



G.A.I.N.

GANG ACTIVITY INFORMATION NETWORK



United States
Department
Of Justice



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POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

FBI Posts Reward for Gang Leader

Article published in the Indianapolis Star

10/25/2006 Indianapolis, IN | The FBI's Indianapolis office announced today a \$5,000 reward leading to the arrest of a northwest Indiana gang leader.



Lashawn Antione Tanner, 32, is one of 17 gang members targeted in a nationwide manhunt in connection with a conspiracy to distribute drugs. Tanner and his two brothers led the Renegades Street Gang, which the FBI considers responsible for dealing large amounts of cocaine, crack and marijuana in northwest Indiana from the late 1990s through 2004.

Tanner's last known addresses were 1524 Croft Court in Indianapolis and 2184 Cumulus Court in West Lafayette. Investigators describe Tanner as a 5-foot 8-inches tall weighing 240 pounds.



He has tattoos of a tribal art bracelet on his right wrist, the words "Grim Reaper" on his right arm and the word "Renegade" on his left arm. His street nicknames are "Bees" and "Fats."

Tanner and his girlfriend, Henrietta Rollins, could be driving a Dodge Caravan. Tanner has told several people he will not go down without a fight and has a violent personality. Police are hoping you can get them both behind bars.

Anyone with information about Tanner is asked to call the Merrillville FBI office at (219-769-3719 or the Gang Response Investigative Team office at (219) 885-1055.

See the Full Story:

<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2006610250520>

<http://www.amw.com/fugitives/brief.cfm?id=36101>

http://www.fbi.gov/wanted/fugitives/cei/tanner_la.htm



Lawrence Teen Shot During Fight After School

Article published by the Indianapolis Star

10/18/2006 Lawrence, IN | A Tuesday morning fight involving dozens of adults and teenagers has Lawrence police and township school officials concerned.

Police say one of those involved, a 15-year-old boy they described as a Lawrence North freshman, was shot in the arm and was taken to Wishard Memorial Hospital for treatment.

Lawrence police said the fight began when a crowd met a school bus that was letting off students from Lawrence North at a Northeastside apartment complex.

"We're trying to sort it out," said Lawrence Police Chief Jack Bailey. "People say it was a gang or turf war; people say it was blacks and Hispanics. When you have a bus dropping people off and people who are waiting for them, you know it was pre-planned."

The fight was reported at 11:11 a.m. at the Pinnacle Square Apartments near 42nd Street and Post Road. The school bus dropped off students in the morning because Lawrence Township Schools had scheduled parent-teacher conferences Tuesday and held classes for only the first half of the day.

Full Story: <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2006610180472>



Helping Cops Make a Difference

Article published by The Times

10/25/2006 Hammond, IN | Cooperation between residents, law enforcement and school officials is essential for keeping neighborhoods safe, said a group of Hessville residents at a recent gathering.

"It's your neighborhood ... you're familiar with it," said Lt. Mark Tharp, community coordinator with the Hammond Police Department. "If something doesn't look right to you, call police."

Speaking at the regular monthly meeting of the Hessville Neighborhood Association last week, Tharp described how police were able to make arrests in a pair of recent high-profile cases in Hessville.

Working with alert neighbors and the School City, a pair of teenagers responsible for as many as 50 graffiti incidents were charged last week, Tharp said.

And five individuals suspected in a pair of brutal random beatings after a September football game at Morton High School were arrested at the school, he said. "We have officers watching," Tharp said, "but you need to be vigilant as well."

Getting neighbors together for a common purpose is the reason behind the association, said Paul Krizman, Hammond City Court administrator, who started the Hessville group. "We want people to feel comfortable talking about community issues and how to do something about them," he said.

The graffiti case was gang-related, said Cpl. Karl Eidam, supervisor with the gang intelligence unit. "We were able to make the arrests because two residents were eyewitnesses and called the gang hotline," he said.

Eidam said the arrests also helped police solve a string of area burglaries in which one of the boys was involved.

Residents can call the Hammond police gang hotline at (219) 852-2950 and the narcotics hotline at (219) 853-6487.

Full Story: http://nwitimes.com/articles/2006/10/25/news/lake_county/6ba8c4cde2ec585f862572120003e529.txt

ATF Arrests 3 Chicago Gang Members on Federal Gun & Drug Charges

Article published on prnewswire.com

10/05/2006 Chicago, IL | Three Chicago gang members were to appear before U.S. District Court Magistrate Nan R. Nolan today after being arrested on federal firearms and narcotics violations by special agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

Cynthia Ford, Danny L. Mitchell and Albert W. Jones were arrested yesterday after they allegedly traded four and one-half ounces of crack cocaine for eight semi-automatic handguns during an undercover sting. A fourth coconspirator named in the criminal complaint, Terryon Cates, remains at large. As previously convicted felons, all the defendants are prohibited under federal law from possessing firearms.



The arrests culminated a three-month series of undercover crack cocaine and heroin buys and recorded conversations about buying guns. Ford, Mitchell and Jones attempted to flee the scene at the conclusion of the undercover arrest operation yesterday, but were immediately apprehended. All four suspects are members of the Gangster Disciples Street Gang operating in the Englewood neighborhood in Chicago.

Ford, 24, of 1006 E. 80th St., is a ranking member of the Gangster Disciples. Mitchell, 29, of 831 W. 50th Pl., and Jones, 27, of 14721 S. Lexington, Harvey, Ill., were charged with conspiring to possess with the intent to distribute in excess of 50 grams of mixtures containing cocaine base, in the form of "crack cocaine," a Schedule II Narcotic Drug Controlled Substance. The suspects allegedly conspired to sell more than 300 grams of crack cocaine and heroin to an undercover ATF agent, and as part of the undercover meetings, the suspects negotiated the purchase of firearms to be used by the gang.

Full Story: <http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/10-05-2006/0004446131&EDATE=>



Gang Leader Could Get Life for Running Drug Conspiracy

Article published by the Belleville News Democrat

10/13/2006 Chicago, IL | A gang leader who authorities say controlled the flow of narcotics on dozens of city street corners is facing the possibility of life in prison following his conviction on drug conspiracy charges.

Troy Martin, 51, of suburban Bolingbrook, reputed founder and "king" of the Mafia Insane Vice Lords, oversaw a drug dealing enterprise that operated like a legitimate business, federal prosecutors said. The gang marketed its drugs and handed out free samples. A federal jury on Thursday determined that Martin controlled the gang from 1998 to 2004.

Also convicted were two men who prosecutors called top members of the gang - Patrick Bray, of Bolingbrook, and Maurice Bell, of Maywood. They were accused of managing drug territories for Martin. All three could get life in prison when they are sentenced in January. Assistant U.S. Attorney Pravin Rao said Martin used violence to maintain control over other gang members. If someone ran afoul of Martin's gang rules, possible retribution included beatings or even death, Rao said.

The gang controlled drug spots on more than 30 street corners on Chicago's West Side, including some that generated as much as \$5,000 in crack, heroin and marijuana sales, authorities said. Martin, Bray and Bell were among nearly 50 alleged members of the gang who were charged in a federal indictment unsealed on May 20, 2004. More than 40 others pleaded guilty before trial. Martin founded the Mafia Insane Vice Lords while he was imprisoned for murder, according to prosecutors.

It is one of at least a half dozen factions of the Vice Lords Nation, an association of street gangs with as many as 30,000 members spread across Chicago and its suburbs and extending into 27 other states, court documents show.

Full Story: <http://www.belleville.com/mld/belleville/news/politics/15751844.htm>

Prosecutor Files Civil Lawsuit Against Street Gang

Article published by the WLS ABC News 7

10/23/2006 DuPage County, IL | Authorities in DuPage County are suing more than three dozen reputed gang members in an effort to curb violence. The civil lawsuit prohibits 37 members of the Latin Kings from engaging in criminal activity and associating in public.

"They are a bunch of punks and criminals. They know where they will end up, in a courtroom if not the penitentiary, the graveyard," said Joe Birkett, DuPage County States Attorney.

Reputed gang members-- who were arrested, tried and convicted in past criminal activity-- were named in the suit, which alleges that since 1998, members of the Latin Kings engaged in fatal shootings, beatings, unlawful possession and use of weapons and possession and delivery of controlled substances, among other offenses.



The lawsuit seeks an order from the court that bars gang members from possessing or discharging any weapon, or using possessing, delivering, or manufacturing any illegal or controlled substance.

"The law enforcement community and the residents, the state's attorney's office has to stand up and put a stop to this," said Chief William Hayden, Addison Police. "You don't have to wait until they commit a crime. If we see gang members in this suit associating with each other, we can take action on that," said Chief Michael Marron Glendale Hts. Police.

"They should be aware that they are all on the radar screen. Every one of them operating in DuPage County," said Birkett. The suit also seeks damages.

Full Story: <http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=local&id=4688365>

Regional

Non-Traditional Gang Rivals Involved in Tuesday Shootout

Article published by the City Paper

10/19/2006 Nashville, TN | An outbreak of violence between teenage members of Kurdish and black gangs Tuesday night caught the Metro Police Department's specialized gang unit by surprise. In addition, police are concerned that the incident, which left three individuals shot and two others injured, could be the start of a new round of violence between previously non-rival gangs.



What began as a scuffle between two Glencliff High School students on Monday spilled over into Whitfield Park Tuesday, where as many as a dozen individuals gathered ready to fight -- many armed with bats, knives, bricks and guns. At least two individuals opened fire during the rumble. None of the injuries were life-threatening.

Police said the shots were fired by members of Nashville's Kurdish gang, Kurdish Pride. Police declined Tuesday to identify which black gang was involved.

Many of those who took part in the fight were fellow Glencliff High students, although some were Glencliff graduates and others still were young adults not affiliated with the South Nashville school.

A Glencliff High recourse officer was able to stop the initial in-school altercation, but police said they were unable to predict, much less stop, the ensuing violence.

Full Story: http://www.nashvillecitypaper.com/index.cfm?section=9&screen=news&news_id=52794

Schools Fight Back Against Gangs

Article published by Tulsa World

10/06/2006 Tulsa, OK | Tulsa's increase in gang activity and violence is not evident just in the record-setting pace of homicides over the past few years. It is evident in the behavior and appearance of students who walk the halls of Tulsa high schools.

Although police and prosecutors work on the front lines of law enforcement, school principals say they work on the front lines of prevention, keeping watch for the latest colors and hand signs and the more subtle red flags in students' attitudes and behavior.

Just two weeks ago at Edison Preparatory School, school officials asked two students who they suspect are gang members to change out of red and black clothing because of its outward appearance of gang affiliation. When they refused, they were suspended in accordance with the Tulsa Public Schools Code of Student Conduct, Principal Steve Mayfield said.



"We had some students who were new to Edison who continually wore their gang colors, and they refused to not wear it, so they were suspended," Mayfield said. "If they do it again, it will happen again. I'm going to have an orderly school environment and have students conform with respect to our policies and guidelines -- and dress is part of that." "I mean, these kids thought the wearing of gang colors was a joke or something, but let me tell you, I will not tolerate it. I'm going to have a safe school. And anytime there is gang culture in any form, I will react."

"I usually call to find out what the color of the week is, because sometimes they change colors. They're pretty sophisticated," Williams said. "There are a lot of other signs to watch for, too, though. Even down to the color of the rubber bands they wear on their wrists, arches and lines shaved into their eyebrows, and a couple of other things I don't want the kids to know I know."

"It has nothing to do with color or race. Safety is the bottom line. Something could happen in the neighborhood and manifest itself inside the school," Williams said. "You have got to take everything seriously, because if we don't and something happens, the parents are going to ask the question, 'Why did you not take it seriously?'"

Full Story: http://www.tulsaworld.com/NewsStory.asp?ID=061006_Ne_A11_Schoo9099



Nyack High Bans Gang Icons

Article published by the Journal News

10/17/2006 Nyack, NY | Nyack High School administrators have banned bandannas and certain types of beads after a possibly gang-related screaming match among three boys caused a lockdown at the school.

Clarkstown police and teens said there was no formal gang activity at the 940-student school and thought the ban was more a proactive measure.

"They said to not wear beads, and that bandannas could be a part of a gang," said junior Emily Fox, 16. "I don't think we have gangs, not hard-core gangs. Girls wear, like, pretty beads ..."

Clarkstown police Detective Tim O'Neill said a few students at the high school had gang affiliations, but that gang activity tended to take place off school grounds.



Full Story: <http://www.thejournalnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061017/NEWS03/610170340/1019>

Troy High School Security Officer Jumped by Students

Article published by WTEN News 10

10/23/2006 Newark, NJ | Troy High School's security coordinator breaks up a gang initiation, on campus, and gets jumped himself.



The school's security chief saw what he thought was a two-student on one fight, and tried to break it up. But Monday, the fight is being called a "gang initiation," and that security officer found himself the one being assaulted - cut with a sharp weapon.

"A school safety officer witnessed what he believed to be an altercation between several students," says Troy Police Detective Sergeant John Cooney. And without hesitation, police say school safety coordinator Paul Pettit jumped right in.

"Coming to the aid of the student he thought was the victim of the attack, he immediately was confronted by that student and subject to an assault," Cooney says.

According to the police report, the school resource officer believed the altercation was a gang initiation - two of the boys, believed by the officer, to be members of the "Crips."

All three Troy High students are suspended until a hearing this week - a move one of the arrested students' mothers says is unnecessary. "From what was told to me, it was blown out of proportion," says Marie Lee, mother of one of the arrested students. "They was playing in school, and the security guard took it the wrong way."

Troy Police credit the high school for what they call very efficient security measures, and say if that district employee had not stepped in, the outcome could have been much worse.

Full Story: <http://www.wten.com/Global/story.asp?S=5579584&nav=6uyN>



Police Warn Parents of their Children's Gang Ties

Article published by the North County Times

10/20/2006 Oceanside, CA | In an effort to let parents know that their child may be facing trouble, detectives are sending a warning letter to the parent or guardian of a juvenile who is associating with a criminal gang and is on the verge of being documented by police.

The letter is a new tool that gang detectives are using to keep parents aware of their children's activities and as a starting point for prevention, authorities said. "We thought it was the right thing to do ---- that if it was your child, you'd want to know," said police Lt. Tom Jones, who oversees the gang unit. "And we'll meet with the parents to discuss it."

In February, Oceanside police adapted a letter used by the Sacramento Police Department that informs parents that their child was contacted by police and that detectives suspect the youth of some gang involvement.

Law enforcement agencies are not required to notify parents before they document a child as a gang member or associate, police said. The information is part of a criminal intelligence file that is protected by the Department of Justice and is accessible only by gang unit detectives, their direct chain of command or by a court.

A parent may, in fact, discover a child has been documented as a gang member only during a court proceeding addressing a crime, police said. In that case, being a gang member enhances the charge and could lead to a longer sentence.

The letter states that police have encountered a child during an investigation and that the minor was exhibiting one or more of 10 criteria that police use to document gang members. A box next to each item on the can be checked to indicate that police suspect the child fulfills that criterion.

In Oceanside, police adhere to the state Department of Justice guidelines, which require that police find at least two criteria before documenting a person as a gang member ---- or only one, if that person admits to gang affiliation during jail incarceration.

Additionally, the letter states that police are in the process of documenting the minor as a gang member and that the information will be maintained for five years as long as no other gang-related crimes take place.

The parents are also given a number to contact the department's gang unit for further information. Jones said community referrals to gang prevention programs would likely be included.

"Our hope is that the family gets involved then," Jones said.

Full Story: http://nctimes.com/articles/2006/10/21/news/coastal/22_28_2110_20_06.txt



Gang Members Describe Life Inside MS-13

Article published by the Washington Post

10/18/2006 Washington, DC | There wasn't a lot of discussion when members of the MS-13 street gang ran into Noel B. Gudiel on a Langley Park street more than three years ago.



According to court testimony, one went behind Gudiel and began flashing MS-13 hand signs. Another tapped Gudiel with a baseball bat. A third grabbed Gudiel and threw him to the ground. Gudiel stood up and vowed revenge. Then a gang member killed him.

"Homeboy shot him," gang member Jose "Stomper" Constanza said matter-of-factly as he testified last week in a gang racketeering trial in federal court in Greenbelt.

Constanza, who witnessed the killing, said Gudiel was killed because he was believed to be in an enemy gang. When a federal prosecutor asked how he knew Gudiel was with a rival gang, Constanza, a leader of an MS-13 clique, replied: "I didn't know exactly. I'd heard rumors he'd been jumped in."

Constanza's testimony provided a detailed and often chilling glimpse into the workings of MS-13, also known as Mara Salvatrucha. Constanza and other MS-13 members who are cooperating with the government have described a world in which gang members with nicknames such as "Killer Bill," "Scorpion" and "Gangster" met regularly to pay dues and discuss gang rules. The gang meted out punishment, in the form of beatings or worse, for infractions.

Clique leaders were required to consult with gang leaders in El Salvador. Members had to fight the members of rival gangs. The rules included prohibitions against using crack cocaine, saying the word "red" or wearing that color.

But for all the efforts to impose order, the lives of gang members were often chaotic, with many violent incidents erupting when MS-13 members were drinking heavily, according to testimony.

The gang, composed primarily of immigrants from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, has been responsible for dozens of violent attacks in the Washington region in recent years, according to law enforcement officials.

A federal indictment issued last year accused MS-13 of six homicides and four attempted homicides in suburban Maryland between April 2003 and June 2005. The Gudiel slaying, on April 20, 2003, was one of the slayings included in the indictment. Federal prosecutors allege that MS-13 is far more structured than most neighborhood gangs, with contacts that reach to Los Angeles and El Salvador.

Full Story: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/10/17/AR2006101701310.html>

From the Editors

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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