mexico. Assuming the guns are traced, instead of working each trace almost independently of the other traces from the seizure, I want to coordinate and monitor the work on all of them collectively as if the seizure was one case. Using the traces as intelligence, and compiling the information from each trace investigation, we can connect the purchases, identify the traffickers and use more serious charges against them. The intelligence analysis and linking of trace data and investigation results will be done at HQ out of our intelligence directorate. I would like to see if you have any interest in assigning a criminal division attorney to work with that group to develop multi-division/district cases and perhaps go to the district with the best venue to indict the case. The level of activity will depend on the number of Mexican seizures, and whether they will trace the guns, or allow us to do it. We do seem to be making progress with our Mexican partners. We are currently working on a case with SSP which might lead us to the first joint arrest in Mexico of a person connect to US arms trafficking. We should meet again just to catch up on where we are in our gun trafficking issues and we could talk about the above idea as well. Let me know what you think. Thanks. Ken.

HOCR ATF - 002730

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Friday, April 02, 2010 5:16 PM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
CC: Needles, James R.; Quinonez, Louis A.
Subject: Phoenix Field Division SWB Briefing Paper Submissions
Attachments: Phoenix SWB Submissions 4-2-10.doc

George,

Please find our division's submissions to the SWB Briefing Paper attached for your review. This should be forwarded to Christine Gribble by C.O.B., today.

Thank you.

Kevin Simpson, Acting Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - Suite 040
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

RC-1



HOCR ATF - 002731

PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

RC-2



Investigations:

Phoenix Group VII (OCDETF Strike Force)

RC-2



785115-10-0004, Jacob Chambers et al

This is an approved ATF OCDETF investigation (# SWAZP0496) that is a large scale conspiracy of more than RC-5 straw purchasers. This group has purchased over 1,100 high power, high dollar firearms paying more than \$700,000.00 in cash. More than 150 crime guns have been recovered in Mexico with short times to crime. RC-3

RC-3

RC-3 Surveillance has identified several additional target residences believed to be "stash" houses as well as additional straw purchasers. One suspect (Uriel PATINO) traveled to El Paso, Texas three times in one week. RC-3

RC-3

HOCR ATF - 002732

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2010 2:51 PM
To: Phoe-CE Supervisors; Phoe-IO Supervisors
CC: Cook, Nancy F.
Subject: SWB Submission Requested by 10 AM Friday (Tomorrow)
Attachments: SWB Briefing Paper - August 9, 2010.docx

Supervisors,

Please submit any narratives you might want to include in the next SWB Briefing Paper (not just GRIT cases) by tomorrow morning at 10 AM. I have attached the last report for your review.

Thank you.

Kevin Simpson, Acting Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - Suite 940
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

RC-1



HOCR ATF - 002733

LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

**Southwest Border Initiative
(Project Gunrunner)**

Biweekly Update

August 9, 2010

The following is a biweekly update on significant events related to the Southwest Border Initiative. The information is collected from the different ATF offices involved in this initiative and intended for ATF use only.

FIELD OPERATIONS

RC-2



I

LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE
INTERNAL USE ONLY
NOT FOR DISSEMINATION OUTSIDE ATF

HOCR ATF - 002734

Phoenix Group VII

Fast and Furious 785115-10-0004: On August 3, 2010, undercover ICE agents traveled from Laredo, Texas to Phoenix, Arizona for the purpose of obtaining firearms to transport back to Texas for delivery to a Mexican DTO. This is the second such event. The previous transaction occurred in May of 2010 and involved 148 firearms. ATF Group VII and GRIT agents participated in the delivery of 80 firearms to the undercover ICE agent by the same suspect here in Phoenix, Arizona. Of the 80 firearms delivered, 57 were purchased by suspects of the Fast and Furious case, and 6 were purchased by the **RC-4** sisters, subjects of an open and active GRIT investigation. On August 3, 2010, as part of an ongoing Southwest Border Firearms Trafficking OCDETF/**RC-3** investigation being conducted by Phoenix Group VII, special agents seized a TNW, U.S. Government Model HB M2, 50-caliber, semi-auto rifle. This firearm sells at retail for over \$12,000.00. This is the second TNW 50-caliber firearm recovered by ATF agents during and in relation to this investigation. This firearm constitutes a substantial increase on behalf of the organization both financially and with respect to firepower. This firearm must be fired mounted on a tripod or vehicle; fires belt-fed ammunition, weighs over 100 pounds and is over five feet long. (See 8/4/10 SIR).

RC-2



From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2011 7:22 PM
To: Case Management Branch; Young, Tanya C.
CC: Kincaid, Lisa M.; Needles, James R.
Subject: Significant Operations - Phoenix Field Division
Attachments: briefing paper for round-up.docx

Please accept this as the Phoenix Field Division report of significant operations planned for the remainder of January and February 2011. This division anticipates serving **RC** arrest warrants related to investigation number 785115-10-0004, titled Operation Fast & Furious. A briefing paper is attached. A press conference with the Acting Director is planned for after this operation, on January 25, 2011. At this time, our division has no other significant operations planned during this reporting period.

Thank you.

Special Agent Kevin Simpson
Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - Suite 940
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

RC-1

HGR ATF - 002736

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.

RC-3

RC-3

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:

RC-5

Incident Commander(s): Incident Commander ASAC Jim Needles.

Arrest Teams: Four arrest teams, four search teams.

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 RC-5 additional straw purchasers have been identified by ATF associated with this organization. Subsequent indictments and superseding indictments are anticipated.

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

Case Agent: Hope MacAllister

Telephone: RC-1

RAC/GS: David Voth

Telephone: RC-1

From: Needles, James R.
Sent: Friday, August 06, 2010 5:16 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: RE: Cases ready for indictment

10-4, I'll have a complete list of GRIT cases presented to the USAO for you later today.

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Friday, August 06, 2010 1:52 PM
To: Needles, James R.
Subject: Fw: Cases ready for indictment

Have Lee Ann or Mary set up a VTC with HQ for the 17th brfing with Dennis. If Dave has a PowerPoint presentation then he'll need to send to HQ so the VTC folks can upload for the conference call. Thanks

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

RC-1

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From: McMahon, William G.
To: Newell, William D.
Sent: Fri Aug 06 16:40:44 2010
Subject: RE: Cases ready for indictment

We can talk next week but I might like to listen in on that brief. Thanks.

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Friday, August 06, 2010 4:39 PM
To: McMahon, William G.
Subject: Re: Cases ready for indictment

I'm having GS Dave Voth (Phoenix Grp VII Strike Force) brief the USA ref Fast/Furious at 2pm Pacific on the 17th. You want to VTC in?

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

Cell: RC-1

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From: McMahon, William G.
To: Newell, William D.
Sent: Fri Aug 06 16:19:32 2010
Subject: RE: Cases ready for indictment

10-4 Bill. That is great news about the cases regarding GRIT in Tucson and Phoenix. We can talk next week at the SAC Conference but what are our plans between now and October on Fast/Furious?

HOCR ATF - 002739

William G. McMahon
Deputy Assistant Director (West)
Office of Field Operations
Office - RC-1

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Friday, August 06, 2010 3:40 PM
To: McMahon, William G.
Subject: Fw: Cases ready for indictment

We are putting together about R cases, these from Tucson plus RC or so from Phoenix, for the proposed GRIT press conference scheduled for the 26th. We would have about RC cases from Phoenix but roughly half of the straw purchaser cases we already have USAO approval to indict are tied directly to the RC-5 case. I'm having all of these put together in one document for you. Also, as per the USAO, Fast/Furious will be ready for indictment in early October. There will be two phases. In phase one the main players - approx RC-5 will be arrested followed in phase two by approx lesser involved RC-5 straw purchasers. More to follow.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)
Cell: RC-1

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From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
To: Needles, James R.
Cc: Newell, William D.
Sent: Fri Aug 06 13:09:53 2010
Subject: FW: Cases ready for indictment

Jim -

Per our discussion, here are the cases that are pending or able to be forwarded to the USAO for indictment in support of the GRIT press conference.

George T. Gillett
Assistant Special Agent in Charge
ATF - Phoenix Field Division
Office: RC-1

From: Nallin, Michael T.
Sent: Thursday, August 05, 2010 5:09 PM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Subject: Cases ready for indictment

Tucson i Cases

RC-2

HOCR ATF - 002740

From: Back, Michelle A.
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2011 12:47 PM
To: Newell, William D.; McMahon, William G.
Subject: RE: Agenda for Phoenix, AZ Trip on Jan. 24-26, 2011

Thank you. This helps.

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2011 12:47 PM
To: Back, Michelle A.; McMahon, William G.
Subject: RE: Agenda for Phoenix, AZ Trip on Jan. 24-26, 2011

Michele, we are planning the press conference for about 11am on the 25th but are still working out the details with the U.S. Attorney and our other partners (ICE, DEA, IRS, etc). As for what else he wants to do while here I'm not sure. All our folks are going to be tied up out in the field with the Fast/Furious operations so having a town hall would not be possible. I'm not sure what else he has in mind besides the press conference.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)
RC-1

From: Back, Michelle A.
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2011 10:42 AM
To: Chait, Mark R.; Wade, Drew J.; Thomasson, Scot L.; Sarnacki, Jeffrey P.; Pellettiere, Christopher A.; McMahon, William G.; Newell, William D.
Cc: Back, Michelle A.; Lauder, George H.; Villegas, Monique Y.; Coleman, Betty; Graham-Wyatt, Nina
Subject: Agenda for Phoenix, AZ Trip on Jan. 24-26, 2011

Hello,

Does anyone have any information for me to put together an itinerary for Melson for his trip to Phoenix. I know it is a press conference regarding Fast and Furious but does anyone have some specific details for me.

As always, thanks for any assistance.

Michelle Back
Office of the Director
RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002741

From: Merical, Yolanda M.

Sent: Friday, May 21, 2010 5:56 PM

To: Gribble, Christine A.

CC: Cook, Nancy F.; Newell, William D.; Simpson, Kevin

Subject: GRIT Performance Report May 1 - May 20, 2010

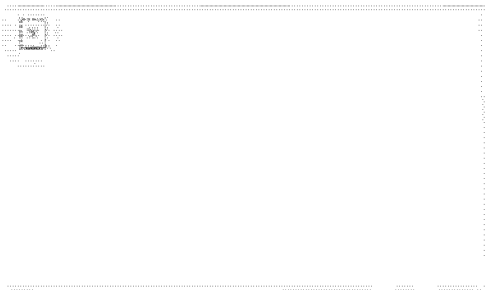
Attachments: Merical Yolanda.vcf; Grit Office Space - Tucson.docx; May 1 to May 24 GRIT Performance Report.doc

Good afternoon Christine,

Attached is the GRIT Performance report for the period of May 1, 2010 to May 20, 2010. If you require any more information, please call me at the cell phone number listed on the card below.

I also attached some photographs A/S Brillhart took of the IOIs on the GRIT team working out of the Tucson III field office, utilizing the conference room as their office space. As you can see, it is very crowded and difficult to operate efficiently in such cramped quarters, especially on the days when all the IOIs are working in the room at the same time. Would you happen to know when the new, temporary space would be available for the GRIT teams to move in?

Yolanda Merical, Senior Operations Officer (IOI)
GRIT Phoenix

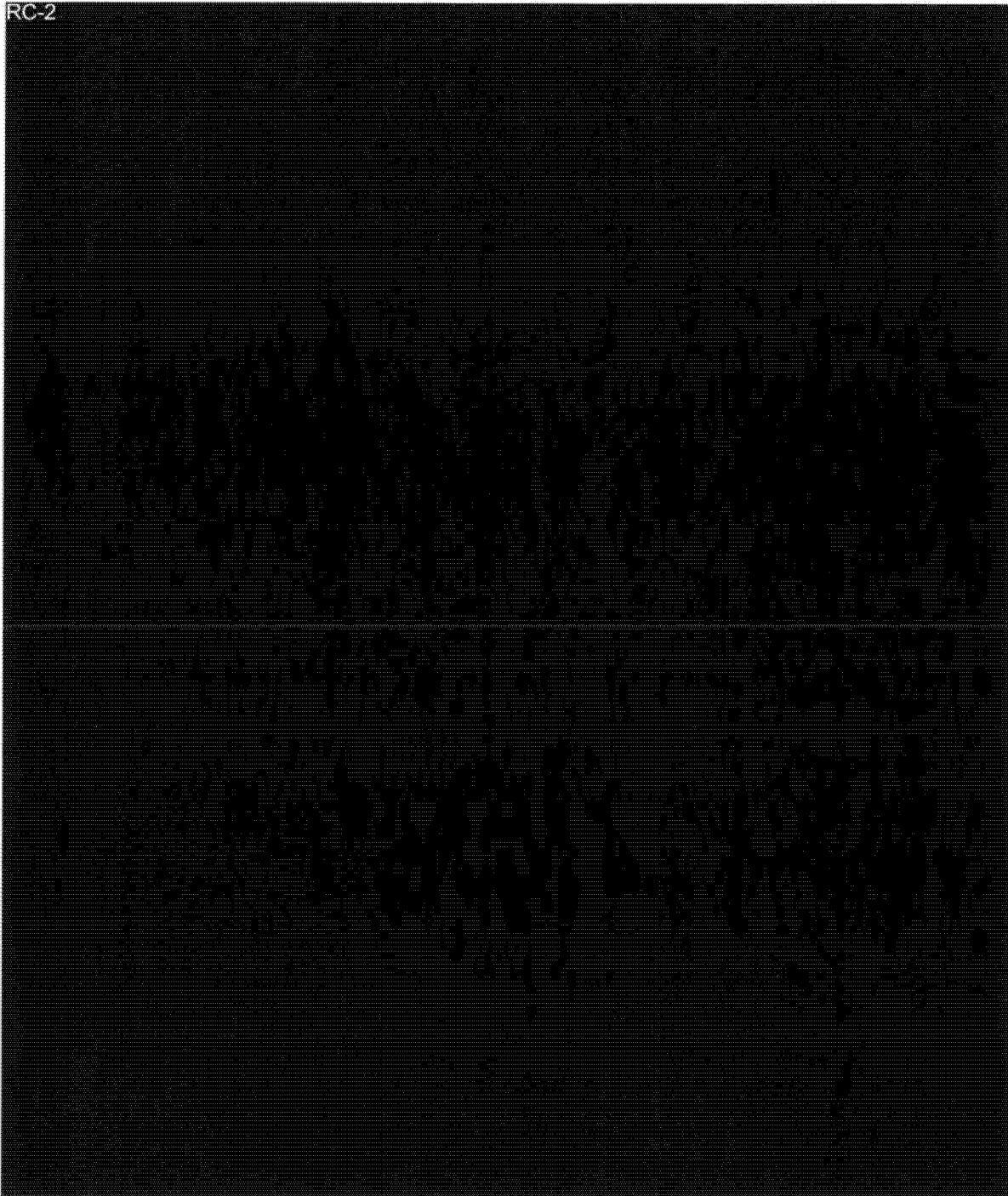


HOCR ATF - 002742

**Phoenix Gun Runner Impact Teams (GRIT)
Performance Report
May 24, 2010**

GRIT Performance for Reporting Period May 1 - 20, 2010		
	Reporting Period	Since Inception
Number of Investigative Leads at the Start of GRIT (May 1, 2010)	N/A	25
Number of New Investigative Leads	18	18
Total Leads		43
Number of Leads Investigated	4	
Number of New Actual Criminal Cases Opened	10	
Number of Existing Investigations Supported by GRIT	10	
Number of Defendants Recommended for Prosecution	0	
Number of Referrals to U.S. LE Agencies	0	
Number of Liaison Activities with the Gov. of Mexico	3	
Number of Firearms/Other Evidence Seized/Recovered by ATF or Other LE Agencies Acting on ATF Information:	5	Firearms
	0	rounds of ammunition
	0	blasting caps
	0	\$ in currency
	0	Cocaine
	0	Methamphetamine
	0	Marijuana
Number of FFL Inspections Initiated	354	354
Number of FFL Inspections Completed	18	18
FFL Adverse Actions Recommended:	2	2
Number of Warning Letters/Warning Conferences	3	3
Number of Revocations (Recommended by Division and Concurring by HQ)	0	0
Number of Licenses Surrendered in Lieu of Revocation	0	0
Number of Criminal Enforcement Referrals Made by IOIs to ATF LE	9	9

RC-2



PHOENIX VII

CASE #: 785115-10-0004 Case Title: OPERATION FAST & FURIOUS

This OCDEF case is a large scale firearms trafficking case with the firearms being recovered either in the Republic of Mexico or on/near the US/Mexico border (El Paso, TX, Nogales, AZ, Douglas, AZ, etc.) To date over 1,500 firearms have been purchased since October 2009 for over one million (\$1,000,000.00) cash in over-the-counter transactions at

various Phoenix area FFLs. RC-3

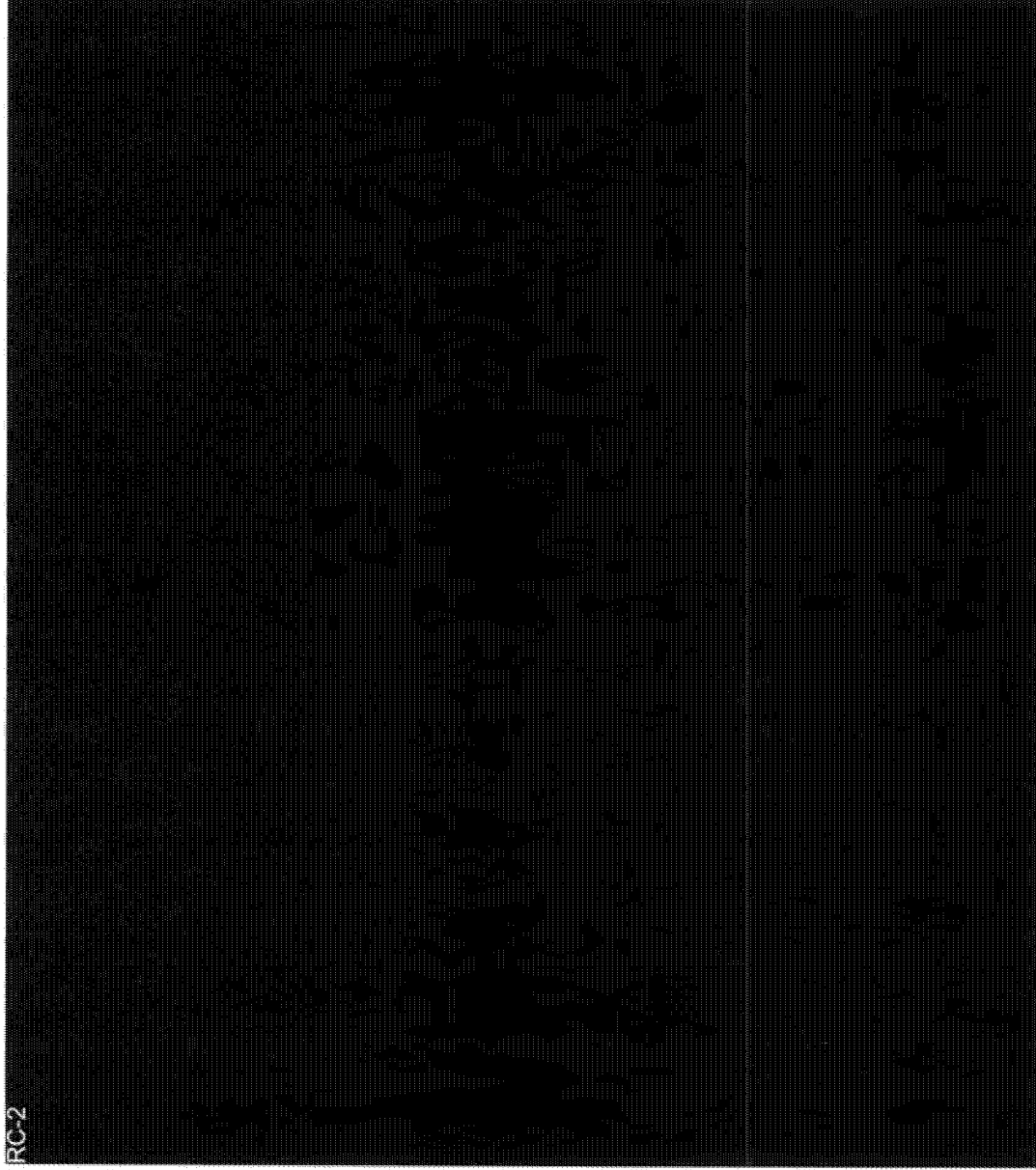
RC-3

There are many facets to this investigation but ATF is attempting to not only secure a straw purchase/dealing in firearms without a license case against various individuals but more specifically to make the bigger connection to the Mexican Cartel/Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO) obtaining these firearms for the best possible case and the most severe charges when it is time to Indict this case.

RC-2



RC-2

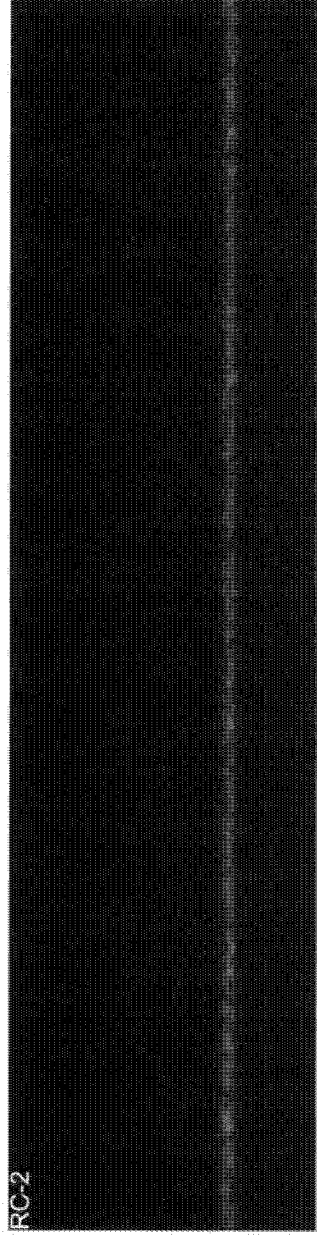


CASE #:785115-10-0020

CASE TITLE: [REDACTED]

On April 24, 2010 an ATF cooperating defendant delivered (2) Beretta 9 mm pistols to [REDACTED] Delivery was electronically recorded by consent of cooperating defendant (CD). CD has begun efforts to introduce ATF UC agent to [REDACTED] The goal is for ATF UC to attempt to secure a position within the organization in order to learn more about its trafficking activities. [REDACTED] has inquired from the cooperating defendant if the ATF UC had a CWP, Class III and/or a manner to procure NFA weapons.

RC-2



**Phoenix Gun Runner Impact Teams (GRIT)
Performance Report
June 14, 2010**

GRIT Performance for Reporting Period June 4 - June 10, 2010		
	Reporting Period	Since Inception
Number of Investigative Leads at the Start of GRIT (May 1, 2010)	N/A	25
Number of New Investigative Leads	4	37
Total Leads		62
Number of Leads Investigated	4	33
Number of New Actual Criminal Cases Opened	0	19
Number of Existing Investigations Supported by GRIT	34	46
Number of Defendants Recommended for Prosecution	3	3
Number of Referrals to U.S. LE Agencies	-	-
Number of Liaison Activities with the Gov. of Mexico	-	4
Number of Firearms/Other Evidence Seized/Recovered by ATF or Other LE Agencies Acting on ATF Information	25 firearms, 32 rounds of ammunition	35 firearms 3,726 rounds of ammunition \$0 in currency 22 g. cocaine 4.5 g. methamphetamine 7 g. marijuana other
Number of FFL Inspections Initiated	44	446
Number of FFL Inspections Completed	45	143
FFL Adverse Actions Recommended:		
Number of Warning Letters/Warning Conferences	3	18
Number of Revocations (Recommended by Division and Concurred by HQ)	-	-
Number of Licenses Surrendered in Lieu of Revocation	-	-
Number of Criminal Enforcement Referrals Made by IOIs to ATF LE	9	37

RC-2

Phoenix Group VII

785115-10-0020

RC-4

ATF Phoenix Group VII Strike Force has begun an investigation into the firearms trafficking activities of RC-4. To date, this investigation, aided by a reliable confidential source (hereinafter CS), has determined that at least 14 firearms (with many more suspected "straw" purchasers providing a large amount of additional firearms) have been purchased on behalf of and subsequently delivered to RC-4. By his own account (documented in audio recordings between RC-4 and the CS), RC-4 obliterates the serial numbers of these firearms prior to his delivering them "South (to Mexico)." The CS was able to successfully introduce undercover agent John Dodson to RC-4 as a new, potential "straw" purchaser and someone who may be able to meet RC-4's recent request for NFA type firearms (specifically military grade armament and ordinance).

Subsequently, S/A Dodson participated in a controlled meeting (meet and greet) with RC-4 during which RC-4 solicited S/A Dodson to "straw" purchase AK pistols from local FFLs and agreed to pay S/A Dodson \$100 profit for each one delivered. Additionally, RC-4 expressed his desire to purchase suppressors (in 9mm, .45, .223, 7.62), 40mm grenade launchers, and 40mm High Explosive (HE or other anti-personnel type) in whatever quantities that S/A Dodson was able to obtain. On June 1, acting in an undercover capacity, S/A Dodson delivered 6 AK "DRACO" pistols to RC-4. RC-4 reimbursed S/A Dodson \$300 for each pistol, plus provided S/A Dodson with \$600 for conducting the "straw" purchases and an additional \$100 bonus. During the U/C OP, RC-4 stated his intent to sell/traffic the pistols for profit and again expressed his interest in purchasing the military hardware/ammunition/firearms. RC-4 also requested that S/A Dodson have a "trap" installed in his (RC-4's) vehicle to assist with his trafficking activities. Immediately after the U/C OP, RC-4 was followed by agents to a storage locker facility.

785115-10-0004

Operation Fast and Furious

This OCDETF investigation has revealed 1,608 suspected straw purchases of firearms by RC-5 targets of this investigation. The core group of this investigation is constantly recruiting new straw purchasers and disassociating with others. Individuals who purchased in 2009 are not currently purchasing firearms and a new straw purchaser was just indentified by ATF agents through surveillance on June 7, 2010, during the purchase of a .50 caliber rifle.

ATF agents are aware of or have caused 309 of these firearms to be recovered. To date, 179 crime guns have been recovered in the Republic of Mexico, and 130 have been recovered domestically in the United States. Of those domestic recoveries, all have been along or near the U.S. and Mexican border, i.e., El Paso, TX; Douglas, AZ; Nogales, AZ; Sells, AZ and

Casa Grande, AZ, with the farthest recovery north of the border being here in Phoenix, AZ. In order to purchase these 1,608 suspected firearms, this group has spent over one million in cash transactions at various Phoenix area FFLs. Due to the proximity to the border, bank subpoenas and financial investigations have yielded little or no results.

RC-3

RC-3

To date, Patino has personally purchased 606 firearms on behalf of the group. In support of these purchases, Patino has spent over four hundred thousand dollars in cash transactions at various Phoenix area FFLs. Patino is currently receiving Food Stamp benefits from the State of Arizona due to his lack of income. ATF agents are working with the USDA-OIG.

Phoenix ATF agents are conducting almost daily surveillance of these above-mentioned firearms transactions. This group is highly surveillance conscience and conducts counter surveillance

RC-3

This group makes "U-turns," they pull over and start again for no apparent reason, and they alter their speed, and almost always enter residential cul-de-sacs where entry by a surveillance vehicle would certainly be noticed. ATF agents have tried to utilize the Phoenix Police department air wing unit as much as possible, but due to their mission and scheduling they are not always available to assist.

ATF agents have identified over a dozen different "stash houses" where this group deposits firearms prior to arranging for further transportation south. The firearms may stay at these stash houses for anywhere from hours to in excess of one week.

RC-2

From: Needles, James R.
Sent: Thursday, October 07, 2010 1:00 AM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: Re: Fast and Furious

I'll take it up with Emory next week

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From: Newell, William D.
To: Needles, James R.
Sent: Wed Oct 06 21:58:23 2010
Subject: Fast and Furious

December ?? I thought we were good in October?
Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)
RC-1

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From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
To: Newell, William D.
Cc: Sigler, Michelle M.; Voth, David J.; Nallin, Michael T.
Sent: Wed Oct 06 18:53:50 2010
Subject: FW: Op Wide Receiver

Bill

Per your request.

George T. Gillett
Assistant Special Agent in Charge
ATF - Phoenix Field Division
RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002750

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 2:31:47 PM
To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ)
Subject: RE: Gun seizure in Agua Prieta, Sonora

Not touching that with a ten foot pole....

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

RC-1

-----Original Message-----

From: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ) RC-1
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 12:30 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: RE: Gun seizure in Agua Prieta, Sonora

Thanks so much. How did it get pass our OFO guys? ...you don't have to answer that...

-----Original Message-----

From: Newell, William D. (ATF)
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 12:28 PM
To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ)
Subject: RE: Gun seizure in Agua Prieta, Sonora

10-4, at Naco - not Agua Prieta (that's where the seizure was taken). Mexican Customs canine alerted to the vehicle. Here's the PCR's preliminary report on the incident. Appears to be a brother and sister. We have an Special Agent/Border Liaison down there now verifying all the info. The original firearms information was wrong so the traces are pending.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico) Office - RC-1

-----Original Message-----

From: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ) RC-1
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 11:59 AM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: RE: Gun seizure in Agua Prieta, Sonora

Wow, frickin-A.

They were already across the border heading south?

HOCR ATF - 002751

-----Original Message-----

From: Newell, William D. (ATF)
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2009 10:25 AM
To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ)
Subject: Gun seizure in Agua Prieta, Sonora

Just making sure you're aware of this large gun seizure this past Friday in Agua Prieta, Sonora. Woman and juvenile (15) from Florida. Mexican Canine (trained by ATF!) alerted to vehicle due to presence of firearms and ammunition. ICE and ATF in Mexico are coord interviewing the woman. We are tracing the firearms to see what we can do with the info in terms of violations, most likely to be filed in Florida - if appropriate. FYI.

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Phoenix Field
Division (Arizona and New Mexico) Office - RC-1

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HOCR ATF - 002752

DOJ-FF-59108

PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

Liaison, Training, Media, and Other SWB Interaction:

RC-2



HOCR ATF - 002753

RC-2

785115-10-0004, Jacob CHAMBERS et al

This is an approved ATF OCDETF investigation (# SWAZP0496) that is a large scale conspiracy of RC-5 interconnected straw purchasers. This group has purchased over 1,300 firearms; most of which are the AK-47 variant 7.62 assault rifles and or the F.N. Herstal 5.7 mm pistols, to include approximately ten Barrett .50 caliber rifles. More than \$900,000.00 in cash has been paid for these firearms. Approximately 150 of these firearms have been recovered as crime guns in Mexico or near the Mexico Border. On April 7, 2010, twenty AK-47 style firearms were recovered in El Paso, Texas along with approximately 300 pounds of marijuana. RC-3

RC-3

RC-2

HOCR ATF - 002754

From: Canino, Carlos A.
Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2010 12:19 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject:

SEDENA recovered 167 guns last night in two separate events. Zacatecas and Culiacan. Most are AK's and AR's, 2 Barretts. SEDENA intel indicates "something big" going down in Culiacan, Sinaloa, home of Chapo. We are trying to get a look at seizure. It will be at least a few days. They might be from Hope's case

Carlos A. Canino
Assistant Country Attache, Mexico City

RC-1


HOCR ATF - 002755

From: Leadmon, Lorren D.
Sent: Wednesday, November 25, 2009 5:29 PM
To: Quinonez, Louis A.
CC: Gillett, George T. Jr.; Needles, James R.; Newell, William D.; O'Keefe, Kevin C.; Bass, William F.
Subject:

Louis- The VCAB report that you converted over in NForce RC-4 [REDACTED] is part of the seizure event in Aduana De Naco, Sonora I previously sent to your office. She is the one that had the two successful traces with the TTC of one (1) day and the twenty multiple sales.

LORREN D. LEADMON
TEAM LEADER

Field Intelligence Support Team - Southwest Border
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Intelligence Operations Specialist

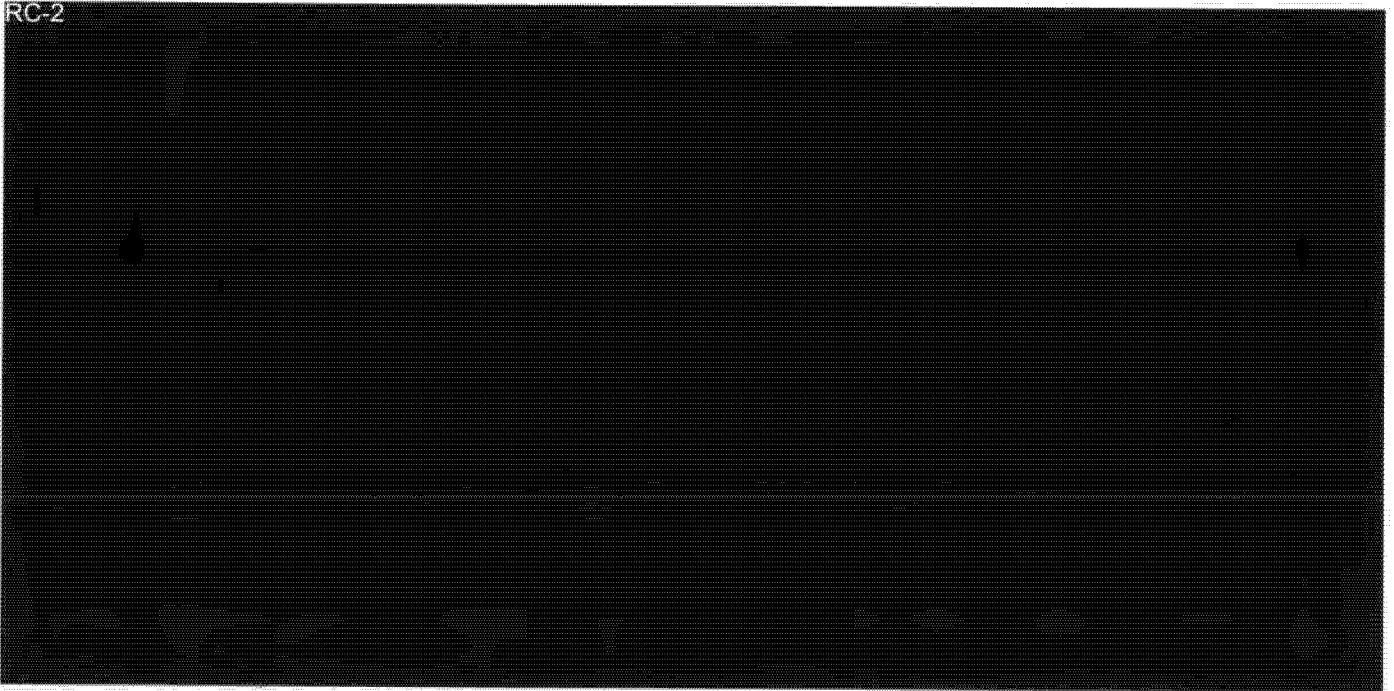
RC-1
[REDACTED]

HOGR ATF - 002756

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 2010 8:48 PM
To: McMahon, William G.
Subject: Fast and Furious RC-2

As instructed the Supervisors and Case Agents just finished a conference call on this issue and I just finished discussing this with them. Here is what all have agreed to and they were instructed to clearly communicate this to their respective AUSAs immediately.

RC-2



Fast and Furious:

Case Agent (McAllister) and GS Voth are good with RC-2 indictment on 05/12/2010. They currently have no issue with RC-2 other than they request that the date remains flexible based on their current situation RC-3 RC-3 RC-4 is the target residence in Tucson where our 40 firearms went in February of 2010. These are the 40 firearms that were ultimately seized on the "TO" Indian Reservation with the RC-3. Since they are firmly connected to RC-4 they ask leniency on indicting him until they are ready on their investigation which may be June 23 or slightly thereafter.

Finally, I have instructed both supervisors and case agents to maintain regular contact on their respective investigations to avoid further confusion in the future.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)
RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002757

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Monday, October 08, 2007 2:05 PM
To: Carroll, Carson W.
Subject: Responses to Questions by ADFO Hoover
Attachments: Responses to Questions by ADFO Hoover.doc

Here you go. Please review and let me know what you think. I'm in Colorado with the family so I have had to work on this at weird hours. We are driving around the mountains looking at the changing leaves (mainly aspen) and I'm trying to put this matter behind me in the process. I stand ready to address any additional questions he might have. Take care and thanks for all your help and enthusiasm in the matter, it has been greatly appreciated by all of us here in the division.

HGR ATF - 002758

Responses to Questions by ADFO Hoover
RE: Phoenix to Mexico Firearms Trafficking Case

RC-4

This document serves to respond to several questions posed by ADFO Hoover regarding an international firearms trafficking investigation in support of ATF's Southwest Border "Gunrunner" Initiative, specifically Phoenix Field Division, Phoenix Group II UI#

RC-4

RC-3



2. USAO Involvement: Ann Marie's e-mail to you regarding this is not accurate and concerning to me in that it makes it appear we went running to the Arizona Attorney General's office because the USAO was not "on-board" which is NOT true. As a point

HOGRAF - 002759

of clarification, I sent her an e-mail earlier in the day on Friday with two attachments, one an earlier briefing paper on this case and another attachment of a briefing paper on another initiative we are exploring with the Arizona Attorney General's office. The two are separate issues and this case has NEVER been discussed with any other office but the USAO in Phoenix. She obviously merged these two initiatives when writing her e-mail to you even though during our conference call we clearly explained the difference when it appeared she was confused at that time too. As for the involvement of the USAO, we have discussed this case with them since early on and most recently have had several discussions with John Tuchi, the Criminal Chief. As a matter of fact during a recent conversation with John Tuchi he agreed that if we could provide enough identifying information of the individuals receiving the firearms in Mexico that he would be willing to explore charging these individuals with conspiracy. It is no secret that we have had prosecution issues with the USAO in Arizona lately, however we are actively pursuing Federal prosecution of this case with them and any information to the contrary is inaccurate.

3. Concern about letting guns walk: We have discussed this at length and I have seriously considered this issue as it relates to how it might reflect on ATF and this field division. I hope you know that I would never consider doing anything that would compromise the reputation of ATF or of this division. Working international firearms trafficking investigations for most of my 18 years with ATF and on the U.S./Mexico border for 7 of those years I understand the added "twist" that these types of cases bring in that once the firearms cross the border they are in essence out of our control. We would have to have at least an additional 3-4 firearms trafficking groups in Phoenix and 1-2 in Tucson to efficiently address all the known firearms trafficking rings out there actively smuggling firearms to Mexico. These are the known rings, not the individuals buying 2-5 firearms at a time. We therefore have to prioritize our targets and hopefully make the biggest impact with a select few cases that we can proactively work. This case to us is one of those.

My thought process about why we should pursue this effort is this: This firearms trafficking ring is responsible for purchasing over 250 "weapons of choice" and taking them to Mexico shortly after purchases are made. Recent intelligence and tracing results from Mexico indicate they are most likely directly supplying the very violent and powerful Arellano-Felix drug trafficking organization. One could argue that why did we wait so long to even "target" this group and why don't we take them off now? Several reasons for this – 1) This group did not come to our attention until mid-summer and once we put all the pieces together, that being all the folks involved, we opened up an investigation and starting working it aggressively. This case is being worked out of Phoenix II (Firearms Trafficking), a group that was very active all summer and did some amazing things considering how short of folks they are. 2) Unfortunately someone buying large amounts of "weapons of choice" in Arizona is not unusual and highly common. Because most of the firearms purchased were long guns their activities didn't come to our attention until some agents from Group II, conducting an investigation into another ring, noticed the sales in several FFL A&D books and did some good proactive follow-up putting the pieces together. 3) Taking off this "straw purchasing" ring would

only create a situation in which another ring would need to be put together by the Arellano-Felix drug trafficking organization. Doing this would never give us the opportunity to find out who the middle-men in Mexico are, and once we were able to do that get the Mexican Federal police contacts to take them off, thus having a greater impact, and more importantly sending a clear message that crossing the border is no longer a safety net for firearms traffickers. 4) The USAO in Phoenix does not aggressively pursue "straw purchasing" investigations and has made it clear on several occasions in meetings with my supervisors as well as in meetings with me personally that they need to have the firearms in custody in order to show a jury that the real intent was to traffic them illegally to Mexico. This is when we in the division started discussions about using this investigation as a "test case" to pursue something we had never tried before but something that would be in line with one of the key elements of "Gunrunner" which is establishing a closer working and trusting relationship with our Mexican law enforcement counterparts. As we know all too well the Mexicans have made it abundantly clear, both publicly and privately, that they don't believe we (ATF and the U.S.) are doing enough to address their serious concerns about firearms being trafficked illegally from the U.S. to Mexico. Having worked in a very similar situation for four years as the Colombia Country Attaché I am keenly aware of the political sensitivities of a matter like this and how an effort by us to reach across the border and work hand-in-hand on a case such as this, especially one involving individuals who are directly supplying a very violent drug trafficking organization, would have tremendous positive benefits to ATF and the U.S. in terms of responding to the Mexicans concerns that we are doing enough. I thoroughly discussed this matter with our representatives in the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City, clearly understanding that any such endeavor would have to be approved by them, the Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) and ultimately the Ambassador (AMB). Briefing the DCM and AMB on cases such as this is very routine for the U.S. law enforcement representatives in a busy Embassy like Mexico City. They are very used to cross-border law enforcement initiatives and that's why the U.S. and Mexico enjoy a fairly broad Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) regarding the efficient exchange of information to further these very types of cases. The DCM and AMB, as well as their rather large legal team in the Embassy, routinely deal with DEA, FBI, CBP, ICE and the USMS on extradition, arrest, and deportation issues, as well as cross-border controlled delivery of narcotics – something I was involved in for several years as a member of a very active DEA task force on the border in Brownsville, Texas. It is true that an effort such as this one would be something new for them but I assure you that the DCM and AMB are in favor of this effort, and our Attaché and Assistant Attache in Mexico City will confirm this. They too clearly understand the positive ramifications of an effort such as this one being successful as it would show how willing the U.S. is to forge never-before considered relationships to proactively address the firearms trafficking issue.

4. As to expected outcomes and a timeline: We had hoped to work together with a small Mexican Federal police vetted unit and the ATF Mexico Country Office in identifying the recipients of the firearms in Mexico. This would further our criminal case in Arizona as detailed previously and also have a greater impact in that we were actually directly impacting the U.S.-to-Mexico firearms trafficking problem by taking the case across the

border, thus creating a situation that strikes fear into the hearts of the border criminals – U.S. and Mexican law enforcement working closely together. Border criminals and smugglers have long known that their illegal trade is best plied when they have the Mexican law enforcement officials on their rolls and keep them from working hand-in-hand with the hard to corrupt U.S. law enforcement officials. That's why extradition to the U.S. is such a hated subject by drug traffickers and other violent criminals in Mexico and Colombia – they know that once they cross the border into the U.S. all bets are off and they face real justice. By pursuing a case like this, even if not initially successful, we hope to advance that idea and let it be known that ATF is the lead U.S. Federal law enforcement agency that can most directly impact the firearms trafficking problem. It is well-known that DHS has been having high-level meetings with Mexican government officials, most recently in Puerto Peñasco, Mexico where DHS Secretary Chertoff met with his Mexican counterparts and U.S. border Governors, to discuss getting ICE more actively involved in this very issue. If we are truly going to push "Gunrunner" and what it stands for than this type of case is something we need to pursue, and never stop pursuing even if the first 5 attempts fail, the sixth one might just be the one that proves it can be done and cement our role as the agency best suited to deal with this issue.

As for a timeline – this case moved very fast these past few days due to the main subject in this investigation buying and smuggling "weapons of choice" in a very short period of time. His routine lately has been to buy firearms in the middle part of the week and then after work on Thursday immediately drive them south to Nogales, Arizona and then across the border into Nogales, Mexico. This created a situation in which we had to act fast in order to try to pursue our "Gunrunner" goal of establishing a link with our Mexican counterparts in order to further this investigation and have a greater impact. As outline in the briefing paper I forwarded last week our first effort failed when the Mexican Federal officials completely missed the vehicle that we took all the way to the Nogales port of entry and handed off to them. The subjects in this case returned to Phoenix the next day and immediately started buying firearms, which they then took down this past Thursday night. This time the Mexicans overreacted and had a small army waiting on the south-side of the border, along with our Mexico Country Attaché. That amount of activity at either port of entry, either on the U.S. or Mexico side, quickly spreads amongst the smuggling community on both sides of the border. Word quickly gets out that "now is not a good time" for whatever contraband is trying to be crossed, drugs, cash, guns, etc. The smugglers have people who work at the ports of entry, watch the ports of entry and/or take "test drives" through the ports of entry with no contraband to see if any unusual activity is taking place. They are used to "surges" by law enforcement on both sides of the border and know that they are short-lived. Had we had more time we would have better coordinated our efforts with not only a vetted Mexican law enforcement group but also with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials, who we notified days before but who I believe did not think it would happen again so soon. CBP notification is needed in order to get "pass through" authority, that being knowledge and assistance on their part to allow a load of contraband through the port of entry. They are used to doing this with DEA and ICE when assisting with controlled deliveries of narcotics going north from Mexico to the U.S.

Lastly, I truly appreciate the enthusiasm the Carson demonstrated about this case and I'm truly sorry that things that were my fault had to damper that as well as get him jammed up with you. Having someone in HQ who champions an effort like this, or any new approach that agents are willing to put in very long hours and a lot of hard work to pursue, is truly appreciated. Whatever the final decision is about us pursuing this or any future efforts of this kind I stand willing to obey that decision and continue to pursue ATF's primary mission - Reduce Violent Crime.

I hope this answers any questions you might have. If not please let me know what additional questions you might have and I will do everything possible to answer them.

Thank you.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Phoenix Field Division

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Friday, December 17, 2010 6:03 PM
To: Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ)
Subject: Meeting Monday or Tuesday

Left a voicemail. Need to meet to discuss status of Fast/Furious indictments. Thanks

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)
RC-1

HGR ATF - 002764

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2011 7:05 PM
To: McMahon, William G.; Kumor, Daniel J.
Subject: Fw: After Action

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From: Zicha, Marjorie L.
To: Newell, William D.; Needles, James R.; Gillett, George T. Jr.; Voth, David J.; Mangan, Thomas G.; MacAllister, Hope A.; English, Tonya A.; France, Layne
Sent: Tue Jan 25 18:33:25 2011
Subject: After Action

Command post began operation at 0530 hours and ended operations at 1227 hours.

Search Team 1 and 2 executed their warrants at 0601 hours and 0602 respectively. The remaining arrests teams were giving the green light by OCS Voth at 0611 hours.

12/15/10 Arrest - 1 (Jaime AVILA by ATF)
01/24/11 Arrest - 1 (Francisco PONCE by PPD)
01/25/11 Arrest - 1 (Julio CARRILLO in Nogales POE)
01/25/11 Arrests - 15

Fugitives: 2 (Manuel CELIS-ACOSTA & Juan MARTINEZ-GONZALEZ)
Handguns - 4
Rifles - 4
Shotguns - 3
Assorted Ammo - 898 Rounds

Marijuana - 2.45 kg
Methamphetamine - 1 kg

Cellular Telephones - 30

Laptop Computers - 3
Desktop Computers - 2
Cameras - 2
GPS - 1

Ballistic Vest - 1

Digital Scales - 7

HOCR ATF - 002765

Financial documents and indicia

A good day's work indeed.

Marjorie Zicha - Senior IRS
Acting Intel Group Supervisor

RC-1

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the majority of the page's content below the name and title.

HOCR ATF - 002766

From: Needles, James R.
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2011 4:54:57 PM
To: SAR/SIR Message Delivery
CC: McMahon, William G.; Newell, William D.; Gillett, George T. Jr.;
Mangan, Thomas G.
Subject: FW: SIR - Firearms

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE -- BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND
EXPLOSIVES
SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION REPORT

DATE: January 25, 2011
FROM: Phoenix Field Division
FIELD OFFICE: Phoenix VII Field Office

CASE INFORMATION

CASE NUMBER: 785115-10-0004
CASE TITLE: CHAMBERS, Jacob, et al
SPECIAL AGENT: Voth, David
TELEPHONE NUMBER: RC-1

SYNOPSIS OF INCIDENT/ACTIVITY:

Arrest of 18 suspects in firearms trafficking investigation.

NARRATIVE OF INCIDENT/ACTIVITY:

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 25th, 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. Two (2) defendants still remain at large as Federal fugitives; their location is currently being sought by the United States Marshals Service.

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 HOBRAF-002767 recovered.

Several of the subjects provided interviews to ATF agents and to Mexican Law Enforcement Officials who were present on scene which resulted in additional leads and information that is currently being follow-up. Additional indictments are anticipated on this investigation.

HOCR ATF - 002768

From: Cunningham, Patrick (USAAZ) RC-1
Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2011 5:19:09 PM
To: Newell, William D.
CC: Morrissey, Mike (USAAZ); Hurley, Emory (USAAZ); Gwinn, Laura (CRM);
Tarango, Maruel (USAAZ); STEVENAZCA@aol.com; Burke, Dennis (USAAZ);
Scheel, Ann (USAAZ); Hernandez, Rachel (USAAZ); Trusty, James (CRM)
Subject: F + F and Flores Indictment for Tuesday

Bill- here is the info on Flores, and Laura and Emory know all the facts. In my view Flores should be added to our announcement since it is related to F and F and makes it a multiple count announcement.

-Indictment in Flores, et al has 8 defendants for Straw purchases out of Phoenix.

-Laura Gwinn is working on a summary now. Your agents did Flores so they know the case.

-Steve Clausen is working the Press Conf for our office. Thanks! Pjc

HOCR ATF - 002769

DOJ-FF-59125

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Tuesday, December 08, 2009 11:50:45 AM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Subject: RE: Conference

10-4

-----Original Message-----

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Tuesday, December 08, 2009 9:48 AM
To: Voth, David J.
Subject: Fw: Conference

Fyi -

I hope all this was discussed with Sig. If not, please keep this between us and we can discuss tonight.

George T. Gillett
Assistant Special Agent in Charge
ATF - Phoenix Field Division

RC-1

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----- Original Message -----

From: Celaya, Sigberto F.
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Tue Dec 08 11:37:48 2009
Subject: RE: Conference

They have a case open that they are wanting to make an OCDETF case out of. I support their effort. I would only recommend that some action is taken in attempts to slow down the purchasing and exportation of the firearms and ammunition. Our agents have now been involved in two incidents that have had major seizures relating to their case. We are being told that they have documented over 300 firearms being purchased by this group. Our investigative efforts reflect that the suspect in this recent seizure is responsible for purchasing over \$25,000 of ammunition. Only \$10,000 worth of ammo was seized.

-----Original Message-----

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Tuesday, December 08, 2009 9:24 AM
To: Celaya, Sigberto F.
Subject: Re: Conference

Thank you. What did you both decide?

George T. Gillett
Assistant Special Agent in Charge
ATF - Phoenix Field Division

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002770

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----- Original Message -----

From: Celaya, Sigberto F.
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Tue Dec 08 11:22:53 2009
Subject: RE: Conference

Done

-----Original Message-----

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Tuesday, December 08, 2009 9:14 AM
To: Celaya, Sigberto F.; Voth, David J.
Subject: Conference

Sig -

If you and GS Voth haven't spoke yet, please contact Dave as soon as possible.

Thank you,

George T. Gillett
Assistant Special Agent in Charge
ATF - Phoenix Field Division
RC-1

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HOCR ATF - 002771

DOJ-FF-59127

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 12:36 PM
To: Newell, William D.; Gillett, George T. Jr.
CC: Zicha, Marjorie L.
Subject: RE: Today's Multiple Sales
Attachments: FIREARM SPREADSHEET.xlsx

No sir and here is a spreadsheet of Mr. Steward's guns that we are aware of, sorry I did not attach it with the previous e-mail...I believe (although it might not be complete) he has purchase 50 firearms in 2 days--12/07 & 12/08 not to mention the 12/10 guns that need to be added to the spreadsheet.

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 10:33 AM
To: Voth, David J.
Subject: RE: Today's Multiple Sales

See, I'm not as dumb as everyone makes me out to be, especially your old boss Mr. Zapor.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)
RC-1

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 10:31 AM
To: Newell, William D.; Gillett, George T. Jr.
Cc: Zicha, Marjorie L.
Subject: RE: Today's Multiple Sales

I am sorry but Mr. Sean Steward is in N-Force under our current Group VII case (285135-10-0004) and his guns are entered into suspect gun database etc... We have 4473s from 12/08/09 and from last night (12/10/09) where he bought approximately 20 additional AK-47s from Lone Wolf etc...

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 9:57 AM
To: Voth, David J.
Subject: FW: Today's Multiple Sales

FYI, my hunches tell me he's involved but maybe I'm wrong.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)
RC-1

From: Zicha, Marjorie L.
Sent: Wednesday, December 09, 2009 11:51 AM

HOCR ATF - 002772

To: Newell, William D.
Subject: RE: Today's Multiple Sales

No and this is the only multiple purchase this individual has made, no nexus to any traces either. I checked STEWARD for an FFL, negative.

He may be one to watch.

m

Marjorie Zicha
Senior Intelligence Research Specialist
Phoenix Field Division

RC-1

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Wednesday, December 09, 2009 8:47 AM
To: Zicha, Marjorie L.
Subject: Today's Multiple Sale
Is this one of the guys in Hope's "Auto Body = Naco" case?

M20090209R41 ERAN CHRISTOPHER STEWARD Nbr: 98636972 (Last Dealer in

3,094 Traces)

Address: RC-1

DOB: RC-1

POB: RC-1

ID-Type: DL ID-State: A2 ID-Nbr: RC-1

Firearms: Mfg: Caliber: Serial: Type: Purchased:

RMC	762	RC-5	Pistol	12-07-2009
RMC	762		Pistol	12-07-2009
RMC	762		Pistol	12-07-2009
RMC	762		Pistol	12-07-2009
RMC	762		Pistol	12-07-2009
RMC	762		Pistol	12-07-2009
RMC	762		Pistol	12-07-2009
RMC	762		Pistol	12-07-2009
RMC	762		Pistol	12-07-2009
RMC	762		Pistol	12-07-2009

I & B II, INC
I & B SALES, LTD
440 MILLEN VALLEY RD.
PRESCOTT AZ 85301
RC-1

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)
RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002773

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Tuesday, June 08, 2010 5:26 PM
To: Simpson, Kevin
Subject: RE: Request Submissions for SWB Briefing Paper
Attachments: Tuesday, June 8, 2010.docx

Voth Group VII, might look familiar but I added a case.

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Monday, June 07, 2010 10:55 AM
To: Phoe-CE Supervisors; Phoe-IO Supervisors
Cc: Cook, Nancy F.; Phoe-Group IV, Intell
Subject: Request Submissions for SWB Briefing Paper

Supervisors,

Please reply with any submissions you might have by C.O.B. Wednesday June 9th for the SWB Briefing Paper.
Please include the case number and title. Please only submit cases that have updated information included. I have attached the last briefing paper for your review.

Thank you.

Kevin Simpson, Acting Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - RC-1
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428
RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002774

785115-10-0020: ATF Phoenix Group VII – Phoenix Strike Force has begun an investigation into the firearms trafficking activities of RC-4. To date, this investigation, aided by a reliable confidential source (hereinafter CS), has determined that at least 14 firearms (with many more suspected “straw” purchasers providing a large amount of additional firearms) have been purchased on behalf of, and subsequently delivered to RC-4. By his own account (documented in audio recordings between RC-4 and the CS), RC-4 obliterates the serial numbers of these firearms prior to his delivering them “South (to Mexico)”. The CS was able to successfully introduce S/A Dodson to RC-4 as a new, potential “straw” purchaser and someone who may be able to meet RC-4’s recent request for NFA type firearms (specifically military grade armament and ordinance). Subsequently, S/A Dodson participated in a controlled meeting (meet and greet) with RC-4 during which RC-4 solicited S/A Dodson to “straw” purchase AK pistols from local FFL’s and agreed to pay S/A Dodson \$100.00 profit for each one delivered. Additionally, RC-4 expressed his desire to purchase suppressors (in 9mm, .45, .223, 7.62), 40mm grenade launchers, and 40mm High Explosive (HE or other anti-personnel type) in whatever quantities that S/A Dodson was able to obtain. On June 1st, acting in an undercover capacity, S/A Dodson delivered 6 AK “DRACO” pistols to RC-4. RC-4 reimbursed S/A Dodson \$300 for each pistol, plus provided S/A Dodson with \$600 for conducting the “straw” purchases and an additional \$100 bonus. During the u/c OP, RC-4 stated his intent to sell/traffic the pistols for profit and again expressed his interest in purchasing the military hardware/ammunition/firearms. RC-4 also requested that S/A Dodson have a “trap” installed in his (RC-4’s) vehicle to assist with his trafficking activities. Immediately after the u/c OP RC-4 was followed by agents to a storage locker facility.

785115-10-0004: ATF OCDETF investigation Operation Fast and Furious. To date (October 2009 – present) the investigation has revealed one thousand six hundred and eight (1,608) suspected straw purchase of firearms by RC-5 targets of this investigation. The core group of this investigation is constantly recruiting new straw purchasers and disassociating with others. Individuals who purchased in 2009 are not currently purchasing firearms and a new straw purchaser was just identified by ATF agents through surveillance on June 7, 2010 during the purchase of .50 caliber rifle.

To date ATF agents are aware of or have caused three hundred and nine (309) of these firearms to be recovered. One hundred and seventy nine (179) have been recovered in the Republic of Mexico, and one hundred and thirty (130) have been recovered domestically in the United States. Of those domestic recoveries all have been along or near the U.S. and Mexican border; i.e. El Paso, TX, Douglas, AZ, Nogales, AZ, Sells, AZ, Casa Grande, AZ with the farthest recovery north of the border being here in Phoenix, AZ. In order to purchase these 1,608 suspected firearms this group has spent over one million (\$1,000,000.00) in cash transaction at various Phoenix area FFLs. Due to the proximity to the border bank subpoenas and financial investigations have yielded little or no results.

RC-3

RC-3 To date Patino has personally purchased six hundred and six (606) firearms on behalf of the group. In support of these purchases Patino has spent over four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00) in cash transactions

HOCR ATF - 002775

at various Phoenix area FFLs. Patino is currently receiving Food Stamp benefits from the State of Arizona due to his lack of income. ATF agents are working with the USDA-OIG.

Phoenix ATF agents are conducting almost daily surveillance of these above mentioned firearms transactions. This group is highly surveillance conscience and conducts counter surveillance RC-3

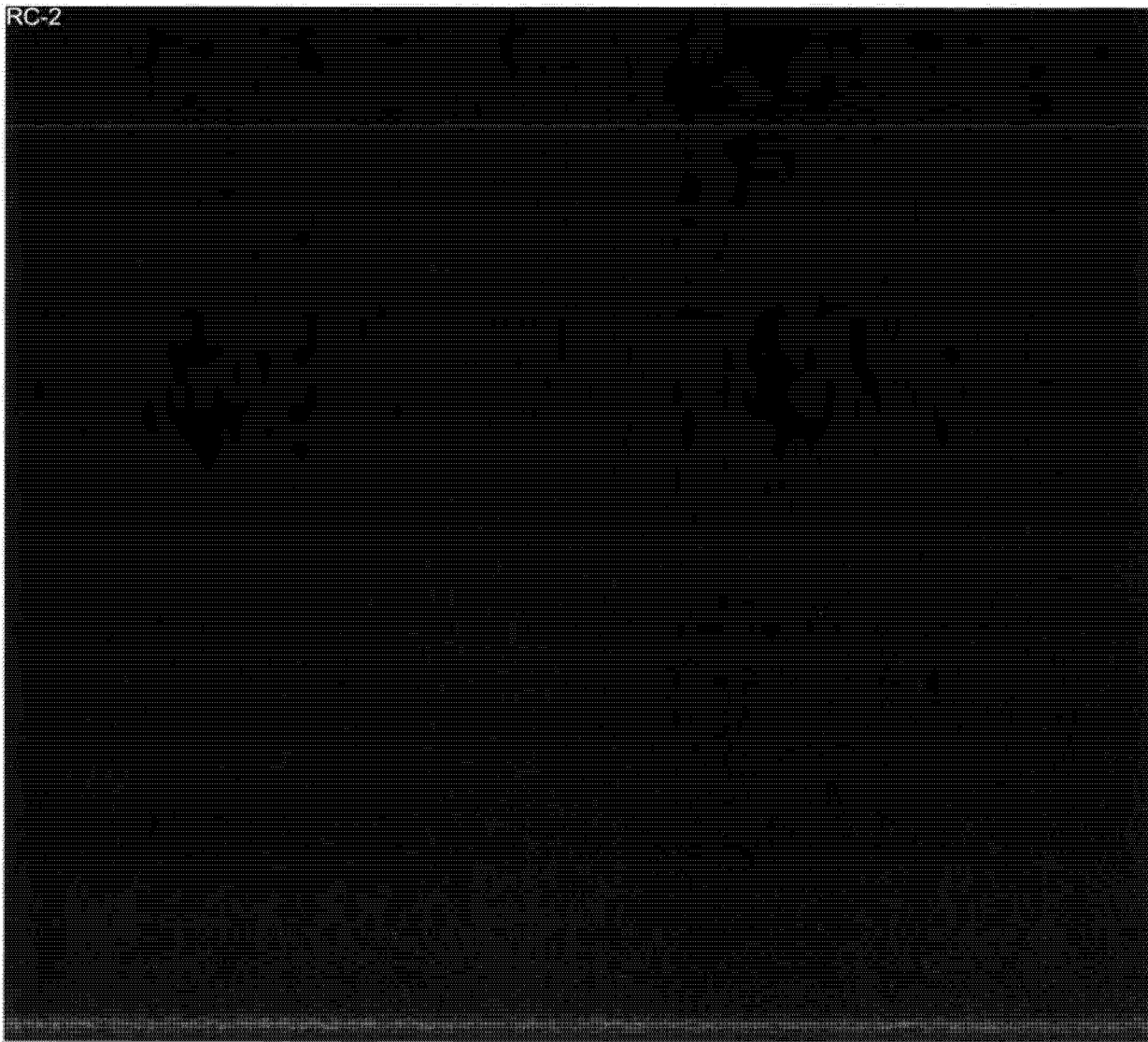
RC-3

RC-3

This group makes "U-turns", they pull over and start again for no apparent reason, and they alter their speed, and almost always enter residential cul-de-sacs where entry by a surveillance vehicle would certainly be noticed. ATF agents have tried to utilize the Phoenix Police department air wing unit has much as possible but due to their mission and scheduling they are not always available to assist.

ATF agents have identified over a dozen (12) different "stash houses" where this group deposits firearms prior to arranging for further transportation south. The firearms may stay at these stash houses for anywhere from hours to in excess of one week.

RC-2



From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Friday, July 16, 2010 4:19 PM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: RE: Solicitud OEPA/047/2010

Can you please define "good"?

So now I guess from Mexico is there anything more they can tell us about this seizure?

Thanks,

Dave

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Friday, July 16, 2010 12:30 PM
To: Voth, David J.
Subject: Re: Solicitud OEPA/047/2010

My hunches were correct, told you there was more to me than good looks.

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

RC-1

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From: Voth, David J.
To: Newell, William D.
Sent: Fri Jul 16 15:11:24 2010
Subject: RE: Solicitud OEPA/047/2010

Yes sir, 5 were purchased by Patino on February 25, 2010 (on the PGR list; # 1, # 3, #4, #5, & # 18.)

Also # 9, # 12, & # 17 were sold out of a home dealer in Peoria; Clinton Knopp. I do not have the name of the actual purchaser yet but this is the same dealer that had that other trace yesterday from the July 1st shoot you sent me. He has a lot of Mexico recoveries for a guy who sells guns out of his garage...

From: Newell, William D.
Sent: Friday, July 16, 2010 10:34 AM
To: Voth, David J.
Subject: FW: Solicitud OEPA/047/2010
Importance: High

This was a seizure in Navojoa, Sonora on July 4th. It wasn't in eTrace yet so I asked Carlos to get me the info. The Sonoran PGR office report is attached listing all the firearms data, a little hard to read but you can make it out. Just curious if any of the Fast and Furious firearms are there.

Bill Newell
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)
RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002777

From: RC-1
Sent: Friday, July 16, 2010 9:18 AM
To: Newell, William D.
Subject: FW: Solicitud OEPA/047/2010
Importance: High

Bill, aquí te mando la información que me solicitaste con respecto a un aseguramiento en Navojoa, Son. El día 4 de Julio de 2010.

From: RC-1 [mailto:RC-1@pgr.gob.mx]
Sent: Friday, July 16, 2010 9:01 AM
To: RC-1
Subject: RV: Solicitud OEPA/047/2010
Importance: High

RC-1
Titular de la Oficina de Enlace de PGR
Phoenix Arizona.
201 E WASHINGTON ST.
SUITE #940 PHOENIX AZ. 85004

RC-1
Email: RC-1@pgr.gob.mx y RC-1@atf.gov

De: RC-1
Enviado el: jueves, 15 de julio de 2010 05:57 p.m.
Para: RC-1
Asunto: RV: Solicitud OEPA/047/2010

Estimado RC-1:

Adjunto te envío el dictamen solicitado, así como la tarjeta generada con motivo de este asunto.

Quedo al pendiente para cuando se defina lo del curso.

Saludos cordiales

Atte

RC-1

"Toda la información de este correo así como la contenida en los documentos que se adjuntan, se encuentra clasificada conforme a lo previsto en los artículos 13 fracciones I, IV, 14 fracciones I, III y IV y 18 fracción II de la Ley Federal de Transparencia y Acceso a la Información Pública Gubernamental, en relación con lo dispuesto en los Lineamientos Generales para la clasificación y desclasificación de la información de las dependencias y entidades de la Administración Pública Gubernamental, emitidos por el Pleno del Instituto Federal de Acceso a la Información Pública, publicados en el D.O.F. el 18 de agosto de de 2003, así como a las Recomendaciones para la organización y conservación de correos electrónicos institucionales de las dependencias y entidades de la Administración Pública Federal, emitida por el Instituto señalado y publicadas el 10 de febrero en el D.O.F. 2009"

Estimado Licenciado, que gusto de volver a escribirle, aunque sea solicitándole su auxilio para obtener información, le comento que su servidor ha estado fuera del país y del continente por un mes y una semana, motivo por el cual no había

HOCR ATF - 002778

tenido la oportunidad de saludarlo, sin embargo estoy preparando un curso de especialistas en desactivación y reconocimiento de artefactos explosivos caseros, para el personal de PGR y otros en el estado de Sonora, en cuanto se concrete me pondré en contacto con usted nuevamente.

Por otro lado le quería pedir de favor si se me pudiera proporcionar una Tarjeta Informativa y el dictamen pericial de las armas aseguradas en un evento el día **4 de Julio 2010 en el Municipio de Navojoa, Son., donde elementos del ejército al revisar un vehículo pick up chevrolet silverado 2005 color blanco con placas UV-82 364 encontraron 25 fusiles tipo AK 47 entre otras cosas.**

Sin mas por el momento le envío un cordial saludo.

RC-1

Titular de la Oficina de Enlace de PGR
Phoenix Arizona,
201 E WASHINGTON ST.
SUITE #940 PHOENIX AZ. 85004

RC-1

Email RC-1 @pgr.gob.mx y RC-1 @atf.gov

Toda la información de este correo así como la contenida en los documentos que se adjuntan, se encuentra clasificada conforme a lo previsto en los artículos 13 fracciones I, IV, 14 fracciones I, III y IV y 18 fracción II de la Ley Federal de Transparencia y Acceso a la Información Pública Gubernamental, en relación con lo dispuesto en los Lineamientos Generales para la clasificación y desclasificación de la información de las dependencias y entidades de la Administración Pública Gubernamental, emitidos por el Pleno del Instituto Federal de Acceso a la Información Pública, publicados en el D.O.F. el 18 de agosto de de 2003, así como a las Recomendaciones para la organización y conservación de correos electrónicos institucionales de las dependencias y entidades de la Administración Pública Federal, emitida por el Instituto señalado y publicadas el 10 de febrero en el D.O.F. 2009

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HOCR ATF - 002779

DOJ-FF-59135

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Thursday, July 15, 2010 7:51 PM
To: Simpson, Kevin; Merical, Yolanda M.
Subject: RE: SWB Briefing Paper and GRIT Summaries
Attachments: Phoenix Group VII biweekly update 07-15-2010.docx

Here is Group VII's submission.

Thanks

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2010 10:38 AM
To: Phoe-CE Supervisors; Phoe-IO Supervisors; Murray, Shawn P.; Hildick, Michael
Cc: Cook, Nancy F.; Merical, Yolanda M.
Subject: SWB Briefing Paper and GRIT Summaries

Supervisors,

This week we have GRIT reporting, as well as the SWB Briefing Paper. Please reply, to me, by COB tomorrow (Thursday) with any submissions you might have. Please include the case title and number. Please provide in the order you deem important. I'll use your top two cases for the GRIT report and include all in the SWB Briefing Paper.

Thank you.

Kevin Simpson, Acting Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - RC-1
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

RC-1

HOGRAF - 002780

785115-10-0004, Operation Fast and Furious:

On July 12, 2010, Federal Parolee, Kenneth Thompson was arrested and charged on Arizona state charges of Hit and Run and Felon in Possession of a Firearm after fleeing from Peoria Police Department patrol units. ATF provided Peoria Police with information that Thompson was in possession of firearms as part of an active RC-3 case; Operation Fast & Furious, 785115-10-0004. Thompson fled from officers and crashed his vehicle into a cinder block wall after jumping the train tracks near the intersection of 67th Lane and Grand Avenue, Peoria, AZ. Both Thompson and the unidentified passenger fled the scene on foot and a short time later Peoria Police officers captured Thompson approximately ½ mile from the scene. Thompson suffered a broken leg and was transported to a local hospital for treatment, the passenger was never located. Thompson was released from Federal custody in September of 2009, after serving approximately 60 months after he entered a plea of guilty of 21 USC 846, Conspiracy to Possess Marijuana in February 2004.

During an inventory search of the vehicle, Peoria police officers recovered (20) ROMARM/CUGIR, 7.62x39 caliber rifles from the bed of the truck. The firearms had been purchased earlier that day by a subject identified as a straw purchaser in the coinciding ATF investigation. In addition, (2) pistols were recovered from the cab compartment of the vehicle. ATF agents took custody of the (20) ROMARM 7.62x39 caliber rifles as part of the ongoing ATF investigation. Peoria officer retained custody of the (2) pistols for further state prosecution.

On July 13, 2010 Phoenix Police Department (PPD) RC-5
RC-5 Carlon's Auto Service located at 3501 W. Lincoln Ave., Phoenix, AZ and RC-5
numerous firearms in a backroom RC-5 being "loaded up." The PPD Detective was aware of this ongoing ATF firearms trafficking investigation (Operation Fast and Furious) and coordinated with Phoenix Group VII agents. This business had previously been identified as being a related business for firearms trafficking activities as part of this investigation. ATF Group VII agents and PPD Detectives went to business to conduct an interview. They obtained consent and subsequently recovered 73 firearms; 20 AK-47 variant rifles, 1 – Barrett .50 caliber rifle, 1 – AR-15 rifle, approximately 50 – semi-automatic pistols (mainly 9mm caliber), approximately 250 – 75 round drum magazines for 7.62 caliber rounds, as well as other various magazines and assorted ammunition.

The traces of the firearms indicate that many are recently purchased by known straw purchasers in this investigation. Some of the 9mm pistols appear to be used (secondary market) firearms and this recovery happens to coincide with the fact that was just a large Gun Show in Phoenix, AZ the previous weekend (July 9-11, 2010.) Additionally these 250 - 75 round drum magazines retail for over \$200.00 each, which would be in excess of \$50,000.00 worth of magazines.

This recovery adds to the total of 169 firearms recovered in the previous 25 days by Group VII agents and GRIT agents assigned to Group VII as part of Southwest Border Firearms Trafficking investigations.

RC-2



HOCR ATF - 002782

From: Voth, David J.

Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2010 7:04 PM

To: MacAllister, Hope A.

Subject: GAG order in place per Division! Don't talk outside of Group VII or SAC/ASAC. Emory knows

David Voth

Group Supervisor

Phoenix Group VII

RC-1

HOGRA TE - 002783

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 6:29 PM
To: Simpson, Kevin
Subject: RE: SWB Briefing Paper
Attachments: PHOENIX GROUP VII biweekly update 02-03-2011.docx

Sorry Kevin,

RC-5 (Acosta) was arrested last night by the USMS in El Paso and Hope and Tonya flew out to interview him and we just had a deal here in Phoenix and we seized 10 AK-47 rifles today...it is all included.

Thanks,

Dave

From: Simpson, Kevin
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 3:05 PM
To: Voth, David J.
Subject: SWB Briefing Paper

Dave,

I know you're probably tired of writing but I need to submit summaries for the SWB Briefing Paper and don't have anything from you. Just let me know if you don't have anything. I'll hold off until tomorrow if you want to send me something. Thanks.

Special Agent Kevin Simpson
Division Operations Officer
U.S. Department of Justice - ATF
201 E. Washington Street - RC-1
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2428

RC-1

HOGRAF - 002784

DOJ-FF-59140

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 25th, 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.

Several of the subjects provided interviews on scene to ATF agents and to Mexican Law Enforcement Officials who were present on scene which resulted in additional leads and information that is currently being follow-up.

On February 2, 2011, the United States Marshals Service developed information that the main suspect and fugitive in this investigation, Manuel Fabian Celis-Acosta was hiding in a relative's house in El Paso, Texas. The USMS followed up accordingly and arrested Acosta in El Paso. Two ATF agents from Phoenix flew to El Paso and conducted an interview with Acosta. RC-5

RC-5

One defendant (Juan Martinez-Gonzales) 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.

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2009 10:17 AM
To: Voth, David J.
Subject: RE: Latest Trafficking Case

10-4. Coffee??

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2009 8:15 AM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Subject: RE: Latest Trafficking Case

I just spoke with Hope and she stated she sent him the list last week, maybe are talking apples and oranges but according to SA MacAllister she sent Lorren what he requested last week...

Thanks,

Dave Voth

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2009 6:45 AM
To: Voth, David J.
Cc: Zicha, Marjorie L.; Quinonez, Louis A.; O'Keefe, Kevin C.
Subject: Fw: Latest Trafficking Case
Importance: High

Dave

Please coordinate with Intel and see if Marj can assist with this request.

Thanks

George T. Gillett
Assistant Special Agent in Charge
ATF - Phoenix Field Division
RC-1

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From: O'Keefe, Kevin C.
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Sent: Mon Dec 14 08:03:51 2009
Subject: Latest Trafficking Case

George - I know my folks made contact last week while I was away from the office. DAD McMahon has tasked us with doing a link analysis on Hope's case, in order for him to brief AD Chait, who will in turn brief a DOJ Attorney on new SWB operational plans and use this case as an example. Sorry, if this word did not come down the field ops chain to you all.

My folks are under a time crunch, need to print out link analysis by tomorrow (Tuesday). They still need the Suspect Gun List that NTC provided Hope at the end of last week, in order to complete their chart. Can you please remind her to

HOGRAF - 002786

send it to Lorren Leadmon, Alex Kruthaupt and Kristen Lauffer? Much appreciated.

Call me if you have questions or concerns. RC-1 [REDACTED] is cell.

Kevin O'Keefe
Chief, Criminal Int'l Div.
RC-1 [REDACTED]

From: Leadmon, Lorren D.
Sent: Sunday, December 13, 2009 11:53 PM
To: O'Keefe, Kevin C.
Subject:

I HAVE NOT RECEIVED THE SUSPECT GUN LIST FROM PHOENIX WITH THE PURCHASERS NAMES IN ORDER TO COMPLETE YOUR REQUEST.

Lorren D. Leadmon
Team Leader

Field Intelligence Support Team - Southwest Border
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Intelligence Operations Specialist

RC-1 [REDACTED]

HOCR ATF - 002787

From: Casa, Olindo J.
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 3:44 AM
To: Voth, David J.
Subject: Tomorrow (Tuesday) Surveillance for Casa

Dave,

It looks like myself and the surveillance crew will be working late into the night in order to "bed down" Patino. However, if you would like me to start in the morning rather than the afternoon in order **RC-3** **RC-3** call or text me in the morning (just not too early) and let me know when you want me to start. If I don't hear from you, I will just come in at my scheduled time (13:30hrs).

By the way, I believe a three man team conducted a surveillance here in Phoenix last night on Montelongo. I did not get the full story, but I believe Montelongo purchased firearms at LWTC and surveillance believes he might of handed the gun(s) off to somebody else (????). License tag of the vehicle was **RC-5** Gold colored Toyota sedan. Not sure about the details though - I think Bear was out there.

Lee

OLindo J. Casa

Olindo J. Casa
Special Agent - Bureau of ATF
Phoenix Group VII

RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002788

From: Henderson, Frank J.
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 6:09 PM
To: Voth, David J.
Subject: RE: ICE - Request #105428

OK. I'll see what I can do. How long until you guys wrap this up? I know you guys must have HQ and others breathing down your neck. That is the pain with these cases. Everyone in HQ wants the big case tied to major cartels but due to the way these guys work you just usually end up with the straw purchasing scheme. From my experience, these firearms brokers will sell to multiple cartel/groups. I have no idea what you guys got but would love to see what you are finding out when you wrap it up.

Frank

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 4:05 PM
To: Henderson, Frank J.
Subject: RE: ICE - Request #105428

If you want, we have our case here in Phoenix on the straw purchasers which is what it is. I have spoken to the Laredo ATF agents etc. I am not sure what else I need.

From: Henderson, Frank J.
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 3:03 PM
To: Voth, David J.
Subject: RE: ICE - Request #105428

Do you want to see what I can get here?

Frank

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 4:02 PM
To: Henderson, Frank J.
Subject: RE: ICE - Request #105428

Trying...I went to an SOD de-confliction meeting in Chicago a couple of weeks ago and I am unsure if anybody is "In the loop." I sent an e-mail to the DEA agent I met from Laredo and he never responded to my e-mail...?

From: Henderson, Frank J.
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 2:58 PM
To: Voth, David J.
Subject: RE: ICE - Request #105428

I do not know. I just get a weekly list of ICE traced firearms from the NTC. You would have to reach out to them. I just recognized that these were your guns.

Are you guys working with ICE on this now. I know DEA in Laredo has RC-3 [REDACTED] on the guys in Laredo. Are you in the loop with them?

Frank

HOCR ATF - 002789

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 3:55 PM
To: Henderson, Frank J.
Subject: RE: ICE - Request #105428

I have a question, how does this information get released/forwarded? Of the Laredo guns all were originally purchased as part of active ATF investigations of straw purchasers and were entered into Suspect Guns. I did not see a column for ATF case numbers or any other indicator when the firearm submitted for tracing by ICE was part of an active ATF investigation.

Thanks,

David Voth
Group Supervisor
Phoenix Group VII
RC-1

From: Henderson, Frank J.
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 2:14 PM
To: Voth, David J.; MacAllister, Hope A.
Subject: FW: ICE - Request #105428

I am sure you guys have seen all these but here are the traces requests submitted by ICE, mostly for the Laredo seizure.

Frank Henderson
ATF EPIC
RC-1

From: Boarman, Lisa K.
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 2:09 PM
To: O'Keefe, Kevin C.
Cc: Surotchak, Frank J.; Mullins, Daniel R.; Gillett, George T. Jr.; Zicha, Marjorie L.; Serrano, Ricardo; Kumor, Daniel J.; Leadmon, Lorren D.; Fasciani, Dennis C.; Hoben, Shawn P.; Bohan, Rich G.; Dwyer, Daniel J.; Salas, Armando; Golson Sr., Michael A.; Anglin, Karl G.; Shaefer, Christopher C.; Elder, Robert W.; Needles, James R.; Harden, Eric D.; Quinonez, Louis A.; Torres, John A.; Newell, William D.; Champion, Robert R.; Chisholm, Kenneth L.; Webb, J. Dewey; Alejandre, Marna B.; Bass, William F.; Henderson, Frank J.
Subject: ICE - Request #105428

Good Afternoon Division Chief O'Keefe,

The Violent Crime Analysis Branch has processed your request to provide a weekly report of the total number of firearm traces submitted by ICE.

There were 114 firearm traces submitted by ICE during the time period of May 31, 2010 to June 6, 2010.

Attached is an Excel spreadsheet for the 114 firearm traces submitted by ICE.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Frank J. Surotchak, Chief, Violent Crime Analysis Branch at RC-1

Please be advised that the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2010, Public L. 111-117, which became effective

HOCR ATF - 002790

on December 16, 2009, restricts the disclosure of any part of the contents of the Firearms Tracing System or any information required to be kept by Federal Firearms Licensees pursuant to 18 USC 923(g), or required to be reported pursuant to 18 USC 923(g)(3) and 923(g)(7).

The information, which is being provided per your request, is for official law enforcement use only and may only be disseminated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to a Federal, State, local, or tribal law enforcement agency, or a Federal, State, or local prosecutor; or a foreign law enforcement agency solely in connection with and for use in a criminal investigation or prosecution; or a Federal agency for a national security or intelligence purpose. This disclosure restriction shall not be construed to prevent the sharing or exchange of such information among and between Federal, State, local, or foreign law enforcement agencies, Federal, State, or local prosecutors, and Federal national security, intelligence, or counterterrorism officials. Congress has prohibited the public release of any data by the recipient law enforcement agency. The publication of statistical aggregate data regarding firearms traffickers and trafficking channels, firearms misuse, felons, and trafficking investigations is exempt from the restriction. If you have questions regarding these restrictions please contact ATF legal counsel prior to disclosing any of the information provided in this correspondence outside of ATF.

Thank You,

Lisa Boarman
Contractor
Violent Crime Analysis Branch

RC:

HOCR ATF - 002791

From: O'Keefe, Kevin C.
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2010 2:41:26 PM
To: Voth, David J.
Subject: Fw: SIR

Very nice hat! Glad to see other aspects of the Inv going your way. Nice job.
Kevin C. O'Keefe
Chief, Crim Intel Div

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----- Original Message -----
From: Significant Activity Report
To: SAR/SIR Message Delivery
Sent: Wed Jul 14 14:16:48 2010
Subject: FW: SIR

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2010 2:16:45 PM
To: Needles, James R.; Newell, William D.; Voth, David J.
Subject: Significant Activity Report
Subject: SIR
Auto Forwarded by a Rule

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE - BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES
SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION REPORT

DATE: July 14, 2010
FROM: Phoenix Field Division
FIELD OFFICE: Phoenix VII Field Office

CASE INFORMATION

CASE NUMBER: 785115-10-0004
CASE TITLE: CHAMBERS, Jacob, et al
SPECIAL AGENT: Voth, David
TELEPHONE NUMBER: RC-1

SYNOPSIS OF INCIDENT/ACTIVITY:

Recovery of 73 firearms and 250 AK-47 drum magazines.

NARRATIVE OF INCIDENT/ACTIVITY:

On July 13, 2010 Phoenix Police Department (PPD) RC-5
RC-5 Carlon's Auto Service Located at 3501 W. Lincoln

HOGRAF - 002792

Ave., Phoenix, AZ RC-5 numerous firearms in a backroom RC-5 RC-5 being "loaded up." The PPD Detective was aware of this ongoing ATF firearms trafficking investigation (Operation Fast and Furious) and coordinated with Phoenix Group VII agents. This business had previously been identified as being a related business for firearms trafficking activities as part of this investigation. ATF Group VII agents and PPD Detectives went to business to conduct an interview. They obtained consent and subsequently recovered 73 firearms; 20 - AK 47 variant rifles, 1 - Barrett .50 caliber rifle, 1 - AR 15 rifle, approximately 50 - semi automatic pistols (mainly 9mm caliber), approximately 250 - 75 round drum magazines for 7.62 caliber rounds, as well as other various magazines and assorted ammunition.

The traces of the firearms indicate that many are recently purchased by known straw purchasers in this investigation. Some of the 9mm pistols appear to be used (secondary market) firearms and this recovery happens to coincide with the fact that was just a large Gun Show in Phoenix, AZ the previous weekend (July 9-11, 2010.) Additionally these 250 - 75 round drum magazines retail for over \$200.00 each, which would be in excess of \$50,000.00 worth of magazines.

This recovery adds to the total of 169 firearms recovered in the previous 25 days by Group VII agents and GRIT agents assigned to Group VII as part of Southwest Border Firearms Trafficking investigations.

HOCR ATF - 002793

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Friday, March 19, 2010 10:47 PM
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.
Subject: The week in review

George,

The following is a approximate update of this weeks activities in review. If I have omitted something it is due to the busy schedule not intentional;

- RC-3
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Since 03/15/2010 our targets have purchased 105 firearms from local FFLs. This includes 3 Barrett .50 caliber rifles. On one occasion surveillance followed Patino and Moore from SGC to LWTC to Acosta's location; 20th and Indian School RC-3 [REDACTED]. At Acosta's location firearms were transferred into 3 separate waiting vehicles. Additional firearms were observed being transported to RC-5 [REDACTED] Phoenix, AZ (previously unidentified address.) The tracker confirmed that Patino drove to our previously identified auto business after purchasing a Barrett .50 caliber rifle.

RC-3 [REDACTED]

David Voth
Group Supervisor
Phoenix Group VII
RC-1 [REDACTED]

Phoenix Group VII (OCDETF Strike Force)

RC-2



785115-10-0004, Jacob Chambers et al: This is an approved ATF OCDETF investigation (# SWAZP0496) that is a large scale conspiracy of RC-5 interconnected straw purchasers. Thus far in the investigation (September through present) the group has purchased over 1,100 firearms; most of which are the AK-47 variant 7.62 assault rifles and or the F.N. Herstal 5.7 mm pistols, to include approximately 5 Barrett .50 caliber rifles. For these firearms they have paid over \$700,000.00 in cash. Of those firearms purchased by the group approximately 150 have been recovered in Mexico or near the Mexican Border (the serial numbers are continually being updated and changed thus affecting the trace results) with a short time-to-crime; some as little as one day. New straw purchasers are continually being identified as part of this investigation.

RC-3



RC-3



ATF Phoenix Field Division and ATF Denver Field Division have brought in out of town agents to assist in this ongoing investigation.

HOCR ATF - 002795

Williams, Curtis D.

From: Williams, Curtis D.
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2010 11:23 AM
To: Crowley, Thomas J. (Dallas)
Subject: RE: SIR
Attachments: AO091 newest complaint form SANDOVAL.pdf, SANDOVAL Complaint Affidavit.doc

40 Ak-47 type rifles. You may already know that this is connected with an ongoing investigation in Phoenix.
Attached is the complaint w/ affidavit.

-----Original Message-----

From: Crowley, Thomas J. (Dallas)
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2010 10:33 AM
To: Williams, Curtis D.
Subject: RE: SIR

Thanks. How many guns did he have? And when you can, can you get me a copy of the complaint.
Tom

-----Original Message-----

From: Williams, Curtis D.
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2010 11:28 AM
To: Crowley, Thomas J. (Dallas)
Subject: RE: SIR

Tom,

Currently SANDOVAL has his Prelim and Detention hearing on Wednesday, January 20, 2010 at 2:00 PM. When I filed the criminal complaint, I did not request it be sealed. The case number is EP:10-M-00256(1) G

Curtis

-----Original Message-----

From: Crowley, Thomas J. (Dallas)
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2010 10:07 AM
To: Flores, Oscar B.; Williams, Curtis D.
Cc: Golson Sr., Michael A.; Champion, Robert R.
Subject: FW: SIR

Oscar/Curtis- Let me know of any court dates for Sandoval as well as any unsealed court documents.

Thanks,
Tom

-----Original Message-----

From: Golson Sr., Michael A.
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2010 3:49 PM
To: Crowley, Thomas J. (Dallas)
Subject: FW: SIR

-----Original Message-----

HOCR ATF - 002796

From: Flores, Oscar B.
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2010 1:58 AM
To: Golson Sr., Michael A.; Champion, Robert R.
Subject: SIR

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE - BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES SIGNIFICANT
INFORMATION REPORT

DATE: January 14, 2010
FROM: Dallas Field Division
FIELD OFFICE: El Paso Field Office

CASE INFORMATION

CASE NUMBER: 781035-10-0016
CASE TITLE: SANDOVAL, Alberto
SPECIAL AGENT: Flores, Oscar
TELEPHONE NUMBER: RC-1

SYNOPSIS OF INCIDENT/ACTIVITY:

Seizure of 40 AK-47 Type rifles

NARRATIVE OF INCIDENT/ACTIVITY:

On January 13, 2010, the El Paso Police Department Stash House Unit was at a residence in El Paso Texas. The occupant of the residence, identified as Alberto SANDOVAL, was found to be in possession of AK-47 Type rifles and seven bullet proof vests. ATF Special Agents Curtis D. Williams and Oscar B. Flores responded to the residence and discovered that SANDOVAL was currently under indictment for a narcotics offense, and had received the rifles while under indictment. A subsequent interview of SANDOVAL revealed that he had received the rifles on December 28, 2009, and was paid \$1000.00 to store them in his residence. The rifles were going to be delivered by SANDOVAL to an unknown party who was going to transport them into the Republic of Mexico. Sandoval was arrested for violation of 18 USC 922(n) and the firearms and bullet proof vests were taken into ATF custody. The investigation continues.

From: Voth, David J.
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2010 2:09 PM
To: Hernandez, Armando; Needles, James R.
CC: Wall, Jose T.; MacAllister, Hope A.
Subject: Request for assistance

Armando,

Please consider this our official request for SA Jose Wall to meet with members of Phoenix Group VII. Phoenix Group VII is a newly (Oct 2009) formed SWB Firearms Trafficking Group. SA Wall has already assisted in that he has viewed many firearms recovered in Mexico purchased here in Phoenix as part of an ongoing investigation; Operation Fast & Furious.

Whether an accepted practice of ATF or USAO in other parts of the country the USAO for the District of Arizona requires that for a Mexican recovered firearm to be charged in US Federal Court it must be viewed by a US Law Enforcement Officer/Agent. To this end SA Wall's testimony is critical to charging many of these firearms. While in Phoenix SA Wall would be expected to meet extensively with AUSA Emory Hurley to review evidence, photos, and reports pertaining to this investigation as well as briefing AUSA Hurley on the facts surrounding these recoveries.

Additionally as stated above Phoenix Group VII is a newly (Oct 2009) formed SWB Firearms Trafficking Group. Our group has never received any formal briefing/training from ATF on Mexican law enforcement or how things operate within Mexico with regard to the policies and practices of law enforcement/attorneys/judicial process etc. Essentially we would like a better understanding of how do things function down there and so we can better understand how can we begin coordinating our operations and investigations.

It is anticipated that SA Wall's travel would be paid for under the case funds of Operation Fast & Furious as this is an OCDETF case with funds specifically allocated to travel.

Respectfully,

David Voth
Group Supervisor
Phoenix Group VII
RC-1

HOCR ATF - 002798

DOJ-FF-59154

1. Threat Assessment - YES - open

2. Control of ^{ATF} agent

3. POC. - must notify counsel

#25 Rep Larry (214) 651-5622 (wk)

Gaydos (817) 307-6024 (Cell)

RC-2
[Redacted]

① RC-2
② [Redacted]
③ [Redacted]

RC-2
[Redacted]

Do you want me to ^{interview} ~~talk~~ Andre after this mtg? or set a time to do so?

RC-2



HOCR ATF - 002800