



Inside RATF

July–August 2011

FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES/U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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ATF Honors Employees and Partners at Its Annual Awards Ceremony

By **Priscilla B. Glynn**
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs

On August 24, 2011, Associate Attorney General Thomas J. Perrelli, ATF Acting Director Kenneth E. Melson, Acting Deputy Director William J. Hoover, former Directors John Magaw and Carl Truscott, employees, family members, and other guests gathered at ATF's National Headquarters to celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments of Bureau personnel and other federal, international, state, and local law enforcement partners at the 15th Annual ATF Awards Ceremony. Aaron Gilchrist, news anchor and reporter for WRC-TV NBC 4, served as the master of ceremonies. This year's awards ceremony drew a standing-room-

only crowd, as lots of family, friends, and colleagues turned up to support the award recipients.

Acting Deputy Director Hoover started the ceremony off by welcoming everyone and congratulating the awardees. "I'm pleased to be part of this ceremony, and what a great ceremony it is!" he said. "It's an honor to recognize our employees and partners in law enforcement."

The U.S. Capitol Police Ceremonial Unit presented the colors, accompanied by U.S. Capitol Police Officer Melissa Gibson singing a beautiful rendition of "The Star-Spangled Banner." The ceremonial unit then performed the retreat of the colors.

ATF Chaplain Monsignor Salvatore Criscuolo, of St. Patrick's Catholic Church, gave the invocation. "We thank you for your service, your commitment, and your sacrifice," he said.

"It's an honor to recognize those who served us so well, and a pleasure to welcome ATF's partners, family, and friends," said Associate Attorney General Perrelli, this year's keynote speaker. "I'm here to give thanks from the Department leadership for the honorees, and indeed for all the employees of ATF."

"You are the lifeblood of what this Department is all about, and we honor ATF employees who serve our country every day," he continued. "It's wonderful to see how many teams of ATF employees and partners at the international, federal, state, and local level are being recognized. And it's wonderful to see the many support staff members—who are often overlooked but who are critical to our mission—are being honored."

"ATF, throughout its history, its many name changes, and the expansion of its responsibilities,



Associate Attorney General Thomas J. Perrelli addressed the 15th Annual ATF Awards Ceremony on August 24, 2011. Photo by Boyd Craun, ATF Visual Information Services

Annual Awards, continued on page 4

What Kids Think

What do your kids think you do at work?

We want to hear from your kids! Have your child (or grandchild, niece or nephew) write down what they think you do at work and then send it in to the editor. Please do not correct their spelling or edit the answer in any way. Children too young to write can tell their parents their answers; parents can transcribe for them. Please keep answers brief. They may also draw (on plain white paper, in ink, felt-tip pen or pencil) how they picture you.

***Inside ATF* Newsletter Goes Electronic**

Inside ATF is now posted on the ATF intraweb; it is no longer distributed to employees in hard copy format.

Retirees who wish to continue receiving the newsletter should sign up at

http://service.govdelivery.com/service/subscribe.html?code=USATF_55.

Retirees who do not have Internet access and wish to continue receiving a copy of the newsletter by mail should write to *Inside ATF*, ATF, Office of Public and Governmental Affairs, Mail Stop 5.S-237, 99 New York Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20226.



***Inside ATF* is published monthly by the Office of Public and Governmental Affairs.**

Assistant Director, Office of Public and Governmental Affairs: James E. McDermond
Chief of Staff: Ernest E. Hickson
Editor: Lallie Leighton

Inside ATF is printed and distributed for retirees by the Materiel Management Branch, Office of Management.

For change of address, contact:

Materiel Management Branch
Document Services/MMOC
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
1519 Cabin Branch Drive
Landover, MD 20785-3816

Inside ATF welcomes your articles, pictures and ideas. Please send your articles via e-mail as a Microsoft Word attachment. Interoffice e-mail: Leighton, Lallie;

Internet e-mail: Lallie.Leighton@atf.gov.
To send photos: A JPEG attachment can be used, but photos must be scanned in at 300 dpi or higher.

To contact the editor in writing, send to:

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Federal Executive Association of Maine Recognizes ATF Agent

Submitted by RAC Dale Armstrong
Portland (Maine) Field Office,
Boston Field Division

Special Agent (SA) Dan Woolbert of ATF's Portland (Maine) Field Office received a special recognition award from the Federal Executives Association of Maine during their annual awards ceremony in June 2011. U.S Senator Susan Collins (R-Maine) acknowledged the hard work of federal employees and congratulated SA Woolbert. SA Woolbert received this award for his successful investigation of an unlicensed firearms trafficker in Maine who had supplied as many as 200 handguns, many having obliterated serial numbers, to gang members in Boston. A number of the firearms were used in violent

crimes. SA Woolbert was able to have undercover agents approach the trafficker and eventually purchase firearms from him, which led to his arrest. The subject cooperated and then called his most prolific purchasers in Massachusetts to come get more guns. Those two individuals, both gang members and multi-convicted felons, were arrested in Maine when they came to take possession of the firearms. SA Woolbert also successfully investigated several members of the Outlaws MC in Maine who had committed federal violations that included the shooting of a member of the Hells Angels. Through his work, these violent acts were documented as Violent Crimes in Aid of Racketeering violations, and they were incorporated into a larger Nationwide Outlaws MC case spearheaded by ATF's Richmond (Virginia) Field Office and a group of ATF undercover agents. 🇺🇸



Special Agent (SA) Dan Woolbert (center) of ATF's Portland (Maine) Field Office, who received a special recognition award from the Federal Executives Association of Maine during their annual awards ceremony in June 2011, is shown with U.S Senator Susan Collins (left; R-Maine) and Resident Agent in Charge Dale Armstrong (right), Portland (Maine) Field Office. Photo submitted by ATF's Portland (Maine) Field Office, Boston Field Division

Annual Awards continued from page 1

has been at the core of law enforcement,” Perrelli said. “You keep us safe. You have a true dedication to justice. On behalf of the Attorney General and all the Department leadership, I want to thank you for your dedication and your service.”

Acting Director Melson then addressed the audience. “Since I have been with ATF, the awards ceremony is one of the best days of the year for me, and probably for you as well,” he said. “I really enjoy meeting the people who have won the awards and am glad to have the opportunity to thank you in person for job you’ve done—not just to get the award, but for the job you do every day.

“You have to judge an agency by its employees,” he continued. “ATF has people who risk their lives—and who save lives. ATF has a great history, steeped in tradition and filled with accomplishment. A quick review of our awardees shows your exceedingly high level of bravery, of determination, and of dedication to our mission and to your fellow man.

“I also want to thank the co-workers of the awardees. We all know that for each person being honored here today, there are at least 10 or 12 other employees equally deserving of an award,” Melson said. “It takes everyone in this Bureau, in every position, to make our agency great. Today, we celebrate our legacy and our future.”

“To what has been said by the other speakers, I want to add my thanks,” said emcee Aaron Gilchrist. “We are immensely blessed to have folks like you who put their lives on the line to protect us.”

Gilchrist read the narratives of the awardees as they joined Melson, Hoover, and Assistant Director James E. McDermond of the Office of Public and Governmental Affairs on stage to accept their awards. He cited case after case where ATF employees and our partners in international, federal, state, and local agencies infiltrated and dismantled violent organizations that trafficked in drugs, cigarettes, and firearms. He described other incidents in which Bureau personnel and law enforcement partners confronted suspects known to be armed and dangerous, served arrest and search warrants, and took some of the worst of the worst criminals off the streets.

Gilchrist recounted numerous investigations where special agents, industry operations investigators (IOIs), explosives enforcement officers, forensic chemists, forensic auditors, and personnel in other fields devoted enormous time and effort to solving complex cases that involved homicides, bombings, arson, and fraud.

He described incidents in which current or retired employees sprang into action to confront and disarm persons who posed a danger to the public, and other situations in which employees saved lives and provided support to their fellow human beings in times of great need. He recounted the remarkable story of one courageous man who—when held captive and tortured by a drug cartel for 33 days—protected ATF employees by refusing to divulge any information about them.

Gilchrist also described the outstanding contributions of individual employees in numerous diverse professions—from special agents and IOIs, from scientists and technical specialists, to program, investigative, and budget analysts—who enable ATF to carry out its multiple responsibilities. As supervisors and employees, in headquarters and the field, they make it possible for ATF to achieve its mission. 🌟

ATF 15th Annual Awards

Awards	Presented
Gold Star Medal	1
Medals of Valor	16
Hostile Action Awards	17
Honor Awards	16
Director’s Awards	3
Director’s Internal Award	1
Distinguished Service Medals	11
Special Agent James E. Little “Concern for People Awards”	4
Special Agent Johnny A. Masengale Memorial Award	14
Officer Jake Kuredjian Memorial Award	1
Employee of the Year Awards/Runners-up	5/5
Lifesaving Awards	6
Citizenship Award	1
ATF Lifetime Achievement Award	1
Foreign Service Awards	27



ATF's 15th Annual Awards Ceremony

These photos capture some of the highlights of and participants in the ceremony on August 24, 2011, at ATF Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Photos by Boyd Craun, ATF Visual Information Services

ATF IOI Inspection Leads to a Sizeable Settlement

By IOI Melinda C. Whitworth
Office of Field Operations

In planning for inspections, Industry Operations Investigators (IOI) have to gather appropriate equipment and the correct clothing (especially in case explosives are involved) and review laws and regulations. IOIs often find situations that are unexpected and that frequently involve imminent risks to public safety. This was the case during the inspection of a Rialto, California, fireworks importer in March 2010 by IOIs Richard Hoffpauer and Stella Berg of the Los Angeles Field Division (LAFD).

IOIs Hoffpauer and Berg did not expect to find approximately 62,000 pounds of explosives stored in excess of allowable quantities. As a result of this investigation, the licensee agreed in January 2011 to forfeit \$29,000 for the violation, which was a sizeable settlement for ATF.

Many lives were likely saved by the actions of IOIs Hoffpauer and Berg, who eliminated the potential for



IOIs Richard Hoffpauer and Stella Berg of the Los Angeles Field Division (LAFD) found approximately 62,000 pounds of explosives stored in excess of allowable quantities during an inspection of explosives magazines in Rialto, California, including this one. Photo by IOI Stella Berg, Los Angeles Field Division

an accidental explosion. LAFD Special Agent in Charge John Torres said, "...Public safety is our main concern, and I feel we have done our part in ensuring their well-being." 🇺🇸



ATF Community Outreach

ATF Explosives Enforcement Officer Jed Bradford demonstrates the ATF robot to a participant at the Muscular Dystrophy Association Summer Camp in June. Photo by Special Agent Dan Cassidy, Kansas City Field Division

ATF New Orleans: Mentoring At-Risk Youth

By Senior Special Agent/PIO Austin R. Banks
New Orleans Field Division

Following the devastation of the New Orleans public school system by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005 and the city's subsequent steady rise in youth violence, the ATF New Orleans Field Division (NOFD) has aggressively committed outreach resources to address the problems affecting the city's at-risk youth. New Orleans FD Special Agent (SA) Joe Belisle and Senior SA Austin R. Banks

have participated in a mentoring program at Benjamin Banneker Elementary School in one of the city's toughest school districts.

In May 2010, NOFD officially adopted Benjamin Banneker Elementary School and introduced ATF's Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program to address the dangerous temptations that lead young people to violence or involvement in gangs. On May 18, 2011, Banneker celebrated its second G.R.E.A.T. graduation, with 125 fifth and eighth graders graduating from the program. 



ATF Special Agent (SA) Joe Belisle (left) and Senior SA Austin R. Banks (right) with G.R.E.A.T. graduates at Benjamin Banneker Elementary School in New Orleans. Photo by Benjamin Banneker Elementary School photographer



Senior Special Agent Austin R. Banks and guest speaker U.S. Federal Judge Ginger Berrigan present G.R.E.A.T. certificates to students at Benjamin Banneker Elementary School in New Orleans. Photo by Special Agent Joe Belisle, New Orleans Field Division



2011 NOBLE Annual Training Conference and Exhibition

The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) held its 35th Annual Training Conference and Exhibition July 16–20, 2011, in Lexington, Kentucky. Pictured above are ATF leadership and staff who participated in the conference. Front Row (left to right): Special Agent in Charge (SAC) Matt Horace, Assistant Director Larry Ford, Acting Director Kenneth Melson, Dr. Bettye Gardner, and SAC Paul Vido. Second Row: Special Agent (SA) Kent Montford, SA Dalmaria Cole Bigelow, SA Kimberly Morton, Critical Information Specialist Sharon Thompson, SA Trevor Velinor, and Director of Industry Operations Curtis Gilbert. Third Row: ASAC Dondi Albritton, SA Jeffry Bell, SA Raynard Jones, Industry Operations Investigator Terry Dogan, SA Daryl Thomas, and SA Jerry Gordon. Photo by Carolyn Wallace, ATF's Visual Information Services



ATF New Orleans Receives Professional Service Award

The International Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Analysts (IALEIA) awarded ATF's New Orleans Field Intelligence Group (NOFD FIG) with a Professional Service Award for their outstanding intelligence support in an improvised explosive device investigation during IALEIA's annual training conference held May 5, 2011, in Nashville, Tennessee. On February 4, 2009, Dr. Trent Pierce was severely injured and nearly killed by the detonation of an improvised explosive device placed outside his home in West Memphis, Arkansas. ATF immediately led a multi-agency task force to investigate and process the scene and established a temporary field office in West Memphis. Assets from the NOFD FIG deployed rapidly to the scene from their office 400 miles away to provide intelligence support and staff the command posts. The investigation was a classic example of intelligence-led policing, with 597 leads generated and 117 reports written. As a result of the FIG's efforts, the defendants were found guilty on charges ranging from weapons of mass destruction to possession of 98 unregistered grenades. Shown accepting the award (left to right) are ATF Supervisory Intelligence Research Specialist Edward Feingold and Intelligence Research Specialist Michael Eddingfield with IALEIA President Ritchie Martinez. Photo courtesy of IALEIA

ATF Kansas City Provides Explosives Training to Local Bomb Technicians

By Special Agent/PIO Trista Frederick
Kansas City Field Division

During May 2011, ATF's Kansas City Field Division (KCFD) provided an explosives training course to approximately 20 Kansas City area bomb technicians. The week-long course offered crucial instruction on improvised explosives investigations, with an emphasis on homemade explosives (HME).

The training was led by ATF Explosives Enforcement Officers (EEO) Richard Gonzalez, Fred Bradford and Scott McCollough. KCFD Certified Explosives Specialists Roger Stous, Kelly Etnier, Dave Whittaker and Kyle Lovelady also assisted in the training. The pilot course was developed to provide local bomb technicians with up-to-date information and to serve as intermediary training until the participants could attend the full HME course at ATF's National Center for Explosives Training and Research.

The curriculum consisted of classroom instruction, an explosives demonstration and real world scenarios. The bulk of the classroom instruction included

presentations on improvised explosives in Iraq and Afghanistan by ATF Seattle EEO Brennan Phillips, improvised explosive devices and explosives in Mexico by ATF Fort Worth EEO Johnnie Green, homemade explosives by ATF Forensic Chemists Andrew Hawkins and Steve Linehan and post-blast injuries by Dr. David Tan, Assistant Professor and Chief of the EMS Section, Division of Emergency Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine. During the training, an explosives demonstration was held to show the power and danger of homemade explosives. One and a half days of the course were spent on hands-on training. The participants were divided into teams and they worked through a variety of real world scenarios. They encountered situations including HME manufacturing sites, a post-blast scene and a hostage in a booby-trapped room. The scenarios gave the participants the opportunity to put the information they received into practice.

The training was hosted by the Metropolitan Community College (MCC)–Blue River's Public Safety Institute. The MCC–Blue River Public Safety Institute's \$10.4 million training facility is home to a police academy that has provided cutting-edge training to more than 3,500 police officers from 75 law enforcement agencies. 🇺🇸



Images from the explosives training course provided by ATF's Kansas City Field Division to Kansas City area bomb technicians. Top, course participants and instructors. Bottom left, ATF EEO Richard Gonzalez provides instruction to Overland Park, Kansas, bomb technicians during a post-blast scenario. Next, a Lee's Summit, Missouri, bomb technician uses a camera during a hostage scenario. Next, a homemade explosives demonstration. Bottom right, ATF Forensic Chemist Andrew Hawkins discusses items found during a post-blast scenario with Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department bomb technicians. Photo of the homemade explosives demonstration by Student Assistant Andrew Muench; all other photos by Special Agent/PIO Trista Frederick, Kansas City Field Division

Are You Eligible to Retire Under VERA?

By Lallie Leighton

Office of Public and Governmental Affairs

VERA, VSIP, MRA, FERS, TSP ... yikes! If your head is not spinning, then you probably are not close enough to federal retirement age to be concerned about whether you are eligible for one of the two cost-saving programs that ATF is hoping to implement: Voluntary Early Retirement Authority (VERA, or early out). For information about the other program—Voluntary Separation Incentive Payment (VSIP, or buy out)—you will want to visit OPM's website at <http://www.opm.gov/employ/html/vsi.htm>.

According to an August 16, 2011, update, individual notifications will be sent to eligible employees for either program upon OPM and OMB approval of ATF's request. These notices could be issued as early as mid-September 2011, and eligible employees who decide to accept the terms set forth under the VERA program could be off the rolls as early as November 2011.

ATF's Employee Benefits Branch in the Human Resources Division (HRD) of the Office of Human Resources and Professional Development (HRPD) is the best source of information about retirement planning. Before you make an appointment to discuss retirement, you may want to consider some factors and visit some relevant websites that are mentioned in this article.

You may be eligible for a VERA retirement if you are at least age 50 with at least 20 years of creditable service or have at least 25 years of total creditable service at any age, regardless of whether you are enrolled in the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) or the Federal Employee Retirement System, or FERS.

At ATF, VERA may only be offered to specified organizations, occupational groups and grades. Final decisions on the specific organizations, occupational groups and grades are still pending. In addition, eligible employee must:

- Occupy a position that is not a time-limited appointment;

- Have been continuously on the Department of Justice's rolls at least 31 days prior to the date the agency initially requested approval for VERA (July 25, 2011); and
- Have not received a final removal decision based on misconduct or unacceptable performance.

Before you continue reading this article, please note that this article will not tell you whether or not this is the best time for you to retire or how much money you are likely to receive. But you can learn about some factors that are part of your eligibility and readiness to retire under the VERA program.

Ideally, you would want to begin thinking about and planning for retirement—to be sure you are prepared financially and emotionally—more than a year before you are likely to retire. This usually includes attending a pre-retirement seminar, obtaining annuity estimates, estimating your minimum income to live comfortably during retirement, and considering ways you will be spending your time when you are no longer going to the office each day.

For employees who are covered by FERS, the FERS annuity is only one part of three parts that will provide your retirement income. You will also need to factor in your estimated Social Security income if you are over 62—your FERS annuity supplement if you are between your minimum retirement age (see table) and age 62 (subject to an earnings limitation) with one calendar year of service under FERS—and income from your TSP investments.

Under CSRS, your annuity, however, is reduced if you are under age 55. If you have contributed to the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) in addition to CSRS, you can factor in your estimated income from your TSP investments.

Obviously, there are a lot of factors to consider before making such a life-changing decision. Before making your decision, you should make an appointment to meet with a benefits counselor in ATF's Employee Benefits Branch (HRD/HRPD). 

Helpful Websites About Retirement, VERA and VSIP

Planning for Retirement (OPM): <http://www.opm.gov/retire/pre/planning/index.asp>

CSRS Retirement (OPM): <http://www.opm.gov/retire/pre/csrs/index.asp>

FERS Retirement (OPM): <http://www.opm.gov/retire/pre/fers/index.asp>

Thrift Savings Plan: <https://www.tsp.gov>

Voluntary Early Retirement Authority (VERA; OPM): <http://www.opm.gov/employ/vera/vera01.asp>

FERS Minimum Retirement Age (OPM): http://www.opm.gov/retire/pre/election/handbook/h_fers3.htm

Voluntary Separation Incentive Payment (VSIP, or “Buy Out”; OPM): <http://www.opm.gov/employ/html/vsi.htm>



ATF Special Agent's Training Program Leads Young Swimmers to Victory in Hawaii

Unlike most swim clubs in Hawaii, the Manoa Aquatic Club had no dry-land training before swim practice. The kids at the club needed to build upper body strength, and the club couldn't afford to hire someone to get the kids started. That's when ATF Special Agent (SA) Gery Graham (second from left, front row, above) of the Honolulu Field Office became involved. The club coaches, who knew SA Graham through his role as the ATF office's fitness coordinator, asked for his help. SA Graham didn't hesitate to accept and scheduled time to help with the kids. SA Graham, a former football player for the University of Hawaii, knew the university's swim coaches, who gave him tips for training the kids. SA Graham researched and developed a customized strength training program for the club. Several of the swim team's members have since qualified as state champions, while others have qualified for the Western Zone championship. Photo submitted by Honolulu Field Office, Seattle Field Division

Making the Most of Your Leisure Time

By Sunithi Kuruppu, MSW
ATF Employee Assistance Program Manager

From the moment the alarm rings in the morning, you're on the go. You make coffee, take a quick shower, rouse the kids, fix breakfast, get dressed, dash to work, spend 8 intense hours or more on the job, pick up your son after baseball practice, drop your daughters off at soccer, fix dinner, help your children with their homework, get them into bed, iron clothes, make lunches and then do some paperwork you wanted to finish before the meeting tomorrow.

Whew! You need a time out!

The Need for Leisure

Leisure is a necessity for your overall health and well-being. If you don't get enough of it, you can begin to feel grouchy, fatigued and depressed. Studies indicate people who do not participate in regular leisure activities have elevated stress levels, increased edginess and hostility. If not addressed, these symptoms can lead to harmful amounts of norepinephrine and cortisol in the body that can damage the immune system and make your body more susceptible to heart disease. These harmful signs can be reduced by incorporating leisure time into your schedule. Participating in activities that are pleasurable has shown to elevate dopamine and serotonin, helping you feel happier and more calm.

Four Types of Leisure Activities

- Solitary: Watch television, read or listen to music.
- Social: Go to parties or visit with friends and family.
- Physical: Garden, play tennis, do Pilates or go hiking.
- Cultural: Go to a concert, a sporting event, a church service or an organization meeting.



Making Time for Leisure

Most of us actually have more free time than we think—how we spend it is the problem. If you want to spend your time doing more enjoyable things, try these approaches:

Learn to say “No.” If you find it hard to make time for yourself, learn to say no to others who make demands on your time. We often feel that we must say yes and end up resenting those who want our free time. By learning to say no, you can also learn to say yes ... and mean it!

Make your own fun. What may be leisure for one person is work for another. Know yourself and what you think is fun. Make a list of your strengths and weaknesses, what you like to do and what you dislike. Then make your leisure choice based on that list. Gardening, for example, is fun for some people, but for others it's boring work. Only you can decide what works best for you.

Be imperfect. Some people avoid doing certain types of leisure activities because they don't feel they can master them. It's important to recognize that you don't have to do everything well. It's really not a matter of how well you do, but that you enjoy doing it.

Learn to shift gears. Create a space at the end of your day, even if it is only 10 to 15 minutes, to be alone with your thoughts so you can make the transition between work and home. Walking, reading the newspaper or listening to music could do it for you. For some people, it's just as simple as changing their clothes.

Leisure doesn't just happen. It takes effort and planning to work fun activities into your life. Find a reason to make room in your life for leisure. It might be as simple as telling yourself that you want to live longer or have a better relationship with your spouse, kids or friends. Whatever the reason, it has to be something that is more important to you than work. If not, you are less likely to stick with it. 🍷

Business Health Services is a free and confidential program provided by your employer for you and your household members. Care Coordinators are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to speak with you about any issues you may be experiencing.

1-800-765-3277
www.bhsonline.com

July ATF Special Agent Line of Duty Deaths

<i>Special Agent</i>	<i>Date of Death</i>	<i>Special Agent</i>	<i>Date of Death</i>
George A. Droz	July 12, 1929	Howard Henry Fisher	July 22, 1922
Paul A. Read	July 12, 1933	Gary D. Freeman	July 22, 1922
Benjamin R. Smallwood	July 12, 1939	Curtis C. Burke	July 22, 1931
Milton Rogers	July 12, 1948	Walter M. Gilbert	July 22, 1931
Eddie Benitez	July 12, 1983	John I. Wilson	July 22, 1931
Irving S. Washburn	July 13, 1928	William R. Braden	July 22, 1935
Eugene Jackson	July 13, 1932	Ludwig P. Johnson	July 25, 1928
W.T. Lewis	July 15, 1927	Hunter R. Stotler	July 26, 1927
Major A. Hart	July 16, 1927	Raymond L. Ezzell	July 28, 1931
Dale F. Kearney	July 16, 1930	Charles F. Cooley, Jr.	July 30, 1929
Charles E. Howell	July 17, 1921	Walter T. Creviston	July 30, 1931
George Nantz	July 20, 1927	Samuel Leeper	July 31, 1940

August ATF Special Agent Line of Duty Deaths

<i>Special Agent</i>	<i>Date of Death</i>	<i>Special Agent</i>	<i>Date of Death</i>
Kimberly D. Place	August 1, 2007	George V. Trabing	August 19, 1931
Richard J. Sandlands	August 7, 1929	Donald D. McDonald	August 24, 1953
Arthur A. Zimmerman	August 11, 1929	James M. Patterson	August 26, 1969
Roy N. Griffin	August 18, 1941	Ray Sutton	August 28, 1930

Case Closed: Recent Convictions, Sentencings on ATF Investigations

- **Columbia, South Carolina:** On August 9, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant was sentenced to 20 years in prison for his role in an armed drug trafficking conspiracy and his involvement in the planning of a drug-related robbery that resulted in the murder of the robbery victim. The ATF RAGE Unit (a gang task force involving an ATF partnership with the North Augusta Department of Public Safety, Aiken Department of Public Safety, Aiken Sheriff's Office, and Richmond County Sheriff's Office) investigated the conspiracy and its organizational structure. The group was involved in armed drug trafficking, which resulted in numerous shootings, robberies, attempted murders, and a murder in the Aiken/North Augusta, South Carolina, and Augusta, Georgia, areas.
- **Kamiah, Idaho:** On August 9, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant was sentenced to 25 years in federal prison and 3 years of supervised release, convicted of multiple charges related to the attempted bombing of his estranged wife in Kamiah. On September 4, 2009, an improvised explosive device was found concealed under a toy animal placed on a vehicle outside a residence in which the defendant's estranged wife was staying for the night. ATF special agents responded and opened an investigation. Agents served a federal search warrant at the defendant's motel room and found components matching those in the recovered bomb. Agents later obtained video evidence and receipts from multiple retail stores proving that the defendant had purchased components for the device. The defendant pled guilty to federal charges of transporting explosives with intent to kill or injure, stalking, and use of explosives during the commission of a felony. The Spokane Bomb Squad, Idaho State Police, Okanogan County Sheriff's Office, Washington State Department of Corrections, and Grand Coulee Police Department assisted ATF in the investigation.
- **Mansfield, Ohio:** On August 5, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant convicted on federal arson charges was sentenced 60 years in prison in Mansfield. The conviction stems from the early morning firebombing of a Mansfield Municipal Judge's office in December 2009 with destructive devices made up of four milk jugs filled with gasoline and cloth wicks stuffed through the container's caps. The destructive devices were thrown through a broken window into the judge's office. The defendant was remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshal Service.
- **Daytona Beach, Florida:** On August 5, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant convicted of drug trafficking and firearms crimes was sentenced to 25 years in federal prison in Orlando. He is one of 50 persons charged in federal and state court as a result of "Operation 819," a 20-month undercover operation conducted by ATF that proactively targeted violent drug organizations operating in the Daytona Beach area. The defendant pled guilty to several counts of the indictment pursuant to a plea agreement.
- **Reading, Pennsylvania:** On August 4, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant was sentenced to 158 years in prison for a series of Hobbs-Act robberies in the Reading area. In February 2008, the defendant and his co-defendant were arrested for the armed robbery of eight delivery trucks. They committed these crimes over a 2-month period until a fuel oil truck driver was able to wrestle the firearm away from the defendant during a robbery attempt, ultimately leading to their arrest. The co-defendant cooperated for the government's case and testified against the defendant during trial. The co-defendant was previously sentenced to 15 years in prison. ATF led the federal investigation of this case and was assisted by the Reading Police Department, the Berks County District Attorney's Office, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
- **Wilmington, North Carolina:** On August 4, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant was sentenced 20 years in federal prison for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon in Wilmington. On December 3, 2010, Wilmington Police Department apprehended the defendant following his attempt to snatch a woman's purse. The defendant grabbed the purse and threw the victim to the ground. The victim's fiancé then tackled the defendant and a scuffle ensued. During the scuffle the defendant pulled a revolver and pointed it at the victim and others. The defendant pulled the trigger at least three times, but the revolver did not fire. A witness immediately went for the firearm and was able to disarm the de-

fendant with the assistance of several other individuals. ATF examined the revolver and found it loaded with three unfired cartridges with a visible hammer strike on the head of each of the three cartridges. The defendant's last felony conviction was December 2008 for second degree kidnapping.

- **Roseville, California:** On August 2, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant was sentenced to 15 years in federal prison, followed by six years of supervised release, based on his guilty plea to two counts of arson. The defendant was responsible for setting a fire at a mall which ultimately resulted in a loss of several millions of dollars, as well as attempting to set a fire at a Wal-Mart earlier that same day. The fire at the mall was investigated by the ATF Sacramento Field Office and National Response Team, assisted by multiple local fire and police agencies. The defendant is scheduled to be sentenced in state court on August 5, 2011, for starting a fire at his paternal grandmother's home; however, this sentence will be served concurrently with his federal sentence.
- **Eastern District of Michigan:** On July 27, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant was sentenced to 264 months in federal prison and 48 months of supervised release. This was the 15th defendant of a 16-defendant conspiracy receiving sentencing stemming from Operation Pigsty, an armed drug conspiracy operating between Pontiac, Michigan, and Canton, Ohio. This defendant is additionally the suspect in several homicide investigations in which warrant issuance is still pending in the Oakland County, Michigan, Prosecutor's Office. Fourteen defendants have accepted plea agreements and received sentences ranging from 28 months to 107 months. The 16th defendant was recently arrested in Los Angeles, California, and is currently detained while awaiting trial. These sentences represent the culmination of an 18-month investigation involving several Title III electronic monitoring warrants.
- **Berwyn, Illinois:** On July 26, 2011, ATF reported that a suspect convicted of federal charges related to armed robberies and a 2003 bombing a video gaming company was sentenced to 15 years in federal prison and ordered to pay \$1,357,497 in restitution. The video gam-

ing company was targeted because it was competing with another business operated by a local organized crime organization. The suspect was also involved in a series of armed robberies and burglaries in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Michigan. He is the first of nine defendants to be sentenced. Others face sentencing for racketeering, conspiracy, illegal gambling, arson, obstruction of justice, interstate transportation of stolen goods, and tax violations. This was a joint investigation including ATF, the FBI, and the IRS.

- **Tampa, Florida:** On July 25, 2011, ATF reported that a multiple convicted felon linked to a series of robberies in the Tampa area was convicted and sentenced to 40 years in federal prison. When Tampa Police stopped the suspect on his bicycle, he attempted to flee but was quickly caught. An officer discovered a handgun in the suspect's possession. Additional evidence obtained during the stop linked the suspect to a series of robberies in the area including the armed robbery of a nearby Dollar Store supermarket. ATF and Tampa Police uncovered additional evidence and witnesses to corroborate the initial evidence. The firearm recovered on the suspect is linked to a homicide in the area and he is believed to be the shooter. ATF is continuing to assist with that investigation.
- **Newport News, Virginia:** On July 22, 2011, ATF reported that two suspects were sentenced for their roles in the murder of a Hardee's restaurant employee during an armed robbery in Newport News. One suspect was sentenced to life in prison, and the other was sentenced to 35 years. The case was investigated jointly by the Newport News Police Department and the ATF.
- On July 22, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant was sentenced to 91 years in prison for multiple federal convictions in West Palm Beach. The defendant was convicted of Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Possession of a Firearm during a Drug Trafficking Crime, and Possession with Intent to Distribute a Controlled Substance. The defendant was sentenced to 80 years minimum for the firearms violations and 11 years for the narcotic violations. Both sentences are to be served consecutively for a total of 91 years in prison.
- **Clarendon, South Carolina:** On July 19, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant was sentenced to 21 years

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in federal prison after his conviction on federal firearms and narcotics charges in Clarendon. The Clarendon County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit made a controlled purchase of cocaine from the defendant, who is a multi-convicted felon. The defendant was indicted on federal charges and pled guilty to all counts early this year. The defendant was sentenced as a career offender because he has two or more previous violent felony convictions or serious drug trafficking crimes.

- **Cleveland, Ohio:** On July 18, 2011, ATF reported that an armed career criminal was sentenced to 27 years in prison with 6 years supervised release, convicted of charges including being a felon in possession of a firearm (with armed career criminal enhancement) and possession of a controlled substance (crack cocaine). In October 2010, ATF and detectives from the Akron Police Department executed a search warrant at the suspect's residence and seized two handguns, ammunition, crack cocaine, and drug paraphernalia, including a digital scale.
- **Columbia, South Carolina:** On July 13, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant was sentenced to 20 years in federal prison with 10 years supervised release. He was convicted on charges related to armed drug trafficking, which resulted in numerous crimes in South Carolina and in Georgia, including shootings, robberies, attempted murders, and a murder. He was also ordered to forfeit a residence, approximately \$58,000 in US currency, and firearms. Four co-conspirators received sentences ranging from 5 to 14 years.
- **Greenville, North Carolina:** On July 11, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant was sentenced to 252 months in custody and 60 months supervised release for conspiracy to distribute more than 50 grams of cocaine base (crack) and more than 500 grams of powder cocaine within 1,000 feet of a school or playground. The defendant was arrested as part of a large-scale Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force operation in which ATF is participating. The defendant was one of 70 ATF defendants indicted to date in this investigation.
- **Buffalo, New York:** A Financial Investigative Services Division (FISD) Forensic Auditor con-

ducted the financial analysis of restitution and charges levied on a New York individual. On July 8, 2011, he was sentenced to five years probation, one year of electronic monitoring and curfew, and must pay restitution of nearly \$1.4 million to five states. The individual pled guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud (Title 18, US Code, Section 371), and failure to file an income tax return (Title 26, US Code, Section 7203) in the US District Court for the Western District of New York in Buffalo. He controlled internet sites, using Native Americans as a front, to sell over 192,000 cartons of untaxed cigarettes to thousands of persons between 2002 and 2007. The individual failed to file Jenkins reports (USC Title 15 Chapter 10A § 376) to state revenue authorities and used the mail to defraud New York State of tax dollars by shipping the untaxed cigarettes (Title 18, US Code, Section 1341 violation) through the U.S. Post Office.

- **Beaumont, Texas:** On July 7, 2011, a veteran peace officer has been sentenced to federal prison for firearms and mail fraud violations in the Eastern District of Texas. The ex-detective was found guilty by a jury on Feb. 3, 2011, of possession of stolen ammunition and two counts of conspiracy to commit mail fraud and was sentenced to 12 months and one day in federal prison. The individual was sentenced for the findings of guilty for one count of 18 U.S.C. section 922(j) (possession of stolen ammunition) and two counts of 18 U.S.C. section 371 (conspiracy to commit mail fraud). The ex-detective diverted 100,000 rounds of 40 caliber hollow-point semi-automatic ammunition in a barter arrangement with a local federal firearms license dealer. Instead of using the rounds of ammunition for the intended purpose of qualifying police department law enforcement officers at a firearms range, the ex-detective converted the ammunition for his own use by exchanging it for 86 new weapons which he could sell through his business. The individual used the mail in two separate instances to send police department documents and city bank account cashier checks to a vendor in a scheme devised to falsely state that law enforcement training firearms and laser sights were being purchased for law enforcement purposes. The purchased items were turned over to non-law enforcement personnel. An ATF forensic auditor was involved in the investigation from the beginning, determining the financial scheme of the barter scheme, assembling the documents for the mail fraud, and conducting numerous forensic financial

interviews of civilians, law enforcement personnel, and city administrators, and assisting in trial preparation and trial presentation.

- **Eastern District of North Carolina:** On July 5, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant was sentenced to 288 months for armed robbery and possessing a firearm during a crime of violence in the Eastern District of North Carolina. Two of the defendants' associates are awaiting arraignment.
- **Columbia, South Carolina:** On June 29, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant was sentenced in US District Court to 262 months incarceration and 60 months supervised release. The case was initiated when ATF agents received information that defendant wanted to purchase firearms from the informant for cash and/or trade for heroin. The defendant later traded 1.62 grams of heroin and \$139 for an AK47 assault rifle and a Glock 9mm pistol provided by ATF. The defendant was arrested by agents without incident when the transaction was completed. This case was investigated by the ATF Columbia Field Office.
- **Indianapolis, Indiana:** On June 29, 2011, ATF reported that a defendant was sentenced to 300 months in a federal correctional institution after entering a plea of guilty to three counts of Robbery of a Business Affected by Interstate Commerce (Hobbs Act) - Title 18 USC 1951. The defendant was also ordered to pay restitution. Between August 22, 2010, and August 30, 2010, the defendant committed five robberies, including armed robberies.
- **Tampa, Florida:** On June 27, 2011, ATF reported on the sentencing of a defendant to 42 years in federal prison after his conviction on federal charges for armed robbery, carjacking and bank robbery. The investigation was worked jointly with ATF, the Polk County Sheriff's Office, and the U.S. Attorney's Office, Middle District of Florida, Tampa office.
- **Clayton County, Georgia:** On June 22, 2011, ATF reported on the sentencing of a defendant convicted by a jury on multiple counts of homi-

cide, armed robbery, and firearms charges in Clayton County. The defendant was sentenced to two life sentences plus 5 years. A concurrent sentence of 20 years for armed robbery was also handed down. Two codefendants are awaiting trial. ATF worked this case along with the Southeast Regional Task Force, the U.S. Marshal's Service, Clayton County Police Department, and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

- **San Diego, California:** On June 17, 2011, ATF reported on the sentencing of a defendant to 30 years in prison for carrying a firearm during and in relation to crimes of violence related to armed bank robbery in San Diego. In addition to the bank robbery, the defendant admitted to the possession and manufacturing of explosives. The defendant's house was so filled with toxic and hazardous materials that it had to be burned to the ground to render the site safe.
- **West Palm Beach, Florida:** On June 16, 2011, ATF reported on the sentencing of six members of the "Krazy Locos" street gang after conviction of multiple federal charges in West Palm Beach. The sentences for all six range from 3 years to life plus 135 years on charges of conspiracy to distribute narcotics, possession of firearms by convicted felons, conspiracy to transfer firearms for use in violent crimes and drug trafficking, murder in commission of a Hobbs Act, and murder in the aid of racketeering and obstruction of justice. The joint investigation was conducted by ATF, FBI, and the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office.
- **Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina:** On June 14, 2011, ATF reported on the sentencing of a defendant to 21 years in federal prison for distribution and possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine and aiding and abetting. The investigation was part of an ATF-led OCDETF investigation titled "Operation Burnout," targeting armed drug traffickers in and around Halifax County and Nash County. To date, 35 drug dealers have been convicted as a part of this operation. This is a joint investigation with ATF, Raleigh Field Office, the Roanoke Rapids Police Department, and the Halifax County Sheriff's Office. 🍀



Inside ATF

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

U.S. Department of Justice

June–July Retirements

<i>Employee</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Govt. Service</i>
John Jay Boskovich	Criminal Investigator	Tucson IV Field Office, Phoenix FD, FO	21 years
Tyrone F. Brown	IOI	Shreveport Satellite Office, New Orleans FD, FO	37 years
Robert L. Edgeton, II	DAD	OM	30 years
James S. Haridopolos	Criminal Investigator	Long Island Field Office, New York FD, FO	27 years
Michael A. Helfand	IOI	Dallas Grp I, Dallas FD, FO	35 years
Teresa H. Merhige	RAC	Norfolk Field Office, Washington FD, FO	26 years
Connie S. Markward	Prog Analyst	U.S. Bomb Data Ctr, OSII	21 years
Marcus C. Motte	Criminal Investigator	Denver FD, FO	24 years
David G. Opperman	Criminal Investigator	Dallas FD, FO	21 years
Wanda C. Outlaw	Mgt Analyst	Leadership & Occupational Dev Div, HRPD	37 years
Janice Schrieffer (retired 4/30/2011)	Admin Supp Asst	New Orleans FD, FO	22 years
Bernard V. Teyssier	Sup Criminal Investigator	Ashland Field Office, Louisville FD, FO	24 years
Ruth A. Wade	Prog Analyst	Operations Support Br, Field Mgt Staff, FO	32 years

Submitted by Human Resources Division, Employee Benefits Branch.

Welcome Aboard!

<i>Employee</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Start Date</i>	<i>Previous Location</i>
Craig R. Walentowski	Telecommunications Specialist (Radio); OST	Marietta, Georgia	7/5/2011	Superintendent, Communications; Moody Air Force Base, Georgia

June–July Moves

<i>Employee</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
Timothy Carroll	Prog Mgr, Public Affairs Div, OPGA	Prog Mgr, Criminal Groups & Gangs Br, Firearms
Durrick Coleman	Prog Mgr, ESF-13, Special Ops Div, FO	RAC, Camden Field Office, Newark FD, FO
Stephen J. Galloway	Criminal Investigator, Miami Group V, Miami FD, FO	Special Agent, Exec Protection Br, Security & Emergency Prog Div, OPRSO
John Golder	Special Agent, Wilmington Field Office, Charlotte FD, FO	Prog Mgr, Fire Programs & Training Br (Wilmington, NC), Alcohol, Tobacco & Fire En-
Steven Hall	Special Agent, El Paso Field Office, Dallas FD, FO	Assistant Country Attaché, International Affairs–Mexico
Timothy Iantosca	IOI, Denver III Field Office, Denver FD, FO	Area Sup, Dublin III Field Office, San Francisco FD, FO
Gregory Jackson	IOI, Nashville IV Field Office, Nashville FD, FO	Area Sup, Nashville IV Field Office, Nashville FD, FO
Tanarra James	Area Sup, Dallas V Field Office, Dallas FD, FO	DIO, Houston FD, FO
Joseph R. Kennedy	Dep Div Chief, Office of Leg Affairs, OPGA	Criminal Investigator, OSII, EUROPOL (The Hague, Netherlands)
Helen Koppe	IOI, Columbus Satellite Office, Cincinnati I Field Office, Columbus FD, FO	Area Sup, Boston V Field Office, Boston FD, FO
Mark Kraft	Prog Mgr, Firearms Ops Div, FO	Br Chief, Firearms Trafficking & Interdiction Br, Firearms Ops Div, FO
Matthew Nollau	Special Agent, Portland I Field Office, Seattle FD, FO	Prog Mgr, ESF-13, Special Ops Div, FO
Greg Plott	Dep Chief, Arson & Explosives Prog Div, FO	Chief, Terrorist Explosives Device Analytical Ctr (TEDAC; Quantico, VA), OSII
Monique Randall	ASAC, Internal Affairs Div, OPRSO	Asst Dir of Violent Crime, Counter-Terrorism Div, U.S. National Crime Bureau, INTERPOL, OSII
Jorge Rosado	IOI, Policy Development & Evaluation Br, Field Mgt Staff, FO	Prog Mgr, Investigative Support Br, Field Mgt Staff, FO
Rebecca Solis	IOI, Denver III Field Office, Denver FD, FO	Area Sup, Denver III Field Office, Denver FD, FO
Brian Swann	Group Sup, Richmond III Field Office, Washington FD, FO	Br Chief, Criminal Groups & Gangs Br, Firearms Programs Div, FO
Hector Tarango	Special Agent, Dallas III Field Office, Dallas FD, FO	RAC, Ft. Worth I Field Office, Dallas FD, FO
Melinda Whitworth	Prog Mgr, Public Affairs Div, OPGA	Prog Mgr, Firearms Trafficking & Interdiction Br, Firearms Ops Div, FO

Positions listed are management/supervisory/program manager positions only.