



G.A.I.N.

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POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

Gangs Like Hoosier Hospitality, Police Told

3/16/2007 West Lafayette, IN | Slowly over the past few years -- and seemingly more rapidly of late -- gang members from Chicago have crossed into Indiana, testing communities, such as Lafayette, as a new home base. The allure of a smaller city, according to a longtime investigator, is that law enforcement and residents may not be aggressive in stopping gangs or acknowledging that they exist.

"They see Indiana as very quiet, where no one knows about them," said Officer Homero Ramirez, a 16-year veteran of the Chicago Police Department and member of its Gang Intelligence Section for 13 years. "It's a nice, beautiful, comfortable haven. ... They like to come party."

Ramirez spoke at a conference Thursday for police officers in northern Indiana who in the past two days have learned more about this trend and ways to attack it. The summit at University Inn in West Lafayette was the second on the topic hosted by the U.S. Attorney's Office of the Northern District of Indiana, and nearly 200 investigators were in attendance.

"Now that we are sharing information -- who they are, what they are driving, what they are wearing -- hopefully we'll be able to push them out," Ramirez said of gang members.

Joseph Van Bokkelen, U.S. attorney of the northern district, said the U.S. attorney general made it a priority, in 2005, to eradicate violent gangs and last year requested all districts to establish a gang task force.

Indiana is getting more of an influx of major gangs, such as the Gangster Disciples and Latin Kings, as Chicago tears down low-income housing and police crack down on gang activity, he said.

"It's not just an urban city problem," Van Bokkelen said. "We're seeing a lot of push out, going into suburban and rural areas. Down here (Lafayette) there's a large population of immigrants, and gangs are known to associate with those groups."

See the Full Story: <http://www.jconline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070316/NEWS03/703160339/1004/NEWS03>



Two Arrests Intrigue Police

Article published in Journal-Courier

03/17/2007 Lafayette, IN | Tippecanoe County Drug Task Force agents have arrested nearly a dozen suspected cocaine dealers in unrelated investigations this week -- including two men they've dubbed major drug pushers in the Lafayette area.

Jose F. Valencia, 25, of Lafayette and Omar A. Reyes, 30, of West Lafayette were arrested in separate instances on different days.

"It will be interesting to see how this plays out," said Capt. Steve Dietrich, commander of the task force. "Both give the impression that they've been established dealers for some time."

The most recent arrests came early Friday when Valencia and Michelle I. Brevet, 28, were stopped by Lafayette patrol officers after they sold a substance believe to be cocaine to an undercover detective. The deal took place just after midnight in a parking lot off Indiana 26 East.

They left in separate vehicles, and a search of Valencia's car turned up more than \$1,200 in cash and two Xanax tablets.

Agents believe Valencia is a member of the Sur 13 gang, based on his tattoos and known associates, Dietrich said.

Reyes, a suspected member of the Latin Kings, was arrested Wednesday on an arrest warrant charging him with dealing cocaine.

Task force agents then served a warrant at his house on Soldiers Home Road in West Lafayette, where they seized more cash, marijuana and weapons.

See the Full Story: <http://www.jconline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070317/NEWS03/703170325/1004/NEWS03>



Gang Shooting Leads to Felony Charges

Article published by the Times

03/10/2007 Hammond, IN | A gang shooting Feb. 18 in Hammond led to felony charges against two men.

Christopher Diaz, 28, of Hammond, is charged with attempted murder, aggravated battery, battery and criminal recklessness.



Alex Guerrero Jr., 18, of Chicago, is charged with assisting a criminal.

Police said a man, identified as a member of a street gang, spotted Diaz at a Hammond gas station and recognized Diaz as a rival gang member, a probable cause affidavit states.

The man and his friends drove away. Diaz got into Guerrero's car and followed them. When Diaz pulled beside the men at a stoplight, Diaz allegedly fired shots, hitting two of the men.

The man who recognized Diaz was hit in the head, the report states. The bullet is still in his brain and he told police his left arm is paralyzed as a result of the shooting, the report states.

One bullet grazed another man in the neck, the report states.

Full Story: http://nwitimes.com/articles/2007/03/10/news/lake_county/docbd5602da0e7c5b488625729a000a14e6.txt

Police Suspect Gang Rivalry Led to Fatal Chase

Article published by the Indianapolis Star

03/20/2007 Indianapolis, IN | A weekend shooting and fatal car chase may have stemmed from a dispute between rival Hispanic gangs, metropolitan police said Monday. Police have not publicly identified the gangs involved in the violence after a birthday party on the Northside early Sunday that left two people dead and five others injured.

Armando Diaz, 16, and Fausto Ramon Lopez, 18, were killed in a car crash as they tried to escape shots being fired at them. In another vehicle, two people fleeing the shots were struck: Cesar Garcia, 18, was shot in the head, and Myra Raymundo, 18, Indianapolis, was shot in her left thigh.

Investigators think the violence stemmed from gang rivalry, according to an Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department report made public Monday. The victims were at a girl's 15th birthday party at the Latvian Community Center in the 1000 block of West 64th Street when a 15-year-old accused them of belonging to a rival gang. When they left about 1 a.m., people in a silver sport utility vehicle, possibly a Honda CRV, chased and fired an assault rifle at them, police say. The Ford Taurus in which Diaz, Lopez and three others rode was struck by at least four bullets, though police say it appears no one inside was hit.

Experts say Hispanic gangs are growing in influence and power in Indianapolis. The last high-profile incidence of violence involving Hispanic gangs was in December 2004, when shooting erupted outside a baptism celebration in the 4400 block of West 56th Street. One man was hurt in that case. "They've migrated from the Southwest through the Midwest," said Edward Cohn, director of the National Major Gang Task Force based in Indianapolis. "They are very violent and volatile."

Cohn said gangs compete over territory in which they will sell drugs, burglarize homes or steal in order to make money. When rivals meet in a public place, Cohn said, violence can escalate quickly. "If somebody starts to run their mouth, then there's a reaction to it. All of a sudden you've got a major problem," Cohn said.

On Monday, children playing near Lopez's apartment in the 4000 block of Brookhollow Boulevard said they frequently saw Lopez going and coming from his apartment. Lopez was a student at Pike High School. A yellow bandanna frequently hung from his belt, according to one of the children. Yellow is associated with the Latin Kings gang.

Full Story: <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070320/LOCAL1802/703200402/-1/ZONES04>



Two Men Shot to Death at Marion Motorcycle Club

Article published by the Associated Press

03/19/2007 Marion, IN | Two men were found shot to death in cars outside a motorcycle club, police said. Otis Donald, 23, of Indianapolis and Lamar Cannon, 23, of Marion both suffered single gunshot wounds. Their bodies were found Sunday morning in separate cars parked a short distance from the Black Dragons Motorcycle club, police said.



Donald was wanted for attempted murder in Howard County, said Marion Police Chief David Gilbert. Police believe Donald shot Cannon, but would not say if they have a suspect in Donald's shooting in the city about 60 miles northeast of Indianapolis.

"Otis Donald's actions in the shooting were violent and unnecessary, and that he was wanted on a warrant for attempted murder out of Howard County at the time he shot Mr. Cannon and was shot himself emphasizes the effect that violent career criminals have on our community," Gilbert said.

No arrests had been made as of Monday morning, police said.

Full Story: <http://www.fortwayne.com/mld/fortwayne/16933802.htm>

Lawmakers Pushing Gang Measures

Article published by the South Bend Tribune

03/07/2007 Indianapolis, IN | Indiana lawmakers are trying to get tougher on gangs. They've proposed a bill that changes the definition of a gang to a group of 3, instead of 5. It also provides stricter penalties for recruiting gang members, and allows victims of gang crime -- including graffiti -- to sue for civil damages.

Members of the Anti-Gang Coalition in Elkhart County give the proposal high marks. "So give the police all the tools they need, give the prosecutors all the tools they need to suppress gang behavior," said Joe Guerrero, of the Elkhart County Anti-Gang Coalition.

"How it benefits the Anti-Gang Coalition is it will give a little more awareness to the people in general to the fact that we do have a gang problem," said Marcia Brothers, of the Elkhart County Anti-Gang Coalition.

Republican John Ulmer, of Goshen, co-authored the bill. It now goes to the Indiana Senate for final approval.

Full Story: <http://www.fortwayne.com/mld/fortwayne/16933802.htm>



19 Seized in Illegal Gun Flow to Gangs

Article published by the Chicago Tribune

Regional

03/01/2007 Chicago, IL | The arrests of 19 people in Chicago and Mississippi in a gun-trafficking conspiracy offer a snapshot into the illegal gun trade in which gang members here end up with high-powered weapons, federal authorities said Wednesday.

A loose organization made up of relatives, their friends and associates allegedly arranged for the purchase of more than 100 guns in Mississippi, where laws are relatively lax, and transport here for sale to gangs such as the Gangster Disciples.

About three dozen weapons eventually were recovered at Chicago crime scenes, including a shootout last year in which two people were killed and a police officer wounded, investigators said.

"When you add illegally obtained heavy-caliber firearms to the already volatile mix of gangs and drugs on the streets of Chicago, the result to say the least is an unacceptable level of violence," said Gary Shapiro, first assistant U.S. attorney in Chicago.

Three people were in custody in Chicago and 15 in Mississippi after a team of agents from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and officers from the Chicago Police Department and Illinois State Police cracked down on the group early Wednesday. One suspect was already in custody.

Shapiro said gun-running operations like the one dismantled Wednesday contribute significantly to crime in the city.

It "threatens not only those who try to enforce our laws, but also the law-abiding citizens who only wish to live their lives in the neighborhoods that the gangs are trying to dominate," Shapiro said.

Full Story: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chicago/chi-0703010251mar01.1.6002784.story?coll=chi-newslocalchicago-hed&ctrack=2&cset=true>



Five Charged in Stabbing of Cop Outside Lincoln Park Bar

Article published by ABC 7 Chicago

03/05/2007 Lincoln Park, IL | Five men have been charged with the stabbing and beating of an off-duty police officer outside a Lincoln Park bar early Sunday.

The suspects are believed to be gang members with lengthy criminal histories, according to police.

The men were each charged with attempted first degree murder, aggravated battery to a police officer and aggravated battery with a weapon. They are: Anthony Borias, 24, Joseph Borias, 26, Nicholas Borias, 23, Vincent Munday, 21, and David Podgorski, 23, according to a release Monday night from police News Affairs.

Anthony Borais was still hospitalized at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center Monday night, according to police.

Nearly the entire incident was captured on videotape, police said. The officer was leaving a bar on the 2600 block of North Lincoln Avenue about 4 a.m. Sunday with two friends when they were approached by "six to eight questionable individuals verbally accosting" them, police said.

The attack happened at 2642 N. Lincoln Avenue, according to News Affairs Deputy Director Pat Camden.

Bond said the officer has severe injuries to his head, abdomen and possibly his lungs. He was in "stable" condition after surgery at Illinois Masonic. Bond said the wounded officer had been off work only a couple of hours and alcohol was not a factor in the incident.

Full Story: <http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=local&id=5092264>



One Killed in Gang-Related Shooting

Article published by the Saginaw News

03/08/2007 Saginaw, MI | Prosecutors charged one man with murder as police look for at least two others in the Buena Vista Township shooting death of a toddler.

Jerry W. Long, 23, faced arraignment today in Saginaw County District Court on an open charge of murder and seven other felony counts in the Friday slaying of 14-month-old Stacy D. Evans Jr.

Long was driving with at least two passengers when gunfire exploded from his tan Hummer H3 and struck an oncoming 2000 Lincoln LS with the toddler in a car seat and the toddler's mother at the wheel, police said.

"The investigation isn't done," said Saginaw County Prosecutor Michael D. Thomas.

The child's mother, Barretta Epperson, 21, had just turned from eastbound Norman onto southbound North Outer Drive. She was less than a quarter-mile from home when at least 10 bullets tore into her car about 11 p.m. Friday.

The boy suffered a head wound and died the next day at Covenant Medical Center in Saginaw.

Township police handling the case are keeping mum, but other authorities familiar with the child's father, convicted drug dealer Stacy D. Evans Sr., believe the shooting arose from long-running gang feuds.

Evans grew up with East Side gang ties; his father was a member of the Burt Street gang. Evans later forged ties with the once-powerful 4KP, or "Fourth and Kirk Posse," a North Side gang, a secret Saginaw police list of gangsters shows.

Police included Evans on the list of roughly 20 of the city's most dangerous gangsters and distributed it to Saginaw County prosecutors to use in deciding whether to cut deals with certain defendants.

Full Story: <http://www.mlive.com/news/sanews/index.ssf?/base/news-4/1173367219277310.xml&coll=9>

Woman on FBI's Most Wanted List Nabbed

Published by CNN

04/02/2007 Kansas City, MO | The lone woman on the FBI's 10 Most Wanted list was captured and charged with one count of second-degree murder, authorities said.

Shauntay L. Henderson, 24, was arrested Saturday when she answered the door at an apartment, police said.

Authorities had gone to the apartment in search of someone she knew, authorities said.

Henderson, a reputed gang member, is charged with the September 2006 shooting death of DeAndre M. Parker, 20, who was killed as he sat in a pickup truck outside a convenience store. Court documents did not give a motive for the shooting.

She also is charged in a federal warrant for unlawful flight to avoid prosecution. She was caught Saturday night just before the television show "America's Most Wanted" announced her inclusion on the list.

Henderson was being held on \$250,000 cash bond, and jail officials did not know whether she had an attorney.

Police have said in court documents that she had been identified as a suspect in a series of assaults and killings in south Kansas City.

An FBI news release about Henderson said she was a "person of interest" in four or five additional homicides and up to 50 other shootings. The FBI's Web site listed Henderson as "considered armed and extremely dangerous."

Full Story: <http://www.cnn.com/2007/LAW/04/01/fbi.fugitive.caught.ap/index.html>



Investigation Nets 30 Immigrants with Suspected Gang Ties

Article published by the News Journal

03/09/2007 Wilmington, DE | Officials from the U.S. Attorney's office and ICE announced today the results of a four-month anti-gang effort that has resulted in the arrests of 12 undocumented immigrants in Delaware with suspected gang ties including one who was a professed member of the notorious MS-13 transnational gang.

Eighteen others, who were already in custody, were also identified by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents as having gang affiliations. All are now facing deportation.

U.S. Attorney Colm F. Connolly said the arrests and deportations are part of an ongoing joint federal and state anti-gang initiative and a stepped-up effort by ICE in the state of Delaware.

William M. Lowder, the state's first Resident Agent in Charge who started four months ago, said the Delaware sweep is part of a larger, national anti-gang effort called Operation Community Shield.



Five of the 12 arrests, made in cooperation with the New Castle County Police Department, were in the past month. Lowder said his office has been working with local law enforcement to generate a list of about 120 people who are suspected gang members – often identifiable by tattoos – and likely in the country illegally.

In addition to the 30 that have been arrested or found to be in custody, about 2 more were here legally, so no action could be taken. Connolly said they remain on the lookout for approximately 90 others on the list and because of their suspected gang ties, his office will prosecute them for even misdemeanor violations in order to help speed their removal from the community and the country.

While the past four months have focused on New Castle County, Lowder said ICE is now working with the Delaware State Police to launch similar sweeps for potential gang members in Kent and Sussex counties.

Full Story: <http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070309/NEWS/70309032>

Gangs Go Online, With Cops in Pursuit

Article published by the San Diego Union-Tribune

03/05/2007 San Diego, CA | When a San Marcos gang member was shot in a drive-by, it didn't take long for threats of retaliation to hit MySpace. "That fat (expletive), he's gonna get his," a 15-year-old wrote on the gang's Web site. "Just wait till Halloween," another teen replied. The threats didn't go unnoticed by gang detectives, who have begun tapping into the Web site MySpace.com to gain intelligence about what's happening on the streets.

Gang members have embraced the massive online community as a new way to fly their colors, brag about their exploits and talk trash about rival gangs. "You can find out the nature of the warfare, who is at war with whom, the motive for a crime," said Deputy District Attorney John Oliphant, who has spent the past decade prosecuting gang crimes. "It's all about rep and bravado."



MySpace, which has become overwhelmingly popular with teens, provides an easy way to create a personal profile, meet people online and post comments for friends. Many San Diego County gangs create a MySpace page for their gang, where members can chat in group forums.

For law enforcement officials fishing for information on gang networks, it can be a gold mine. And for novices, it is a window into the gang lifestyle. Profiles are decorated with photos of kids posing with guns, drinking alcohol, throwing up gang signs and flashing wads of cash. Video clips set to rap music show gang fights at clubs and parties. One Escondido gangster includes a map highlighting the gang's territory on his profile.

Bad-mouthing, often laced with profanities and misspellings, is widespread. The jabs often are aimed at vague gang rivals, such as Bloods versus Crips or Sureños versus Norteños. It gets especially personal on some Web sites, such as one where a local gang member posted photos of rivals with their faces crossed out. "Rest in piss" is written over one teen's face.

"For years they've done it through graffiti – it was the newspaper of the street," said Vista gang Detective Joe Ellis. "This is a new way to do it. They put it out there now for the whole world to see."

Full Story: http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20070305/news_1m5myspace.html



Gangs Stake Out Turf on MySpace.com

Article published by the North County Times

03/18/2007 Midland, NC | At least three recent gang-related crimes in the Midlands, including a killing, have ties to the popular social networking site MySpace.com, according to police. Young people who claim affiliation with gangs have set up profiles on MySpace.com. The gangs use the sites to recruit members, disrespect each other, mourn dead gang members and ask for help freeing those behind bars.

Authorities have caught on, using some of the postings as evidence to arrest and prosecute gang members.



Richland County sheriff's deputies arrested four alleged gang members suspected in a March 6 drive-by shooting. Two of them are in a photo posted on MySpace.com posing with the shotgun used in the shooting, according to authorities.

"What you see other young people using, gang members are using those same tools to communicate, express themselves, brag about themselves," said Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott. "It's kind of like graffiti."

Gang members can be seen flaunting guns, drugs and cash on dozens of MySpace.com sites. Some challenge prosecutors, federal agents and police to come get them. The MySpace.com postings are "fueling" the Midlands' gang problem, according to A.V. Strong, founder of Project Gang Out, a Columbia-based group that helps youths get out of gangs.

Full Story: http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2007/02/04/news/inland/21_48_002_3_07.txt

Youth Gang Reflects Shift in Origins, Membership

Article published by the Washington Post

03/03/2007 Montgomery County, MD | Residents along Bel Pre Road just west of Georgia Avenue in Montgomery County were complaining to police last week about youths throwing ice chunks at cars and stealing fire extinguishers. By last Saturday, police say, the group had graduated to greater violence: Three people were stabbed, two critically.

Now, 11 members of the gang, including a 12-year-old, face multiple charges, including attempted first-degree murder in a double stabbing at the Wheaton Metro Station and another knifing at an Aspen Hill apartment complex on Bel Pre Road in which a 31-year-old mentally challenged man was wounded.

Officer Robert Musser, Montgomery's top gang investigator, said yesterday that the group's membership reflects a growing trend in area gangs: They are mixed-race, loosely organized collections of youths that coalesce because they attend the same school or live in the same neighborhood. The groups often change their monikers several times, he said.

The Hot Boyz/Shoot 'Em Up gang, suspected of being involved in the stabbings Saturday, has been on investigators' radar for about 14 months, Musser said. Officers were first tipped to its existence after its graffiti began appearing in the community. Musser said there are about 18 members ranging in age from 12 to 17, most of them black.

A law enforcement source who asked not to be identified because the case is open said that although some members have been charged with crimes in the past, the stabbings are the most serious offenses to which the group has been linked.

Full Story: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/03/02/AR2007030201459.html?nav=hcmodule>



Police, Schools Team up to Fight Student Gangs in Portsmouth

Article published by the Virginian-Pilot

03/02/2007 Portsmouth, VA | Students at Cradock Middle School soon will get extensive training in gang awareness. The middle school is the first Portsmouth school to accept the offer of the Police Department's gang task force to educate children, not just teachers and administrators.

The program, which was developed by the Virginia attorney general's office, is scenario-based and geared toward teaching youngsters how to make the right decision when approached about joining a gang, said Ken Gavin, who heads the Portsmouth Police Department's gang task force. Other Hampton Roads cities have provided gang awareness training to school staffs and brought in speakers on gangs for students.



In recent months, public safety officers and some education leaders in Portsmouth have described gang activity in the schools as an increasing concern. "If we don't address these issues, we realize now the wave is coming on," Police Chief Edward Long said in an interview. "We have to be forward thinking enough to... head these things off." This school year, the board has expelled three or four students, whose files mention gang activity, for bad behavior, Stuckwisch said. "When our board deals with these issues, they deal very decisively," he said.

School board member Keith Nance Sr. said he had spoken with Sheriff Bill Watson about some situations involving gang activity at Cradock, but he would not elaborate. Earlier this month, Watson sent a deputy to work at Cradock. He said it was in response to phone calls from concerned parents. "He realizes if we don't educate, he will eventually end up incarcerating," Nance said.

Stuckwisch said he appreciates Watson's support and is talking to Long about getting a Police Department resource officer back into the school. The schools also have private security officers, he added.

Full Story: <http://content.hamptonroads.com/story.cfm?story=120421&ran=56552>

From Social Club to Street Gang

Article published by the Los Angeles Times

03/21/2007 Canoga Park, AL | It started as a social club in the 1930s for Latino farmworkers in the western San Fernando Valley. Over the years, it evolved into a car club, paralleling America's infatuation with the automobile.

Later, in the 1970s, life within the club took a darker cast as drugs and guns began to infiltrate the nation's urban neighborhoods. No longer an innocent social network, Canoga Park Alabama mushroomed into a full-fledged street gang named for the neighborhood on which it preyed and a street that spans its turf.

Now, the 500-member Latino gang has become the focus of a crackdown by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and Police Chief William J. Bratton. The gang is one of 11 — and the only one in the Valley — on Los Angeles' target list. Police officials say Canoga Park Alabama was largely responsible for a 44% rise in gang crime last year in the Valley, where five active gangs claim turf. Citywide, gang crime rose 14%.

But on the streets of Canoga Park, there is debate on exactly how much the Canoga Park Alabama is responsible for crime — and whether police can root out an organization with such deep history in the area. "We worry about them constantly," said Margaret T. Pontius, program manager at the Guadalupe Community Center, located in the heart of the gang's turf. "The influence is out there. The younger children, when they reach the pre- and early teens — it seems to be such a great thing to say you're a part of CPA."

Full Story: <http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/california/la-me-canoga21mar21,1,1362780.story?coll=la-headlines-pe-california&ctrack=1&cset=true>



Graffiti: A Reminder of a Gang's Presence

Article published by the Visalia Times Delta

03/06/2007 Visalia, CA | To some it's just an eyesore — letters on a wall behind a central Visalia apartment building. But to those who live daily with the problem of street gangs in their neighborhoods, the spray-painted letters — "NSVL" — carry a powerful message with life-and-death consequences. On the night of Feb. 16, eight teenagers confronted a pair of men walking through an alley in the 600 block of South Santa Fe Street.

At least some of the teens are gang members who consider the alley part of their territory. "This is theirs. They've marked it. They've tagged it," said Tulare County Sheriff's Lt. Mike Boudreaux. "This little alleyway is controlled by them."



Anyone walking through the alley might have to pay a toll — in cash or drugs — or risk a beating, said Boudreaux, who oversees the Tulare County Multi-Agency Gang Enforcement Team, MAGNET, which officers from the sheriff's department, the Visalia Police Department, the Tulare County Probation Office and state parole agents. The Sept. 16 incident ended without bloodshed when a witness called Visalia police. The two men in the alley were lucky.

For many, the graffiti that appears overnight on the Central Valley's walls, trash cans and traffic signs is a confusing hodgepodge of letters, numbers and symbols. But there is a message — if you know how to read it.

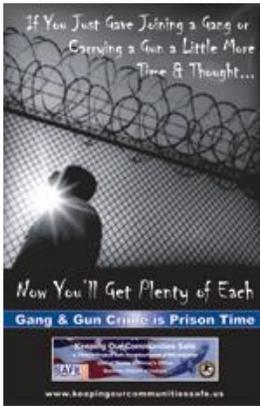
For example, many symbols — including "NSVL," "LP" and "WST" — represent abbreviations for the names of gangs or other tagging groups. The letters "n" and "s" usually refer to northern- or southern-affiliated street gangs, but not always, Cotton said. He noted the line painted through the S in "NSVL" in the Santa Fe Street alley, a sign of disrespect by the northern-gang members who tagged the wall.

"For years they've done it through graffiti — it was the newspaper of the street," said Vista gang Detective Joe Ellis. "This is a new way to do it. They put it out there now for the whole world to see."

Full Story: <http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070306/NEWS01/703060304>

Gang Identification Cards Available to Indiana Law Enforcement

The U.S. Attorney's Office has released a series of law enforcement reference cards pertaining to gang awareness and identification. The cards include a law enforcement sensitive gang identifier card, a parent's reference card and a Spanish version of the parent's reference card. The gang identifier card includes information on various gangs found in the Northern District along with graffiti, colors and symbols relating to each gang. The parent's cards contain warning signs of gang involvement and tips for curbing the chances of their youth joining a gang. These are available in both English and Spanish text as mentioned before.



The poster series features four scenarios outlining the repercussions of gang and gun violence. They are ideal for schools and community centers as an awareness reminder that crime has consequences. Both the posters and resource cards can be ordered

by sending an e-mail request with your mailing information to sro.indiana@usdoj.gov or by contacting a USAO-LECC representative at (219) 937-5500.

Check them out at:

<http://www.keepingourcommunitiesafe.us/gangs.htm>



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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