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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2903

ARMED SERVICES

March 20, 2002

Jeffrey Rush, Jr.
Inspector General
Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Inspector General Rush:

I am writing to request that your Office conduct a complete audit of the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record (NFRTR). I am concerned that the NFRTR has been mismanaged by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF), and that the rights of law-abiding Americans may be compromised because of this.

The OIG has already conducted two audit reports identifying the serious errors in the NFRTR in 1998. However, these errors have not been remedied. I understand that Congress recently has appropriated \$500,000 to help the NFRTR with this issue. I request that the OIG oversee the BATF and its plans to use these funds to correct these mistakes, as is the intent of Congress.

My office can provide you with examples of the mismanagement of the NFRTR by the BATF. If you need this information, or have any other questions, please contact David Hickey at (202)224-8339. I appreciate your Office looking into this matter promptly, and look forward to learning of your progress as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


Bob Smith, U.S.S.