



ATF NIBIN Program

Hits of the Week

July 25 to August 1, 2005

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

Week of 7/25:

The Newark (NJ) Police Department used the NIBIN system to link a handgun recovered from a robbery suspect to ballistic evidence recovered from three homicide scenes and another shooting scene that occurred over the course of six weeks in the Irvington and Newark areas. The shooting spree began in the parking lot of a local fast food restaurant where Irvington Police found two victims dead of gunshot wounds to the head. A witness told police they saw two males fire shots at the victims and then flee in a vehicle. Investigators recovered several shell casings at the scene and submitted them for entry into NIBIN. Three weeks later Irvington Police responded to the scene of a shooting and found a victim suffering from several gunshot wounds. The victim later died from his wounds. A witness told police that a suspect got out of a vehicle and fired several shots at the victim and fled. Several shell casings were recovered at the scene and submitted for entry into NIBIN. Two days later an off-duty Newark police officer heard shots fired and spoke to witnesses who told him that a male suspect fired shots from inside a vehicle and then fled. Again, several casings were located and submitted for entry into NIBIN. Two weeks later Newark Police responded to a shots fired call and found a victim dead at the scene. The victim's girlfriend told police he was approached by the passenger of a vehicle who shot at the victim several times. Several casings were recovered and entered into NIBIN. Five days later, two off-duty Newark Police officers interrupted a robbery in progress. They ordered the suspect to drop his weapon, but the suspect began firing at them. The off-duty officers returned fire. The suspect fled and attempted to carjack a vehicle, but was unsuccessful. The officers chased the suspect, caught him and recovered the suspect's handgun. The pistol was submitted to the Newark Police Department Ballistics Unit for test firing and entry into NIBIN. Submission of the ballistic evidence for entry into NIBIN resulted in the linking of the various crimes to the test fired pistol.

Week of 8/1:

By using the NIBIN system the New Orleans (LA) Police Department linked one of seven firearms recovered from two convicted felons to ballistic evidence found at the scenes of two homicides. New Orleans Police were called to the scene of a shooting and located the body of a victim on the basketball court of a local park. There were no witnesses, but investigators recovered spent shell casings at the scene and submitted them for entry into NIBIN. Seven months later, New Orleans Police responded to a report of a shooting and found a victim suffering from several gunshot wounds. The victim died a short time later. Witnesses identified a suspect in the shooting and told police he was chasing the victim through the housing development and shooting at him with a handgun. Numerous shell casings were found at the scene and a sample was imaged into NIBIN. The next day, New Orleans Police were notified that the suspect in the second homicide and an associate were seen carrying firearms into a bar. As police arrived, the two suspects attempted to flee the area, but were caught with the assistance of a police K-9 unit. Seven firearms were recovered from the suspects. Each firearm was test fired and entered into NIBIN for comparison with ballistic evidence in the database. A test fire from one of the seven firearms matched to the evidence collected at the scenes of the two homicides.