



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives

Office of the Director

NOV 20 2013

Washington, DC 20226

Mr. Thomas O'Connell
Assistant United States Attorney
Northern District of California
450 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California 94102

Dear  Mr. O'Connell:

On behalf of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), I offer you my warmest congratulations on your retirement and my sincere thanks for your distinguished service to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and American law enforcement.

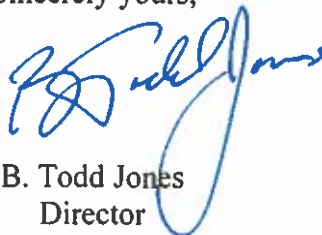
Your career as an Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) has been filled with many extraordinary contributions to the cause of justice — far too many to catalog in a single letter. Through your efforts, individuals guilty of such serious violations as drug distribution, extortion, money laundering, and robbery were successfully prosecuted.

You have been a great friend and tireless supporter of ATF. Your legal acumen and dogged determination greatly advanced the Bureau and its mission to protect the public and reduce violent crime. Your efforts have proved invaluable on case after case involving such heinous crimes as murder, firearms violations, kidnappings, bombings, and arson. Investigations of such violent crimes form the heart and soul of ATF's work. Your ability to analyze the evidence, build a strong case, and argue it in court ensured prison terms for some of the Nation's most dangerous criminals.

On every aspect of every case, you worked closely with our special agents to secure these convictions. Indeed, you may well be the most prolific prosecutor of Project Safe Neighborhood cases in the entire country. In just the past several years, from 2005 to 2013, you prosecuted three long-term undercover ATF operations, Steal Curtain, Money Train, and Garlic Press. These cases resulted in the arrest and prosecution of 190 suspects, 82 of whom were prosecuted by you, and many of whom received lengthy sentences in Federal prison.

AUSA O'Connell, you have earned the admiration and affection of your friends throughout the Bureau, especially those in the San Francisco Field Division and the San José Field Office. Please accept my deepest gratitude, and that of your colleagues, for your contributions to public safety, the shared missions of ATF and DOJ, and the United States.

Sincerely yours,


B. Todd Jones
Director

*Thanks Tom -
Enjoy, you earned
it.*