

The article below is from WAFB and can be found at the following link:  
<http://www.wafb.com/story/29827301/atc-commissioner-reacts-to-recent-violence-threats-toward-his-office>.

## **ATC Commissioner reacts to recent violence, threats toward his office**

BATON ROUGE, LA (WAFB) - By: James Sparvero

A series of frightening events are causing concern for the head of Louisiana's Alcohol and Tobacco Control and the people who work him.

In the latest incident, someone allegedly stole and tried to torch an SUV belonging to Commissioner Troy Hebert.

"It seems a little strange that such a nice vehicle would be taken and simply just lit on fire," said Hebert talking about his state vehicle, a 2015 Chevy Tahoe.

Hebert has been in the Louisiana public eye for the past 25 years from his time on the Iberia Parish Council, to the State Capital and now the head of ATC. However, recent events may make the commissioner want to fly a little more under the radar now.

"I certainly don't want to be the story, to where something happens to me or one of my family members," said Hebert.

The commissioner said police are looking at his home surveillance video to try and identify whoever they believe stole his state vehicle Sunday night and tried setting it on fire. Police found the SUV early Monday. Now, it's being looked at in a crime lab.

"They literally stuck a rag in the gas tank and lit it up. How in the world it didn't blow up, I don't know or catch on fire," said Hebert.

Hebert hopes this was just a random act, but some other recent events at ATC make him fear it could be something more. Like when Hebert said he's read threatening comments toward ATC on social media.

"We've recently discovered some comments and suggestions of shooting me, of actually bombing my office," said Hebert.

And last year, when Hebert said six unmarked ATC vehicles were shot up in a parking garage at the agency's Baton Rouge headquarters.

"Ironic thing is only ATC vehicles were targeted and they were shot, what they call a 'kill shot', right through the driver's window," said Hebert. "When you regulate alcohol and tobacco, we close businesses. We cost people a lot of money sometimes. Probably there are some people who are not happy with either ATC or myself, personally. We're going to make sure that my family is safe and that we get through this."

Anyone with any information about this case or the shooting last year is asked to call State Police or to call Crime Stoppers at (225) 344-7867.