



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

March 8, 2011

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Grassley:

This responds to your letters, dated March 3, 2011, and March 4, 2011, which reiterated your concerns about investigations into weapons trafficking along the Southwest border.

We appreciate your continuing concern about this matter. We have referred your letters and the attached documents to the Department's Office of the Inspector General (OIG). As you know, the Attorney General has asked the Acting Inspector General to evaluate concerns raised about Project Gunrunner, the effort by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) to interdict weapons purchased illegally for transport to Mexican cartels. We urge you to provide the OIG with any additional information that you think would be helpful to its review.

We hope that this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may be of assistance in this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald Weich".

Ronald Weich
Assistant Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman