



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives

August 28, 2014

www.atf.gov

REFER TO: 2014-0566

Mr. William F. Marshall
Judicial Watch
425 Third Street, Southwest
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mr. Marshall:

This is our final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for access to information you believe is maintained by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) regarding the investigation of the January 1, 2014, explosion and fire at the Cedar Riverside apartment complex in Minneapolis, MN.

Your request is granted in part. We are releasing portions of the records that are non-exempt and withholding portions for the reasons indicated on the enclosed "Document Cover Sheet".

Please note that each page has been marked with either RIP (Released in Part) or RIF (Released in Full). If an entire page has been withheld, a deletion sheet has been provided indicating the reason for withholding the information.

If you disagree with this determination you may administratively appeal the decision by writing to the Office of Information Policy (OIP), Department of Justice, 1425 New York Avenue, Suite 11050, Washington, DC 20530-0001. Both the envelope and the letter should be marked "FOIA Appeal." You may also submit your administrative appeal to OIP electronically. Please follow this link to OIP's webpage. <http://www.justice.gov/oip/oip-request.html#administrative-appeal>.

-2-

Mr. William F. Marshall

Once you have arrived at OIP's webpage follow the instructions for submitting a FOIA appeal. Regardless of whether you use mail or email to submit your administrative appeal please include the request number on this letter with your appeal letter. Your appeal must be received by OIP within 60 days from the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephanie M. Boucher".

Stephanie M. Boucher
Chief, Disclosure Division

Enclosure

DOCUMENT COVER SHEET: EXEMPTIONS LIST AND APPEAL RIGHTS		
Part I – Document cover sheet		
1. Requesters' name William F. Marshall	2. File no. 2014-0566	3. Requested documents were referred by the following agency: NA
4. Documents are being released: <input type="checkbox"/> at cost <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> without cost	5. Package ends with page no.: 40	6. Total no. of pages denied: NA
7. Exemptions cited for information withheld on pages released: (See Part II of explanations of exemptions)		
<input type="checkbox"/> (b) (1) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (2) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (3) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (4) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (5) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b) (6)		
<input type="checkbox"/> (b) (7) (A) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (7) (B) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b) (7) (C) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (7) (D) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (7) (E) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) (7) (F)		
8. Documents completely withheld:		
Document no. -----Exemption _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	Document no. -----Exemption _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	Document no. -----Exemption _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
9. The records identified above have been determined to be most directly responsive to your request. Other records, described below are available upon payment of ten (10) cents per page (or at no cost if a fee waiver is granted). These records generally consist of duplicated or repetitive information that restates information contained in the package being released. A sample of index of these records is included in this released. The following records are available upon written request:		
(a) Exhibits to Report (See index on page _____) (b) Surveillance Reports (See sample page _____) (c) Interagency Telegrams and Messages (See sample page _____) (d) Property Disposition records (See sample page _____) (e) Newspaper or magazine article (See sample page _____) (f) Miscellaneous (See sample page)	No. of pages _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Note: To obtain copies of these records, identify the records you want, count the pages and multiply by ten (10) cents. Send a check or money order payable to Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and mail to Chief, Disclosure Division, ATF; 650 Mass. Ave., Rm 8400, Washington, DC. Request promptly for best service, as files are returned to field offices fifteen (15) days after this notice is mailed to you. </div>		
(Parts II and III on reverse side)		

PART II – LIST OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT EXEMPTIONS, TITLE 5 UNITED STATES CODE 552 (b) – Information exempt from Disclosure

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive Order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy, and are in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive order;(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute;(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memoranda or letter which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;(6) personnel and medical files and similar files, the disclosure of which would constitute a clear and unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; | <ul style="list-style-type: none">(7) Investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such records could:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) interfere with enforcement proceedings(b) deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication;(c) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;(d) disclose the identity of a confidential source and, in the case of a record compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, confidential information furnished only by the confidential source;(e) disclose investigative techniques and procedures;(f) endanger the life or physical safety of law enforcement personnel(8) contained in or related to examination, operation, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells. |
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PART III – APPEAL RIGHT PROCEDURES - You have the right to appeal any item that is withheld. You may challenge the withholding of the information by filing a request for an administrative appeal with the Assistant Administrator, Headquarters Operations, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) Washington DC 20226. Your letter of appeal must:

- (1) Be signed by the requestor; mailed or hand-delivered to the Office of the Assistant Administrator, Headquarters Operations, TTB within thirty-five (35) calendar days of our initial determination (see our letter).
- (2) Reasonably describe the requested records which the appeal concerns;
- (3) Set forth the address where the requestor desires notification of the determination of the Appeal;
- (4) Specify the date of the initial request and the date of the letter denying the initial request; and
- (5) Petition the Assistant Director, Headquarters Operations, TTB to grant the request for records and present arguments supporting the appeal.

Your appeal will be considered by the Assistant Administrator, Headquarters Operations, TTB and you will be notified by mail.

Management Log for Case: 778065-()020

Case Title: Cedar Riverside Fire

Date: 02/05/2014

User: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

<u>Log Date</u>	<u>Log Type</u>	<u>Mgmt Log Text</u>
01/13/2014	ROI Created	
01/13/2014	RAC/GS REVIEW	ROI #1 approved for late submission. Case Closed.
01/13/2014	CASE CLOSED	GS (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Case Closed.
01/13/2014	CASE CLOSED	Case Closed

U.S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

Report of Investigation

Title of investigation: Cedar Riverside Fire	Investigation Number: 778065-14-0020	Report Number: 1
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SUMMARY OF EVENT:

Cedar Riverside Fire: On January 1, 2014, an explosion and fire occurred at 516 Cedar Avenue South in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The explosion and fire resulted in 14 injuries, 6 of them critical and 3 fatalities. The damage to the structure is estimated at \$1,500,000.00.

NARRATIVE:

1. On January 1, 2014 at approximately 0816 hours, an explosion occurred at 516 Cedar Avenue South in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The explosion resulted in a large fire occurring in the structure. The structure consisted of a grocery store located at ground level and apartments located above the grocery store. Additionally, a mosque was located next door to the affected structure.
2. The ensuing fire resulted in occupants of the apartment jumping out their windows to the ground below. Fourteen (14) occupants were injured during the fire with six (6) of them critically injured. The fire resulted in the complete destruction of the building. After suppression activities were completed, fire officials recovered two (2) bodies from the building. A third victim died several days after the fire as a result of injuries sustained during the fire.
3. Investigators were not permitted to enter into the structure on January 1, 2014 due to the fire continuing to burn.
4. On January 2, 2014, ATF was in contact with the Minnesota State Fire Marshal's Office regarding the fire. Additional ATF personnel were also in contact with members of the Minneapolis Police Department. Plans were made to assist with a scene examination on January 3, once the bodies were recovered and the structural integrity was examined.
5. ATF personnel made plans to be at the scene of the fire on the morning of January 3 in an effort to determine the cause of the explosion and ensuing fire. ATF personnel were notified on the afternoon of January 2 that the City of Minneapolis was intending on tearing down the structure prior to a scene examination taking place. They believed the fire was related to a natural gas leak in the building. The building was torn down and was then turned over to insurance representatives.

Prepared by: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)	Title: Special Agent, St. Paul IV Field Office	(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)	Date: 1/13/14
Authorized by: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)	Title: Group Supervisor, St. Paul IV Field Office	(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)	Date: 1/13/2014
Second level reviewer (optional): Scott D. Sweetow	Title: Special Agent in Charge, St. Paul Field Division	Signature	Date:

Title of Investigation Cedar Riverside Fire	Investi 778069	Number 14-0020	Report Number 1
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6. ATF personnel have been in contact with the MN State Fire Marshal's Office and once private investigators determine a date to examine the fire scene, ATF personnel will assist in the scene examination. At the time of this report, no date has been set.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From:
Sent:
To:
Cc:
Subject:

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Wednesday, January 01, 2014 7:37 PM

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Minneapolis Fire

I have spoken to the MN Fire Marshal's Office regarding the fire that occurred today in Minneapolis. So far, here is what I know: A MPD officer was either taking a report or issuing a citation and went back out to the squad car. Shortly after doing this, an explosion occurred at the structure which then resulted in a large fire. The faint smell of natural gas was detected prior to the explosion but at this time no one is sure where it was coming from.

The ensuing fire caused many occupants to jump from upper floors and resulted in several if them receiving injuries associated with the fall. Others received injuries relate to the fire and six of them are listed in critical condition. They are unsure how many may be unaccounted for due to the holiday and not knowing who was all staying in the apartments.

The explosion/fire investigation is set to begin tomorrow depending on the integrity of the structure. In particular, they are set to take a close look at the gas meters along one if the walls in the basement however it was filling up with water and will probably be a mass of ice by morning. I am set to call them again tomorrow to find out how it is going and if they re needing assistance, I may out in a request to fly out on Friday and assist them with the scene. The FBI was somewhat involved in that they are monitoring the investigation (whatever that means). There is a mosque near the scene but is has no involvement in the explosion/fire.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Sent from my iPhone

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2014 10:14 AM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (St Paul)
Subject: RE: Minneapolis Fire

Thanks for the update. I will offer my assistance to (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) for any follow as deemed necessary.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2014 3:44:16 AM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Minneapolis Fire

FYI.

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Group Supervisor
St. Paul IV Field Office
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) Office
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) Cell

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2014 1:37:12 AM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Minneapolis Fire

I have spoken to the MN Fire Marshal's Office regarding the fire that occurred today in Minneapolis. So far, here is what I know: A MPD officer was either taking a report or issuing a citation and went back out to the squad car. Shortly after doing this, an explosion occurred at the structure which then resulted in a large fire. The faint smell of natural gas was detected prior to the explosion but at this time no one is sure where it was coming from.

The ensuing fire caused many occupants to jump from upper floors and resulted in several if them receiving injuries associated with the fall. Others received injuries relate to the fire and six of them are listed in critical condition. They are unsure how many may be unaccounted for due to the holiday and not knowing who was all staying in the apartments.

The explosion/fire investigation is set to begin tomorrow depending on the integrity of the structure. In particular, they are set to take a close look at the gas meters along one if the walls in the basement however it was filling up with water and will probably be a mass of ice by morning. I am set to call them again tomorrow to find out how it is going and if they re needing assistance, I may out in a request to fly out on Friday and assist them with the scene. The FBI was somewhat involved in that they are monitoring the investigation (whatever that means). There is a mosque near the scene but is has no involvement in the explosion/fire.

via iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From:

Sent:

To:

Cc:

Subject:

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Friday, January 03, 2014 2:22 PM

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Fire Update 01/03/2014

I just received an update from MPLS Bomb Sgt. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) They have recovered the final missing body from the scene. They are turning the scene over to the demolition crew and city works for destruction. Sgt. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) said they did not find anything out of place for a 150 year old building.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

ATF St. Paul Field Division/Group IV

30 E 7th Street, Suite 1900

St. Paul, MN 55101

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) St. Paul Office)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (Minneapolis PD Office)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (cell)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (fax)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 2:23 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Re: Fire Update 01/03/2014

Thanks for the update.

Stay warm!

On Jan 3, 2014, at 2:22 PM, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) wrote:

I just received an update from MPLS Bomb Sgt. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C). They have recovered the final missing body from the scene. They are turning the scene over to the demolition crew and city works for destruction. Sgt. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) said they did not find anything out of place for a 150 year old building.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
ATF St. Paul Field Division/Group IV
30 E 7th Street, Suite 1900
St. Paul, MN 55101
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (St. Paul Office)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (Minneapolis PD Office)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (cell)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (fax)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 2:50 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: RE: Fire Update 01/03/2014

Thanks for the update!

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 8:23:23 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Re: Fire Update 01/03/2014

Thanks for the update.

Stay warm!

On Jan 3, 2014, at 2:22 PM, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) wrote:

I just received an update from MPLS Bomb Sgt. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C). They have recovered the final missing body from the scene. They are turning the scene over to the demolition crew and city works for destruction. Sgt. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) said they did not find anything out of place for a 150 year old building.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
ATF St. Paul Field Division/Group IV
30 E 7th Street, Suite 1900
St. Paul, MN 55101
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) St. Paul Office)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Minneapolis PD Office)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) cell)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (fax)

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 1:59 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: St. Paul Explosives Incident Notification Query
Attachments: 778065-14-0020 St. Paul FD.pdf; ATT00001.htm

ATTENTION?

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: April 14, 2014 at 1:58:31 PM CDT
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: St. Paul Explosives Incident Notification Query

Greetings,

The enforcement of our nation's explosives laws are of the utmost importance to the safety and security of our country. Every day ATF personnel are involved in the security of explosive materials and the investigation of individuals who have utilized explosives for criminal purposes. The National Explosives Task Force (NETF) thanks you for your endeavors on behalf of the bureau and the American public.

As you may be aware, the DOJ, in response to the Inspector General's report, has required that ATF share explosives response notifications with the FBI in a timely manner. These notifications serve not only to notify the FBI but to also keep ATF senior leadership apprised of ATF involvement in explosives related incidents. The Assistant Director (AD), Field Operations has tasked the NETF with monitoring and verifying ATF's compliance with the spirit of the Inspector General's information sharing provisions.

For the Month of January, 2014, the NETF has identified the following case(s) involving an explosive related response or incident within your field division that appears to have required an explosives notification:

778065-14-0020

The highlighted text in the attached file(s) appears to support the need for an Explosives Incident Notification per the incident reporting criteria; however it does not appear that a notification was made. If this is not accurate, please provide us with your reasoning as to why an explosives notification was not necessary or was not sent to the Joint Support Operations Center (JSOC). Based on the received explanation, the NETF may determine that a notification was not, in fact, required. In this situation, the case will not be included in the NETF's monthly report. If you believe notification was sent to the Joint Support Operations Center, please let us know when that notification was made and by whom.

This electronic message serves as a mechanism to ensure that all appropriate information has been collected and reviewed by the NETF before determining whether or not a field office or field division has notified the JSOC in accordance with ATF Order 3504.1, § 8(b).

Please send your responses to Division Chief (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) at the NETF by close of business on April 18, 2014. If we do not receive a response, we will assume that you agree with the NETF assessment and the case will be included in the monthly report as an explosives incident response for which the explosives incident notification was not sent.

I can be reached at (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) and can also be reached at the following electronic mail address:
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

On behalf of the Special Agent in Charge for the National Center for Explosives Training and Research (NCETR), thank you for your continued support of this critical program.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Division Chief, National Explosives Task Force

U.S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

Report of Investigation

Title of Investigation Cedar Riverside Fire	Investigation Number 778065-14-0020	Report Number: 1
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SUMMARY OF EVENT:

Cedar Riverside Fire: On January 1, 2014, an explosion and fire occurred at 516 Cedar Avenue South in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The explosion and fire resulted in 14 injuries, 6 of them critical and 3 fatalities. The damage to the structure is estimated at \$1,500,000.00.

NARRATIVE:

1. On January 1, 2014 at approximately 0816 hours, an explosion occurred at 516 Cedar Avenue South in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The explosion resulted in a large fire occurring in the structure. The structure consisted of a grocery store located at ground level and apartments located above the grocery store. Additionally, a mosque was located next door to the affected structure.
2. The ensuing fire resulted in occupants of the apartment jumping out their windows to the ground below. Fourteen (14) occupants were injured during the fire with six (6) of them critically injured. The fire resulted in the complete destruction of the building. After suppression activities were completed, fire officials recovered two (2) bodies from the building. A third victim died several days after the fire as a result of injuries sustained during the fire.
3. Investigators were not permitted to enter into the structure on January 1, 2014 due to the fire continuing to burn.
4. On January 2, 2014, ATF was in contact with the Minnesota State Fire Marshal's Office regarding the fire. Additional ATF personnel were also in contact with members of the Minneapolis Police Department. Plans were made to assist with a scene examination on January 3, once the bodies were recovered and the structural integrity was examined.
5. ATF personnel made plans to be at the scene of the fire on the morning of January 3 in an effort to determine the cause of the explosion and ensuing fire. ATF personnel were notified on the afternoon of January 2 that the City of Minneapolis was intending on tearing down the structure prior to a scene examination taking place. They believed the fire was related to a natural gas leak in the building. The building was torn down and was then turned over to insurance representatives.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)	Title: Special Agent, St. Paul IV Field Office	Signature	Date
Authorized by: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)	Title: Group Supervisor, St. Paul IV Field Office	Signature:	Date
Second level reviewer (optional) Scott D. Sweetow	Title: Special Agent in Charge, St. Paul Field Division	Signature	Date

Title of Investigation Cedar Riverside Fire	Investigation Number 77B065-14-0020	Report Number 1
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6. ATF personnel have been in contact with the MN State Fire Marshal's Office and once private investigators determine a date to examine the fire scene, ATF personnel will assist in the scene examination. At the time of this report, no date has been set.

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 3:07 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: St. Paul Explosives Incident Notification Query

Please do and let me know.

On Apr 14, 2014, at 2:57 PM, (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

I'll reach out to them if you want. I was on leave when this happened, but we didn't go out on this. This was the natural gas leak that caused the explosion and fire.

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Group Supervisor
St. Paul IV Field Office
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) Office
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) Cell

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 1:59 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: St. Paul Explosives Incident Notification Query

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) ?

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: April 14, 2014 at 1:58:31 PM CDT
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: St. Paul Explosives Incident Notification Query

Greetings,

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As you may be aware, the DOJ, in response to the Inspector General's report, has required that ATF share explosives response notifications with the FBI in a timely manner. These notifications serve not only to notify the FBI but to also keep ATF senior leadership apprised of ATF involvement in explosives related incidents. The Assistant Director (AD), Field Operations has tasked the NETF with monitoring and verifying ATF's compliance with the spirit of the Inspector General's information sharing provisions.

For the Month of January, 2014, the NETF has identified the following case(s) involving an explosive related response or incident within your field division that appears to have required an explosives notification:

778065-14-0020

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I can be reached at (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) and can also be reached at the following electronic mail address: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

On behalf of the Special Agent in Charge for the National Center for Explosives Training and Research (NCETR), thank you for your continued support of this critical program.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Division Chief, National Explosives Task Force

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 3:20 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: FW: Minneapolis Fire

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

ATF St. Paul Field Division/Group IV
30 E 7th Street, Suite 1900
St. Paul, MN 55101
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (St. Paul Office)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (cell)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (fax)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Wednesday, January 01, 2014 9:44 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: FW: Minneapolis Fire

FYI.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Group Supervisor
St. Paul IV Field Office
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Office
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) - Cell

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2014 1:37:12 AM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Subject: Minneapolis Fire

I have spoken to the MN Fire Marshal's Office regarding the fire that occurred today in Minneapolis. So far, here is what I know: A MPD officer was either taking a report or issuing a citation and went back out to the squad car. Shortly after doing this, an explosion occurred at the structure which then resulted in a large fire. The faint smell of natural gas was detected prior to the explosion but at this time no one is sure where it was coming from.

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(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Sent from my iPhone

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 3:20 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: FW: Gas leak eyed as cause of Minneapolis explosion, fire | Star Tribune

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
ATF St. Paul Field Division/Group IV
30 E 7th Street, Suite 1900
St. Paul, MN 55101
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (St. Paul Office)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (cell)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (fax)

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

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (St Paul)
Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2014 1:14 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Gas leak eyed as cause of Minneapolis explosion, fire | Star Tribune

Story 2 minutes old says gas leak--just fyi

<http://www.startribune.com/local/minneapolis/238448181.html>

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 3:21 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: FW: Mpls Fire

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
ATF St. Paul Field Division/Group IV
30 E 7th Street, Suite 1900
St. Paul, MN 55101
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (St. Paul Office)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (cell)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (fax)

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

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 5:25 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Mpls Fire

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) if you want to pull a case number for this fire, give me access and I will do a brief ROI documenting that we offered to assist and Mpls tore the building down. I will also complete a BATS entry for the fire. I figure we can then close it and reopen it if we find something else out when we actually examine it, if we examine it. Just let me know the IN on it. (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Sent from my iPhone

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 3:21 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Fire Update 01/03/2014

Steve Foreman
ATF St. Paul Field Division/Group IV
30 E 7th Street, Suite 1900
St. Paul, MN 55101
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (St. Paul Office)
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (fax)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 2:34 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Fire Update 01/03/2014

Thanks (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 2:22 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fire Update 01/03/2014

I just received an update from MPLS Bomb Sgt. (b)(6), (b) (7)(C). They have recovered the final missing body from the scene. They are turning the scene over to the demolition crew and city works for destruction. Sgt. (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) said they did not find anything out of place for a 150 year old building.

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
ATF St. Paul Field Division/Group IV

30 E 7th Street, Suite 1900

St. Paul, MN 55101

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (St. Paul Office)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (Minneapolis PD Office)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (cell)

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Subject: FW: Fire Update 01/03/2014

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30 E 7th Street, Suite 1900
St. Paul, MN 55101
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (St. Paul Office)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (cell)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (fax)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 2:50 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: RE: Fire Update 01/03/2014

Thanks for the update!

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 8:23:23 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Re: Fire Update 01/03/2014

Thanks for the update.

Stay warm!

On Jan 3, 2014, at 2:22 PM, (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) wrote:

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(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

**ATF St. Paul Field Division/Group IV
30 E 7th Street, Suite 1900**

St. Paul MN 55101

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (St. Paul Office)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (Minneapolis PD Office)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (cell)

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) (fax)

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 6:15 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Mpls Fire

We will chat on Monday. Thanks for the update.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 3, 2014, at 5:22 PM, (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

> Guys - I just spoke with MN Fire Marshal's office about the fire. They called and said the second (and final) body was pulled out of the rubble this morning. The City of Mpls has all but knocked the building to the ground.

>

> The building owner only carries liability insurance and he has retained an attorney and they have in turn retained (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) who is a private fire investigator.

>

> The gas company has also reached out to an investigator as they are upset that the Fire Chief is blaming it on natural gas without completing an investigation.

>

> At some point down the road, the private entities will go back to the scene and conduct an examination of the gas lines. The Fire Marshal office will be at this examination and invited ATF to be there as well in case something other than a gas problem is uncovered. I told him that depending on when it is, I will head down and give them a hand. With incoming temperatures, I would not be surprised if this doesn't happen until Spring.

>

>

>

> Sent from my iPhone

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 5:25 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Mpls Fire

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(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent from my iPhone

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 5:22 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
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Sent from my iPhone

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 2:53 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Fire Update 01/03/2014

Thanks (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

Group Supervisor
St. Paul IV Field Office
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) Office
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) Cell

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 8:21:59 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fire Update 01/03/2014

I just received an update from MPLS Bomb Sgt. (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) They have recovered the final missing body from the scene. They are turning the scene over to the demolition crew and city works for destruction. Sgt. (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) said they did not find anything out of place for a 150 year old building.

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

ATF St. Paul Field Division/Group IV
30 E 7th Street, Suite 1900

St. Paul, MN 55101

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (St. Paul Office)
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (Minneapolis PD Office)
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (fax)

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 2:50 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Fire Update 01/03/2014

Thanks for the update!

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 8:23:23 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Fire Update 01/03/2014

Thanks for the update.

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

Stay warm!

On Jan 3, 2014, at 2:22 PM, (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

I just received an update from MPLS Bomb Sgt. (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) They have recovered the final missing body from the scene. They are turning the scene over to the demolition crew and city works for destruction. Sgt. (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) said they did not find anything out of place for a 150 year old building.

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

ATF St. Paul Field Division/Group IV

30 E 7th Street, Suite 1900

St. Paul, MN 55101

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) **St. Paul Office)**

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) **(Minneapolis PD Office)**

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) **cell)**

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) **(fax)**

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 2:34 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Fire Update 01/03/2014

Thanks Steven.

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 2:22 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fire Update 01/03/2014

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(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

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(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, January 03, 2014 2:23 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Fire Update 01/03/2014

Thanks for the update.

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

Stay warm!

On Jan 3, 2014, at 2:22 PM, (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

I just received an update from MPLS Bomb Sgt. (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) They have recovered the final missing body from the scene. They are turning the scene over to the demolition crew and city works for destruction. Sgt. (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) said they did not find anything out of place for a 150 year old building.

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

ATF St. Paul Field Division/Group IV

30 E 7th Street, Suite 1900

St. Paul, MN 55101

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (St. Paul Office)

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (Minneapolis PD Office)

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (fax)

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (St Paul)
Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2014 1:14 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Gas leak eyed as cause of Minneapolis explosion, fire | Star Tribune

Story 2 minutes old says gas leak--just fyi

<http://www.startribune.com/local/minneapolis/238448181.html>

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Wednesday, January 01, 2014 9:44 PM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Minneapolis Fire

FYI.

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

Group Supervisor
St. Paul IV Field Office
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) Office
(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) Cell

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2014 1:37:12 AM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Minneapolis Fire

I have spoken to the MN Fire Marshal's Office regarding the fire that occurred today in Minneapolis. So far, here is what I know: A MPD officer was either taking a report or issuing a citation and went back out to the squad car. Shortly after doing this, an explosion occurred at the structure which then resulted in a large fire. The faint smell of natural gas was detected prior to the explosion but at this time no one is sure where it was coming from.

The ensuing fire caused many occupants to jump from upper floors and resulted in several if them receiving injuries associated with the fall. Others received injuries relate to the fire and six of them are listed in critical condition. They are unsure how many may be unaccounted for due to the holiday and not knowing who was all staying in the apartments.

The explosion/fire investigation is set to begin tomorrow depending on the integrity of the structure. In particular, they are set to take a close look at the gas meters along one if the walls in the basement however it was filling up with water and will probably be a mass of ice by morning. I am set to call them again tomorrow to find out how it is going and if they re needing assistance, I may out in a request to fly out on Friday and assist them with the scene. The FBI was somewhat involved in that they are monitoring the investigation (whatever that means). There is a mosque near the scene but is has no involvement in the explosion/fire.

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent from my iPhone

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Wednesday, January 01, 2014 9:53 AM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Call me about MPLS fire. 308-5857

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 6:57 AM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: RE: St. Paul Explosives Incident Notification Query

If I did not reply – SORRY! Looks good to me and explains things well.

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2014 12:44 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: RE: St. Paul Explosives Incident Notification Query

What do you think of this proposed response?

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

The incident that took place on January 1, 2014, does not meet the criteria for explosives notification. While the ROI that was written for this investigation (778065-14-0020) describes an explosion and resulting fire, this was a fuel air explosion and not the result of an explosives incident. Additionally, at the request of the Minneapolis Fire Department, ATF did not respond to this incident. As there is no CFI currently in the state of Minnesota, an ATF CFI from out of state was planning to assist with the origin and cause of the fire and so an opening report of investigation was written. However, the structure was never deemed safe enough for the investigation to ensue and the CFI never responded to the scene. The fire department ultimately had the building demolished, thus preventing any ATF investigation.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Group Supervisor
St. Paul IV Field Office
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) - Office
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) - Cell

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 1:59 PM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: St. Paul Explosives Incident Notification Query

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
 Date: April 14, 2014 at 1:58:31 PM CDT
 To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
 Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
 Subject: St. Paul Explosives Incident Notification Query

Greetings,

The enforcement of our nation's explosives laws are of the utmost importance to the safety and security of our country. Every day ATF personnel are involved in the security of explosive materials and the investigation of individuals who have utilized explosives for criminal purposes. The National Explosives Task Force (NETF) thanks you for your endeavors on behalf of the bureau and the American public.

As you may be aware, the DOJ, in response to the Inspector General's report, has required that ATF share explosives response notifications with the FBI in a timely manner. These notifications serve not only to notify the FBI but to also keep ATF senior leadership apprised of ATF involvement in explosives related incidents. The Assistant Director (AD), Field Operations has tasked the NETF with monitoring and verifying ATF's compliance with the spirit of the Inspector General's information sharing provisions.

For the Month of January, 2014, the NETF has identified the following case(s) involving an explosive related response or incident within your field division that appears to have required an explosives notification:

778065-14-0020

The highlighted text in the attached file(s) appears to support the need for an Explosives Incident Notification per the incident reporting criteria; however it does not appear that a notification was made. If this is not accurate, please provide us with your reasoning as to why an explosives notification was not necessary or was not sent to the Joint Support Operations Center (JSOC). Based on the received explanation, the NETF may determine that a notification was not, in fact, required. In this situation, the case will not be included in the NETF's monthly report. If you believe notification was sent to the Joint Support Operations Center, please let us know when that notification was made and by whom.

This electronic message serves as a mechanism to ensure that all appropriate information has been collected and reviewed by the NETF before determining whether or not a field office or field division has notified the JSOC in accordance with ATF Order 3504.1, § 8(b).

Please send your responses to Division Chief (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) at the NETF by close of business on April 18, 2014. If we do not receive a response, we will assume that you agree with the NETF assessment and the case will be included in the monthly report as an explosives incident response for which the explosives incident notification was not sent.

I can be reached at (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) and can also be reached at the following electronic mail address:

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

On behalf of the Special Agent in Charge for the National Center for Explosives Training and Research (NCETR), thank you for your continued support of this critical program.

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Division Chief, National Explosives Task Force

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2014 8:48 AM
To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: St. Paul Explosives Incident Notification Query

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) sorry, I was away last week and just got your message. We are going to drop this incident from the final monthly report. Thanks for the response.

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

ATF Division Chief
 National Explosives Task Force

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 10:51 AM

To: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: St. Paul Explosives Incident Notification Query

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

The incident that took place on January 1, 2014, does not meet the criteria for explosives notification. At the request of the Minneapolis Fire Department, ATF did not respond to this incident. Of significant note, there was a Minneapolis Police Department Officer on scene at the time of the incident and he smelled natural gas coming from this address. This information was given to us by the Minneapolis Fire Department as a reason for us not to respond. An ATF CFI from out of state was planning to assist with the origin and cause of the fire and so an opening report of investigation was written, however, the structure was never deemed safe enough for the investigation to ensue and the CFI never responded to the scene. The fire department ultimately had the building demolished, thus preventing any ATF investigation.

Please feel free to call me if you have any further questions or need additional information.

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

Group Supervisor
 St. Paul IV Field Office
 (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) Office
 (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) - Cell

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
 Date: April 14, 2014 at 1:58:31 PM CDT

To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Cc: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Subject: St. Paul Explosives Incident Notification Query

Greetings,

The enforcement of our nation's explosives laws are of the upmost importance to the safety and security of our country. Every day ATF personnel are involved in the security of explosive materials and the investigation of individuals who have utilized explosives for criminal purposes. The National Explosives Task Force (NETF) thanks you for your endeavors on behalf of the bureau and the American public.

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(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Division Chief, National Explosives Task Force