



ATF NIBIN Program

Hits of the Week

October 24 to November 7, 2005

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

Week of 10/24:

Using the NIBIN system the Illinois State Police Laboratory in Chicago linked a handgun taken from a suspect in an armed robbery to ballistic evidence recovered at the scene of a homicide a year earlier. The Chicago Police responded to a call of a man shot and arrived at the scene locating three victims. One of the victims told police he and the other two victims were in a parked car when another vehicle pulled up next to them and one of the occupants began yelling and shooting at them. The suspect vehicle then fled the scene. One victim was pronounced dead at the scene, another was shot in the chest and the third was unharmed. Police recovered spent shell casings at the scene and submitted them for entry into NIBIN. A year later Chicago Police arrested a subject for armed robbery and recovered a semi-automatic pistol from the suspect during the arrest. The firearm was test fired and imaged into NIBIN, resulting in a match to the ballistic evidence recovered at the scene of the homicide the year before.

Week of 10/31:

The Rochester (NY) Police Department matched a handgun taken from a suspect to ballistic evidence collected at the scene of an aggravated assault eight months earlier by using the NIBIN system at the Monroe County Public Safety Laboratory. Rochester Police responded to the scene of the aggravated assault where they found that a victim had been transported to the hospital with a gunshot wound to his leg. The victim told police he and another man went to visit a friend and when they arrived they saw a group of individuals in the street with weapons. They heard a gunshot and the victim realized he had been shot. Police collected ballistic evidence and submitted it for entry into NIBIN. Eight months later Rochester Police were staking out a location for drug activity when they saw two suspects go into the trunk of a car, retrieve handguns and place them in their waistbands. As police moved in the suspects fled and were seen tossing the guns. Both were arrested and the handguns recovered. The firearms were test fired and imaged into NIBIN, which resulted in the match of one of the guns to the ballistic evidence collected at the scene of the aggravated assault.

Week of 11/7:

The Suffolk County (NY) Police Department linked a firearm recovered during the execution of a search warrant to three shooting incidents that occurred over the course of eleven days. Suffolk County Police investigated a call for shots fired by a suspect on a bicycle at an individual on the street. A potential suspect was identified and shell casings were recovered and imaged into the NIBIN system at the Suffolk County Crime Lab. Six days later Suffolk County Police investigated a complaint from residents of two homes that were hit by gunfire. The victims told police several males were standing in front of their homes when they saw two cars drive down the street with occupants firing at them. Several shell casings were recovered and imaged into NIBIN. Five days later Suffolk County Police were called to another shooting where witnesses told them that two males walked up to their family barbeque and began to fire numerous shots into the crowd. Two victims were hit with gunfire and witnesses gave police possible identifications on the suspects. Numerous shell casings in two calibers were recovered and imaged into NIBIN. Arrest warrants were issued and executed a few days later, but no guns were recovered. Almost a month later, Suffolk County detectives executed a search warrant and recovered two pistols and drugs. The guns were test fired and imaged into NIBIN, and one of the pistols linked to the three shootings the previous month.