



# ATF NIBIN Program Hits of the Week

February 14 to February 28, 2005

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

**Week of 2/14:** The Chicago (IL) Police Department and Illinois State Police Crime Lab in Chicago used the NIBIN system to confirm the match of a handgun recovered from a suspect who was drinking in public to a homicide that occurred eight months earlier. In the first incident, the victim and a friend were driving and had stopped at a traffic light when another car came along side and a suspect began shooting at the victim. The victim was struck by gunfire and transported to the hospital where he later died. Maywood (IL) Police responded to the scene and recovered ballistic evidence for entry into NIBIN. Eight months later Chicago police officers on routine patrol observed a suspect drinking alcohol on the street. They attempted to arrest the suspect for drinking in public, but the suspect fled as the officers approached. While running, the officers saw a firearm fall from the suspect's waistband. The suspect attempted to pick up the gun and the officers were able to subdue him. The .40-caliber handgun was submitted for test firing and entry into NIBIN, which resulted in the link to the homicide in Maywood eight months earlier.

**Week of 2/21:** Using NIBIN the Yonkers (NY) Police Department matched 9mm shell casings found at the scene of a homicide to 9mm shell casings found at the scene of another shooting two months earlier. In the first incident, Yonkers Police responded to a call of shots being fired at two individuals. The two men were not injured and would not cooperate with police. Another witness identified a subject as a shooter, but refused to cooperate further or give a written statement. Shell casings recovered were imaged into NIBIN. Nearly two months later, Yonkers Police are called to respond to shots fired in the vicinity of the first incident. Responding officers located a victim suffering from a gunshot wound to the head and another who was shot in the ankle. Police stopped several vehicles they suspect are leaving the scene of the shooting, but did not make an arrest. Several 9mm shell casings were recovered at the scene and imaged into NIBIN resulting in the link to the shooting two months earlier. Police are continuing their investigation.

**Week of 2/28:** The Long Beach (CA) Police Department used the NIBIN system to link a 9mm pistol recovered during the search of residence where several suspected gang members were congregating to two aggravated assaults that occurred three days apart. Officers from the Long Beach PD responded to a call for shots fired and located two victims at the scene. One of the victims had sustained a gunshot wound and the other victim's vehicle had been shot. The victims told police that occupants of one vehicle fired shots at the occupants of another vehicle and a stray bullet struck one of the victims. Police recovered several 9mm cartridge cases and submitted them for NIBIN entry. Three days later, three unknown suspects shot at the occupants of a vehicle stopped at a traffic light. The victims sped away as the suspects fired several more shots at the vehicle. No one was injured. Police responded to the call and found several 9mm cartridge cases, which were submitted for NIBIN entry and linked to the shooting three days earlier. Nearly a month later, detectives from the Long Beach PD gang unit arrested a subject for a parole violation. Information was obtained concerning possible firearms located at a residence frequented by alleged gang members. A search of the residence was conducted and two handguns were found. They were test fired and entered into NIBIN resulting in one of the pistols matching the ballistic evidence recovered in the two previous shooting incidents. Several gang members were arrested for parole violations. The investigation is continuing.