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The Department of Justice's Operation Fast and Furious

Senator Charles E. Grassley, Ranking Member
United States Senate
Committee on the Judiciary

Before the U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
June 15, 2011

ATF Strategy: Let Guns Go

"...our strategy is to *allow the transfer of firearms* to continue to take place in order to further the investigation and allow for the *identification of additional coconspirators*..."

13. Currently our strategy is to allow the transfer of firearms to continue to take place in order to further the investigation and allow for the identification of additional coconspirators who would continue to operate and illegally traffic firearms to Mexican DTOs which are perpetrating armed violence along the Southwest Border. This all in compliance with ATF 3310.4(b) 148(a)(2).

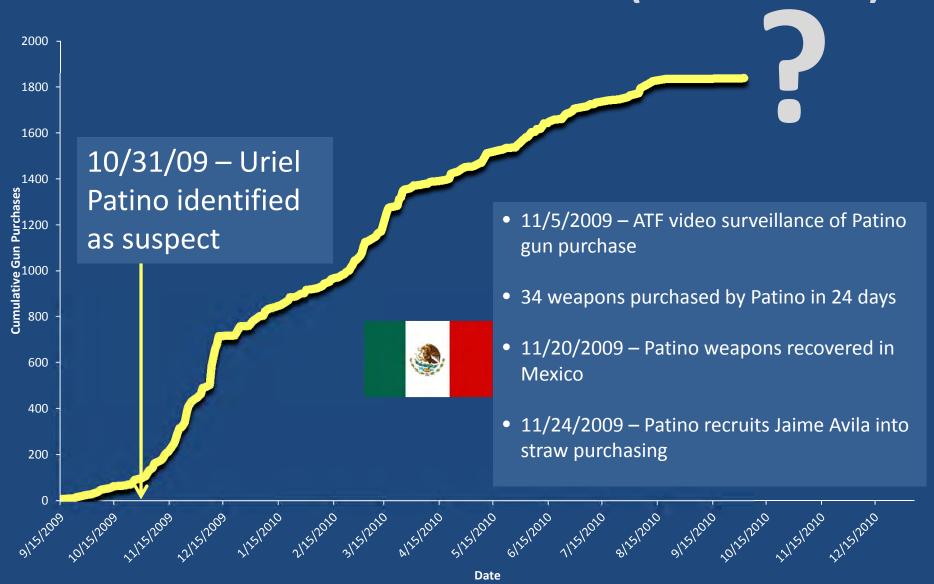
DOJ Policy: ID the Networks

"...merely *seizing firearms* through interdiction will not stop firearms trafficking to Mexico. *We must identify*, investigate, and eliminate the sources of illegally trafficked firearms and *the networks* that transport them."

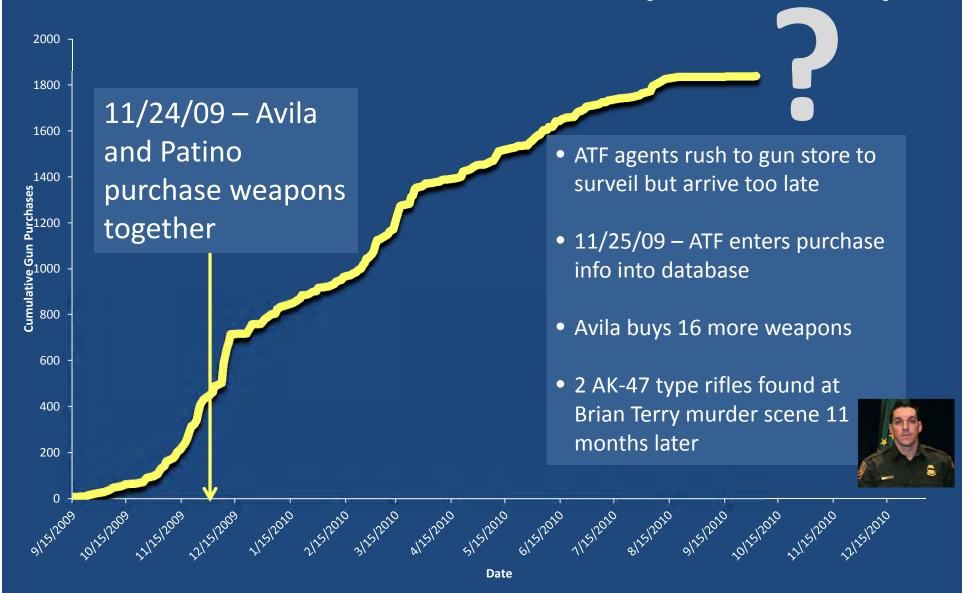
Attacking the Southbound Flow of Firearms

Addressing the flow of weapons into Mexico from the United States is also a primary focus of our efforts. ATF's intelligence has shown that the prevalence of firearms and explosives trafficking into Mexico has a direct nexus to the cartels' national domestic drug distribution network. Thus, given the national scope of this issue, merely seizing firearms through interdiction will not stop firearms trafficking to Mexico. We must identify, investigate, and eliminate the sources of illegally trafficked firearms and the networks that transport them. Since 2006, Project Gunrunner has been ATF's comprehensive strategy to combat firearms-related violence perpetrated by the drug cartels along the Southwest Border. Increasingly close collaboration between ATF and the efforts of the multi-agency drug task forces along the border, including, most particularly,

Documented Gun Purchases (Cumulative)



Documented Gun Purchases (Cumulative)



ATF Approved Gun Order

"If we are to fulfill this order we would need to obtain the additional 16 specifically for this purpose."

To: <u>"</u>Voth, David J." < @usdoj.gov>

Wed, Aug 25, 2010 at 5:13 PM

Good Afternoon David,

One of our associates received a telephone inquiry from Uriel Patino today. Uriel is one of the individuals your office has interest in, and he looking to purchase 20 FN-FNX 9mm firearms. We currently have 4 of these firearms in stock. If we are to fulfill this order we would need to obtain the additional 16 specifically for this purpose.

I am requesting your guidance as to weather or not we should perform the transaction, as it is outside of the standard way we have been dealing with him.

I look forward to your advisment.

ATF Approved Gun Order

"...our guidance is that we would like you to go through with Mr. Patino's request and order the additional firearms[.]"

In summary our guidance is that we would like you to go through with Mr. Patino's request and order the additional firearms he is requesting, and if possible obtain a partial down payment. This will require further coordination of exact details but again we (ATF) are very much interested in this transaction and appreciate your (SCG) willingness to cooperate and assist us.

- Data is available for 1880 guns purchased
- 84 guns did not have documented sell date



• 30 guns purchased were high-power .50 BMG rifles

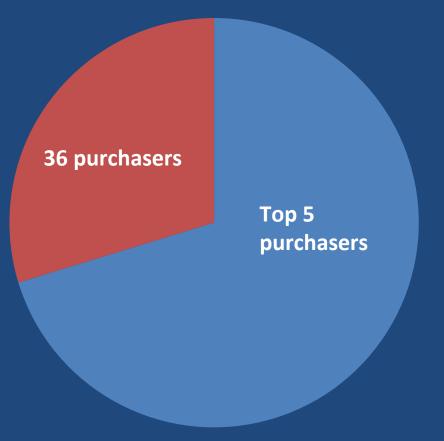


- 212 gun purchases in 6 days (12/7/09-12/12/09)
 - 157 of those guns were from 1 buyer



• Top 5 purchasers accounted for 70% of the 1880 guns sold

Percentage of guns bought by top 5 purchasers



- Top 5 identified by ATF between 11/19/09 1/28/10
- 203 guns before identified
- 988 more after identified



Documented Gun Purchases (Cumulative)

