



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

September 30, 2011

The Honorable Darrell E. Issa
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Senator Grassley:

This responds to your letter dated July 11, 2011, to the Attorney General requesting records relating to communications between and among twelve Department of Justice officials regarding ATF Operation Fast and Furious.

We are delivering today to your office 97 pages of material responsive to your request. These documents bear limited redactions to protect specific details about pending investigations, including text that would identify targets and sensitive techniques, plus information relating to line employees. In addition, we have redacted from multi-subject documents text that is not responsive to your request. The nature of specific redactions is indicated by a redaction code ("RC") in accordance with the enclosed list. Even with the redactions, many of these documents contain non-public material and are not appropriate for public disclosure. In response to a request from Chairman Smith, we also will provide these documents to the House Committee on the Judiciary.


We have also located an additional page of law-enforcement sensitive material that we are prepared to make available at the Department for review by staff of your respective Committees, as well as staff of the House Committee on the Judiciary. There are limited redactions of text that would identify law enforcement sensitive techniques.

Our search for records responsive to your request is ongoing, and we will supplement this response when we process additional responsive records.

The Honorable Darrell E. Issa
The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
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We hope this information is helpful and look forward to working with the Committee as this matter continues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'm w', is positioned above the typed name.

Ronald Weich
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosures

cc: The Honorable Elijah Cummings
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary

Index to Redaction Codes

- RC-1: Redaction of text for privacy purposes.
- RC-2: Redaction of text that is non-responsive.
- RC-3: Redaction of text that relates to law enforcement sensitive investigative techniques.
- RC-4: Redaction of text that relates to investigative targets or subjects.
- RC-5: Redaction of text that discloses law enforcement sensitive investigative details.