

**Special Report on Allegations
Concerning the Bureau of Alcohol,
Tobacco and Firearm's Registration
and Recordkeeping of the
National Firearms Registration
and Transfer Records**

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OCTOBER 26, 1998



Office of Inspector General

United States Department of the Treasury



OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

October 26, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN W. MAGAW, DIRECTOR
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS

FROM: Richard B. Calahan *Richard B. Calahan*
Deputy Inspector General

SUBJECT: Audit Report on Allegations Concerning
the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms'
Administration of the National Firearms
Registration and Transfer Record

The attached report presents the results of our review on Allegations Concerning the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms' Administration of the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record. The overall objective of this audit was to determine the accuracy of specific allegations that Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms' (ATF) employees had engaged in mismanagement, misconduct and improper record keeping of the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record (registry). Our review found:

- In 1988, contract employees had improperly disposed of certain documents;
- ATF granted amnesty National Firearms Administration (NFA) registrations to individuals after December 1, 1968 on a limited basis providing certain conditions were met. ATF had the authority to grant amnesty periods but did not publish its intent to grant amnesty;
- No evidence of felony perjury by ATF employees in letters to the complainant;
- Registration activity that ATF classifies as "other" did not include firearm registrations that were contrary to law; and
- registrations that may include persons who are now deceased.

