



*United States Embassy in  
Mexico*  
**PRESS  
RELEASE**

---

**Ambassador Garza, ATF Director Pledge Cooperation with Mexico**

Mexico City, October 19, 2005 — “The United States is committed to combating the flow of illegal firearms into Mexico, and we will stand shoulder to shoulder with our Mexican colleagues to defeat the criminal gangs who are seeking to destroy our institutions and undermine our way of life by trafficking in illegal firearms,” said U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Tony Garza and Carl J. Truscott, Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

The ATF Director has been visiting Mexico City for several days in order to assess how the United States can help Mexico stem the traffic in illegal weapons across our common border. Truscott discussed a series of proposals with Mexican Attorney General Daniel Cabeza de Vaca and with other high-level government officials.

Truscott and his Mexican counterparts also discussed how they could implement the key proposals made by Attorneys General Alberto Gonzales and Cabeza de Vaca, during their visit to the U.S.-Mexico border on October 13. One of these measures will include designating Laredo, Texas, a Violent Crime Impact Team city, which will focus U.S. law enforcement resources on identifying and apprehending traffickers in illegal arms. Additional information about the meetings between the U.S. and Mexican Attorneys General can be found at [http://www.atf.gov/press/fy05press/101305doj-mexico\\_fact.htm](http://www.atf.gov/press/fy05press/101305doj-mexico_fact.htm)

Truscott and his Mexican colleagues are reviewing techniques to trace illegal firearms and to ensure that law enforcement agencies on both sides of our frontier have access to the training and information they need to maintain order in our border communities.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Press Office**

Tel 5080-2253, 5080-2000, Fax 5080-2892

<http://www.usembassy-mexico.gov>

If you would like to receive press releases via e-mail, please write to [emlistmx@state.gov](mailto:emlistmx@state.gov)