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FIREARMS STRATEGIC GOAL

Prevent violent crime involving firearms.

The reduction of gun violence is the Nation's top domestic law enforcement priority, and today the men and women of ATF are on the frontlines in our nation's war against terror. ATF will work to counter violent firearms crime through an integrated approach of effective enforcement of the Federal firearms laws, and prevention and education efforts. We will use our unique tools, jurisdiction, and skills to assist Federal, State, local, and foreign law enforcement in attaining our mutual goal of preventing violence, including potential acts of terrorism.

Objective 1.1.—Enforce Federal firearms laws in order to remove violent offenders from our communities, and keep firearms out of the hands of those who are prohibited by law from possessing them.

Tactics:

- 1.1.1. Partner with law enforcement agencies and prosecutors at all levels to develop focused strategies that lead to the investigation, arrest, and prosecution of violent offenders, persons prohibited from possessing firearms, domestic and international firearms traffickers, violent gangs, and others who attempt to illegally acquire or misuse firearms.
- 1.1.2. Assist the law enforcement community in identifying firearms trafficking trends and resolving violent crimes by providing automated firearms ballistics technology, tracing crime guns, and developing advanced firearms investigative techniques.
- 1.1.3. Use ATF firearms programs and expertise to help carry out the national strategy for preventing terrorism. Serve on the National Security Coordinating Council, and assist Joint Terrorism Task Forces by providing leads from any ATF investigation that may tie to terrorism.



Objective 1.2.—Increase the rate of compliance with firearms laws and regulations in order to prevent the transfer of firearms to those prohibited from having them.

Tactics:

- 1.2.1.** Ensure that only applicants who meet the eligibility requirements of the law enter the regulated firearms industry by employing appropriate screening procedures prior to licensing.
- 1.2.2.** Inspect firearms dealers to identify any illegal purchases or diversion of firearms to criminals, and to ensure the accuracy of records used in tracing firearms. Ensure that firearms industry members comply with the Gun Control Act, the National Firearms Act, and the Arms Export Control Act.
- 1.2.3.** Keep restricted firearms, such as machine-guns and assault rifles, out of the hands of prohibited persons by performing criminal records checks on applicants. Maintain the accuracy and integrity of the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record, so that the location and ownership of restricted firearms are kept current.
- 1.2.4.** Ensure that only firearms that are legally importable under ATF and State Department rules are imported into the United States; and properly marked and recorded by the importer for sale in the domestic marketplace.

Objective 1.3.—Prevent firearms violence through community outreach.

Tactics:

- 1.3.1.** Collaborate with schools, law enforcement agencies, community organizations, and the firearms industry to implement educational programs which help reduce firearms violence.
- 1.3.2.** Inform the public and firearms industry about ATF policies, regulations and product safety and security, so that they can better comply with the law. Take advantage of diverse communication methods using the Internet, trade and community publications, seminars, and industry meetings.

