



ATF NIBIN Program Hit of the Week

August 18 – September 1, 2008

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

Week of August 18, 2008

The Columbus Police Department using NIBIN linked evidence recovered during a homicide to a possession of a weapon incident. Columbus Police Department Officers responded to a shooting incident. When they arrived, they determined that the incident was a homicide. Two shell casings were recovered at the scene and submitted for entry into NIBIN. Four days later, Columbus Police Department Officers responded to a report of two students fighting at a local high school. When the officers arrived they spoke to the school resource officer who stated he placed the two students under arrest. During a search of the first suspect, the officer recovered a pistol. The weapon was test fired, entered into NIBIN and matched the ballistic evidence that was recovered at the homicide that occurred four days earlier. The linking of the recovered murder weapon by NIBIN provided the investigative lead to further the homicide investigation.

Week of August 25, 2008

The Houston Police Department using NIBIN linked evidence recovered during a homicide to an aggravated assault that occurred six days later. The Houston Police Department responded to a shots fired call at an apartment complex. When the officers arrived they found a victim shot to death in his apartment. Five shell casings were recovered at the scene and submitted for entry into NIBIN. Six days later, Houston Police Department responded to another shots fired call. When the police arrived, they spoke to two witnesses who stated that they saw two suspects shooting at each other. When the police arrived, they observed that suspect one was inside his apartment and suspect two was walking around outside. The police officers located several shell casing on the ground where suspect two had been firing a pistol. The patrol officer arrested both suspects for aggravated assault with a firearm and recovered the pistol from the suspect's apartment. The recovered weapon was test fired, entered into NIBIN and matched the ballistic evidence that was recovered at the homicide that occurred six days earlier. The first incident was a capital murder.

Week of September 1, 2008

The Cleveland Heights (OH) Police Department using NIBIN linked evidence recovered at an aggravated assault to a carrying a concealed weapon arrest. The Cleveland Heights Police Department officers responded to a shots fired call. When they arrived, they spoke to a resident who stated she had been shot at by her ex-boyfriend. One shell casing was recovered at the scene and submitted for entry into NIBIN. A few days later, the Willoughby (OH) Police Department Officers responded to a report of a large fight at a local restaurant. When they arrived, they were informed that the participants in the fight had left the restaurant. The officers stopped two vehicles; and removed and identified the occupants from the vehicle. One of the occupants stated he had a gun concealed under his seat. The officers located and secured the weapon. The two subjects were wanted on outstanding warrants. The gun was submitted for test firing and imaged into the IBIS system at the Lake County Crime Laboratory. This weapon was a match to the ballistic evidence recovered at the aggravated assault that occurred a few days earlier.