



# ATF NIBIN Program Hit of the Week

April 28, 2008

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

## **Week of April 28, 2008**

The Delaware State Police used the ATF NIBIN ballistic imaging system to link a homicide shooting, “cold case”, to the firearm and suspect in a shooting in Chester, Pennsylvania. The Delaware State Police investigated the homicide shooting death of a male found in a hotel room in Wilmington, DE. Shell casings were collected at the crime scene and entered into the NIBIN database as evidence. The evidence casings were linked by NIBIN to evidence casings entered into the NIBIN database three months later, by the Pennsylvania State Police from a Chester PA. shooting. The Delaware State Firearms Examiner traveled to Pennsylvania where he compared the ballistic evidence from both crime scenes and confirmed the positive match between the two cases. The known suspect in the Chester shooting was then linked by DNA evidence and witnesses to the deceased homicide victim in Wilmington. The suspect is currently being held on charges of murder and firearm violations in the Delaware case and is pending criminal trial on those charges. Until the two shooting cases were linked by the NIBIN database, the Delaware murder case was an open investigation with no investigative leads.