



ATF NIBIN Program

Hit of the Week

November 26 – December 10, 2007

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

Week of November 26, 2007

The Columbus (OH) Police Department using NIBIN linked ballistic evidence recovered during an aggravated assault incident to another aggravated assault incident that occurred over a period of five months. The Columbus Police Department Officers responded to a shooting incident and located a victim who provided a statement relating that she had been shot and provided the police with the name of a suspect. Seven shell casings were recovered at the crime scene and submitted for entry into NIBIN. Five months later, Columbus Police Department responded to another shooting incident. When they arrived at the scene, the officers classified this gun crime as an aggravated assault. The officers identified the victim and recovered firearms evidence. During the investigation, one firearm was recovered and submitted for test firing and imaged into the IBIS system at the Columbus Police Department Crime Lab. This weapon was a match to the ballistic evidence recovered at the aggravated assault that occurred five months earlier.

Week of December 3, 2007

The Wilmington, Delaware Police, using NIBIN, linked evidence recovered during a destruction of property case to a handgun recovered during an arrest. The New Castle Police Department responded to a shooting investigation at a residence. When the officers arrived, they learned that an unknown suspect fired several shots into a residence nearly striking the owner inside. Shell casings were recovered at the scene and submitted for entry into NIBIN at the Wilmington Police Department. Several months later, a Wilmington Police Task Force apprehended a suspect carrying a pistol. The recovered firearm was submitted for test firing and entered into NIBIN at Wilmington where it was linked to the evidence recovered during the destruction of property investigation. The link was confirmed by the Delaware State Police at Dover, Delaware. This link is the first match documented using the latest ballistic imaging technology and equipment. Federal prosecution of the defendant on firearms violations is being pursued jointly by ATF, the Wilmington P.D. and the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Week of December 10, 2007

The Birmingham (AL) Police Department using NIBIN linked evidence recovered at a homicide incident to an automobile burglary incident. The Birmingham Police Department responded to a shots fired call. On the way to the scene of the shooting, they encountered an automobile traveling at a high rate of speed from the area of the shooting. The officers stopped the suspect vehicle and as they approached, they observed a victim in the vehicle with a gun shot wound to the upper chest area. The victim was transported to the hospital. The next day, officers went to the area where the incident occurred, six shell casings were recovered at the scene of the crime and submitted for entry into NIBIN. Two months later, Birmingham Police Department Officers received a report of an auto burglary in progress. Four suspects were arrested as a result of the auto burglary, where a purse was stolen and a vehicle was damaged. One of the suspects was arrested while in possession of a semi-automatic pistol. The firearm recovered was submitted for test firing and imaged into the IBIS system at the Birmingham Police Department. This weapon was a match to the ballistic evidence recovered at the homicide that occurred two months earlier.