



DONATE


THE JUDICIAL WATCH BLOG
CORRUPTION CHRONICLES®

Valerie Jarrett Key Player in Fast and Furious Cover-Up After Holder Lied to Congress

OCTOBER 24, 2014

President Obama's trusted senior advisor, Valerie Jarrett, was a key player in the effort to cover up that Attorney General Eric Holder lied to Congress about the Fast and Furious scandal, according to public records obtained by Judicial Watch.

The information is part of a Department of Justice (DOJ) "Vaughn index" detailing records about the gun-running operation known as Fast and Furious. JW had to sue the agency for the records after the Obama administration failed to provide them under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). A federal court ordered the DOJ to provide the records over the agency's objections. Yesterday JW [reported](#) on the broad information in the records, including that Obama asserted executive privilege for Holder's wife as part of the administration's efforts to cover up the scandal.

Practically lost in the 1,000-plus pages of records is an index that shows Jarrett was brought in to manage the fact that Holder lied to Congress after the story about the disastrous gun-running operation broke in the media. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco Firearms and Explosives (ATF) ran the once-secret program that allowed guns from the U.S. to be smuggled into Mexico so they could eventually be traced to drug cartels. Instead, federal law enforcement officers lost track of hundreds of weapons which have been used in an unknown number of crimes, including the murder of a U.S. Border Patrol agent in Arizona.

The files received by JW include three electronic mails between Holder and Jarrett and one from former U.S. Attorney Dennis Burke to Jarrett. The e-mails with Holder are all from October 4, 2011, a significant date because, on the evening of October 3rd, Sheryl Attkisson (then at CBS news) released [documents](#) showing that Holder had been sent a briefing paper on Operation Fast and Furious on June 5, 2010. The [paper](#) was from the director of the National Drug Intelligence Center, Michael Walther.

This directly contradicted Holder's May 3, 2011 testimony to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, during which he stated that he, "probably heard about Fast and Furious for the first time over the last few weeks." The October 4, 2011 date may also be significant because it came shortly after the August 30, 2011 resignation of U.S. Attorney for Arizona Dennis Burke and reassignment of acting ATF director Kenneth Melson to the position of "senior forensics advisor" at DOJ.

The description of one of the e-mails, written from Jarrett to Holder, reads, "re: personnel issues." Another, also from Jarrett, reads, "outlining and discussing preferred course of action for future responses in light of recent development in congressional investigation." Unfortunately, the index is vague and that's all the information we have about them. Nevertheless, given the timing and subject of these e-mails, it seems clear that Jarrett quickly became a key player in the Fast and Furious cover-up in the immediate aftermath of the revelation that Holder had lied to Congress.

« « [Toward The Past: Obama Asserts Fast and Furious Executive Privilege Claim for Holder's Wife](#)
[Toward The Future: Obama May Have Been Elected With Illegal Votes](#) » »

© 2010-2015 Judicial Watch, Inc. All Rights Reserved.