

ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

ATF is a Federal law enforcement organization that serves as the nation's expert on what are largely legal consumer products: alcohol, tobacco, firearms and explosives. These products require special attention due to the important social consequences of misuse. ATF represents a uniquely concentrated resource for providing investigative, commercial regulation, tax collection, technical, scientific, and legal expertise focused on these products. This unique combination of tools and skills allows ATF to provide a focused, flexible, and balanced approach to protecting the public's legitimate access to these items while fighting unlawful use.

In August 1997, ATF's headquarters structure was modified to: (a) improve the span of control at the headquarters level; (b) elevate and consolidate the alcohol and tobacco functions as well as consolidate the firearms, explosives and arson functions to serve industry and law enforcement; (c) combine like functions, as well as integrate main mission programs with attendant services; and (d) facilitate cross-functional teamwork in managing and executing daily operations.

During FY 1997, a Field Process and Structure Focus Group studied ATF's field organization. As a result of this group's recommendations, a proposal is being formalized to combine both regulatory enforcement and criminal enforcement field operations and facilities. When this final phase is completed in FY 1998, ATF will have established a field operational structure that will improve and expand expertise in each of the product areas it handles, and will provide an

environment in which core processes can be conducted in the most effective manner.

As of September 30, 1997, ATF employed 3,924 individuals. An overview of the Bureau's structure and major offices follows.

Bureau Headquarters, Washington, D.C., consists of offices that develop major policies and programs in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations ATF enforces. The ATF executive structure consists of the Director; Deputy Director; Chief Counsel; and the Assistant Directors for Field Operations; Firearms, Explosives and Arson; Alcohol and Tobacco; Inspection; Liaison and Public Information; Management/Chief Financial Officer; Science and Technology/Chief Information Officer; and Training and Professional Development.

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Office of the Director includes the Deputy Director, Ombudsman (resolves the work-related concerns of employees, supervisors, and customers), Executive Assistants for Legislative Affairs, Equal Opportunity, and the Strategic Planning Office.

Office of Field Operations consists of offices in every major U.S. city, and in Mexico, Canada, and Colombia. The office implements national program objectives and priorities. The current field structure consists of:

- Five Regulatory Enforcement District Offices that implement major policies and programs relating to tax statutes and civil actions involving the regulated industries, and provide oversight and coordination to all ATF field regulatory enforcement operations.
- Twenty-one Criminal Enforcement Field Division Offices that implement major policies and



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programs, coordinate regulatory and criminal enforcement investigations, and assist other Federal, state, and local law enforcement officials with alcohol, tobacco, firearms, explosives, and arson investigations.

Office of Firearms, Explosives and Arson has as its primary mission the development and oversight of policies and programs relating to the enforcement of firearms, explosives and arson statutes. The office also addresses all issues dealing with the regulation and oversight of the firearms and explosives industries. Additional responsibilities include the coordination, support and monitoring of enforcement projects executed by the field offices, such as the National Response Team, Arson and Explosives National Repository, and Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative. Further, it maintains liaison and an open dialogue with outside entities that have an interest in law enforcement and regulatory control of firearms and explosives to ensure that the Bureau speaks with one voice.

Office of Alcohol and Tobacco oversees all activities that relate to the production, processing, distribution, and use of alcohol beverages; industrial alcohol, tobacco, and related products; and the collection of special (occupational) and excise taxes. The office enforces the provisions of the Federal Alcohol Administration Act relating to consumer protection and trade

practices in the alcohol beverage field. It also reviews business practices used by the regulated industries and concentrates on illegal diversion activity.

Office of Inspection serves as principal assistant to the Director in planning, directing, and coordinating the inspection and internal affairs activities of the Bureau. The office appraises the effectiveness of operations, assesses the quality of management and supervision, and determines adherence to organizational policies, regulations and procedures. The office is also responsible for conducting employee integrity investigations.

Office of Liaison and Public Information serves as principal advisor to the Director on matters relating to the public, media and industry information, policies, and compliance with the Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts. This office coordinates and reviews the responses to all inquiries received from the Department of the Treasury and Congressional offices, as well as correspondence for the Director.

Office of Management/Chief Financial Officer serves as principal assistant to the Director in planning and executing the support programs of the Bureau, including management analysis, financial management, personnel management, administrative programs such as directives, space and facilities management, procurement and property. As the

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Bureau's Chief Financial Officer, the Assistant Director provides leadership and guidance on the general principles, standards, practices, and functions of financial management and on management (internal) controls.

Office of Science and Technology/Chief Information Officer is responsible for developing, implementing, and maintaining ATF's information technology resources as well as the National Laboratory Center in Maryland and field laboratories in Atlanta and San Francisco that perform forensic work and alcohol and tobacco product examinations. This office also contains professional auditors who work on a variety of criminal, regulatory and internal programs; and a cadre of technical support personnel that provides radio communications, tactical operations, and audio/visual support.

Office of Training and Professional Development serves as the principal Bureau change agent and focal point for planned organizational development by fostering a collaborative team approach to achieve consistency in training and development. It manages and provides resources for all internal and external training and development for the Bureau; provides training to external customers - other Federal agencies, states, local agencies, and international agencies; and oversees nationwide violent crime prevention and intervention outreach programs.

The Bureau operates several service centers and several training facilities located throughout the United States as follows:

National Tracing Center in Falling Waters, West Virginia is the only facility of its kind in the United States which provides 24-hour tracing assistance to Federal, state, local, and foreign law enforcement agencies investigating violent crimes involving firearms.

National Licensing Center in Atlanta, Georgia processes all Federal license applications and operating permits for firearms and explosives. The licensing center is also the repository for all ATF inspection reports on licensees and permittees.

National Revenue Center in Cincinnati, Ohio reviews and acts upon tax, permit, claim, and regulatory matters nationwide. The center works in conjunction with the Technical Services Offices located strategically throughout the United States.

Laboratory service centers are located in Maryland, Georgia, and California. The laboratory personnel test alcohol and tobacco products, and support investigations by conducting forensic examinations on firearms, arson, and explosive materials.

ATF Academy, located at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Georgia, and an office of the Career Development Division, located at Fort McClellan in Alabama oversees

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THE EVOLUTION OF ATF

1996 **ANTITERRORISM AND EFFECTIVE DEATH PENALTY ACT** – amended the Federal explosives laws, including enhanced penalties for some explosives offenses, ATF enforcement of plastic explosives marking-detection requirement, and authorization to study the use of taggants in certain explosive materials.

1994 **VIOLENT CRIME CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT** – amended and strengthened current Federal firearms and explosives laws enforced by ATF.

1993 **BRADY LAW** – created a mandatory 5-day waiting period for purchasing handguns. Provision allows law enforcement to check the background of each handgun purchaser before delivery of any handguns is made by Federal firearms dealers. (Waiting period provisions took effect in 1994)

1992 **GANG RESISTANCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING (GREAT)** – established program for gang violence prevention.

1988 **ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LABELING ACT** – required the Government warning statement to appear on alcohol beverages distributed in the United States.

1984 **ARMED CAREER CRIMINAL ACT / COMPREHENSIVE CRIME CONTROL ACT** – amended the 1968 Gun Control Act, establishing mandatory sentences for armed drug traffickers and violent career criminals.

1982 **ANTIARSON ACT** – amended Explosives Control Act to include destruction of property by fire along with destruction by explosives.

1978 **CONTRABAND CIGARETTE ACT** – ATF helped state enforcement agencies to improve their enforcement and revenue collection capabilities, in response to the millions of dollars being lost to the state by cigarette smuggling from low-tax to high-tax states. Bureau began developing an entirely new Federal effort against an emerging crime problem: arson.

1972 Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division was separated from the IRS and given full Bureau status in the Treasury Department as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

1970 **TITLE XI OF THE ORGANIZED CRIME CONTROL ACT OF 1970** – contained provisions for industry regulations and established certain bombings and arsons as Federal crimes; and the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division name changed to the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division under the IRS.

1968 **GUN CONTROL ACT** – created stricter licensing and regulation of the firearms industry, established new categories of offenses involving firearms, and the first direct Federal jurisdiction aimed at criminal use of explosives. Responsibilities delegated to the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division.

1954 **INTERNAL REVENUE CODE** – Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division gained jurisdiction over the regulation and tax collection on the alcohol beverages, tobacco products and firearms industries.

1952 As a result of tobacco tax duties being delegated to the Alcohol Tax Unit in 1951, the unit title was changed to the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

1938 **FEDERAL FIREARMS ACT** – established regulations of the firearms industry and made it a crime for felons and fugitives to receive firearms in interstate commerce.

1935 **FEDERAL ALCOHOL ADMINISTRATION ACT** – created licensing and permit requirements and established regulations designed to ensure an open and fair marketplace to the legal businessman and to the consumer.

1934 **NATIONAL FIREARMS ACT** – imposed criminal, regulatory, and tax laws on gangster-type weapons such as machine guns; and the Bureau of Prohibition turned over its responsibilities to a newly created Alcohol Tax Unit within the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

1933 **21ST AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION** – Prohibition Era ended.

1927 Prohibition Unit became the separate Bureau of Prohibition, under the Department of Justice.

1919 **18TH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION RATIFIED** – ushered in the Prohibition Era, when it was illegal to manufacture, sell, or transport intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes. Prohibition Unit established under the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

1794 **WHISKEY REBELLION** – violent resistance to the established authority of the Federal Government to levy the excise tax on distilled spirits.

1791 **CONGRESS IMPOSED THE FIRST FEDERAL TAX ON DISTILLED SPIRITS.**

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much of the basic and advanced training for the Bureau's special agents, inspectors, and auditors. State and local law enforcement officials also attend certain ATF-sponsored courses at the academy, as do foreign officers sponsored through the Department of State.

Additional information on the Bureau's structure, key offices, and programs can be found in the Program Discussion and Analysis section of this report.

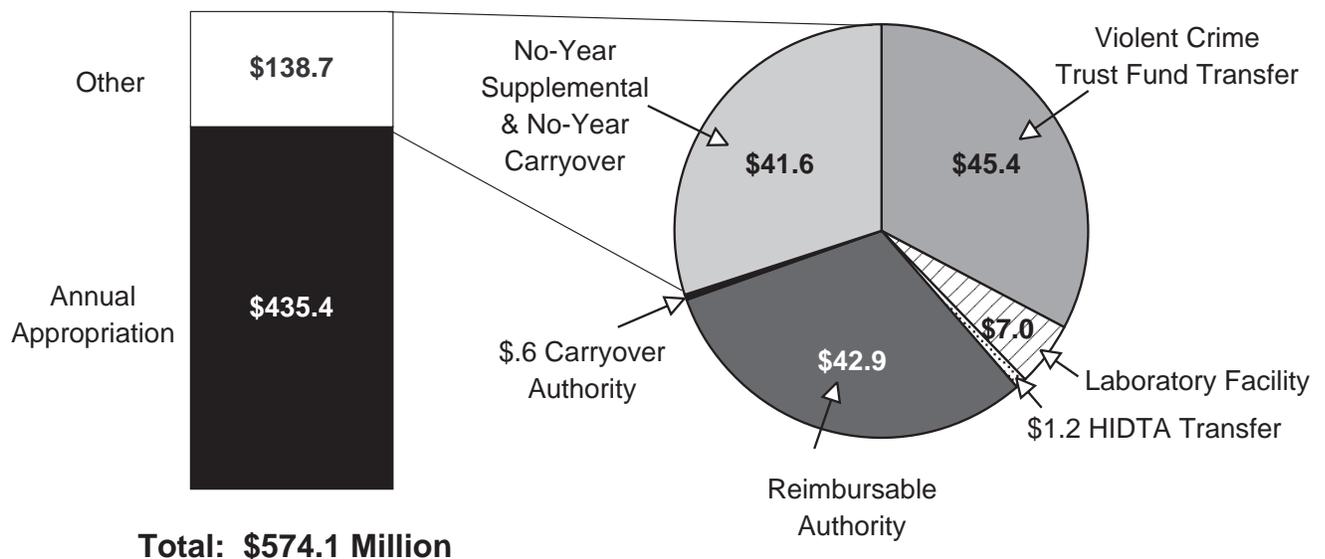
FUNDING

SOURCES OF FUNDS

The total budget authority available for use by ATF in FY 1997 was \$574.1 million. Of that amount, the Congress appropriated \$435.4 million for the Bureau's operations, and an additional \$138.7 million was made available from other sources. These other sources

included the following: no-year supplemental and no-year carryover funds of \$41.6 million; \$45.4 million from the Department of Justice's Violent Crime Trust Fund (comprising \$11.6 million from the Gang Resistance Education and Training Program and \$33.8 million for the category of Violent Crime); and \$7.0 million in no-year supplemental funding. Other sources of funding also included: appropriation transfers of \$1.2 million from the Office of National Drug Control Policy to support ATF efforts in High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas; \$42.9 million in reimbursable authority from other Government agencies; and additional resources of \$0.6 million, which represents 50 percent of the FY 1996 unobligated balance.

SOURCES OF FUNDS
FY 1997



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USES OF FUNDS

ATF incurred obligations of \$517.5 million during FY 1997. Of that amount obligations occurred for employee salaries and benefits; fixed costs such as rent and communications; and day-to-day operational program costs such as travel, transportation, supplies, and

equipment. Of the remaining \$56.5 million in budget authority that was not obligated in FY 1997, \$32.9 million represents no-year appropriation carryover funds available for use in FY 1998.

No-year reimbursable funding of \$21 million will be available for use in FY 1998. The remaining \$2.5 million, which represents less than one percent of the FY 1997 budget authority, will not be available for use in future years.