



ATF NIBIN Program

Hit of the Week

January - February 2007

NIBIN Branch, Firearms Programs Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

Week of January 22, 2007

The Kent County (MI) Sheriff Department using NIBIN linked ballistic evidence that was recovered during a damaged property incident to an arson related incident that occurred two months later. The Kent County Sheriff Department responded to a report of malicious destruction of property. When the officers arrived, they learned from the homeowners that a few days earlier, they were awakened by the sound of multiple gunshots. When they investigated, they did not observe anyone or see anything, until a few days later when they discovered bullet-hole damage to their vehicle. Four shell casings were recovered and submitted for entry into NIBIN. Two months later, Ottawa County (MI) Sheriff Department Deputies were called on the report of arson. When they arrived they observed several unsuccessful attempts had been made to set fire to the house. In addition, the house had bullet hole damage to the front door. The house had been empty and for sale for six months. Investigations revealed that a known suspect had a dispute over a girlfriend with one of the former residents of the house. The suspect confessed to the arson and the shooting and eventually turned over a pistol. The pistol was submitted for test firing and imaged into the IBIS system at the Michigan State Police Department Crime Laboratory. This weapon was a match to the ballistic evidence recovered at the shooting that occurred two months earlier.

Week of January 29, 2007

The Columbus (OH) Police Department using NIBIN linked ballistic evidence that was recovered during an aggravated assault incident to a suspect arrested for carrying a concealed weapon. The Columbus Police Department responded to a shooting incident near a business. When they arrived at the scene, the officers located a witness who provided a statement, stating that a young male was arguing with several males who were seated in a vehicle. The front seat passenger pointed a gun out of the window and began to shoot at the young male. The victim fled south and east from the parking lot, as the gunmen fled northbound. The witness reported hearing four gunshots and glass breaking. Two bullet holes were located in the windows of the business. One shell casing was recovered and submitted for entry into NIBIN. Five months later, Columbus Police Department Officers arrested a suspect for carrying a concealed firearm. The Columbus Police Department Crime Laboratory's use of the NIBIN system identified cartridge casings from two incidents as having been fired from the same firearm. The two incidents which occurred over a period of five months in Columbus, involved an aggravated assault and an arrest for carrying a concealed weapon.

Week of February 5, 2007

The Detroit (MI) Police Department using NIBIN linked ballistic evidence that was recovered during a homicide to a suspect arrested for carrying a concealed weapon. The Detroit Police Department responded to a shots fired call in Detroit. When they arrived, officers observed a male victim lying on the ground suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. The victim was transported to the hospital, but died. Evidence technicians recovered twenty eight fired cartridge casings and submitted them for entry into NIBIN. Approximately a month later, Officers of the Detroit Police Department were in an area in Detroit, conducting a traffic violation investigation. During the course of the investigation, the officers arrested the passenger in the front seat of the vehicle for carrying a concealed weapon. The pistol was submitted for test firing and imaged into the IBIS system at the Detroit Police Department Crime Laboratory. This weapon was a match to the ballistic evidence recovered at the homicide that occurred a month earlier.

