Acknowledgements

The development of a new uniform reporting system to present crime gun trace information from cities across the United States is a great challenge and an exceptional amount of hard work. It can only be accomplished through the commitment and dedication of the people who collect, research, analyze, and publish the data contained in this report. ATF would like to acknowledge the assistance of those who have made pivotal contributions in furthering the expertise and effectiveness of law enforcement and expanding the scope of public knowledge in the unique area of firearms enforcement.

The cornerstone of this effort is the wealth of information on firearms and the crimes in which they are misused. This comes solely from the ATF special agents and their police department counterparts who together have ensured that crime gun traces were submitted timely and accurately. Many worked to improve the comprehensiveness of the information system and developed new investigative uses for trace information.

Many officials and associates of other agencies and organizations have continued to offer encouragement, practical advice, and outstanding support for this effort in its first 3 years, including the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Department of Justice, in particular the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the National Institute of Justice.

A number of individuals at ATF provided key support, especially those employees from the offices of Forest Webb, Chief National Tracing Center; Charles Houser, Chief, National Tracing Branch; and Gary Thomas, Chief, Firearms Programs Division; including Laura Sclater. A special thanks to Scott Pickett, former Crime Gun Analysis Branch (CGAB) Chief, and Richard Young, former CGAB Program Manager, who helped get this year off to a great start. As always, our Office of Chief Counsel, especially Jeanette Slattery, has insured clarity and consistency in technology and definitions.

The Department of the Treasury, the Office of the Under Secretary for Enforcement, has been consistently supportive of this program, and once again ATF is indebted to Susan Ginsburg, Senior Advisor for Firearms Policy, for her tireless efforts and commitment. Also from Treasury, and working in the critical areas of editing, design, publishing, and distribution were Karen Michell, Nancy Eldieahy, Karen Biehl, and Rosalind DeLancy-Mosley.

The heart of this project is a unique partnership between ATF and members of academic institutions. Together this team is responsible for the insight that this information provides. In addition to those already mentioned, our joint team has included Gary Orchowski, ATF, Chief, Crime Gun Analysis Branch, and from that staff: Dr. John R. Freeman, Shane Glassing, Jeff Heckel, Michelle Bennett Darden, Robert Burrows, Brad Karns, Hilda Guay, Robbi Santore, and Christine Kimes Raposa. They were assisted by Sandy Snook, Latyce Watkins, and Elizabeth Robinson of MSTC, Inc. and Michelle A. Leslie, Tammy Cole, Jodi Johnson, Carla Ferguson, and Heather DeHaven of Milvets Systems Technology, Inc. Our academic partners are: Dr. Glenn Pierce, College of Criminal Justice, Northeastern University; Dr. Anthony Braga, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University; Dr. Joel Garner, Joint Centers for Justice Studies, Shepherdstown, West Virginia; and Dr. Garen Wintemute, University of California, Davis. Additional thanks to contributors Dr. LeBaron Briggs, Northeastern University, and David M. Kennedy, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

Terrence P. Austin, Director
Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative
Department of the Treasury
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms
