

**Josephine Terry Statement**  
**June 7, 2017**

1. Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, Good Morning.
2. My name is Josephine Terry. I am the mother of Brian Terry.
3. My son was a first a Marine, then a local police officer and finally a Border Patrol Agent.
4. He loved his country and everything about it. He dedicated his entire adult life to the protection of the American people.
5. Brian believed in truth and justice.
6. Just over six years ago Brian was on patrol in the Arizona desert.
7. In the darkness, he was shot and killed by a cartel drug trafficker.
8. I picked out my son's casket through weeping and tears.
9. At his burial service, Brian's coffin was covered with an American flag.
10. My only goal was to make sure he was laid to rest with honor.
11. That honor has been insulted by cover-ups and deceptions from the very people he served.
12. I refuse to also let our flag cover up the facts of how and why Brian died or allow it to hide those responsible.

13. I need you to help me. I need your help today. I need your help right now.
14. ATF, the Department of Justice, and possibly people even higher up in the government knowingly intended to provide thousands of guns to Mexican drug cartels.
15. They gave their plan a glamorous name: Operation Fast and Furious.
16. From the moment a bullet was fired from one of those Fast and Furious guns, from the moment that bullet entered Brian's body, and ended his life - Brian's government, my government, your government - began to hide the truth.
17. One of ATF's Fast and Furious leaders dismissed Brian's death by saying, "You have to scramble a few eggs to make an omelet."
18. That man has since been promoted by ATF and given awards by the Justice Department.  
Did you know that?
19. ATF and DOJ made sure that all those involved were given new jobs or allowed to retire with their government pensions and benefits.
20. No one was punished or prosecuted.
21. When I pay my taxes and when you pay yours, we are funding the comfort of those who helped murder my son.
22. We know that Brian encountered bad people the night he was killed.
23. We know there was a gun battle.

24. We know Brian was shot and killed.
25. We know the gun used to kill him was fired by a drug trafficker.
26. We know the gun was put in the murderer's hands by our government.
27. But, there is so much more that we don't know.
28. I need you to have overturned President Obama's executive privilege order that hides many of the of facts from Operation Fast and Furious.
29. I need you to ask President Trump to keep the promise he made to my family on his campaign trail and let you see those documents.
30. Only one possible motivation remains for all of those involved who have covered-up Operation Fast and Furious.
31. That is to conceal their own shame and disgrace; quite possibly their crimes.
32. I need you to find out why Operation Fast and Furious was allowed to happen.
33. I need you to find out why those involved were all given soft landings for their lives and careers.
34. And, not just the lower level people. Not just the scapegoats.
35. How high did the knowledge and approval go?
36. Our country deserves the truth, regardless of how embarrassing it may be.

37. Brian believed in truth and justice. He died for it.

38. What he would never would have accepted, and what I cannot accept now on his behalf, is the cover up of the truth and the avoidance of justice.

39. As the Chairman and members of this Oversight Committee, I sit before you and plead with you to fulfill the jobs you have been elected to.

40. I am giving you my faith that as public servants, you believe in truth and justice as much as Brian did.

**[HOLD UP A PICTURE OF BRIAN FOR THE COMMITTEE TO SEE]**

41. He died for you. He died for all of us. He bled to death in the darkness of the Arizona desert, mostly alone, to protect this country.

42. Please protect Brian now.

43. Put your party's politics aside. Fulfill your obligations to the American people.

Represent for all the people who voted you into office and demand full answers and full accountability.

44. On behalf of my family, myself and on behalf of my son, I ask you to please see this through to a truthful and just conclusion.

45. Thank you.