

*Operation Fast and Furious was a ground-up operation.*

- The Inspector General’s report found that “Operation Fast and Furious and related matters revealed a series of misguided strategies, tactics, errors in judgment, and management failures that permeated ATF Headquarters and the Phoenix Field Division, as well as the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Arizona.” (p. 471)
- The Inspector General’s report also found that “the decision of ATF and the U.S. Attorney’s Office to not take action against straw purchasers earlier in the investigation was primarily the result of tactical and strategic decisions by the agents and prosecutors, rather than because of any legal limitation on their ability to do so.” (p. 134)
- Similarly, Ranking Member Cummings’s report found that “ATF agents in Phoenix and prosecutors in the Arizona U.S. Attorney’s Office embarked on a deliberate strategy not to arrest straw purchasers while they attempted to make larger cases against higher-level targets,” and that “these officials claimed they had no probable cause to arrest any straw purchasers at the time.”