

Congressional Budget Submission

Fiscal Year 2017



Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)

February 2016

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF JUSTICE

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Table of Contents

	Page No.
I. Overview	5
II. Summary of Program Changes	18
III. Appropriations Language and Analysis of Appropriations Language	19
IV. Decision Unit Justification	20
A. <u>LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS</u>	
1. Program Description – Investigating and Preventing Violent Crime	20
a. Illegal Firearms Trafficking.....	22
b. Firearms Criminal Use and Possession.....	22
c. Diversion of Firearms from Legal Commerce	23
d. Criminal Groups and Gangs.....	24
e. Criminal Use of Explosives	25
f. Diversion of Explosives from Legal Commerce	25
g. Criminal Use of Fire	26
2. Performance Tables	37
B. <u>INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES</u>	
1. Program Description –Delivery of ATF’s Forensic Expertise, Assets and Intelligence to Improve Public Safety	27
a. Firearms and Explosives Licensing and Other Industry Services	28
b. Firearms Tracing.....	29
c. National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN).....	29
d. National Center for Explosives Training and Research.....	31
e. United States Bomb Data Center	32
f. Terrorist Explosives Device Analytical Center (TEDAC)	33
g. ATF Laboratories.....	34
h. Financial Investigations	34
i. Collaboration and Partnerships	35
j. Emergency Support Function (ESF) #13	36
2. Performance Tables.....	38
C. Performance, Resources, and Strategies	
1. Performance Plan and Report for Outcomes	41
2. Strategies to Accomplish Outcomes	42

V. Program Increases by Item	43
A. Enforcement, Inspection and Regulatory Support	43
B. National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN)	47
C. Industry Support	51
D. Next Generation Case Management System (NGCMS)	56

VI. Program Offsets by Item	N/A
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VII. Exhibits

- A. Organizational Chart
- B. Summary of Requirements
- C. FY 2017 Program Changes by Decision Unit
- D. Resources by DOJ Strategic Goal/Objective
- E. Justification for Technical and Base Adjustments
- F. Crosswalk of 2015 Availability
- G. Crosswalk of 2016 Availability
- H. Summary of Reimbursable Resources
- I. Detail of Permanent Positions by Category
- J. Financial Analysis of Program Changes
- K. Summary of Requirements by Object Class
- L. Status of Congressionally Requested Studies, Reports and Evaluations

I. Overview for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

A. Introduction

Established as an independent Bureau in 1972, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) is the Federal agency charged with enforcing the Gun Control Act (GCA) and the National Firearms Act (NFA); the two primary laws enacted by Congress to address firearms violence. ATF also enforces the provisions of the Arms Export Control Act addressing the importation of arms, ammunition, and implements of war. With respect to explosives, ATF is primarily responsible for administering and enforcing federal explosives laws, including the Safe Explosives Act of 2002 (SEA), which expanded the scope of explosives regulations administered by ATF by establishing controls on the intrastate movement of explosives, and by mandating that all persons who receive explosives undergo a background check and obtain a Federal permit.

ATF supports the Department of Justice's (DOJ's) top two strategic goals – Goal 1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security Consistent with the Rule of Law; and Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Protect the Rights of the American People, and Enforce Federal Law. ATF's core mission is protecting the public from violent crime associated with firearms, explosives, arson and illicit trafficking in tobacco and alcohol. All ATF's programs are designed to impact violent crime.

ATF's FY 2017 budget request, which totals \$1,306,063,000 for Salaries and Expenses (S&E), provides its special agents, industry operations investigators, and support professionals the core resources necessary to advance the agency's mission to make our communities safer by reducing violent crime. This budget request supports 5,331 total positions and 5,216 direct full time equivalents (FTE), the minimum staffing level necessary for ATF to meet mission requirements, which constitutes an increase of 230 positions and 115 FTE. This request includes a total increase of \$11,757,000 in adjustments-to-base (ATBs) and \$54,306,000 in program enhancements. The program enhancements are designed to enhance ATF's enforcement, investigative and regulatory mission, support the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN), expand industry support, and implement ATF's new case management system.

ATF is responsible for the investigation and prevention of crimes involving the unlawful use, manufacture, sale, and possession of firearms and explosives; acts of arson and bombings; and illegal trafficking of alcohol and tobacco products. ATF regulates the firearms and explosives industries from manufacture and/or importation through retail sale. ATF's regulatory and enforcement missions are interwoven to provide a comprehensive approach to its mission. To maximize ATF's effectiveness in preventing violent crime, ATF uses partnerships in all aspects of its regulatory, law enforcement, training and forensic mission areas. ATF works with its regulated industries to prevent violence and safeguard the public while endeavoring to minimize regulatory constraints that impact legitimate business.

ATF's criminal investigative efforts focus on violent crime, domestic and international firearms traffickers, violent gangs, armed violent offenders, and career criminals. ATF's

firearms trafficking enforcement programs are focused on reducing violent crime. ATF investigates and arrests individuals and organizations that illegally supply firearms to prohibited individuals and deters the diversion of firearms from lawful commerce into the illegal market with enforcement strategies and technology.

ATF works to reduce violent crime by targeting and dismantling the gangs that pose the greatest threat to public safety. Gangs use guns to terrorize communities, enforce territorial boundaries, retaliate against rivals and witnesses, and facilitate their criminal enterprises. ATF has wide-ranging experience investigating, infiltrating, and dismantling gangs, ranging from international gangs like MS-13, to national gangs like the Crips, Bloods, Hells Angels, and Aryan Brotherhood, to smaller “street crews” that menace many local communities.

ATF has sole federal regulatory authority over Federal Firearms Licensees (FFLs) authorized to engage in the business of manufacturing, importing, or selling firearms in the U.S. ATF conducts licensing qualification investigations on those who seek to engage in the business of firearm manufacture and dealing, issues federal firearms licenses, administers and, through the inspection process, enforces regulations applicable to FFLs, including recordkeeping requirements for the acquisition and sale of each firearm. These regulations are designed to allow the tracking of each firearm from its point of manufacture or importation to the point of its first retail sale, a process known as “firearms tracing.” To conduct traces of firearms recovered in law enforcement investigations, ATF operates the National Tracing Center (NTC), which is the only entity able to trace firearms from their manufacture to the point of first retail sale. By tracing crime guns recovered by law enforcement, ATF is able to discern patterns that provide invaluable leads that aid in identifying the diversion of firearms into illegal commerce.

The regulations administered and enforced by ATF include those requiring licensed dealers to conduct background checks on purchasers of firearms through the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS); the NICS system helps keep firearms out of the hands of individuals, such as felons, who are prohibited from possessing them. ATF’s inspection of firearms licensees is focused not only on ensuring regulatory compliance, but also on identifying criminals who illegally purchase firearms and those who supply guns to criminals through “straw purchases.”

ATF is also the only federal law enforcement agency that regulates the explosives industry, licensing businesses and individuals to engage in the business of manufacturing, importing, or dealing in explosives, or receiving or transporting explosives materials. ATF’s criminal and regulatory programs are a key means by which the U.S. Government enforces federal explosives laws and prevents criminals and terrorists from obtaining explosives for use in bombings. Federal law requires that any manufacturer, importer, or dealer of explosives must have a federal explosives license. Anyone who acquires for use or transports explosives must hold a federal explosives permit. ATF establishes standards for the storage of explosives materials to which licensees must adhere. ATF’s Industry Operations Investigators (IOIs) conduct compliance inspections to prevent diversion and promote the safe and secure storage of explosives. IOIs also detect and assist in the investigations of the

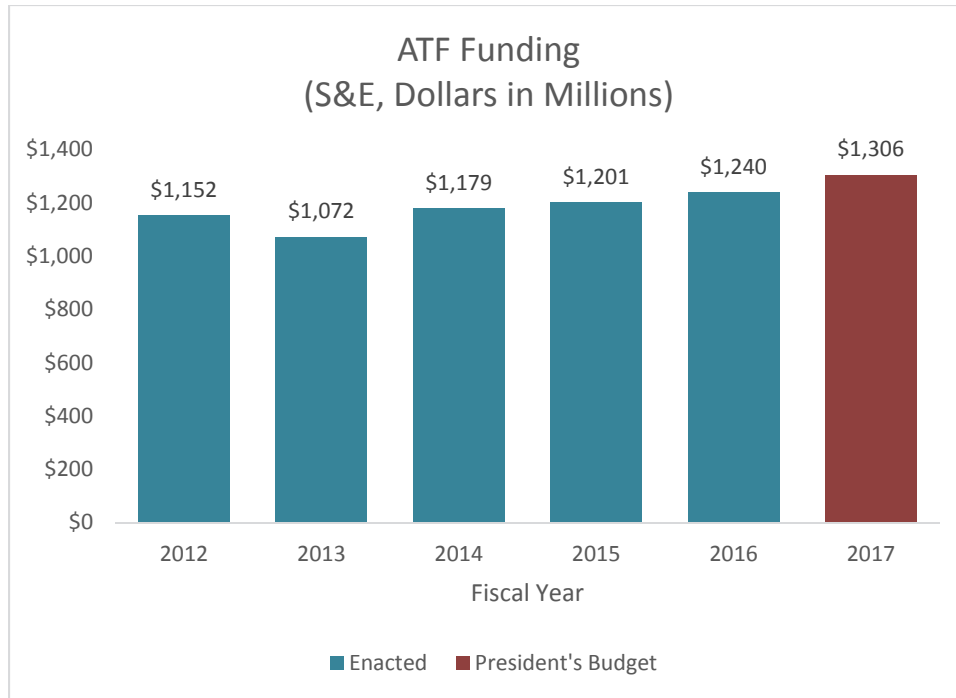
diversion of explosives. When a significant safety hazard or loss of explosives is discovered, IOIs directly address these incidents to ensure the threat is mitigated.

ATF is recognized for its expertise in bombing and explosives investigations and in the reconstruction of explosives incidents. ATF's special agents and forensic personnel are highly trained in the investigation of post-blast scenes and provide training to federal, state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement agencies in methods and techniques to solve such crimes. As an integral part of ATF's overall violent crime reduction strategy, ATF's Explosives Program provides vital resources to local communities to investigate explosives incidents and arson-for-profit schemes. ATF's National Response Team (NRT) consists of highly trained special agents, forensic chemists, engineers, and other technical experts who can be deployed within 24 hours to major explosion and fire scenes anywhere in the United States. The NRT assists state and local officers in fire and explosives incidents with examination of the scene, interviews, assistance with future investigation, and expert court testimony.

ATF's FY 2017 request includes additional special agent and industry operations investigator (IOI) positions, as well as support staff for the NIBIN Program and for industry support services such as licensing and National Firearm Act application processing. The additional personnel and non-personnel resources requested will ensure smart and effective enforcement of existing federal gun and explosives laws and make our communities safer.

Maintaining Current Services

The FY 2017 request includes \$11,757,000 in adjustments to base (ATBs) that are necessary for ATF to maintain current service levels. Within the total ATBs, \$17.8 million is for pay and benefits to continue support of special agents, industry operations investigators, and other personnel in a full readiness posture. Maintaining this funding is critical to ATF's efforts to continue to hire a sufficient number of Special Agents to offset attrition and to maintain the appropriate levels necessary to accomplish our law enforcement and regulatory mission.



Program Improvements

This budget request contains four primary program increase areas for ATF’s S&E Account, which are summarized below:

Enforcement, Inspection and Regulatory Support

The first program increase is \$35,585,000 for Inspection and Regulatory Support. This enhancement supports 80 additional special agents and 120 IOIs to support the President’s Executive Actions to combat gun violence. These additional personnel are needed to provide ATF with the resources necessary to address the inspection obligations for the steadily expanding number of firearm licensees, and will also support ATF enforcement efforts to reduce gun violence in American communities. ATF is enhancing its education and outreach initiatives, focusing on providing guidance to the public clarifying the requirements of Federal law as it pertains to those who buy and sell firearms, and will continue to focus its enforcement efforts on those who illegally arm criminals and other prohibited persons and endanger the safety of the public.

National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN)

The second program increase is \$4,000,000 for enhancing the NIBIN. The request will provide for modernizing ballistic imaging hardware and software, eight additional personnel, the continued expansion of the NIBIN National Correlation Center, and the development of a unified standard for ballistics imaging technology.

Industry Support

The third program increase is Industry Support. ATF is requesting \$5,673,000 to enhance ATF programs in Martinsburg, WV, specifically, to increase capacity, efficiency, and

productivity of licensing, National Firearms Act (NFA) application processing, and firearms tracing. It will support continuing efforts to maintain performance in processing firearms and explosives licensing applications within the 60-day and 90-day timeframe as mandated under current statute. These enhancements will also support the continued expansion of the use of gun trace data by state and local law enforcement to trace the illicit use of firearms and pursue the criminals who use them. An additional 22 positions are included in this enhancement to reduce processing delays and backlog, and to improve performance for processing NFA applications, firearms and explosives trace requests and licensing activities.

Next Generation Case Management System (NGCMS)

The fourth program increase is \$9,048,000 for the NGCMS, which supports ATF's law enforcement and regulatory operations. It is essential that ATF continue to strengthen its technical support capabilities, which are a vital component of maintaining its law enforcement operations. The new system will allow ATF to fully access, share, and exploit information and intelligence currently contained in ATF's disparate case management systems.

B. Background

This budget request supports ATF's capacity to actively combat violent crime and fairly regulate the firearms and explosives industries through several mission areas.

1. Engage in critical law enforcement and industry regulation activities which prevent and reduce violent crime related to:
 - Illegal firearms trafficking;
 - Criminal possession and use of firearms;
 - Diversion of firearms from legal commerce;
 - Criminal groups and gangs;
 - Explosives, bombs and bombings;
 - Diversion of explosives from legal commerce; and
 - Criminal use of fire.

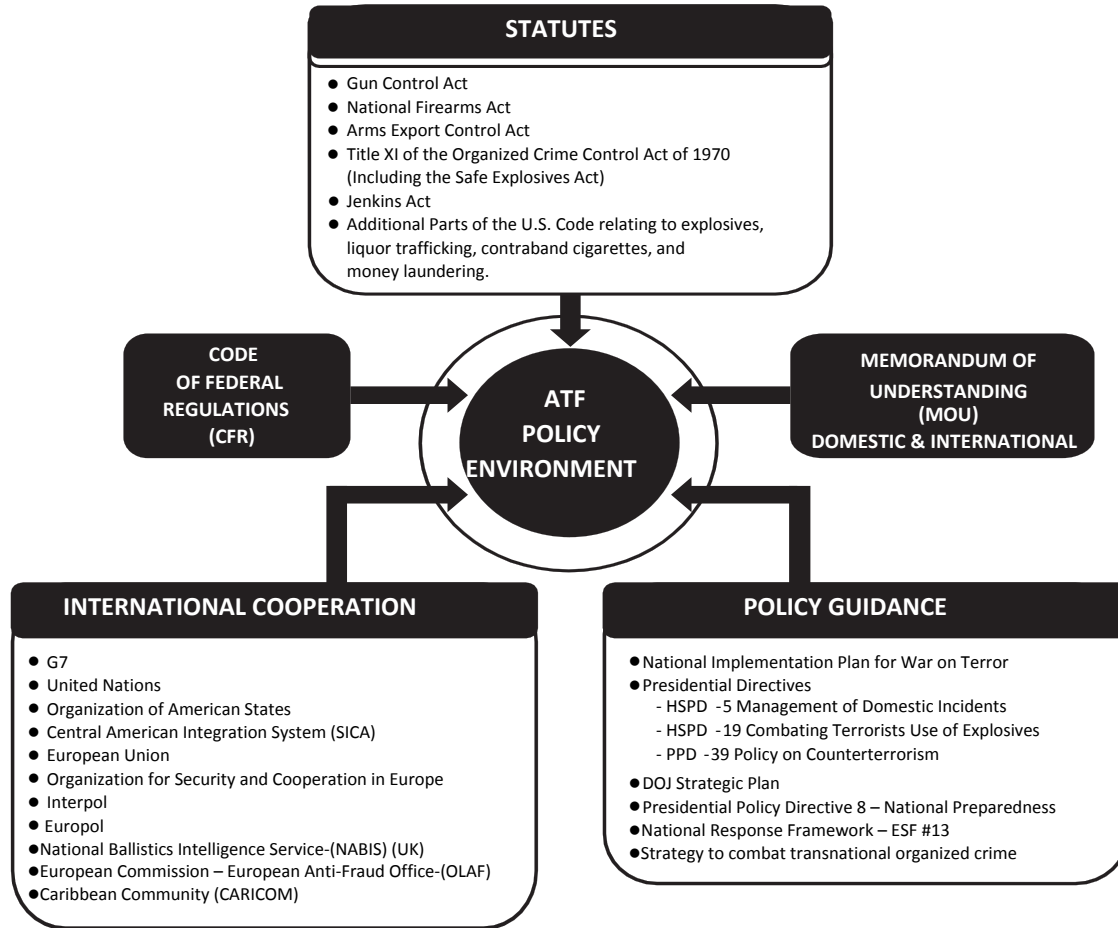
2. Provide vital services to support and improve public safety, which includes, but is not limited to:
 - Firearms and explosives licensing services;
 - Firearms tracing;
 - National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN);
 - National Center for Explosives Training and Research (NCETR);
 - ATF laboratories; and
 - Manage Emergency Support Function (ESF) #13, Public Safety and Security, under the National Response Framework (NRF).

ATF's continuing effort to improve oversight of and efficiency in meeting its mission goals is supported by our Frontline business methodology – a key component of ATF's risk management strategy. ATF's Frontline emphasizes a standardized way of doing business both internally and externally through strong leadership, transparency, accountability at all levels, and streamlined measurements of effectiveness and accomplishments. At the core of Frontline are field division domain assessments. Domain assessments are comprehensive, intelligence-driven assessments that identify and analyze significant violent crime problems and industry compliance issues within each field division's area of responsibility. They propose a plan of action within the limits of available resources to mitigate or eliminate these threats.

Under Frontline, the Special Agents in Charge (SACs) and their respective Deputy Assistant Directors (DADs) review the completed domain assessments each year and agree on implementation. Frontline Performance Reviews (FPRs) are conducted semi-annually. Performance data is extracted from ATF case management systems and provided to field division managers to facilitate the review process. Managers compare field division activities against their domain assessment priorities to ensure that goals are met. Frontline investigations and discretionary inspections are driven by actionable intelligence and crime information. At the core of establishing investigative priorities is the efficient and streamlined use of intelligence. Proper collection and processing of data and dissemination of the intelligence are necessary for ATF to achieve success conducting intelligence driven investigations and inspections.

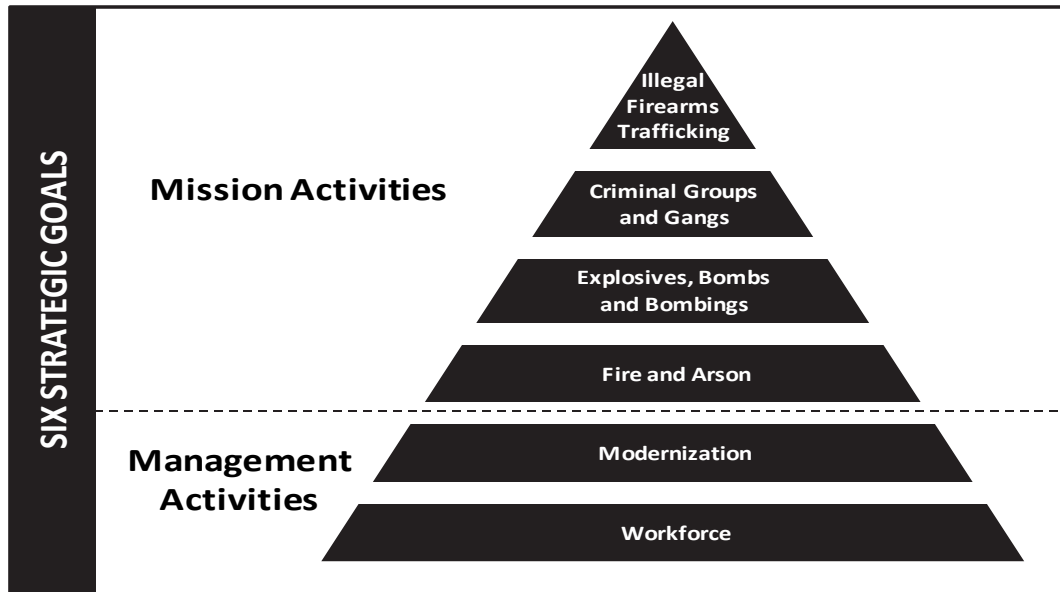
The Frontline methodology is the annual "implementation plan" that integrates the goals of ATF's Strategic Plan in each field division. ATF's Strategic Plan and Frontline business methodology support both the DOJ Strategic Plan and the Department's *Smart on Crime* strategy by prioritizing the use of limited resources on investigations and inspections that focus on the most serious cases and protect the most vulnerable populations from violence. It is also consistent and complementary to the recent updates to OMB Circular A-11 Section 270.24 - Enterprise Risk Management.

The following diagram describes the Policy and Legislative Environment that directs ATF's Mission and Budget Strategy:



ATF’s Strategic Plan for FY 2010 – FY 2016 identifies six strategic goals – four of which are mission-related and two of which are management-related. Mission-related strategic goals are further organized into eight core activities that directly align with ATF’s violent crime-related law enforcement and regulatory jurisdiction and responsibilities. ATF is currently in the process of updating and revising its Strategic Plan for FY 2017 and beyond.

ATF's Strategic Goals:



Strategic Goal - Illegal Firearms Trafficking: Reduce violent firearms crimes by strengthening firearms trafficking intelligence gathering, analysis, inspection, and investigative activities.

Strategic Goal - Criminal Groups and Gangs: Make our communities safer by expanding our efforts to identify, target, and dismantle those criminal gangs and organizations that utilize firearms, arson, explosives, and alcohol and tobacco diversion in furtherance of violent criminal activity.

Strategic Goal - Explosives, Bombs, and Bombings: Advance domestic and international explosives expertise to prevent, detect, and investigate acts of violent crime and terrorism, and to enhance public safety.

Strategic Goal - Fire and Arson: Advance the science of fire investigation globally, by setting and delivering the highest standards in response, research, information sharing, and training.

Strategic Goal - Modernization: Modernize business processes and systems for improved information sharing, knowledge management, and use of innovative technologies to support ATF's critical mission.

Strategic Goal - Workforce: Attract, develop, and retain an expert workforce to execute the ATF mission in the emerging business environment.

ATF's FY 2010 – FY 2016 Strategic Plan can be found at the following link:
www.atf.gov/publications/general/strategic-plan/.

Additionally, ATF's FY 2017 request supports the following DOJ strategic goals and objectives:

DOJ Strategic Goal 1, Objective 1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security Consistent with the Rule of Law: Prevent, disrupt and defeat terrorist operations before they occur by integrating intelligence and law enforcement efforts to achieve a coordinated response to terrorist threats.

DOJ Strategic Goal 2 Objective 1: Prevent Crime, Protect the Rights of the American People, and Enforce: Combat the threat, incidence and prevalence of violent crime by leveraging strategic partnerships to investigate, arrest and prosecute violent offenders and illegal firearms traffickers.

C. Challenges

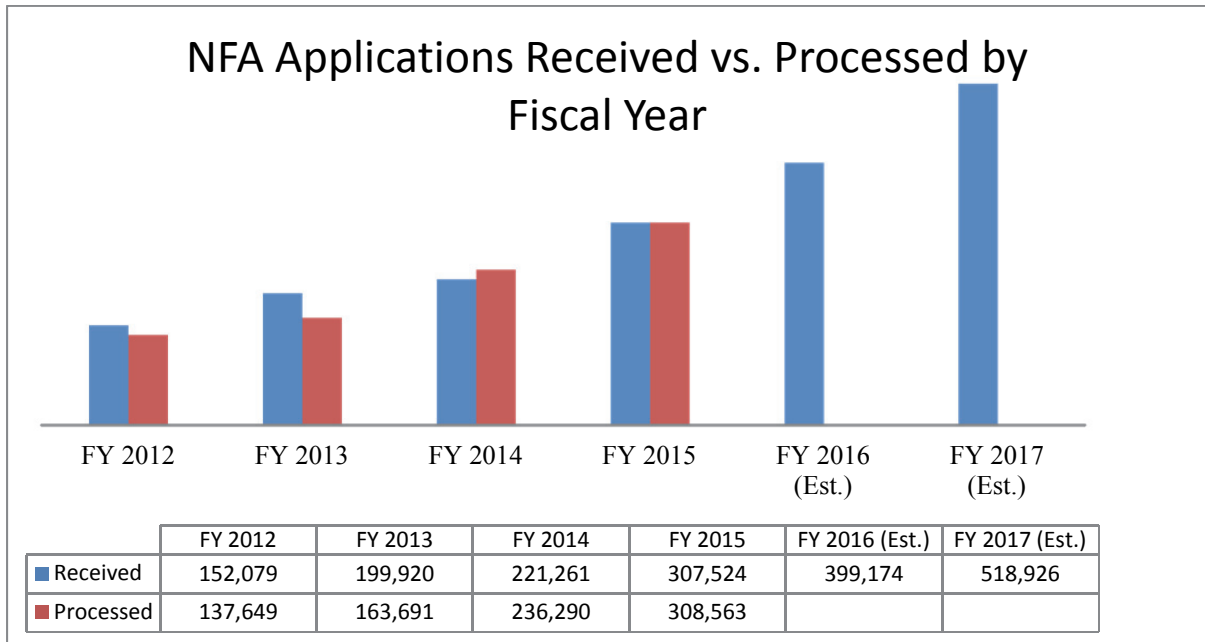
ATF faces serious external and internal challenges affecting its ability to meet mission critical goals and objectives. These include, but are not limited to:

- Keeping pace with changes in state laws, especially in areas that affect the processing of NFA weapon applications;
- Modernizing and better integrating ATF assets and services such as case management, tracing data, and NIBIN to execute coordinated and comprehensive strategies to reduce violent crime;
- Improving productivity and customer service in the face of significant increases in workload requirements in both the law enforcement and services elements; and
- Meeting the ongoing hiring and training demands posed by the retirement and attrition of special agents and experienced staff.

External Challenges

The growth in firearms commerce is an external challenge that has strained ATF's ability to meet the needs of the firearms industry and the citizens of the United States. The significant workload increases are due, in large part, to changes in many State laws that directly affect ATF's regulatory workload. For example, from FY 2012 to FY 2015 ATF experienced a 102% increase in NFA weapon applications receipts. ATF's goal is to process all NFA requests within 90 days. NFA application receipts, however, have far outpaced the number processed, leading to backlogs. One of the primary drivers for this increase is the changes in state laws that allow for the use of silencers (a NFA-regulated weapon) for hunting and sporting purposes. NFA applications are expected to continue increasing by 69% through FY 2017, when applications received are estimated to exceed 500,000. To address these increases, ATF has redirected industry operations investigators and personnel from inspection and compliance duties to assist in NFA processing. Redirecting these resources, however, diminishes our capacity to conduct inspections, and is not a long-term solution.

Moreover, even with the support of redirected industry operations personnel resources, ATF continues to struggle to meet performance targets, and wait time remains significant. Additional federal staff is included in ATF’s FY 2017 Budget submission under Industry Support to address this ongoing challenge.

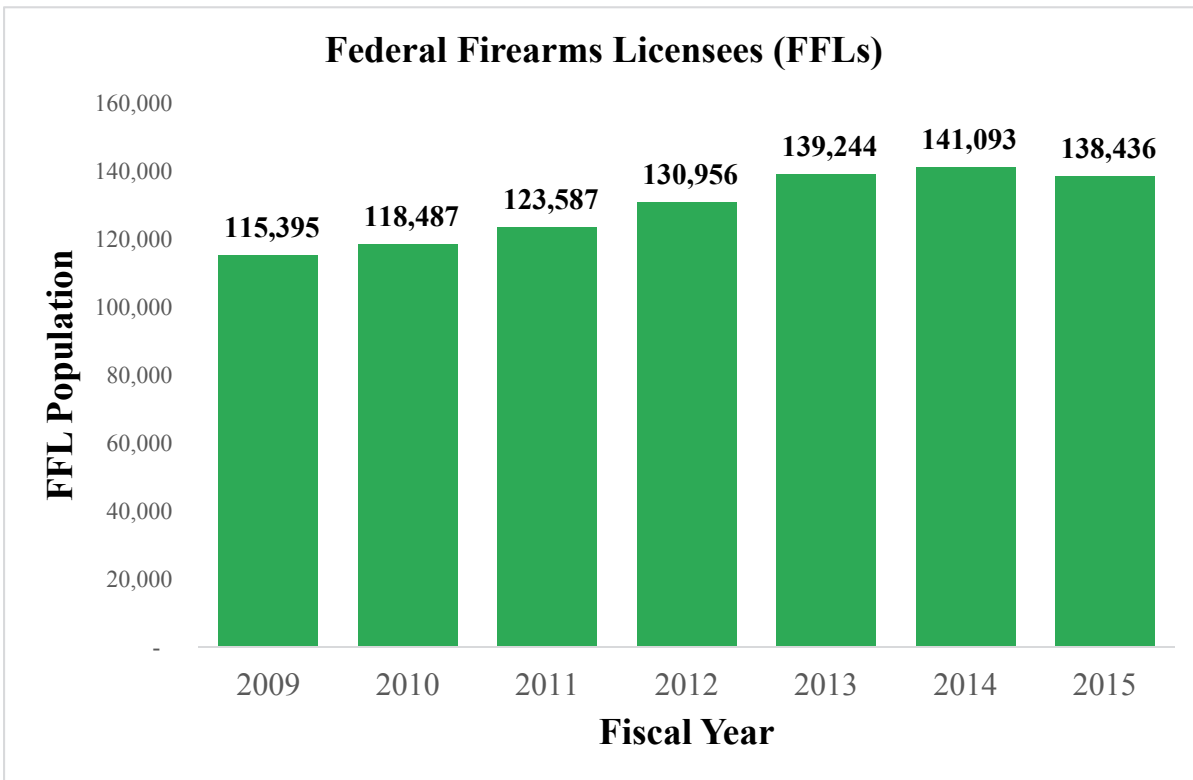


Another external challenge for ATF directly attributable to the growth of firearms commerce is maintaining the workload demands associated with an increasing number of FFLs. The increase in new FFLs entering the industry creates a corresponding increase in the number of qualification and compliance inspections ATF must conduct. Moreover, new licensees often require greater technical assistance from ATF, placing additional demand on ATF’s inspection resources. The ATF has been challenged to conduct the basic, scheduled compliance inspections at an appropriate pace. ATF’s goal is for FFL compliance inspections to be conducted, on average, every three years; however, FFLs are currently being inspected once every seven years. Compliance inspections are mainly conducted on manufacturers, businesses and dealers, and not FFLs that are collectors.

Performing timely FFL compliance inspections has also been challenging due to longer time commitments required by ATF IOIs to conduct a thorough inspection of the FFL. As the volume of firearms commerce continues to increase, the number of individual firearms records and transactions that FFLs maintain has significantly increased, leading to lengthier inspection times. Additionally, under ATF’s risk based inspection program, ATF focuses on those licensees with actual or potential compliance problems. These at-risk compliance inspections are often more complex, requiring greater IOI resources.

In FY 2015, ATF was only able to complete approximately 8,700 FFL compliance inspections -- approximately 6% of the total FFL population (including collectors). The lack of timely inspections presents a significant risk to public safety. The FY 2016 enacted

budget addressed some of these challenges but more is needed to keep pace with the increased volume of legal firearms commerce. ATF will continue using risk-based assessments to focus limited inspection resources on entities that have been identified as at risk for non-compliance. Nevertheless, as the DOJ Office of Inspector General (OIG) has noted, “additional actions are needed for ATF to fully achieve its goal of keeping communities safe and secure by detecting and preventing the sale of firearms to individuals who are prohibited from possessing them.” An additional 120 IOI positions are requested for FY 2017 to address this challenge.



Internal Challenges

ATF continues to be challenged by the ongoing attrition of its special agent workforce. The mandatory retirement age for federal law enforcement agents is 57. *See* 5 U.S.C. §§ 8335 and 8425. In the next few years, hundreds of current ATF special agents are anticipated to retire. These agents include a majority of ATF’s senior SES managers; agents with highly specialized skill sets such as Certified Fire Investigators (CFIs), Certified Explosives Specialists (CESS); and highly experienced agents specially trained to serve on ATF’s Special Response Teams (which deploy in complex, high risk law enforcement operations), and National Response Teams (which deploy to complex explosives and fire incidents). Most importantly, these agents are ATF’s most experienced special agents, those who conduct criminal investigations nationally and train new special agents. Their experience and capabilities are invaluable to the development of the next generation of ATF special agents, as it typically takes a minimum of 3-5 years of close mentoring and on-the-job training for a new special agent to acquire the skills necessary to achieve full productivity

levels. ATF must continue to strategically address this issue now and allow new special agents to benefit from the existing experience base. An additional 80 special agent positions are requested in FY 2017 to address this challenge and to continue ATF's enforcement emphasis in reducing violent crime by focusing on firearms traffickers and violent criminals who are the "trigger pullers."

Supporting all of ATF's criminal investigations and regulatory inspections, the present National Field Office Case Information System (NFOCIS) is comprised of two case management applications known as N-Force and N-Sect, which are used to collect, process and report information resulting from criminal investigations and law enforcement intelligence gathering efforts, and regulatory inspections respectively. The NFOCIS system is over 15 years old, operates on software that is no longer supported, and is well past its end of life expectancy. ATF's inability to replace this system has been identified as an operational vulnerability and risk in at least four OIG reports of both ATF's criminal and regulatory operations. Therefore, the current system is in the process of being replaced to address these vulnerabilities and better meet the needs of ATF.

In response to this risk, ATF has been researching and has plans for developing the Next Generation Case Management System (NGCMS). Over the past few years, funding has been internally set aside from within ATF's base to gather preliminary development information such as a needs assessment and a requirement analysis report from independent subject matter experts. Additionally, ATF has been able to utilize a limited amount of funding in its No-Year S&E Account to support the initial development costs for NGCMS, including the set-up costs for a program management office and the initial development phase costs. However, continuing to fund this project from within base and prior year resources is not sustainable in FY 2017 and beyond.

NGCMS will allow ATF to collect and provide real-time case information and intelligence for the field divisions and other law enforcement partners. Improved case management and oversight capabilities are needed to fully access, share, and exploit the information and intelligence contained in our disparate case management systems, firearms and explosives regulatory databases, and law enforcement databases. The NGCMS will be built around the requirements that resulted from the Business Process Re-Engineering effort and will support our enterprise risk management strategies.

Addressing ATF's Challenges

The \$1.306 billion in total S&E resources requested in FY 2017 will provide the resources necessary for ATF to continue to address these challenges. This request continues a comprehensive risk-based approach towards mitigating critical infrastructure deficiencies in personnel, oversight, and management, operational capacity, and fixed operational costs that were identified and partially addressed in recent enacted budgets. This request will allow ATF to leverage and sustain those gains from prior years. ATF seeks to maintain the effective investments made in areas that remain critical to securing the safety and security of our country and to strengthen and build upon them incrementally.

This request will serve to enhance the Administration's efforts to reduce gun violence across the United States by sustaining the smart incremental investments in proven programs it has supported over the past several years. This investment will increase ATF's ability to collaborate with our federal colleagues as well as our state and local partners that are critical to the abatement of violent crime in our cities and neighborhoods. This investment fully supports the Attorney General's Smart on Crime Initiative and both the Attorney General's and the Administration's cross-agency/cross-component performance goals.

Finally, this investment will also demonstrate the Administration's commitment to supporting lawful and legitimate commerce in firearms by increasing ATF's capability to address increased licensing and NFA registration and transfer workloads.

D. Environmental Management

ATF has fully implemented Environmental Management Systems at its laboratories, including the Fire Research Laboratory (FRL), which has been nationally recognized for its environmental program. The FRL reuses 75 percent of the water utilized for fire suppression and controls its test fire emissions into the outside environment by using a wet electrostatic precipitator, virtually eliminating the exhaust contaminants. Most recently, ATF's National Laboratory Center was recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a recipient of the Federal Green Challenge Award for 2014. The Federal Green Challenge is a national effort under EPA's Sustainable Materials Management Program, challenging EPA and other federal agencies throughout the country to lead by example in reducing the federal government's environmental impact. The ATF National Laboratory Center in Beltsville, Maryland, was acknowledged for its leadership in minimizing its environmental footprint by reducing waste to landfills and by establishing measures aimed at reducing energy usage.

Additionally, ATF has reviewed its acquisition policy and procedures to ensure compliance with the Department's Green Purchasing Program. Green purchasing training has been conducted for all Contracting Officers and Purchase Card Holders. ATF is developing policy and procedures to address compliance with Executive Order 13423, as it relates to Toxic and Hazardous Chemical reduction, Sustainable Buildings, Energy Management, Transportation, Recycling, Water Management, Environmental Management Systems and Electronic Stewardship. More information on Federal Environmental Requirements and DOJ's Environmental Programs can be found at www.usdoj.gov/jmd/ep.

II. Summary of Program Changes

Item Name	Description				
		Pos.	FTE	Dollars (\$000)	Page
Enforcement, Inspection and Regulatory Support	Supports ATF's mission to reduce violent crime, specifically through education of the public and enforcement of Federal law. ATF will continue to engage in outreach and education to the public on the Federal law as it pertains to those who buy and sell firearms, and will continue focused enforcement efforts on those who illegally arm criminal and other prohibited persons, thus endangering the safety of the public. This enhancement will also help ATF keep pace with inspection resources for the near-historic number of FFLs.	200	100	\$35,585	43
National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN)	Additional funding will provide for modernizing ballistic imaging hardware and software, eight additional personnel, the continued expansion of the NIBIN National Correlation Center, and the development of a unified standard for ballistics imaging technology.	8	4	\$4,000	47
Industry Support	Funding to increase capacity, efficiency and production of firearms tracing and all aspects of National Firearms Act (NFA) application processing and licensing.	22	11	\$5,673	51
Next Generation Case Management System (NGCMS)	NGCM is essential that ATF continue to strengthen its technical support capabilities, which are a vital component of maintaining its law enforcement operations. The new system will allow ATF to fully access, share, and exploit information and intelligence currently contained in ATF's disparate case management systems.	0	0	9,048	56

III. Appropriations Language and Analysis of Appropriations Language

Appropriations Language

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Salaries and Expenses

For necessary expenses of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, for training of State and local law enforcement agencies with or without reimbursement, including training in connection with the training and acquisition of canines for explosives and fire accelerants detection; and for provision of laboratory assistance to State and local law enforcement agencies, with or without reimbursement, [\$1,240,000,000] \$1,306,063,000, of which not to exceed \$36,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses, not to exceed \$1,000,000 shall be available for the payment of attorneys' fees as provided by section 924(d)(2) of title 18, United States Code, and not to exceed \$20,000,000 shall remain available until expended: Provided, That the first and fifth provisos under this heading in division B of Public Law 113-6 shall not apply to any funds appropriated in this or any other Act, including funds appropriated in previous appropriations acts that remain available for obligation: Provided further, That none of the funds appropriated herein shall be available to investigate or act upon applications for relief from Federal firearms disabilities under section 925(c) of title 18, United States Code: Provided further, That such funds shall be available to investigate and act upon applications filed by corporations for relief from Federal firearms disabilities under section 925(c) of title 18, United States Code: Provided further, That no funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to transfer the functions, missions, or activities of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to other agencies or Departments.

(Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2016)

Analysis of Appropriations Language

Proviso on curios and relics (first proviso in Public Law 113-6). The budget proposes to reverse language prohibiting ATF from implementing any amendment or amendments to 27 CFR 478.118 or to change the definition of “Curios or relics” or remove any item from ATF Publication 5300.11 as it existed on January 1, 1994. This restriction limits ATF regulatory ability on some imported firearms, as under the Gun Control Act, firearms classified as curios or relics are subject to fewer restrictions on transfer and sale. This proviso was made permanent by the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013, and was previously proposed for deletion by the Administration.

Proviso on physical inventory (fifth proviso in Public Law 113-6). The budget proposes to reverse language prohibiting ATF from initiating notice and comment rulemaking to explore whether and how federal firearms licensees (FFLs) might be required to account for their firearms inventory, as the absence of such accountability undermines ATF’s ability to investigate lost or stolen weapons in a timely manner. This proviso was made permanent by

the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013, and was previously proposed for deletion by the Administration.

IV. Decision Unit Justification

A. Law Enforcement Operations

LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS	Perm. Pos.	FTE	Amount (\$,000)
2015 Enacted	4,305	4,118	1,013,524
2015 Enacted w/Rescissions	4,305	4,118	1,013,524
2016 Enacted	4,250	4,189	1,033,168
Adjustments to Base and Technical Adjustments	0	61	9,796
2017 Current Services	4,250	4,250	1,042,964
2017 Program Increases	200	100	44,633
2017 Program Decreases	0	0	0
2017 Request	4,450	4,350	1,087,597
Total Change 2016-2017	200	161	54,429

1. Program Description - Investigating and Preventing Violent Crime

Protecting Americans from violent crime is a top priority goal for the Department of Justice. ATF's mission is to reduce violent crime involving firearms, explosives, and arson. To accomplish this unique and important mission, ATF's programs and initiatives focus on the investigation and prevention of violent crime. According to the Uniform Crime Reports (UCRs) for 2014, there were 119,754 reported robberies with a firearm, 150,574 aggravated assaults with a firearm, and 8,124 reported homicides with a firearm. Seventy-one people were murdered with fire and six with explosives. Information collected regarding the type of weapon showed that firearms were used in 67.2 percent of the Nation's murders, 40.3 percent of robberies, and 22.5 percent of the aggravated assaults. Additionally, Americans are faced with increasing incidents of indiscriminate active shooter/mass shootings in our schools, shopping malls and other public places.

Through our Frontline business model, ATF develops comprehensive domain assessments for each Field Division; these assessments allow ATF to prioritize enforcement efforts on a local, regional, and national level. Each field Special Agent in Charge (SAC) plans his/her field divisions investigative and industry operations activities based on a violent crime assessment. These assessments use data and intelligence to identify violent crime threats within a division's area of responsibility. This information includes emerging criminal trends, significant criminal activity, issues faced by local industry members, and the proximity and priorities of Federal, State, local and other external partners. It also assesses available ATF resources, as well as, unique data and intelligence developed from ATF's case management system, ATF's National Tracing Center, the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN), the Bomb and Arson Tracking System (BATS), and other

intelligence and crime-related data available through Federal, State and local partners.

All of this information is used to identify where and how they can most effectively apply ATF's jurisdiction, authorities, and expertise to have a decisive impact in their areas of responsibility. This methodology is also applied to ATF industry operations activities. The annual planned inspection schedule is based on National priorities derived from ATF's Strategic Plan, statutory requirements, and field division-level priorities identified in the assessments. As such, these efforts are intelligence-driven and risk-based to ensure resources are applied how, and where, they have the greatest ability to reduce crime and safeguard the public.

Investigative/Inspection Accountability. ATF establishes and reinforces accountability at all levels by giving a SAC the necessary tools to prioritize and address the specific violent crime threats in their areas, whether they are violent repeat offenders, gangs, or criminal organizations. The determination to open an investigation/inspection is based upon standardized justification statements articulating that the activity is in line with ATF's priorities as identified in the assessments. Case agents, Industry Operations Investigators and supervisors conduct continuous reviews throughout the life of an investigation / inspection to evaluate anticipated outcomes and impacts when weighed against risk and resource utilization.

Measurement. The ATF Performance Review process evaluates actual performance against the Bureau's performance goals as outlined in ATF's Strategic Management Performance Index. Throughout the course of investigations and inspections, first level supervisors monitor progress and performance to ensure resources are being applied effectively and efficiently. At the conclusion of each investigation and inspection, case agents and investigators develop impact statements that include a self-assessment of the goals that were established and review them with their supervisor. Additionally, staff at all levels engage in periodic Performance Review sessions with their peer supervisors, assistant special agents in charge (ASACs) and SACs, who then collaborate to evaluate field-wide performance and provide feedback to the field.

Core Activities

Core activities in Law Enforcement Operations that constitute the ATF mission include, but are not limited to investigations and inspections that address:

- Illegal Firearms Trafficking,
- Criminal Use and Possession of Firearms,
- Diversion of Firearms from Legal Commerce,
- Safeguarding the Legal Firearms Industry through Risked-Based Regulation,
- Criminal Groups and Gangs,
- Criminal Use of Explosives,
- Diversion of Explosives from Legal Commerce,

- Safeguarding the Explosives Industry Through Regulation and Safe Storage of Materials, and
- Criminal Use of Fire.

In FY 2015, these core law enforcement operations activities resulted in the following significant accomplishments:

- Nearly 7,516 cases and 12,378 defendants recommended for prosecution,
- Over 8,696 firearms compliance inspections, and
- Over 5,267 explosives compliance inspections.

a. Illegal Firearms Trafficking

Illegally trafficked firearms are harmful to communities and have a negative impact on interstate and international commerce. Illegal firearms are the “tools of the trade” that drug traffickers, gang members, and other violent criminals use to commit crime.

The goal of ATF’s illegal firearms trafficking enforcement efforts is to reduce violent crime by stemming the flow of firearms to violent criminals. ATF identifies, investigates, and arrests individuals and organizations that illegally supply firearms to prohibited individuals. Furthermore, ATF deters the diversion of firearms from lawful commerce into the illegal market with enforcement strategies and technology.

Internationally, ATF works with other agencies to prevent firearms from reaching the hands of drug traffickers, organized crime members, and terrorist organizations. ATF enforces provisions of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), has primary jurisdiction over firearms and ammunition imports, and has shared jurisdiction over firearms exports with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Department of State’s (DOS) Office of Munitions Control. ATF’s firearms trafficking strategy complements the continued focus on intelligence and the deployment of resources to specific localities where there is a high incidence of gun violence. This comprehensive approach traces the movement of firearms from legal to illegal commerce, from source areas (where firearms are acquired for transport to black markets) to market areas (where firearms are illegally sold), and from trafficker to triggerman. ATF special agents, IOIs, and Federal prosecutors work together in a source area to reduce the flow of diverted firearms into criminal market places, thus impacting violent crime and gang violence, often thousands of miles away from the respective source market area.

b. Firearms Criminal Use and Possession

The law enforcement community has long recognized the clear link between the availability of criminally possessed firearms and violent crime. Firearm violence

associated with drug trafficking and violent crime threatens citizens' safety and livelihoods while eroding the quality of life in American cities. ATF employs a threat matrix to identify patterns of firearm violence, and deploys its resources to efficiently disrupt and prevent future firearm violence.

c. Diversion of Firearms from Legal Commerce – Safeguarding the Legal Firearms Industry Through Risked-Based Regulation

Illegal firearms threaten not only public safety, but also the entire firearms industry and the revenue legal commerce generates.

ATF regulates the firearms industry from the point of manufacture and/or importation through retail sale to ensure that FFLs comply with all applicable laws and regulations. ATF provides appropriate safeguards of inventories from theft, full accountability, and proactive inspection reporting. In addition, the outreach that ATF conducts with the industry educates and encourages voluntary controls and cooperation with law enforcement officials.

As part of its regulatory role, ATF is responsible for determining FFL applicants' eligibility to engage in a firearms business and educate licensees on their legal responsibilities. Approved FFLs are required to maintain records of their acquisition and disposition of firearms. ATF has the authority to request information from these records to assist with criminal investigations.

Proper and timely recordkeeping by FFLs is critical to the success of a crime gun trace and is required for all firearms transactions by licensees. Failing to account for firearms is a serious public safety concern because unaccounted firearms cannot be completely traced to the retail purchaser. ATF's FFL inspection program uses firearms trace information on recovered firearms to detect indicators of illegal firearms trafficking. This process provides leads for the inspection of specific dealers who may be violating Federal laws intended to protect the America public.

Through this regulatory framework, ATF tracks each firearm recovered in a crime from its point of manufacture or importation through the chain of distribution to the point of first retail sale, a process known as "tracing." By tracing all crime gun recoveries submitted to ATF, investigators are able to discern patterns of persons purchasing firearms, locations of purchase, and weapon types. These patterns provide invaluable leads in identifying persons who divert firearms into illegal commerce. By identifying and targeting these persons, ATF stems the flow of illegal guns and makes it difficult for convicted felons, drug traffickers, or gang members to obtain firearms for use in violent crimes. Moreover, by connecting a firearm to a gun trafficker, ATF is able to link firearms sold by that trafficker to those who use firearms in violent crimes.

In FY 2015, ATF completed approximately 8,700 FFL compliance inspections. The number of FFL compliance inspections has decreased by 24 percent since FY 2011 due to challenges in keeping pace with the firearms industry growing at an unprecedented rate. The increase in new FFLs entering the industry has resulted in additional qualification and compliance inspections and the provision of technical assistance to new FFLs, all of which place additional demand on ATF's inspection resources. At the current time, there are approximately 138,000 FFLs in the United States, and due to market demands it is expected more will continue to enter the industry in the future. The FY 2017 request provides funding to continue addressing this challenge.

Additionally, ATF regulates the importation of firearms into the United States, registers importers of firearms, ammunition, firearms parts, and other defense articles pursuant to the import provisions of the AECA. ATF also provides technical advice to the public regarding import requirements applicable to firearms or ammunition.

d. Criminal Groups and Gangs

Criminal groups and gangs threaten all communities across the United States. Gangs remain key distributors of narcotics and are sophisticated and flagrant in their use of firearms for violence and intimidation. According to the 2013 National Gang Report (NGR), gang membership and gang-related crime continues to rise. The 2013 NGR highlighted current and emergent trends of violent criminal gangs in the United States, and illustrated that gangs continue to commit violent and surreptitious crimes – both on the street and in prison – that pose a significant threat to public safety in most US jurisdictions across the nation.

ATF focuses its extensive and distinct investigative resources on areas experiencing the most violent crime. This approach mirrors the Department's Smart-on-Crime initiative, which emphasizes, "targeting the most serious offenses, prosecuting the most dangerous criminals, directing assistance to crime 'hot spots,' and pursuing new ways to promote public safety, deterrence, efficiency, and fairness." The ATF has developed strategies to address violent crime spikes and executes operations that weaken and dismantle armed violent criminal organizations. ATF has conducted several successful enhanced enforcement initiatives, which have yielded positive results in cities such as Philadelphia (PA), New Orleans (LA), Oakland (CA), Stockton (CA), Richmond (CA) and Flint (MI).

In addition, each of ATF's 25 field divisions operates a Violent Crime Reduction Partnership (VCRP), which involve collaborations between ATF and its Federal, State and local partners, as well as the U.S. Attorney's Office. The VCRP plays a vital role in combating violent gun crime. It allows law enforcement agencies to operate together with unity of effort, stemming the flow of crime guns,

investigating and prosecuting the people, groups, and gangs who use them to commit violent crimes. Through the VCRP, law enforcement leaders coordinate law enforcement missions, strategies, tactics and intelligence to effectively prioritize and maximize impact on violent crime. The VCRP directly is the embodiment of the Attorney General's Smart on Crime Initiative and the Administration's cross-agency performance goals.

e. Criminal Use of Explosives

Criminal bombings and the illegal use of explosives are violent acts that threaten our neighborhoods and communities, as well as our national security at home and abroad.

ATF has aligned its mission, resources, and expertise with the National Strategy to Counter Improvised Explosives Devices (IEDs). ATF manages the United States Bomb Data Center (USBDC) which in turn is responsible for maintaining and enhancing the outward facing Bomb Arson Tracking System (BATS), the statutorily mandated and Attorney General Designated National arson and explosives incident repository and case management system. Currently the USBDC has in excess of 2,000 interagency partners and 10,700 users of BATS who contribute arson and explosives intelligence and information for critical regional and national situational awareness. Additionally, ATF is a founding partner in the National Explosives Task Force (NETF). The mission of the NETF is to support the provision of explosives expertise to investigations and ensure coordination of a government effort to deter, prevent, detect, protect against, and respond to the threat posed by terrorist or criminally inspired attacks using explosives in the United States or against U.S. interests abroad.

ATF is the only federal agency with the responsibility and authority to inspect the storage of explosives by Federal explosives licensees and to track thefts, losses, and recoveries of explosives. ATF's mission extends to ensuring only qualified and legitimate applicants enter the explosives industry and that licensees keep proper records and use sound business practices to help prevent theft, explosives incidents, or the diversion of explosives to criminal or terrorist purposes. ATF's criminal enforcement mission, combined with ATF's regulatory responsibility, gives ATF a comprehensive perspective on activity involving explosives in this country. This perspective allows ATF to impact public safety through the identification and correction of explosives storage violations that, unchecked, could pose significant risk to the public.

f. Diversion of Explosives from Legal Commerce – Safeguarding the Explosives Industry Through Regulation and Safe Storage of Materials

Explosives or explosives materials diverted from legal commerce into the hands of criminal groups and gangs or terrorist organizations constitute a tangible threat to legal commerce and public safety. ATF's criminal and regulatory programs

enforce Federal explosives law and prevent criminals and terrorists from obtaining explosives for use in bombings.

On a three-year cycle, as required by the Safe Explosives Act (SEA), ATF's IOIs conduct compliance inspections of approximately 11,000 explosives licensees and permittees nationwide to detect, investigate and prevent diversion, and promote the safe and secure storage of explosives. The Federal Explosives Licensing Center (FELC) screens license and permit applicants, in conjunction with the FBI, to ensure applicants' eligibility to lawfully receive and use explosives. It further screens employees of such licensees and permittees to ensure prohibited persons do not have access to explosives.

g. Criminal Use of Fire

Loss of lives and property due to arson remains a significant threat to our communities, businesses, and the American people. ATF special agents investigate potential acts of arson motivated by profit, ideology or other criminal intent. Some of the more recent significant events ATF has been called upon for their expertise include investigating fires set during the Baltimore police riots, and a fire to a residential dwelling set in the aftermath of a quadruple homicide in Washington, DC. ATF also trains federal, state, local, and international law enforcement agencies on how to investigate and solve such crimes. ATF is recognized for its expertise in fire investigations, in conducting research to help investigators reconstruct fire and explosives incidents, and in conducting financial investigations to identify illegal arson-for-profit schemes.

ATF has primary federal jurisdiction over the investigation of arson crimes, and is uniquely equipped for this mission with specialized capabilities, expertise, and experience. The vast majority of fires are investigated at the local level and ATF is only called in to provide its specialized skills when needed by state and local authorities. In many cases, the unique knowledge, technical resources, forensic capabilities, and jurisdictional authority of the Federal Government are essential in solving arson related crimes and removing arsonists from a community. ATF's combination of Certified Fire Investigators (CFIs), accelerant detection canines, NRT, forensic auditors, and the Fire Research Laboratory (FRL) provide a basis for investigating arson crimes. Additionally, the United States Bomb Data Center (USBDC) and Bomb Arson Tracking System (BATS) provide critical intelligence and information to ATF and the interagency community related to occurrence of arson incidents both regionally and nationally.

B. Investigative Support Services

INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES	Perm. Pos.	FTE	Amount (\$,000)
2015 Enacted	796	762	187,476
2015 Enacted w/Rescissions	796	762	187,476
2016 Enacted	851	839	206,832
Adjustments to Base and Technical Adjustments	0	12	1,961
2017 Current Services	851	851	208,793
2017 Program Increases	30	15	9,673
2017 Program Decreases	0	0	0
2017 Request	881	866	218,466
Total Change 2016-2017	30	27	11,634

1. Program Description – Delivery of ATF’s Forensic Expertise, Assets and Intelligence Services to Improve Public Safety

ATF continues to leverage, build, and rely on its partnerships with all law enforcement entities – federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement, public safety agencies, communities, and industries to prevent terrorism and abate violent crime. ATF allies with these entities to safeguard the public through information and intelligence sharing, training, research, the use of technology, and by its lead role in the coordination of Emergency Support Function #13 (ESF #13).

Resources and activities that support ATF’s law enforcement operations comprise the Investigative Support Services Decision Unit. Core activities include, but are not limited to:

- Firearms and Explosives Licensing and Other firearms Industry Services,
- Firearms Tracing,
- National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN),
- National Center for Explosives Training and Research (NCETR),
- US Bomb Data Center (USBDC),
- Terrorist Explosives Device Analytical Center (TEDAC),
- ATF Laboratories,
- Financial Investigations,
- Collaboration and Partnerships, and
- ESF #13.

NIBIN facilitates the sharing of crime gun intelligence evidence across Federal, State, local, tribal and international law enforcement agencies. The National Tracing Center (NTC) is responsible for tracing firearms recovered in the use of a crime. As part of its public safety mission, ATF issues licenses to individuals and businesses through the Federal Firearms Licensing Center (FFLC) and the Federal Explosives Licensing

Center (FELC) supporting legal commerce of these regulated commodities. Information sharing activities include working with the Terrorist Explosives Device Analytical Center (TEDAC), the U.S. Bomb Data Center (USBDC), and the National Center for Explosives Training and Research (NCETR). ATF is devoted to increasing U.S. capabilities at the federal, state and local level in detecting, deterring and responding to arson and explosives incidents including criminal and terrorist bombings and explosives recovery incidents, which have a major impact on public safety. ATF's canine training program produces reliable, mobile and accurate explosives and accelerant detection canines that assist law enforcement, fire investigators and military personnel around the world.

a. Firearms and Explosives Licensing and Other Industry Services

ATF issues licenses to legitimate firearms and explosives manufacturers, importers, and dealers. Under current regulations, ATF is required to act upon firearms license applications within 60 days and explosives license application within 90 days of perfecting the application. Meeting these mandates within existing resources has been difficult, as ATF thoroughly investigates license applicants for Federal prohibitions such as felony convictions, illicit drug use, illegal alien status, mental illness, or minimum age requirement. During FY 2015, ATF conducted 10,981 firearms application inspections and 874 explosives application inspections. In addition, the National Firearms Act (NFA) legislatively mandates registration and tax payment for making or transferring machine guns, silencers, short-barreled rifles, short-barreled shotguns, destructive devices, and certain concealable weapons classified as "any other weapons." The NFA mandates that individuals, firearms manufacturers, and importers register the NFA firearms that they make, manufacture, or import, and that all NFA firearms transfers are approved by ATF in advance.

Market demand for NFA services continues to set annual records, which has resulted in a dramatic increase in workload over the past several years. In FY 2015, ATF received receive 307,524 NFA registration applications. The number of NFA registration applications continues to increase, and is expected to reach nearly 519,000 by FY 2017. Much of this increase can be attributed to changes in several State laws that allow for the use of gun silencers for hunting purposes. The increase in overall firearms commerce continues to significantly increase ATF's workload and impact ATF's ability to meet internal and external performance targets. With unprecedented market growth in 2016 and 2017 that is expected to continue, this budget will provide ATF with resources to maintain and improve current processing outputs and to perform its mission responsibilities.

ATF regulates the importation of firearms, ammunition, and other defense articles by issuing import permits. ATF also regulates the importation and possession of firearms and ammunition by non-immigrant aliens. ATF maintains close liaison with the Department of State, Department of Defense, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection to ensure that the permits issued do not conflict with the foreign policy and national security interests of the U.S. During FY 2015, ATF processed a total of

18,199 import permit applications. The Attorney General has delegated to ATF the authority to administer the permanent importation provisions of the Arm Export Control Act (AECA). Under the AECA, ATF regulates the permanent importation of firearms, ammunition, and other defense articles into the U.S. ATF processes applications to import items from domestic businesses, members of the U.S. military returning from abroad with personal firearms, non-immigrant aliens temporarily hunting or attending legal sporting activities in the U.S., and U.S. citizens re-establishing residency after living abroad. Through industry outreach and regulation, ATF provides technical advice to the public regarding import requirements applicable to firearms, ammunition, and implements of war.

b. Firearms Tracing

ATF's National Tracing Center (NTC) traces firearms recovered in crime by law enforcement in order to provide investigative leads to link a suspect to a firearm in a criminal investigation; to identify firearms traffickers, and where sufficient comprehensive tracing has been undertaken by a given community, to identify trends in patterns in illegal firearms trafficking. This unique ATF function is critical to law enforcement in their efforts to trace the illicit use of firearms and to pursue the criminals who use them. In FY 2015 the NTC processed over 373,000 firearms trace requests. The demand for timely and accurate trace data will continue in order to more quickly identify and apprehend the most violent firearms offenders. The NTC also operates a series of programs that relate to and support firearms tracing to include the eTrace program, Multiple Sales for Handguns program, FFL Theft program, Interstate Theft Program, Out of Business records program and Demand Program among others.

The trace information allows ATF to:

- Provide the requesting federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies the link of suspects to firearms in criminal investigations;
- Identify illegal firearms traffickers through recurring patterns and trends indicative of illegal firearms trafficking; and,
- Provide ATF a means, through analysis of the aggregate trace data, to help communities develop focused strategies and programs that address specific factors that contribute to armed crime.

Without trace information and analysis violent crimes go unsolved and, more importantly, illegal firearms trafficking trends are not identified and investigated.

c. National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN)

The mission of ATF's NIBIN Program is to reduce firearms violence through aggressive targeting, investigation, and prosecution of shooters and their sources of crime guns. NIBIN continues to aid ATF and its law enforcement partners in identifying trigger pullers and removing violent offenders from America's streets.

ATF administers NIBIN for federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in the United States. NIBIN solves crimes by establishing investigative leads through unequivocal links between crime guns and criminals.

The NIBIN system is a collection of digital ballistic images of spent ammunition recovered from crime scenes and from crime gun test fires. As with fingerprints, every firearm has unique identifying characteristics. The barrel of a weapon leaves distinct markings on a bullet or projectile, and the breech and firing pin mechanisms also leave distinct markings on the cartridge case. Using these markings, firearm technicians and examiners are able to examine bullets and cartridge casings to determine if they were expelled from the same firearm. Through the NIBIN Program, ATF strategically deploys Integrated Ballistic Identification System (IBIS) equipment to Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies for their use in imaging and comparing crime gun evidence. Prior to the NIBIN Program, this process was done manually and is extremely labor intensive. ATF has worked to place the program in strategic locations across the country with the goal of giving investigators an edge in our mutual fight against firearms related violence. NIBIN is the only interstate automated ballistic imaging network in operation in the United States and is available to every major population center in the United States to aid in violent crime analysis.

ATF's NIBIN Program uses an integrated investigative approach which works in concert with other federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in combating firearms-related violence through the use of technology to compare images of ballistic evidence obtained from crimes scenes and recovered firearms. NIBIN is a proven investigative and intelligence tool that can identify leads that were not previously available; can link firearms evidence from multiple crime scenes together that were committed with the same firearm; and can link firearms evidence from a crime scene to a recovered firearm. ATF's NIBIN network may be searched locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally in an automated environment to identify investigative leads. Law enforcement resources are still required to follow up on the investigative leads in order to solve crimes associated with these shooting incidents to realize the true potential of this program. Through FY 2015, NIBIN partners have confirmed more than 75,000 linkages, or "hits," using this technology and investigative tool.

ATF has conducted an evaluation of this program and as a result dedicated infrastructure resources to ensure effective program oversight during FY 2015 and FY 2016 changing how this program is supported and with the goal of increasing the number of shooters recommended for prosecution. Recent funding has supported the replacement of outdated equipment and software upgrades to High Definition 3-Dimension (HD3D) imaging that will enable firearms technicians and examiners to more easily discern distinct markings on the cartridge casings and link evidence for separate cases. ATF has also replaced 12 outdated servers with two expandable servers to support the increasing number of ballistic images. ATF will continue to emphasize the program's focus on providing useful ballistic information in a timely manner for investigative action thus resulting in more referrals for prosecutions. ATF

is utilizing NIBIN along with other investigative tools and assets as part of an overall crime gun intelligence solution to effectively identify and target criminal shooters that are plaguing our communities and their source of crime guns. As part of this effort, ATF is establishing the NIBIN National Correlation and Training Center (NNCTC) in Huntsville, AL. The NNCTC provides NIBIN correlation services and training to ATF's law enforcement partners, leading to greater efficiency in providing investigative leads to identify trigger pullers.

d. National Center for Explosives Training and Research (NCETR)

Preventing the criminal use of explosives is one of the core missions of the ATF, and NCETR serves as the Bureau's primary source for explosives research, training, and intelligence. ATF is the primary agency responsible for administering and enforcing the regulatory and criminal provisions of the Federal laws pertaining to destructive devices, explosives, and bombs. ATF has unrivaled expertise in the investigation and forensic analysis of explosives incidents arising from criminal use of explosives or terrorists acts. ATF further provides one of the most highly proficient and respected explosive incident and arson response capabilities in the world.

ATF's plan for NCETR encompasses the government-wide effort to safeguard the public from acts of violence utilizing explosives. NCETR provides basic and advanced explosives training and research that leverages lessons learned and best practices to safeguard the public and reduce deaths and injuries from explosives crimes and accidents, and aligns this support with the national counter-IED effort. ATF equips its explosive personnel at the NCETR with the tools to respond to criminal activity with layers of specialized personnel training, techniques, technology, and forensic support. Additionally, ATF contributes greatly to the global Counter-IED (C-IED) efforts through a focus on the interoperability between public safety bomb technicians and explosives specialists with their military Explosives Ordnance Disposal (EOD) colleagues. This is accomplished through a well-established training program focusing on the identification, processing and disposal of Homemade Explosives (HME), in partnership with the Department of the Army. EOD personnel from all branches of our armed forces attend the ATF/NCETR HME course prior to mobilization. ATF/NCETR also provides support on the Joint Program Office for Countering IEDs (JPO) by leading the Raven's Challenge interoperability exercise each year. In partnership with the Department of Army, Raven's Challenge is an interoperability exercise for Public Safety Bomb Squads and military EOD personnel at four locations across the country, involving realistic IED incident scenarios and live fire training. The exercise also includes a command and control element in coordination with the National Explosives Task Force (NETF) and the FBI's Strategic Information and Operations Center (SIOC). Additionally, ATF supports the NETF with full-time personnel detailees.

NCETR also has oversight of ATF's National Canine Division (NCD) located in Front Royal, Virginia. ATF's canine program is the only canine program in the United States supported by a laboratory and has the only federally accredited

explosive detection canine program. The ATF National Forensic Laboratory supports the ATF NCD in the research and development of explosive and accelerant compounds and compositions for canine training, third party testing and certification on the mandated odors, instruction into the properties and chemical breakdown of accelerant and explosives and support in all forensic related issues. The ATF NCD conducts evaluation and analysis of new and emerging facets within the explosives detection canine arena, and shares this vital information with our partners in a concerted effort to provide the best tools possible for safety and security in the fight against violent crime and terrorism. ATF remains at the forefront of combating violent crime through such innovative programs as training explosives detection canines in peroxide explosives and the standardized National Odor Recognition Testing (NORT).

The Explosives Research and Development Division (ERDD) at NCETR is an investment in scientific knowledge generation and technology development that allows ATF to adapt and respond to changes to the ongoing threat posed by the criminal misuse of explosives. Meeting the challenges and embracing the opportunities of a dynamic future are not only indicative of high-quality Research and Development (R&D), but are responsive to the needs of the Nation's C-IED efforts. In short, NCETR ERDD provides value by improving the safe storage and disposal of explosives, and enhancing the prosecution of explosives cases to serve ATF and the larger law enforcement community. The most recent addition to NCETR has been the integration of ATF's Fire Investigation and Arson Enforcement Division (FIAED). FIAED oversees the National Response Team Program, Certified Fire Investigator Program, Fire and Arson Investigation Training Programs, and the Arson and Explosives Criminal Investigative Analysis (Profiler) Program. These programs further support ATF efforts to identify, target, and dismantle criminal enterprises and other offenders that use fire or explosives in furtherance of violent criminal activity and investigate violators that use fire or explosives to damage or destroy property that affects interstate or foreign commerce.

e. United States Bomb Data Center (USBDC)

Since 1976, ATF has been collecting, storing, and analyzing data on explosives and arson incidents as a result of a mandate by Congress pursuant to Public Law 104-208, the 1997 Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, to establish a national repository for incidents involving arson and the criminal misuse of explosives. In 2004, the Attorney General acting under the statutory authority of Title 18, U.S.C., Section 846 (b) designated ATF's Bomb Arson Tracking System (BATS) as the consolidated national repository for information related to arson and the suspected criminal misuse of explosives. The United States Bomb Data Center (USBDC) was then established and given the responsibility for management of BATS.

The USBDC collects, analyzes, and disseminates timely information and relevant tactical and strategic intelligence within ATF, and to external Federal, state, local,

Tribal, military, and international partners. The USBDC provides statistical analyses of current trends and patterns to aid in the detection, deterrence and prevention and prosecutorial support related to arson and the criminal misuse of explosives.

The USBDC maintains the sole statutorily mandated and Attorney General designated national repository for incident data in connection with suspicious fires/arsons and incidents involving the criminal use of explosives. Besides being the national arson and explosives incident repository, the USBDC's Bomb Arson Tracking System (BATS) serves as the explosives and arson investigator's link to the USBDC.

In BATS, investigators capture details of bomb and arson cases, including the area of origin or device placement, casualties, financial loss, fire descriptors, collateral crimes, device components, and descriptions of how the device was delivered. BATS also functions as a case management system, allowing investigators to build cases in the BATS application while maintaining critical operational security. Images of arson scenes, IEDs, and crime scenes can be shared through the BATS secure web connection. Currently the USBDC has over 2,000 interagency partners and supports over 10,700 users of BATS.

The USBDC also provides explosives tracing services to authorized law enforcement agencies in the U.S. and other countries. Tracing is the systematic tracking of explosives from manufacturer to purchaser (or possessor) to aid law enforcement officials in identifying suspects involved in criminal violations, establishing stolen status, and proving ownership. Explosives manufacturers, importers, wholesalers, and retail dealers in the U.S. and other countries cooperate with the USBDC by providing, on request, specific information from their records of manufacture, importation, or sale. Because of its licensing authority, ATF is the only Federal agency authorized access to these records.

f. Terrorist Explosives Device Analytical Center (TEDAC)

Jointly, ATF and the FBI coordinate and manage TEDAC. The mission of TEDAC is to directly contribute to the eradication of the IED threat. TEDAC informs its partners who, in turn, attempt to disrupt those individuals and networks responsible for the design, development, purchase, assembly, and deployment of IEDs. This is accomplished through scientific and forensic exploitation of IEDs; developing actionable intelligence; forecasting IED threats; and maintaining a repository of IED material obtained from incidents around the world. The TEDAC combines law enforcement, military, and intelligence assets to classify the operation, bomb components, and deployment of IEDs. These efforts help prevent IED attacks, protect U.S. armed forces, and identify those who manufacture and deploy these devices.

TEDAC's forensic exploitation at the intersection of law enforcement, intelligence, and the military, provides a key perspective from which to research the science and technology of IEDs. The TEDAC research and testing program supports IED

detection, countermeasures and post-blast analysis. The TEDAC continues to build depth and breadth within its device collection and develop technical, forensic, and intelligence methods to proactively anticipate new devices and techniques envisioned by our adversaries and to better collaborate with its partners.

g. ATF Laboratories

The ATF laboratory system is comprised of three regional forensic laboratories and a fire research laboratory that provide direct support to ATF special agents and other Federal and state law enforcement agencies in the investigation of violent crimes and other potential threats to public safety. ATF examiners play an integral role supporting violent crime investigations, often times providing the critical link between the crime and the suspect.

All of the ATF laboratories are accredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors – Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD-LAB) – International, to the ISO 17025 standard.

The Forensic Science Laboratories (FSL) supports these investigations through the scientific analysis of evidence. The FSL's evaluate evidence obtained in criminal investigations involving tobacco, firearms, explosives and suspected arson.

The Fire Research Lab (FRL) houses fire protection engineers, mechanical engineers, electrical engineers and technicians, and is the only laboratory of its kind in the world dedicated to the specific needs of the criminal fire investigation community. It provides the necessary facilities, equipment, and staff to work on important criminal fire investigation issues such as fire scene reconstructions, flashover studies, validation of fire pattern analysis indicators, impact of accelerants on fire growth and spread, ignition studies and electrical fire cause analysis.

In FY 2015, ATF's laboratories accomplished the following:

- Received 2,457 requests for analysis and testing
- Completed analysis on 1,975 forensic cases (FSL)
- Performed 190 laboratory case testing experiments (FRL)
- Performed 152 laboratory research testing experiments (FRL)
- Provided 87 days of expert testimony in the courts
- Worked 177 days at crime scenes
- Provided 834 days of training instruction for federal, state and local investigators and examiners

h. Financial Investigations

ATF's forensic auditors are expert in the field of forensic accounting and financial investigations. They conduct comprehensive financial investigations for special agents in support of criminal investigations. This includes, but is not limited to,

arson-for-profit, alcohol and tobacco diversion, firearms and narcotics trafficking cases, the use of explosives and bombings in the furtherance of financial frauds, counter-terrorism, threats to public safety, as well as investigations into gang and other organized criminal enterprises, and complex investigations involving both domestic and international money laundering. The Financial Investigative Services Division (FISD) supports over 650 criminal financial investigations annually. These complex investigations involve criminal organizations, multiple subjects and their businesses, varied and numerous money laundering schemes, asset identification, and forfeiture.

i. Collaboration and Partnerships

ATF is engaged in many cooperative agreements, collaborations and partnerships with other Federal agencies, private industry, and in the international arena. For example, ATF is fully engaged with and provides support to Government anti-terrorism efforts, especially the FBI-led Joint Terrorism Task Forces (JTTFs). ATF participates in JTTFs, and assigns one ATF special agent to the National JTTF at the National Counter-Terrorism Center. In working with the JTTF, ATF plays an important part in terrorism cases that involve firearms smuggling, bombs, illegal explosive possession, and tobacco diversion. ATF furthers the fulfillment of our mission by participating in other multi-agency efforts such as High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), High Intensity Financial Crime Areas (HIFCA), and the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF). Through these partnerships, ATF plays a major role in the prevention and investigation of violent firearms crimes involving gangs and organized criminal enterprises, and provides direct investigative expertise to criminal explosives, arson incidents and threats. These collaborative efforts also allow ATF to be a key component in combating organized crime that threatens U.S. national and economic security.

International Policy. At the request of the Department of State, ATF serves as an advocate for the firearms policies of the U.S. in international forums such as the United Nations and the Organization of American States. ATF ensures that the international firearms agreements in which the U.S. participates are consistent with U.S. laws, regulations, policies, and practices. The United Nations Program of Action, the Organization of American States Convention on Firearms, and the International Tracing Instrument are just a few of the agreements through which ATF protects the policies of the U.S. in international settings.

j. Emergency Support Function (ESF) #13

Ensuring the safety and protection of the public is a critical service needed in the aftermath of any disaster. ATF is the lead for the DOJ efforts to manage ESF #13, one of the 15 emergency support functions established by the National Response Framework (NRF).

Through ESF #13, Federal law enforcement assets will be directed to assist federal, state, local, and tribal authorities with public-safety and security-related missions ranging from any serious, but purely local incident, to large-scale terrorist attacks or catastrophic natural disasters. Although any ESF #13 response will be a collaborative effort among partner law enforcement agencies, ATF is responsible for (1) establishing ESF #13 law enforcement planning for the 50 states and four territories, and (2) managing and coordinating the day-to-day ESF #13 operations between all federal, state, local, tribal and territorial public safety entities. In addition to day-to-day operations, ATF, in concert with our partner agencies, must immediately respond nationally, regionally and locally to any ESF #13 activation until other Federal resources can mobilize and participate. Some recent examples of ESF #13 activations include Hurricane Joaquin and the Baltimore, MD riots which both took place in 2015.

2. Performance Tables – ^{1, 2, 3}

PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES TABLE											
Decision Unit: Law Enforcement Operations											
DOJ Strategic Goal/Objective:											
DOJ Strategic Goal 1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security Consistent with the Rule of Law.											
Strategic Objective 1.1: Prevent, disrupt, and defeat terrorist operations before they occur by integrating intelligence and law enforcement efforts to achieve a coordinated response to terrorist threats.											
DOJ Strategic Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Protect the Rights of the American People, and Enforce Federal Law.											
Strategic Objective 2.1: Combat the threat, incidence, and prevalence of violent crime by leveraging strategic partnerships to investigate, arrest, and prosecute violent offenders and illegal firearms traffickers.											
WORKLOAD/RESOURCES		Target		Actual		Projected		Changes		Requested (Total)	
		FY 2015		FY 2015		FY 2016		Adjustments and FY 2017 Program Change		FY 2017 Request	
Total Costs and FTE		FTE	\$,000	FTE	\$,000	FTE	\$,000	FTE	\$,000	FTE	\$,000
Law Enforcement Operations Strategic Goal 1.1		1,647	405,409	1,696	319,905	1,340	330,613	52	17,417	1,392	348,030
Law Enforcement Operations Strategic Goal 2.1		2,471	608,114	2,544	679,797	2,849	702,554	109	37,012	2,958	739,566
Total Costs		4,118	1,013,523	4,240	999,702	4,189	1,033,167	161	54,429	4,350	1,087,596
Program Activity	Illegal Firearms Trafficking	522	134,105	521	121,726	535	125,378	13	7,582	548	132,960
Program Activity	Firearms Criminal Use and Possession	1,680	434,253	1,836	461,266	1,879	475,104	27	15,748	1,906	490,852
Program Activity	Diversion of Firearms from Legal Commerce	722	142,236	696	135,896	720	139,973	60	12,254	780	152,227
Program Activity	Criminal Groups and Gangs	296	73,871	334	80,595	345	83,013	15	830	360	83,843
Program Activity	Criminal Use of Explosives	195	45,924	200	47,875	204	49,311	5	493	209	49,804
Program Activity	Diversion of Explosives from Legal Commerce	271	52,254	306	59,104	306	60,877	8	609	314	61,486
Program Activity	Criminal Use of Fire	191	46,363	199	49,115	200	50,588	3	506	203	51,094

¹ Note: Both of the decision units (Law Enforcement Operations and Investigate Support Services) work interdependently to demonstrate ATF's actual performance.

² Note: The sum of the program activity resources and FTE will not add up to the total for each decision unit, because it does not include administrative overhead.

³ Note: In FY 2015, ATF requested and was approved a Congressional reprogramming to realign resources from the Law Enforcement Operations Decision Unit to the Investigative Services Support Decision Unit.

PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES TABLE

Decision Unit: Investigative Support Services

DOJ Strategic Goal/Objective:

DOJ Strategic Goal 1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security Consistent with the Rule of Law.

Strategic Objective 1.1: Prevent, disrupt, and defeat terrorist operations before they occur by integrating intelligence and law enforcement efforts to achieve a coordinated response to terrorist threats.

DOJ Strategic Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Protect the Rights of the American People, and Enforce Federal Law.

Strategic Objective 2.1: Combat the threat, incidence, and prevalence of violent crime by leveraging strategic partnerships to investigate, arrest, and prosecute violent offenders and illegal firearms traffickers.

WORKLOAD/RESOURCES		Target		Actual		Projected		Changes		Requested (Total)	
		FY 2015		FY 2015		FY 2016		Adjustments and FY 2017 Program Change		FY 2017 Request	
Total Costs and FTE		FTE	\$,000	FTE	\$,000	FTE	\$,000	FTE	\$,000	FTE	\$,000
Investigative Support Svcs Strategic Goal 1.1		305	74,990	231	64,042	268	66,186	9	3,723	277	69,909
Investigative Support Svcs Strategic Goal 2.1		457	112,486	347	136,090	571	140,646	18	7,911	589	148,557
Total Costs		762	187,476	578	200,132	839	206,832	27	11,634	866	218,466
Program Activity	Firearms and Explosives Licensing and Other Industry Services	114	25,133	124	25,884	124	26,661	11	3,427	135	30,088
Program Activity	Firearms Tracing	65	39,324	60	37,599	60	38,727	0	2,246	60	40,973
Program Activity	National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN)	29	29,079	27	28,186	27	32,186	4	4,000	31	36,186
Program Activity	National Center for Explosives Training and Research (NCETR)(incl Canine)	105	36,281	121	44,527	121	45,863	2	459	123	46,321
Program Activity	United States Bomb Data Center	11	2,460	14	3,282	14	3,380	0	34	14	3,414
Program Activity	Terrorist Explosives Device Analytical Center (TEDAC)	10	2,290	8	2,017	8	2,078	0	21	8	2,098
Program Activity	ATF Laboratories	95	28,541	92	22,982	95	23,671	3	237	98	23,908
Program Activity	Financial Investigative Services	55	12,647	53	12,459	53	12,833	0	128	53	12,961
Program Activity	ESF #13	13	4,740	11	4,749	13	4,891	0	49	13	4,940

PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES TABLE

Decision Unit: Law Enforcement Operations/Investigative Support Services

DOJ Strategic Goal/Objective: Goal 1, Objective 1.1; Goal 2, Objective 2.1

WORKLOAD/RESOURCES		Target	Actual	Projected	Changes	Requested (Total)
		FY 2015	FY 2015	FY 2016	Current Services Adjustments and FY 2017 Program Change	FY 2017 Request
OUTCOME Measure	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by illegal firearms trafficking	106	105.2	106	5.4	111
OUTCOME Measure	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by criminal possession and use of firearms	92	102.6	92	0	92
OUTCOME Measure	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by criminal organizations and gangs	96	96.2	96	0	96
OUTCOME Measure	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by bomb and explosives	86	100.2	86	0	86
OUTCOME Measure	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by criminal use of fire	90	103.9	90	0	90
OUTCOME Measure	Improve public safety by increasing compliance with Federal laws and regulations by firearms industry members	87	90.4	87	0	87
OUTCOME Measure	Improve public safety by increasing compliance with Federal laws and regulations by explosives industry members	95	104.3	95	0	95

PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES TABLE

Decision Unit: Investigative Support Services

Performance Report and Performance Plan Targets		2012	2013	2014	2015		2016	2017
		Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Target
OUTCOME Measure	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by illegal firearms trafficking	98.6	74.5	84.6	106	105.2	106	111
OUTCOME Measure	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by criminal possession and use of firearms	97.5	81.8	58.7	92	102.6	92	92
OUTCOME Measure	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by criminal organizations and gangs	93.2	74.3	78.2	96	96.2	96	96
OUTCOME Measure	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by bomb and explosives	88.9	83.3	81.8	86	100.2	86	86
OUTCOME Measure	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by criminal use of fire	73.5	89.5	86.8	90	103.9	90	90
OUTCOME Measure	Improve public safety by increasing compliance with Federal laws and regulations by firearms industry members	104.4	102.5	95.4	87	90.4	87	87
OUTCOME Measure	Improve public safety by increasing compliance with Federal laws and regulations by explosives industry members	105.7	88.2	89.3	95	104.3	95	95

C. Performance, Resources, and Strategies

1. Performance Plan and Report for Outcomes

The ATF Performance Index is a management tool that helps facilitate informed decision making regarding ATF's priorities, activities and resources. The Performance Index aligns ATF's budget decision units with the Bureau's performance goal statements, strategic objectives and their corresponding performance indicators within the ATF strategic plan for a comprehensive tracking and measurement of performance across the Bureau which:

- Summarizes related facts (indicators) into a single outcome (performance goal measure) to show impact, effectiveness and progress towards established goals (targets)
- Collects trend analysis over time of the impact and effectiveness of performance goal measures (outcome) relative to the established base year.

There are 10 core functions identified in the ATF strategic plan. ATF's Executive leadership has focused on the seven mission driven core functions (highlighted in blue below) to report ATF's outcome-based performance goal measures.

<i>Core Function</i>	<i>Performance Goal Measure</i>
Illegal Firearms Trafficking	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by illegal firearms trafficking
Firearms Criminal Possession and Use	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by criminal possession and use of firearms
Firearms Industry Operations	Improve public safety by increasing compliance with Federal laws and regulations by firearms industry members
Criminal Groups and Gangs	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by criminal organizations and gangs
Explosives, Bombs, and Bombings	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by bombs and explosives
Explosives Industry Operations	Improve public safety by increasing compliance with Federal laws and regulations by explosives industry members
Fire and Arson	Reduce the risk to public safety caused by criminal use of fire
Alcohol and Tobacco	Reduce the risk to public safety and reduce the loss of tax revenues caused by contraband alcohol and tobacco trafficking
Modernization	Modernize business processes and systems for improved mission effectiveness and transparency
Workforce	Attract, develop, and retain an expert workforce to execute the ATF mission

ATF's performance measures support both the Law Enforcement Operations and the Investigative Support Services decision units working interdependently to demonstrate ATF's actual performance. ATF's performance data is compiled and calculated into actuals for each performance goal measure which is measured against the established target in the budget to provide a statistical measure of achievements, assess how performance changes over time and demonstrate how performance relates to resources. The Performance Index allows ATF to collect and analyze data in ways that give ATF leaders the ability to:

- Recognize performance trends
- Push for organizational efficiencies
- Have needed discussions and dialogue
- Implement corrective action plans, if needed

The Alcohol and Tobacco core function is not measured at the performance goal measure level, however, the underlying indicators and performance data are captured under the Criminal Groups and Gangs performance goal measure. Modernization and Workforce performance data is tracked at the bureau wide level since they are not tied to the Budget decision units.

The performance indicators and assigned weights are based on Executive leadership decisions that define each indicator's impact on its respective performance goal measure.

2. Strategies to Accomplish Outcomes

ATF's strategies to investigate and prevent violent crime are focused under Frontline which is intelligence-driven and aligns with the core functions and priorities in ATF's Strategic Plan. ATF develops customized strategies within each of its 25 field divisions based on assessments of the most significant violent crime threats within their areas of responsibility. The assessments factor in emerging crime trends, significant criminal activity, issues faced by local industry members, the proximity and priorities of federal, state, local and other external partners, available ATF resources, as well as, unique data and intelligence developed by ATF, and other intelligence and crime-related data available through federal, state and local partners. All of this information is used to plan the best use of resources at the local and national level for the greatest impact to reduce violent crime and safeguard the public.

V. Program Increases by Item

Item Name: Enforcement, Inspection and Regulatory Support

Type of Change: Increase

Budget Decision Unit(s): Law Enforcement Operations

Organizational Program: Enforcement, Inspection and Regulatory Support

Strategic Goal: Strategic Goal 1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security

Strategic Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Enforce Federal Laws, and Represent the Rights and Interests of the American People

Component Ranking of Program Increase: 1 of 4

Program Change: Positions 200 Agt 80 FTE 100 Dollars \$35,585,000

Description of Item

An additional 80 new special agents and 120 IOIs are requested in this program increase to support ATF's overall violent crime reduction efforts, primarily through enhanced enforcement, regulatory and inspection support. This enhancement was highlighted as part of the President's Executive actions to reduce gun violence in American communities, and supports ATF's continued enforcement focus on firearms traffickers and violent criminals, and maintaining regulatory oversight along with an educational program to better inform the public about when a federal firearms license is required under federal law.

Support of the Department's Strategic Goals

ATF's overall mission supports two of three DOJ Strategic Goals – Goal 1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security Consistent with the Rule of Law and Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Enforce Federal Laws and Represent the Rights and Interests of the American People.

Justification

This program enhancement will enable ATF to increase staffing for new special agents and IOIs to reduce gun violence and address the ongoing gun violence problem affecting many American cities. It will also allow ATF to provide more effective and efficient oversight support to the firearms and explosives industries. This is critical due to increasing firearms commerce over the last several years as well as the anticipated additional increase in oversight support resulting from the President's Executive actions to reduce gun violence. As of November 2015, there were approximately 138,400 Federal firearms licensees (FFLs), of which 78,925 were firearms dealers. ATF has issued guidance which clarified when a federal firearms license is required

under federal law.¹ While it is impossible to accurately predict how many additional licenses will be issued in response to this clarification, it is reasonable to assume that the number of new applications for FFLs will increase. In addition, ATF is expanding its educational outreach to the public – including at gun shows and other venues where firearms are regularly bought and sold – and will continue to concentrate its enforcement efforts on persons who supply firearms to persons who cannot lawfully possess them, regardless of whether they are unlawfully dealing in firearms without a license, or are one of the small number of licensed dealers engaged in this activity.

Industry Operations: To successfully execute these activities, ATF is requesting 120 additional IOIs. These IOI resources are needed to conduct additional FFL license application and compliance inspections and to provide education and outreach activities at venues where firearms are regularly bought and sold.

Although ATF cannot firmly estimate the number of additional FFL applications that may result from its expanded education and outreach efforts, even a modest increase of several hundred FFL applicants (i.e., an increase of less than 5%) would further strain ATF's existing IOI resources.² ATF already lacks the requisite number of IOIs to achieve its current goal of inspecting every FFL in a source state once every 3 years, and all other FFLs once every 5 years.³ Unlike FFL compliance inspections, new applicant inspections – the type of inspections that may increase in 2017 – must be completed in a statutorily mandated time period, and cannot be deferred. Moreover, deferring existing FFL inspections to meet the resource needs of this initiative would be highly counterproductive. ATF's inspection cycle is risk-based, focusing on FFLs most likely to be non-compliant. Deferring these inspections would compromise the public safety benefits of the initiative. Finally, because ATF's existing IOI population is also responsible for conducting inspections of all FELs on a statutorily mandated schedule, redirecting IOI resources from FEL regulation is not a viable alternative to meet the needs of this initiative.

Beyond the need for additional IOIs to conduct license and compliance inspections on new FFLs, additional IOI resources will be necessary to execute the essential education component. To ensure effective implementation, the education component will include increased deployment of IOIs to gun shows, flea markets, and other industry functions to provide enhanced outreach and guidance to FFLs and unlicensed sellers as to when a license is required. As outlined above, ATF's existing IOI resources are not sufficient to perform this crucial educational function of the initiative without compromising existing service levels.

¹ ATF has issued guidance summarizing and explaining the existing statutory requirements and court cases applying those requirements. This guidance is located at the following: <https://www.atf.gov/file/100871/download>.

² As noted, although ATF anticipates that issuance of the guidance will result in an increase in FFL applications, it is very difficult to predict the volume of that increase. Based on experience and assessment of current market conditions, ATF believes the increase will fall in the range of 5 to 15%. ATF believes the requested allocation of 120 additional IOI's would provide the minimum additional capacity necessary to both address increased application volume in this range and to enhance education and outreach efforts without substantially compromising current service levels.

³ Conducting license applications inspections requires, on average, 25 IOI work hours. Routine compliance inspections (i.e., those that do not involve significant violations or extensive inventory reconciliation) require, on average, 55 IOI work hours. More complex inspections can require hundreds of IOI work hours.

An increase of 120 IOIs will provide ATF with the ability to maintain its risk-based FFL inspection cycle while simultaneously engaging in essential outreach and education as well as addressing a modest increase in the FFL population.

Enforcement Efforts: The additional resources will allow ATF to more effectively enforce existing firearms laws. As noted, this initiative will pair enhanced guidance to the public as to when a license is required with continued, focused enforcement efforts against those who provide firearms to criminals and persons prohibited from possessing them, and endangering the safety of the public. Enhanced resources dedicated to this existing – and important – enforcement work will allow ATF to have a greater impact on public safety, and ensure it has the personnel to address unlawful firearms trafficking wherever it may occur, including through the internet.

ATF investigates and pursues criminal sanctions against persons who illegally traffic in firearms – regardless of whether they are FFLs or unlicensed sellers. Accordingly, in order to effectively execute its enforcement mission and continue to focus on illegal firearms trafficking, ATF requests an additional 80 special agents to support this effort.

Impact on Performance

ATF recognizes the role that firearms play in violent crimes and pursues an integrated regulatory and enforcement strategy. Investigative priorities focus on armed violent offenders and career criminals, narcotics traffickers, violent gangs, and domestic and international arms traffickers. Sections 924(c) and (e) of Title 18 of the United States Code provide mandatory and enhanced sentencing guidelines for armed career criminals and narcotics traffickers as well as other dangerous armed criminals.

Using the full range of its statutory authority, including these enhanced penalty provisions, ATF focuses investigative efforts on these offenders to reduce the level of violent crime and to enhance public safety. ATF also strives to increase State and local awareness of available Federal prosecution under these statutes. To curb the illegal use of firearms and enforce the Federal firearms laws, ATF issues firearms licenses and conducts firearms licensee qualification and compliance inspections. In addition to aiding the enforcement of Federal requirements for gun purchases, compliance inspections of existing licensees focus on assisting law enforcement to identify and apprehend criminals who illegally purchase firearms.

The inspections also help improve the likelihood that crime gun traces will be successful, since inspectors educate licensees in proper record keeping and business practices. Compliance inspections target licensees likely to divert firearms from legitimate trade to criminal use and dealers with a history of poor compliance.

Funding

Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)
4,305	2,112	4,118	1,013,524	4,250	2,112	4,189	1,033,168	4,250	2,112	4,250	1,042,964

Personnel Increase Cost Summary

Type of Position/Series	Modular Cost per Position (\$000)	Number of Positions Requested	FY 2017 Request (\$000)
Special Agents (1811)	292	80	23,331
Industry Operations Investigators (IOI)	102	120	12,254
Total Personnel		200	35,585

Non-Personnel Increase Cost Summary

N/A

Total Request for this Item

	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non- Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)
Current Services	4,250	2,112	4,250	680,000	362,964	1,042,964
Increases	200	80	100	35,585	0	35,585
Grand Total	4,450	2,192	4,350	715,585	362,964	1,078,549

Item Name: **National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN)**

Type of Change: Increase

Budget Decision Unit(s): Investigative Support Services

Organizational Program: National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN)

Strategic Goal: Strategic Goal 1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security

Strategic Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Enforce Federal Laws, and Represent the Rights and Interests of the American People

Component Ranking of Program Increase: 2 of 4

Program Change: Positions 8 Agt 0 FTE 4 Dollars \$4,000,000

Description of Item

ATF requests \$4,000,000 including eight new positions to increase technical support capabilities to its investigative support services functions. This funding will enhance the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN). This program increase will reinforce ATF's ballistics intelligence.

Support of the Department's Strategic Goals

ATF's overall mission supports two of three DOJ Strategic Goals – Goal 1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security Consistent with the Rule of Law and Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Enforce Federal Laws, and Represent the Rights and Interests of the American People.

Justification

NIBIN facilitates crime gun intelligence sharing across federal, state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement agencies. It creates a network of forensic ballistic images to match evidence from one or more crime scenes or terrorist acts involving firearms. NIBIN allows quick discovery of links between crimes and terrorist acts and provides law enforcement at all levels with a valuable intelligence tool. The NIBIN Program is the only ballistic imaging system operating in the United States that is networked across state, county and local jurisdictions. ATF deploys Integrated Ballistic Identification System (IBIS) equipment to federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to image and compare crime gun evidence.

In announcing recent Executive Actions to reduce firearm violence, the Administration recognized that enhanced funding for the NIBIN program is essential to the success of

efforts to reduce gun crimes. Consistent with the Administration's goal of enhancing the NIBIN program, ATF is requesting \$4 million for continued modernization of the program. Of the total request, \$1 million is for modernization efforts for ATF's ballistic imaging hardware and software, \$0.5 million for first year costs for eight new additional personnel, \$1.5 million for continued expansion of the NIBIN National Correlation Center, and \$1 million to work with the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) to develop a unified standard for ballistics imaging technology.

The upgrades to the imaging hardware (BrassTrax) and software will add HD and 3D software capabilities to dramatically improve the quality of the NIBIN images, thus increasing the speed, efficiency, and accuracy of the technicians' correlation analysis. After the enactment of this request, nearly half of the NIBIN sites, spread out over numerous cities across the United States, will be operating with the most up-to-date ballistic identification technology to better serve law enforcement. Additionally, this upgrade will allow all 154 sites to operate from the same technological platforms and remain DOJ security compliant.

The request will also fund eight additional positions: six Integrated Ballistic Identification Specialists (IBIS) across ATF's three laboratories, a NIBIN program manager, and one analyst. These eight positions will allow NIBIN to meet all training needs, expand NIBIN services to additional law enforcement agencies, and provide back-up capacity at each laboratory site.

In addition, ATF requests \$1.5 million to continue developing the capacity of the NIBIN National Correlation and Training Center (NNCTC) at ATF's National Center for Explosives Training and Research (NCETR) facility in Huntsville, Alabama. The NNCTC provides NIBIN correlation services and training to ATF's law enforcement partners. ATF began providing correlation services to a small number of NIBIN sites in 2016, and intends to expand this service nationwide as resources permit. Additionally, due to current training limitations, ATF frequently must deny and/or significantly delay NIBIN training requests from state and local law enforcement entities across the country. These denials or delays impact the overall capabilities at the requesting sites, ultimately limiting the quantity to which state and local partners can enter and/or compare ballistic images. Historically, this has also led to sites limiting their ballistic services to the field, which diminishes the value of ballistic leads provided. Since there is no formal training site currently available, the NIBIN staff currently provides training at one of ATF's three national labs – Beltsville, MD; Atlanta, GA; or Walnut Creek, CA. These labs lack the capacity and equipment to train multiple people simultaneously. The NNCTC provides consistent and scheduled training times, as well as a suitable location to train state and local participants. In addition, the dedicated training space will free lab personnel's time to enter, process, and analyze NIBIN entries from the field in support of ongoing criminal investigations as they will no longer have to take time away from investigative case work to train new NIBIN users. ATF anticipates that the NNCTC will provide weekly training year round. Since the NNCTC will provide more training options, state and local agencies will have the ability to train their staff to be more timely and comprehensive in their NIBIN processes. By providing this service, ATF anticipates improving efficiency and timeliness issues that currently limit the effectiveness of the NIBIN Program. Essentially, this will allow ATF and state and local

partners to provide more timely and relevant ballistics intelligence that will lead to additional referrals for prosecution.

The development of a unified standard for ballistics imaging technology, will provide incentive for vendors to offer products to compete with ATF's current sole source vendor for NIBIN equipment. Such marketplace competition will drive the development of more advanced technology for NIBIN, and should drive down prices, ultimately making NIBIN more accessible to law enforcement. Since ATF does not have a research and development department, the agency partners with the National Institute for Science and Technology (NIST) for assistance in developing a unified standard. NIST has existing ballistics standards, and NIST experts will assist and guide ATF in developing a unified standard and the identification of crossover correlation technologies.

Impact on Performance

The NIBIN Program automates the ability to evaluate ballistics providing investigative leads to investigators in a timely manner. Prior to the NIBIN Program, this process was done manually and is extremely labor intensive. ATF has worked to place the program in strategic locations across the country to give investigators an edge in the fight against firearms related violence. Additionally, this program works to identify shooters plaguing our communities and threatening the well-being of the American public.

The NNCTC offers partner sites another option for NIBIN access and training. The NNCTC both provides correlation services to partners, and provides ATF the capacity to continuously improve the training and create critical and consistent training standards for NIBIN correlation. Through NNCTC, partner sites can spend more time and resources acquiring evidence, confirming matches (or “hits”), or performing other investigative support functions.

The NNCTC would allow sites to focus on core duties and provide more timely and comprehensive analyses. Ultimately, this would allow ATF to assume roughly two-thirds of the NIBIN workload, which would result in more valuable and timely ballistics intelligence. In addition to saving sites time and resources, the NNCTC would:

- Review every image entered into NIBIN for quality control
- Provide consistent capable correlation service
- Issue NIBIN leads to partner sites within 24-48 hours of entry
- Serve as ATF’s NIBIN Training Center

Funding

Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)
29	7	29	29,079	27	7	27	32,186	27	7	27	32,186

Personnel Increase Cost Summary

Type of Position/Series	Modular Cost per Position (\$000)	Number of Positions Requested	FY 2017 Request (\$000)
Miscellaneous Operations (0001-0099)	65	8	517
Total Personnel		8	517

Non-Personnel Increase Cost Summary

Non-Personnel Item	Unit Cost	Quantity	FY 2017 Request (\$000)
NIBIN		1	3,483
Total Non-Personnel			3,483

Total Request for this Item

	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non- Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)
Current Services	27	7	27	4,320	27,866	32,186
Increases	8	0	4	517	3,483	4,000
Grand Total	35	7	31	4,837	31,349	36,186

Item Name: **Industry Support**

Type of Change: Increase

Budget Decision Unit(s): Investigative Support Services

Organizational Program: Industry Support

Strategic Goal: Strategic Goal 1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security

Strategic Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Enforce Federal Laws, and Represent the Rights and Interests of the American People

Component Ranking of Program Increase: 3 of 4

Program Change: Positions 22 Agt 0 FTE 11 Dollars \$5,673,000

Description of Item

ATF requests \$5.7 million for firearms and explosives industry support. These resources will assist in ATF's mission to fight violent crime, aid the Federal Government's effort to combat terrorism, and help safeguard the firearms and explosives industry through enhanced firearms tracing and service delivery for these regulated industries that depend upon ATF to support their commerce. It will support processing firearms and explosives licensing applications within the 60-day and 90-day timeframe as mandated under current statutes and expected by applicants. The requested 22 positions will continue to reduce processing delays and backlog and improve performance for processing NFA applications and licensing activities.

Support of the Department's Strategic Goals (not required for Program Offsets)

ATF's overall mission supports two of three DOJ Strategic Goals – Goal 1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security Consistent with the Rule of Law and Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Enforce Federal Laws and Represent the Rights and Interests of the American People.

Justification

ATF is responsible for supporting the Federal Government's effort to prevent terrorism, reducing violent crime, and protecting the public by solely administering the statutory requirements for licensing, permitting, and tax and fee collection codified in the Gun Control Act (GCA), National Firearms Act (NFA), Safe Explosives Act (SEA), and Arms Export Control Act (AECA). ATF receives hundreds of daily contacts from external customers in the form of phone calls, mail and e-mail inquiries. The services provided by ATF are vital to the commerce and livelihood of industry members, international defense contractors, and suppliers of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. ATF also issues private citizens licenses for collectible curio and relic firearms. These licenses allow for the possession and transfer of collectible NFA

weapons, authorizes members of the U.S. military to lawfully return from active duty overseas with firearms acquired outside of the U.S., and assists returning U.S. citizens and new U.S. residents through the process for lawfully bringing personal firearms into the country. ATF operates a facility in Martinsburg, WV that provides the following public services,

- The Federal Firearms Licensing Center (FFLC) is responsible for reviewing and acting upon applications for Federal firearms licenses. According to 18 U.S.C. 923(d)(1)(G)(2) and 27 CFR 478.47(c), ATF is required to act upon these applications within 60 days of receipt.
- The Firearms and Explosives Imports Branch (FEIB) is responsible for processing and approving applications for the importation of a variety of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and implements of war for persons and for businesses wishing to import such materials into the United States.
- The National Firearms Act Branch (NFA) is responsible for the administration of the National Firearms Act, as amended, and regulations issued pursuant to the Act. It maintains the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record (NFRTR), the central registry of all NFA firearms in the United States.
- The Federal Explosives Licensing Center (FELC) is responsible for reviewing and acting upon applications for Federal explosives licenses. According to 18 U.S.C. 843(c) and 27 CFR 555.49(b)(3), ATF is required to act upon these applications within 90 days of receipt.

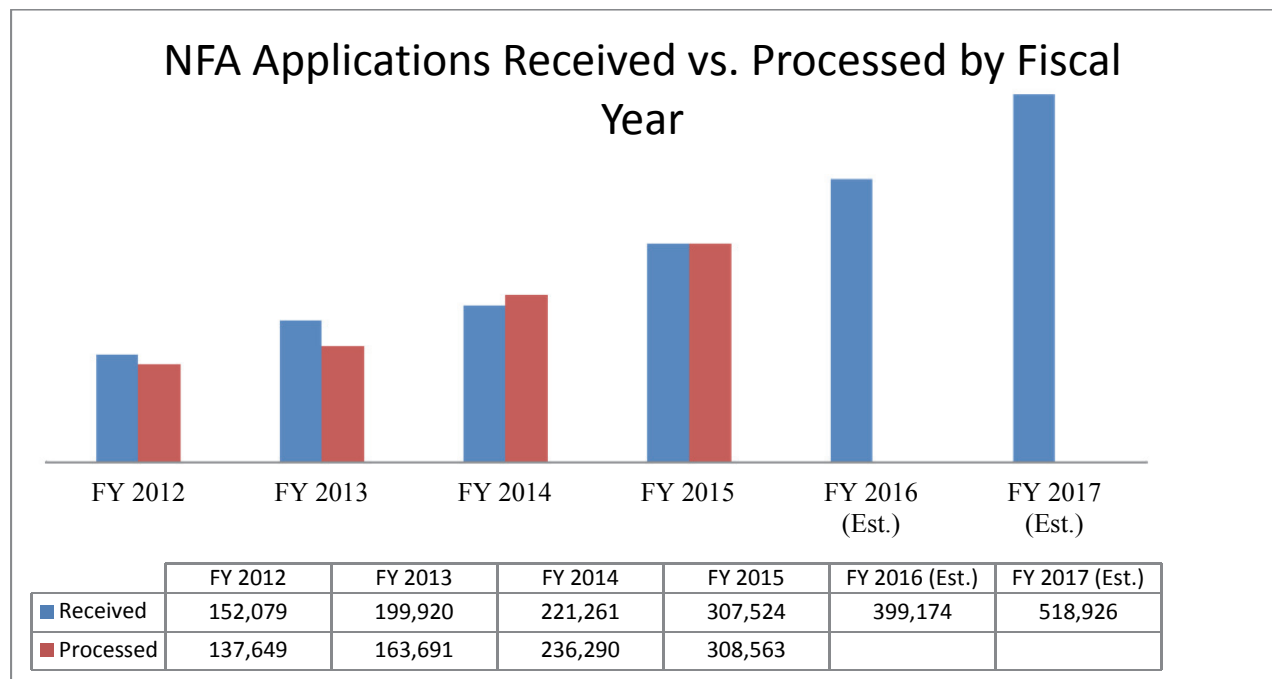
In addition, the National Tracing Center Division (NTC) conducts firearms tracing and associated programs and processes for federal, state, local, and foreign law enforcement agencies to produce investigative leads. Each year, the NTC traces hundreds of thousands of recovered crime guns for law enforcement – over 373,000 in FY 2015. The NTC is the only repository of crime gun trace data, multiple handgun sales information, demand letter information, FFL theft information, interstate theft information, suspect gun information, and firearms transaction records from out-of-business FFLs. The trace information allows ATF to link suspects to firearms in criminal investigations for law enforcement agencies; to identify illegal firearms traffickers through recurring patterns and trends indicative of illegal firearms trafficking; and provide ATF with valuable data that can be analyzed for trends to help communities develop focused strategies and programs that address specific factors that contribute to armed crime. By using the critical intelligence from tracing data, ATF prevents violent crime.

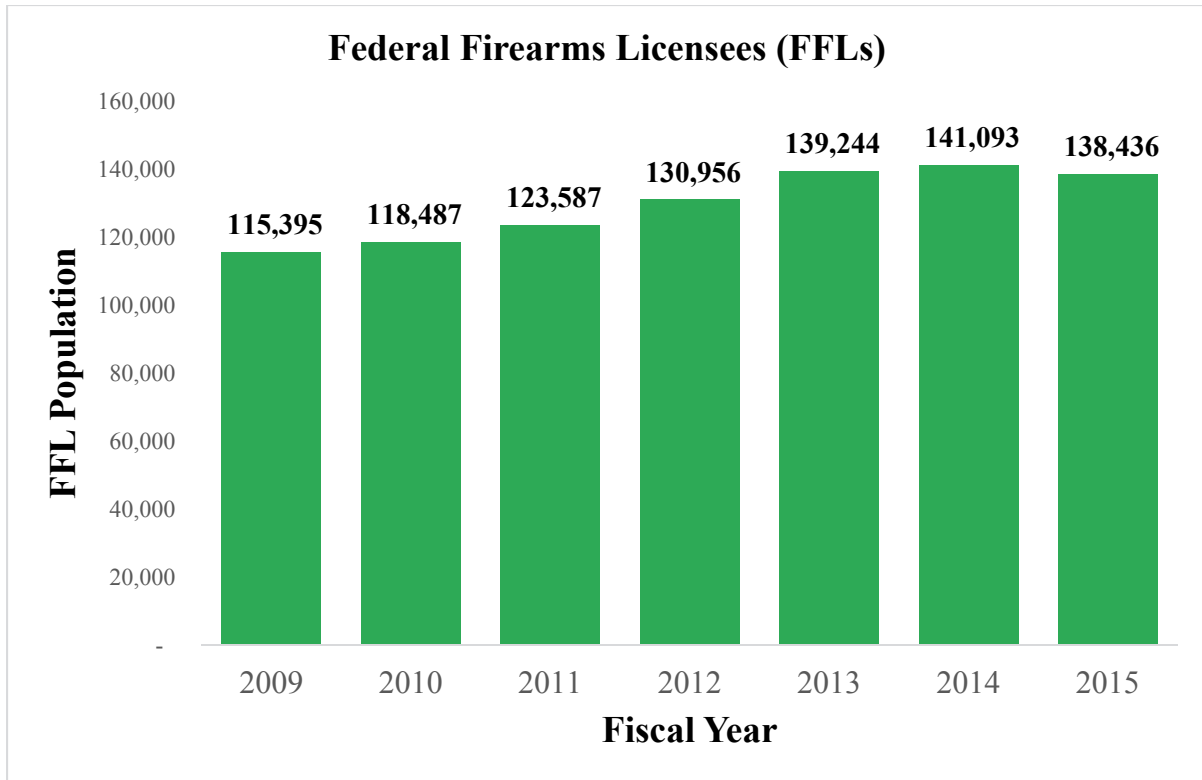
To enhance these essential industry support activities a total of 22 additional positions and \$4.2 million in non-personnel increases are included in this request. The additional personnel will be deployed to assist with licensing and NFA application backlog, developing policy and providing technical support to the regulated industries, and developing and issuing regulations and rulings that guide ATF-regulated industries without imposing an undue burden. Of the \$4.2 million in non-personnel increases, \$2 million will be for contractual support to reduce processing delays and backlog in the area of firearms and explosives licensing services, and NFA applications. An additional \$2.2 million will provide enhanced tracing capabilities with additional capacity and

even shorter average trace times. This funding is requested to upgrade software at ATF's National Tracing Center (NTC) related to Out of Business Records (OBR) processing in order to sustain that activity as the existing software is out of date and no longer supported. OBR are firearms transaction records which are required to be submitted to ATF upon the discontinuance of business by an FFL. The NTC receives more than 10 million OBR annually and uses those records to complete firearms trace requests to produce investigative leads for federal, state and local law enforcement agencies.

Impact on Performance

This request for additional human capital and monetary resources will provide a solid foundation for the continued and sustainable goal of providing shorter processing times and improve performance for various licensing functions, including imports and NFA applications, in an environment where the demands for these crucial services continues to grow. The following charts depict the substantial increase in NFA applications as well as in the number of FFLs in the firearms industry:





These enhancements will address the gaps that currently exist in the areas of crime gun tracing, firearms and explosives services, and licensing activities by reducing backlogs and processing delays related to firearms and explosives licensing services and tracing of recovered crime guns.

Funding

Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)
179	7	179	64,457	184	7	179	65,388	184	7	179	65,388

Personnel Increase Cost Summary

Type of Position/Series	Modular Cost per Position (\$000)	Number of Positions Requested	FY 2017 Request (\$000)
Miscellaneous Operations (0001-0099)	65	22	1,421
Total Personnel		22	1,421

Non-Personnel Increase Cost Summary

Non-Personnel Item	Unit Cost	Quantity	FY 2017 Request (\$000)
Firearms and Explosives Licensing and NFA Backlog		1	2,006
Tracing Enhancements		1	2,246
Total Non-Personnel			4,252

Total Request for this Item

	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non-Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)
Current Services	184	7	184	29,440	35,948	65,388
Increases	22	0	11	1,421	4,252	5,673
Grand Total	201	7	190	30,861	40,200	71,061

Item Name: Next Generation Case Management System (NGCMS)

Type of Change: Increase

Budget Decision Unit(s): Law Enforcement Operations

Organizational Program: Next Generation Case Management System (NGCMS)

Strategic Goal: Strategic Goal 1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security

Strategic Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Enforce Federal Laws, and Represent the Rights and Interests of the American People

Component Ranking of Program Increase: 4 of 4

Program Change: Positions 0 Agt 0 FTE 0 Dollars \$9,048,000

Description of Item

ATF requests \$9,048,000 to increase technical support capabilities to its law enforcement operations functions. This funding will enhance the Next Generation Case Management System (NGCMS). It is essential that ATF reinforce these vital components of law enforcement operations across the spectrum, to include case management capabilities.

Support of the Department's Strategic Goals

ATF's overall mission supports two of three DOJ Strategic Goals – Goal 1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security Consistent with the Rule of Law and Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Enforce Federal Laws, and Represent the Rights and Interests of the American People.

Justification

In order to continue achieving mission goals and provide real time knowledge throughout the organization, ATF must replace its outdated case management system. This budget request is for the continuation of development and deployment of the NGCMS in FY 2017. The NGCMS will allow ATF to fully access, share, and exploit information and intelligence contained in ATF's disparate case management systems. NGCMS will use a business process management platform to automate routing, sharing and tracking information. Through the automation of manual work processes the work culture can shift from one of collecting and reporting information to one of sharing knowledge in a timely fashion. The NGCMS would replace the legacy applications through the use of a single solution for case management, designed to meet ATF's future needs.

ATF's current case management system, National Field Office Case Information System (N-FOCIS), is comprised of four applications (N-Force, N-Force Vault, N-Spect and N-Quire).

These applications collect, process and report information from criminal investigations, regulatory inspections, and law enforcement intelligence gathering efforts. Currently, special agents and IOIs use disparate systems and processes to access information and report activity. ATF creates and reports business metrics and visualizations of trends and patterns through third party software. With NGCMS, ATF will be better equipped to identify criminal trends, establish non-obvious relationships, and provide more timely decision information and intelligence to the field. The N-FOCIS applications, initially developed in 1998, are critical to the mission of ATF, and are approaching the end of their life cycle. They require significant improvements to keep pace with changing technologies. The legacy N-FOCIS applications were designed to collect and report limited information. ATF has developed some functionality to allow for routing and tracking of information primarily limited to evidence. Maintenance of the existing applications, to allow for greater functionality, has grown costly due to the need for developers familiar with the outdated platform and the 1990's platform itself.

Understanding the need to replace the legacy N-FOCIS suite, ATF conducted a Business Process Re-Engineering (BPR) effort in the area of criminal and regulatory enforcement. Once complete ATF acquired the services of Gartner to review the outcome of the BPR and recommend what technology and approach would best meet ATF's needs in modernizing this mission critical functionality. This will be realized through the NGCMS application. This new technology will allow for rapid information dissemination internally and externally with our federal, state, local and international law enforcement partners. In addition, the NGCMS would leverage information across other systems in order to automate the business process.

Impact on Performance

NGCMS would, for example, increase the number of time saving tasks for system users. Special Agents and other users currently complete many forms manually with data that is already stored within the N-Force system. The new system will allow users to complete investigative forms by application, where feasible, rather than by hand. These forms would also allow for electronic workflow, as appropriate, within or outside of ATF. The new system will reduce data entry redundancy and increase data integrity by increasing the number of automatic management log entries and through additional N-Force and N-Force Vault time saving features. Additionally, the new system will introduce a computerized tracking of case expenditures in the application. The new system will also enhance the ability to identify criminal trends, establish non-obvious relationships and provide timely decision information and intelligence to the field with our federal, state, and local and international law enforcement partners.

Funding

Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Personnel Increase Cost Summary

N/A

Non-Personnel Increase Cost Summary

Non-Personnel Item	Unit Cost	Quantity	FY 2017 Request (\$000)
Next Gen Case Management		1	9,048
Total Non-Personnel			9,048

Total Request for this Item

	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non-Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)
Current Services	0	0	0	0	0	0
Increases	0	0	0	0	9,048	9,048
Grand Total	0	0	0	0	9,048	9,048