Appendix B

Program Evaluations

Program evaluations performed by internal and external entities are being used to validate performance measures and determine effectiveness of programs, and to determine whether operating policies are followed. During fiscal year 2003, ATF underwent 33 external audits by the Treasury and Justice Offices of Inspector General (OIG) and by the General Accounting Office (GAO).

In addition to these audits, ATF commissions various objective program evaluations and customer surveys to gauge program impact and customer satisfaction with the services ATF provides to industry and law enforcement. The Office of Management and Budget conducts annual Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) reviews of ATF's mission programs to gauge their effectiveness. We expect this program oversight and evaluation to continue at the same level through fiscal year 2009.

ATF's Office of Inspection conducts division-level office inspections on a three-year cycle. The inspections cover areas such as personnel, training, office security, quality and quantity of investigations and inspections, and internal controls.

The Department of Justice Office of Inspector General (OIG) prepares an annual schedule of proposed audits. The following OIG audits are scheduled for completion in fiscal year 2004:

Explosives Inspection Program of ATF

Review of the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) Program

Review of Computer Security Controls Over the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN)

Review of the ATF National Tracing Center

Review of the ATF Gang Resistance Education and Training Program

Strategic Plan: 2004-2009