

**U.S. Department of Justice**Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

Washington, DC 20226

[www.atf.gov](http://www.atf.gov)

CC-90531 FE:JPV

MAR - 2 2006

Mr. Len Savage  
President  
Historic Arms, LLC  
1486 Cherry Road  
Franklin, Georgia 30217

Dear Mr. Savage:

This is in response to your letter dated July 11, 2005, to the Director, in which you express concern about the Firearms Technology Branch (FTB) of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). In your letter, you express concern that the Firearms Technology Branch does not have a written testing procedure for evaluating firearms, and you also allege that ATF staff has threatened you. Your letter has been referred to the Office of Enforcement Programs and Services for response. We apologize for the delay in our response.

First, you express concern that the Firearms Technology Branch does not have a written procedure for evaluating firearms. As you are aware, ATF is the Federal agency charged with administering the Federal firearms laws. Under the provisions of both the National Firearms Act (NFA) and the Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA), ATF is required to make classifications of particular firearms in order to administer and enforce these laws. It is often required that a firearm be tested by ATF to determine whether it is regulated under Federal law. ATF does not have a Firearms Testing Manual addressing procedures for the classification of every firearm. ATF does have written established procedures for certain classifications, including firearms silencers, and grenade launchers, and firearms import criteria. The Firearms Technology Branch has for many years utilized established procedures for testing firearms, and these procedures are part of every Firearms Enforcement Officer's on-the-job training. At this time, the Firearms Technology Branch is in the process of converting these procedures into written form.

In your letter, you suggest several steps that you think would be beneficial to ATF concerning the classification of firearms. We welcome suggestions from the public and will certainly consider your proposals.

Second, in your letter you allege that you have been threatened directly and indirectly by ATF personnel. We are also in receipt of your letter dated January 17, 2006 to Judge Margaret B. Seymour in which you make further allegations against ATF personnel. ATF personnel strive to

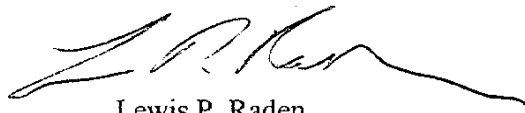
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Mr. Len Savage

offer excellent customer service, and they routinely handle themselves in a professional and courteous manner. We are currently considering your allegations and will take appropriate action should it be warranted.

We thank you for your letter and hope that this has been responsive to your concerns.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. P. Raden", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Lewis P. Raden  
Assistant Director  
Enforcement Programs and Services