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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

*Sen. A. Grassley, Staff Counsel and Staff Director
and M. L. Graves, Republican Chief Counsel and Staff Director*

RECEIVED
DEPT. OF JUSTICE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
2011 APR 11 PM 12:30

March 15, 2011

Via Electronic Transmission

The Honorable Michele M. Leonhart
Administrator
U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration
U.S. Department of Justice
700 Army Navy Drive
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Administrator Leonhart:

Since January, I have been investigating the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) operation called "Fast and Furious"—part of the broader "Project Gunrunner" initiative. According to several agents, ATF leadership encouraged gun dealers to engage in sales of multiple weapons to individuals suspected of illegally purchasing for resale to Mexican cartels.

I understand from documents and other information provided that Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Agents were aware of Operation Fast and Furious and possibly deeply involved in the operation. Reportedly, DEA funds were used to facilitate operations in ATF's Operation Fast and Furious.

Accordingly, in order to get a better understanding of DEA's involvement with Operation Fast and Furious please provide all records relating to communications between supervisors and DEA headquarters regarding DEA's involvement. Additionally, I request that you arrange for knowledgeable DEA supervisors to brief members of my staff no later than March 25, 2011.

I would appreciate a response to this letter no later than March 18, 2011. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Brian Downey at (202) 224-5225. Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable Eric H. Holder, Jr.
Attorney General, United States Department of Justice

Johnson, Ebony (JMD)

From: Admin. Assistant
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2011 12:06 PM
To: DOJExecSec (JMD)
Cc: Tolson, Kimberly G (JMD); Wells, Barbara A (JMD)
Subject: FW: 2011-03-15 CEG to DEA
Attachments: 2011-03-15 CEG to DEA (Briefing and Documents).pdf

Pls log the attached. AG is ccd. Per OLA (Burton) OLL will coordinate response w/DEA. Thanks,

From: Admin. Assistant
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2011 8:14 AM
To: DEA (DEA-US); DEA (DEA-US)
Cc: Weich, Ron (SMO); Admin. Assistant
Subject: FW: 2011-03-15 CEG to DEA
Importance: High

Good morning, DEA

Forwarding the attached Sen Grassley ltr addressed to DEA Leonhart for appropriate handling as DOJ ExecSec does not control congressional corres addressed to DEA. Also note OLA will coordinate with DEA on this. Thanks.

From: Weich, Ron (SMO)
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2011 9:01 PM
To: Admin. Assistant ; Admin. Assistant
Subject: FW: 2011-03-15 CEG to DEA
Importance: High

Admin. Assistant please log if you haven't already. Admin. Assistant for chart.

From: Burton, Faith (SMO)
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2011 5:44 PM
To: Weich, Ron (SMO); Weinstein, Jason (CRM); Burke, Dennis (USAAZ); McDermond, James E. (ATF); ATF
R. (ATF); Raman, Mythili (CRM)
Cc: Gaston, Molly (SMO); Agrast, Mark D. (SMO)
Subject: FW: 2011-03-15 CEG to DEA
Importance: High

FYI. We'll coordinate with DEA on this.

From: Downey, Brian (Judiciary-Rep) [mailto:Brian_Downey@judiciary-rep.senate.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2011 4:51 PM
To: Leonhart, Michele M. (DEA-US); DEA (DEA-US); DEA (DEA-US); DEA (DEA-US); Burton, Faith (SMO); Gaston, Molly (SMO)
Cc: CEG (Judiciary-Rep); Foster, Jason (Judiciary-Rep)
Subject: 2011-03-15 CEG to DEA
Importance: High

Hello,

Please find attached a letter from Senator Grassley. Please confirm receipt and ensure that all formal correspondence on this matter is sent electronically in PDF format to ceg@judiciary-rep.senate.gov (cc'd above). If you have any questions about this matter, please contact me directly. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Downey

Investigator

Ranking Member Charles E. Grassley

U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary

Washington, DC

(P) 202-224-5225

(F) 202-224-3799