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Trump likely to appoint Kash Patel as acting ATF Chief



Published on February 23, 2025

Document Date: Mon, Feb 24 2025 11:34:48 am

Category: ,English,International -

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President Donald Trump is expected to name Kash Patel as the acting head of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), according to sources familiar with the matter, as reported by NewsNation.

Patel, recently confirmed as FBI Director by a narrow 51-49 Senate vote, faces ongoing scrutiny over his qualifications. A New York native, Patel has an extensive background in the U.S.

Department of Justice, serving three years as a trial attorney before holding positions at the National Security Council, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and the Department of Defense.

Throughout his career, Patel has worked closely with several of Trump's key allies, including Ric Grenell, Special Presidential Envoy for Special Missions, and Devin Nunes, chairman of the President's Intelligence Advisory Board and CEO of Trump's Truth Social platform.

If appointed, Patel would fill the role left vacant by Steve Dettelbach, who resigned in January after serving as the first permanent ATF director since 2015. The ATF plays a vital role in curbing the trafficking of illegal firearms and substances, including those entering the country through the Southern border.

The announcement, if confirmed, is likely to spark debate given the controversy surrounding

Patel's recent confirmation and close ties to Trump's inner circle.