



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michelle Antill, FFLGuard Business Mgr.  
[Michelle.Antill@fflguard.com](mailto:Michelle.Antill@fflguard.com)  
(888) 335-4731 x710

---

## Firearms Industry News & Updates:

### **FFLGuard Program Mentioned to Congress by Former Asst. Director of the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, Michael Bouchard.**

***Co-operative legal program announces addition of Bouchard to FFLGuard team.***

**New York City, NY** (July 8, 2011) – FFLGuard, a cooperative legal program offered to Federal Firearms Licensees by The Chiafullo Group, LLP (“the Group”), a law firm based in New Jersey, provides cost-effective and specialized legal counsel to independent gun retailers in anticipation of or in response to a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (“BATF”) compliance inspection, or in defense of civil litigation aimed at scrutinizing the retailer’s business practices. The FFLGuard program, launched in 2008, continues to expand after increased demand and success, all in an effort to thoroughly protect the needs of clients across the nation who face similar legal challenges.

**Christopher Chiafullo**, founder of the FFLGuard program, currently serves as its National Coordinating Counsel and Director of Special Operations. Chiafullo works with other lawyers, subject matter experts, and para-professionals to promote FFLGuard’s “Law Plus Guidelines,” a series of enhanced best practices that incentivize FFLGuard clients (through affordable legal fees) to go “above and beyond” what Federal law requires. The unique legal program services clients nationwide, affording cost-effective compliance solutions to nearly 200 FFL’s in over 36 states. Chiafullo recently asked **Michael Bouchard** to join an impressive group of lawyers and subject matter experts in FFLGuard’s Special Operations Branch. Chiafullo states, “Mr. Bouchard joins FFLGuard as the second high ranking ATF official (retired) to join us in the past year, and his experience as a former Special Agent and Senior Executive within the ATF will be an asset to our program.” Chiafullo went on to say, “As our ATF Special Agent Attaché, Michael will deliver ongoing insight and analysis of ATF’s current status and position to all FFLGuard clients, subject matter experts, and counsel from the viewpoint of a former ATF agent with impeccable law enforcement credentials.”

Mr. Bouchard's ATF background is impressive. He held a number of responsibilities including that of Assistant Director of Field Operations and he oversaw several significant incidents. He supervised ATF's assets at the Pentagon on September 11, 2001, and was one of the three overall incident commanders during the Beltway Sniper investigation. He also supervised ATF's National Response Teams during several events, including the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah.

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Bouchard stood firm as the lone non-partisan, former law enforcement official before a clearly anti-gun, Democratic panel convened to address "Operation *Fast and Furious* and Related Firearms Trafficking and Straw Purchase Issues." In addressing Congress, Mr. Bouchard offered a statement which indicated that, "[l]aw enforcement relies upon... the three "T's": Teamwork, Tactics and Technology. When the three "T's" operate together, crime solving is most effective." He went on to highlight the *FFLGuard* program as being emblematic of the industry cooperation necessary for ATF to effectively do its job, and commend *FFLGuard's* "team" efforts to assist firearms retailers in the prevention of unlawful sales and effective compliance methods. Bouchard defined *FFLGuard* as "an association that helps FFL's comply with the law. Their constituents are constantly seeking advice on how they can continue to operate as legitimate businessmen who follow the law, while at the same time, they don't want to sell guns to those who put them in the hands of criminals. [*FFLGuard*] works closely with ATF to ensure retailers and law enforcement are working together to prevent firearms from ending up in the hands of criminals," Bouchard said. He then applauded the NSSF's "Don't Lie for the Other Guy" program as one similar in "team" concept to *FFLGuard*, and commended any industry members who are in league with these "team" efforts to help create actionable leads for ATF and other law enforcement officials to pursue.

"It is always nice to receive recognition for your efforts," Chiafullo said in response to Bouchard's testimony. "However, this recognition is merely a testament to the hard work of our clients who have realized the importance of protecting their reputations, their livelihood, their business operations, and the sanctity of their FFL. Our clients achieve all of these things through adherence to *FFLGuard's* "Law Plus Guidelines" and are creating the model for how FFL's will conduct businesses in the future. As time goes on, our collective efforts will transform any negative perception of the firearms industry that exists."

For more information on the *FFLGuard* program, visit [www.fflguard.com](http://www.fflguard.com) or call 1-888-FFL-GRDI (1-888-335-4731) or follow them on Twitter @FFLGuard.