



ATF NIBIN Program Hit of the Week

October 6 – October 13, 2008

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

Week of October 6, 2008

The Columbus (OH) Police Department using NIBIN linked evidence recovered at an aggravated assault and shooting incident, to a possession of a concealed weapon incident that occurred a few months later. Columbus Police Department Officers responded to a shots fired in front of a residence call. When they arrived at the scene the officers determined that the incident was a shooting into a habitation. Four shell casings were recovered at the scene and submitted for entry into NIBIN. Ten days later, Columbus Police Department Officers responded to a shooting incident in an Alley. When they arrived the officers encountered two victims who stated that while in their automobile, four males participating in a gun battle shot at them. Three shell casings were recovered and submitted for entry into NIBIN. A few months later, Columbus Police Department responded to another shooting incident. When the officers arrived, they determined that the incident was a shooting into a vehicle. In the course of the investigation the officers seized a pistol and made an arrest for carrying a concealed weapon. The weapon was test fired, entered into NIBIN and matched the ballistic evidence recovered at the aggravated assault and the shooting that had occurred a few months earlier.

Week of October 13, 2008

The Grand Rapids (MI) Police Department using NIBIN linked evidence recovered during an aggravated assault to another aggravated assault that occurred several months later. Grand Rapids Police Officers were called to an area, on a report that a group of suspects were shooting at each other. When the officers arrived they learned that a suspect was leaving a party and fired shots at the victim. The victim was located nearby and had gunshot wounds to the head. The officers recovered nine casings at the scene and submitted them for entry into NIBIN. Four months later, Wyoming (MI) Police Department Officers responded to a report of a robbery involving a shooting. The officers learned from the victim that while preparing to close the store, he was approached by two unknown male suspects who demanded cash from the register. When the victim refused, the suspects shot him in the leg and fled. Both suspects were eventually identified, arrested, and charged with the crime. The officers immediately recovered two casings and follow-up investigation resulted in a recovered semi-automatic pistol. The weapon was test fired, entered into NIBIN at the Michigan State Police Laboratory and matched the ballistic evidence that was recovered at the scene of the aggravated assault that occurred several months earlier. Further investigation, using the NIBIN ballistic imaging system revealed that the recovered firearm was used in two other shootings in Grand Rapids, Michigan.