



ATF NIBIN Program Hits of the Week

October 10 to October 17, 2005

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

Week of 10/10:

The Orange County (FL) Sheriff's Office used the NIBIN system to match a gun taken from robbery suspects to ballistic evidence collected at the scene of another robbery less than three weeks earlier. A call was placed to the Orange County Sheriff's Office reporting a home invasion robbery. Responding officers interviewed a victim who said three masked, armed men forced their way into her home and demanded money from her son. The victim ran into a bedroom and tried to hold the door shut while calling 911. The suspects fired several shots through the door, took some money and her son's keys and then fled. Police collected shell casings at the scene and submitted them to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Laboratory in Orlando for entry into NIBIN. Eighteen days later the Orange County Sheriff's Office responded to another call for a home invasion robbery where four armed male suspects forced their way into the residence and robbed the victims. A description of the suspects' vehicle was given to police who located it a short time later and attempted to conduct a stop. The suspects sped off and then bailed out of the car and fled on foot. Police used K-9's to locate the four suspects, who were then arrested. Several firearms were taken from the suspects during the arrest, one of which matched to the ballistic evidence collected at the first home invasion robbery.

Week of 10/17:

The Baton Rouge (LA) Police Department linked a gun recovered from a suspect in one homicide to a triple homicide six weeks earlier through the NIBIN system at the Louisiana State Police Laboratory. The triple homicide occurred after the three victims left a nightclub in Baton Rouge. Two of the victims and a couple of their friends got into an altercation at the club with two other individuals. The three victims left the club in a vehicle, the two individuals involved in the fight left in another vehicle shortly after them and then the victims' friends left the club. When the victims' friends caught up with their vehicle, they found all three had been shot and killed in the vehicle. There were no witnesses who could identify the shooters or a suspect vehicle. Police recovered shell casings at the scene of the triple homicide and submitted them to the Louisiana State Police for entry into NIBIN. Almost six weeks later, Baton Rouge Police found a man dead from multiple gunshot wounds. It was determined that the victim, his relative and the suspect were at the victim's residence earlier that evening when he told them he had a sizeable amount of cash on him because he was taking a trip the following day. The relative left leaving the suspect with the victim. Police found the victim several hours later. Investigators found the suspect had been using the victim's phone to place calls. Four days after the homicide, police attempted to stop the suspect for a traffic offense. After a high-speed chase, the suspect exited his vehicle and tried to flee on foot, but was caught by police. Police recovered a pistol from the suspect's vehicle and submitted it for test firing and entry into NIBIN. A firearms examiner at the Louisiana State Police Laboratory confirmed the match of the suspect's pistol to the ballistic evidence collected in both homicide cases.