
FY 2002 Highlights

Reduce Violent Crime

- ◆ Initiated approximately 30,300 criminal investigations and recommended 9,252 individuals for prosecution to the U.S. Attorney's Office. Thus far, there have been 5,142 convictions. Additionally during FY 2002, ATF inspectors conducted 7,410 public safety explosive checks of explosive licensees and permittees.
- ◆ Continued to expand the Integrated Violence Reduction Strategy in conjunction with the Administration's "Project Safe Neighborhoods." Comprehensive firearms enforcement strategies are tailored to the needs of individual judicial districts and unique gun violence problems. This called for the creation of 38 satellite offices nationwide. Eleven satellite offices were created in FY 2002, with an additional 15 scheduled to open in FY 2003 and 12 proposed for FY 2004.
- ◆ Implemented training to support the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Presidential initiative. Instructional support is provided to law enforcement managers, investigators, and prosecutors, and uniformed officers to help them understand their role in the initiative. More than 3,000 law enforcement officers and prosecutors have received PSN training.
- ◆ Networked 92% (178 of 194) of the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) sites with completion scheduled by the end of calendar year 2002.
- ◆ Conducted Critical Incident Decision-making Training for 63 senior ATF managers. Designed to address the decision-making process during critical incidents, this course reviews the significance of the relationship between overall command of an incident and the command of the tactical response functions.
- ◆ Conducted Command and Control classes for 80 GS-1811 (Special Agent) first-line supervisors. This course provides instruction on operational topics from a first-line supervisor's perspective. It focuses primarily on planning and execution of "street" operations, including search warrants, arrest warrants, undercover operations, critical incident crime scene control, on-scene command, surveillance, Title III wiretaps, and tactical risk assessment.
- ◆ Provided training for 250 State, local, and Federal law enforcement officers assigned as coordinators for the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative (YCGII). This training has increased the awareness of and participation in comprehensive crime gun tracing by each attending organization.
- ◆ Conducted the first large-scale field training exercise for Critical Incident Response for 105 employees of the Seattle and Phoenix field divisions.
- ◆ Began the expansion of the Canine Training Center in Front Royal, VA, which will allow ATF to significantly increase the number of explosives- and accelerant-detection canines trained each year.
- ◆ Provided funding to 225 agencies to support their participation in the Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program. Nearly 1,600 officers were certified to instruct the program. There are now 1,812 agencies that have 5,669 officers certified to teach the G.R.E.A.T. Program. During FY 2002, those officers taught 344,000 school children.
- ◆ Trained 40 inspectors in Advanced Pyrotechnics. This course was developed in collaboration with Dr. John Conkling, an expert in the field of fireworks and energetic materials. Discussion is now underway to produce a video with assistance from the American Pyrotechnics Association.
- ◆ Implemented the first phase of a multi-year effort to more closely integrate all of ATF's firearms systems as a part of the Firearms Integration Technology (FIT) initiative, which will consolidate the various firearms systems to improve usability, improve the ability to detect illegal firearms trafficking, and reduce system maintenance costs. This initiative will consolidate 19 applications into three

systems. The first phase made significant improvements to the Firearms Tracing System.

Collect the Revenue

- ◆ Collected \$15.1 billion in revenue generated from Federal excise taxes imposed on alcohol, tobacco, firearms, and ammunition.
- ◆ Opened 160 diversion investigations of alcohol and tobacco products, resulting in 79 defendants recommended for prosecution and \$1.6 million in seized property credited to the Treasury Asset Forfeiture Fund.
- ◆ Conducted 1,331 inspections at revenue producing plants, resulting in 731 violations and over \$6 million in additional excise taxes assessed.
- ◆ Completed a year of presentations of the highly successful Advanced Alcohol and Tobacco Inspector training course to 72 inspectors. The course focuses on accounting techniques and product inventories related to revenue and product integrity inspections, and provides inspectors with the knowledge and skills to conduct inspections to ensure that revenue owed is collected and products are safe and properly labeled. Plans are now underway to develop a prerequisite course that will combine the accounting and business law techniques with inspection techniques to prepare students for these complex inspection procedures.
- ◆ Provided training to 48 inspectors and a class of 25 management officials on the techniques and laws governing the collection of firearms and ammunition excise taxes.
- ◆ Partnered with Treasury's Financial Management Service to participate in the Pay.gov program, in which six tobacco manufacturers filed 150 excise tax transactions electronically, totaling \$3.75 billion.
- ◆ Processed 13 offers-in-compromise, resulting in \$683,790 being paid to the Federal Government.

Protect the Public

- ◆ Expanded the alcohol-sampling program to all 23 Field Divisions and focused on imported and cultural products, resulting in the collection of over 600 samples, with 155 products found not in compliance with regulations.
- ◆ Received 3,200 applications from persons wanting to obtain or amend alcohol or tobacco permits. The utilization of criminal history checks and field investigations resulted in 11% of applications being denied, withdrawn, or abandoned.
- ◆ Found and corrected a total of 1,288 public safety violations during explosives compliance inspections.

Bureau-wide Programs

- ◆ *National Laboratory Center (NLC)*: Completed 80% construction on the main NLC structures, systems and interior spaces, and finishes. Testing and commissioning of main laboratory systems, including electrical, mechanical, plumbing, emergency systems, chemical, lighting, and security are targeted to begin on October 1. ATF telecommunications cabling and equipment and physical and electronic site security are being installed. Construction of the Air and Wastewater Treatment Facility (AWTF) that supports the burn residues from the Fire Research Center (FRC) has begun, leading to an anticipated completion of the main NLC facility by November 15, 2002 and the FRC fully operational by May 2003. Move-in and installation of ATF furniture, equipment, and personnel from Rockville should begin December 1, with completion in January 2003. The AWTF will be tested and commissioned and ready to conduct its first fire test in April 2003.

Final negotiation, reconciliation, and closeout of all construction elements of the project are anticipated prior to the end of FY 2003. Operation and maintenance transition efforts were initiated in August 2002.

- ◆ *New ATF Headquarters*: Adjusted the GSA strategy for site work and construction management services, in the form of demolition, remediation, excavation,

design, and construction management. This significantly impacted progress in FY 2002. Final site design plans for the new ATF HQ building have been completed despite lengthy and difficult negotiations to incorporate perimeter vehicular and pedestrian security elements that would be acceptable to the city, GSA, and the Federal planners and approvers, and meet ATF requirements. The final building design has been submitted and should be approved, with a few refinement notes, by the National Capital Planning Commission (NCP), including the District of Columbia Government planning and regulatory offices, in October 2002. These approvals will open the door for bidding to general contractors in early FY 2003. Construction is scheduled to begin by the third quarter FY 2003, with a 24- to 30-month construction period.

- ◆ *Mandatory Training:* Completed mandatory training in areas of ethics, EEO, blood-borne pathogen, face respirator use, and computer security awareness.
- ◆ *Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP):* Made significant personnel and capital investments in the reorganization of the Bureau's COOP process and emergency management programs. The evolving COOP plan addresses: essential functions, delegations of authority, and orders of succession; identification and outfitting of alternate operating facilities; establishment of interoperable communications; protection of vital records and databases; and plan development to conduct tests, training, and exercises. Significant communications and IT upgrades were made to both the HQ Emergency Management Operations Center and alternate operating facility in West Virginia. ATF has developed a partnership with Federal and commercial offices in the vicinity of Headquarters in Washington, DC to coordinate emergency management planning and resource sharing. In September 2002, ATF successfully conducted a command control and communications exercise at its alternate operating site in West Virginia.
- ◆ *President's Management Agenda (PMA):* Appointed a full-time program coordinator for the President's Management Agenda with oversight and authority to coordinate with agenda owners, the Department, and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). This has significantly increased visibility and

program emphasis. Periodic meetings of the PMA team ensure that the specific PMA agenda items are considered in a wholly integrated approach, and include representation from the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Chief Information Officer (CIO) communities and the Strategic Planning Office.

- ◆ *Network and Infrastructure:* Made significant improvements to the Bureau network capacity and infrastructure. Sixty-eight offices received increases in bandwidth throughput to support growth of personnel assigned to the offices. The improved network provides more rapid and reliable access to all of ATF's mission critical applications. In addition, ATF received Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) law enforcement priority for all division and major center circuits, to provide priority restoration services in the event of a major outage. This capability played a critical role in resuming operations at the New York Field Division after September 11, 2001.
- ◆ *Equipment Upgrade:* Completed the first refresh of all computers throughout the Bureau on March 31, 2002. The seat management initiative is an agency-wide infrastructure project that equipped 7,225 users with next generation desktops, laptops, and Windows 2000 compliant peripherals. Each ATF employee received a more powerful computer with increased storage space to effectively support the mission and business functions.
- ◆ *Flexi-place:* Completed the 1-year evaluation period for the implementation of Flexi-Place within the Office of Field Operations. Flexi-Place is an innovative work-at-home project that enables inspectors to perform all or part of their official duties at work sites set up in their residences. Overall, the program was successful and recommendations will be made on the future of the program.
- ◆ *Offices in New York:* After the destruction of the New York Field Division offices on September 11, 2001, e-mail was restored by 3:00 p.m. the same day. On September 20, 2001 the Division received new computer equipment; this also restored the Division's Crime Gun Center. The Division relocated to new permanent office space in March 2002.



Artist's model of new headquarters building



West and east sides of new National Laboratory Center



Foundation for the air and water pollution abatement area