

Instructional Biography of Frank Ortiz III

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Highly Experienced Master Instructor

- 40+ years of progressive Federal and State law enforcement Curriculum Development and Presentation
- 2015 – 2018 Advanced Training Bureau Chief, New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy
- Bilingual International Law Enforcement Instructor in Spanish 1998 – 2011 in Bolivia / Colombia / Mexico
- Proven success in Curriculum Design and PowerPoint presentation and coordination for all Law Enforcement Annual and Biennium Training as well as all Instructor Update and General Police Instructor Courses conducted at the New Mexico Department of Justice 2018 - 2025
- Bachelor of Arts Degree; Federal Criminal Investigator Academies

U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF)

1985 - 2011

- **Conducted all ATF Presentations to the General public as well as to Federal, State, local and international law enforcement partners** on cross-border firearms trafficking, firearms and explosives identification training, including International Police Academies in Bolivia, Colombia and Mexico in 1997 and 1998 and in Mexico in 2002 and 2011.
- **Presented at Public and Private Schools on Firearms and explosives laws and Safety** during my Federal career
- **Envisioned, designed, and launched all presentations to all the New Mexico Federal Grand Juries in and for the U.S. District of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM and occasionally in Las Cruces, NM** relating to Firearms and explosives education for the newly empaneled Federal Grand Juries.
- **Presented Firearms and Explosives Identification courses at the University of New Mexico for a nine (9) year period during my Federal Career** in the Society and the Law Course as a guest lecturer with Professor Charles Barth.

intelligence sharing process adopted across ATF. Introduced in 2020, my new information management initiative transformed ATF investigations and operations based on crime intelligence leads from Mexico.

- **Negotiated a new and effective interagency relationship** between ATF and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), a strategic ATF partner. Allowed ATF to continue sharing intelligence and investigative leads with HSI. Held joint training sessions for 400 ATF and HSI agents to date. Organized and held interagency training seminars on best practices against international firearms trafficking.
- **Managed the Industry Operations Enhanced Initiative:** planned, directed, implemented, and evaluated a 2021 regulatory pilot program that brought in 20 investigators to inspect 78 Federal Firearms Licensees in Dallas, TX, based on intelligence leads. This program resulted in five new criminal cases based on new evidence and new links to other individuals under investigation.

Chief, Inspection Division (ID), 2018 – 2019: Led and supervised 15 direct reports and managed an annual \$350K budget to ensure ATF-wide compliance with internal policies and effective resource use. Planned and oversaw the conduct of regular and unannounced agency-wide reviews and inspections. Briefed senior ATF leaders. Continually evaluated and streamlined the agency-wide inspection process.

- **Reinvented the agency-wide Inspection program and optimized resources** to restart inspections of ATF headquarters directorates. Ensured ID mitigated risk across the agency and provided oversight to the entire agency. Led ID in 2019 to conduct two headquarters inspections, six field inspections, and nine unannounced inspections, restoring our oversight mission to the entire agency.
- **Led strategic redefinition of the ID** from a punitive role to an educational and partnership role at ATF. Turned the ID into a trusted partner on inspection and compliance best practices. Put in place new policies and training requirements that boosted internal accountability, created new pathways to correct institutional shortcomings, and changed ID culture from adversarial to customer-centric.
- **Improved ATF's achievement of strategic goals** by boosting accountability, performance, and collaboration.

Assistant Special Agent in Charge, 2016 – 2018: Oversaw/led regional enforcement operations of the Seattle Field Division (SFD) and its 67 personnel divided among six offices across Metro Seattle, Eastern Washington, Idaho, and Alaska. Supervised six Group Supervisors. Liaised with law enforcement agencies throughout my area of responsibility. Served as Tactical Commander during critical incidents. Oversaw and managed a \$1.4M annual budget covering all enforcement-related activities for the entire Field Division.

- **Led numerous successful agency responses** to multiple firearms, explosives, and arson incidents.
- **Oversaw an ATF-and-DEA-led Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force** investigating a criminal group trafficking firearms and narcotics on Guam. Together with partner agencies and the U.S. Attorney's Office, planned and executed search and arrest warrants against the criminal gang that seized the main target as well as firearms, narcotics, vehicles, and real property worth ~\$250K.
- **Designed a violent crime strategy for Alaska** by building effective working relationships with local federal, state, and local agencies. Facilitated complex multiagency investigations of local drug gangs trafficking in firearms and narcotics, achieved identification of multiple shooters across the state, increased prosecutions of violent individuals in rural areas, and dismantled violent drug organizations.
- **Deployed the National Response Team to a major apartment complex fire with fatalities** in Anchorage, AK. Built partnerships with local and state law enforcement and led a joint investigation that identified two suspects who were indicted on 83+ counts, including murder, arson, and assault charges.
- **Coordinated complex Federal and State multiagency prosecution of separate but simultaneous cases** against two local branches of a violent street gang trafficking firearms and drugs in Idaho and Washington State. Planned and oversaw the successful execution of 66 arrest and search warrants at two different times across Washington, Idaho, and Montana for both investigations by 75+ ATF and other federal, state, and local law enforcement officers. Achieved arrest of 37 defendants and seizure of 90+ firearms, 10+ pounds of narcotics, and tens of thousands of dollars in cash.

- **Turned around performance of an underperforming field office** and resolved internal conflict between its older and younger agents. Coached and mentored a first-time supervisor struggling in his new role. Helped the supervisor put the right people in the right job and mentored other agents to support their professional development. Enabled the supervisor to transform his team into the highest-performing office in the Seattle Field Division, with high morale, professional recognition, and leadership on several high-profile cases.

Resident Agent in Charge, 2013-2016: Managed and supervised the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force comprised of six special agents, two task force officers, and an investigative analyst specializing in dismantling, disrupting, prosecuting, and deterring international firearms trafficking organizations and corrupt U.S. Federal Firearms Licensees. Coordinated with Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and local law enforcement agencies throughout the Rio Grande Valley.

- **Built strong coalitions** with HSI and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies across South Texas in order to present solid firearms trafficking cases. Persuaded local HSI supervisor to cooperate on a regional strategy against firearms traffickers.
- **Led joint HSI/ATF investigation** that resulted in federal charges brought against a local American suspected of selling firearms to the cartels. Achieved the arrest of Mexican nationals directly linked to the cartels and the seizure of thousands of dollars meant to buy and smuggle firearms across the border.
- **Led a joint Federal, State, local, and military law enforcement investigation** that achieved the arrest, successful prosecution, dishonorable discharge, and lengthy imprisonment of two Texas National Guardsmen who had trafficked 90+ firearms plus ammunition and body armor to Mexican drug cartels.

Special Agent, 2012-2013: Provided executive protection services to the ATF Director and other ATF executives. Liaised with the White House, U.S. Attorney General's Office, and other governmental entities. Investigated all threats and other potential hazards to ATF Director. Planned, scheduled, developed advance reports, and performed all tasks required to facilitate and secure ATF Director's movements.

Early Career History

Special Agent, U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, 2005-2012

Federal Air Marshal, Transportation Security Administration, Federal Air Marshal Service, 2002-2005

Special Agent/Criminal Investigator, U.S. Customs Service, Office of Investigations, 1997-2001

State Trooper, Virginia State Police, 1993-1997

Education and Professional Development

Master of Science, Criminal Justice, Boston University, Boston MA, 2010

Bachelor of Science, Sociology, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA, 1992

Wickander Zulawski Interviewing training, 2022.

International Association of Chiefs of Police Leadership in Police Organizations Program, IACP, Detroit, MI, 2016

Leadership and Command Training, U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, PA, 2015

Federal Law Enforcement Dignitary Protection Program, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Cheltenham, MD, 2011

Certificate: Southwest Border Firearms Trafficking Techniques, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, San Diego, CA, 2007

ATF National Academy, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Glynco, GA, 2005

Federal Air Marshal Training, Federal Air Marshal Training Facility, Mays Landing, NJ, 2002

Basic Criminal Investigator School, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Glynco, GA, 1997

U.S. Customs Basic Enforcement School, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Glynco, GA, 1997

90th Basic Session, Virginia State Police Academy, Richmond, VA, 1994