



ATF NIBIN Program Hit of the Week

July 9 – July 23, 2007

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

Week of July 9, 2007

The Houston Police Department using NIBIN linked evidence recovered during a homicide to a firearm which was under investigation. The Houston Police Department responded to a shooting, which occurred in front of an apartment complex. When they arrived, they discovered three people had been shot while sitting in their car. One of the shot victims died as a result of his gunshot wounds. The other two shot victims were witnesses to the homicide. That same day, as a suspect auto passed over Galveston Bay Texas, an occupant threw a handgun into the water. The handgun struck a bridge worker, who was working on a barge in the water below the bridge. The firearm was turned into the Galveston Police Department where an NCIC check of the serial number revealed the firearm to have been stolen six months earlier from the Houston, Texas Police Department. The firearm was eventually returned to Houston P.D. where it was submitted for test firing and imaged into the IBIS system. The results of the entry linked the firearm to the triple shooting in Houston, which occurred the same day the gun was disposed of in Galveston, 60 miles away from the shooting scene.

Week of July 16, 2007

The Columbus Police Department using NIBIN linked evidence recovered at two aggravated assault incidents to an arrest made for a home invasion armed robbery. The Columbus Police responded to a shooting incident on the street. When the officers arrived, they located a victim who stated she was on the sidewalk when an unknown suspect in a large car, fired several rounds out of the car window. The Columbus Fire Department Emergency Medical Unit transported the victim to the hospital. Fourteen shell casings were recovered at the scene and submitted for entry into NIBIN. The same day, Columbus Police officers responded to another shooting incident. When the officers arrived, the witness stated two rival groups were threatening each other and fired handguns at each other. Two shell casings were recovered at the crime scene and submitted for entry into NIBIN. Two months later, the Pickaway County Sheriff's Deputies responded to an aggravated assault and kidnapping during a home invasion robbery. The deputies located the victim who stated that three intruders forced their way into the house. One of the suspects fled from the house, the other two ran to the basement, seeking a non-existent basement exit. The Columbus Police Department, SWAT Team responded to arrest the suspects. Three firearms were recovered and submitted for test firing and imaged into the IBIS system at the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation, London, Central Laboratory. Two of the weapons were a match to the ballistic evidence recovered at the two aggravated assault incidents that occurred several months earlier in Columbus.

Week of July 23, 2007

The Canton (OH) Police Department using NIBIN linked evidence recovered at an aggravated assault to an arrest of an individual carrying a concealed weapon. The Canton Police Department responded to a shooting incident. When they arrived, from the facts related by the victim, the offense was classified as an aggravated assault by a firearm. Two shell casings were recovered at the scene and submitted for entry into NIBIN. One suspect was apprehended. A few months later, Canton Police Officers responded to a report of an individual with a weapon. When the officers arrived, they questioned the suspect and located a pistol on his person and seized it. The firearm was submitted for test firing and imaged into the IBIS system at the Canton/Stark County Crime Laboratory. This weapon was a match to the ballistic evidence recovered at the aggravated assault that occurred a few months earlier.