

United States Senate

February 1, 2013

B. Todd Jones
Acting Director
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives
United States Department of Justice
99 New York Avenue, NE, Room 5S 144
Washington, DC20226

Dear Mr. Jones:

The safety and security of the people of Wisconsin will always be my top concern. Consequently, I was deeply troubled to learn of news reports alleging a failed drug-and-gun operation in Milwaukee that may have put Wisconsin families at risk. This matter requires a swift and substantive response from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF).

Following conversations between our offices, I am pleased to hear that you have implemented an internal review of the failed operation in Milwaukee. My immediate concern is for the safety of those who live in the neighborhood of the store-front in which the failed operation took place. I encourage you to use all available resources to retrieve any stolen items, including firearms and sensitive documents, and bring to justice those who may have engaged in criminal activities. Please continue to communicate with my office any updates you have on the retrieval of items that pose a threat to the local community.

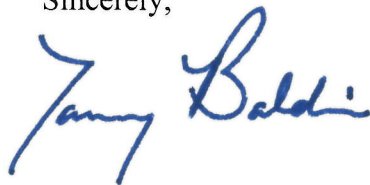
In addition, while conducting the internal review, I hope you will provide a complete analysis of the failures associated with this operation. Based on the reports in the press, I am particularly concerned with the apparent disregard for the safety of the neighborhood, lack of security at the store-front, and improper supervision of the operation.

The ATF plays an important role in protecting communities from violent criminals, criminal organizations, and firearms trafficking. However, I am very disappointed in the failures associated with this operation. I am open to engaging in a conversation on how Congress can assist your agency in ensuring you have the tools necessary to accomplish your mission. With that said, it is clear a renewed focus on internal agency procedures is needed.

My office will be in contact to further discuss the failed operation in Milwaukee and how Congress can assist your agency in its work on behalf of hardworking Wisconsin taxpayers. In

the meantime, please do everything in your power to protect Wisconsin families and investigate this matter to its fullest, accounting for the many questions that deserve answers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tammy Baldwin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tammy Baldwin
U.S. Senator