



ATF NIBIN Program Hit of the Week

July 14 – July 21, 2008

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

Week of July 14, 2008

A firearm recovered at a traffic accident was linked by NIBIN to three violent shootings. In Syracuse, NY, two subjects were shot in a drive-by shooting and were treated at a local hospital. The victims were not able to identify the subjects who shot them but were able to provide a description of the car in which the subjects fled. In nearby Broom County NY, a deputy sheriff responded to a traffic accident and the auto occupants were apprehended attempting to flee the scene. A firearm was recovered from the suspect's auto and submitted to the Syracuse Firearms Laboratory for examination and a test fired cartridge was entered into the NIBIN system. Two other shootings occurred in Syracuse the same date, one resulting in a victim being shot and the other shooting involved shots fired in a residential neighborhood. Evidence from these two shootings was entered into NIBIN and the three shooting incidents were linked by NIBIN to the same recovered firearm. Further investigation linked the auto recovered at the traffic accident and the occupants to the three shooting offenses.

Week of July 21, 2008

The New Orleans Police Department linked two shootings to a recovered weapons cache through the use of the ATF NIBIN ballistic imaging database. New Orleans Police Department Officers observed a subject carrying three rifles in an alley and when approached, the subject ran and dropped the weapons. The subject was apprehended and the weapons, three rifles and one handgun, were seized. A search of the suspect's home revealed another handgun which was also seized. The weapons were test fired and the cartridge casings were entered into the NIBIN database. The database comparison resulted in the linking of one of the weapons to two serious shooting incidents that had occurred in the city, in the past fourteen days.