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September 17, 2012

**Via Electronic Transmission**

The Honorable Daniel G. Bogden  
United States Attorney  
Nevada District  
United States Department of Justice  
333 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Suite 5000  
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Dear U.S. Attorney Bogden:

It has come to my attention that a **“breakdown”** in relations has occurred between your office, the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Nevada (USAONV), and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) Reno, Nevada Field Office (Reno ATF). I am writing to better understand the causes of this breakdown.

The attached declination memorandum, signed by you, indicates that as of September 29, 2011, the USAONV categorically refuses to accept *any cases* submitted by Reno ATF. The declination memo states, **“We are willing to consider your cases again when your management addresses and resolves the issues at hand.”** However, it fails to identify what those issues are. Refusing to even consider cases that might merit prosecution as a way to exert influence over a law enforcement agency appears to be an extremely broad application of your discretion.

To help better understand the circumstances surrounding these issues and the current status of the working relationship between your office and Reno ATF, please make available the individuals most familiar with this situation to provide a telephone briefing to my office by no later than September 26, 2012. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Brian Downey or Tristan Leavitt of my Committee staff at (202) 224-5225.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable Eric H. Holder, Jr., Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice

The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz, Inspector General  
U.S. Department of Justice

Attachment



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney*  
*District of* [REDACTED]

September 29, 2011

Special Agent [REDACTED]  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms  
[REDACTED]

Re: [REDACTED]

Dear Special Agent [REDACTED]

We are in receipt of the report you prepared on the aforementioned case. I am returning the report to you. At this time, we are not accepting any cases submitted by your office. We are willing to consider your cases again when your management addresses and resolves the issues at hand.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
United States Attorney  
[REDACTED]

Assistant United States Attorney