

Project Gunrunner Timeline

Handgun Club of America has been closely following the scandal known "*Operation Fast and Furious*" (or "Gunwalker" as first termed by gun rights activist David Codrea). As this scandal has unfolded, it has become evident that the unlawful acts and intents of *Operation Fast and Furious* make both **Watergate** and **Iran-Contra** pale by comparison.

As of June 2011, it appears very likely that many high-ranking administration officials in both the Justice and State Departments not only lied to the American people, but also conspired to increase the number of US firearms being smuggled into Mexico.

You will recall that shortly after President Obama took office in 2009, the administration launched a loud push to reinstate the so-called "assault weapons" ban. This was a coordinated effort between and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Attorney General Eric Holder to mislead and deceive the American public. As justification for the ban, they claimed that 90% of the military-style weapons used in the drug cartel wars in Mexico were coming from the USA, from southern border gun shops. Even President Obama mentioned the 90% figure.

It didn't take long for many people to determine this was at best a case of bad math or an outright lie. We know now, thanks to uncovered government documents, that both Justice and the State Department knew full well that **90% of the arms in Mexico were coming, not from north of the Mexican border, but south**— from Central America. In addition, the government knew that some of the arms the U.S. Government legally sold to the Mexican military were ending up in the hands of the drug cartels.¹

Those researching the numbers quickly found that only about one in five (20%) of the guns recovered in Mexico were submitted for tracing by the ATF. Mostly these guns were marked "Made in USA" or carried US import markings. These were selected because traces on these guns would be the most successful.

Worse and even more disingenuous was that the administration included *any* gun coming from the USA, even military-specification (mil-spec) M-16's and M-4 rifles provided by Uncle Sam himself to the Mexican Military. Defecting soldiers or corrupt members of the military diverted these rifles to the cartels. The State Department was well aware of this situation in 2009² and the administration inclusion of military arms to boost the numbers was flat out dishonest. None of those weapons could be purchased at any border gun shop.

As you read the timeline below, it provides ample evidence that the administration implemented a plan to support their lie of an "Iron River of guns" flowing into Mexico by illegally increasing the number of guns "going south."

In short, it shows that the Obama administration used information they knew was false in an attempt to pass another "assault weapon" ban. When that didn't work out, the administration embarked on a plan to justify the need for a renewed ban by supplying arms to drug cartels, regardless of the danger to Mexican citizens and US law enforcement.

¹ <http://www.mexicotoday.com.mx/en/headlines-footer-links-34/2921-wikileaks-cables-say-central-america-supplies-guns.html>

² <http://downdirtyword.blogspot.com/2011/02/wikileaks-document-reveal-us-trade-in.html>

This deception and unlawful program is worse than **Watergate**. In this program we have the deaths of two U.S. law enforcement agents and, according to Mexico, at least 150 Mexican citizens. At least *no one died in Watergate!*

Getting the names right

One thing requires clarification however. The code names the government used can be confusing. **Project Gunrunner** was a BATF program begun under the Bush administration to arrest straw-purchasers and gun smugglers moving guns to Mexico. From 2005 through 2008, it was moderately successful and resulted in hundreds of arrests and prosecutions. **Operation Fast and Furious** is a separate program that began in 2009. The ATF launched this program using Project Gunrunner funding and reportedly moved the focus from the straw-buyer to "higher level" players. Their claim was that they were targeting those with the money to buy guns and move them to Mexico. It was under *Operation Fast and Furious* that ATF agents simply watched guns "walk" over the border into Mexico and lost track of them. At least until they turned up at a crime scene.

David Codrea coined the term "Gunwalker" to name the scandal when rumors of it first surfaced in connection with Project Gunrunner. Unfortunately, this does cause some folks to focus on the successful Project Gunrunner instead of *Operation Fast and Furious*.

Credits, Kudos and the Greatest of Thanks

Handgun Club has been reporting and watching this scandal unfold. However, we must stop and give credit and our warmest appreciation to those who first shined a spotlight on the administration's malfeasance. Were it not for the work of these people, we'd be hearing about ATF "statistics" that "prove" the need for renewing the "assault weapons" ban.

1. The courageous insiders at ATF, including Special Agent John Dodson who has risked his career by shining light on the ATF shenanigans. Special thanks go to Agent Rene Jaquez and retired Agent Darren Gil, former ATF attaché to Mexico.
2. **Mike Vanderboegh** who runs the blog *Sipseystreetirregulars*³ and who first verified the claims of ATF agents.
3. **David Codrea**, the gun rights activist who runs the *National Firearms Examiner* blog⁴ and first revealed Project Gunrunner to a wider public audience.

³ <http://sipseystreetirregulars.blogspot.com/>

⁴ <http://www.examiner.com/gun-rights-in-national/david-codrea>

The Gunwalker Scandal Made Simple

There are five key accusations against ATF and DOJ made by ATF whistleblowers and other sources within the federal government:

1. That the government instructed U.S. gun dealers to proceed with questionable and illegal sales of firearms to suspected gunrunners.
2. That the government intentionally kept Mexican authorities in the dark about the operation, even over objections of their own agents and in violation of the *Brownsville Agreement*.
3. This occurred to "catching the big fish" gunrunners, but no explanation has been given how this would be done without telling the Mexican authorities, without operating within Mexico to track the weapons, or how they would arrest or indict foreign nationals without Mexican involvement, etc.
4. That the weapons that the ATF let "walk" to Mexico were involved in the deaths of Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry and ICE agent Jaime Zapata, as well as at least hundreds of Mexican citizens.
5. That since the death of Brian Terry on 14 December, the Obama administration is engaged in a full-blown cover-up of the facts behind what has come to be known as the "Gunwalker Scandal."

Update Page

For the reader's convenience, this page will document the changes to the timeline document. The goal is to prevent you from hunting for new information and avoid adding some kind of "new" icon every time there's news or changes.

06/11/11 11:48 a.m. Original document
06/12/11 00:00 a.m. Added hearing schedule, acronym list, key players list.
06/18/11 11:35 p.m. Added 6/16 hearing info and more news items (not published)
06/20/11 08:19 p.m. Updated the section "Gunwalker Scandal Made Simple"; added new news items.
07/01/11 11:25 a.m. Updated with new developments through 6/29.
07/08/11 02:07 p.m. Updated with new developments through 7/8.
07/17/11 07:04 p.m. Updated project names and inserted a clarification paragraph to reduce confusion. Updated with developments since 7/8.

The House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform - Hearing Schedule

Congressman Darrell Issa, Chairman

The current public hearing schedule has been released as follows:

13 June - 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

"Obstruction of Justice: Does the Justice Department Have to Respond to a Lawfully Issued and Valid Congressional Subpoena?"

Contact Info: (202) 225-5074

Email: URL: <http://oversight.house.gov>

The hearing will be streamed live at: <http://oversight.house.gov>.

Witnesses:

Professor Charles Tiefer
Morton Rosenberg

Commissioner, Commission on Wartime Contracting
Former Specialist in American Public Law with the American Law Division of the Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress

Todd Tatelman

Legislative Attorney, Congressional Research Service's American Law Division

15 June - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

"Operation Fast and Furious: Reckless Decisions, Tragic Outcomes"

Contact Info: (202) 225-5074

Email: URL: <http://oversight.house.gov>

The hearing will be streamed live at <http://oversight.house.gov>.

Witnesses:

Senator Charles Grassley

Ranking Member, U.S. Senate, Committee on the Judiciary

Ms. Josephine Terry

Mother of the Late Border Agent Brian Terry

Ms. Michelle Terry Balogh

Sister of the Late Border Agent Brian Terry

Mr. Robert Heyer,

Cousin of the Late Border Agent Brian Terry

Special Agent Olindo James Casa

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Phoenix Field Division

Special Agent Peter Forcelli

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Phoenix Field Division

Special Agent John Dodson

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Phoenix Field Division

Mr. Ronald Weich

Assistant Attorney General, United States Department of Justice

Future hearing schedules will be added, as they become available

The Timeline

—**2005** - Project Gunrunner pilot program launched in Laredo Texas.⁵ At this point, the program was designed to catch weapons smugglers and "straw purchasers" along the southern border area.

—**2006** - Project Gunrunner expanded as a national initiative in 2006.⁶ An expansion of the Laredo pilot, the program expands along the southern Border States to interdict arms heading to Mexico.

June 2007 - ATF published a strategy document, *Southwest Border Initiative: Project Gunrunner* (Gunrunner strategy), outlining four key components to Project Gunrunner: the expansion of gun tracing in Mexico, international coordination, domestic activities, and intelligence. In implementing Project Gunrunner, ATF has focused resources in its four Southwest border field divisions. In addition, ATF has made firearms trafficking to Mexico a top ATF priority nationwide.⁷

—**2008** - ATF identifies and prosecutes "straw purchasers" of firearms along the southern border area.

January 2009 - **U.S. Embassy cable** (released by Wikileaks) reports a Mexican army officer assigned to guard President **Felipe Calderon** leaked military intelligence to drug cartels, trained hit men **and supplied military weapons to Los Zetas**.

March 25, 2009 - **Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton** said that America's "insatiable" demand for illegal drugs and [America's] **inability to stop weapons from being smuggled into Mexico** are fueling an alarming spike in violence along the U.S.-Mexican border. So three months after the Embassy cable, Clinton knew at least one high ranking Mexican army officer was supplying one cartel with weapons and that cartels were not dependent upon smuggled U.S. firearms.

Aug-Sept 2009 - ATF internal inspector general report criticizes ATF for targeting only the straw buyers and not identifying or prosecuting those who deal large volumes of arms to Mexico.

Nov. 2010 - **ATF's Office of the Inspector General (OIG)** publishes a review of Project Gunrunner.⁸ The report criticizes ATF's lack of intelligence sharing with Mexican authorities, poor coordination with border liaisons and the Mexico country office (of ATF) and criticizes the agency for focusing largely "*on gun dealer inspections and straw purchaser investigations, rather than targeting higher-level traffickers and smugglers.*" This will push the agency to allow guns to "walk" into Mexico. The report documents the existence of a MOU⁹ between ATF and ICE/DHS (which has jurisdiction over import/export law violations, like moving weapons out of the country).

Despite the earlier Obama administration assertions of 90% of guns coming from the US, **the OIG report states:** "*Many crime guns seized in Mexico are not traced, and the percentage of traces successfully conducted is low and declining.*"

It was the OIG report that initiated the ATF proposal to report multiple long-gun purchases - (2) *Work with the Department to explore options for seeking a requirement for reporting multiple sales of long guns.* Other tidbits include:

8. Focus on developing more complex conspiracy cases **against higher-level gun traffickers and gun trafficking conspirators.**
9. Send guidance to field management, agents, and intelligence staff encouraging them to participate in and exploit the resources and tools

⁵ <http://www.justice.gov/oig/reports/atf/e1101.pdf> (now offline...curious, eh?)

⁶ *Ibid*

⁷ *Ibid*

⁸ *Ibid*

⁹ Memorandum of Understanding

of the OCDEF¹⁰ Program, as directed in the Deputy Attorney General's cartel strategy.

10. Provide guidance to ATF field supervisors and agents to better coordinate with ICE¹¹, including direction on how to "coordinate all pertinent and necessary information" in areas of "concurrent jurisdiction," as defined in the memorandum of understanding.
 11. Work with the government of Mexico to determine the causes of unsuccessful traces and develop actions...
- [12-14 omitted as not directly relevant]
15. Ensure that the reforms discussed in ATF's September 2010 "Project Gunrunner - A Cartel Focused Strategy" are fully and expeditiously implemented.

As the OIG timeline chart below shows, the administration allocated at least \$55.5 million dollars to this program. This is likely to be over and above the "normal" operating budget.

According to ATF insiders, Operation Fast and Furious was born after the 2009 OIG review in which the agency was chastised for not pursuing larger volume gun smugglers. *Operation Fast and Furious* was under the Project Gunrunner banner and used Gunrunner funding.

In 2009-2010, field agents were repeatedly told **not to interdict** guns about to cross over the border — to let them "walk" — even when agents had suspects under close surveillance.

Office of the Inspector General (OIG) Report (Cont'd)

Project Gunrunner Timeline - Office of Inspector General Report (Nov. 2010)		
Year	Month	Activity
2005	June	Project Gunrunner pilot project in Laredo, Texas.
2006	April	Project Gunrunner official launch date.
2008	January	Expanded Project Gunrunner by adding 58 staff to the Southwest border field divisions, 3 additional staff to EPIC, and deploying eTrace to all U.S. consulates in Mexico.
	June	Merida Initiative signed into law, allocated \$2 million to expand Spanish eTrace throughout Mexico and Central America.
2009	February	The Recovery Act signed, \$10 million to ATF for Project Gunrunner.
	March	White House announced enhanced action at the Southwest border and the relocation of 100 personnel to the Southwest border for 120 days via Gun Runner Impact Teams.
	June	Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2009 allocated an additional \$6 million to ATF for Project Gunrunner.
	September	New Gunrunner Teams established in El Centro, California; McAllen, Texas; and Las Cruces and Roswell, New Mexico.
	December	Spanish eTrace piloted in Mexico.
2010	June (In progress)	Deploy Spanish eTrace to Mexican state police laboratories.
	August	Emergency Border Security Supplemental Appropriations Bill of 2010 allocated \$37.5 million to ATF for Project Gunrunner.
	September (Anticipated)	Hiring of 37 new staff with Recovery Act funds to be completed (89% complete as of June 2010).
		New ATF offices in the U.S. consulates in Tijuana and Juarez (75% complete as of June 2010).

(emphasis added)

¹⁰ Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force

¹¹ Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Dec 13, 2010 - Carter's Country exposed by *Washington Post* as source of many weapons to Mexico. The dealer's lawyer tells *Fox News* that Carter's has been cooperating with BATF for "months and months", selling guns to likely straw buyers — who are paying cash for multiple guns — and dutifully reporting them to the BATF. Store employees even go so far to cooperate as to write down license numbers of buyer's vehicles. Carter's completed the sales **because the ATF told them to go through with the sales** said attorney Dick Deguerin who represents Carter's Country owner, Bill Carter.

Dec 14, 2010 - Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry gunned down during a border interdiction mission near Rio Rico, Arizona. An AK-47 found at the scene would later be traced to a gun store cooperating with ATF and Project Gunrunner.¹² As of June 2011, despite ample time for forensics tests, the ATF has still not indicated if the weapon found was actually used to shoot Agent Terry.

Dec 29, 2010 - The first inkling of Project Gunrunner breaks out into the blogosphere in **David Codrea's** National Gun Rights Examiner column.¹³

Dec 31, 2010 - Darren Gil, the ATF attaché to Mexico objects to Phoenix Office Special Agent in Charge (SAC) **William D. Newell's** plan to keep the Mexican authorities in the dark. He takes his objections to D.C. but is forced to retire at the end of the year.

Jan 3-7, 2011 - The first details of Project Gunrunner begin to emerge thanks to **Mike Vanderboegh** of *Sipsey Street Irregulars*¹⁴ and Codrea.

Jan 7, 2011 - Sipsey Street Irregulars reports the White House is now fully briefed on the "Walking Gun-gate" scandal and is now calling the shots.

Jan 8, 2011 - Rep. Gabrielle Giffords shot and seriously wounded in a Tucson parking lot during an appearance. Six others were killed, including a federal judge and a then 9-year-old girl.¹⁵ It is later revealed that Phoenix ATF agents worried that the gun used might be a "walked" gun.

Jan 13, 2011 - Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA) begins inquiries to the DOJ and ATF about project gunrunner. Neither DOJ nor ATF will be forthcoming with information.

Jan 21, 2011 - Insiders (whistleblowers) begin talking to Senate staffers (presumably Senator Grassley's staff).

Jan 22, 2011 - Jeff Knox reports on Gunrunner in his *Worldnetdaily.com* column.¹⁶

Jan 29, 2011 - El Diario de El Paso, a Spanish language newspaper picks up Project Gunrunner scandal as news.¹⁷

Jan 27, 2011 - Senator Grassley writes acting BATF director **Kenneth Melson**. Grassley expresses serious concerns about the allegations by inside ATF agents and the relationship to the death of Agent Terry. He requests an ATF briefing of his staff by February 3.

Jan 31, 2011 - Senator Grassly writes another memo to ATF Acting Director **Melson** and copies DOJ's **Eric Holder** over the questioning of a Phoenix agent by Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) **George Gillett** regarding his contact with Grassley's staff. Grassley reminds both agencies

¹² <http://www.odmp.org/officer/20596-border-patrol-agent-brian-a-terry>

¹³ <http://www.examiner.com/gun-rights-in-national/media-continues-propaganda-journalism-blaming-u-s-gun-laws-for-mexican-crime>

¹⁴ <http://sipseystreetirregulars.blogspot.com/>

¹⁵ This item included as a timeline reference only. It is not directly related.

¹⁶ <http://www.wnd.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pageId=253993>

¹⁷ <http://www.diariousoa.com/>

that federal law protects whistleblowers and that interfering with a congressional investigation is a crime.

Jan 31, 2011 - Silence from Anti-gun groups. You'd think they might object to a government agency facilitating gun trafficking.

Feb 01, 2011 - First mainstream media notice of Project Gunrunner. *Politico*, *The Arizona Republic* and the *Associated Press* make their first reports. The AP story is reprinted in numerous papers.

Feb 01, 2011 - Reports surface that **William Newell**, the Special Agent in Charge of ATF's Phoenix Field Division, "will be handed the job of Mexican Attaché for ATF." Insiders say that it promotes him and puts him in position where he could easily do even more damage. *Arizona's Fox News 10* reports on the investigation.

Feb 4, 2011 - Stonewalling begins - Assistant U.S. Attorney General **Ronald Weich** said in a letter obtained by The Associated Press that the claim that firearms agents sanctioned or knowingly allowed the sale of assault weapons to straw buyers who then brought them to Mexico *is false*.

Feb 9, 2011 - Grassley sends a letter to Attorney General **Holder** at DOJ, saying his requests for information are being met with delays and denials. Grassley tells Holder that Agent Terry's mother deserves some straight answers.

Feb 12, 2011 - Narconews.com publishes the article *Pentagon Fingered as a Source of Narco-Firepower in Mexico* shows that the government is aware that the cartels obtain their major firepower on the Central American black market, not from U.S. mom and pop gun shops.¹⁸

February 15, 2011 - Two ICE agents shot, one killed while driving in Mexico from a meeting.

February 15, 2011 - Robbie Sherwood, US Attorney's spokesman announces that two of three suspects involved in the shooting of **Brian Terry** are expected to *plead guilty to illegal entry charges, and as a result, will be deported back to Mexico*. Sherwood said there was no evidence tying these three individuals to the shooting of Border Patrol (CBP) Agent Terry. But wait. Illegal entry is a felony and in most cases, accomplices in a felony involving a murder are also charged, even if they didn't pull the trigger. Could it be that DOJ/ATF doesn't want them around as *witnesses* about the guns left behind?

February 16, 2011 - Senator Grassley sends a memo to AG Holder, complaining that the briefing by the ATF could not answer specific questions and only focused on the difficulties of making arrests (i.e. a dog & pony show). Grassley then directly requests Holder to provide specific detailed records and prioritizes the order in which he wants them searched for and produced

February 23, 2011 - Allegations emerge on **cleanupATF.org** that (a) ATF paid one of the involved gun shops as a "confidential informant," (b) a second "gunrunner" operation was being conducted out of Tucson, where "'walking' several hundred rifles to Mexico" was allowed. Finally (c) that the **State Department** signed off on Gunrunner stiffing the Mexicans. That clearly implicates senior people in the State Department as being aware of the program.

February 23, 2011 - CBS News "breaks" the story of Gunrunner on the evening news.¹⁹

February 23, 2011 - Gun Owners of America (GOA) issues a press release calling for hearings into Project Gunrunner not only seeking to question supervisors and field agents, but senior administration officials. These include: **Adam R. Price** and **Jeffrey B. Stirling**, program managers for Gunrunner at ATF headquarters; **Lanny Breuer**, Assistant Attorney General of the DOJ Criminal Investigations

¹⁸ <http://narcosphere.narconews.com/notebook/bill-conroy/2011/02/pentagon-fingered-source-narco-firepower-mexico>

¹⁹ http://www.cbspressexpress.com/div.php/cbs_network/release?id=27623

Division; **Eric Holder**, Attorney General of the United States; **Robert Mueller**, Director of the FBI; **Hillary Clinton**, Secretary of State and **Janet Napolitano**, Department of Homeland Security.

February 23, 2011 - **Alan Gottlieb**, chairman of the *Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms* (CCRKBA) issues a press release demanding a full-scale investigation by Attorney General Eric Holder, or Holder's resignation as the nation's chief law enforcement officer.

March 1, 2011 - Still no comment from anti-gun groups.

March 3, 2011 - **CBS News** airs a second investigative report on Project Gunrunner.

March 3, 2011 - **Senator Grassley** fires a letter off to AG Holder telling him his requests for documentation have not been complied with and also saying that DOJ's denials "don't hold water".

March 3, 2011 - **ATF in the Spin-Cycle**: ATF sends a memo out to field offices declaring the need for "positive" news stories. "*ATF needs to proactively push positive stories this week, in an effort to preempt some negative reporting, or at minimum, lessen the coverage of such stories in the news cycle by replacing them with good stories about ATF.*" In other words, push the positive and hope it doesn't leave room for the negative articles.

March 4, 2011 - **Rush Limbaugh** picks up the story and broadcasts to 20M listeners.

March 5, 2011 - **The key players are summoned to D.C.** according to an ATF insider who says, "*All key players have been summoned to DC. Wheels up Sunday to be in HQ [Monday] am.*"

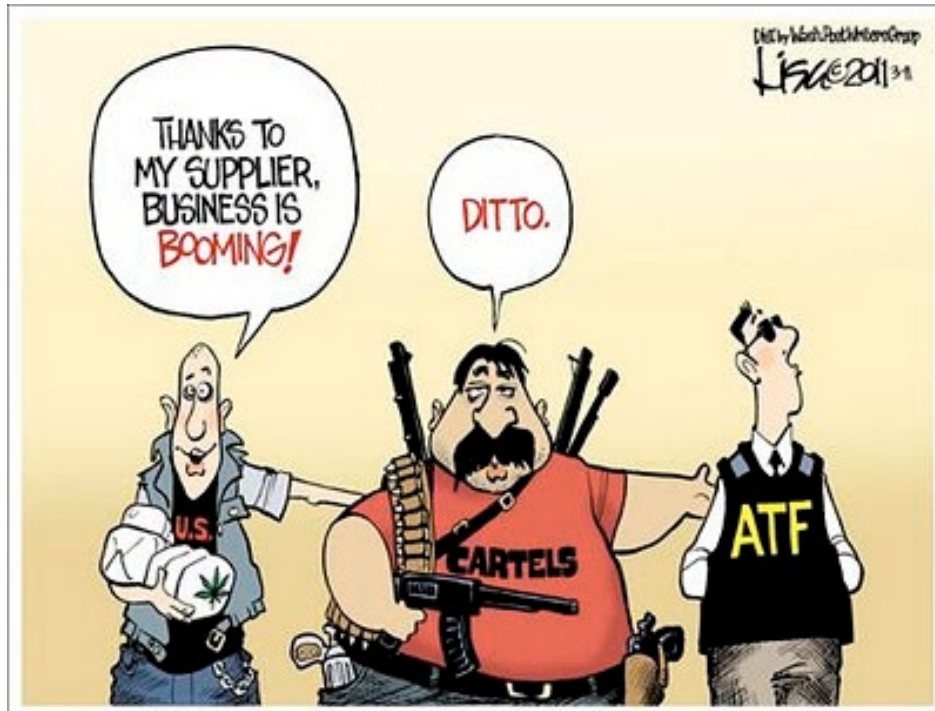
March 6, 2011 - **Mexico** officially requests information on Project Gunrunner and its offshoot *Operation Fast and Furious*, the code name for the "trailing" of weapons to major suppliers.

March 8, 2011 - **Senator Grassley** asks for an *independent investigator* to review ATF's project Gunrunner. Citing a conflict of interest with DOJ using its own internal Inspector General, the Senator said the IG failed to act on earlier complaints and the post has been officially vacant since the last IG retired.

March 8, 2011 - **LA Times** article quotes **Rene Jaquez**, a former ATF attaché in Mexico City and deputy attaché in Ciudad Juarez as saying ATF wasn't serious about working with Mexico. The end result was there was no increase in prosecutions after spending large sums to open the offices in Mexico. The major quote from Jaquez: "Well, this whole scandal shows we've probably **allowed more guns into the country** than guns we've stopped."

March 8, 2011 - **CBS** airs a report that includes agents speaking up about *Operation Wide Receiver*, a project similar to *Operation Fast and Furious* which took place in the **Tucson** area allegedly in 2008. A smaller operation of about 450 guns, the SAC of the Tucson office at the time was **William Newell** who would later head the Phoenix office.

March 9, 2011 - **Mexico** asks for a US/Mexican working group to review Project Gunrunner and its effects. All three Mexican political parties are represented in the letter to the U.S.



March 9, 2011 - Chairman **Lamar Smith** (R-Texas) and 13 Republicans on the House Judiciary Committee sent a letter to Attorney General Eric Holder requesting information on *Operation Fast and Furious*, part of the Project Gunrunner scandal.²⁰

March 9, 2011 - Homeland Security Chief **Janet Napolitano** appears before Senator Grassley and the Senate Judiciary Committee to answer questions about Project Gunrunner. Napolitano denies knowing about the program until after the deaths of Agent Terry and ICE agent Zapata in Mexico.

March 9, 2011 - The **NRA** shows up and demands hearings on the ATF programs.

March 10, 2011 - AG **Eric Holder** appears before the House Judiciary Committee and responds that allowing guns to fall into the hands of gunrunners or allowing them into Mexico is wrong, but offers no insight or information.

March 10, 2011 - **Mexican Newspapers** run articles saying that the Mexican government may seek to extradite and prosecute "U.S. agents involved" in *Operation Fast and Furious* for crimes against Mexico's sovereignty. The action casts doubt on the promotion of Phoenix SAC William Newell to take over the Mexico City liaison office.

March 13, 2011 - **President Obama** as an op-ed piece published in the Tucson newspaper, calling for states to report "mentally disturbed" patients to the NICS database to "strengthen" the system.²¹

March 13, 2011 - ATF whistleblower agent **John Dodson** is interviewed by Mexico's *Univision* Television. Also interviewed is former Mexican attaché **Rene Jaquez**. In the interview, Jaquez supports Dodson's versions of events.

March 19, 2011 - Congressman **Darrell Issa** (R-CA) chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee joins the fray. He demands documents and explanations from ATF.

March 20, 2011 - **Carlos Pascual**, U.S. ambassador to Mexico, resigns under pressure from Mexico. Mexico voices distrust of Pascual for, among other things, the Gunrunner scandal, criticism

²⁰ <http://judiciary.house.gov/news/pdfs/HJC%20Gunrunner%20Letter.pdf>

²¹ <http://www.kgun9.com/story/14242365/obama-writes-on-gun-law-reform-in-tucson-newspaper?redirected=true>

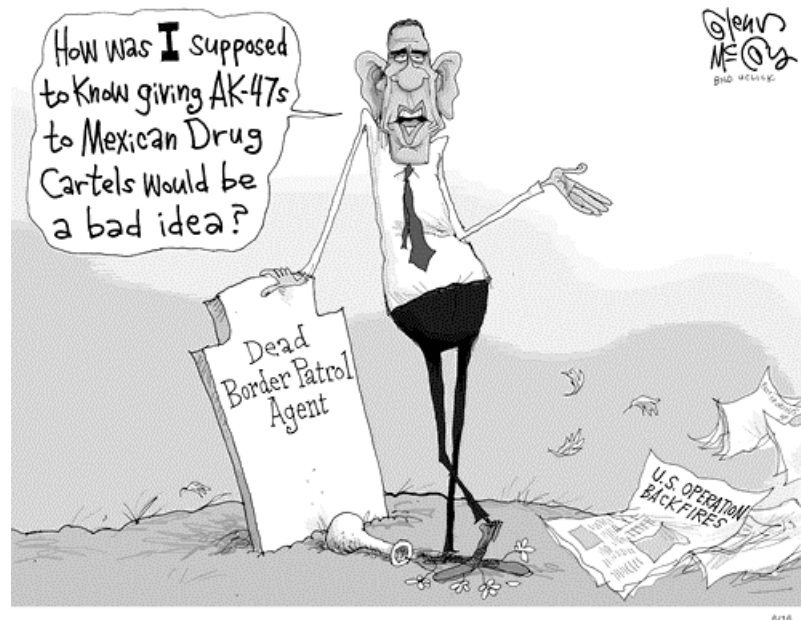
of Mexican authorities in leaked Wikileaks cables and dating the daughter of a mistrusted and alleged cartel-linked opposition legislator.

March 21, 2011 - Agent Rene Jaquez speaks out on *CBS news* about Project Gunrunner. CBS documents ATF collaborated with DEA, DHS, ICE, the U.S. Marshal's Service and the U.S. Attorney in Phoenix, dispelling the notion this was a "rouge operation."

March 21, 2011 - NRA's Wayne LaPierre finally gets on the bandwagon.

March 22, 2011 - President Obama tells CBS's **Sheryl Attkisson** that he did not authorize *Operation Fast and Furious*. Two other questions - did he *approve* of the program and did he allow ATF to go ahead with the program without his official authorization?

March 23, 2011 - Univision's Jorge Ramos is told by President Obama that he did not authorize *Operation Fast and Furious* and neither did Attorney General Eric Holder.



March 25, 2011 - CRACK! CBS news interview with **Darren Gil**, former attaché to Mexico reveals somebody in the Justice Department did know about the case. Gil says his supervisor at ATF's Washington D.C. headquarters told him point-blank *the operation was approved even higher than ATF Director Kenneth Melson*. Gil first found out something was amiss in early 2010 when serial numbers from a flood of guns used in cartel crimes were all tracing back to the same case in Phoenix: "Fast and Furious." But when Gil's analyst checked ATF's computer files to find out more, he hit a brick wall. "Not only did he not have access, I as the attaché, the head agent in Mexico for ATF operations, did not have access," says Gil. He was locked out. That was a red flag because Gil says as the senior ATF official in Mexico, it was his job to approve any ATF operation involving Mexico; and he didn't approve this one

March 28, 2011 - Mexico's Attorney General vows to extradite and prosecute anyone responsible for smuggling guns into Mexico as part of Operation Fast and Furious.

March 29, 2011 - ATF acting director Kenneth Melson suddenly declines to testify at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Since the committee has no jurisdiction over ATF, they cannot compel him to show up.

March 29, 2011 - Darrell Issa (R-CA), chairman of the House Oversight Committee fires off a letter to Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton** demanding to know why State has refused to provide requested documents to Senator Grassley.

March 30, 2011 - Deafening administration silence: ATF fails to provide documents to Grassley, Lamar Smith or Darrell Issa, three congressional committees.

March 31, 2011 - Congressman Darrell Issa, chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee issues subpoenas to the ATF and DOJ to produce documents relevant to Project Gunrunner. One subpoena²² demands Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Acting Director **Kenneth E. Melson** to appear before the committee and produce scheduled documents by 5 PM on April 13th.²³

April 1, 2011 - Latin American newspapers report that "Head of ATF avoids testifying", "Barack Obama says he never authorized arms trafficking to Mexico" and "Fast and Furious was authorized in Washington, former ATF head reveals."²⁴

April 2, 2011 - Fox News (Mexico City) reports that 90% of the illegal arms used by drug cartels are smuggled in from Central America.²⁵ The Mexican *La Jornada* newspaper quoted diplomatic cables from Wikileaks. The cables were written after three bilateral conferences on arms trafficking that took place between March 2009 and January 2010 in Cuernavaca, Mexico; Phoenix; and Tapachula, Mexico, respectively. Ironically, the cables' authors note that Mexican officials and politicians never hesitate to remind U.S. diplomats that Mexico's drug war - which has claimed 35,000 lives in the last four years - is fueled by Americans' demand for illegal drugs and by guns bought in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.

April 2, 2011 - The *Wall Street Journal* and *Washington Times* finally pick up the story.

April 1, 2011 - The anti-gun lobby still has no comment.

April 5, 2011 - Real Trouble! Walker—Texas Ranger weighs in. Chuck Norris addresses project gunrunner in his *Worldnet Daily* column.²⁶

April 6, 2011 - An article in **IHS Global Insights/Jane's Defence** quotes U.S. Southern Command head, U.S. Airforce General Douglas Fraser in testimony to the Senate. Fraser says that more than 50% of military grade weaponry flowing through the region **originated from Central American arsenals**, with the total quantity in circulation estimated at between 45 million and 80 million firearms.

April 8, 2011 - The Crack Widens! Assistant Special Agent in charge of ATF's Phoenix Division **George Gillett**, perhaps not wanting to become the "sacrificial lamb" begins cooperating with congressional inquiries. This information is revealed in a letter from Senator Grassley to ATF acting director Kenneth Melson, CBS news reports.²⁷ Neither the ATF nor DOJ would comment to CBS news.

April 11, 2011 - The Washington Post prints an article about Steve Croley, President Obama's regulatory point-man. In the article, **Sarah Brady** recounts a March 30 meeting between Brady, her husband Jim and White House Press secretary Jay Carney, *The Post* reports: "During the meeting, President Obama dropped in and, according to Sarah Brady, brought up the issue of gun control, 'to fill

²² The subpoenas are *subpoena duces tecum* - a demand to appear with specified documents.

²³ http://oversight.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1231:chairman-issa-subpoenas-atf-for-project-gunrunner-documents-&catid=22:releasesstatements

²⁴ <http://lo-de-alla.org/2011/03/mexico-fast-and-furious-controversy-continues/>

²⁵ <http://latino.foxnews.com/latino/news/2011/03/30/mexican-cartels-heavy-weapons-centam-cables-say/>

²⁶ <http://www.wnd.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pageId=282693>

²⁷ http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-31727_162-20052239-10391695.html

us in that it was very much on his agenda,' she said. 'I just want you to know that we are working on it,' Brady recalled the president telling them. '*We have to go through a few processes, **but under the radar.***'²⁸ (Emphasis added)

April 13, 2011 - **Senator Grassley** letter to Holder, detailing with emails that at least one gun shop owner acknowledged that selling to suspected straw-buyers was what the agency wanted and asked for assurances against any later recourse against his business. The dealer expressed concerns the guns might be used against friends in the Border Patrol. The emails were dated April 13, 2010 - **a full year prior** and more than six months before agent Terry's death. Grassley says DOJ denials of gun trafficking as *simply not credible*.

April 14, 2011 - Four *months* have lapsed and neither the FBI nor DOJ can or will say whether either of the weapons recovered after CBP agent Brian Terry was killed were the murder weapon. Have all the DOJ's forensic experts suddenly gone stupid? Or is there something else here they don't want us to know?

April 14, 2011 - (Floor of the Senate) **Grassley** delivers a summary of his investigation into Fast and Furious. "*Ironically, I have provided more internal documents to the Justice Department in this investigation than the Justice Department has provided to me,*" Grassley says.

April 15, 2011 - Gunrunner picked up again by *Associated Press, The Arizona Republic* and *USA Today*.

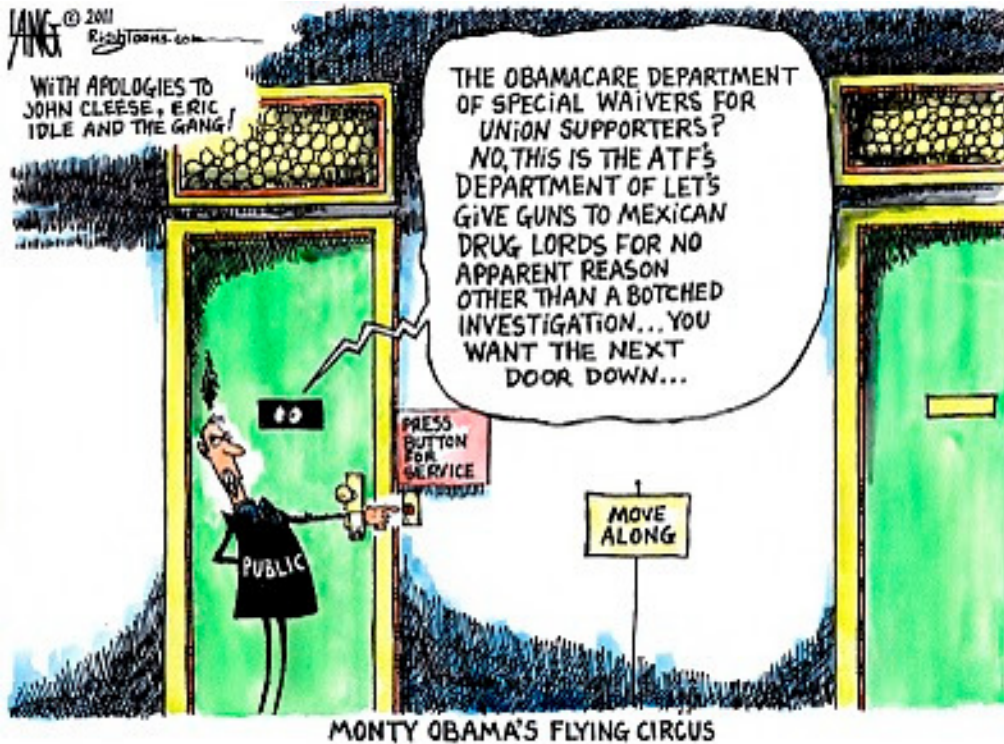
April 17, 2011 - **Global Research** publishes an article saying that in the two years since Barack Obama took office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives ramped up its Project Gunrunner and Operation Fast and Furious gun trafficking sting operations, drug war homicides in Mexico **nearly tripled**.²⁹ The same report shows that many arms shipped by the US Government (such as fully automatic M-16's) often end up in the hands of the cartels.

April 20, 2011 - House Oversight Committee chairman **Issa** sends a blistering letter³⁰ to ATF Acting Director **Kenneth E. Melson**, threatening to initiate contempt of Congress proceedings for ATF's failure to turn over *any* documents pursuant to the committee's subpoena.

²⁸ http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/over-a-barrel-meet-white-house-gun-policy-adviser-steve-croley/2011/04/04/AFt9EKND_story.html

²⁹ <http://www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=viewArticle&code=CON20110416&articleId=24353>

³⁰ <http://thehill.com/homenews/house/157031-house-committee-chairman-threatens-atf-with-contempt-charges-for-withholding-documents>



April 20, 2011 - Rep. **Elijah Cummings** issues a statement saying "despite my repeated requests, Chairman Issa has refused to meet with the Department of Justice to ensure that his actions do not compromise ongoing investigations and prosecutions, including a trial of 20 individuals that is scheduled to begin in June." Ironically, Cummings was on the oversight committee when Democrats controlled the house and did nothing despite early warnings about ATF misdeeds.

April 22, 2011 - **Mexico retains law firm to sue U.S. gun manufacturers.** Mexico is retaining the services of *Reid Collins & Tsai, LLP* to sue U.S. gun makers. Notably President Obama's 2009 nomination for the U.S. District Court judge for the Southern District of Texas is **Marina Garcia Marmolejo**, who is a partner with *Reid Collins & Tsai LLP*.³¹ Well, at least until she's appointed. However, allegiances can be very subtle things too. Let's see... ATF increases gun smuggling of US guns, Mexico claims U.S. guns flooding it's country, then sues U.S. makers. Where? The southern district of Texas would be likely. With a judge who knows the plaintiff's lawyers well. Oh, did I mention that Marmolejo was born in Mexico?

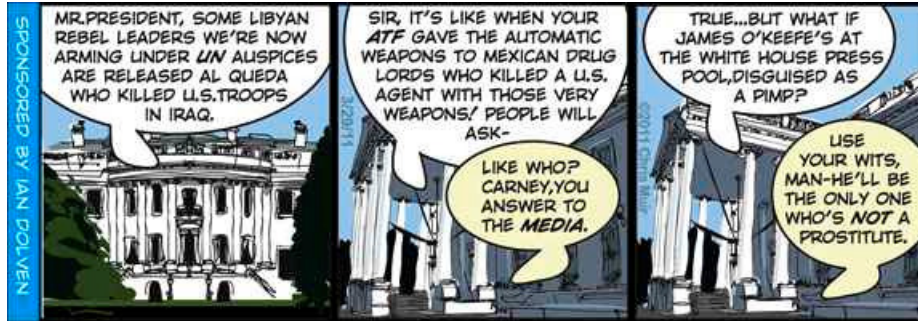
April 25, 2011 - Project Gunrunner revealed on the **Huffington Post**; several liberal readers sent into an apoplexy after reading about it.

April 26, 2011 - **Boots on the ground!** Congressional investigators are gathering interviews from witnesses, including ATF insiders and area gun shop owners. Sources tell **CBS News** the congressional investigators are frustrated by what they view as across-the-board stonewalling by government agencies.³²

April 26, 2011 - This just in: *Time*, *Newsweek* and *U.S. News and World Report* lack a pulse. Absolutely zero information or articles about Project Gunrunner, ATF or even Grassley or Issa.

³¹ <http://www.rctlegal.com/mmarmolejo.html>

³² http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-31727_162-20057548-10391695.html



April 29, 2011 - Rep. Issa on Roger Hedgecock's radio program: "We're not investigating the sale of guns across the border. We're investigating the lack of judgment at the highest levels." At the end, Issa reflected on that judgement. "This goes all the way to the top. ... If you made a decision this *felony stupid* you shouldn't be making decisions any longer on behalf of the American people."³³

April 30, 2011 - The NRA's **Wayne LaPierre** calls for Attorney General Eric Holder's resignation.

May 1, 2011 - Still no word from the anti-gun lobby.

May 3, 2011 - Darrell Issa slaps Holder! Attorney General Holder appears before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, chaired by Darrel Issa. Holder claims he had only heard about Project Gunrunner or *Fast and Furious* "a few weeks ago". Holder should have known about it as of late January or early February from Grassley's memos.³⁴ After asking Holder if he took the subpoena seriously and getting "Of course" from the AG, Issa said:

After 14 days of waiting for a letter to be signed or acknowledged or responded to, we sent a subpoena signed by the Clerk of the House. 32 days later, last night, your people responded by giving us 92 pages representing 3 documents that were public records already.

In other words, it took DOJ 46 days to produce documents Issa could have gleaned off the Internet. DOJ is sure complying with that subpoena. Sure. Uh-huh. After Issa asks about the ATF being responsible for American and Mexican deaths, Holder takes a defensive posture:

Holder: The notion that somehow or other this Justice Department is responsible for those deaths that you mentioned, that assertion's offensive. And I want to tell you that...

Issa: But what if it's *accurate*, Mr. Attorney General?

Holder has no response other than to filibuster for a while about how offended he is.

May 4, 2011 - CBS news reports³⁵ Assistant Attorney General Lanny Breuer authorized a wiretap in *Operation Fast and Furious*. Yesterday AG Holder said he was not sure if Breuer authorized *Fast and Furious*. Another newly-released document is an ATF Briefing Paper dated Jan. 8, 2010, just four months into *Fast and Furious*. It indicates that ATF knew early on that so-called "straw purchasers" who bought guns for personal use were illegally transferring them to third parties, and that some of the guns were already showing up in Mexico. The Briefing Paper says **more gun purchases were to be allowed and "monitored."** The ATF Briefing Paper also states that **Arizona U.S. Attorney Burke** and ATF Phoenix chief **William Newell** were in "full agreement with the current investigative strategy."³⁶

³³ <http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/issa-demands-justice-dept-answer-project-gunrunner-subpoenas/2/>

³⁴ http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-31727_162-20059360-10391695.html?tag=contentMain;contentBody

³⁵ http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-31727_162-20059640-10391695.html

³⁶ <http://blogs.wsj.com/washwire/2011/05/04/lawmakers-step-up-probe-of-gun-trafficking-operation/>



May 4, 2011 - Prepared remarks by **Senator Grassly** include this definition of the issue: *"The evidence that I and Congressman Issa have gathered is clear—the ATF sanctioned the sale of guns to straw purchasers that were then used in crimes on both sides of the Southwest border. Officials at both the Department and ATF knew of and approved the operation."* One blog reader comments: Let's see, Seal Team Six goes in and takes out Osama bin Laden and in less than 24 hours has him positively identified, and then buried at sea. And Holder here, the Attorney General can't figure out who was the jackwagon that signed off on *Fast and Furious*, several weeks after finding out about it.

May 5, 2011 - **Senator Grassley** threatens to hold up DOJ nominations over lack of cooperation into the Project Gunrunner scandal.³⁷

May 6, 2011 - **Pajamas Media** notes the scandal and says, *"The U.S. government has effectively allowed weaponry to reach cartels, and now uses the violence they helped cause as a gun control argument."*³⁸ If this seems far-fetched, consider Obama's anti-2A actions when serving on the board of the anti-gun Joyce Foundation.³⁹

May 6, 2011 - **Finally**, **Manuel Osorio-Arellanes** and at least two others indicted on 14 counts for Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry's murder. The unsealing of the indictment comes just days after lawmakers repeated calls for justice in the killing of Terry. U.S. Attorney **Dennis K. Burke** announced the indictments. Burke was the U.S. Attorney involved in Operation Fast and Furious and "coincidentally" was sworn in as the United States Attorney for the District of Arizona on 16 September 2009 (just in time to work on *Operation Fast and Furious* portion of the Gunrunner scandal). It may only be "coincidence" that Burke served as *Chief of Staff* to Arizona Governor **Janet Napolitano** from 2003 to 2008 and once said that an "iron river" of weapons flows from Phoenix to Mexico.⁴⁰

May 7, 2011 - **Darrell Issa** welcomes the indictment in the Terry case, but isn't fooled for a second. His press statement includes this statement: *It angers me to think that this death might not have occurred had it not been for reckless decisions made by officials at the Department of Justice who authorized and supported an operation that knowingly put guns in the hands of criminals.*

³⁷ <http://www.mainjustice.com/2011/05/05/grassley-threatens-holds-over-atf-operation/>

³⁸ <http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/time-for-daylight-u-s-weapons-reaching-cartel-hands-a-huge-scandal/2/>

³⁹ <http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/obama-and-the-attempt-to-destroy-the-second-amendment/>

⁴⁰ http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-31727_162-20060619-10391695.html

May 9, 2011 - Meet COMPASS, the most dangerous database to the ATF scandal. In May 2009, the Attorney General's Organized Crime Council established the International Organized Crime Intelligence and Operations Center (IOC-2) coordinating multi-jurisdictional investigations. The DOJ has oversight of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) which operates the OCDETF Fusion Center (OFC) to coordinate drug and financial investigations with multiple agencies. To better coordinate investigations, the OCDETF and IOC-2 formed a partnership. Due to the partnership, OFC and IOC-2 have co-located, and will pool data input and share access to **Compass**. What does Compass collect for analysis and review? **Everything**. The data collected in Compass can be almost anything. Included are all the standard identifiers like name, social security number (SSN), and address. It can also include scars, marks, tattoos, license plate numbers, bank account numbers, etc. Even the information in reports of investigations filed by special agents. These reports are often free flowing narratives of events, meetings, and surveillance. All of the text, every word, is indexed and searchable. Both the OCDETF Fusion Center and the IOC-2 are located in Merrifield, Virginia. This is another nail in the coffin about Gunrunner being a "rouge operation."

May 10, 2011 - Arturo Valenzuela, the State Department's Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs, announces to friends he will soon leave the administration and return to his teaching post at Georgetown University. Is this the first desertion from Hillary's sinking State Department?

May 10, 2011 - Brady Campaign spins the Gunrunner scandal as "*disputed and unconfirmed*."⁴¹ It releases a "report" about "officers gunned down".⁴² They treat the Gunrunner scandal as if it barely exists (but screw it up anyhow). "it [sic] is *alleged* that federal prosecutors and ATF permitted 1,998 guns to be purchased and retained by suspected straw buyers in the hope that a major case could be built. While the truth of those allegations are *disputed and unconfirmed*. it [sic] is undisputed that **if firearms laws were stronger by prohibiting multiple sales and requiring responsible sales practices...**" (emphasis added) Hey, Sarah, perhaps if the ATF hadn't overruled the dealers and told them to let the sales proceed, they wouldn't have taken place either.

The Brady report says over 2,000 Mexican police were killed in 2007-2008 and footnotes the stat, which references "John Solomon, et al., *ATF let hundreds of U.S. weapons fall into hands of suspected Mexican gunrunners*, The Center For Public Integrity". Yet, Brady doesn't call for restrictions on the ATF to prevent it dealing guns to the cartels! (Note: Review of the article shows the footnotes do not coincide with the sections marked, at least not in some intelligent fashion.)

May 13, 2011 - White House girds for hearings. Eric Schultz, the former communications director of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, joins the White House staff. Schultz's portfolio of issues will focus mainly on *DOJ and other oversight-related* topics. He will be one of three associate communications directors, alongside Kate Bedingfield and Sandra Abrevaya."

May 13, 2011 - Hunker in the WH bunker: White House to seek 2-year extension for Mueller at FBI. Perhaps Obama doesn't want *too many* simultaneous vacant seats at the DOJ. Keeping Mueller means Obama will have at least one experienced hand to rely on for cover-ups and plausible deniability.

May 16, 2011 - CBS News reports congressional investigators are back on the ground in Phoenix for more interviews in the ATF "gunwalking" investigation. This time, sources tell CBS News, the investigators will be speaking with gun shop owners the ATF allegedly recruited to play a part in Operation Fast and Furious. Democrats on the House Oversight Committee also have representation on site.⁴³

⁴¹ Are these people *really* that delusional?

⁴² <http://www.bradycenter.org/xshare/pdf/reports/Officers-Gunned-Down.pdf>

⁴³ http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-31727_162-20063373-10391695.html

May 16, 2011 - Smoking Gun? Ben Barrack at Andrew Breitbart's *Bigpeace.com* finds a potential "smoking gun" that could implicate the DOJ and White House. In Sept. 2010, **Michael Isikoff on MSNBC** wrote an article and linked a leaked DOJ strategy document.⁴⁴ In that document are refers to supporting the strategy of "the President and the Department of Justice."⁴⁵ Of course, MSNBC is home to Chris "tingle up my leg" Matthews, so the irony here could choke a donkey.

May 16, 2011 - Senator Grassley fires off a 4-page memo to Eric Holder demanding more immediate responses from DOJ.⁴⁶ He attaches 9 pages of questions, including an excerpt from an ATF briefing paper. The excerpt reads: *Currently our strategy is to allow the transfer of firearms to continue to take place in order to further the investigation...* It's not a matter of *if* the ATF allowed guns into the cartel's hands, but who in the hell authorized it and why?

May 17, 2011 - CBS News reports a shake-up at the Phoenix ATF office. Special Agent in Charge (SAC) **William Newell** and Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) **George Gillett** were reassigned to ATF headquarters in Washington D.C. Jim Needles, has been tasked to the Phoenix U.S. Attorney's office. Agent **David Voht**, who directly supervised the Phoenix ATF "Group VII," that executed Fast and Furious was re-assigned to the U.S. Attorney's office along with Agent **Hope McAllister**, the agent in charge of Fast and Furious.

May 18, 2011 - ATF headquarters issues a memo to produce electronically all documents related to Gunrunner and Fast & Furious. It directs employees to preserve and produce relevant documents and forward them to ATF HQ. We presume an ATF damage-control team will vet these before being sent to the oversight committee.

May 18, 2011 - Sen. Lieberman (I-CT) sends letter to Holder, supporting multiple long gun registrations because "Recent news reports indicate that rifles originally purchased by smuggling rings in the southwest for the cartels" killed Terry and Zapata. He doesn't mention Fast and Furious or Project Gunrunner. But gun rights groups demand Lieberman investigate ATF instead of supporting it.

May 19, 2011 - DEA Captures 50-60 "Fast and Furious Guns - Refuses to turn them over to ATF.⁴⁷ CBS News reports that DEA agents recovered 50-60 AK-47s in a drug raid in Phoenix on April 13th.⁴⁸ At least some of these firearms were part of "Operation Fast and Furious." Ironically for ATF, the DEA is refusing to turn them over to ATF.

May 21, 2011 - Federal prosecutors announce new indictments in Project Gunrunner. A total of 8 people indicted in Brownsville, Texas, however three of those were under previous indictment. Millions spent, two agents dead, thousands of guns into Mexico to capture "big fish" and the best ATF can do is indict eight people?

May 22, 2011 - Fox News /William La Jeunesse has interviewed a *federal confidential informant*.⁴⁹ He states the following: Drug flow into the US is increasing. Cartels have corrupted federal agents from several agencies. *In his opinion, corruption on the US side is worse than on the Mexican side - he cited "operation gunrunner" as an example. He believes that this corruption goes 'all the way to the top'.* He obtained the name and location of Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry's killer, he was told to "ignore that, other agencies are working on that, that information isn't necessary." He confirms the Wikileaks information that the cartels are receiving large amounts of weapons from Central America

⁴⁴ http://msnbcmedia.msn.com/i/msnbc/sections/news/Cartel_Strategy.pdf

⁴⁵ <http://bigpeace.com/barrack/2011/05/16/did-msnbc-find-project-gunrunners-smoking-gun/>

⁴⁶ <http://grassley.senate.gov/judiciary/upload/Judiciary-ATF-05-16-11-Ranking-Member-Grassley-to-AG-Holder-QFRs-Follow-Up-2.pdf>

⁴⁷ <http://www.kpho.com/news/27960138/detail.html>

⁴⁸ http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-31727_162-20064443-10391695.html

⁴⁹ <http://www.examiner.com/gun-rights-in-national/america-s-third-war-an-informant-s-story-uncut-video>

and that weapons are flowing in both directions. Not only are guns going into Mexico, but also military weapons that cannot be purchased legally in the US are flowing north.

May 24, 2011 - World Net Daily publishes an article entitled: "*White House 'strategy' on Project Gunrunner documented - Is report the 'smoking gun' in controversy over guns-to-Mexico?*"⁵⁰ This article reveals the same "cartel strategy" document reported by Ben Barrack at *Andrew Breitbart's Bigpeace.com* on May 16th. The WND article reported accusations that this "strategy" was to justify gun control in the US.

May 24, 2011 - The White House hires **Jesse Lee** as *Director of Progressive Media & Online Response*.⁵¹ Lee's job is to coordinate rapid response to unfavorable stories and fostering and improving relations **with the progressive online community**, according to Communications Director **Dan Pfeiffer**. Lee is the second communications flack to be hired within 2 weeks to deal with "bad press." Eric Schultz has to deal with Congress; Pfeiffer has to deal with the disappointed left-wing zealots. Who'll be the first to quit?

May 25, 2011 - Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) vows to block President Obama's nominations⁵² until he gets detailed answers on the Gunwalker scandal⁵³ Additional coverage from Fox News.

May 25, 2011 - Fox News reporter William La Jeunesse, citing Wikileaks data⁵⁴, reports that the vast majority of guns used in the cartel wars in Mexico are diverted from sales to the Mexican and other governments. Guns sold through US retail channels are a small fraction of the total - not 90% as claimed by the Obama Administration.

May 30, 2011 - "Weinergate" begins breaking with allegations against Congressman Anthony Weiner. Predictably, this sucks up the media's prurient interests and diverts public attention from the Gunrunner scandal. At least for now.

June 1, 2011 - Kathleen Millar, writes an excellent analysis at **the Foreign Policy Association's** Global Organized Crime blog, calls the Gunrunner Scandal "Obama's Weaponsgate."⁵⁵

June 2, 2011 - .50 Caliber rifle recovered in Mexico. A report published today at *Examiner.com* indicated that a .50 Cal rifle "walked" into Mexico under the "Fast and Furious" operation may have been used to shoot down a Mexican government helicopter.⁵⁶ In addition to the .50 Cal, it is suspected by the ATF that many other guns from the ill-fated program were recovered at the shoot out, in which 11 people were killed.

June 3, 2011 - In a letter to the President, 31 House Democrats ask the President to stop the DOJ stonewalling and resolve the Project Gunrunner issue.⁵⁷

June 5, 2011 - Rep. Issa, Chairman of the House Oversight and Reform Committee, announces in a Fox News interview that he will hold public hearings on the ATF scandal this summer.⁵⁸ He also stated that he has evidence that the program was approved at "the highest level."⁵⁹ He made it clear that he believes it is possible that both Eric Holder and President Obama knew of the program. According to Issa, they have had excellent cooperation in the field and zero cooperation in Washington.

⁵⁰ <http://www.wnd.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pageId=302609>

⁵¹ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/05/23/white-house-online-rapid-response_n_865652.html

⁵² <http://thehill.com/homenews/senate/163095-grassley-vows-to-block-nominations-until-he-gets-answers-on-gun-program>

⁵³ additional coverage: <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2011/05/25/justice-nominees-held-grassley-concerns-gunrunner/>

⁵⁴ <http://video.foxnews.com/v/968667204001/us-arming-mexican-cartels>

⁵⁵ <http://globalorganizedcrime.foreignpolicyblogs.com/tag/atf-agent-john-dodson/>

⁵⁶ <http://www.examiner.com/gun-rights-in-seattle/seized-50-cal-rifle-mexican-chopper-downing-linked-to-gunrunner>

⁵⁷ <http://www.nraila.org/media/PDFs/ProjectGunrunnerLettertoPOTUS3June2011.pdf>

⁵⁸ <http://sipseystreetirregulars.blogspot.com/2011/06/darrell-issa-on-fox-news-more-subpoenas.html>

⁵⁹ <http://sipseystreetirregulars.blogspot.com/2011/06/issa-interview-on-fox-slew-of-subpoenas.html>

June 6, 2011 - CBS News reports that Issa will hold public hearing beginning June 13th.⁶⁰ CBS also reports on the letter 31 House Democrats sent to President Obama.



June 6, 2011 - CBS News confirms that "Gunwalker" guns - illegally bought in the US with the help of the BATFE, and then smuggled into Mexico under their watchful eyes - were used to shoot down a Mexican military helicopter.⁶¹ This confirms the June 2 report that the .50 caliber Barrett rifle seized was part of the ATF program.

June 7, 2011 - Witness List: Darrell Issa releases the witness list for the first hearing on project Gunrunner.⁶² Issa starts by asking experts to weigh in on the question "*Obstruction of Justice: Does the Justice Department Have to Respond to a Lawfully Issued and Valid Congressional Subpoena?*" This should set the tone for the rest of the hearings, charges of contempt of congress and sanctions for failing to cooperate.

June 8, 2011 - Rep. Elijah Cummings defends not signing the letter sent by **31 House Democrats** to the President urging cooperation with the investigation. Sounding like schoolboys who forgot to do their homework, Cummings aides claim, "DOJ is cooperating" —absurd on it's face given the stonewalling Grassley and Issa have faced. As a result the aide says, "I can't imagine ...that we would have signed a letter saying that DOJ was not cooperating." Then the aide goes on to say that none of the House Democrats told Cummings they were sending the letter and he wasn't asked to sign on to it. Republican and Democratic aides with the committee have said that DOJ has been hampered by "technical difficulties" in producing the documents. Really? It's only been what, five or six *months* since Grassley first asked DOJ for documents? Those glitches must be something! (Maybe they need a *Compass*?)

⁶⁰ http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-31727_162-20069439-10391695.html

⁶¹ http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-31727_162-20069270-10391695.html

⁶² <http://www.examiner.com/gun-rights-in-national/issa-releases-witness-list-for-first-gunwalker-hearing>

June 9, 2011 - Second Hearing Witness List: Issa's Oversight committee releases the schedule for the second Project Gunrunner hearing. Titled "*Operation Fast and Furious: Reckless Decisions, Tragic Outcomes,*" the hearing will take place on Wednesday, June 15. Scheduled to appear are Senator Grassley, Ms. Josephine Terry, Border Agent Brian Terry's mother; Ms. Michelle Terry Balogh, Sister of the Late Border Agent Brian Terry and Mr. Robert Heyer, Cousin of the Late Border Agent Brian Terry. From the Phoenix ATF office: Special Agent **Olindo James Casa**, Special Agent **Peter Forcelli**, and Special Agent **John Dodson** and Mr. **Ronald Weich**, Assistant Attorney General, United States Department of Justice.

June 9, 2011 - The London Telegraph runs an article saying **Hillary Clinton** may be seeking to become the head of the World Bank.⁶³ Is she planning her next move to avoid being caught up in the Gunrunner scandal?

June 10, 2011 - More Damning Information: *CBS News* reports on the start of the hearings and includes some new bits of information.⁶⁴ "Acting ATF director **Kenneth Melson** and his deputy, **William Hoover**, are said to have been "briefed weekly" on the investigation," CBS says. Also, even insiders appeared awed by the scale. Six months into the investigation, in March of last year, a senior ATF attorney under the Justice Department commented, "Every time I read this case, **I am amazed at the amount of firearms we are talking about.**"

June 10, 2011 - DOJ in Panic Mode: *Fox News* is reporting that the DOJ is in full blown "panic mode" at the approaching House Oversight Committee hearings.⁶⁵ By now, we're not surprised. The stench at DOJ must be bad enough to gag a maggot.

June 13, 2011 - Rep. Issa convenes the first hearing on Project Gunrunner and it's spawn, Operation Fast and Furious. The first hearing includes several law experts to determine if the DOJ and ATF must respond to House Oversight subpoenas. The answer is yes, however remedies by congress are mostly civil in nature and Contempt of Congress charges would only serve to delay the investigation. Experts also warn of the hearings revealing information that could jeopardize ongoing investigations or prosecutions.

June 13, 2011 - The Los Angeles Times reports that corruption has reached U.S. agencies that are responsible for border security.⁶⁶ The article focuses on DHS investigations into Customs and Border Patrol anti-corruption investigations and says cartels are trying to develop "systematic corruption" along the border.

June 15, 2011 - 2nd House Oversight hearing.

- (a) Several emails show that acting Director Melson was given the IP address of cameras inside gun shops and could monitor straw-buys from D.C. Another indicates that Melson and Hoover were being briefed weekly. The memos are in stark contrast to ATF assertions that they never allowed guns to cross the border.
- (b) Reuter's news reports on the weapons found at the scene of Brian Terry's death that "*It still has not been revealed whether either of those weapons were responsible for his death.*"
- (c) The summary laid out by Issa says "ATF never achieved the laudable goal of dismantling a drug cartel. In fact, ATF never even got close. After months and months of investigative work, Fast and Furious resulted only in indictments of 20 straw purchasers. Those indictments came only after the death of U.S. Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry. ... Even worse, ATF knew most of the

⁶³ <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/8567112/Hillary-Clinton-interested-in-becoming-head-of-World-Bank.html>

⁶⁴ <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2011/06/10/earlyshow/main20070475.shtml>

⁶⁵ <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2011/06/09/justice-officials-in-panic-mode-as-new-testimony-is-expected-to-reveal-depth/>

⁶⁶ <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/laplaza/2011/06/border-customs-hearing-corruption-agents.html?track=rss>

indicted straw purchasers to be straw purchasers *before Fast and Furious even began.*"⁶⁷ (Emphasis in original).

- (d) DOJ lawyers "split hairs" to claim guns were not "walked" into Mexico. ATF adopted "**an overly narrow definition**" of the term. They argue that gunwalking is limited to cases in which ATF itself supplied the guns directly."⁶⁸ Thus, ATF is claiming *they* didn't walk the guns because criminals did so. This ignores the fact that ATF was supposed to *prevent* those criminals from obtaining the guns in the first place!
- (e) The January 19, 2011 indictment of 20 gunrunners, described by Phoenix SAC **Newell** that the "indictments represent the take-down of a firearms trafficking ring from top to bottom, and his statement that ATF never allowed guns to walk are incredible, false, and a source of much frustration to the agents."⁶⁹
- (f) Phoenix supervising Agent **Peter Forcelli** termed the operation "a colossal failure of leadership."
- (g) **Assistant US Attorney General for legislative affairs Ronald Weich** claimed the DOJ complied with the House subpoenas and that the **entirely blacked-out pages** were necessary to protect "ongoing prosecutions" (in reference to the 20 prosecutions of straw purchasers). Weich did not volunteer that most of the charges are relatively minor and the suspects are the quintessential "small fish" in the ATF's strategy.
- (h) **Weich**, when asked by Issa who in DOJ authorized Operation Fast and Furious repeatedly responded "I do not know the answer to that question, and the (Justice Department) inspector general is reviewing the matter."⁷⁰ Weich is high up in the DOJ food chain⁷¹ and after six months of Congress asking about this program, he still doesn't know?
- (i) In addition, the 20 suspects above are primarily charged with entering false information on the purchase forms, a much lesser offense than gun smuggling. **None are charged with violating US export laws, trafficking or similar serious felonies.**
- (j) **Jamie Avila** was a suspect in November 2009. ATF watched and allowed him to purchase at least 13 more guns in less than two months. Avila purchased 3 AK-47 style rifles in January 2010, two of which were found at the scene of CBP Agent Brian Terry's death.⁷²
- (k) Despite mounting evidence to the contrary, DOJ continues to deny that Operation Fast and Furious was ill conceived and had deadly consequences.⁷³
- (l) The justice department refuses to acknowledge that any guns were allowed to cross the border or were in any way allowed to "walk" across the border. That DOJ is covering their rumps is obvious by their parsing congressional inquiries by saying that ATF "did not knowingly permit *straw buyers* to take guns into Mexico." (emphasis in original)

June 15, 2011 - 2nd House Oversight Hearing — Democrats play politics. *If you can't beat them, change the argument.* Despite ATF agents' testimony directly contradicting the DOJ position, Democrats attempted to change the subject to a need for *more gun control.*⁷⁴

- (a) **Gerry Connolly** (D-VA) attempted to blame the NRA opposition to the reporting of multiple rifle sales (which ATF has no statutory authority to require) and the NRA call to reduce or defund the ATF after decades of constitutional abuses.
- (b) **Carolyn Maloney** (D-NY) suggested that straw-purchaser sales are viewed as "merely paperwork violations" and that many gun laws are "toothless."

⁶⁷ http://oversight.house.gov/images/stories/Reports/ATF_Report.pdf

⁶⁸ Ibid

⁶⁹ http://oversight.house.gov/images/stories/Reports/ATF_Report.pdf

⁷⁰ <http://www.cnsnews.com/news/article/assistant-attorney-general-i-do-not-know>

⁷¹ See DOJ Org chart: <http://www.justice.gov/agencies/index-org.html#ODAG>

⁷² http://oversight.house.gov/images/stories/Reports/ATF_Report.pdf

⁷³ Ibid

⁷⁴ <http://dailycaller.com/2011/06/15/democrats-try-to-channel-scandal-into-gun-control-push/#ixzz1PTojDdvU>

- (c) **Elijah Cummings** (D-MD) claimed it was "only fair" to let ATF agents voice their opinions about existing laws when Chairman Issa warned attendees he would not allow discussion of legislative proposals. [Note: ATF has a vested interest in more laws to make their jobs easier at the peril of gun owners.]
- (d) Cummings also made a press statement that Issa released documents that had been under seal by a federal court. Cummings said he was "concerned" about people getting off or getting killed if information was leaked. (But apparently, he's not concerned about *hundreds* of Mexican deaths that ATF may have facilitated.)

June 20, 2011 - CNN News reports acting ATF director **Kenneth Melson** may resign under pressure in the next few days. A.G. Holder will meet Tuesday with **Andrew Traver**⁷⁵ as the next possible head of the ATF.⁷⁶

June 22, 2011 - **Counterattack by the Washington Post**⁷⁷ - The Post runs an article citing an *anonymous DOJ source*, claiming Chairman Issa was briefed about "Fast and Furious" back in April of 2010. That briefing, attended by others and congressional staffers did not provide details on "fast and furious." It's interesting that news orgs say that the information comes from DOJ sources. They would have us believe that DOJ and Holder knew nothing about this scandal, yet congress was fully briefed on the details. I guess folks in DOJ think a square peg fits in a round hole.

June 23, 2011 - **Darrell Issa travels to Mexico** in an attempt to draw the government there further into the investigation. Eight other U.S. lawmakers will join Issa for meetings Saturday in Mexico City at the federal police command center.⁷⁸ Note to self: I sure hope their security is top notch.

June 24, 2011 - **ATF Acting Direction Melson says he won't be the fall guy.**⁷⁹ He has told them, "I'm not going to be the fall guy on this," said source close to the situation. Added a second source who also requested anonymity: "He's resisting. He does not want to go." I sure hope Melson's life insurance is paid up.

June 26, 2011 - *The Washington Post* prints an editorial nearly quoting the Brady Campaign talking points, but making it sound like their idea.⁸⁰



June 27, 2011 - **Melson to testify before Congress.** According to congressional investigators, Melson has indicated he does not believe he did anything wrong because he carried out his bosses' wishes and is eager to testify to describe the full picture.

⁷⁵ Traver is heavily anti-gun ownership, has links to the Joyce Foundation and the support of the Brady Campaign. Field agents deem him an mediocre agent, a muddling manager with no original thinking.

⁷⁶ http://www.cnn.com/2011/POLITICS/06/20/us.fast.and.furious/index.html?hpt=hp_t2

⁷⁷ http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/critic-of-atf-gun-trafficking-program-raised-no-objection-when-briefed-last-year/2011/06/21/AGzvZ5eH_story.html?hpid=z3

⁷⁸ http://townhall.com/tipsheet/katiepavlich/2011/06/23/issa_headed_to_mexico_in_light_of_operation_fast_and_furious

⁷⁹ <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-atf-guns-20110624,0,7283758.story>

⁸⁰ http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2011/06/21/AGaGOcmH_story.html

June 27, 2011 - Phoenix's **ABC15 News** reports firearms linked to Operation Fast and Furious are showing up in local area crimes on US soil too.

June 29, 2011 - **Sen. Elijah Cummings** (D-MD) to hold a "forum" on gun control laws. His list of invitees includes, Senator Chuck Schumer ("[the] Second Amendment is an empty cereal box in the market place of ideas"). Paul Helmke of the Brady Campaign, Kristen Rand of the Violence Policy Center, a "former ATF agent" (this falls into the "see we have an agent's testimony too!" category) and other experts in "gun control." The outcome of this forum is pre-ordained — it will result in blaming Congress for weak laws and low funding of the ATF, and blaming the NRA for blocking legislation.

June 29, 2011 - *The Washington Post* publishes another article by plagiarist Sari Horwitz claiming the problem is "weak US gun laws" and parroting the Brady Campaign line that the ATF needs more power and funding.



June 29, 2011 - Neil Munro, writing at the Daily Caller says that lawyers for accused gunrunners are using standard discovery motions to look for agency misconduct. "As the lawyer for **Jose Saucedá-Cuevas**, I've got to look at every possibility," including agency misconduct, that would help him in the courtroom, said David Dudley, a Harvard-trained criminal defense lawyer based in Los Angeles. Saucedá-Cuevas is charged with 25 counts of gun law violations. But he may also "walk" if his lawyer can show that ATF failed to act in a timely and appropriate manner to apprehend him.

June 30, 2011 - *NY Times* picks up the Elijah Cummings diversion in an article titled "*House Panel Members Joust Over Border Gun Program*".⁸¹ The Times plays up Cummings' allegations that gun laws are too weak.

July 1, 2011 - *The LA Times* outdoes the *NY Times* in the story *Democrats seek crackdown on gun trafficking*. The *LA Times* repeats the false statistic that 80% (down from 90%) of the guns used by cartels come from the U.S.

July 2, 2011 - **DOJ drops its CIA "torture" investigation** as General David Petraeus is confirmed to head the CIA. How is that relevant? According to sources, Obama ordered Holder to close the investigation. Obama is more interested in deflecting blame and getting re-elected. Sources also say there are people at CIA who know everything there is to know about (Fast and Furious) and who the guilty operators are in the administration. Wouldn't you want to make those people happy if you were in his shoes?"

July 4, 2011 - **Melson Speaks!** Interview with House committee. ATF acting director Kenneth Melson said the DOJ, specifically Deputy Attorney General **James Cole**, is obstructing the

⁸¹ http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/01/us/politics/01guns.html?_r=1

investigation into Fast and Furious.⁸² Melson said he notified the Office of the Deputy Attorney General (ODAG) at the end of March that the department needed to reexamine how it was responding to requests for information from Congress. He also said the Justice Department officials directed the ATF senior team not to respond to Congressional inquiries, and Justice took full control of replying to briefing and document requests from Congress. The result is that Congress only got the parts of the story that the Justice Department wanted them to hear.

July 4, 2011 - Is this a Bourne Identity plot? Reports are surfacing that one of the "big fish" targets the ATF was allegedly building a case against was an FBI *confidential informant*.⁸³ The informant was a deported drug dealer that the FBI converted into an informant. The FBI's stake was information related to information about "dirty bombs" and any Al Qaeda suspects moving across the border. It's reported that this informant was paid by the FBI and was using the money to finance gun buys in Arizona. The FBI knew of the ATF investigation but never told the agency of the informant's status. Not only was the U.S. government indirectly funding the gun buys, but their "big fish" would never be indicted because he was an FBI "asset" in Mexico.

July 4, 2011 - NY Times understates ATF debacle. NY Times publishes "*Firearms Bureau finds itself in a rough patch*"⁸⁴ to describe the Fast and Furious scandal. That's like saying the Navy experienced "a fleet maintenance problem" after Pearl Harbor.

July 5, 2011 - Fox News airs a report on Fast and Furious guns in Mexico, saying that ATF covered up some of the guns trafficked by claiming their serial numbers didn't exist.⁸⁵ This makes ascertaining the number of civilians killed even more difficult.

July 6, 2011 - National Gun Rights Examiner David Codrea reports the **Tampa, Florida** ATF office was walking guns to **Honduras** using the techniques and tactics identical to *Operation Fast and Furious*.⁸⁶ Reportedly dubbed *Operation Castaway*, it was run by Special Agent-in-Charge (SAC) **Virginia O'Brien**. O'Brien was previously the Special Agent in Charge of the **Phoenix Field Division**, was later promoted to the Deputy Assistant Director (DAD) of ATF, but then "stepped down" to the position in Tampa. Reportedly, there are emails in existence where O'Brien has advised those involved that Tampa does not have to report their walked guns because Tampa field division is not a part of Southwest Border or Project Gunrunner. Why guns to Honduras?⁸⁷

July 7, 2011 - Tampa Field division in "melt down"; shredders working overtime. **David Codrea's** source inside ATF reports "O'Brien is in full meltdown." Her partner in the bungle was **ASAC Scott McCampbell**, who went along with O'Brien when they decided to keep *Castaway* going to "get more" against the advise of their field employees and the walked guns numbers got out of control. O'Brien is terrified that her intentional concealing of her walked guns is going to do her in since she disregarded orders to report to DOJ and Congress. The new player is DAD East **Julie Torres**. She took O'Brien's old DAD job when OB went to Tampa and has given OB carte blanche to do whatever she wants with little oversight.

July 8, 2011 - Representative Allen West calls for Eric Holder's removal. West said a special prosecutor needs to review the actions of AG Eric Holder regarding the "Fast and Furious" gun scandal and the circumstances make it appear that President Obama could have dirty hands in the deal. "This is just another sad chapter in the Eric Holder book of ineptness and incompetence," West said.

⁸² (video) <http://www.opposingviews.com/i/atf-chief-doj-obstructing-fast-furious-gun-probe>

⁸³ *ibid*

⁸⁴ <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/05/us/politics/05guns.html>

⁸⁵ Fox News video via <http://sipseystreetirregulars.blogspot.com/2011/07/fox-us-government-has-blood-on-its.html>

⁸⁶ <http://www.examiner.com/gun-rights-in-national/breaking-news-source-claims-atf-s-tampa-sac-walked-guns-to-honduras>

⁸⁷ <http://sipseystreetirregulars.blogspot.com/2011/07/honduras-why-would-atf-walk-guns-to.html>

"Eric Holder needs to be brought before an investigative committee and if those charges are warranted he needs to be held accountable."⁸⁸

July 11, 2011 - ATF requires dealers to report multiple long-gun sales. Deputy Attorney General **James Cole** releases a statement that BATFE is going ahead with requiring dealers in four southwestern states to report multiple long-gun sales of rifles. Affected rifles are semi-automatic, magazine fed rifles over .22 caliber (including .223 caliber).⁸⁹ The legality of the regulation is disputed as an executive legal requirement that circumvents Congress. Only Congress have the power to make new laws, not the executive branch. The requirement was directed by an Executive Order from President Obama.

July 12, 2011 - Florida Congressman Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) a member of the House Committee on Homeland Security and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs sends a letter to AG Holder and ATF director Melson. He questions the information that the Tampa office was allowing guns to "walk" to Honduras.

July 12, 2011 - Sen. Grassley and Rep. Issa denounce the requirement for multiple long-gun reporting as unnecessary. Grassley's statement that dealers reported potential violations in real-time to ATF who then let the guns walk "makes it pretty clear that the problem isn't lack of burdensome reporting requirements".⁹⁰

July 13, 2011 - Another possible "Smoking gun"? Internal ATF emails seem to suggest that ATF agents were counseled to highlight a link between criminals and certain semi-automatic weapons in order to bolster a case for a rule like the one the DOJ announced [Monday].⁹¹ The July 14, 2010 email from Mark Chait to then-Phoenix SAC William Newall in question reads:

"Can you see if these guns were all purchased from the same FfL and at one time. **We are looking at anecdotal cases to support a demand letter on long gun multiple sales.** Thanks Mark R. Chait Assistant Director Field Operations."

As this year-old memo shows, what better location to ask than Phoenix? At least you know you can get some accurate numbers there, since they helped all those straw-purchases be successful. **Nice ploy, use the numbers of multiple gun sales approved by ATF as justification to force dealer compliance on reporting those kinds of sales —not because of any failure, but because "the numbers justify the requirement"**. If you can't beat 'em, *cheat*.

July 13, 2011 - "Known participants" names released. In a memo from Rep. Issa and Senator Grassley to the DOJ, they name the senior DOJ officials with knowledge of *Operation Fast and Furious*⁹². Note; Gary Grindler is Holder's *chief of staff*. Would he keep his boss in the dark?

As our investigation into Operation Fast and Furious has progressed, we have learned that senior officials at the Department of Justice, including Senate-confirmed political appointees, were unquestionably aware of the implementation of this reckless program. Therefore, it is necessary to review communications between and among these senior officials. As such, please provide all records relating to communications between and among the following individuals regarding Operation Fast and Furious:

- 1) **David Ogden**, Former Deputy Attorney General
- 2) **Gary Grindler**, Office of the Attorney General and Former Acting Deputy Attorney General
- 3) **James Cole**, Deputy Attorney
- 4) **Lanny Breuer**, Assistant Attorney General

⁸⁸ <http://www.wnd.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pageId=319861>

⁸⁹ <http://www.examiner.com/gun-rights-in-national/doj-proceeds-with-long-gun-reporting-requirement>

⁹⁰ <http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/gunwalker-smoking-gun-email/?singlepage=true>

⁹¹ http://townhall.com/tipsheet/katiepavlich/2011/07/13/operation_fast_and_furious_designed_to_promote_gun_control

⁹² *Ibid*

- 5) **Kenneth Blanco**, Deputy Assistant Attorney General
- 6) **Jason Weinstein**, Deputy Assistant Attorney General
- 7) **John Keeney**, Deputy Assistant Attorney General
- 8) **Matt Axelrod**, Associate Deputy Attorney General
- 9) **Ed Siskel**, Former Associate Deputy Attorney General
- 10) **Brad Smith**, Office of the Deputy Attorney General
- 11) **Kevin Carwile**, Section Chief, Capital Case Unit
- 12) **Joseph Cooley**, Criminal Fraud Section

July 14, 2011 - David Codrea asks if the DOJ/ATF has violated the [Arms Export Control Act](#). The act says any person who willfully violates these provisions "shall upon conviction be fined for each violation not more than \$1,000,000 or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both." It's also notable that the [U.S. Code](#) also includes provisions for "principals" who "induce" or "willfully cause" offenses, so presumably those who did not physically walk guns but nonetheless induced lawbreaking could be in for a world of hurt if caught. The media has been missing this major angle in the story. It's time to grab their nose rings and lead them to it.

July 14, 2011 - DOJ Witness Tampering? Rep. Issa and Senator Grassley fire off a memo noting that the Department of Justice has been providing information about the program to committee witnesses — which implies tampering. At issue is witness access to a shared network drive that contains all the information on Fast and Furious. This means witnesses could learn of details that they had no prior knowledge about which could change their testimony.

July 15, 2011 - U.S. Ambassador to Honduras Hugo Llorens is meeting in William Hoover's office at ATF. The rumor mill says they're talking about the Tampa-Honduras gunrunning scandal. The pessimists are claiming they're getting their cover stories straight.

July 15, 2011 - Democrats call for more gun control. U.S. Representatives **Elijah E. Cummings** (D-MD), **Carolyn B. Maloney** (D-NY) and **Carolyn McCarthy**⁹³ (D-NY) will join other members and a leading law enforcement organization July 15th to introduce the "Stop Gun Trafficking and Strengthen Law Enforcement Act."⁹⁴ The act aims to establish a dedicated firearms trafficking statute to empower law enforcement to keep high-powered firearms out of the hands of dangerous criminals, including Mexican drug cartels. This shows the Democrats are more interested in using unlawful acts by the DOJ/ATF to push gun control than they are to ensure the USGOV follows the rule of law.

[This space reserved. Ideally to document the indictments of those responsible. Might that also include an impeachment? Stay tuned!]

⁹³ Rep McCarthy, when once asked what a *barrel shroud* was, responded "it's the shoulder thing that goes up."

⁹⁴ http://townhall.com/tipsheet/katiepavlich/2011/07/14/democrats_to_introduce_gun_control_legislation_tomorrow



Appendix A

Government Acronyms

Acronym	Description	Belongs to
AG	Attorney General of the United States	DOJ
AGOCC	Attorney General's Organized Crime Council	DOJ
ATF	Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives	DOJ
ASAC	Assistant Special Agent-In-Charge	BATF
AUSA	Assistant United States Attorney, U.S. Attorney's office	DOJ
BATF	Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives	DOJ
BATFE	Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives	DOJ
CBP	U.S. Customs and Border Protection	DHS
DEA	Drug Enforcement Administration	DOJ
DHS	Department of Homeland Security	Executive branch
DOJ	Department of Justice	Executive branch
DTO	Drug Trafficking Organization	General use
EPIC	El Paso Information Center	DOJ
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation	DOJ
FFL	Federal Firearms Licensee (a gun dealer)	ATF
ICE	Immigrations and Customs Enforcement	DHS
IG	Inspector General	General use
IOC-2	International Organized Crime Intelligence and Operations Center	DOJ
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding	General use
NDIC	National Drug Intelligence Center	DOJ
NICS	National Instant-Check System (for firearms purchases)	FBI
OFC	OCDETF Fusion Center	DOJ
OCDETF	Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force	DOJ
OIG	Office of the Inspector General (re: the DOJ Inspector General)	DOJ
SAC	Special Agent-In-Charge	BATF
USMS	United States Marshal's Service	DOJ

Appendix B

Personae Dramatis

Person	Title or Function	Role
Alt, Larry	ATF Agent, Phoenix	
Attkisson, Sheryl	CBS News Reporter	First main media reporter to make the case public
Avila, Jamie	Indicted gun runner (straw buyer)	Bought the two AK-47 variant weapons found at the murder scene of Brian Terry.
Axelrod, Matt	Associate Deputy Attorney General	
Blanco, Kenneth	Deputy Assistant Attorney General	
Breuer, Lanny	Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division	Head of the DOJ Criminal division
Burke, Dennis	U.S. Attorney	AZ Governor Janet Napolitano's former chief of Staff; Agreed to Fast & Furious Strategy
Carwile, Kevin	Section Chief, Capital Case Unit	
Casa, Olindo James	ATF Agent, Phoenix	Information to Congress
Clinton, Hillary	U.S. Secretary of State	
Codrea, David	Gun rights advocate; blogger	Brought scandal to public light
Cole, James	Deputy U.S. Attorney General	#2 position in DOJ
Cooley, Joseph	Criminal Fraud Section	
Cummings, Elijah	U.S. Congressman	Apologist for the DOJ/ATF slow response to subpoenas
Dodson, John	ATF Agent, Phoenix	Information to Congress
Forcelli, Peter	ATF Agent, Phoenix	Information to Congress
Gil, Darren	ATF attaché to Mexico (to 2010)	Anti-Gunrunner
Gillett, George	Assistant Agent in Charge, ATF Phoenix	#2 man in ATF Phoenix office where this scandal began
Grassley, Charles	U.S. Senator	Senate Judiciary Committee, ranking member. Initially contacted by ATF insiders. Started first investigation.
Grindler, Gary	Office of the Attorney General	Eric Holder's Chief of Staff
Holder, Eric	U.S. Attorney General	Head of the Dept. of Justice (DOJ), responsible for ATF activities
Hoover, William	Deputy director, ATF	#2 man in ATF
Hurley, Emory	Asst. U.S. Attorney, Arizona District	lead prosecutor for Operation Fast and Furious
Issa, Darrell	U.S. Congressman	Chairman, House Oversight Committee, Investigating the scandal
Jaquez, Rene	Former ATF attaché to Mexico	Attaché before Darren Gil, anti-Gunrunner
Keeney, John	Deputy Assistant Attorney General	
Kenneth Melson	Acting Director of the BATF	Head of the BATF, responsible for all ATF activities
Lee, Jesse	White House associate communications director	Hired to rapidly respond to negative press; improve relations with "progressive" media. (Spin-doctor?)
McAllister, Hope	Special Agent, ATF Phoenix office	Agent in charge of Fast & Furious
McCampbell, Scott	ASAC for Tampa Field Division	Supported SAC O'Brien's decision to keep <i>Operation Castaway</i> going.
Marmolejo, Marina Garcia	Federal judicial nominee - Federal Court, Southern District of Texas.	Partner in Reid Collins & Tsai law firm

Napolitano, Janet	Director of DHS	Head of Homeland Security
Newell, William D.	Agent in Charge, ATF Phoenix	Head of Phoenix ATF office where this scandal began; Agreed to Fast & Furious Strategy
O'Brien, Virginia	SAC for Tampa Field Division	Oversaw <i>Operation Castaway</i> - gunwalker program to Honduras
Ogden, David	Former Deputy Attorney General	DAG from 2009-2010
Osorio-Arellanes, Manuel	Drug Cartel member/operative	Indicted for the murder of CBP Agent Brian Terry
Pascual, Carlos	Former U.S. Ambassador to Mexico	
Price, Adam	ATF Project Manager	ATF HQ Project manager for Gunrunner
Reid Collins & Tsai, LLP	Law firm	Hired by Mexico to sue U.S. gun companies
Schultz, Eric	White House associate communications director	Hired to deal with congressional oversight hearings (spin-doctor?)
Siskel, Ed	Associate Deputy Attorney General	
Smith, Brad	Office of the Deputy Attorney General	
Stirling, Jeffrey	ATF Project Manager	ATF HQ Project manager for Gunrunner
Terry, Brian	Customs, Border Protection Agent (deceased)	Potential Gunrunner victim - killed in Arizona
Torres, Julie	Deputy Asst. Director (ATF) - East	Oversees the Tampa Field Division
Weich, Ronald	Assistant Attorney General	Approved aspects of Gunrunner
Weinstein, Jason	Deputy Assistant Attorney General	
Vanderboegh, Mike	Gun rights advocate; blogger	Brought scandal to public light
Voth, David	Special Agent, ATF Phoenix office	Supervisor in Charge of Fast & Furious
Zapata, Jamie	U.S. ICE Agent (deceased)	Potential Gunrunner victim - killed in Mexico