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## INDIANA STATE AND REGIONAL

### ***Gang Affiliation Didn't Matter to Killers***

**11/29/05 Lake County, IN** | Lake County Jail cards for Lenzo "Thirst" Aaron III and Antonio "Tone" Jones listed them as having possible gang affiliation with the Vice Lords, and James W. "James G" Parks with the Gangster Disciples.



"These guys belonged to two different gang factions who supposedly are at war with each other," said Gary police Detective Michael Jackson, chief investigator in the murder case involving the three men.

**Vice Lords**  
*Rounded Rock*

Nevertheless, they were friendly enough to be playing cards together Jan. 16, 2004, when they decided to team up to rob Anthony "Smoke" McClendon Sr., a small-time drug dealer.  
Source: The Times



**Full Story:**

[http://nwitimes.com/articles/2005/11/29/news/top\\_news/6168be9851c6bf01862570b40021c429.txt](http://nwitimes.com/articles/2005/11/29/news/top_news/6168be9851c6bf01862570b40021c429.txt)

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### ***Experts Debate The Scope of The Gang Problem***

**11/26/05 Illinois** | How to handle youth gang violence is creating a rift between lawmakers who want to pass stricter laws to curb gang activity and children's advocates who say the roots of gang problems run deeper.

"(Gang members) are the modern scapegoats of American society," former California State Senator Tom Hayden said during a recent conference at Northwestern University School of Law.

Although studies reveal that youth crime has decreased nationwide, many people still believe it is on the rise. According to Malik Russell of the Washington D.C.-based Justice Policy Institute, that perception is the fault of the media and lawmakers who claim gang-related violence is a "national crisis."

Source: The Times

**Full Story:** <http://nwitimes.com/articles/2005/11/26/news/illiana/18b5f4dc4e2ec9d3862570c400826c3f.txt>

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## NATIONAL

### *L.A. Officers Urge 'No Mercy' for Tookie Williams*

**11/17/05 Los Angeles, CA** | Los Angeles' top law enforcement officers today urged Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to have no mercy for Stanley Tookie Williams, the gang co-founder convicted of four murders who is to be executed Dec. 13.

Williams is a "coldblooded killer" who has "left his mark forever on our society by co-founding one of the most vicious, brutal gangs in existence, the Crips," according to the statement urging Schwarzenegger to deny clemency.

Source: LA Times

**Full Story:** [http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-111705tookie\\_lat.0,7854003.story?coll=la-home-headlines](http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-111705tookie_lat.0,7854003.story?coll=la-home-headlines) (If you experience an error in opening, please right-click your mouse and click "Open Weblink in Browser")

#### **Related:**

### *A Letter to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger From the California Gang Investigators Association Regarding Tookie*

11/04/05

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,



My name is Wesley D. McBride. I am President of the California Gang Investigator's Association, an association comprised of over 1,600 law enforcement professionals, concerned with the control and management of the street gang problem facing our country. I served nearly 36 years on the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, 28 of those years in the Street Gang Unit. I am writing you out of a concern that our membership has over the looming Stanley "Tookie" Williams commutation case.

Stanley "Tookie" Williams sits on death row in a California prison for the unconscionable and premeditated act of murder of four innocent persons. Murders that can not be explained away even under the most liberal interpretations of racial oppression, nor by putting a political spin on the crimes as if they were committed in the furtherance of some idealistic political terrorist movement. These murders were the result of common thuggery. Stanley Williams, in the company of fellow gang members, murdered these innocents to eliminate witnesses to his premeditated crime of armed robbery.

Stanley "Tookie" Williams has in the past boasted of being one of the founding members of the original Crip gang in Los Angeles. This is the gang that became the centerpiece for the proliferation of gangs across the greater Los Angeles area, and that eventually spread across America like some virulent plague costing thousands of lives and countless crippling injuries in the process. Other gangs rose in opposition to his gang's domination of the battlefield that the gangs had made of the afflicted communities. These gang conflicts thus created a collective rise in criminality that this country has never experienced before.

However, we must not lose sight that Mr. Williams is not being condemned for his infamous role in the creation of the Crip gang or the moral decay and destructive force that his legacy of gangsterism has spawned. **He is condemned for the murders of four innocent persons.**

It is for good reason that Mr. Williams sits on Death Row. Tookie's personification and reputation as a ruthless gang member has become an icon for the generations of young delinquents, helping to recruit them into the gangs. His specific action of aiding in the creation of the Crip gang has brought about much death, desolation, and disservice to the entire African-American community. His creation has destroyed communities just as surely as the gangs' bullets have killed countless humans.

To now present himself as a rehabilitated murderer that does not deserve his just punishment awarded him by a competent legal authority, a sentence that has been upheld at each level of the many appeals processes that his attorneys have instituted on his behalf, because he authored a few simplistic books on gang prevention is ludicrous. There is serious speculation if Mr. Williams actually wrote the books or they were the product of a ghost writer utilizing his name and ideas. No credence should be given to the theatrical and orchestrated Nobel prize nominations, which were simply a ploy by those opposed to capital punishment who were using his case for their political agenda. His nomination was seen for what it was by the Nobel committee and never given serious consideration. Someone must speak out for the victims of these atrocities. Do not let their surviving families suffer the further indignity by diminishing their murdered loved ones memories or the worthiness of their lives while on this earth.

Mr. Williams has never agreed to be debriefed on the gang by authorities, which he feels is tantamount to becoming a “snitch” in gang parlance. This view casts serious doubt on his so called redemption and his disavowal of the gang lifestyle. It would seem that his gang mentality is still functioning and part of his persona.

The California Gang Investigators Association strongly opposes clemency for Stanley “Tookie” Williams. Our association respectfully requests that you deny Stanley Williams’ request for clemency.

Sincerely yours,  
Wesley D. McBride  
President  
California Gang Investigators Association

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***Lee County Sheriff Probes Whether Clothing Line, Gangs Linked***

**11/16/05 Southwest Florida** | The head of the Lee County Sheriff's Office gang unit says deputies are still investigating whether a line of clothing has been adopted by gangs.

Sgt. Mike Stanforth said he did not personally know of an instance where the Joker Brand had been linked with gang activity, but the deputies in his unit suspected there could be a problem. They told the Riverdale High School resource officer to be cautious.

Seven students were suspended from the school last Thursday for wearing the clothes, which are designed to represent a West Coast, urban lifestyle. Its manufacturers insist they aren't catering to gangs and know of no instances in which gangs have adopted their clown logo.

Source: News-Press

Full Story: <http://www.news-press.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20051116/NEWS01/511160447/1006/NEWS0104>

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## ***Snowman Shirt's Secret Blow Away Critics***



**11/04/05 New York** | One of the hottest-selling T-shirts around the country shows a simply drawn snowman with a menacing expression.

It's not Frosty's evil twin. The image popularized by drug-dealer-turned-rapper Young Jeezy symbolizes those who sell a white substance known on the street as snow: cocaine.

Anti-drug campaigners and education officials are alarmed, saying the T-shirt and others like it are part of sophisticated marketing campaigns using coded symbols for drug culture that parents and teachers are not likely to understand. Some schools are banning kids from wearing the snowman images.

Source: MSNBC—Associated Press

Full Story: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/9926496>

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## ***Girl, 15, Charged in Gang-Related Shooting***

**11/19/05 Portland, Ore.** | A 15-year-old girl has been charged with attempted murder in the shooting of a 13-year-old girl during a gang-related dispute.

Pauline Sue Brooks is accused of shooting Brittany Cruz in the chest with what police said was a small-caliber pistol. Cruz was at OHSU Hospital in critical condition Friday.

Hospital officials said they could not release information on the girl's condition Saturday and referred questions to police. A Portland Police Bureau spokesman did not immediately return calls.

Source: Oregon Live--- Associated Press

Full Story: <http://www.oregonlive.com/newsflash/regional/index.ssf?/base/news-13/1132433343125810.xml&storylist=orlocal>

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## ***Why I'm in a Gang***

**11/27/05 Toronto, CA** | Amid the depressingly regular accounts of death by gun, shootings in public places, and emergency government summits that constitute a growing slice of life in this city, one voice has been largely absent: the young men holding the guns and living with the constant possibility of being shot. They are voices worth listening to, and in detailed interviews last spring and summer, University of Toronto criminologist Scot Wortley and sociologist Julian Tanner did just that.

For their Toronto Street Gang Pilot Project, they promised 125 active and former members of criminal street gangs, aged 17 to 24, anonymity and a stipend for their time. With the proviso they not discuss anything specifically related to crimes they were involved in, they answered questions that are asked all too infrequently: Why join? Why belong? Why stay?

Source: Toronto Star

Full Story:

[http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thestar/Layout/Article\\_Type1&c=Article&cid=1133046907182&call\\_pageid=968332188492&col=968793972154](http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thestar/Layout/Article_Type1&c=Article&cid=1133046907182&call_pageid=968332188492&col=968793972154)

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***Suspected Gang Members' Gun Battle With FBI***

**11/04/05 HOUSTON** | Two suspected gang members died and two others were injured during a gun battle with FBI agents in northeast Houston, KPRC Local 2 reported Friday.

Authorities responded to a robbery at a home on Liberty Road near Lockwood Drive at about 11:30 p.m. Thursday.



"Four to five males came in and entered the building. They broke into a building, at which point they were surrounded by FBI agents," Houston Police Department Sgt. Mike McStravick said.

The FBI agents ordered the men to drop their weapons, however, the suspects opened fire on the officers. Agents returned fire, striking four of the men. Two of the suspects died. Two others were transported by air to a nearby hospital.

Source: KPRC Channel 2 News

Full Story: <http://www.click2houston.com/news/5248938/detail.html>

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***Robbery Suspects May Be MS-13***

**11/17/05 Montgomery County** | Four men arrested after Montgomery County Police interrupted a robbery at a Wheaton apartment Tuesday night are suspected members of the Salvadoran street gang MS-13, police and county officials said yesterday.



"They're four members of MS-13 allegedly involved in criminal conduct who are now behind bars," said Montgomery County state's attorney Douglas F. Gansler. "We are operating under the assumption they are MS-13 members."

The suspects -- Victor Ramirez and Jose Domingo Hernandez, both 20 and of no fixed address, Juan Hernandez-Jimenez, 20, of Beltsville, and Jovet Ivarroca, 17, of Gaithersburg -- were arrested when officers went to an apartment in the 2300 block of Blueridge Avenue in Wheaton at about 9 p.m. to serve a carjacking suspect with an arrest warrant.

Source: Washington Times

Full Story: <http://washingtontimes.com/metro/20051116-111005-8065r.htm>

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***Jails Try to Track Gang Members as They Move Through System***

**11/13/05 Upper Marlboro, Md. (AP)** | For about a year, Prince George's County jail officials have tried to track gang members through a computerized database. They flag records of inmates who acknowledge belonging to the approximately 20 gangs that operate in the Washington area.

It's a way to ensure safety inside the jail, but also a symptom of a problem with gangs outside the facility's razor-wire fence. As gangs such as MS-13 grow and authorities step up enforcement, the issue eventually makes its way into the penal system.

Source: VJLA ABC 7 News/Associated Press

Full Story: <http://www.wjla.com/news/stories/1105/277408.html>

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### ***Fresno Crackdown Causes More Problems***

**11/13/05 Fresno, CA** | Fresno's gang crackdown may have created some problems in a new arena, even as police and sheriff's deputies clear the streets of violent gang members.

The crackdown is in its 20th day and police say it's been a big success. The department started the massive crackdown after a rash of violence, including many gang related murders. Officer presence is intense in many gang infested areas, and the streets are noticeably quieter than when the crackdown began three weeks ago.

The enforcement has certainly slowed violent crime, but the trouble appears to have just moved to another place.

Source: KFSN ABC 30 News

Full Story: <http://abclocal.go.com/kfsn/story?section=local&id=3627514>

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### **SAFETY AWARENESS**

#### ***Bullet Proof Vest or Not?***



This bullet proof vest available on [www.wearhiphop.com](http://www.wearhiphop.com) is not a real vest. The website offers it up to be the latest fashion with a poster of rapper 50 Cent modeling the vest. The website says the vest is 100% wind and water proof with velco all over but is not bullet proof. The website offers the vest in both camo and black colors and aside from the clothing tags on it, the vest supposedly looks real close-up.

Product Source: [http://www.wearhiphop.com/product\\_info.php?cPath=13&products\\_id=1538](http://www.wearhiphop.com/product_info.php?cPath=13&products_id=1538)

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### **GANG INFORMATION/TRAINING**

#### ***OJJDP Videoconference Focuses on Youth Gangs***

On January 11, 2006, at 11 a.m. ET, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) will air the 2-hour videoconference "Communities Respond to Youth Gangs in America."

The videoconference program, which may be viewed via satellite downlink or on the Internet, will feature community programs and strategies that effectively address the problem of youth gangs. It will explore strategies to leverage resources, provide examples of partnerships across disciplines, highlight innovative strategies, and share information on faith-based responses and neighborhood efforts.

The broadcast is designed for anyone interested in addressing youth gangs, including school personnel, school resource officers/G.R.E.A.T officers, law enforcement professionals, local Boys & Girls Club staff, youth development professionals, probation and corrections officers, prosecutors and court personnel, researchers, elected officials, and youth leaders.

**Resources:**

To access further information and register online, visit <http://www.trc.eku.edu/jj>.

For technical questions about receiving this videoconference, please visit <http://www.trc.eku.edu/jj/faq.html>. You may also e-mail questions to [gangsconference@aol.com](mailto:gangsconference@aol.com).

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**INDIANA STATE GANG-RELATED LEGISLATION**

***Enhanced Penalties-Sentencing***

*Indiana 35-50-2-9*

(a) The state may seek either a death sentence or a sentence of life imprisonment without parole for murder by alleging, on a page separate from the rest of the charging instrument, the existence of at least one (1) of the aggravating circumstances listed in subsection (b). In the sentencing hearing after a person is convicted of murder, the state must prove beyond a reasonable doubt the existence of at least one (1) of the aggravating circumstances alleged. However, the state may not proceed against a defendant under this section if a court determines at a pretrial hearing under IC 35-36-9 that the defendant is a mentally retarded individual.

(b) The aggravating circumstances are as follows:

- (1) The defendant committed the murder by intentionally killing the victim while committing or attempting to commit any of the following:
  - (H) Carjacking (IC 35-42-5-2).
  - (I) Criminal gang activity (IC 35-45-9-3).

***Gang Participation***

*Indiana 31-30-1-4*

- (a) The juvenile court does not have jurisdiction over an individual for an alleged violation of:
  - (6) IC 35-42-5-2 (carjacking);
  - (7) IC 35-45-9-3 (criminal gang activity);
  - (8) IC 35-45-9-4 (criminal gang intimidation);

*Indiana 35-45-9-3 Sec. 3*

A person who knowingly or intentionally actively participates in a criminal gang commits criminal gang activity, a Class D felony.

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**EDITOR'S NOTE**

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. We are always trying to improve the quality and effectiveness of our products.

**If you have any comments, suggestions or articles that can be used in the "G.A.I.N." Newsletter please send them to:**

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