



ATF NIBIN Program

Hit of the Week

June 14 – June 21, 2004

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

Week of June 14, 2004

The Chicago, Illinois, Police Department linked two homicides that occurred two months apart through ballistic imaging. Officers were called to check on the occupants of a vehicle parked on a street. Upon arrival the officers found the two occupants had been shot and killed. Police recovered cartridge casings and projectiles and submitted them to the Illinois State Police Laboratory for entry into NIBIN. Almost two months later police responded to a report of a man who was shot at a food store. Witnesses told police that two males entered the store and demanded money from the cashiers. A security guard who attempted to exit a security booth was shot and killed by the suspects. A fired projectile was recovered and imaged into NIBIN, which resulted in a link to the homicide two months earlier. The investigation is ongoing.

Week of June 21, 2004

The Boston, Massachusetts, Police Department used the NIBIN system to link a handgun recovered during a vehicle stop to a shooting that occurred two weeks before. Boston Police responded to a report of shots fired where a witness indicated he observed a suspect walk down the street and fire several shots into a group of males. The witness also saw another male get out of a car that was parked at the location and return gunfire. Both suspects ran from the location. Responding officers located spent shell casings and had them entered into NIBIN. Two weeks later, Boston Police made a vehicle stop in an area known for high firearms activity. The three occupants of the vehicle were searched and police recovered a .45-caliber pistol with an obliterated serial number. The gun was test fired and entered into NIBIN resulting in the link to the shooting two weeks before.