

# The Gang Specialist, January, 2023

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## WHAT: The Biggest and Best Gang Training Conference in 2023.

**When?** — July 31st, August 1st, and August 2nd, 2023

**Where** is it being held? — Westin Michigan Avenue Hotel, 909 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL.

**Why Attend?** Read more at the NGCRC website:  
<https://ngcrc.com/2023.conference.html>

**Who Should Attend?** Anyone who wants to be more effective in dealing with gangs. If you can be potentially enlisted in the fight against gangs, you are welcome. The program is geared towards those who work in criminal justice: police officers, probation officers, corrections staff, prosecution, school SRO's other gang investigators and intervention/prevention personnel nationwide.

**How to Attend?** A registration form is provided on page 12.

## Why the NGCRC has continued to set the "Gold Standard" for Gang Training:

The National Gang Crime Research Center (NGCRC) has pioneered the field by first of all being producers of gang knowledge, publishing and disseminating useful information recognized at the highest levels of the social scientific community. Additionally, the NGCRC has a long track record of service (1990 to present — over 30 years of service) to law enforcement and correctional agencies nationwide in the goal of reducing gang violence. The research and intelligence analysis developed by the NGCRC over the years, and published in its scholarly journal, the *Journal of Gang Research* (now in its 30th year of publication), is of great practical value for gang prosecution, law enforcement and STG coordinators/investigators in corrections. Gang prosecutors and gang investigators, throughout the USA and abroad, as well as probation and correctional staff who attend the NGCRC training conferences, have clearly made their views known that the NGCRC training is the best in regard to offering high quality practical choices. A very wide variety of practical and useful courses are offered at the NGCRC training conference.

The NGCRC training conference is designed to "train the trainer": someone who completes the training will be able to return to their community, agency or institution equipped to train others. Trainees will return with a wealth of printed information, and lots of new "networking contacts": persons to call upon in the future. A trainee could spend all 24 hours in Gang Investigation courses and not repeat anything.

## Massive Gang Training Event Set for Summer 2023 in Chicago

CHICAGO, IL --- The National Gang Crime Research Center (NGCRC) will be hosting the world's biggest and best gang training conference this summer in Chicago. The NGCRC is good at delivering on its promises. It has over twenty years of previous experience doing this kind of high caliber training for prosecutors, police, corrections, probation/parole, and related criminal justice agencies.

"We are proud of our long track record of exceptional service, our journal alone now has thirty years of publication", remarked Dr. George Knox, the executive director of the NGCRC, "this is our twenty sixth continuous annual gang training event, we are planning to make it the best ever".

It is a large conference dedicated totally to a focus on gangs. There are many areas of specialization from Gang Crime Investigation to Gang Internet Investigation. The 2022 training curriculum had 110 different courses. Over 83 choices are already listed for 2023. Plus, our "fail safe" fully-loaded video-based training system is operational as a fully functional stand-alone backup.

"It is true that no one else in the world offers more choices in training content about gang issues than we do, it really is a huge undertaking, and it has a very strong, very professional, curriculum," Knox said.

Asked why it is always held in Chicago, NGCRC staff explained that Chicago was a central location and having so many different trainers that arrive from all over the U.S. and abroad made Chicago an affordable staging area. There are also reduced airline fares to Chicago, and of course many other attractions and amenities in Chicago.

"In the evening, after classes, historically we help trainees go see a baseball game, and we have been doing this for many years, we have mastered the formula for how to effectively train people and organize networking opportunities for them during their stay in Chicago," Knox replied, "we do try to intentionally create a warm, positive learning atmosphere for our trainees."

Asked what is so special about classroom learning and evening entertainment, Knox said "we provide the best gang training, we develop the curriculum that others want to mimic or copy, we lead the field, and this year, yes, we are again planning on some enhancements, most people are impressed by our organization, and the friendly staff, and remember the NGCRC organizes a variety of social receptions that are free to attend at the conference."

"We can literally guarantee that people will achieve positive networking results at our conference since we design the receptions and train our staff to be friendly and helpful," Knox said.

Available this year is a fully operational video-based training option. It was tested in 2020-2021. Now it has over 36 hours of training available in it, allowing trainees to complete the 24-hour program remotely on the computer if they want to. This provides a "fail-safe" system if travel to Chicago becomes problematic or other circumstances put obstacles in the way of normal operations. There is nothing that can stop you from completing the training with the video-based training option in place.

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### Complete the New NGCRC Word Seek and Get a Journal Issue Free (\$75 value):

Complete the correct answers to the word seek puzzle to the right and, if you have all of the correct answers, the NGCRC will send you, free of charge, a valuable prize: one copy of a recent issue of the *Journal of Gang Research*.

I have cut out this section of *The Gang Specialist* newspaper, please send me a free and complimentary copy of the *Journal of Gang Research*.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, ST, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline for submission of entries: Clip out and mail original above. Complete and mail so that it is postmarked on or before February 14, 2023.

Only one entry per agency address. Mail to: NGCRC, P.O. Box 990, Peotone, IL 60468.

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### Word Seek: Find the Names of the 12 Motorcycle Gangs

C	A	P	F	A	Y	A	S	Z	V	M	R	D	T	S
T	J	Y	Y	Q	K	O	M	X	M	F	M	W	A	K
O	P	T	Q	V	D	R	P	M	X	M	O	Y	N	C
E	U	B	M	I	L	U	P	X	X	H	N	P	R	A
H	X	T	D	H	E	L	L	S	A	N	G	E	L	S
D	N	N	L	P	M	T	M	X	Q	D	O	F	U	S
V	A	E	O	A	P	R	V	T	P	D	L	F	K	O
B	M	Y	C	A	W	S	K	S	B	H	S	P	F	C
E	F	R	G	G	Y	S	G	N	W	X	O	Q	E	A
J	I	A	L	U	O	S	F	O	S	L	E	E	H	W
C	N	E	C	N	E	L	I	S	F	O	S	N	O	S
S	S	D	R	A	U	G	R	E	D	N	U	H	T	D
S	C	G	Y	P	S	Y	J	O	K	E	R	S	W	K
I	K	L	W	A	R	R	I	O	R	S	F	J	W	T
G	A	L	L	O	P	I	N	G	G	O	O	S	E	D

*These Motorcycle Gang Names are the names of gangs most likely to be found inside the jail inmate population of county jails in the United States. Much other analysis on this and other factors is reported in the 2022 Jail Survey Report issued by the National Gang Crime Research Center.*

- Find The Names of the Top 12 Rank Ordered OMG's Reported in the 2022 NGCRC National Jail Survey**
- Bandidos
  - HellsAngels
  - Outlaws
  - Mongols
  - Pagans
  - SonsofSilence
  - GypsyJokers
  - ThunderGuards
  - Warriors
  - WheelsofSoul
  - Cossacks
  - GallopingGoose

### Five Alleged Street Gang Members Charged With Federal Racketeering Offenses Including Murder of Chicago Rapper

CHICAGO, IL — A federal indictment unsealed on October 13, 2022 charges five alleged members of the O-Block street gang with participating in a criminal organization that murdered a Chicago rapper and violently protected the gang and its territories on the South Side of Chicago.

The indictment alleges that the O-Block gang publicly claimed responsibility for acts of violence in Chicago and used social media and music to increase their criminal enterprise. The O-Block gang allegedly engaged in numerous acts of violence, including the murder of Carlton Weekly, a Chicago rapper also known as "FBG Duck," on Aug. 4, 2020.

Charged with committing murder in aid of racketeering are Chicago residents CHARLES LIGGINS, also known as "C Murda," 30; KENNETH ROBERSON, also known as "Kenny" and "Kenny Mac," 28; TACARLOS OFFERD, also known as "Los," 30; CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, also known as "C Thang," 22; and MARCUS SMART, also known as "Muwop," 22. The indictment also charges the defendants with federal firearm violations and assaults in aid of racketeering.

Liggins, Offerd, Thomas, and Smart were arrested this morning. They are scheduled to make initial court appearances today at 2:00 p.m. before U.S. Magistrate Judge M. David Weisman. Roberson is currently in the custody of the Cook County Department of Corrections. His initial federal court appearance will be scheduled at a later date.

The indictment was announced by John R. Lausch, Jr., United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; Emmerson Buie, Jr., Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago Field Office of the FBI; and David Brown, Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department. Substantial assistance in the investigation was provided by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Jason A. Julien, Albert Berry III, and Ann Marie Ursini.

The public is reminded that an indictment is not evidence of guilt. The defendants are presumed innocent and entitled to a fair trial at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The murder count in the indictment carries a mandatory minimum sentence of life in federal prison and a maximum potential sentence of the death penalty. One of the firearm counts is also punishable by a maximum potential sentence of the death penalty, while the other firearm count is punishable by a mandatory minimum of ten years and a maximum of life. The assault counts are each punishable by a maximum of twenty years. If convicted, the Court must impose reasonable sentences under federal sentencing statutes and the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines.

### Mac Ballers Gang Member Charged With 2013 Murder

NEW YORK, NY — Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and Keechant L. Sewell, Commissioner of the New York City Police Department ("NYPD"), announced in November the unsealing of an Indictment charging LAMAR WILLIAMS with racketeering conspiracy, murder in aid of racketeering, and murder with a firearm. The charges relate to WILLIAMS' murder of Rasheed Barton on August 11, 2013, in the Bronx, New York.

WILLIAMS was arrested and presented before Magistrate Judge Jennifer E. Willis. The case is assigned to U.S. District Judge Naomi Reice Buchwald.

U.S. Attorney Damian Williams said: "As alleged, the defendant shot and murdered Rasheed Barton as part of the defendant's gang membership and crack cocaine dealing. We will continue to work with our law enforcement partners to investigate and prosecute those who commit these horrific acts of violence."

NYPD Commissioner Keechant L. Sewell said: "Today's charges highlight what the NYPD and our partners in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District can accomplish when we focus on the relatively few people responsible for much of the crime and violence in New York City. Together, we remain committed to identifying, arresting, and prosecuting those who partake in any form of gang activity, from drug distribution to murder. Make no mistake: Severe consequences await anyone who dares to jeopardize the safety of our neighborhoods."

According to the allegations in the Indictment unsealed today in Manhattan federal Court: From at least 2013 to 2022, LAMAR WILLIAMS, a/k/a "Black," a/k/a "Little Black," a/k/a "Chase Money Marz," was a member of the Mac Ballers, which is a set of the national Bloods gang. The Mac Ballers operated primarily in the northeast United States, including in the Bronx, and in jails and prisons of New York City and the State of New York.

Members of the Mac Ballers committed acts of violence, including murder, to protect and expand the gang's territory, to retaliate against rival gang members, to keep victims and potential victims in fear of the gang, and to otherwise promote the gang's reputation. They also distributed controlled substances in order to enrich themselves. Mac Ballers members promoted and celebrated the gang's criminal conduct — including acts of violence, drug distribution, and firearm usage — on social media.

On August 11, 2013, WILLIAMS shot and killed Rasheed Barton in the vicinity of East 174th Street and Bronx River Avenue in the Bronx, New York. WILLIAMS murdered Barton in connection with WILLIAMS' membership in the Mac Ballers gang and his conspiring to sell crack cocaine.

He is charged with one count of racketeering conspiracy, which carries a statutory maximum sentence of life in prison; one count of murder in aid of racketeering, which carries a statutory maximum sentence of death or life in prison and mandatory minimum sentence of life in prison; and one count of murder through use of a firearm, which carries a statutory maximum sentence of death or life in prison and a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison.

The minimum and maximum potential sentences are prescribed by Congress and are provided here for informational purposes only, as any sentence will be determined by the judge.

Mr. Williams praised the outstanding investigative work of the NYPD. This case is being handled by the Office's Violent & Organized Crime Unit. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Mathew Andrews and Jim Ligtenberg are in charge of the prosecution.

### Also for 2023: The NGCRC Video-Based Training Portal

The "Videopage" is a special secured training portal at the NGCRC website. It allows you to accumulate training credit using a laptop or PC, just by navigating to the videopage.

You will need to have a valid password provided to you by the NGCRC to access and use the training videos provided at the video page: <https://ngcrc.com/videopage.html>

By signing up for the 2023 training program, you automatically get access to both the "classroom" teaching sessions at the Chicago hotel on July 31 - Aug. 2, 2023 as well as all of the on-line video-based training sessions. You can, if you want, complete your entire training program (accumulate the necessary 24 hours of training required) through this videopage portal alone if you needed to or wanted to or could not travel at the last moment.

There are N = 36 hours of session training content provided in the video options at this time, more to follow. We may very likely add some more. You only need 24 hours of training to complete the 2023 NGCRC gang training program. So the 2023 NGCRC video training program can be easily completed remotely from this hybrid digital training platform, just view 24 of the 36 hours to pick from. The video content alone allows you to still pick from about 20 different training tracks if you are registering for certification. You do not get credit for anything over 24 hours of training. But you can do it for "extra credit" if by that you mean educational self-help.

There is an evaluation form used for the 2023 training conference and it is located here so you can print it off right now and get started: <https://ngcrc.com/evaluationform.pdf>

### Three Members of Violent Reading, PA Drug Gang Convicted By Jury of Federal Murder, Kidnapping and Drug Conspiracy Charges

PHILADELPHIA, PA – United States Attorney Jacqueline C. Romero and Berks County District Attorney John T. Adams announced on Oct. 20, 2022 during a press conference in the Berks County Courthouse that Jesus Feliciano-Trinidad, 33; Dewayne Quinones, 29; and Mayco Alvarez-Jackson, 25; all of Reading, PA, were convicted at trial of murder, kidnapping, drug distribution and firearms offenses arising from their involvement with a Reading-area drug trafficking organization which was responsible for multiple homicides, kidnapping, and conspiracies to kidnap in 2017 and 2018, including a quadruple homicide which occurred on January 28, 2018. All three defendants were convicted of federal murder and weapons charges relating to the quadruple homicide.

Over 15 defendants were charged in a series of indictments stemming from a years' long investigation into the receipt, processing, and distribution of methamphetamine, heroin, fentanyl, cocaine, and crack cocaine. The indictments detailed the defendants using a number of buildings, residences, firearms and acts of violence to further their drug dealing efforts in and around Reading, including kidnapping and/or shooting multiple individuals in 2017 and 2018; conspiring to shoot and kill Miguel Reyes on December 13, 2017; kidnaping, shooting, and killing Hector Gonzalez-Rivera on January 24, 2018; and shooting and killing Jarlyn Lantigua-Tejada, Juan Rodriguez, Nelson Onofre, and Joshua Santos on January 28, 2018.

"These three defendants, members of the Trinidad gang, have been convicted by a jury of some of the most serious charges that exist under federal law with penalties of equal gravity," said U.S. Attorney Romero. "These convictions, after years of investigation and preparation, would not have been possible without the partnership of District Attorney Adams and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I want to thank them and all of our local law enforcement partners here in Berks County as we work together to prosecute violent drug trafficking organizations like Trinidad in order to keep the Reading community safe."

"We appreciate the partnership between the Berks County District Attorney's Office and the United States Attorney's office of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in the prosecution of this violent Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO)," said Berks County District Attorney Adams. "Today's verdict indicates a very successful prosecution of this violent DTO that created mayhem in our community. These convictions indicate that the jury has held the leaders of this organization responsible for their acts of violence and drug trafficking, and as a result they will never be a threat to our community again."

"These are three violent, dangerous men who terrorized the Reading area for years, trafficking deadly drugs and committing multiple murders," said Jacqueline Maguire, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI's Philadelphia Division. "The Trinidad organization's actions destroyed families and had a devastating effect on the community's public safety and quality of life. This case underscores how the FBI and our law enforcement partners are working together to target and dismantle the violent drug gangs wreaking so much havoc, just to make money and a name for themselves on the street. I want to thank the Reading Police Department and the Berks County District Attorney's Office, in addition to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania – for all the time, work, and resources they put into this investigation, resulting in today's convictions."

12 defendants charged in the investigation previously pleaded guilty to federal or state charges and are awaiting sentencing. Co-defendants Mariela Alvarado and Owen Malave-Medina were sentenced to 168 months and 90 months in prison, respectively.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Berks County District Attorney's Office, the Berks County Detectives, and the Reading Police Department, with assistance from the Pennsylvania State Police and the Montgomery County Detectives, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Kelly A. Lewis Fallenstein, Special Assistant United States Attorney Rosalynda M. Michetti, and Assistant United States Attorney Vineet Gauri.

## Select Your Certification Specialty Choosing From a List of 31 Different Options (Training Tracks):

Those who register for certification receive two high quality 8 ½" x 11" certificates reflecting their training. The certificates carry the seal of the National Gang Crime Research Center. If you register for certification, then you receive two certificates (1) one reflects that you completed the NGCRC's 2023 program consisting of 24 hours of intensive training, and (2) the second certificate reflects that you completed a minimum of four hours in a specialized topical area, i.e., your "track". One example of the 31 tracks is *Advanced Gang Identification Skills*.

Those who register for non-certification do not receive any certificates. Registering for non-certification is cheaper. However, those who register for non-certification are eligible to upgrade their enrollment to full certification on or before July 30, 2023, just pay the extra \$100 cost accompanied with the "Upgrade to Certification" form. The NGCRC conference does attract head hunters and administrators who may not necessarily need or want certification. But if you ever anticipate the need to provide quality proof of your training, you probably want to sign up for certification.

When registering for certification, you need to select ONE (1) of the special gang certification training tracks from the available list. There are 31 options on the list. You need to pick one. What this means is that the trainee must spend at least four (4) hours in attending sessions designed for that specific "track", and the remaining twenty (20) hours can be used attending anything the trainee wants to attend.

### List of the Gang Certification Training Tracks for 2023:

A "track" is an area of expertise. Think of it as a kind of "major" in college. It is a specific topical area of study and concern in the world of the gang specialist. Here is a complete list of the "tracks" that are offered for training by the NGCRC. You pick one of them, and you must log in at least four (4) hours in that track area from courses providing session credits for that track. You can pick two tracks if you use the "double major" form for a small extra fee.

Here are the thirty (31) choices for 2023:

- (1) Gang Crime Investigation Skills Track
- (2) Dealing With Gang Members in Probation/Parole Track
- (3) Gang Homicide Investigation Skills Track
- (4) Gangs and Drugs Track
- (5) Gang Problems in K-12 Schools Track
- (6) Gangs and Organized Crime
- (7) Gangs and Mental Health Track
- (8) Gang Interview/Interrogation Skills Track
- (9) Gang Internet Investigation
- (10) Management Skills for Gang Outreach, Prevention, and Intervention Services
- (11) Gang Outreach and Intervention Skills Track
- (12) Management and Supervision Skills for Gang Specialists
- (13) Corrections Gang/STG Intelligence Track
- (14) Domestic Counter-Terrorism Skills Track
- (15) Motorcycle Gangs (restricted: for Criminal Justice Personnel only)
- (16) Dealing With Gangs in Juvenile Correctional Facilities
- (17) Gang and Violence Prevention Skills for School Administrators
- (18) Gang Counseling Techniques Track
- (19) Advanced Gang Identification
- (20) Gang Profile Analysis Track
- (21) Gang Prosecution Track
- (22) Gang Prevention Skills Track
- (23) International and Transnational Gang Problems Track
- (24) Hate Groups/White Racist Extremist Gangs Track
- (25) Officer Safety Skills in Dealing With Gangs Track
- (26) Female Gangs/Female Gang Members Track
- (27) Gang Crime Analysis & Mapping Track
- (28) Gangs and the Mass Media Track
- (29) Graffiti Identification and Analysis
- (30) Faith-Based Programs for Gang Intervention
- (31) Gang Victim, Witness, and Survivor Services Track

## Chicago Vice Lord Street Gang Leader Convicted on Federal Racketeering Charge

CHICAGO, IL — A federal jury on Nov. 15, 2022 convicted the leader of a Chicago street gang on racketeering conspiracy, firearm, and drug charges for participating in a criminal organization that murdered rivals and violently protected a drug-dealing operation on the West Side of Chicago.

The jury convicted DONALD LEE, 40, of Chicago, after a two-month trial in U.S. District Court in Chicago. Lee was a leader of the Wicked Town faction of the Traveling Vice Lords street gang. The jury also convicted TORANCE BENSON, 30, of Chicago, a member of the gang, on racketeering conspiracy and firearm charges.

Lee faces a mandatory sentence of life in federal prison, while Benson's convictions carry a maximum potential sentence of life. U.S. District Judge Thomas M. Durkin did not immediately set sentencing dates.

Lee and Benson were among 13 defendants charged as part of a multi-year investigation into the gang's criminal activities. The other eleven defendants pleaded guilty prior to trial and are awaiting sentencing. The investigation resulted in the seizures of more than 45 firearms, approximately 1,000 rounds of ammunition, approximately 17 kilograms of cocaine, approximately seven kilograms of heroin, and approximately 100 grams of crack cocaine.

Evidence at trial revealed that the Wicked Town gang engaged in numerous acts of violence, including at least 19 murders, 19 attempted murders, several armed robberies, and assaults. The gang used threats and intimidation to prevent victims and witnesses from cooperating with law enforcement. Wicked Town members regularly promoted their violent enterprise on social media, posting comments, photos, and videos to proclaim membership in the gang, taunt rival gang members, and boast about murders and other acts of violence. The gang operated primarily in Chicago's Austin neighborhood, where members maintained "trap houses" to store firearms and illegal narcotics, including cocaine and heroin.

The jury found that Lee committed three murders and supplied the firearms used in three other killings, while Benson committed one murder and three attempted murders.

# 2023 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPTIONS:

Trainees can register for Non-Certification or they can register for Certification. Both of these registration options are explained below.

**Non-Certification:** This option is for those who do not need a transcript to be maintained of their training experience and who do not desire a high quality certificate in an upward path of gang specialist training. This option is best for those who just want to attend, get the training materials, and be free to come and go as they wish. Trainees are eligible to receive 24 hours of on-site training during the conference. Please note that if you register for non-certification you do not receive any certificates of your training. Non-certification trainees do receive the same high quality set of take home training materials as those who register for Certification. Persons registering for non-certification are allowed to "upgrade" their registration to Certification; please inquire in writing about this procedure.

**Certification:** The certification is provided by the National Gang Crime Research Center, the premier gang research organization in the world, founded in 1990 it publishes the only professional international refereed journal about gangs (the *Journal of Gang Research*), it does extensive research on gangs, and it has a strong positive track record for providing high quality training on gang issues. The *Journal of Gang Research* has over 29 years of gang research publishing experience and as the Official Publication of the NGCRC it is abstracted in the Psychological Abstracts, Criminal Justice Abstracts, Sociological Abstracts, and other international organizations that recognize professional journals. For more information about the accomplishments of the NGCRC, see its webpage information (www.ngcrc.com). The NGCRC was given much positive attention in the November/December 2002 (No. 67) National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) Catalog, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs as a source of useful information on gangs (pp. 15, 17; this is not "advertising", because the NGCRC reports it recommended at our website were not government-funded and the NGCRC is not government funded, thus it is simply achieved positive recognition.

There are a number of different choices for a person seeking certification. You must select ONE of these areas of specialization for your own designated track when you register for certification. The list of the 31 choices are listed at the left in the box "Training Tracks for 2023".

When you register for certification, you select one "track" as your primary interest area. Your "track" is like your "major" in college. You must spend at least four hours in sessions designated for your "track". The other 20 hours of training are "electives": spend that time in any session you want to attend.

When you register for certification you receive two professionally printed color certificates of high display quality reflecting your training. One of these certificates reflects the completion of the 2023 Training Program; and the second certificate reflects your specialized training in your chosen track area. Those registering for non-certification do not receive such certificates.

### THE TRAINING SITE:

#### The Westin Michigan Avenue Hotel

This hotel is in a classy part of the north Loop. It is situated in the "Gold Coast" area of north Michigan Avenue (the shopping district) by Chicago's Water Tower. The "Water Tower" is Chicago's famous landmark. The Westin Hotel is known as a favorite hotel for sports celebrities when they stay in Chicago. It is easy to get to, conveniently located, well known, and has many amenities to offer. It has scored favorably in the annual evaluations the NGCRC has conducted as well (the Conference Evaluation Form asks attendees to evaluate a lot of things, including the experience with hotel).

## HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

The site where the training is occurring is the Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago hotel in downtown Chicago.

The Westin Michigan Avenue is located at 909 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611. The Telephone number for the Westin Michigan Avenue Hotel is (312) 943-7200. The toll free number for the Central Reservations Call Center is: 1 (888) 627-8385. When making reservations, the "code" for the conference is "NGCRC Gang Conference". They need that "code" to give you the reduced hotel rates.

The cut-off date for getting the rates here is July 17, 2023: Singles \$209, Doubles \$209. For triple and quad rates, inquire.

Trainees will be able, as per the schedule posted at the website, to pick up their "goody bags" and official Conference Identification the evening before training begins. Opening Ceremony is 0700 Monday in the Chicago Ballroom; actual Training begins 8am Monday morning, July 31, 2023. However, you will be able to pick up your registration materials, your identification badge, the final schedule, and your "goody bag" the night before: we expect to be able to start giving out registration materials about 3 pm on Sunday, 30 July 2023. We will be open to provide this service until about 10:00 pm. Just go to the NGCRC Operations Center (The Garfield Park Room is the NGCRC Operations Center) to pick up your materials. Signs will be prominently displayed. Call the NGCRC if you have any problems getting the reduced hotel rate.

## The “Added Value” of NGCRC Training:

The added value of NGCRC training is easy to explain and it is designed to be different than other groups who sponsor such training conferences: you get more for your money. You see that reflected in the evaluation results from previous NGCRC Conferences. Other people “copy” what we do, or they try to. But you can do a quick check of facts here: who else offers as many different sessions or courses than the NGCRC? It is such a huge and massive undertaking, that persons who attend this conference benefit from the very factor of “diversity” in the choices they have — what they want to learn and what instructors they want to learn from.

First, all NGCRC trainees are given a **wealth of high-quality take home printed training materials**. The value of these publications, reflecting the official journals from the NGCRC and related topics of interest about gangs, is itself a value comparable to the price of training itself. Most gang training programs provide a small amount of take-home written training materials, while the NGCRC provides an abundance of high-quality written take-home training materials. All persons attending the conference receive a “bag of goodies” which includes these kinds of useful written take-home training materials.

Secondly, no other training organization in the world provides the large **variety of training options** that the NGCRC provides; the NGCRC brings in more trainers and provides, therefore, more “choices” to trainees. NGCRC provides a large professional training experience in an environment designed for training. For example, in the 2023 Conference there will be over one hundred different sessions to pick from. Typically, gang conferences offer a small selection of training options. So if you think a variety of choices is a good thing, then you need to attend our training conference.

Thirdly, the NGCRC training is **designed to produce “trainers”**: trainees who attend and complete the training typically return to their respective jurisdictions with an incredible new arsenal of training tools to train others in the field. You will get new and useful gang information at our 2023 Training Conference.

Fourthly, the NGCRC training includes **social opportunities** that are structured to enhance the ability of the trainee to **network with others** in the field at a national and international level.

## A Peek at the 2023 Goody Bag

The NGCRC always hands out one free “goody bag” to everyone registered for the conference. This includes the program listing of courses, listing the room locations, the dates, the time, etc for each of the courses or sessions being offered. This will include eight (8) copies of recent issues of the *Journal of Gang Research*, a value of \$600 when purchased as back issues. The 2023 Goody Bag will also include valuable and useful take home items for your educational enhancement. So, the goody bag alone has \$600+ in valued gang training publications (e.g., back issues of the NGCRC’s journal).

You get the Goody Bag if and only if you are attending the in-class training sessions in Chicago.

To learn more about the *Journal of Gang Research*, go to: [www.ngcrc.com/ngcrc/page2.htm](http://www.ngcrc.com/ngcrc/page2.htm)

## Here are Some Training Sessions You Should Attend This Summer if You Work in Prosecution:

(2) **“RICO vs. One Off Indictments — Two Different Approaches to Combat Violent Gang Crime in Tennessee”**, by P. Neal Oldham, Assistant United States Attorney, Western District of Tennessee, Memphis, TN; and Wendy K. Cornejo, Assistant United States Attorney, Western District of Tennessee, Memphis, TN. One (1) hour

Abstract

This course is a case study of a gang prosecution of Vice Lords. Two Assistant United States Attorneys share their investigation and prosecution techniques used against the Vice Lords in West Tennessee. One AUSA prosecuted a group through a RICO and VICAR investigation and indictment. The other chose the “one off” method, indicting many members for any possible crime in various indictments. This class will show the method each AUSA used to investigate and prosecute their cases. It will highlight the advantages and disadvantages of each method through an examination of the time spent in comparison to the sentences given. Which method prosecuted more Vice Lords? Which took more time to investigate? What would they do differently?

(13) **“Prosecuting MS-13 Leaders for Transnational Terrorism Offenses? The Ranfla Nacional and ‘Blue’ Federal Prosecutions as a Paradigm Shift in the Federal Government”**, by Stephen L. Nelson, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Utah; Stewart M. Young, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Utah. One (1) hour

Abstract

In the summer of 2020, President Trump announced a large takedown of MS-13 gang members in a nationwide federal-state investigation. Along with the usual charges for MS-13 members, he announced the first terrorism-related charges against an MS-13 leader in the United States. The terrorism prosecution of Armando Eliu Melgar Diaz, aka “Blue”, signified an administration shift towards larger scale investigation and prosecution of MS-13 on an international scale. In January 2021, with the subsequent investigation and prosecution of the Ranfla Nacional, the board of directors of MS-13 residing in El Salvador and Mexico, the Department of Justice (DOJ) fully embraced that administration shift towards using terrorism charges against the MS-13 organization. AUSAs Steve Nelson and Stew Young will discuss this new tactic by the DOJ, using publicly available resources to illuminate the prosecution of MS-13 leaders for terrorist offenses both extraterritorially and within the United States. This presentation will further expound on the potential uses of these charges for other violent street gangs that have an international presence, including 18<sup>th</sup> Street.

(21) **“Federal Gang Prosecution in a Post-First Step Act World: Discussing the Impact of Federal Criminal Justice Reform as it Relates to Gang Members”**, by Stephen L. Nelson, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Utah; Stewart M. Young, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Utah. One (1) hour

Abstract

The First Step Act, signed into law on December 21, 2018, makes significant changes to federal criminal laws relevant to gang members, specifically mandatory minimum sentencing provisions in narcotics cases. In this session, attendees will learn about the First Step Act, the changes made by the first step act, and how these changes will affect federal gang prosecutions moving forward. Attendees will learn about how to identify and evaluate (in light of the First Step Act) potential gang-related defendants for federal prosecution and learn about potential prosecution pitfalls they might encounter in federal gang prosecutions. Attendees will also learn about how sentencing enhancements under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines and the Federal Gang Enhancement are affected by the First Step Act.

(30) **“Time to Face the Music: The Use of Rap Lyrics and Videos in the Prosecution of Gang Crimes”**, by Grant J. Shostak, EdD, JD, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Lindenwood University, St. Charles, MO; and Myah I. Grimm, student, Lindenwood University, St. Charles, MO. One (1) hour

Abstract

This session will provide an overview of the use of rap lyrics and videos in the prosecution of gang crimes. Through examination of real life case examples attendees will learn the ways this evidence is used on behalf of law enforcement in the prosecution of gang crimes; the evidentiary basis for its admission into evidence; and the most common evidentiary hurdles to its use at trial.

(32) **“Glenmob, Salty Gangsters and Northern Exposure”: A Discussion of State/Federal Cooperation in the Context of Investigating and Prosecuting a Hybrid Gang”**, by Stephen L. Nelson, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Utah; Stewart M. Young, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Utah. One (1) hour

Abstract

In 2018, the FBI Safe Streets Task Force, ATF, and Salt Lake Area Metro Gang Unit, with the assistance of the United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Utah, conducted an investigation into Glenmob, a hybrid gang comprised of an alliance of different Sureno affiliates who masqueraded as a rap group but were also responsible for a significant number of drive-by shootings and violent acts in the Salt Lake Valley. This long-term, proactive investigation revealed that Glenmob was also a sophisticated drug trafficking organization. At the conclusion of the investigation, agents and officers seized approximately 15 pounds of methamphetamine, multiple ounces of heroin and 7 firearms and 17 Glenmob members were indicted in federal court. This session will discuss issues related to state/federal cooperation and proactive investigative efforts to infiltrate and dismantle hybrid gangs.

(51) **“Coordinating Your Response: A Discussion of State/Federal Cooperation in the Context of Officer-Involved Critical Incidents Involving Violent Gang Members”**, by Stephen L. Nelson, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Utah; Stewart M. Young, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Utah. One (1) hour

Abstract

Officer-involved critical incidents (OICs) involving gang members raise significant safety concerns for the initial officers. They can also create investigatory complexities for post-incident investigators. These cases further present dynamic opportunities (but also potential pitfalls) for cooperation and collaboration between state and federal law enforcement officials and prosecutors. Using several recent high-profile OICs involving gang members in Utah, the presenters describe and explain how effective communication, well-designed training, and an appreciation for nuances in jurisdiction can assist state and federal agencies responding to OICs involving gang members. The presenters will discuss the importance of organization in these types of cases, given the in-depth and, often, multi-jurisdictional nature of these investigations. Finally, the presenters will demonstrate the efficacy of involving federal prosecutors early (often on the day the shootings occur) so that the investigation can run smoothly on both a state and federal level.

## Trend in Hate Crime Data: Slowly Rising Number of Hate Crime Victims

CHICAGO, IL — There have been many recent stories in the news about hate crime. It is therefore useful to briefly review a statistical trend in federal hate crime data collected and reported in the FBI’s annual Uniform Crime Reports (UCR). The NGCRC was asked recently if we can detect any clear and present trend in reported data. This report summarizes the results of that inquiry.

As seen in Table 1, the number of hate crime victims has been growing annually for the past seven years for which FBI data is available. The UCR program was 86’d in 2021.

Table 1

Number of Hate Crime Victims Reported in Yearly FBI UCR Data Years 2014 to Present

Year	# of Victims
2014	6,681
2015	7,121
2016	7,615
2017	8,493
2018	8,646
2019	8,812
2020	11,126
2021	UCR Program Abolished

With the trend of the last seven years in mind it is reasonable to assume there is going to need to be an equally dramatic increase in the provision of victim and witness services.

## WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND THE 2023 NGCRC TRAINING CONFERENCE:

You have the power to “choose” what you want to learn. You have the right to “major in” what area of specialization or concentration you are interested in. Our conference provides an incredible array of different professional gang training sessions that trainees can make up their own minds what they want to attend. This is not the “one size fits all” model of training where every trainee attends each of a small limited number of training sessions and every trainer works all day to give the same talk three or four times. Our training program provides what we think people really want: the freedom to choose what kind of training they want from a wide variety of diverse choices. If you wanted a “Crash Course” on gangs, then this would be it. If you needed to sharpen up on certain gang topics, then this would be the training for you.

There has never been a gang training conference where people can “specialize” in a wide variety of areas of expertise. So the 2023 NGCRC Gang Training Conference really is a “history making event”. It allows persons to network with others in their special area of interests and it has the organizational strength of much diversity among the trainers. It also has curriculum materials that are truly “cutting-edge”. No one else promises you NETWORKING RESULTS. We do, based on previous performance.

Obviously, no single person could ever attend each and every one of the many different sessions that will be available for the NGCRC’s 2023 International Gang Specialist Training Program: one person has only 24 hours to spend in classroom training. There may be ten different “sessions” being taught at the same time; you can only be in one place at one time. No one provides a larger selection of training options than the NGCRC, it really is a massive event, see the testimony and endorsements of those who attended last year’s event. There are 31 tracks or specialty areas to pick from.

## This is Your Invitation to Attend the July 31 - August 2, 2023 Conference:

It’s the conference you cannot afford to miss. In the summer of 2023, the National Gang Crime Research Center will hold its 26th international gang training conference in Chicago — once again bringing together the Nation’s top experts on gangs and gang-related issues.

It’s the experience you’ve come to expect — the opportunity to network with law enforcement, prosecution, corrections, and private sector professionals from all over the country and abroad.

Once again, the NGCRC will be offering you an enormous variety of choices to craft the education that is most pertinent to you and your jurisdiction.

You’ll come away with new insights, the latest intell, and the most effective strategies to combat gangs.

You can’t afford to miss the NGCRC’s 26th International Gang Specialist Training Conference in Chicago this summer (2023).

Don’t delay!

There is a registration form for you at the main NGCRC website ([www.ngcrc.com](http://www.ngcrc.com)) and on page 12 of this publication.

## An Option for 2023: The Double Major

The NGCRC has had repeated requests for this over the years, the idea of having a “double major”: i.e., to be able to sign up for two (2) different specialty track areas. The benefit, of course, is that such a “double major” would result in two different specialty track certificates: one certificate for each of the two tracks.

The NGCRC is pleased to announce that the double major option is now available and it is described here.

Q: What does it mean to have a double major?

A: All it means is you can have two “tracks”; you have to log in a minimum of four hours in each of the two specialty areas.

Q: How many certificates do I get if I am registered for non-certification?

A: None.

Q: How many certificates do I get if I registered for certification?

A: Two: one for your program of study reflecting the completion of the 2022 program consisting of 24 hours of training, and one for your specialty area. Previously in history people attending the conference could only have one track.

Q: If I sign up for the “two track option”, how many certificates will I get?

A: Three: your basic 24 hour program completion certificate, and then one each for each of the two (2) different tracks.

Q: How much does it cost to sign up for the Two Track Option?

A: \$90.00 if paid before July 1, 2023; \$105 if paid on or after that or onsite.

Q: What if there is a scheduling conflict and I discover at the conference I cannot accumulate the minimum number of hours in one of the two tracks?

A: We will refund your Two Track Option amount in full, no problem; and return you to the one track registration mode of your choice.

## THE REGULAR TRAINING TIME SCHEDULE

Here is the Monday (July 31, 2023), Tuesday (August 1, 2023), and Wednesday (August 2, 2023) training schedule (July 31 - August 2, 2023): training sessions 8:00 am-noon, 1 hour lunch break, training sessions 1:00 pm-5:00 pm. Thus, a total of 24 training hours are logged in during the regular training schedule. We do, of course, offer “pre-conference” sessions for credit (on Sunday afternoon: mostly for those new to gang training). On July 30th, Sunday, you can register from 3:00pm to 10:00pm, pick up your conference identification badge and bag of goodies.

Some evening functions (after 5:00 p.m.) are also going to be scheduled. There are also “early riser” sessions: for those who want a session before 8:00 am. There will even be “noon sessions”. We are doing this to accommodate travel arrangements where persons may arrive late, or where they may have to leave the training site to return early. Dress code: informal. All training rooms are air conditioned.

You can study the actual hour by hour, day by day, room by room, schedule at the website: [www.ngcrc.com/schedule.html](http://www.ngcrc.com/schedule.html)

## CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE NGCRC:

A wealth of additional information, too much to print in this publication, about the NGCRC’s 2023 Gang Specialist Certification Training Conference is provided at the NGCRC website. The NGCRC website provides much more detailed information about courses, including new courses recently added to the curriculum, and information about signing up for special events like the tours of Chicago’s gangland. Simply navigate to the NGCRC website and click the “2023 Conference” button.

And, Plan B, you can always call the NGCRC Conference Help Line, if you have any questions, just call (708) 258-9111. Our fax number is (708) 258-9546.

## Some Comments from Those Who Attended the 2022 NGCRC Conference:

“Knowledgeable instructors. Very organized. Friendly staff. Great OMG classes”, Jason Osgood, Investigator, New Hampshire Department of Corrections, Berlin, NH.

“Best gang training in the nation. Received a lot of knowledge and resources. Would love to bring more departments to attend future NGCRC!”, Christal Hudgins, Training Coordinator, Hualapai Juvenile Detention and Rehabilitation Center, Peach Springs, AZ..

“The friendly staff, having multi-classes to attend. The various types of class and presenters gave us the ability to learn more and bring that information to out agencies. I am really glad I attended the conference and I’ll definitely be back next year”, B.A. Batiste, Gang Analyst, Louisiana State Police, Baton Rouge, LA.

“Extremely knowledgeable instructors. Very welcoming staff, snack and drinks always stocked. Overall very organized and a great environment for networking opportunities”, Sean Sinnott, Investigator, Cayce Police Department, Cayce, SC.

“I loved the diversity in backgrounds with education, culture, race etc. Networking was very beneficial. Offered a wide range of content!”, Aja Ellington, Community Resources Coordinator, Goodwill Industries, South Bend, IN.

“I loved the amount of sessions to choose from, and the flexibility to build your own schedule; breaks. I also appreciated the presenters being involved. We got to speak to and interact with them consistently which is excellent. Also seeing them in other sessions is very cool also. Instructions were very detailed, so it was easy to follow. The raffles/prizes were fun. Snacks provided were helpful. I think including more healthy options (trail mix) would lend to a more inclusive feel”, Kelli Austin, GVI Community Outreach Worker, Goodwill Industries, South Bend, IN.

“Very good information. A good mixture of direct service, research, law enforcement, prosecution helped us to look at both sides of the street (gang, prosecution and law enforcement)”, Deborah Spencer-Chun, President & Ceo, Adult Friends for Youth, Honolulu, HI.

“Such a diverse and complete selection of offerings with people from all over the world! Great job as always”, James Sutphin, Toledo Police Department, Toledo, OH.

“Plenty of course diversity and opportunity to learn and expand not only knowledge, but a network of professional contacts and friends”, Aaron Lanting, Lynwood Police Department, Lynwood, IL.

“I enjoyed getting to learn about the challenges faced when trying to implement gang prevention and intervention programs. The presenters were very passionate about the topics they were discussing”, Cassandra Bolfour, Gang Exit and Community Outreach Worker, McMan, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.

“This was my first conference and I had a great time learning and feel like my knowledge of gangs, gang involvement, etc. from this conference will help me in my profession”, Kristin Barrios, Deputy, Lenawee County Sheriff’s Office, Adrian, MI.

“Networking, networking, networking. The ability to have the time to meet and talk to people from all over the country working in this field: from law enforcement to corrections, to social workers, its an amazing opportunity to share information and make these contacts. Included in that are all the presenters who we also had the opportunity to network with. One of the best conferences I’ve ever been to and looking forward to 2023”, D. Winter.

“The number and type of classes offered. The qualifications and experience of presenters. That some instructors/presenters offer a different perspective because they live/work in other countries”, Christine Bouffard, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Chicago, IL.

“The amount of classes offered here is incredible”, Ryan Drury, Deputy, Ingham County Sheriff’s Office, Mason, MI.

“The speakers were compelling, varied, engaging and knowledgeable. I felt very at home - it was a great group of people with a great mission”, Elizabeth J. McGrath, St. Joseph County Prosecutor’s Office, South Bend, IN.

“The diversity of classes and instructors was great. The staff was also very welcoming and helpful. Wonderful experience”, Det. Michael Ricks, Gwinnett County Police Department, Lawrenceville, GA.

“Very organized. Excellent speakers. Very helpful to hear how other areas of the country deal with gang issues to get ideas to strengthen our prosecutors”, Nicole Allain, Assistant District Attorney, Middlesex District Attorney’s Office, Woburn, MA.

“A great networking opportunity. All of the presenters were knowledgeable and enthused about their topics. Provided a lot of useful insight to take back to my agency and apply to my role”, Alfred Brown, Franklin County Juvenile Intervention Center, Columbus, OH.

“Phillip J Swift was amazing”, Nicholas Newton, Kent County Sheriff’s Department, Grand Rapids, MI.

“The teachers are always great and provide real life examples. The support staff goes above and beyond for everyone. The class schedules cover all areas related to gangs which allows a very targeted approach to learning. Bringing state law enforcement officer, teachers, trainers, lawyers, corrections and community partners together creates a true national partnership”, Sharon Mashburn, Cobb County Juvenile Court, Marietta, GA.

“Great people in the operations center room Irene and Maria !!!”, Don English, San Bernardino County Superintendent, San Bernardino, CA.

“Video classes useful”, Molly Schroering, Louisville Metro Police Department, Louisville, KY.

“Format allow for the opportunity to experience numerous classes/lectures throughout the conference”, Hannah Robeson, Lansing Police Department, Lansing, MI.

“So much variety of experienced teachers and fantastic networking”, Mac Greer, Ingham County Sheriff’s Office, Mason, MI.

“The networking was very good. I also liked the variety of classes available”, Todd Dennis, Special Investigator, Lenawee County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office, Adrian, MI.

“So many classes to choose from”, Efrain Rueda, Wichita State Police Department, Wichita, KS.

“It was great to network with people. I was also able to gain a lot of knowledge from this conference”, Bart Finnigan, Lynwood Police Department, Lynwood, IL.

“Everyone was helpful and easily approachable”, Joshua Tong, Franklin County Juvenile Intervention Center, Columbus, OH.

“All the instructors were passionate about their subjects”, Christopher Mobley, Cleveland Division of Police, Cleveland, OH.

## Gorilla Stone Gang Member Charged With 2021 Murder

NEW YORK, NY — Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and Keechant L. Sewell, Commissioner of the New York City Police Department (“NYPD”), announced in November the unsealing of an indictment charging JALEEL SHAKOOR with racketeering conspiracy, murder in aid of racketeering, murder with a firearm, and illegal possession of ammunition. The charges relate to SHAKOOR’s murder of Gerry Mazzella on June 3, 2021, in the Bronx, New York. As alleged in the indictment, SHAKOOR shot Mazzella in the back of the neck from point-blank range.

SHAKOOR, who was already in federal custody, was presented before Magistrate Judge Barbara C. Moses. The case is assigned to U.S. District Judge Colleen McMahon.

U.S. Attorney Damian Williams said: “As alleged, the defendant committed a murder as part of his gang membership: he shot Gerry Mazzella from point-blank range, killing him. With these charges, we continue our daily work of investigating and prosecuting those who perpetrate these senseless acts. We hope this prosecution brings some measure of comfort to the victim’s loved ones.”

NYPD Commissioner Keechant L. Sewell said: “This case is an outstanding example of what the NYPD and our law enforcement partners can accomplish when we strike back at the relatively few people responsible for spreading violence and fear in New York City. Together, we remain committed to thwarting gang activity in all its forms, and to reinforcing the severe consequences that await anyone who dares to jeopardize safety in our neighborhoods.”

According to the allegations in the indictment unsealed in Manhattan federal court:

From at least 2020 to 2022, JALEEL SHAKOOR, a/k/a “Midnight,” was a member of the Untouchable Gorilla Stone Nation (“Gorilla Stone”), which is a set of the national Bloods gang. Gorilla Stone operated primarily in the northeast United States, including in the Bronx, and in the jails and prisons of New York City and the State of New York.

Members of Gorilla Stone committed robberies and distributed controlled substances in order to enrich themselves. They also murdered and assaulted members of rival gangs and members of Gorilla Stone in order to resolve disputes within the gang. Gorilla Stone members promoted and celebrated the gang’s criminal conduct — including drug distribution, acts of violence, and firearms usage — on social media.

On June 3, 2021, in the vicinity of West 165th Street and Woodycrest Avenue in the Bronx, SHAKOOR shot Mazzella in the back of the neck, causing Mazzella’s death. SHAKOOR committed this murder to maintain and increase his position in Gorilla Stone.

SHAKOOR, 27, of the Bronx, New York, is charged with one count of racketeering conspiracy, which carries a statutory maximum sentence of life in prison; one count of murder in aid of racketeering, which carries a statutory maximum sentence of death or life in prison and a mandatory minimum sentence of life in prison; one count of murder through use of a firearm, which carries a statutory maximum sentence of death or life in prison and a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison; and one count of possessing ammunition after a felony conviction, which carries a statutory maximum of 10 years in prison.

The minimum and maximum potential sentences are prescribed by Congress and are provided here for informational purposes only, as any sentence will be determined by the judge.

Mr. Williams praised the outstanding investigative work of the NYPD. He also thanked the Bronx District Attorney’s Office for its assistance.

## Federal Jury Convicts Man of Committing Murder to Maintain and Increase Position in Chicago Street Gang

CHICAGO, IL — A federal jury has convicted a man of committing murder to maintain and increase his position in a violent Chicago street gang.

Pierre Robinson, 29, of Chicago, was found guilty of committing murder in aid of racketeering. The jury returned its verdict on Aug. 25, 2022, after a four-day trial in U.S. District in Chicago. The conviction is punishable by a mandatory sentence of life in federal prison. U.S. District Judge John J. Tharp, Jr., set sentencing for Feb. 8, 2023.

The conviction was announced by John R. Lausch, Jr., United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; Kristen de Tineo, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago Field Division of the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives; and David Brown, Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department. The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Albert Berry III and Margaret Steindorf.

Evidence at trial revealed that Robinson murdered Glenn Houston, Jr., on Dec. 23, 2014, for the purpose of maintaining and increasing Robinson’s position in the Evans Mob street gang. Robinson shot Houston, 23, multiple times inside a store in the 400 block of East 79th Street in the Chatham neighborhood on Chicago’s South Side. The Evans Mob, also known as “GuttaGang,” is a criminal organization whose members and associates engaged in narcotics trafficking and committed acts of violence, including murder, attempted murder, and assault, to acquire and preserve the gang’s territory on the South Side of Chicago. Members of the Evans Mob used social media to publicly claim responsibility for their acts of violence, taunt rival gang members, and took steps to prevent law enforcement’s detection of its criminal activities.

## Three MS-13 Leaders Convicted of Racketeering Conspiracy

BALTIMORE, MD — A federal jury convicted three men for conspiring to participate in La Mara Salvatrucha, a transnational criminal enterprise, commonly known as MS-13, through a pattern of racketeering activity, including murder, extortion, drug trafficking, money laundering, and witness tampering.

According to court documents and evidence presented at trial, Luis Flores-Reyes, aka Maloso, aka Lobo, 41, of Arlington, Virginia; Jairo Jacome, aka Abuelo, 40, of Langley Park, Maryland; and Brayán Contreras-Avalos, aka Anonimo, aka Malia, aka Humilde, 27, of Langley Park, Maryland, ran a protection scheme with MS-13 in and around Langley Park, extorting local businesses by charging them “rent” for the privilege of operating in MS-13 “territory.”

MS-13 is organized into a series of sub-units or “cliques” that operate in specific geographic locations. Jacome was the highest-ranking member in a local clique called Langley Park Salvatrucha, or LPS. Flores-Reyes and Contreras-Avalos were leaders within the powerful Sailors Clique, which held territory in Maryland, Virginia, New York, New Jersey, Texas, and El Salvador. “MS-13 terrorizes communities throughout the United States and abroad, using fear, violence, and intimidation,” said Assistant Attorney General Kenneth A. Polite, Jr. of the Justice Department’s Criminal Division. “This conviction demonstrates the Department of Justice’s commitment to dismantling this violent criminal organization.”

Flores-Reyes, Jacome, and Contreras-Avalos also participated in at least six murders during the period of the conspiracy, mostly of victims who they believed to be gang rivals. In June 2016, members of MS-13, including Contreras-Avalos, stabbed to death two homeless individuals, who were believed to be members of the 18th Street gang, in Hyattsville, Maryland.

The gang also trafficked in illegal drugs, including marijuana, heroin, and cocaine. A large share of the proceeds of the gang’s illegal activities were sent to gang leadership in El Salvador to further promote the illicit activities of the gang, using structured transactions and intermediaries to avoid law enforcement scrutiny.

“These defendants wreaked havoc within our communities through drug trafficking, extortion, fear, and murder – now they will be held accountable,” said U.S. Attorney Erik L. Barron for the District of Maryland. “We will relentlessly prosecute those who terrorize our communities with intimidation and violence.”

In March 2017, a member of the Sailors Clique, who was hiding from law enforcement in the Lynchburg, Virginia-area, had a dispute with a local high school student over marijuana. In response, Flores-Reyes commanded a squad of MS-13 members drive to Lynchburg and murder the high school student. The gang members kidnapped the student from his front lawn and cut his hand off before killing him. After the murder, Flores-Reyes helped to hide and protect the killers from law enforcement.

Among the most important rules of MS-13 is the prohibition against talking to law enforcement, embodied by the maxim *ver, oir, y callar* – see, hear, and say nothing. The gang enforced this rule by placing a “green light” – an order to kill – on any member of MS-13 who was thought to be informing on the gang. In December 2016, Jacome directed and participated in the murder of a 14-year-old member of MS-13 who was suspected of talking to the police. The boy’s remains were discovered 18 months later in the woods outside of Germantown, Maryland.

“Members of MS-13, including Flores-Reyes, Jacome, and Contreras-Avalos, sow fear and violence in local communities through murder, extortion, drug trafficking, and witness tampering,” said Assistant Director in Charge Steven M. D’Antuono of the FBI Washington Field Office. “Today’s convictions represent some of the finest work the FBI and its partners undertake to hold violent gang members to account for the irreparable harm they have inflicted on humanity. The investigation and its results should also serve as yet another reminder of the consequences to be faced by those who traffic in violence. We and our partners remain committed to working together to aggressively pursue and dismantle these criminal enterprises who continue to threaten the residents of our communities.”

Flores-Reyes, Jacome, and Contreras-Avalos were each convicted of racketeering conspiracy. Flores-Reyes and Jacome were additionally convicted of murder in aid of racketeering and extortion conspiracy, and Flores-Reyes and Contreras-Avalos were convicted of conspiracy to distribute controlled substances. No sentencing date has been set. Flores-Reyes and Jacome face a mandatory penalty of life in prison. Contreras-Avalos faces a maximum penalty of life in prison. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

The FBI Washington Field Office, HSI Baltimore, DEA New York Field Division, DEA Baltimore District Office, Prince George’s County Police Department, Montgomery County Police Department, Virginia State Police, Lynchburg Police Department, Prince William County Police Department, and Bedford County Sheriff’s Office investigated the case. The Nassau County District Attorney’s Office also provided valuable assistance.

Trial Attorney Alexander Gottfried of the Criminal Division’s Organized Crime and Gang Section and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Timothy Hagan and Christopher Sarma for the District of Maryland are prosecuting the case.

## Leader Of Sunset Trinitarios Gang Pleads Guilty To Racketeering

NEW YORK, NY — Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced in October, 2022 that EDIBERTO SANTANA, a/k/a “Flaco Veneno,” pled guilty to one count of racketeering conspiracy involving murder, arising out of SANTANA’s long-time leadership of the Sunset Trinitarios gang. SANTANA pled guilty before U.S. District Judge Paul A. Crotty.

SANTANA is the long-time leader of the local Trinitarios (“Sunset”), a violent set of the national Trinitarios street gang that controlled territory in Manhattan, the Bronx, and Brooklyn, among other places.

Under SANTANA’s leadership and at SANTANA’s direction, Sunset perpetrated a near-constant string of violent crime for nearly a decade, including murders, shootings, assaults, and robberies. Among other acts of violence, SANTANA ordered the March 13, 2011, murder of Dennis Marquez, age 16, who was stabbed to death in the Bronx; the October 23, 2013, murder of Michael Beltre, age 17, who was shot and killed in the Bronx; and the November 17, 2013, murder of Rafael Alam, age 23, who was shot and killed in the Bronx.

SANTANA, 33, of Brooklyn, New York, pled guilty to one count of racketeering conspiracy with murder as a special sentencing factor, which carries a maximum sentence of life in prison.

The statutory maximum sentence is prescribed by Congress and is provided here for informational purposes only, as any sentencing will be determined by a judge. SANTANA is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge Crotty on February 8, 2023.

Mr. Williams praised the outstanding work of the Drug Enforcement Administration, Homeland Security Investigations, the New York City Police Department, the New York State Police, and the New York City Department of Investigation.

## Gang Unit Officer Arrests Man for Loaded Handgun and Fentanyl

WORCESTER, MA — On November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at about 12:50 PM, a Worcester Police Gang Unit officer was on patrol in the area of Goldsberry St when he observed a gray Toyota Camry driving erratically. The vehicle was speeding and swerving out of its lane. The officer began to follow the vehicle and asked for another officer’s assistance. They stopped the vehicle together on Grafton St.

The officer recognized the driver As Eliezer Delvalle, twenty-eight-years-old of Webster.

As officers approached the vehicle, they observed an open glove box and Mr. Delvalle reaching toward the passenger floor. They observed Mr. Delvalle reaching toward a fanny pack he had on his waistband, and they ordered him out of the vehicle. Mr. Delvalle refused and was escorted out by the officers. There was a brief struggle and Mr. Delvalle was placed in handcuffs.

Officers located a loaded handgun in Mr. Delvalle’s waistband area, and a large amount of what appeared to be Fentanyl. Mr. Delvalle does not have a license to carry firearms. He is charged with Carrying a Firearm without a License, Carrying a Loaded Firearm without a License, Armed Career Criminal Level 1, Possession of Ammunition without an Firearms Card, Trafficking in Fentanyl, Resisting Arrest, Possession of a Firearm during the Commission of a Felony, Operating to Endanger, and motor vehicle charges.

## Gun Supplier to Gangs Gets 37 Months in Federal Prison

WILMINGTON, DE. — David C. Weiss, U.S. Attorney for the District of Delaware, announced in November that a Wilmington, Delaware man has been sentenced to 37 months in prison for possession of a firearm by a prohibited person. U.S. District Court Judge Richard G. Andrews pronounced the sentence.

According to statements made in open court, Khalil Rodriguez-Fitzgerald, 27, possessed a Glock model 19x handgun from February 8, 2021, until February 11, 2021. The gun, which was straw purchased in North Carolina on February 7, 2021, was transported north, and delivered to the defendant in New Jersey on February 8, 2021. Rodriguez-Fitzgerald is prohibited from possessing a firearm because of his criminal history.

At the sentencing hearing, the government argued that Rodriguez-Fitzgerald should be subject to additional jail time because, in addition to possessing the Glock, his social media and phone contents demonstrated that Rodriguez-Fitzgerald was buying guns, giving guns to gang members, and selling drugs for months before he was arrested. The Court agreed that the defendant’s conduct warranted a sentence greater than called for by the United States Sentencing Guidelines.

Rodriguez-Fitzgerald has also been indicted in the Superior Court of Delaware for gang participation and weapons charges for his involvement with a local gang referred to as Northpak. The Superior Court indictment charged a number of other members of Northpak with committing shootings and murders in New Castle County between 2018 and 2021. The government noted at the sentencing hearing that Rodriguez-Fitzgerald frequently communicated with and supplied firearms to members of Northpak, and he bragged about committing acts of violence himself within his social media.

U.S. Attorney Weiss commented about the sentence, “Mr. Rodriguez-Fitzgerald poses a clear and present danger to our community. First, he contributed to the violence in our streets by possessing guns himself and by supplying guns to gang members. These illegal firearms were then used to intimidate and harm members of rival gangs. Second, when law enforcement attempted to apprehend defendant, he eluded capture by driving on Concord Pike at speeds approaching 100 miles per hour, thereby endangering innocent bystanders. For these reasons, the government requested a sentence of 57 months, more than two years above the prescribed guideline range. My office will continue to work with our federal, state, and local partners to combat the gang violence plaguing our community.”

“From start to finish in this case, there is a flagrant disregard for law, order, and human life,” said Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (“ATF”) Baltimore Field Division Special Agent in Charge Toni M. Crosby. “The firearm this criminal possessed was straw purchased, bought with the intention of giving it to someone who cannot legally have it. He pushed drugs and guns into the community and aided other gang members in obtaining guns that are destined to threaten the safety of Delaware’s citizens. This kind of remorseless criminal behavior will not be tolerated by ATF and our law enforcement partners.”

The charges in this case were the result of a joint investigation involving the ATF, the Wilmington Police Department, and the Delaware Department of Justice to address the violence caused by Northpak and its associates. Assistant U.S. Attorney Jennifer K. Welsh prosecuted the case.

## THE NGCRC IS A FAMILY FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT:

The NGCRC, unlike most other conferences, is “family friendly”. If you have a spouse or children who may need to visit with you during your training time period, the NGCRC has established the “family friendly policy” of providing Conference Identification Badges to family members (spouses, children, etc). This allows them to come in and have coffee/lemonade and donuts with you, etc. Thus, you are not “isolated” from your family. To receive I.D. badge credentials for your family members, just ask for “Family ID Credentials” in a fax or written letter to the NGCRC: Give their names. When you register, and pick up your Registration Materials, you will find their “Family ID’s” in your own registration kit. They will be allowed into the “secure areas” so they may contact you. These “family members” will not receive “Goody Bags” or conference materials, but they will be allowed past the security check points and will therefore be able to pass without delay or hindrance to meet with you if necessary. Some restaurants and eateries give NGCRC trainees a discount (no discount on liquor, food only), and all you have to do is show your Conference Identification Badge. The “Family ID’s” are good for the food discounts.

## Enhancements — EARLY, NOON, and EVENING SESSIONS:

To accommodate those individuals who want to leave early on Wednesday August 2nd, and still allow them to accumulate their 24 hours of training, we are this year planning to offer some early morning, lunch time, and evening sessions. The current plan is to have a few such sessions available for this purpose. This will provide at least four (4) hours of training outside of the regular training schedule, which will allow persons who need to leave at noon on Weds. to do so.

Rooms are available at the Hotel at the same rate for Friday nights and Saturday as well, at the same rates, if anyone is interested in getting cheaper flights by staying an extra day or so: just ask the hotel registration personnel. You may be able to get the same rate for two days prior and two days after the three day conference time frame. If you have trouble with the hotel, feel free to call the NGCRC and ask for the “hotel liaison” to see if there is anything we can do to help. Sometimes the “block of bumper rooms” sells out (bumper rooms are those before and after the conference).

You basically “pick and choose” your own custom-made training schedule. You can take your pick from a number of different session choices. There are typically six or seven sessions going on at any particular time. So, you just “vote with your feet”. The full schedule of courses by room numbers, and day/time slots is posted at [www.ngcrc.com/schedule.html](http://www.ngcrc.com/schedule.html).

# Some Useful Training Sessions You Could Attend This Summer at the NGCRC’s July 1 - Aug. 2, 2023 Gang Training Conference:

(3) “**Gang/STG Cryptanalysis: How to Break Gang Codes**”, by D. Lee Gilbertson, Ph.D., NGCRC Staff and Executive Editor. *Journal of Gang Research*. One (1) hour

Abstract

Cryptanalysis has a significant role to play in the investigation of gangs and STG’s because they often send printed or digital messages where the code contains information about future crimes. Prison gangs have done this for decades abusing the mail privileges they have by sending out coded messages to their contacts on the streets to carry out gang operations such as drug dealing outside of the prison. The presenter will provide a historical overview of an actual prison gang case where the gang used a sophisticated code and encryption system to send “orders” to the street operatives. The prison and regional authorities could not break the code. So they contacted the NGCRC. The presenter broke the code and it obviously meant a big break in the ongoing gang investigation. The presenter will show you how he broke the code. Attend this session to learn the various types of codebreaking attacks.

(5) “**The National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Gang File**”, by Grant E. Smith, FBI, CJIS Division, CTAP/NCIC, Clarksburg, WV. Two (2) hours. Special restriction: Sworn law enforcement and corrections ONLY.

Abstract

This session is an officer safety and investigative tool offered by the NCIC for all levels of law enforcement. It provides near instantaneous information about a suspect’s recorded gang affiliation, personal identifying information, and the officer caution indicators in relation to individual gang members. The NCIC Gang File can convey two categories of information, Gang Group Reference Capability (GRC) and Group Member Capability (GMC). This segment of training will focus on retrieving information from the Gang File with an emphasis on how it can be used for investigative purposes and officer safety.

(7) “**Identifying Hybrid Gang Operations Inside a County Jail: A Look into the Investigation and Prosecution**”, by Deputy Joe Polan, Gang Intelligence Unit, Oakland County Sheriff’s Office, Pontiac, MI; and Deputy Joe Kajy, Gang Intelligence Unit, Oakland County Sheriff’s Office, Pontiac, MI. Two (2) hours. Restricted: Law Enforcement, Sworn Corrections, and Prosecutors only.

Abstract

This presentation focuses on the entire criminal investigative process, from start to finish, within a correctional facility as well as the prosecution of hybrid gang members inside a county jail. Some of the topics discussed will be tactics used by the inmates to manipulate jail communications systems, investigative tools used by investigators to obtain prosecution and how to change the course and focus during an investigation based on information given. We will also discuss how to identify a hybrid gang’s existence inside a county correctional facility. The uniqueness of a hybrid jail gang in terms of their means, motivations, volatility and how the COVID Pandemic was a contributing factor to the creation of hybrid gangs within a county jail will be covered as well.

(11) “**Hybrid Gangs: How They Evolve and Develop, Proper Identification and Documentation**”, by Detective Danny Polo, Broward County Sheriff’s Office, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Three (3) hours

Abstract

This course will dive into a recent case study about several hybrid gang investigations which led to over 200 arrests, 40 RICO indictments, seizures: 40kg cocaine, 20kg heroin/fentanyl, thousands of pills, 70 firearms, houses, cars, boats, \$2 million+ cash, \$1.5 million gold/jewelry, \$1 billion in precious gems. This investigation tracked the activities of 3 major hybrid gangs operating in the north end of Broward County. During this investigation detectives constantly monitored the evolution of these hybrid gangs as some became more structured obtaining international money laundering and cartel connections while others suffered retribution and extinction due to the success and violence of the larger gangs. The investigation culminated with the lead defendant in the RICO fleeing to Mexico and subsequently surrendering after being kidnapped and extorted by Mexican State Police for over \$300,000. Mexican sources of supply were identified and are being targeted by Federal Counter Parts.

(47) “**Gang Victim and Witness Protection Services: Challenges for Our Times**”, by Elvis Slaughter, MSCJ, Retired Sheriff’s Superintendent, former fire and police commissioner, criminologist, and author of ten books, including *Preschool to Prison: Is It Determined by the School, Environment, or Parent?* One (1) hour

Abstract

It is common for victims and witnesses to be intimidated into not cooperating with the criminal justice system. This presentation focuses on the impact of gang-related violence with the goal of better understanding the growing complexities surrounding the victims, witnesses, and survivors of gang violence. In this presentation, we will also look at programs and services to help victims of gang violence. Given the dynamic nature of gang-related violence today, we aim to examine the following: common challenges faced by victims; reasons victims of gang violence fail to pursue their rights; witnesses and survivors common issues; key components of a user-friendly gang victim assistance program; and agencies and programs helping victims of gang violence.

(50) “**Hybrid Gangs: How to Identify Local Gang Culture**”, by Jim Bailey, Battle Creek Police Department, Battle Creek, MI; and Det. Tyler Sutherland, Gang Suppression Unit, Battle Creek Police Department, Battle Creek, MI. Two (2) hours. Both a classroom session and an on-line session. Note: Available now at the NGCRC videotraining page.

Abstract

How to identify local neighborhood gang culture, what larger gang culture influences your local gang, and how are they being influenced? How does your local gang adapt signs, symbols, tattoos, colors to your jurisdiction which may have originated elsewhere, perhaps even from a national gang culture? How are you tracking your local gang and crime stats?

## U.S. Department of State Announces Reward Offers for Information Leading to the Arrests and/or Convictions of Three Haitian Gang Leaders

WASHINGTON, DC — As part of continuing to impose consequences and hold accountable those fomenting violence in Haiti, Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken on Nov. 7, 2022 announced reward offers of up to \$1 million each for information leading to the arrests and/or convictions of three Haitian nationals — Lanmò Sanjou, a/k/a Joseph Wilson, Jermaine Stephenson, a/k/a Gaspiyay, and Vitel’Homme Innocent — for conspiring to participate in or attempting to participate in transnational organized crime. This is in conjunction with the announcement of charges against the three individuals by the U.S. Department of Justice.

On October 16, 2021, the 400 Mawozo gang engaged in a conspiracy to kidnap 16 U.S. Christian missionaries and one Canadian missionary and hold them for ransom. The missionaries were abducted after visiting an orphanage in the town of Ganthier, east of Port-au-Prince. The kidnapping victims of the missionary group included twelve adults and five children.

The United States supports the efforts of our Haitian law enforcement partners seeking to enforce rule of law in Haiti and combat transnational organized crime which continues to be a driving factor in worsening the humanitarian and security situation. These actions are part of the United States’ commitment to support the people of Haiti as they bear the brunt of the crisis.

These rewards are offered under the U.S. Department of State’s Transnational Organized Crime Rewards Program, which, together with the Narcotics Rewards Program, has helped bring more than 75 transnational criminals and major narcotics traffickers to justice. The U.S. Department of State has paid more than \$155 million in rewards under these programs for information leading to apprehensions and convictions.

For more information on the individuals listed above and the NRP and TOCRP, please see the Department’s Anticrime Rewards Programs page.

## Three Federal Operations in Pine Bluff and Little Rock Built on the Work of Late Pine Bluff Detective Kevin Collins

LITTLE ROCK, AR — Three federal investigations culminated in 45 arrests this morning. An investigative focus on the pipeline of drugs and firearms between Pine Bluff and Little Rock resulted in the indictment of 80 individuals, all charged with various federal firearms and drug trafficking charges in multiple indictments that were unsealed in November.

Two FBI operations, each focused on a rival gang, were created to address violence and drug trafficking in the corridor between Pine Bluff and Little Rock. The investigations focused on rival gangs responsible for violence throughout central Arkansas, with one operation focused on the EBK or Every Body Killas gang and resulting in the indictment of 35 defendants. The second investigation focused on the Loady Murder Mobb gang and resulted in the indictment of 26 defendants. Three more defendants, Quincy Martez Chambers, D’eandreian Devonte Meadows, and Joseph Riggins, Jr., are charged separately in stand-alone indictments. Three defendants are named in multiple indictments.

A third operation, this one led by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), began in August 2021 when DEA and the North Little Rock Police Department identified street-level methamphetamine and fentanyl dealers in central Arkansas who were connected to the same source of supply. Investigation revealed the drugs were being mailed into Arkansas from California, and these shipments—which included kilogram-quantities of methamphetamine and thousands of pressed fentanyl pills—were then distributed to individuals in Little Rock and Pine Bluff as well as Houston, Texas. This investigation culminated in the indictment of 18 defendants. Manuel Taylor was charged in a separate indictment.

Pine Bluff Police Detective Kevin Collins was shot and killed in October 2020 while serving an arrest warrant on an EBK associate wanted for a homicide in Georgia. Prior to his death, Detective Collins was assisting FBI with intelligence related to criminal activity of these gangs, as well as surveillance, interviews, and arrests of individuals responsible for criminal activity in Pine Bluff. In March 2021, the FBI’s GETROCK Task Force obtained a wiretap and used a total of twelve wiretaps through June 2022 as a source of real-time information to intervene and prevent violence in Pine Bluff, Little Rock, and other communities throughout the state. Law enforcement discovered that the gangs were funding their violent activity primarily through the sale of large quantities of high-grade marijuana. The investigation revealed drug trafficking and travel between Arkansas and Texas, California, Arizona, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Oklahoma.

Law enforcement began early this morning by searching for 72 suspects, all of whom were indicted for federal gun and drug trafficking crimes. Of the 80 defendants indicted in the three investigations, 8 of those were already in custody when this morning’s roundup began. In addition to the arrests, during the operation authorities seized 4 firearms, one of which was an AR-style pistol; 2 ounces of cocaine; 1 ounce of crack cocaine; and \$30,000 cash.

Prior to these FBI arrests in their operations involving the EBK and Loady Murder Mobb gangs, investigators seized 42 firearms, including two machine guns; approximately \$775,000 in cash and \$428,000 in jewelry; approximately 278 pounds of marijuana, which has an approximate street value of \$450,000; 7 ounces of cocaine; 3 ounces of crack cocaine; 1.5 pounds of methamphetamine; and 116 pills containing fentanyl.

Before these DEA arrests, investigators seized \$146,000 in cash, 10 firearms, 12 pounds of methamphetamine, 1.2 kilograms of powder fentanyl, 600 pressed fentanyl pills, 10 pounds of marijuana, and nine ounces of cocaine.

Twenty-seven fugitives remain after this morning’s arrests. Most of the defendants who were arrested this morning will appear at a later date for arraignment before United States Magistrate Judge Joe J. Volpe.

The FBI conducted their operations with assistance from Arkansas State Police, Arkansas Department of Community Corrections, Little Rock Police Department, North Little Rock Police Department, Pine Bluff Police Department, and Jonesboro Police Department. FBI’s GETROCK Task Force was formed in 2017 in response to the escalation in gang and gun violence in Little Rock. The unit’s investigations and operations are coordinated out of FBI Little Rock’s field office, and GETROCK continues to serve as the clearinghouse for gang-related law enforcement activity in Central Arkansas. Additional support was provided by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; Homeland Security Investigations; United States Postal Inspection Service (USPIS); Arkansas National Guard Counterdrug Joint Task Force; and the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory. These cases are being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Julie Peters and Amanda Fields with assistance from Cameron McCree.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Little Rock District Office conducted their operation with assistance from DEA Riverside, California District Office; USPIS; North Little Rock Police Department; Sherwood Police Department; and Benton Police Department. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Chris Givens.

These efforts are part of several Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) operations. OCDETF identifies, disrupts, and dismantles the highest-level criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach. Additional information about the OCDETF Program can be found at <https://www.justice.gov/OCDETF>.

### Useful Website Info:

Study the Trainers at:

<https://ngcrc.com/presenters.html>

Study the courses at: <https://ngcrc.com/courses.html>

Study the full conference file at:

<https://ngcrc.com/2023.conference.html>

Get a registration form at:

<https://ngcrc.com/register.html>

## Carr’s Gang Prosecution Unit Indicts Five Alleged Members of Insane Crips for Murder and Other Charges in Muscogee County

ATLANTA, GA – Attorney General Chris Carr in October announced that the office’s new statewide Gang Prosecution Unit has indicted five alleged members of the Insane Crips in Muscogee County. This indictment stems from the shooting death of a 20-year-old man in Columbus in June 2021. The defendants are facing 52 charges in total, including violation of the Street Gang Terrorism and Prevention Act, Felony Murder, Aggravated Assault, Criminal Damage to Property in the First Degree and weapons offenses.

“Our Gang Prosecution Unit is partnering with law enforcement across the state to dismantle the dangerous street gangs that are terrorizing our most vulnerable communities,” said Carr. “We will not tolerate this type of violent activity in Georgia, and we will leave no stone unturned when it comes to keeping people safe. Our top priority is to protect our fellow Georgians, and that is what we will continue working to do each day.”

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation, the Columbus Police Department and the Muscogee County Sheriff’s Office assisted in this investigation.

### Insane Crips

The Insane Crips (IC) is a set of the larger criminal street gang known as the Crips. Insane Crips was founded and is based in Long Beach, California, with a presence in Georgia. Insane Crips has various subsets and cliques in Georgia, including the Young Foundation Crew (YFC) and Young Demon Crew (YDC).

### Charges and Potential Maximum Penalties

The Attorney General’s Gang Prosecution Unit presented evidence to a Muscogee County Grand Jury, resulting in the indictment of Corey Troupe, Jr., Elysia Cooley, Davion Dupas, Jahiem Davis and Mike Brown, Sr., on Oct. 18, 2022.

Specifically, the indictment charges the defendants with the following which, if convicted, can carry the respective penalties:

Corey Troupe, Jr. (also known as “Lil Pop”). 6 counts of Violation of Street Gang Terrorism and Prevention Act – maximum sentence of 20 years in prison per count. 2 counts of Felony Murder – maximum sentence of life in prison without parole per count. 1 count of Aggravated Assault – maximum sentence of 20 years in prison. 1 count of Possession of Firearm During Commission of a Felony – maximum sentence of five years in prison. 1 count of Criminal Damage to Property in the First Degree – maximum sentence of 10 years in prison

Elysia Cooley (also known as “Big E”). 6 counts of Violation of Street Gang Terrorism and Prevention Act – maximum sentence of 20 years in prison per count. 2 counts of Felony Murder – maximum sentence of life in prison without parole per count. 1 count of Aggravated Assault – maximum sentence of 20 years in prison. 1 count of Possession of Firearm During Commission of a Felony – maximum sentence of five years in prison. 1 count of Criminal Damage to Property in the First Degree – maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.

Davion Dupas (also known as “Yungdemon Dee”). 6 counts of Violation of Street Gang Terrorism and Prevention Act – maximum sentence of 20 years in prison per count. 2 counts of Felony Murder – maximum sentence of life in prison without parole per count. 1 count of Aggravated Assault – maximum sentence of 20 years in prison. 1 count of Possession of Firearm During Commission of a Felony – maximum sentence of five years in prison. 1 count of Criminal Damage to Property in the First Degree – maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.

Jaheim Davis (also known as “Zhg Jah”). 8 counts of Violation of Street Gang Terrorism and Prevention Act – maximum sentence of 20 years in prison per count. 3 counts of Felony Murder – maximum sentence of life in prison without parole per count. 1 count of Aggravated Assault – maximum sentence of 20 years in prison. 1 count of Possession of Firearm During Commission of a Felony – maximum sentence of five years in prison. 1 count of Possession of Firearm by Felon – maximum sentence of five years in prison. 1 count of Criminal Damage to Property in the First Degree – maximum sentence of 10 years in prison

Mike Brown, Sr. (also known as “Pop”). 4 counts of Violation of Street Gang Terrorism and Prevention Act – maximum sentence of 20 years in prison per count. No further information about the investigation or about the indictment may be released at this time.

### About the Attorney General’s Gang Prosecution Unit

Earlier this year, with the support of Governor Brian Kemp and members of the General Assembly, Attorney General Chris Carr created Georgia’s first statewide Gang Prosecution Unit. This new Unit officially began its historic work on July 1, 2022.

The creation of the Unit is made possible by HB 1134, legislation that provides the Office of the Attorney General with concurrent jurisdiction to prosecute criminal gang activity statewide. Georgia’s FY 2023 budget also includes \$1.3 million to establish the new Gang Prosecution Unit.

Since Oct. 4, 2022, Carr has announced eight indictments from the Gang Prosecution Unit, with cases in Athens-Clarke County, Dougherty County, Cobb County and Muscogee County.

The Gang Prosecution Unit is housed in the Attorney General’s Prosecution Division, which also includes Carr’s Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit and his Public Integrity and White Collar Crime Unit.

## Jury Convicts Four Members of KC Street Gang of Drug-Trafficking Conspiracy: Two Rap Musicians Among Those Found Guilty of Drug-Trafficking, Firearms Violations

KANSAS CITY, MO – Four Kansas City, Mo., men who were part of 246, a violent street gang, were convicted by a federal jury for their roles in a drug-trafficking conspiracy.

Ladele D. Smith, also known as “Dellio” and “Dog,” 35; David J. Duncan, IV, also known as “Deej” or “DJ,” 33; Roy Franklin, Jr., 31; and Gary O. Toombs, 42, were found guilty of participating in a conspiracy to distribute heroin, cocaine, oxycodone, and marijuana from Jan. 1, 2011, to Oct. 1, 2019. Smith, Duncan, and Franklin were also convicted of multiple counts that charged them with various drug-trafficking and firearms crimes, to include drive-by shooting and discharging a firearm during a crime of violence. Toombs was convicted of multiple counts that charged him with various drug-trafficking and firearms crimes as well.

The investigation into the 246 street gang, operating in the Kansas City metropolitan area, began in June 2017. The gang is an alliance of gang members from the 24th, 43rd, and 68th streets of Kansas City, Mo. Smith was identified as a leader of the gang, and Duncan, Franklin and Toombs as members of the gang.

Smith and Duncan are local rap artists who often posted to social media platforms, such as YouTube, with references to the 246 gang. In some of the videos, Smith and others show firearms and large amounts of cash. The social media posts also portrayed Smith and others wearing expensive jewelry, watches, hats, clothing and plate carrying vests that depicted 246 gang affiliation.

Members of the 246 gang used a residence in the 4400 block of Kensington, which is within 1,000 feet of George Washington Carver Dual Language School, a public elementary school, for gang and drug-trafficking business. No one utilized the house as a primary or permanent residence. On Oct. 2, 2019, law enforcement officers executed a search warrant at the house and seized heroin as well as two assault rifles and a stolen vehicle that had been used in a drive-by shooting. Officers also found a Glock 9mm semi-automatic pistol and a Century Arms International 7.62x39mm pistol under the couch in the living room and a Glock .40-caliber semi-automatic pistol on the kitchen cabinet.

Smith was arrested at his apartment on Oct. 2, 2019. Officers searched his residence and found codeine, \$31,601 in cash, and jewelry valued at over \$40,000.

Duncan was also arrested at his apartment on Oct. 2, 2019. Officers searched his residence and found a Zastava 7.62 x 39mm rifle, a Norinco 7.62 x 39mm rifle, a Glock 9mm semi-automatic pistol, two loaded rifle magazines, and a loaded handgun magazine under the bed in a bedroom. Officers found \$7,100 in cash and four bags of pills that contained oxycodone in the living room.

Smith, Franklin and Toombs also were found guilty of participating in a conspiracy to possess firearms in furtherance of a drug-trafficking crime.

Smith also was found guilty of possessing firearms in furtherance of a drug-trafficking crime, one count of distributing marijuana, one count of distributing marijuana near a school (within 1,000 feet of George Washington Carver Dual Language School), four counts of distributing heroin, and four counts of distributing heroin near a school (within 1,000 feet of George Washington Carver Dual Language School).

Franklin also was found guilty of two counts of distributing marijuana and two counts of distributing marijuana near a school (within 1,000 feet of George Washington Carver Dual Language School).

Duncan also was found guilty of possessing oxycodone the intent to distribute, one count of possessing firearms in furtherance of a drug-trafficking crime, and five counts of money laundering related to the purchases of money orders with drug-trafficking proceeds.

Toombs also was found guilty of maintaining a residence for the purpose of manufacturing, distributing, and using controlled substances.

Following the presentation of evidence, the jury in the U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Mo., deliberated for about six hours over two days before returning guilty verdicts to U.S. District Judge Greg Kays, ending a trial that began Aug. 29, 2022.

Eleven co-defendants in this case have pleaded guilty and been sentenced.

Sirrico L. Franklin, 31, of Raytown, Mo., was sentenced on May 31, 2022, to five years and eight months in federal prison without parole. Terrance Garner, 36, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced on June 21, 2022, to 10 years in federal prison without parole. Joshua Marchbanks, 32, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced on May 24, 2022, to three years and 10 months in federal prison without parole. Carleeon D. Lockett, 30, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced on May 31, 2022, to six years and eight months in federal prison without parole. Kenneth D. Scott, 26, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced on March 24, 2021, to three years and six months in federal prison without parole. Cordell Edwards, 34, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced on March 7, 2022, to five years in federal prison without parole. Michael E. Sims, 36, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced on June 28, 2022, to five years and five months in federal prison without parole. Cordarrel L. Scott, 36, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced on Dec. 15, 2020, to 18 months in federal prison without parole. Marco R. Maddox, 38, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced on May 27, 2022, to three years and five months in federal prison without parole. Cornelius Phelps, 36, of Lee’s Summit, Mo., was sentenced on April 27, 2022, to three years and 10 months in federal prison without parole. Herman G. Bell, 67, of Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced on June 22, 2022, to three years of probation.

Co-defendant Martin C. Garner, 35, of St. Louis, Mo., pleaded guilty on May 26, 2022, to his role in the drug-trafficking conspiracy and awaits sentencing.

Under federal statutes, Smith, Duncan, Franklin and Toombs each are subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in federal prison without parole, up to a sentence of life in federal prison without parole.

## Recording Artist Gang Leader Pleads Guilty To Racketeering And Narcotics Trafficking Conspiracies

NEW YORK, NY — Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that recording artist CASWELL SENIOR, a/k/a “Casanova,” pled guilty in May to racketeering and narcotics offenses arising out of his leadership role in the Untouchable Gorilla Stone Nation Bloods Gang (“Gorilla Stone”) in Westchester County, New York City, and Florida. As part of the racketeering conspiracy offense, SENIOR admitted to participating in a shooting in Florida on July 5, 2020, a robbery in New York City on August 5, 2018, and conspiring to traffic over 100 kilograms of marijuana. SENIOR pled guilty before U.S. District Judge Philip M. Halpern.

U.S. Attorney Damian Williams said: “Like twelve of his co-defendants, Caswell Senior, an accomplished recording artist and performer, now stands convicted of playing a leadership role in Gorilla Stone, a particularly violent Bloods gang that operates throughout New York and across the country. In addition to his supervisory role, Senior was an active, hands-on participant in the gang’s senseless violence, including a shooting in Miami and contributing to a robbery at a Manhattan diner. Dismantling violent gangs and stopping gun violence continues to be one of my highest priorities. Thanks to the dedication of our partners at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Senior now awaits sentencing for his dangerous conduct.”

According to the Indictment, public court filings, and statements made in court:

Beginning in at least 2004 and lasting until December 2020, SENIOR participated in and was associated with the Gorilla Stone racketeering conspiracy. Senior admitted that as part of the racketeering activity, on or about July 5, 2020, while at a party in Florida that included gang members, he discharged a firearm at an individual with whom he was having a gambling dispute. A victim suffered serious bodily injury because of the shooting. Thereafter, other party attendees discharged multiple firearms. Additionally, SENIOR stipulated that as part of a separate August 5, 2018 robbery in Manhattan, a victim was restrained and suffered serious bodily injury. In connection with his guilty plea, SENIOR further stipulated that he was an organizer or leader of a criminal activity that involved five or more participants and he agreed to traffic at least 100 kilograms of marijuana.

SENIOR, 35, of Montville, New Jersey, is scheduled to be sentenced by United States District Judge Philip M. Halpern on December 6, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. SENIOR pled guilty to one count of conspiring to conduct and participate in the conduct of the affairs of a criminal enterprise through a pattern of racketeering activity and one count of conspiring to distribute over 100 kilograms of marijuana. The total maximum term of prison on these two counts is 60 years, with a mandatory minimum term of five years in prison.

The maximum and mandatory minimum penalties are prescribed by Congress and are provided here for informational purposes only, as any sentencing of the defendant will be determined by the judge.

SENIOR is the thirteenth defendant in the Gorilla Stone case to plead guilty. The twelve other defendants who previously pled guilty are: DESHAWN THOMAS, a/k/a “Don,” NAYA AUSTIN, a/k/a “Baby,” BRANDON NIEVES, a/k/a “Untouchable Dot,” DONAVAN GILLARD, a/k/a “Donnie Love,” JARRETT CRISLER, Jr., a/k/a “Jaycee,” DEZON WASHINGTON, a/k/a “Blakk,” STEPHEN HUGH, a/k/a “Chino,” JORDAN INGRAM, a/k/a “Flow,” SHANAY OUTLAW, a/k/a “Easy,” ROBERTA SLIGH, a/k/a “Trouble,” BRINAE THORNTON, a/k/a “Luxury,” and JAMAL TRENT, a/ka/ “Trap Smoke.”

Mr. Williams praised the outstanding investigative work of the FBI Westchester County Safe Streets Task Force, which is comprised of special agents and task force officers from the FBI, US Probation, New York State Police, New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, NYPD, Westchester County PD, Westchester County DAs Office, Putnam County Sheriff’s Office, Rockland DAs Office and the Yonkers, New Rochelle, Mount Vernon, Greenburgh, White Plains, Peekskill, Ramapo and Clarkstown Police Departments.

This case is being prosecuted by the Office’s White Plains Division. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Shiva H. Logarajah, David R. Felton, and Courtney L. Heavey are in charge of the prosecution.

## Justice Department Announces Takedown of Nationwide Catalytic Converter Theft Ring

WASHINGTON, DC — Federal, state, and local law enforcement partners from across the United States executed a nationwide, coordinated takedown in November of leaders and associates of a national network of thieves, dealers, and processors for their roles in conspiracies involving stolen catalytic converters sold to a metal refinery for tens of millions of dollars.

Arrests, searches, and seizures took place in California, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Nevada, North Carolina, and Virginia. In total, 21 individuals in five states have been arrested and/or charged for their roles in the conspiracy.

The 21 defendants are charged in two separate indictments that were unsealed in the Eastern District of California and the Northern District of Oklahoma following extensive law enforcement arrest and search operations. In addition to the indictments, over 32 search warrants were executed, and law enforcement seized millions of dollars in assets, including homes, bank accounts, cash, and luxury vehicles.

“Amidst a rise in catalytic converter thefts across the country, the Justice Department has today carried out an operation arresting 21 defendants and executing 32 search warrants in a nationwide takedown of a multimillion-dollar catalytic converter theft network,” said Attorney General Merrick B. Garland. “We will continue to work alongside our state and local partners to disrupt criminal conspiracies like this one that target the American people.”

## Quotes From Some of Those Who Attended the 2022 NGCRC Training Conference:

“The flexibility of video sessions”, Eric Santiago, Kent County Sheriff’s Department, Grand Rapids, MI.

“Different perspectives!”, Robert Fiorello, PEI Kids, Lawrenceville, NJ.

“The conference is great to see how other agencies are combating gang issues”, Ryan Grimshaw, Mansfield Police Department, Mansfield, OH.

“Good variety of presenters and information”, Johnathan Ward, GVI Community Outreach Worker, Goodwill Industries, South Bend, IN.

“Hotel staff was great, NGCRC staff was great and very helpful. There was plenty of course choices and I like the diversity of the conference attendees’ field of study”, William Talley, Floyd County Sheriff’s Department, New Albany, IN.

“Information and knowledge gained, networking, inclusivity, overall amazing experience”, Kellen Gonsalves, North Star Learning Centers, New Bedford, MA.

“Exposure to other areas in gang prevention and prosecution and other presenters makes me more informed in my job”, Charlotte Lomnicki, Cobb County District Attorney’s Office, Marietta, GA.

“Lots of new knowledge every year. Will be back next year”, Sgt. Matthew Davis, Delaware County Sheriff’s Office, Muncie, IN.

“Great conference”, Kyle Jenks, Lansing Police Department, Lansing, MI.

“Networking great, lots of new info, some good presenters, and very relevant classes”, Kit Cummings, Power of Peace Project, Marietta, GA.

“Very informative”, Larry Lee Slayton Jr., Pathfinder Resources, Danville, VA.

“The networking aspect that it provided to professionals from all walks of life”, Alvis Williams, Pathfinder Resources, Danville, VA..

“The networking was the best experience”, Curtis A. Artis, Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Worker, Danville, VA.

“I do love all the presenters and courses!”, Penny Hestand, Strategic Criminal Intelligence Analyst, Louisville Metro Police Department, Louisville, KY..

“Attention to detail. You make all attendees feel important”, Kevin O’Neil, Franklin County Juvenile Intervention Center, Columbus, OH.

“Class setup. Ball game”, Michael Hollandsworth, Fort Wayne Police Department, Ft. Wayne, IN.

“The trainings, presenters, networking awards”, Sgt. Anita Perez, Hualapai Juvenile Detention and Rehabilitation Center, Peach Springs, AZ.

“The amount of assistance and direction for first timers made everything flow seamlessly (staffs/accommodations). The instructors and their willingness to help, even provide contact info for future needs of attendees”, Det. William H. Lo, Ingham County Sheriff’s Office, Mason, MI.

“Great information gathered for my agency and DA’s office”, Richard T. Hunter, Senior Detective, Terrebonne Parish Sheriff’s Office, Houma, LA.

“Networking events. I met a lot of great people when I attended the White Sox social”, Connor Larson, Chief Intelligence Analyst, Nebraska Department of Correctional Services, Omaha, NE.

“I really appreciate the access to conference. Thank you for your hard work and dedication”, Paul F. Walema Jr., Program Coordinator, Hualapai Juvenile Detention and Rehabilitation Center, Peach Springs, AZ.

“The networking opportunities provided”, Joseph Kajj, Oakland County Sheriff’s Office, Pontiac, MI.

“Networking”, Deputy Joseph M. Polan, Oakland County Sheriff’s Office, Pontiac, MI..

“Ability to take classes in person as well as virtually”, Chelsea Schneller, Intelligence Analyst, Michigan State Police, Grand Haven, MI.

“Location! Speakers! White Sox”, Alex Z. Saine, ATF, Wilmington, NC.

“Some instructors very knowledgeable about their material and you could tell by if they read the slides version or not”, Travis Stantz, Mansfield Police Department, Mansfield, OH.

“The network experience was great”, Aileen Bryant-Wales, Ladies of Promise Inc, Louisville, KY.

“Gang training with Robert Mulvaney. He was captivating and was very knowledgeable”, Caneth Lee, Director GVI/SAVE, Goodwill Industries, South Bend, IN.

“Networking and location!!!”, Kyrsten Sprewell, ACE Community Support Services, Marietta, GA.

“Overall everyone was very helpful and pleasant to work and learn from”, Kalique Woodbury, ACE Community Support Services, Marietta, GA.

“I enjoyed it and learned much more information on gangs”, Dean Martin Jr., GMACC Inc, Brooklyn, NY.

“Interactions with others across the fields”, Philip J Swift, Ft. Worth Marshal, Ft. Worth, TX.

“Very impressed with some of the presentations”, Marc Deshaies, Ft. Wayne Police Department, Ft. Wayne, IN.

“Networking”, James Zolnai, Lansing Police Department, Lansing, MI.

“Good networking experience”, Martin Green, Cedar Rapids Police Department, Cedar Rapids, IA.

“A lot of great speakers with some really useable information to take back”, Christine McDowell, Narcotics Intelligence Analyst, Michigan State Police/MIOC, Battle Creek, MI..

“Good variety of topics. Knowledgeable presenters”, Andrew LeTourneau, Associate County Attorney, Olmsted County Attorneys Office, Rochester, MN.

“Good stuff”, James Miller, State’s Attorneys Office, Ft. Myers, FL.

“Variety of courses is great”, Leena M. Marcos, State’s Attorneys Office, Ft. Myer, FL.

“The practical for how to put together RICOS and long term investigations were great”, Kelsey Guernsey, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Jackson County Office of Prosecuting Attorney, Jackson, MI..

“Love the training choosing classes to attend”, Nico Flores, Investigator, Atlanta Police Department, Atlanta, GA.

“We really enjoy and appreciate the opening ceremony and commemoration of LORD”, Aaron Cunningham, Chicago Police Department, Chicago, IL.

“Interaction, the different agencies, the police, and new friends”, Luis Alonso Flores Montalvo, Polcia Nacional Civil (PNC), El Salvador.

“Networking”, Gregory D. Dabney, Investigator, Atlanta Police Department, Atlanta, GA..

“I always take at least a few things away that help me in my investigations that also helps me think of other ideas to develop on my own”, Steven J. Stechsulte Jr., Lima Police Department, Lima, OH.

“The networking and meeting people from other departments and learning what tactics are working them”, Audrey Fugate, Jackson Police Department, Jackson, MI.

“A lot of valuable information. Great networking”, Tony Gilkey, U.S. Probation Office, Lexington, KY.

“Multi-Agency interaction is great. Also, a great mix of prosecutors, police and academics”, Adam Post, Gwinnett County Police Department, Lawrenceville, GA.

“The best gang conference with so many great presenters”, Michael Tabarrok, Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney, Dougherty County District Attorney’s Office, Albany, GA.

“I enjoyed all of the options. The networking”, Ashlee Mastrangelo, Assistant District Attorney, Middlesex District Attorney’s Office, Woburn, MA.

“Choices - several choices of class, great instructors - top notch, and professional, yet a relaxed atmosphere for learning”, Patricio A. Lopez, Greenville Police Department, Greenville, NC.

“Learning the ways different parts of the country deal with gangs”, Lester Sullivan, Cambridge Police Department, Cambridge, MA.

## An Option for 2023: The Double Major (Signing Up for Two Tracks)

The NGCRC has had repeated requests for this over the years, the idea of having a “double major”: i.e., to be able to sign up for two (2) different specialty track areas. The benefit, of course, is that such a “double major” would result in two different specialty track certificates: one certificate for each of the two tracks.

The NGCRC is pleased to announce that the double major option is now available and it is described here. Here is some Q & A about it.

Q: What does it mean to have a double major?

A: All it means is you can have two “tracks”; you have to log in a minimum of four hours in each of the two specialty areas.

Q: How many certificates do I get if I am registered for non-certification?

A: None.

Q: How many certificates do I get if I registered for certification?

A: Two: one for your program of study reflecting the completion of the 2022 program consisting of 24 hours of training, and one for your specialty area. Previously in history people attending the conference could only have one track.

Q: If I sign up for the Double Major or “two track option”, how many certificates will I get?

A: Three: your basic 24 hour program completion certificate, and then one each for each of the two (2) different tracks.

Q: How much does it cost to sign up for the Two Track Option?

A: \$90.00 if paid before July 1<sup>st</sup>; \$105 if paid on or after that or onsite.

Q: What if there is a scheduling conflict and I discover at the conference I cannot accumulate the minimum number of hours in one of the two tracks?

A: We will refund your Two Track Option amount in full, no problem; and return you to the one track registration mode of your choice.

Q: How do I select and report my 2<sup>nd</sup> training track selection?

A: The registration form covers this, you are asked if you want to register for the double major, and if so, what your 2<sup>nd</sup> track will be.

## Some Training Sessions You Could Benefit From Attending This Summer in Chicago:

(1) “**The NCIC Violent Person File**”, by Grant E. Smith, FBI, CJIS Division, CTAP/NCIC, Clarksburg, WV. One (1) hour

Special restriction: Sworn law enforcement and corrections ONLY.

Abstract

The Violent Person File or VPF is a NCIC file designed specifically for officer safety. The VPF contains information of individuals who have been convicted of a violent offense, felony or misdemeanor against any law enforcement officer. It also will identify individuals that have made credible threats of physical violence towards members of the criminal justice community. A positive response from the VPF will identify and alert law enforcement that the individual they are encountering may have the propensity for violence against law enforcement. The information can be retrieved from the NCIC system using a suspect’s name and date of birth, suspects known vehicle or driver’s license information. The VPF is automatically cross searched with every NCIC Wanted Person query.

(10) “**Gang Mapping 101: An Introduction**”, by D. Lee Gilbertson, Ph.D., NGCRC Staff and Professor, Criminal Justice Studies, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN. Two (2) Hours

Abstract

This class is part 1 of a 2 part series. It serves as a starting point for understanding crime analysis, specifically, analytical mapping techniques as applied to gangs. Topics covered in this class: the evolution of crime analysis and mapping from the 1800s to present; intelligence levels, divisions, and processes; and the roles and responsibilities of analysts, administrators, and police officers. See the other two parts of this 3 part series.

(19) “**Reducing Gang-Related Violence in Correctional Institutions**”, by Elvis Slaughter, MSCJ, Retired Sheriff’s Superintendent, former fire and police commissioner, criminologist, and author of ten books, including *Safer Jail and Prison Matters: Effective Ways to Manage and Reduce Violence in Correctional Facilities*. One (1) hour

Abstract

The information that officers do or do not have usually determines their efficiency in dealing with everyday issues in their lives and in their professions. This session provides career law enforcement officers and correctional agencies with effective answers to the challenging gang violence that correctional institutions face daily. It provides distilled information designed to assist correctional institutions and law enforcement agencies in improving their leadership and management skills and preventing gang violence. This session is for everyone in criminal justice, including corrections, police, probation, parole, college students, professors, and the officer who wants to be a game changer and stay on top of their game.

(37) “**Bigger than Black and Blue: Candid Conversations About Race, Equity, and Community Collaboration**”, by Robert T. David Sr., Youth Gang Violence Prevention Coordinator, Danville, VA and Scott C. Booth, Chief of Police, Danville Police Department, Danville, VA. 90 Minutes (1.5 hours)

Abstract

This session will discuss how community policing combined with a relationship focused gang intervention strategy drastically lowered violent crime rates in Danville, Virginia. The session will discuss how the combined strategies cultivated peace in the community while the rest of the country began to grapple with a series of African American deaths at the hands of police. Bigger than Black and Blue: Candid conversations about race, equity, and community collaboration will be a benefit to those who desire an opportunity to hear two distinct, but synchronous voices that articulate their unique perspectives about the complex relationship between African American communities and law enforcement.

(41) “**Strategies for Working With Gang Involved Youth in Juvenile Facilities**”, by Martha Wall-Whitfield, Ph.D., Principal, Arkansas Juvenile Assessment and Treatment Center, Bryant, AR. One hour

Abstract

In this session, participants will examine the juvenile justice system and the issues that occur within barbed wire concerning youth involved in gangs. The workshop will unpack practical strategies for handling gang issues in juvenile facilities as well as offering discussion opportunities for participants to share their own successful strategies.

### Call for Presenters:

*The NGCRC cordially invites members of law enforcement and those working in corrections, probation, parole, and prosecution to be a presenter at the 2023 Training Conference being held July 31 - Aug. 2, 2023 in Chicago, IL.*

*Please see information at our website:*

*<https://ngcrc.com/callforpresenters.html>*

## Thirty-Two Alleged Members of Two Rival Gangs Charged With 106 Counts, Including Conspiracy to Commit Murder

NEW YORK, NY — Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, together with New York City Police Commissioner Keechant L. Sewell, announced in November that 32 alleged members of two rival street gangs known as WOOO and CHOO are variously charged in four indictments with conspiracy to commit murder, conspiracy to possess weapons, and other related charges including murder, attempted murder, reckless endangerment, and weapons possession. The indictments include charges related to 19 shootings that resulted in 14 victims, including two who died as a result of their injuries. Innocent bystanders, including a 3-year-old girl who was leaving daycare, were wounded in the charged shooting incidents.

District Attorney Gonzalez said, “With this successful takedown we aim to incapacitate two violent gangs that have terrorized parts of Brownsville for too long. Their senseless and indiscriminate gun violence upended the sense of safety for many residents and wounded a number of innocent bystanders, including a 3-year-old-girl who was leaving her daycare center. We will never allow this type of criminal activity to go unimpeded and will work closely with the NYPD to build strong cases that will ensure that these alleged offenders are held accountable, and our communities are kept safe – like we’ve done in this case.”

NYPD Commissioner Sewell said, “Among the highest priorities for the NYPD and our law enforcement partners is focusing our resources on the relatively few people responsible for the majority of the crime and violence in New York City. Today’s charges highlight our commitment to identifying, arresting, and prosecuting anyone who takes part in illegal gang activities. I thank and commend the members of the NYPD’s Gun Violence Suppression Division and the entire Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office for their dedicated efforts on this important case.”

The defendants will be arraigned before Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Danny Chun on four indictments in which they are variously charged with second- and fourth-degree conspiracy, second-degree murder, second-degree attempted murder, attempted first degree assault, second-degree assault, second-degree criminal possession of a weapon, and first-degree reckless endangerment. There are a total of 106 counts in the indictments against 32 defendants – 13 alleged WOOO members and 19 alleged CHOO members.

The District Attorney said the indictments are the result of a long-term investigation by the District Attorney’s Violent Criminal Enterprises Bureau and the Gun Violence Suppression Division that started in the spring of 2020 and extended until November of 2022. The investigation focused on two gang confederacies that operate out of several neighboring housing complexes in Brownsville. On one side is WOOO, based in the Seth Low Houses, Van Dyke Houses, Langston Hughes Houses, Glenmore Plaza, and Brownsville Houses; WOOO is made up of numerous subsets, including OMB, 1800, Gorilla Stone Bloods, Makk Balla Bloods, 59 Brim, YAWAH and Pistol Packin Pitkin (PPP). On the other side of the rivalry is CHOO, based in the Tilden Houses, Howard Houses, Marcus Garvey Village, Newport Gardens, and Riverdale Towers; similarly, CHOO is made up of a collection of crews, including Folk Nation (also known as Gangster Disciples), Move In Silence (M.I.S.) and Hoodstarz. Dumont Avenue is considered the dividing line between the two gangs’ territories. Some WOOO- and CHOO-controlled housing complexes are located on the same street.

The long-running rivalry between these criminal organizations, predicated on maintaining their territory and gaining supremacy over their rivals, coupled with close geographic proximity, has led to consistent and frequent violence. Much of the violence charged in the indictments was specifically fueled by the murder of WOOO member Shamel Boomer on July 10, 2020. Although not directly responsible for Boomer’s death (a member of the Bergen Fam gang was later charged for allegedly committing that homicide), the murder of Boomer was celebrated by both Bergen Fam and CHOO alike and has become a common way to disrespect WOOO by both gangs. WOOO vowed retaliation against their rivals, including CHOO, in a violent movement referred to as “Boomin’ for Boomer” on social media. CHOO, in turn, retaliated against WOOO members or individuals perceived to be associated with WOOO.

During the conspiracy period covered in the indictments, there were 27 incidents, including two homicides and 17 non-fatal shootings that wounded 14 people. Over 25 different firearms were used in these acts of violence and 27 firearms were recovered during the course of the investigation.

It is alleged that many of the acts of violence were captured on surveillance videos. Furthermore, it is alleged that the defendants boasted about their criminal activities on social media and in music videos, discussing acts of violence and taking credit for shootings.

The first homicide charged took place on July 5, 2020, when CHOO member Corey Henry allegedly traveled to WOOO territory, the Glenmore Plaza housing complex, and fatally shot WOOO member Jahrell Gause. The second homicide took place on July 12, 2022, when CHOO member Shakur Bartley allegedly shot and killed Tyrie McLaughlin, a WOOO member, in front of the Brownsville Houses, which is considered WOOO territory.

Other significant incidents that are charged as part of the conspiracies include:

On March 25, 2022, it is alleged that Daleek Habersham traveled in a BMW driven by Princess Chambers to Riverdale Avenue, where he allegedly believed a WOOO member resided. It is alleged that once in the vicinity, Habersham exited the BMW and shot directly in the direction of a man who was putting a young child into his car (and who was not, in reality, a rival) before running back into the waiting BMW. A 3-year-old girl who was walking from a nearby daycare, holding her father’s hand, was struck in the shoulder. The following day, Habersham allegedly sent a screenshot of a news article describing the shooting to a private Instagram group, followed by the message “did bad.”

On April 14, 2021, it is charged that CHOO member Parnell Brown was struck by a Hyundai Sonata driven by WOOO member Davvion Thompson while Brown attempted to cross the street. After rolling onto the hood and being thrown to the ground, it is alleged that Brown immediately ran after the Hyundai, firing at its direction as it sped away. It is further alleged that Thompson drove straight to Saks 5th Avenue in Manhattan, where video surveillance captures him shopping with others at the luxury store.

On October 6, 2020, it is alleged that WOOO member Lawrence Cook summoned two other WOOO members, Elijah Griffith and Avante Stephen, after seeing a rival CHOO member in a doctor’s office waiting room. It is alleged that Griffith and Stephen immediately came to the area, where they waited nearby until the CHOO member exited the doctor’s office with his mother and young siblings at approximately 2:50 pm. Once the CHOO member and his family entered a Honda Pilot, Griffith allegedly fired upon the vehicle multiple times, striking the vehicle. This incident represents WOOO’s policy of “shoot on sight.”

This investigation was conducted by New York City Police Department Detective John LaMariana and Detective Justin Vazquez of the Gun Violence Suppression Division, under the supervision of Sergeant Yancy Blowe, Sergeant Calvin Fergus, Lieutenant Salvatore Sciove, Captain Ryan Gillis, all of the Gun Violence Suppression Division, and Deputy Chief Jason Savino, the Commanding Officer of the Gun Violence Suppression Division, and under the overall supervision of Chief of Detectives James W. Essig.

The case is being prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorneys Kelly Maloney and Daniel Stern of the District Attorney’s Violent Criminal Enterprises Bureau, with the assistance of Paralegals Dian Fields-Vernon and Tanya Lopez, under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Kathryn Spota and Gillian DiPietro, VCE Deputy Bureau Chiefs, Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Cilia, VCE First Deputy Bureau Chief, and Assistant District Attorney Alfred DeIngeniis, VCE Bureau Chief.

DEFENDANT ADDENDUM:

**WOOO Members:** Errol Everett, 36; Elijah Griffith, 23; Dionte Gibb, 24; Baramus Temple, 23; Lawrence Cook, 22; George Rosario, 23; Jared Lambson, 18; Avante Stephen, 22; Tyler Hodges, 19; Christian Graham, 20; Denus Sanders, 24; Davvion Thompson, 23; Travon Murphy, 22

**CHOO Members:** Pernel Brown, 21; Roleke Green, 20; Jaylen Clark, 21; Juvaun Delfyette, 19; Paul Moore, 22; Lamont Lockett, 19; Isaiah Feliciano, 22; Jaylen Ortiz, 18; Daleek Habersham, 23; Princess Chambers, 22; Corey Henry, 20; Anthony McCrae, 24; Bryan Rodriguez, 21; Shakur Bartley, 25; Levi Alexis, 21; Franklin McClain, 20; Deandru Jones, 23; Jaevon King, 21; Joel Mentore, 19

## Follow That Bike - - - AROUND THE U.S.A. IN MOTORCYCLE GANG NEWS

### Rival Bikers Fight - - -Woman Shot

Sunday Nov. 13, 2022 there was a biker gang disturbance and shooting outside the Ole Habitz bar located in Moss Bluff, LA. A woman was shot in the back. Calcasieu Parish Sheriff’s Office, Lake Charles, responded. Two shooters were arrested and charged. The fight was between the Bandidos MC and the Misfits MC.

### Hell’s Angels Clubhouse Raided

On Nov. 15, 2022 the Hell’s Angels Clubhouse in San Francisco was raided in a homicide investigation. Five were arrested in connection to a homicide and attack on a police officer which occurred June 18, 2022 at a Chris Stapleton concert at the Shoreline Amphitheater. The five arrested included: Dominic Guardado (33), Julio Moran (43), David Wiesenhaven (38), Logan Winterton (37), and Raymond Cunanan (42).

### Pagan’s Leader Pleads No Contest and Gets 10 Year Prison Sentence

Deric “Tuna” McGuire (38), the leader of the Pagans, in late October 2022 pleaded no contest to nine charges (drugs, guns, stolen property, etc). He was facing over 200 criminal charges including possession of 1 oz.- 1Kilo of cocaine, and possession of a rocket launcher. He was ordered to pay \$80,229 in restitution and forfeit six cars.

### Outlaws vs. Mongols: Bad Blood Said to be Brewing in Chicago

The Mongol’s are trying to establish a presence in Chicago. Chicago is the hometown of the Outlaws motorcycle gang. Tensions have been rising between the two rival motorcycle gangs. For example, four Outlaws members and one Mongol were injured in a shoot-out at a party at a southside Chicago bar recently. David Santillan was the president of the Mongols until he was fired by his own gang in 2021 and told Fox News “we don’t fish out of the same pond” meaning the Mongols were recruiting young Latinos, a different demographic than the Outlaws. Santillan takes the position that the two gangs can co-exist peacefully and described the current tensions as a “whose d—’s bigger contest” that could easily escalate.

### Six Mongols Facing Life Sentences in Clarksville, Tennessee

On Sept. 16, 2022 six Mongols were convicted in federal court on racketeering and murder charges. They were members of the Clarksville, Tennessee Mongol’s chapter. They are: James Wesley Frazier (34), Helix Santiago (34), Michael Bolston (32), and Jason Meyerholz (48). They all now face life in prison at sentencing. Their business plan heavily relied on distributing 100% pure methamphetamine and kidnapping/murdering anyone who got in their way.

### Biker Gang Member Gets 9 Years for Pushing Meth

On Oct. 19, 2022 Robert Lewis Coney, Jr. (50) was sentenced to 9 years in federal prison for his role in the distribution of meth in Grovetown, Georgia. Coney was affiliated with the Red Devils motorcycle gang which is a support club (or puppet club) for the Hell’s Angels. His drug source was Donnie Lee Curtis Jr. (37) of Tunnel Hill, Georgia who is affiliated with the Aryan Brotherhood criminal street gang.

### Three Hell’s Angels Leaders Convicted of Killing One of Their Own

In late June, 2022 a federal jury in San Francisco convicted three leaders of the Hell’s Angels for racketeering and murder. They are: Jonathan “Jon Jon” Nelson (46), Brian Wayne Wendt (45), and Russell “Rusty” Ott (69). The Hell’s Angels are a transnational violent outlaw motorcycle gang. The crux of the case was the murder of Joel Silva who was a Hell’s Angels member making problems for President Nelson and President Wendt. They asked Ott (a former president) to kill Silva. Silva was shot in the head and his body was expeditiously incinerated at a local crematory in Fresno.

## Here Are Some Training Sessions You Could Benefit From Attending That Are Scheduled to be Taught at the 2023 NGCRC Gang Training Conference in Chicago:

(6) “**The Graffiti Identity 1 - Understanding the Game**”, by Kenneth Davis, Graffiti/Gang Specialist & Private Investigator, Yonkers, NY. One (1) hour

Abstract

In today’s tight economy, the majority of police agencies are assigning graffiti vandalism investigations to their street gang or special investigations units. This session provides an introduction to graffiti art versus graffiti vandalism. In this session, participants will learn how to distinguish street gang graffiti from taggers’ graffiti, understand the basic graffiti tags and their variations, and the subcultural protocols that govern them. This session covers the various types of graffiti cultures, state laws (beyond reasonable doubt) and city codes (preponderance of the evidence) and the graffiti identity (name, formats, and styles). This is part one of a three part course sequence.

(12) “**The Link Between Childhood Trauma and Gang Membership: Developing Intervention Service Components**”, by Martha Wall-Whitfield, Ph.D., Principal, Arkansas Juvenile Assessment and Treatment Center, Bryant, AR. One (1) hour

Abstract

In this interactive session, participants will explore gang membership through a trauma-informed lens. Brain research on trauma will be presented as well as practical “do’s and don’ts” when dealing with students from trauma. Participants will learn what a trauma informed school and a trauma informed classroom look like. All of this information will then be directly linked to teaching gang-involved students in schools.

(14) “**Gang Expert Testimony: Bringing Your Gang Investigation into Court**”, by Tyler Sutherland, Gang Suppression Unit, Battle Creek Police Department, Battle Creek, MI; and Jim Bailey, Battle Creek Police Department, Battle Creek, MI. Three (3) hours

Abstract

How court room testimony and gang evidence will reduce crime rates. What to say and present as a gang expert in court. How to apply your state statute of an enhanced gang crime to the evidence in your gang case. How the stored gang intelligence becomes useful in the court room. How the prosecutor and gang investigator get a case ready for courtroom prosecution.

# Some of the Free Receptions You Can Attend at the NGCRC's 2023 Training Conference:

## The Law Enforcement/Prosecution/Corrections Social Network Reception:

This is available only to persons who work in law enforcement, prosecution, or correctional agencies. How do you sign up? Through the Registration Form itself or use the special request form below. If you do, you are in and a ticket will be in your registration file folder when you arrive at the conference. No ticket, no entrance to the event.

It is headed up by Kenneth Davis (Yonkers, New York) and Dr. Gregg W. Etter (University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, MO).

At this year's training conference, we are sponsoring a "Agency Patch Exchange" within the networking function designed for corrections and law enforcement personnel. If you are interested, please secure some of your agency's patches and bring them with you. We will have a time set aside for this at the Corrections/Law Enforcement Network function. So, bring your appetite and your patches and have a great time! As always, there is no extra "charge" for signing up for receptions that may also provide you with food, beverages, etc. It is something you are automatically entitled to as a part of your conference registration fee.

And as is the NGCRC tradition, of course, there are "door prizes" at this reception. The Law Enforcement, Prosecution, and Corrections Reception is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 1st, 2023. See the Preliminary Conference Schedule posted at the website for locations and other important information.

## The Veterans Reception: For Vets Only

by Dr. Todd Negola, NGCRC Staff; and D. Lee Gilbertson, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Criminal Justice, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN, and NGCRC Staff. One (1) hour

### Abstract

This is a special reception for vets only. It is held during the lunch hour on Monday. The purpose is to express appreciation to veterans for their service in the defense of freedom. If you are a vet, come and attend, find a warm, friendly environment. Door prizes. Great chances to network and mingle. Learn something new, meet somebody new. Sponsored by the NGCRC staff, you will feel appreciated here. We can offer a sandwich, chips, and a soda for a quick free lunch.

### Bios

These men are long time staff of the NGCRC, and are well known for their gang expertise. Todd is also a psychologist whose practice is with vets through the VA. Lee is a vet who still fits into his issued uniform and teaches gang mapping technology, among other topics. These are two men with enormous accumulated experience on gang issues - - - good to get to know. Here's your chance.

## The Prevention/Intervention/Counseling Network Reception:

This is available to anyone attending the conference. Just sign up for it on your registration form. This is one of the exciting features of the 2023 Conference. The purpose is to allow specialized networking among those persons in schools, private programs, and those in the helping professions who work directly with gang members in a prevention, intervention, or counseling capacity. Come prepared to meet other like-minded persons from a wide variety of occupational backgrounds; come prepared to make some new friends who will last a life time.

The 2023 NGCRC Prevention/Intervention/Counseling Network Reception is open to anyone signed up for the conference, there is a "check list" on the registration form itself: you need to check "yes" that you want to attend the Prevention/Intervention/Counseling Networking Reception. You get one (1) hour of session attendance credit for it. It occurs, however, in the early evening. Stay tuned for further details as they will be announced here at this website. As always, there is no extra "charge" for signing up for receptions that may also provide you with food, beverages, etc. It is something you are automatically entitled to as a part of your conference registration fee. The Prevention/Intervention/Counseling Reception is scheduled for 5-6 p.m. Monday, July 31, 2023. See schedule for "location".

## THE CHRISTIAN GANG SPECIALIST RECEPTION:

This is available only to persons registered for the conference. This will be held during an "off time" in the regular conference schedule. If you answered "YES" to the question on your registration form, "I would like to attend the Christian Gang Specialist Reception", then your registration file folder will include a ticket that allows you into this reception. If you answered "NO" or left the question blank, it was assumed you are not interested. And as is the NGCRC tradition, of course, there are "door prizes" at this reception. Come prepared for some amazing testimony.

The chair of the 2023 NGCRC Christian Gang Specialist Reception is: Dr. Terna T. Jordan, Sr., Lead Pastor, Mount Canaan Baptist Church, Chattanooga, TN. The format this year will likely be a light luncheon format (we are still working out specific arrangements: so stay tuned to this website for further details and developments). As always, there is no extra "charge" for signing up for receptions that may also provide you with food, beverages, etc. It is something you are automatically entitled to as a part of your conference registration fee. The Christian Gang Specialist Networking Reception is scheduled for Noon, Tuesday, August 1, 2023.

## Get Your Free Ticket to a Baseball Game.

This *IS A BASEBALL SOCIAL NETWORKING EVENT*. These tickets are available free to those registered for Certification or Non-Certification, one per person on a first come, first served basis. One ticket per person. Only one baseball networking event ticket per person. We have purchased N = 50 tickets for the Monday July 31st (starts 7:10pm) Cubs vs. Cincinnati Reds game. We also purchased N = 50 tickets for the Tuesday August 1st (starts 7:10pm) Cubs vs. Reds game. The tickets are electronic tickets, no longer are they paper tickets. Your phone is your ticket, and you get the ticket image and info (box number, row, seat number) in an email from a national ticket company that works with the Cubs franchise. We need your email to send you the electronic ticket. The actual email containing your electronic ticket will not come directly from the NGCRC, it will come from the Ticket company. So when you get an email from the Cubs ticket vendor it is not spam, it is your ticket. We had a few people in 2022 that ended up basically throwing away their electronic tickets because their government email system treated the email from ticketmaster as spam, and just got deleted.

How do you get a ticket: Just check "yes" on the registration form for the question "I want to attend the baseball networking event". The NGCRC is giving away tickets to this game to those who are registered for the conference (one per person). You will be sitting in good company as you will be seated in a large group of other gang specialists: people attending the NGCRC Conference. So it is a remarkable way to network as well.

## You Can Attend These Training Sessions at the NGCRC 2023 Gang School:

(18) "The Impact of Historical/Generational Trauma on Gang and Law Enforcement Interactions", by Philip J. Swift, Ph.D., Municipal Courts, City Marshall Division, Fort Worth, TX. Two (2) hours

### Abstract

This session focuses on the reality of historical/generational trauma and how it affects communities, cultures, groups, and the development of cognitive schemes. Historical examples of historical/generational trauma among minority groups is used to depict the less recognized concept of historical/generational trauma among law enforcement agencies and gangs. The impact of this form of trauma on the initial interactions of law enforcement officers and gang members is used to demonstrate how and why many interactions between law enforcement officers and gang members affect the success and failure of gang prevention, intervention, and interdiction programs. This training concludes with a discussion of the tactics and skills that attendees can use to improve the effectiveness of prevention, intervention, and interdiction efforts.

(36) "Where Have All My Organs Gone? Illegal Organ Trafficking", by Dr. Gregg W. Etter, Sr., Ed.D., Pricila Avila, B.S., and Mackenzie Williams, Department of Criminal Justice, University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, MO. Two (2) hours

### Abstract

Organ transplants have provided medical miracles. The problem is that the demand for organs to transplant is high. Unfortunately, the supply of organs available for transplants is much lower than the demand. This imbalance between supply and demand has led to an illicit market in human organs. This session examines the illegal trafficking in human organs: Who are the traffickers? How are the organs acquired? What countries are involved? What is the nature of the profit motive? These and other important details are examined.

## Members Of Violent Mac Ballers Gang Charged With Racketeering Conspiracy, Attempted Murder, Robbery, Narcotics, And Firearms Offenses

NEW YORK, NY — Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York; Michael Alfonso, Acting Special Agent in Charge of the New York Field Office of Homeland Security Investigations ("HSI"); John B. DeVito, Special Agent in Charge of the New York Field Division of the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives ("ATF"); and Keechant Sewell, Commissioner of the New York City Police Department ("NYPD"), announced the unsealing on Oct. 24, 2022 of a nine-count superseding indictment charging four members of the "Mac Ballers" subset of the national Bloods gang in the Bronx, New York. GLEN CARWELL, a/k/a "Tink," a/k/a "Tinky," SHAWNDALE LEWIS, a/k/a "Nore," COREY BATCHELOR, a/k/a "Corey Balla," and JORDAN TOWNSEND were charged with racketeering conspiracy, violent crimes in aid of racketeering, and firearms offenses. CARWELL and LEWIS were also charged with narcotics conspiracy. The case is assigned to U.S. District Judge Lewis J. Liman.

CARWELL was already in custody in connection with robbery and firearms charges contained in a previous indictment related to this prosecution. LEWIS was arrested this morning and presented in Manhattan federal court before U.S. Magistrate Judge Robert W. Lehrburger. BATCHELOR was also arrested this morning in North Carolina and presented before a Magistrate Judge in the Western District of North Carolina. TOWNSEND remains at large.

U.S. Attorney Damian Williams said: "We allege that for years, the Mac Baller set of the Bloods has terrorized the New York area, and especially the Bronx, by pouring addictive drugs into our community, committing robberies, and engaging in shootings. These charges reflect our commitment to keeping our community safe by targeting gang members who engage in violence, as we allege these defendants did."

HSI New York Acting Special Agent in Charge Michael Alfonso said: "Today, we announce the arrests of multiple members of the 'Mac Ballers' street gang who, as alleged, have participated in escalating acts of violence, to include attempted homicide, in their efforts to protect and control their territory. HSI is committed to working with our federal, state, and local partners to disrupt and dismantle these dangerous street gangs who terrorize our neighborhoods in an effort to further their criminal enterprises."

ATF Special Agent in Charge John B. DeVito said: "New York residents deserve to live, work, and thrive free of fear and trauma. This is yet another example of law enforcement's commitment to ensure just that for our citizens. Thanks to the leadership of HSI and NYPD for their hard work to reduce violent crime. ATF is proud to support and work alongside our partners in the collective cause of public safety. Our neighborhoods deserve to flourish without fear or intimidation caused by violent criminal gangs."

NYPD Commissioner Keechant L. Sewell said: "Gang violence threatens the safety of New Yorkers and puts communities in the crosshairs of drug trafficking and drug-related crimes. This case highlights the NYPD's relentless pursuit of those few individuals who drive the violence and disorder in our city, and today's indictment reflects our continued focus on removing them from our streets. I commend all of our partners in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District, the New York Field Office of Homeland Security Investigations, and the New York Field Division of the ATF for their diligence on this important case."

According to the allegations in the Superseding Indictment unsealed today in Manhattan federal court:

From at least in or about late 2014 through 2022, the Mac Ballers was a criminal enterprise centered in the northeastern United States, including in the Bronx, New York, and in the jails and prisons of New York City and the State of New York. In order to make money for the gang, protect the gang's territory, and promote the gang's standing, members of the Mac Ballers engaged in, among other things, narcotics trafficking, fraud and identity theft, and acts of violence, including robberies and attempted murders. To that end, Mac Baller members sold heroin, cocaine, crack cocaine and marijuana, promoted their gang affiliation on social media, possessed firearms, and engaged in shootings as part of their gang membership and narcotics trafficking. As part of their membership in the gang, from 2017 to 2022, all four defendants participated in a conspiracy to commit murder in aid of racketeering, resulting in the attempted murder and assault with a dangerous weapon of a victim on October 19, 2021.

Mr. Williams praised the outstanding investigative work of HSI, ATF, the NYPD, and the Special Agents of the United States Attorney's Office.

The charges are the result of an ongoing Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces ("OCDETF") operation led by the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. OCDETF identifies, disrupts, and dismantles the highest-level criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach. Additional information about the OCDETF Program can be found at <https://www.justice.gov/OCDETF>.

This case is being handled by the Office's Violent and Organized Crime Unit. Assistant United States Attorneys Jacob R. Fiddelman, Peter J. Davis, Elizabeth A. Espinosa, and Frank J. Balsamello are in charge of the prosecution.

GLEN CARWELL, a/k/a "Tink," a/k/a "Tinky" (37): Racketeering Conspiracy; Conspiracy to Commit Murder in Aid of Racketeering; Narcotics Conspiracy; Use and Brandishing of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Controlled Substance Offense; Hobbs Act Robbery; Conspiracy to Commit Hobbs Act Robbery; Use, Brandishing, and Discharge of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Crime of Violence and Controlled Substance Offense. Maximum of life in prison; mandatory minimum 17 years in prison (to run consecutive to any other sentence)

SHAWNDALE LEWIS, a/k/a "Nore" (36): Racketeering Conspiracy; Conspiracy to Commit Murder in Aid of Racketeering; Attempted Murder and Assault with a Dangerous Weapon in Aid of Racketeering; Use and Discharge of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Crime of Violence; Narcotics Conspiracy; Use and Brandishing of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Controlled Substance Offense. Maximum of life in prison; mandatory minimum 17 years in prison (to run consecutive to any other sentence).

COREY BATCHELOR, a/k/a "Corey Balla" (24): Racketeering Conspiracy; Conspiracy to Commit Murder in Aid of Racketeering; Attempted Murder and Assault with a Dangerous Weapon in Aid of Racketeering; Use and Discharge of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Crime of Violence. Maximum of life in prison; mandatory minimum 10 years in prison (to run consecutive to any other sentence)

JORDAN TOWNSEND (26): Racketeering Conspiracy; Conspiracy to Commit Murder in Aid of Racketeering; Attempted Murder and Assault with a Dangerous Weapon in Aid of Racketeering; Use and Discharge of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Crime of Violence. Maximum of life in prison; mandatory minimum 10 years in prison (to run consecutive to any other sentence)

## PROCEDURE FOR REGISTERING FOR THE NGCRC CONFERENCE BY MEANS OF A PURCHASE ORDER

This explains the new streamlined policy and procedure for persons from government agencies who seek to register for the 2023 NGCRC Training Conference by means of a Purchase Order or related type of procurement method. There are three main provisions of this policy and procedure. They are as follows:

1. A purchase order number must be provided on the form used by the Agency, and it must bear a signature. It should reflect that the payee will be the NGCRC and the form should also reflect the specific amount payable to the NGCRC (call if you have any questions in this regard). Please provide any special billing information (e.g., who specifically we should make the Invoice out to and where specifically we should mail the Invoice to).

2. Fax your registration forms and the Purchase Order to the NGCRC ASAP. The NGCRC fax number is (708) 258-9546. After faxing it in, simply complete the registration form and attach a purchase order and mail it in ASAP to: National Gang Crime Research Center, 2023 Conference Processing Center, PO Box 990, Peotone, IL 60468. We do need it faxed and mailed as well. Please note that the deadline for Purchase Orders faxed to the NGCRC is 9:00am CST July 29, 2023. Please note that the NGCRC will not accept "onsite" registrations by means of oral declarations that "my agency is going to pay for it", and will not accept on-site purchase orders. If you are planning to pay by means of Purchase Order, then it must be done before the conference.

3. Upon receipt of the registration form(s) and the purchase order form (or a letter head version) the NGCRC will register the persons(s) and issue their agency an Invoice. At the same time, the NGCRC will send individual letters confirming the registration to those persons. There are no "on-site" registration options for payment by means of a Purchase Order.

Those registering by Purchase Order or by means of a credit card can simply fax their registrations, the fax number for the NGCRC is (708) 258-9546. The NGCRC email address is: gangcrime@aol.com

## Schedule of Amount to Pay for Conference Registration Costs for the July 31-August 2, 2023 NGCRC Training Conference:

### ADVANCE REGISTRATION PERIOD:

Paying on or before January 31, 2023: Non-Certification \$500, Certification \$550

### EARLY REGISTRATION PERIODS:

Paying on or after February 1, 2023 and on or before February 28, 2023: Non-Certification \$550, Certification \$600

Paying on or after March 1, 2023 and on or before March 31, 2023: Non-Certification \$600, Certification \$650

### REGULAR REGISTRATION PERIODS:

Paying on or after April 1, 2023 and on or before April 30, 2023: Non-Certification \$650, Certification \$700

Paying on or after May 1, 2023 and on or before May 31, 2023: Non-Certification \$700, Certification \$750

Paying on or after June 1, 2023 and on or before June 30, 2023: Non-Certification \$750, Certification \$800

### LATE REGISTRATION PERIOD:

Paying on or after July 1, 2023 and on or before July 30, 2023: Non-Certification \$800, Certification \$850

ONSITE REGISTRATION: An Onsite Registration is any registration made on or after July 31, 2023.

Paying On-Site (If slots are available): Non-Certification \$950, Certification \$1000

### Multiple Registration Discounts Available:

Any agency registering three persons, simultaneously, is eligible for a \$100 discount off the total training cost (by which we mean a \$33.33 discount for each of the three). Additional discounts would apply for those agencies registering four or more persons (simultaneously) for training.

An agency registering four or more persons, simultaneously, will qualify for a Group Discount Code. Call the National Gang Crime Research Center to inquire about group rates (708 258-9111). The Group Discount Code provides a sliding-scale group rate discount. There is no retroactive value: if you do not apply for a Group Discount Code in advance of registration then you are not eligible for it. You must have the group discount code printed on the registration form itself.

### Invoicing and Special Billing

The NGCRC is always eager to work with agency procurement officers. You can register by means of a Purchase Order, or you can ask that we invoice you. If you want to have your payment charged and want to do it over the phone (as opposed to writing in on a form), no problem, just call and we will assist you.

## THE 2023 NGCRC's 26th INTERNATIONAL GANG SPECIALIST TRAINING PROGRAM REGISTRATION FORM:



Please PRINT neatly or type your full name with any title that you want to appear on your official conference name badge and certificates (if you are registering for certification):

MAIL AND CONTACT INFORMATION: Where we will mail you a Confirmation of Registration letter for the conference, and fax the same material to you:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Agency : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Info: Area Code \_\_\_\_\_ Tel #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax Number: Area Code \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Have a Question About Training Tracks?**  
 You select one (1) training track if you are registering for Certification. There are 30 tracks to choose from. Feel free to call the NGCRC helpline (708) 258-9111 if you have any questions.

Call the NGCRC at (708) 258-9111  
 NGCRC Fax Number (708) 258-9546

The NGCRC reserves the right to refuse service to anyone. Towards this end we must ask that all persons registering for the conference sign and by their signature acknowledge the Official Policy of the NGCRC which is as follows - *In order to provide the safest and most educational environment, the National Gang Crime Research Center (NGCRC) works to ensure that all participants at our conference are law-abiding individuals who have gathered to collect and share information about gangs and crime, in order to reduce and possibly eliminate the problems associated with gang activity. Therefore, it is our policy that no individuals or groups will be permitted at our conference who have links to gangs or other aberrant groups and no one will be permitted to provoke or distract our participants from the most meaningful learning environment. The National Gang Crime Research Center (NGCRC) reserves the right to refuse attendance to any person or persons suspected of or actually displaying gang affiliations. Furthermore, we reserve the right to refuse attendance to any individual(s) determined to be disruptive or instigating a negative or inappropriate presence or who is determined to disrupt the sharing of information in the most effective learning environment. I have also read and understand the refund policy published by the NGCRC. I attest that I am at least 18 years of age as of this date.* I hereby acknowledge by my signature the above policies of the NGCRC: \_\_\_\_\_

I am registering for (check appropriate box):  Non-certification  Certification  One Day Pass (Which day: \_\_\_\_\_)  
 I would like to attend the Christian Gang Specialist Reception  Yes  No (if blank, we assume you mean "NO")  
 I work in either Law Enforcement or Prosecution or Corrections and I would like to attend the Law Enforcement, Prosecution, and Corrections Networking Reception:  Yes  No (if blank, we assume you mean "NO")  
 I want to attend the Intervention/Prevention/Counseling Gang Specialist Networking Reception  Yes  No  
 I want to attend one of the Cubs Baseball Social Networking Events.  Yes  No (If Yes, which day:  Mon  Tues PICK ONE ONLY)

### this section ONLY if you are registering for Certification:

Print the name of the Training Track you are registering for: \_\_\_\_\_  
 I have previously completed Certification training by the NGCRC.  Yes  No If yes, what years: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (see reverse side for list of options)  
 I am also signing up for the Double Major.  Yes  No (if yes, print 2nd track here: \_\_\_\_\_)

**Group Discount Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **NOTE FOR ALL REGISTRATIONS: Your registration fee does not cover your hotel room or parking or meals. Your registration fee covers only the training itself. NOTE: Payment must be received by the NGCRC prior to the conference itself unless the NGCRC agrees to the terms of any alternative arrangement (in writing).**

**PAYMENT METHOD: Credit Card, checks, or money orders are accepted for payment. No personal checks will be accepted for on-site payment of conference registration fees. We do accept credit card payments by mail and fax and phone.**

Payment enclosed in check or money order made payable to "National Gang Crime Research Center" in amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ VISA, MasterCard, American Express or Discover (Circle one). CVC#: \_\_\_\_\_

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration date: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name on card: (printed): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount you authorize to charge (total): \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Billing Address for the card holder(Printed): (street address) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip Code for the Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Telephone # to Call if any Questions: \_\_\_\_\_

Call (708) 258-9111 if you need the NGCRC F.E.I.N. (tax number) or our Merchant Number for credit card payments. Also, call (708) 258-9111 if you want to provide credit card info by verbal rather than written transmission.

Registration forms can be faxed to the NGCRC, the Fax Number is (708) 258-9546.  
 The conference is being held July 31 - August 2, 2023 at the Westin Michigan Avenue Hotel, 909 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60619. The toll free number for the Central Reservations Call Center is: 1 (888) 627-8385. When making reservations, the "code" for the conference is "NGCRC Gang Conference". They need that "code" to give you the reduced hotel rates.

**Make checks or money orders payable to "National Gang Crime Research Center". Make sure to mail a copy of your registration with the payment so that proper credit can be made to your registration. Send registration forms and payment to: The 2023 Conference Processing Center, National Gang Crime Research Center, PO Box 990, Peotone, IL 60468-0990.**