



**Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection**



**Washington, D.C.**

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**ATF/CBP JOIN CANADIANS TO LAUNCH PUBLIC INFORMATION  
CAMPAIGN ALONG U.S.-CANADIAN BORDER ON FIREARMS**  
*Posters To Be Displayed At All Northern Ports of Entry and Pre-Clearance Sites*

WASHINGTON – The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) announced today the unveiling of a U.S.-Canadian public information campaign to deter firearms trafficking between the two countries and educate travelers on the legal transit of firearms.

ATF, the Department of Justice agency with jurisdiction for enforcing the federal firearms laws, and CBP, the Department of Homeland Security component with jurisdiction for the U.S. ports of entry and immigration pre-clearance sites in Canada, teamed with their Canadian counterparts to design, print and display a series of posters that explain the U.S. and Canadian laws and restrictions on bringing firearms into either country.

“This public information campaign furthers the U.S.-Canadian interest in educating travelers between our countries on our laws regarding firearms,” said ATF Acting Director Michael J. Sullivan. “It also demonstrates, yet again, the excellent cooperation and collaboration ATF has with our Canadian partners in deterring firearms trafficking and other violent crime.”

ATF maintains three offices in Canada – at the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa and in Toronto and Vancouver – to coordinate joint investigations and ATF-provided training. ATF and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) also signed an agreement in 2005 that allows the Mounties to use ATF’s eTrace system to electronically trace crime guns seized in Canada and suspected of originating in the United States.

CBP will display the posters at all 126 entries along the border and at immigration pre-clearance sites CBP operates at Canadian international airports in Calgary, Edmonton, Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg.

“We know that a vast majority of travelers who enter the U.S. have no intention of violating U.S. laws or regulations,” said CBP Commissioner W. Ralph Basham. “I’m pleased that the information provided in this campaign will help our neighbors ‘know before they go’ to the United States.”

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“The Royal Canadian Mounted Police’s (RCMP) Canada Firearms Centre has worked closely with our Canadian government partners and our American counterparts to ensure travelers understand the requirements for the legal transport of firearms,” said RCMP Commissioner Bev Busson. “Together we are working to reduce firearms trafficking and associated criminal activities.”

The colorful posters, topped by images of waving Canadian and U.S. flags, carry a clear message:

**FIREARMS TRAFFICKING IS A CRIME**

**KNOW THE LAW  
BEFORE YOU CROSS THE BORDER**

Entering Canada	Entering the United States
Some firearms may be imported into Canada for hunting, skeet-shooting, and other lawful purposes.	It is generally illegal for nonimmigrant aliens (i.e. non-residents) to import firearms and ammunition except for hunting and other lawful sporting purposes.
You must declare any firearms you want to bring into Canada and pay a fee.	All persons must obtain proper documentation before importing a firearm, ammunition, or parts for firearms and ammunition.
If you illegally import firearms, they are subject to seizure and you can be charged. You can face ten years in jail, a fine, or both.	If you illegally import firearms, you can face five years in jail, a fine up to \$1 million, or both.

**KEEP ILLEGAL FIREARMS OFF OUR STREETS**

**For more information, call the RCMP Canada  
Firearms Centre at 1-800-731-4000**

**For more information, call  
1-800-ATF-GUNS (283-4867)**

Canadian authorities are displaying the posters on their side of the border in English and French.

More information on ATF and its programs is at [www.atf.gov](http://www.atf.gov) and on CBP travel information is at: <http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/> .

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