



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives

Office of the Director

Washington, DC 20226

August 4, 2006

The Honorable Alberto R. Gonzales
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

After serving as the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) in the Department of Justice for nearly two and one-half years, I have decided to pursue other challenges and consider private sector opportunities related to law enforcement and homeland security. Therefore, after 26 years of Federal and State law enforcement service, I respectfully submit my resignation to you, effective on a mutually agreeable date.

Mr. Attorney General, I will forever be grateful for the honor and the privilege of serving President Bush and you at the Secret Service and at ATF, as well as all other Administrations dating back to President Reagan. Both agencies have missions which contribute immeasurably to the protection of the American people and our democratic way of life.

I am especially honored to have led the dedicated men and women of ATF as the sixth Director in ATF's history and the first Director of the Bureau within the Department of Justice. We have produced significant results since transitioning to the Department. ATF has been instrumental in reducing firearms-related crimes to historic lows. We have investigated and brought forward for prosecution significant cases involving serial arsons, sniper shootings, explosives thefts, and a record number of gang-related cases. We have expanded our role as a leader in arson and explosive investigations, training, and laboratory services. We have improved our partnerships, communication, and regulatory efforts among the firearms and explosives industries. Lastly, but most importantly, we have effectively contributed to the Department's highest priority – the prevention of terrorism – through intelligence sharing, investigations, regulation, training, and our international presence.

You have provided the leadership that has enabled ATF to advance as a key federal law enforcement agency and as a principal component within the Department. As you pursue your initiatives, I urge you to call upon the expertise of the men and women of ATF. I am certain you will continue to be impressed by this capable and dedicated workforce. With their abilities, your leadership, and the groundwork that has been laid, ATF is well positioned for future achievements. I wish you continued success as you lead the Department of Justice.

Very respectfully,



Carl J. Truscott