



News Release



New York Field Division

Contact: Special Agent Joseph Green
(718) 650-4000

For Immediate Release
Jan. 8, 2009

ATF NAMES NEW SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE FOR NEW YORK RON TURK TO LEAD THE FIGHT AGAINST VIOLENT CRIME

NY – The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) announces the appointment of Ronald B. Turk as the as the new Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the agency’s New York Field Division.

Mr. Turk brings a new and fresh vision to fight violent crime in our neighborhoods to make our communities safer. “ATF is the federal government’s main agency tasked with combating violent crime and one of our primary goals is to keep firearms out of the hands of violent criminals”, said Mr. Turk. “We will also continue to concentrate our resources in other areas where ATF has jurisdiction such as explosives, gangs, arson and the illegal smuggling of contraband and untaxed alcohol and tobacco products.”

The ATF New York Field Division is responsible for more than 1,800 federal firearms dealers and 360 explosives licensees. The division is focused on combating armed violent criminal gangs and sharing information and intelligence with its investigative partners. It has more than 120 special agents and industry operations investigators assigned to these tasks. Other resources include an explosives detecting canine team, explosives enforcement officers, certified fire investigators, certified explosives specialists, and members of the Special and National Response Teams. The field division’s intelligence group, located in Brooklyn, identifies criminal trends by analyzing recovered crime gun data and targeting illegal gun runners.

Prior to this new appointment, Mr. Turk was the Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Nashville, Tennessee Field Division, where he oversaw the day to day operations of nine field office throughout the state. He began his law enforcement career with ATF in 1989 as a Special Agent in Trenton, NJ. After a detail in ATF Headquarters in Washington, D.C., he was promoted to a supervisory position in Bowling Green, Ky.

Mr. Turk is currently a Lieutenant Colonel in the New Jersey Air National Guard, where he has over 23 years in the Security Forces career field, most recently serving in a command position in Iraq. He received his Bachelor of Sciences Degree in Criminal Justice from Sam Houston State University and his Masters in Justice Administration from the University of Louisville. He is also a graduate of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, has attended several governmental executive development programs, and completed the US Air Force War College. Mr. Turk is a native Texan.

More information on ATF and its programs can be found at <http://www.atf.gov/>.

###