



ATF NIBIN Program Hit of the Week

December 1 – December 22, 2008

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

Week of December 1, 2008

The Connecticut State Police, utilizing the NIBIN system and network, have successfully linked 37 shooting incidents. The investigation of the shootings continues by the Hartford City Police, Connecticut State Police and the Bureau of ATF. There have been over 16 arrests, and 5 firearms recovered and investigations continue regarding illegal firearm purchases and other gang activity. The firearms evidence collected from shooting crime scenes were imaged into the NIBIN system and the linking of multiple shootings using multiple guns resulted. As an ATF VCIT City, Hartford continues the task force investigations and expects several more arrests as they have seen shooting offenses reduced in recent months.

Week of December 15, 2008

The Denver (CO) Police Department using NIBIN linked evidence recovered at an aggravated assault to an arrest of a gang member discharging a firearm. The Aurora Police Officers responded to a report of a drive by shooting. When the officers arrived, they discovered that an unknown suspect had fired numerous rounds at the occupants of a residence and a vehicle in the driveway. The officers were able to locate the suspect vehicle and the four suspects inside. No firearm was recovered, but further investigation led officers to believe that the firearm was hidden at a friend's apartment. Eleven shell casings were recovered at the scene and submitted for entry into NIBIN. Several months later, Denver Police Officers arrested a suspect for discharging a firearm. The firearm was test fired, entered into the NIBIN system in Denver and matched the ballistic evidence recovered during the aggravated assault that occurred in Aurora.

Week of December 22, 2008

The Battle Creek Police Department using NIBIN linked evidence recovered at an aggravated assault to an arrest of an individual carrying a concealed weapon. The Battle Creek Police Department Officers responded to a report of a shots fired. When they arrived, the officers met with two female victims who indicated that while they were outside their house, a vehicle drove by with an unknown number of male suspects and began shooting at the victims. No one was struck by the gunfire and the suspects sped away. Eight shell casings were recovered at the scene and submitted for entry into NIBIN. Three days later, Battle Creek Police Department Officers were on patrol, when they attempted to conduct a traffic stop for various code violations. The vehicle contained three male suspects who attempted to elude the officers. The vehicle was eventually stopped and the suspects were arrested. After searching the vehicle, the officers recovered a semi-automatic pistol. The firearm was test fired, entered into NIBIN at the Battle Creek Police Department and matched the ballistic evidence recovered during the aggravated assault that occurred three days later.