
From: Melson, Kenneth E. (ATF)
To: Schnedar, Cynthia A. (OIG); Cole, James (SMO)
CC: Smith, Brad (ODAG); Goldberg, Stuart (ODAG); Blier, William M.(OIG)
Sent: 3/4/2011 10:17:15 PM
Subject: RE: Review of Project Gunrunner Strategies

Thanks, Cynthia. I had a good conversation with Bill and fully understand. We look forward to working with you on your assessment of the gunrunner process. Ken.

From: Schnedar, Cynthia A. (OIG) [mailto:Cynthia.Schnedar@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2011 11:59 AM
To: Melson, Kenneth E.; Cole, James (SMO)
Cc: Smith, Brad (ODAG) (SMO); Goldberg, Stuart (ODAG) (SMO); Blier, William M.(OIG)
Subject: RE: Review of Project Gunrunner Strategies

Ken,

DP

I am leaving shortly for meetings that will last until 3:30, but our General Counsel, Bill Blier, will give you a call to discuss this. If you want to talk to me, I will be available after 3:30.

Cynthia

(Stuart, Bill will also give you a call to update you on what we are considering for the scope of a review).

From: Melson, Kenneth E. [mailto:Ken.Melson@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2011 8:11 PM
To: Cole, James (SMO); Schnedar, Cynthia A. (OIG)
Cc: Smith, Brad (ODAG) (SMO); Goldberg, Stuart (ODAG) (SMO)
Subject: Review of Project Gunrunner Strategies

DAG Cole and Acting IG Schnedar: Today ATF announced the formation of a panel to review and make recommendations as to practices in complex firearms trafficking cases. We released the following statement:

“The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) will ask a multi-disciplinary panel of law enforcement professionals to review the bureau’s current firearms trafficking strategies employed by field division managers and special agents. This review will enable ATF to maximize its effectiveness when undertaking complex firearms trafficking investigations and prosecutions. It will support the goals of ATF to stem the illegal flow of firearms to Mexico and combat firearms trafficking in the United States.”

We will be asking an experienced US Attorney, a prominent non-federal law enforcement officer, a Criminal Division attorney with expertise in gun trafficking cases, an ATF attorney from our Chief Counsel’s Office, an ATF SAC, and a senior ATF manager to participate in the panel’s study. We would also like to have the assistance of one of the authors of the previous OIG Gunrunner report participate on the panel, because of his or her knowledge and perspective on the issues. Thus, I am requesting that you approve an appropriate person from the OIG to participate with us in this review.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Ken Melson