From:

Hoover, William J. (ATF)

To:

Melson, Kenneth E. (ATF): Smith, Brad (ODAG)

CC:

Michalic, Mark (ODAG):

ATF

Sent:

Michalic, Mark (ODAG); ____3/1/2011 3:52:37 PM

Subject:

FW: Widening ATF Scandal

Attachments:

ATT06162.txt

More from the blogosphere!

Billy

William J. Hoover Deputy Director Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives O) 202-648-8710

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(ATF); Sarnacki, Jeffrey P. (ATF)

From: Chait, Mark R.

Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2011 3:36 PM

To: Hoover, William J.

Subject: FW: Widening ATF Scandal

Mark R. Chait Assistant Director Field Operations 202-648-8410

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From: James Zammillo [mailto:james.zammillo@fflguard.com]

Sent: Tuesday, March 01, 2011 3:19 PM

To: Chait, Mark R.; McDermond, James E.; Thomasson, Scot L.

Subject: Widening ATF Scandal

Hopefully you are aware.

"Project Gunwalker" may have strolled from Arizona to Texas. The gun that was used by a smuggler to kill ICE Agent Jaime Zapata last month in Mexico has been traced to a Texas gun shop, where it was purchased by suspected gun traffickers who had reportedly been under ATF surveillance for over a year.

According to an affidavit in the arrest of alleged straw purchasers, Otilio and Ranferi Osorio, and Kelvin Morrison, they had previously sold 40 guns to a federal agent, but had not been arrested.

Dallas ATF spokesman Tom Crowley would not release details about when the gun was purchased, or whether the suspected straw buyers were under active ATF surveillance at the time the murder gun was purchased. He referred questions on details to the U.S. Justice Department in Washington.

So far, DOJ has not been forthcoming. We received word from Sen. Chuck Grassley's office today that AG Holder failed to respond to the Senator's questions about the AZ scandal by the Feb. 23 deadline Grassley had set.

Today, The Firearms Coalition asked Sen. Grassley to call for hearings into both the AZ and Texas investigations, requiring ATF Executives to testify under oath. We received assurance today that the Senator remains resolute, and that staffers are burning the midnight oil on this investigation.

Kudos to Activists/Bloggers David Codrea and Mike Vanderboegh, who broke the "Project Gunwalker" scandal and brought it to Sen. Grassley's attention.

DOJ-FF-07873