

From: Warlow, Molly
To: Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG) (SMO)
CC: Weinstein, Jason; Swartz, Bruce; Raman, Mythili; Lurie, Adam; Pope, Amy; McMillen, Jerold; 'SnyderCA@state.gov'; 'GarciaAP@state.gov'
Sent: 3/29/2011 5:40:48 PM
Subject: Possible statement/language to rebut possible mischaracterizations in Mexico of Operation Fast and Furious

Matt,

As we have discussed, the Fast and Furious case has generated considerable criticism of the US and US law enforcement in the Mexican media and in Mexican political circles, the latter particularly [redacted] **State**

[redacted] **State**
[redacted] **State** This criticism is quite severe and its potential impact on our broader bilateral cooperation is of deep concern to our law enforcement community at the Embassy and the political leadership at the Embassy. In addition, the political furor in Mexico over Operation Fast and Furious has generated calls for the Mexican Attorney General's Office (PGR) to open a criminal investigation concerning whether – as we understand it – agents of the ATF may have violated Mexican law in their conduct of the investigation. The ATF office in Mexico City has already received two inquiries, and our office expects to get a formal MLAT request in this matter.

[redacted] **DP**
[redacted] **DP** Specifically, the investigation has been characterized [redacted] **DP**
as a sting operation, as an undercover operation, as an operation involving controlled deliveries into Mexico, and as an undercover operation in Mexico itself in which ATF was acting unilaterally. The last of these allegations, which would entail a violation of Mexican sovereignty, is [redacted] **DP**

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Molly