



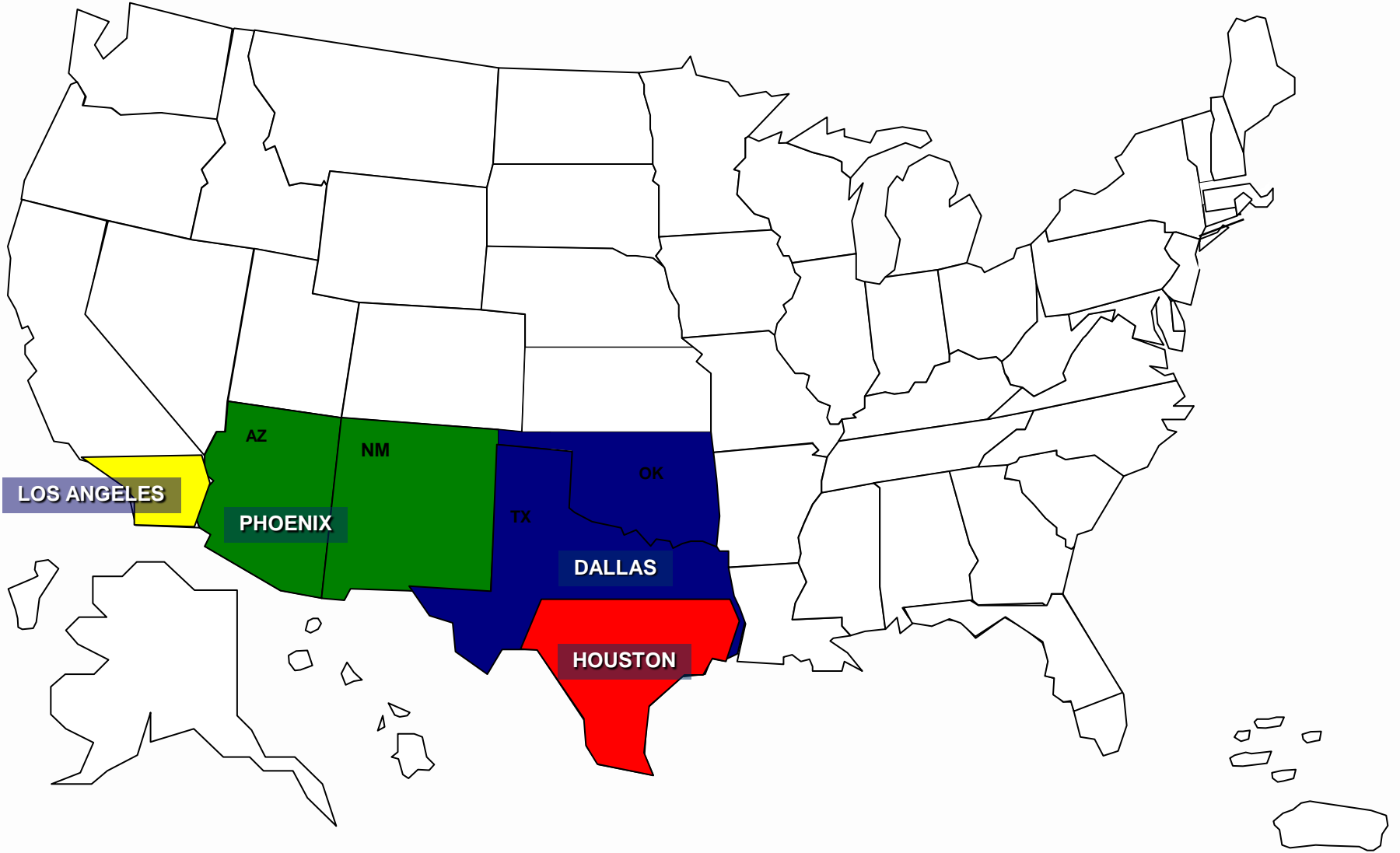
**Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
Gun Runner Impact Team (GRIT)  
Houston Field Division  
April 28 – August 28, 2009**



## Gun Runner Impact Team

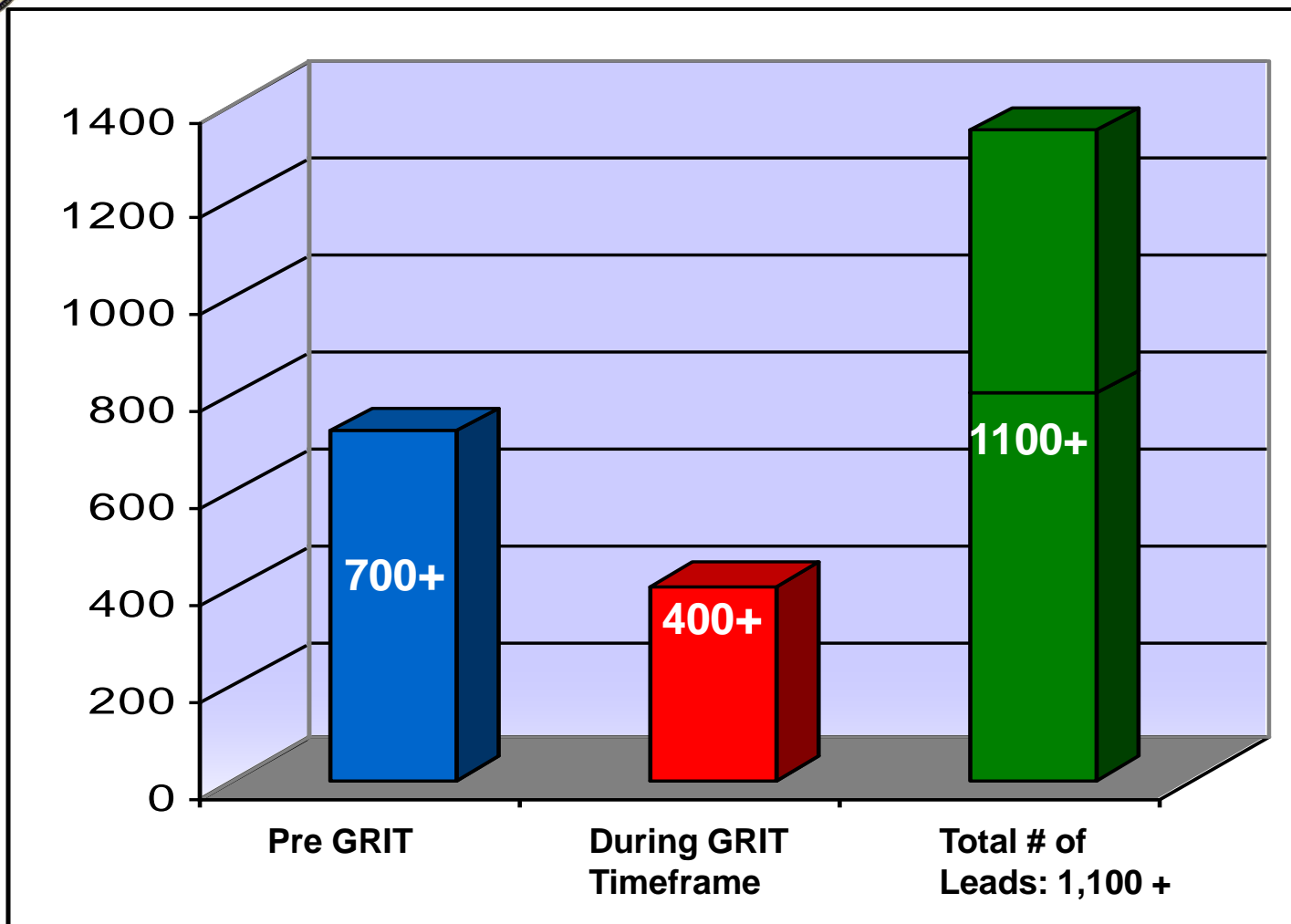
- Project Gunrunner, ATF's Southwest Border firearms trafficking initiative, uses investigative and intelligence expertise to stem the flow of firearms and firearms-related violence to Mexico and reduce violent crime along the border.
- Gun Runner Impact Team (GRIT) was developed as a supplement of ATF resources for 120 days (April 28 – Aug. 28, 2009) to ATF's Houston Field Division to target the violent offenders and firearms traffickers along the Texas border region.
- GRIT teams researched and completed over 1,100 investigative leads resulting in the initiation of 276 new criminal cases and seizure of 443 illegal firearms.
- ATF deployed 100 personnel (special agents, industry operations investigators, support staff) from around the country for 120-days to the Houston Field Division to work GRIT investigations.

# ATF Southwest Border Field Divisions





## Leads Investigated





# Leads Investigated

- The term “lead” refers to information obtained through trace results from a seized or recovered firearm that was used in criminal activity either in Mexico or the United States pointing agents to the first-time purchaser.
- Seized or recovered firearms are traced at ATF’s National Tracing Center (NTC) providing critical information that helps federal, state and local law enforcement agencies solve firearms crimes, detect firearms traffickers, and track the international movement of crime guns.
- One lead may involve multiple persons or multiple firearms, and additionally may result in multiple investigations.
- There were over 700 existing leads in the Houston Field Division at the beginning of GRIT.
- There were over 400 additional leads generated from April 28 - Aug. 28, 2009, with the additional resources provided by the Gun Runner Impact Teams.



# Leads Investigated/Completed

TOTAL NUMBER OF INVESTIGATIVE LEADS  
1,100+



LEADS COMPLETED  
87% OF TOTAL NUMBER

**GRIT**

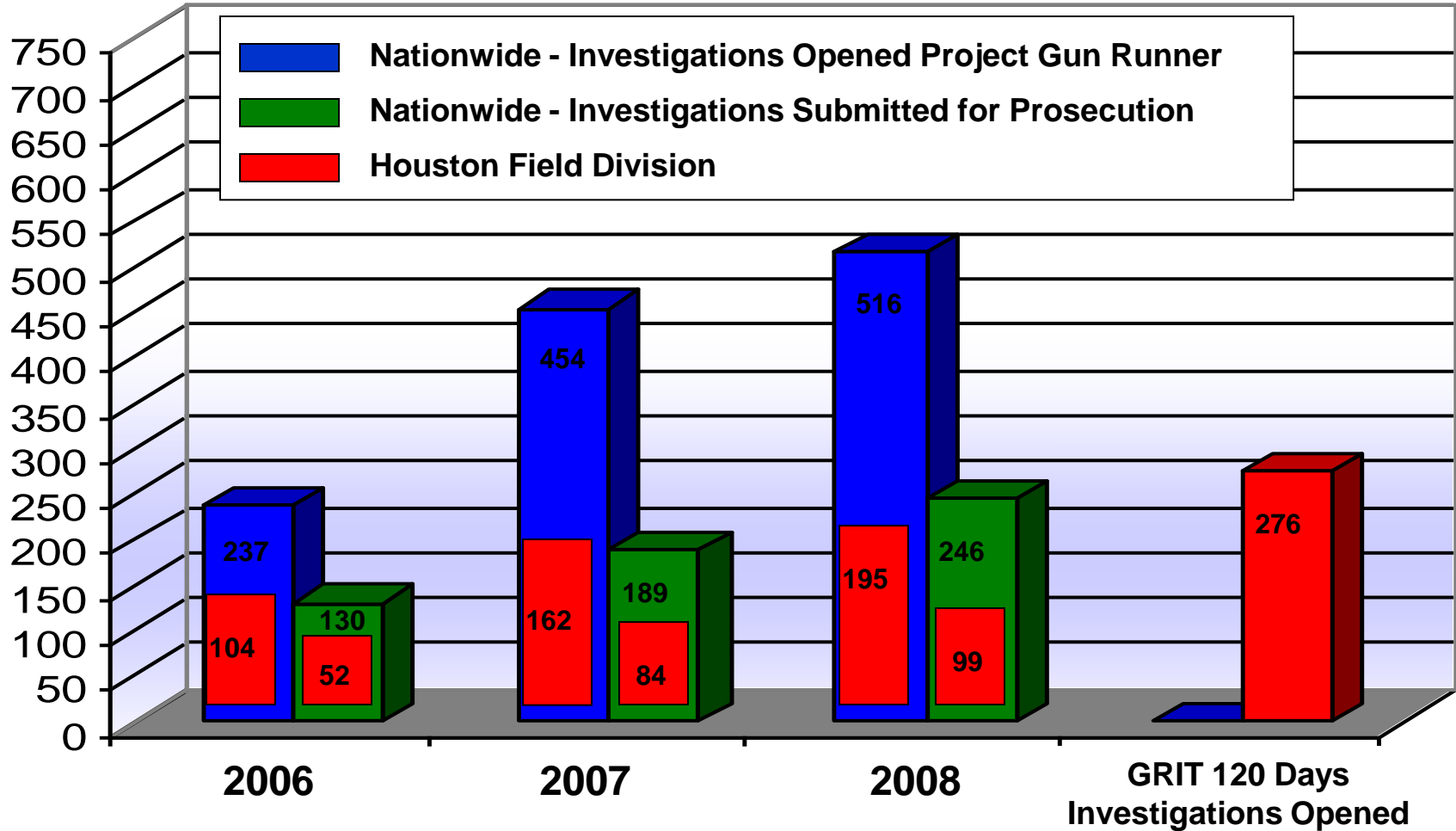


# Completed Leads

- There were a total of over 1,100 leads that needed investigating in the Houston Field Division during GRIT.
- Gun Runner Impact Teams were able to research and complete investigations on 87% of the leads.



# Criminal Investigation Breakdown





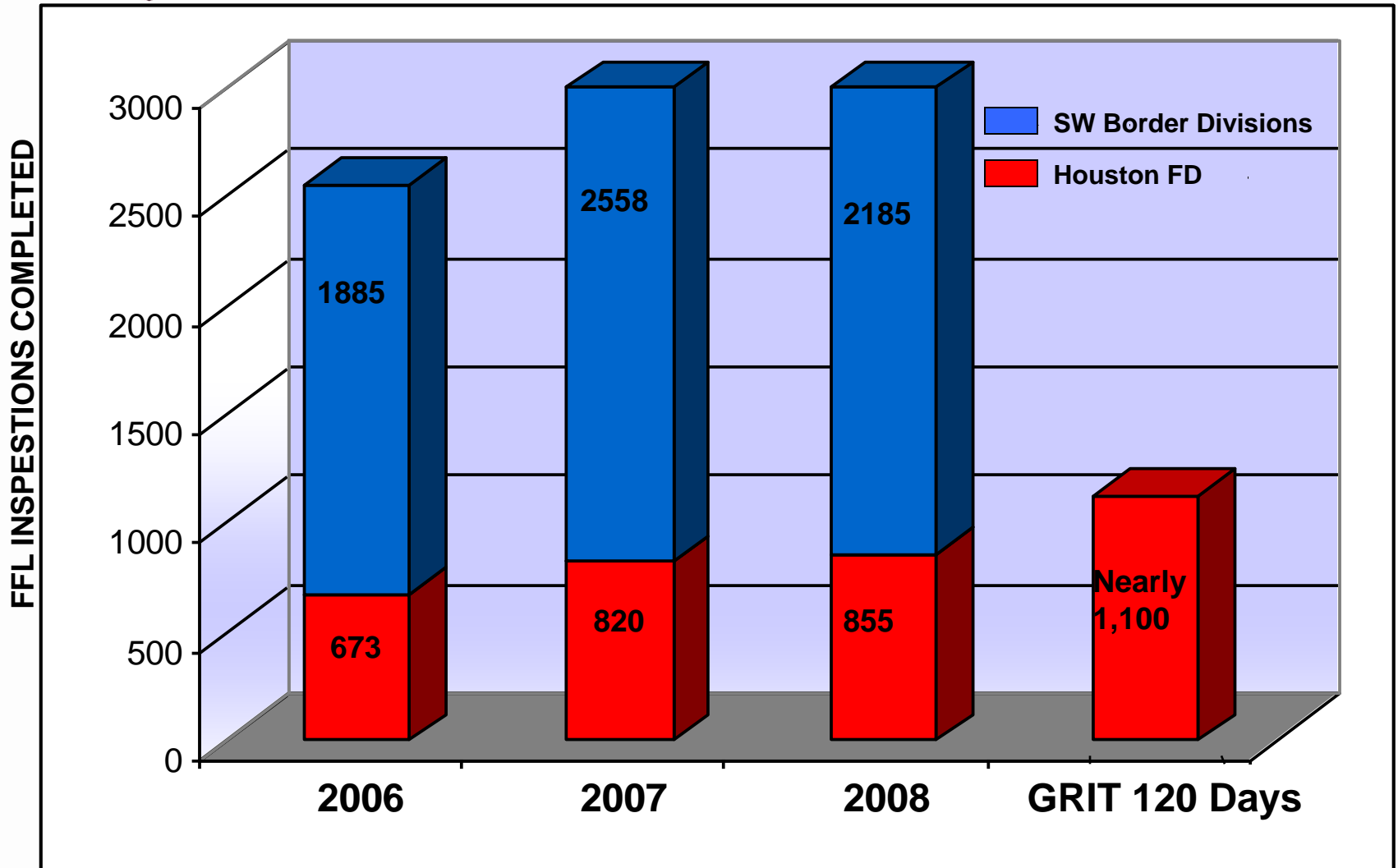


# Criminal Investigation Breakdown

- Project Gunrunner is ATF's primary domestic southwest border firearm enforcement initiative for attacking criminal organizations, reducing criminal activity and violence, and ensuring border safety for the citizens of Mexico and the United States.
  
- The Criminal Investigation Breakdown Graph illustrates:
  - The breakdown of investigations opened in support of Project Gunrunner nationwide from 2006 – 2008.
  
  - Of those investigations, the number of cases referred for prosecution.
  
  - The total number of investigations opened during the 120 day GRIT initiative (April 28 – Aug. 28, 2009) solely within the Houston Field Division.
  
  - The number of Houston Field Division investigations referred for prosecution is not available, as the typical investigation is longer than the four-month GRIT period.



# FFL Compliance Inspections





# FFL Compliance Inspections

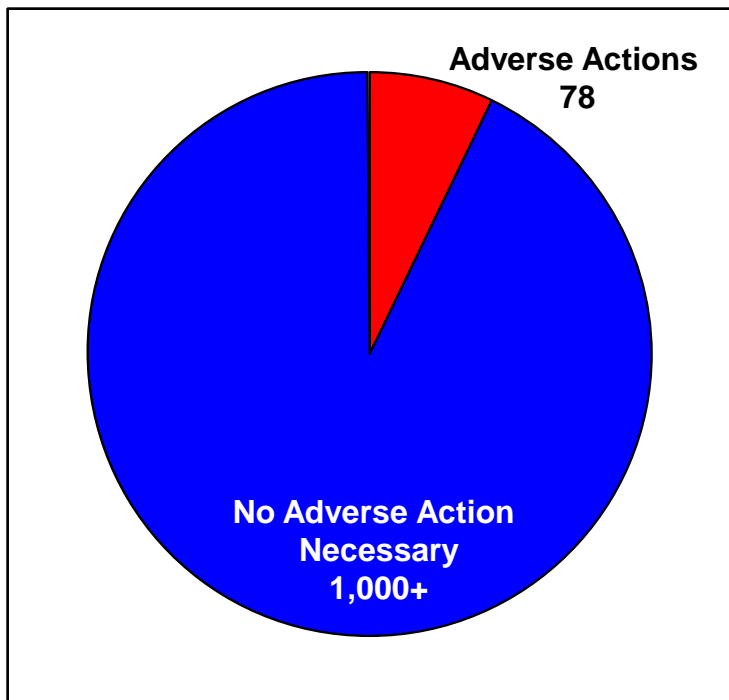
ATF, pursuant to the Gun Control Act (GCA) and the federal firearms regulations, is responsible for licensing persons engaging in a firearms business. With certain exceptions, the GCA allows ATF to conduct one warrantless, annual compliance inspection of a federal firearms licensee (FFL). The purpose of the inspection program is to educate the licensee about regulatory responsibilities and to evaluate the level of compliance.

Compliance inspections also serve to protect the public by promoting voluntary internal controls to prevent and detect diversion of firearms from lawful commerce to the illegal market.

- The graph depicts the total number of FFL inspections for 2006 to 2008 in southern California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas (ATF's southwest border divisions).
- The graph also depicts the FFL compliance inspections solely for the Houston Field Division for 2006 to 2008 as well as for the 120-day GRIT period.



# Completed FFL Inspections (GRIT)



**Total Number – Nearly 1,100**



**Total Number of Adverse Actions - 78**



# Completed FFL Inspections

When violations of the law and regulations are disclosed during an inspection, a report of violations is issued to the licensee that outlines the discrepancy and the requirements for corrective action. ATF also works to gain cooperation and compliance from federal firearms licensees (FFLs) by issuing warning letters and holding warning conferences. Despite these remedial actions, on rare occasions ATF encounters a licensee who fails to comply with the law and regulations and demonstrates a lack of commitment to improving his or her business practices. In such cases where willfulness is demonstrated, ATF's obligation to protect public safety may require revocation of the federal firearms license.

- There were nearly 1,100 completed FFL inspections in the Houston Field Division during GRIT.
- ATF took adverse action against 78 FFLs:
  - 1 revocation.
  - 77 warning letters or warning conferences (notice of violations discovered during compliance inspection).



## SEIZURES



**443** Firearms Seized



**141,442** Rounds of Ammunition Seized



**3** Explosive Devices Seized



**\$165,234** in Currency Seized



**5** Kilograms of Cocaine Seized



**1,500** Pounds of Marijuana Seized

