

*No finding that senior Department officials intentionally misled Congress.*

- The Inspector General’s report did not find that senior Justice Department officials engaged in an intentional effort to mislead Congress. Instead, the Inspector General found that “Department officials relied on information provided by senior component officials that was not accurate.” (p. 395)
- The Inspector General’s report also found: “In preparing the February 4 response to the allegations in Sen. Grassley’s January 27 letter, the primary sources of information to Department officials about Operation Fast and Furious were [U.S. Attorney Dennis] Burke, [Acting ATF Director Ken] Melson, and [Acting ATF Deputy Director Billy] Hoover ... these component officials failed to exercise appropriate oversight of the investigation, and to some extent were themselves receiving incorrect or incomplete information from their subordinates about it.” (pp. 395-396)
- The Inspector General’s report also found that a “May 2 letter [to Congress] was true only in the most literal sense” and “reasonably could be understood as at least a partial reaffirmation of the February 4 letter at a time when Department officials knew or should have known that the February 4 letter contained inaccurate information.” (p. 468)
- The Inspector General’s report does not support Chairman Issa’s claims that “[t]here’s no question that this was a cover-up from day one,” that “the top brass at Justice they knew and reported and was fully aware that guns were walking while they were telling Congress that they never let guns walk,” and that “at some point, Eric Holder became part of the cover-up.”