

REQUEST FOR AN FISCAL YEAR 1996 SUPPLEMENTAL  
APPROPRIATION TO INCREASE THE ABILITY OF THE  
ATF TO INVESTIGATE AND SOLVE ACTS OF ARSON  
AGAINST AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHURCHES

COMMUNICATION

FROM

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

TRANSMITTING

HIS REQUEST FOR AN FY 1996 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION  
TO INCREASE THE ABILITY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE  
TREASURY'S BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS  
TO INVESTIGATE AND SOLVE ACTS OF ARSON AGAINST AFRI-  
CAN-AMERICAN CHURCHES, PURSUANT TO 31 U.S.C. 1107



JUNE 18, 1996.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered  
to be printed

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U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
Washington, June 18, 1996.

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

SIR: I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed request for an FY 1996 supplemental appropriation to increase the ability of the Department of the Treasury's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to investigate and solve acts of arson against African-American churches.

The \$12 million requested would be derived by transfer from other Department of the Treasury accounts. The proposed budget totals would not be affected by these actions.

The details of this request are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Acting Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

Enclosure.





EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

June 18, 1996

The President

The White House

Submitted for your consideration is a request for an FY 1996 supplemental appropriation to support the Department of the Treasury's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF) investigation of church arson. The requested supplemental would provide \$12 million to cover BATF staff, equipment, and other investigative expenses. At the same time, the Department of Justice will use its existing authority to allocate an additional \$9.5 million of its 1996 funds to investigate these acts of arson. The Administration will work with the Congress to provide continued necessary funding for these activities in FY 1997.

Of the \$12 million requested by BATF, \$8 million would be derived by transfer from United States Secret Service salaries and expenses funds, and \$4 million would be derived by transfer from the Department of the Treasury Forfeiture Fund. The funds proposed to be transferred from the Secret Service are in excess of the Service's needs for campaign candidate protection. There will be no impact on the Secret Service's ability to fulfill its candidate protection mission. Amounts from the Department of the Treasury Forfeiture Fund applied to this purpose will further the Department's law enforcement mission.

I have carefully reviewed these proposals and am satisfied that they are necessary at this time. Therefore, I join the Secretary of the Treasury in recommending that the proposals be transmitted to Congress.

Sincerely,

Jacob J. Lew  
Acting Director

Enclosure

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS  
Salaries and Expenses

For an additional amount for "Salaries and Expenses," for the expenses related to investigations of African-American church arson, \$12,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$8,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from "Salaries and Expenses," United States Secret Service, and of which \$4,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from funds available in the Department of the Treasury Forfeiture Fund, notwithstanding P.L. 102-393.

This request would provide additional funds to the Department of the Treasury's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms:

- o to cover expenses for overtime and travel related to the investigation of acts of church arson;
- o to cover permanent change-of-station costs for 25 agents to affected geographic regions;
- o to train additional personnel in arson investigation techniques;
- o to provide agent-cashier funds used as rewards for information in support of arson investigations;
- o to purchase surveillance, lab, and forensic equipment to support arson investigations;
- o to purchase four specially equipped trucks for the use of National Response Teams;
- o to provide for vehicle leasing and supplies for use of agents on travel and temporary change-of-duty station;
- o to purchase communications and ADP equipment for use by arson investigators; and,

- o to provide for equipment rental, printing, postage, and additional services needed for arson investigation, trial preparation, and dissemination of information to community institutions.

The proposed budget totals would not be affected by this request.

