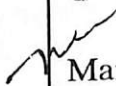


ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE	3/22/95	
TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, Agency/Post)		Initials	Date	
1. Merrick Garland				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
-	Action	-	File	-
-	Approval	-	For Clearance	-
-	As Required	-	For Correction	-
-	Circulate	-	FYI	-
-	Comment	-	Investigate	-
-	Coordination	-	Justify	-
-		-	Note & Return	-
-		-	Per Conversation	-
-		-	Prepare Reply	-
-		-	See Me	-
-		-	Signature	-
REMARKS: FYI: re the Bottoms Boys and the Department's anti-violent crime initiative.				
DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions.				
FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)  Mary Incontro Deputy Chief, Terrorism and Violent Crime Section		Room No. --Bldg. 2515 Main Phone No. 514-0849		



U.S. Department of Justice

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Western District of Louisiana*

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600 Jefferson Street, Suite 1000
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501-7206
318-262-6618*

March 16, 1995

Mary Incontro, Deputy Chief
Terrorism and Violent Crimes Section
Criminal Division
U. S. Department of Justice
10th & Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Room 2511
Washington, DC 20530

RE: The Bottoms Boys Case

Dear Mary:

Enclosed are recent editorials from our local papers concerning the significance of the investigation and trial. I thought that you might be interested in the expression of the community concerning the case.

Thanks again to you and your staff for all your help over the last eighteen months. The success of this case has now given great momentum to future investigations concerning other gang problems in our district, and has already prompted and encouraged the cooperation of witnesses on giving information to law enforcement.


Two collateral matters have arisen as a result of the trial: one involves the indictment of one of the convicted defendants on witness intimidation while he was out on bond during the second week of trial. His trial on that charge will be in May. The second matter concerns the proposed prosecution of one of our former cooperating witnesses who ultimately refused to testify at trial, even after being compelled and ordered to do so. We intend to indict for criminal contempt in the near future.

Again, thanks, and I look forward to continue work with you and Bruce on future issues. Bruce really helped alot during the trial on E-mailing issues and case law. And is the rumor true that the National Violent Crime Conference will be in Seattle in July? I hope so. Do you need an extra speaker?

Thanks again, and I will be in touch.

Yours very truly,

MICHAEL D. SKINNER
United States Attorney



JAMES G. COWLES, JR.
Assistant U. S. Attorney

MDS:JGCjr:jm

Encl.

Bottoms Boys

Case proves anti-crime strategy successful

Violent crime and drug peddling are massive problems, and it takes massive resources to overcome them. The Bottoms Boys case proved that this strategy will stop the scourge in our streets, whether here in Shreveport or across the country.

Ten members of the gang that law enforcement agencies identified as Shreveport's best-organized and most violent street gang face life sentences after unanimous guilty verdicts from a jury of their peers. It took the federal panel only six hours to reach its decision.

Judge Don Walter's decisions on sentencing in June should come just as swift and sure. Federal law dictates that persons convicted of these crimes — ranging from running a criminal enterprise to drug dealing to attempted murder — be dealt strong punishment. It's a simple matter of justice.

Some defense attorneys and relatives of some defendants argued that putting the alleged gang members on trial together was unfair and could have led the jury to "guilt by association" decisions. Attorneys certainly may file appeals on behalf of the defendants.

But prosecutors argued successfully that the alleged charges and accusers were so intertwined within the "criminal enterprise" that it not only made sense to hold a single trial, but it also was valid legally. The federal Violent Crimes in Aid of Racketeering law is specifically aimed at breaking up groups or organizations that maintain or increase dominance for racketeering purposes through violent crimes. The whole Bottoms Boys case was built on that premise and should have been tried on it, as such.

The jury agreed, and applied justice fairly and equally.

Shreveport Police Chief Steve Prator

OUR STAND

Credit unified law agencies, community for success

For more information on fighting crime, write or call:

Chief of Police
Shreveport Police Department
1234 Texas St.
Shreveport, La., 71101
673-7300

says people in the neighborhood where the gang primarily operated, Ledbetter Heights, are already seeing justice in action: The crackdown has decreased crime there, and residents are getting their homes and streets back.

But Chief Prator doesn't get full credit in this case. Neither does the U.S. Justice Department and its leader, Attorney General Janet Reno. Neither does the Louisiana state police or Caddo Parish sheriff's office or U.S. attorney's office or federal court or any other official involved. They all share in the success of this case. It demonstrated the most effective weaponry against the most devastating problem facing Shreveport and other cities across the country: unified law enforcement from local, state and federal agencies, with neighborhood-based support. Simply put, it works and we should have more of it.

In the end, the community's desire and demand to win the war against violence prevailed. For that, the community deserves credit, too.

The Times 3-15-95

EDITORIALS

GANG-BUSTING

Fed-state-local work brought 'Bottoms Up'

A little cooperation goes a long way — and a lot goes even further. That's one of the most important lessons learned in the Bottoms Boys case, in which a consortium of law enforcement agencies arrested and convicted a group of thugs who had terrorized a neighborhood, indeed a whole community. And we mean "consortium" in its literal sense — a group formed to undertake an enterprise beyond the resources of any one member. The result is a case that may gain still more national attention soon when U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno reports on the first year of the Clinton administration's Violent Crime Initiative.

The Bottoms Boys were a gang in Ledbetter Heights. Not only did their own crimes victimize their neighborhood, they created an atmosphere of lawlessness that encouraged other people to commit crimes in the Heights and spread into other neighborhoods. Their business was the lucrative illegal drug trade and their business tactics included assaults, shootings and other brutalities — each act a crime under state law. But enforcing each law and trying the accused separately on state charges would have been a daunting and generally futile task. The solution, as it turns out, is one illustration of why we need a federal government that can get involved with local agencies, all working for the benefit of innocent citizens who are victimized by organized crime (gang) activities.

Something called the Violent Crimes in Aid of Racketeering law provided the mechanism by which local (or state) crimes can be hooked into the federal system that deals with interstate commerce (such as drug sales), as Assistant U.S. Attorney Jim Cowles explained it. If a state crime, such as murder, is committed "in furtherance of an illegal enterprise," it all ties into the bigger picture of why the murder was committed. It also puts the case into federal court, where rules allow more leeway for prosecutors and stiffer sentences may be imposed.

To get to that stage, though, there had to be unprecedented cooperation among law enforcers. An FBI-led task force that came to be known as "Bottoms Up" pulled together just about everybody who might have any jurisdiction, manpower or expertise to pull off last year's raid on the Ledbetter Heights gang. Credit goes especially to those who might not normally have been operating in the area — namely the Caddo Parish Sheriff's Department and the Louisiana State Police —

who joined with personnel from the Shreveport Police Department, the U.S. Marshal's Service and the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to conduct both the investigation and the raid.

The U.S. Attorney's office was obviously involved, but so was the Caddo Parish District Attorney's office — helping not only with the investigation, but also working on the prosecution of about 30 suspects who were charged with state law violations and therefore did not figure in the federal court trial.

In that federal trial, Assistant U.S. Attorney Cowles, as lead prosecutor, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Kelly Pomes did their jobs very well, given the convictions of 10 people last weekend. Cowles was also quick to credit another group, too — the people in Ledbetter Heights. "The case was a success only because of the courage shown by these citizens," said the attorney. "People down there who were willing to come forth and break the code of the gang, the code of silence, who said 'enough is enough, it's time to put an end to the mayhem.'"

Yet another group also deserves thanks — the jury members who, after hearing the trial *en masse* of the gang members, convicted nine of them on all counts but found one guilty of only some of the charges against him — and completely acquitted another, giving that victory to defendant Freeman Palmer and his defense attorney, Randall Robinson. The jurors — none of whom, incidentally, were from Shreveport (since the federal court can draw its jurors from throughout Northwest Louisiana) — apparently sifted through all the information on each of the accused and came to individual conclusions. Mr. Cowles agreed that the verdict indicated the jurors were "smart, understood the instructions and carried out their duties," all under the supervision of U.S. District Court Judge Donald Walter. It's probable that the whole case will be appealed, but prosecutors feel confident, partly because of the jury's selective verdicts, that the convictions will stand.

There's also good news in area FBI Supervisor Will Lueckenhoff's statement to us: "We've got another case going now, of a similar nature, in this city." And that case, too, will rely on the cooperation of just about everybody — to do together what none might be able to accomplish individually.

We say thanks to them all for "Bottoms Up," and more power to them for future gang-busting.

The Times 3-15-95

[The Journal Page]



U.S. Department of Justice
Executive Office for United States Attorneys

Washington, D.C. 20530

TO: Merrick Garland

Attached is a copy of the final Anti-Violent Crime Initiative book. The final published version will be bound and will have a color seal on the front.

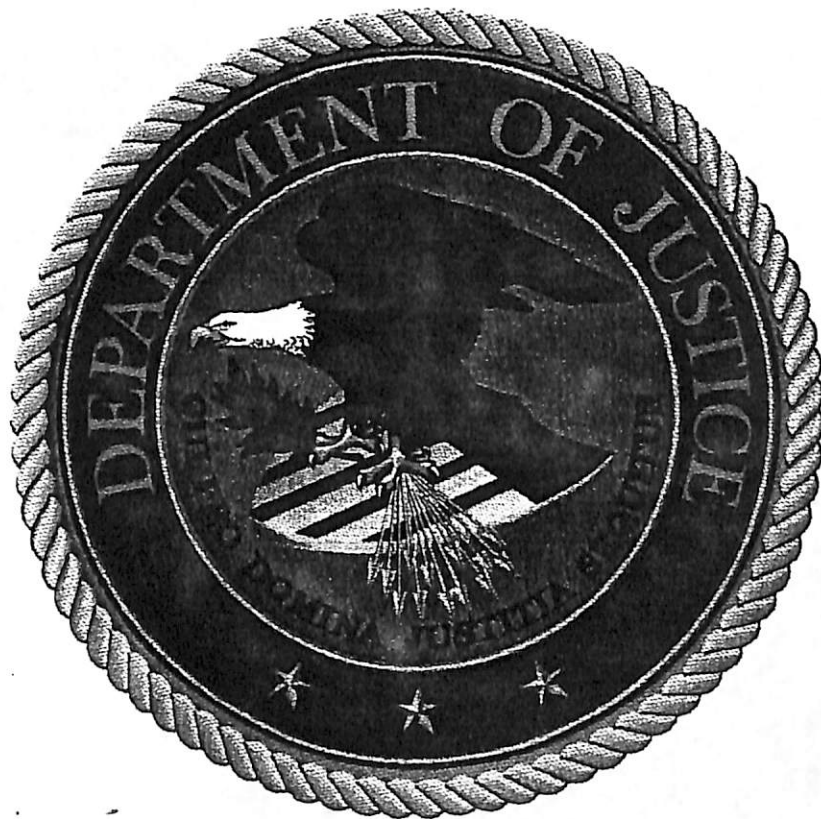
Also, please note that we've added specific references to the Criminal Division in the two appropriate places, including the first paragraph.

Nick Cell

U.S. Department of Justice

Anti-Violent Crime Initiative

The Attorney General's Report to the President



Year One
March 1994 - February 1995

Anti-Violent Crime Initiative

The Attorney General's Report to the President

-- The First Year

"I want to form a true partnership between federal, state and local law enforcement agencies throughout this nation to ensure that career criminals, dangerous offenders and drug traffickers get strict and certain sentences that put them away and keep them away."

Janet Reno
Attorney General

I am pleased to address today the results achieved during the first year of the Administration's Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. A year ago, the Vice President and I announced this important initiative, a strategy that was developed by the Criminal Division to maximize our law enforcement resources to combat violent crime in this country. Under the initiative, we called upon the 93 U.S. Attorneys throughout the Nation to work with their local communities and with federal, state and local law enforcement officials to develop coordinated strategies to address the most serious violent crime problems within their jurisdictions. I am able to report today that coordinated strategies have been developed in each jurisdiction throughout the country. Additionally, the work required to implement these strategies is well underway. Our successes over the past year have resulted from the work of the new partnerships that were forged to address the formidable acts of violence that threaten the lives and safety of millions of Americans.

I. Overview

As announced a year ago, the overriding objective of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative is not to federalize all violent crimes but, instead, for federal prosecutors to work in tandem with members of their local communities and with federal, state and local law enforcement officials to:

- o identify the most serious violent crime problems within their jurisdictions and focus on creative solutions for those problems;
- o involve the community with federal, state and local officials to address violence and restore quality of life to our neighborhoods;
- o redirect task force efforts where feasible to maximize the use of federal, state and local law enforcement resources;
- o forge partnerships with state and local prosecutors to facilitate the exercise of coordinated, sound prosecutive judgement; and
- o work to address all issues that may impact on the effective prosecution of violent crime including the coordination of charging decisions among federal, state and local authorities, taking into account the availability of state laws to address violent crime.

The overriding objective, then, of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative is to do what is best for each violent crime case and, at the same time, to do what is best for each community. This represents the strategic planning and approach of the U.S. Attorneys and the Criminal Division in implementing the initiative. As a result of these cooperative efforts, many U.S. Attorneys report an unprecedented cooperation among federal, state and local officials in addressing violent crime. Also, communities have experienced a decrease in violent crime following the successful conclusion of multi-agency investigations and prosecutions.

Between March 1 and December 31, 1994, the U.S. Attorneys filed a total of 5,270 criminal cases against 7,109 violent and repeat offenders. These cases represent only those filed by federal prosecutors in United States District Court, and do not speak to the prosecutorial work that has also been undertaken by state and local prosecutors throughout the country during the past year.

II. Federal, State and Local Law Enforcement and Community Coordination

" . . . We recognize that no one agency; local, state or federal, has the abilities to independently suppress the ever increasing wave of violence and the pervasive resulting fear such violence brings. . . ."

*—Jack Drown
President
San Diego County Police
Chiefs & Sheriff's Association*

The coordination of federal, state and local law enforcement efforts has been critical to the success of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. Effective communication and appropriate use of available resources is paramount, whether attained through specially-established violent crime task forces, enhancement of existing task forces, or informal means. A variety of methods have been employed over the past year to ensure that the highest level of communication and the best use of resources are achieved.

o In cities like New Orleans and Detroit, federal and local law enforcement agents now share working space inside police headquarters.

o In other communities, such as Sacramento, a federal, state and local Anti-Violent Crime Strike Team was created, with a focus on armed repeat offenders, criminal aliens, and gangs. The Team's first phase, conducted in Sacramento County, led to the arrest of 64 targets, including two murder suspects and one defendant who had 19 prior convictions. Pleased with the positive results, the Sacramento Police Department spearheaded an effort to create a permanent multi-agency unit, the Sacramento Career Criminal Apprehension Program Task Force.

o A similar task force approach in San Diego has resulted in the arrest of more than 1,250 felony fugitives since April 1994. Under the San Diego Gang Group more than 170 gang-related prosecutions have been initiated in state court, and about 150 defendants charged in federal court since August 1994.

o In yet other communities, efforts under the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative have responded to particular law enforcement needs. In Atlanta, a Mobile Crime Scene Unit, staffed by agents of the FBI and Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI), was created to respond promptly to the scene of violent crimes. The Director of GBI noted the overwhelming number of Crime Scene Unit requests received from local law enforcement agencies and his belief that the Unit is clearly serving law enforcement and resulting in an efficient and effective resolution of violent crime cases.

Equally important, many U.S. Attorneys have engaged in community outreach efforts to expand coordination of the fight against violent crime to citizens and groups within their jurisdictions.

o In Pittsburgh, at the behest of the U.S. Attorney and other community leaders, all eight television stations simultaneously aired a jointly produced program to kick off a month-long campaign to bring peace to Pittsburgh's streets. The campaign involves dozens of area businesses, community groups, and individuals in an effort to reverse the cycle of violence that has made homicide the number one cause of death of teenagers in the area.

III. Targeting Violent Individuals

"This has great potential to rid the streets of repeat offenders. That should be our No. 1 priority. These are the most violent of the violent."

—Sylvester Daughtry
Police Chief
Greensboro, North Carolina
Former President, International
Association of Chiefs of Police

A strategy over the past year in many jurisdictions has been to focus on the most violent offenders in the community and use legitimate law enforcement measures to take these offenders off the streets. Such measures might include surveillance, reinvestigating unsolved cases in which the targeted offender is a suspect, and developing cases against associates of a targeted offender in an effort to obtain cooperation.

o In the District of Columbia, a Major Violators Project (MVP) was initiated in which agents compile a list of persons known by law enforcement to have been involved in a disproportionate amount of serious violent crimes in the area. The U.S. Attorney assigns MVP attorneys to coordinate cases with the agents. As a result of the project, investigations are better coordinated by law enforcement agencies. Since the MVP's

inception, 35 persons have been removed from the list, primarily because of convictions resulting in a substantial sentence.

o Other jurisdictions have developed similar approaches. In the **Middle District of North Carolina**, a federal, state and local violent crime task force has targeted the 500 most violent criminals in Guilford County.

o Yet other jurisdictions have focused on major offenders who are committing particular types of violent crime, such as in the **Eastern District of Tennessee** which has a significant carjacking problem. A carjacking defendant was sentenced in September 1994 to life in prison plus 300 months and, since then, the district has experienced a tremendous decline in carjacking crime.

o In the **Eastern District of Pennsylvania**, federal and local efforts have had a measurable impact on arson cases. After statistics showed that 37 percent of the arsons in Philadelphia occurred within the East Police Division, the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms joined with the Philadelphia Police and Fire Departments in June 1994 to develop a coordinated approach to the problem. Between June and December 1994, 28 adults and 12 juveniles were charged with arson in local courts in a total of 42 arsons. A major arson case was referred for federal prosecution. As a result of the task force efforts, the neighborhood has become more hospitable to residents and businesses.

Over the past year, numerous other districts have targeted and aggressively pursued violent individuals, filing cases against them in United States District Court where appropriate.

IV. Efforts in Specific Violent Crime Areas

" . . . Without the ability to coordinate efforts across jurisdictional and agency lines we will continue to operate at a disadvantage to criminals who respect no boundaries. . . ."

*—Donald L. Carter
Chief of Police
Champaign, Illinois*

Violent crime has no boundaries either in type or effect, and cuts across all sectors of society. It includes the acts of gang members who terrorize America's neighborhoods and inflict fear and bodily harm on others through the commission of crime. It includes the acts of those with long criminal histories or excessively violent criminal behavior who possess or use firearms to commit bank robberies, carjackings, and kidnappings, as well as those who

traffick in firearms illegally. It includes children who commit violent crimes and children who suffer the consequences of violent crime. It affects all communities--urban and rural, citizens of all ages, people of all walks of life.

A. Gun Violence

Under the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, federal firearms prosecutions have focused on individuals with long criminal histories or excessively violent criminal behavior, and those who sell firearms as gun runners. The U.S. Attorneys rely on the joint efforts of federal, state and local law enforcement and stiff federal penalties to prosecute firearms offenders successfully.

o Between March 1 and December 31, 1994, the U.S. Attorneys charged 4,161 defendants with federal firearms violations. During the same period, 1,390 defendants were convicted, which represents an 85 percent conviction rate.

o Ninety-four (94) percent of those sentenced during this time were sent to prison. The average sentence of incarceration was 101 months, with 124 defendants sentenced to life or more than 15 years.

Many jurisdictions have also focused investigative resources on tracking firearms in an effort to identify suppliers of illegal firearms, particularly those who supply firearms to juveniles.

o In February 1995, the U.S. Attorney in New Jersey, along with the New Jersey Attorney General, the state's 21 county prosecutors, the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), and the heads of law enforcement agencies signed a Memorandum of Understanding requiring universal firearms tracing in the state.

o In Kentucky, the ATF and Louisville Police have formed a task force to focus on firearms trafficking schemes. The emphasis is on guns purchased in Louisville and trafficked to such cities as Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C. In Atlanta, too, the focus is on firearms trafficking and on persons making multiple firearms purchases.

o In the District of Columbia, an intensive multi-agency gun initiative is being planned to address the city's high level of gun violence. An objective is to reduce the city's violent crime rate by 40 percent to the level that existed prior to 1986 when the crack cocaine epidemic fueled gun violence in the area. The initiative will involve seizing and tracing illegal weapons, increasing the certainty of punishment for firearms offenses, and educating the city's youth about the destructive potential of gun possession.

B. Gang Violence

" . . . Numerous violent drug gangs operating in our neighborhoods have been prosecuted and removed from our community as a direct result of this successful effort. . . ."

*—Dennis E. Nowicki
Chief of Police
Charlotte, North Carolina*

Violent gang members threaten the safety and stability of our neighborhoods and inflict fear and bodily harm on others through the commission of crime. In communities across the country, gang-related violence has robbed residents of the ability to enjoy their streets and homes. Over the past year, many jurisdictions have focused their efforts on dismantling violent criminal gangs, using federal racketeering statutes. Additional strategies include the use of other laws, including federal and state narcotics statutes, as well as outstanding warrants, to take violent gang members off the streets.

o The Saginaw, Michigan Gang Crime Task Force, created to target gangs committing murders, drive-by shootings and drug distribution, has apprehended over 100 violent criminals.

o In Shreveport, Louisiana, 45 federal and local warrants were issued against the "Bottoms Boys," a violent drug gang in the Ledbetter Heights neighborhood. A federal racketeering indictment charged 13 defendants with operating a continuing criminal enterprise and committing offenses involving murder and drug distribution. Twelve leaders and organizers of the gang face life in prison, if convicted. According to Shreveport police, a comparison of crime data for the five months preceding and following the arrests reflects a 34 percent decline in violent crime in the neighborhood that had been controlled by the Bottoms Boys.

o In Youngstown, Ohio, four members of the "Ready Rock Boys" were convicted and eight others pled guilty to federal narcotics and weapons charges related to crack cocaine distribution. The group's activities included numerous drive-by shootings, one in which an innocent bystander was killed. Three of the defendants face life in prison without parole. Youngstown police report a dramatic decline in violent crime since the Ready Rock Boys were indicted and detained.

o An investigation, known as Operation Tiger's Eye, resulted in the arrests of 43 members of a violent drug trafficking gang operating in Ft. Dodge, Iowa, a community of 29,000 residents. So far, 38 of those defendants have been convicted of narcotics and weapons charges. Following the arrests, 1994 became the first year in several years when no murders were reported in Ft. Dodge and aggravated assaults declined by 33 percent.

These efforts, just a few of the many undertaken, serve to demonstrate the universal reach of gang violence and that significant prosecutions can improve the quality of life in those communities where gangs operate.

C. Homicide

Multi-agency investigations in some jurisdictions have had a marked effect on the rate of homicide. Over the past year, the Southern District of New York has made significant strides in forging relationships with local police and district attorneys, overcoming old rivalries that impeded a coordinated effort against violent crime in the past. As a result of cooperative efforts, the district has closed dozens of murders in the course of conducting racketeering investigations of violent street gangs.

o Notably, in New York City, federal and local law enforcement officials took one violent gang off the street and, two months later, took down members of the gang that tried to replace it. In May 1994, 17 alleged members of a violent Bronx-based organization called "C & C" were charged in a 73-count racketeering indictment that included murder, kidnapping, assault, narcotics trafficking, and firearms offenses. According to the indictment, members of the gang extorted money from drug dealers and enforced its control over the dealers through acts of violence, including murder.

As "C & C" was effectively being dismantled by the joint federal/state/local investigation, another gang took over its violent extortionate activities. In July 1994, 15 alleged members of that gang, the "Willis Avenue Lynch Mob," were charged in a 49-count racketeering indictment that included two murders, one attempted murder, armed robbery, carjackings, firearms offenses, and extortion.

Since March 1994, the district has obtained the indictments of 11 violent groups and numerous individuals. The cases have solved over 75 murders and charged over 160 defendants. Of 92 convictions obtained by plea or trial in the past year, 48 were to life sentences. Of the 21 defendants sentenced to date, seven have been sentenced to life without parole. The cases are particularly significant because the murders would never have been solved except for federal intervention. The proof of the murders depended for the most part on accomplice testimony, evidence that is disfavored in New York state courts. For that reason, none of the murders included in the indictments had been prosecuted by the state, and most could not have been.

Additionally, the indictments have had a significant impact on the community, causing a precipitous drop in the murder rate in two precincts. In the Bronx, following the arrests of alleged members of the "C & C" gang and the subsequent arrests of "Willis Avenue Lynch Mob" gang members, the murder rate dropped in half, where it has remained since the arrests. In Manhattan's 32nd precinct, which ranks among the city's top five precincts in murders, narcotics-related murders dropped to one since the arrests last August of members of a murderous narcotics organization.

- o Similar results were noted in **San Antonio**, following the successful prosecution of more than 40 upper echelon leaders of the notoriously violent Texas Mexican Mafia. In 1994, there was a decline in most categories of violent street crime in San Antonio.

- o In the **District of Columbia** in 1994, there was a 12 percent reduction in the number of homicides from the previous year, resulting in the lowest homicide rate since 1988. Law enforcement officials attribute this decline, and much of the district's success in combatting violent crime in the city, to innovative strategies implemented pursuant to the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative.

- o In 1994, the city of **Charlotte** experienced a 30 percent reduction in the homicide rate. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police attribute this to the work of the Charlotte Violent Crime Task Force, the cornerstone of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative in the Western District of North Carolina. The multi-agency task force, which focuses on the prosecution of entire criminal organizations, has a 95 percent conviction rate.

Although in less populous districts the homicide rate is far lower than in cities like New York or Washington, the impact of homicide on the community is no less severe, and the results of intensive investigation no less significant.

- o In **Nebraska**, Weed and Seed funds were used in 1994 to pay overtime to a team of uniformed officers engaged in proactive interdiction and violent crime enforcement. In 1993, in the heart of the Weed and Seed target site, there were three homicides and numerous felony assaults, many of them gang related. As a result of the intensive investigative efforts in 1994, there were no homicides or felony assaults in the targeted area.

D. Bank Robbery

Because of the significant level of bank robbery in some jurisdictions, a number of task force efforts have been directed to this problem. There were 222 bank robberies in the state of **Oregon** during 1994. As a result, virtually every bank robbery in the district is prosecuted in federal court. Since the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative was announced, the U.S. Attorney has obtained 55 indictments against 59 defendants for bank robbery. While it is too early to predict a trend, bank robberies in Oregon declined by ten percent during the first year of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative.

o Bank robbery is the major violent crime problem in the Middle District of Tennessee. The District Attorneys General recently requested that the federal government continue to prosecute bank robberies because of the availability of higher federal penalties. Since March 1994, charges have been brought against 11 bank robbers in the district.

o A successful prosecution in the Northern District of Illinois resulted in the convictions of a father-son duo who engaged in a violent bank robbery spree in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana. The father was convicted in state court in Indiana of attempted murder for shooting at a police officer during a getaway attempt. With the cooperation of federal, state, and local agencies in the three states, the father and son were indicted in Chicago on federal charges in connection with the commission of 19 bank robberies. Convicted in January 1995, the father and son will spend the rest of their lives in prison.

E. Juvenile Violence

Juvenile violence is increasingly the most serious violent crime problem in many jurisdictions. Federal prosecutors are pursuing more aggressively the prosecution of violent, armed juveniles, or working more closely with state and local prosecutors to ensure prolonged incarceration of violent juvenile offenders. Many federal prosecutors are also involved in community efforts designed to stem the rise in juvenile violence.

o The U.S. Attorney in Pittsburgh has formed the Youth Crime Prevention Council of Allegheny County, and is coordinating community efforts to reduce youth violence by providing meaningful alternatives to criminal activity.

o Since August 1994, the U.S. Attorney's office in the Middle District of Pennsylvania has conducted a series of educational programs in local schools. In these programs, prosecutors, police, victims of violent crime, and juveniles caught up in the juvenile justice system warn young people about the dangers of juvenile violence.

The following cases illustrate the wanton violent crime that is being committed by an increasing number of juvenile offenders and some of the law enforcement efforts that have been made under the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative.

o In the Eastern District of Texas, a juvenile is believed responsible for the carjacking-murder on April 19, 1994, of 63-year-old John Luttig in Tyler, Texas. Luttig was the father of Fourth Circuit Judge Michael Luttig, a former Justice Department attorney. An intensive multi-agency investigation led to the arrest of brothers Cedrick and Donald Coleman and a juvenile. The juvenile allegedly fired the fatal shots with a .45 automatic. The Colemans were convicted federally of offenses related to the carjacking and sentenced to terms in excess of 40 years each. The juvenile is now on trial facing a capital murder charge in state court.

o A juvenile was identified as a shooter in an execution-style double homicide that was committed in Huntington, West Virginia, in October 1994. An intense, coordinated federal-local investigation disclosed that the shootings were drug related. The juvenile is charged in state court with first degree murder. His three accomplices, all older teenagers, were indicted federally and have pled guilty to narcotics and weapons charges.

o In the Western District of Texas, a juvenile and an adult stabbed a victim 27 times when the victim resisted a robbery. The defendants returned to the scene twice to wipe away fingerprints and remove evidence of the crime. Each time they returned, the victim was still alive. The victim died before help arrived. Both defendants pled guilty, the juvenile having agreed to be certified as an adult.

Violent crime also includes violence directed at children. As part of the FBI Violent Crimes Task Force in Los Angeles, a multi-agency Violent Crimes Against Children initiative is being developed. The initiative will emphasize the increasing use of computer technology to commit crimes against children. The task force will also work with a new Child Abductions Task Force operation now being established by the FBI in Los Angeles, which is working with local law enforcement officials on unsolved cases.

F. Violence in Public Housing

"Traditional policing has not impacted on this so we made a collective effort to deal with the violence. We have taken a significant step in ensuring that our children and residents of our housing communities can live a good life and a safe life."

*—Jackie McNeil
Police Chief
Durham, North Carolina*

As part of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, the U.S. Attorneys experiencing a high degree of violence in public and assisted housing were asked to address that violence as part of their strategies. The U.S. Attorneys responded.

o In Puerto Rico, a Violent Neighborhood Initiative is aimed at violent gangs that operate in neighborhoods and housing projects.

o The U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina implemented crime prevention strategies in a Winston-Salem apartment complex following the convictions of four defendants on narcotics charges.

o And, in Los Angeles, task force agents focus on the P.J. Crips, one of the city's most notorious and violent street gangs, that at the height of power exerted almost total control over criminal activities in a large public housing project and its environs.

Many significant prosecutions of defendants who commit crimes in and around public housing have been undertaken. A number of these cases have produced demonstrable results.

o The U.S. Attorney's office for the Southern District of Illinois has handled a large number of crack cocaine cases which, prior to the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, were handled by the state and resulted in probation. Now, as a direct result of this task force effort, open, notorious, drug dealing which was commonplace in East St. Louis and Cairo has almost been eliminated. Over 69 federal and 38 state prosecutions resulted from law enforcement efforts in a federal housing project in Cairo which served as the distribution center for crack cocaine in a three-state area. The project is now a peaceful residential complex.

o The Tacoma, Washington, Violent Crime Task Force stepped up its focus on violent offenders in the Hilltop area of the city, with an emphasis on drug dealers and felons in possession of firearms. Since March 1994, the task force has presented 18 cases for prosecution. A recent investigation, called Operation Hardrock, targeted street drug dealers' transactions. These task force efforts have had an impact in the area. The drug dealers now rarely carry firearms during their transactions. The word on the street is to avoid getting "vamped," that is, caught and prosecuted by the federal government because of substantially higher prison sentences.

G. Violence in Indian Country

In districts where the U.S. Attorneys have jurisdiction to prosecute serious crimes on Indian reservations, strategies have been implemented to enhance the federal response to violence in Indian country. A number of districts have dedicated one or more prosecutors to these cases. Prosecutors and federal agents are spending more time on the reservations, investigating cases and coordinating efforts with tribal law enforcement authorities. The districts report that these efforts have dramatically improved relationships with local tribes.

Other efforts include formulating protocols to investigate and prosecute sexual assaults and other violent crimes in Indian country, and developing multi-disciplinary teams to enhance the response of law enforcement and other community groups to violent crime. Additionally, the U.S. Attorney's office in the Eastern District of Wisconsin has established a network for all federal prosecutors in the country to share information and concerns arising from the prosecution of cases in Indian country.

- o In Arizona, the U.S. Attorney's office, the FBI, and criminal investigators from the Navajo Reservation have joined forces in a Safe Trails Violent Crime Task Force. Described as the first of its kind in Indian country, the task force thus far has dramatically decreased the length of time it generally takes to move cases through the criminal justice system.

- o As an example of increased response time resulting from such focused efforts, when a county sheriff was murdered on the Menominee reservation in Wisconsin, two Assistant U.S. Attorneys and four FBI agents went to the reservation on the day the body was found. The case was indicted the following day, October 18, 1994. By February 2, 1995, the defendant had pled guilty. This quick and intense effort improved relationships with the residents of the reservation and increased confidence in the justice system.

- o As an integral part of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, the District of New Mexico has developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the FBI, ATF, DEA, BIA, and tribal police. The MOU will implement a system of vertical investigation using multi-disciplinary teams. The intent of the agreement is to foster increased cooperation, mutual assistance, and more timely and effective investigations of violent crime in Indian country. In the 12 months preceding the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, only 38 Indian country cases were indicted in the district. Since the inception of the initiative, the district has obtained indictments or filed charges by information in 64 violent crime cases arising in Indian country, an increase of 68 percent.

H. Prison Violence

Violence in federal penitentiaries has caused some districts to adapt their violent crime strategies to address the problem of prison violence. There have been six inmate killings in the Atlanta penitentiary within the past year, the most recent on February 12, 1995, as well as the murder of a correctional officer by an inmate in December. In order to address the increased violence, the U.S. Attorney is focusing on prison violence. Adopting a "zero tolerance" policy, the district intends to prosecute all inmate assaults on correctional staff, all cases of weapons and narcotic possession by inmates, and the introduction of controlled substances into the prison.

The Eastern District of Virginia, too, has expanded its efforts at the Lorton Reformatory Correctional Complex, adding a multi-agency Lorton Task Force to its overall anti-violent crime strategy. At Lorton, there are a large number of violent assaults on correctional officers, as well as inmate assaults. There are often close links between the violent incidents and drug-related disputes. On May 13, 1994, Henry "Little Man" James, who had been convicted of murder in the November 1991 random shooting of a woman on the Anacostia Freeway in Washington, D.C., pled guilty to stabbing two inmates at Lorton. His conviction added over 10 years to his sentence.

I. Violence in Rural Areas

" . . . As the police chief of a small department, it felt good to see members of Montgomery Police Department, Prattville Police Department, and your task force provide quick assistance in the [Hazel Liveoak murder] investigation. A team effort does make a difference. . . . "

*--Danny C. Pollard
Chief of Police
Millbrook, Alabama*

" . . . you . . . proved that criminals do not always walk away. . . and for that we are grateful. . . . "

*--Larry E. Liveoak, Janice L. Wester
and Anita L. Blanton
Relatives of Hazel Liveoak*

The incidence of violent crime is not restricted to high density urban areas. A number of districts have made concerted efforts to address violent crime in their less populous areas.

o The District of Maine, for instance, sought and obtained from the Drug Enforcement Administration a report on rural drug enforcement that contains a strategic analysis of drug trafficking trends in the state. The district plans to utilize the report to assist in developing strategies to combat drug-related violence in rural areas.

o In the Western District of Texas, 12 alleged members of a Houston gang traveled to a rural community where gang members entered banks, terrorized customers and employees, and took \$177,000 in cash. While fleeing the community, the conspirators shot at passersby. They stopped at a cemetery to steal another car where they shot and killed an 82-year-old woman who was tending her husband's grave. They stole her car and engaged in a shootout with law enforcement officers before being apprehended. So far, nine of the defendants have pled guilty to federal charges. The remaining three defendants are awaiting trial.

J. Domestic Violence

While, traditionally, domestic violence is investigated and prosecuted by state and local law enforcement agencies, U.S. Attorneys have responded to domestic violence cases that have a federal nexus. In some districts, U.S. Attorneys are working within the community to increase awareness of issues related to domestic violence.

o The U.S. Attorney in **Hawaii**, for example, has focused attention on domestic violence that occurs on military installations. This initiative will coordinate all law enforcement and social service agencies that respond to reports of domestic violence on military bases in an effort to establish consistency in the treatment of offenders.

o In **Maine**, where domestic violence was identified as the district's most serious violent crime problem, the U.S. Attorney is working with the court to implement provisions of the Violence Against Women Act, contained in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. Under a provision that restricts firearms possession by persons who are subject to a domestic violence restraining order, the U.S. Attorney submitted to the Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court a sample restraining order containing the requisite language to serve as a predicate for the federal offense. The Chief Judge has since indicated that the form is to be adopted in all courts in Maine. As a result, the district will be in a better position to prosecute effectively domestic abusers in possession of guns.

o In January 1995, the **Southern District of West Virginia** indicted a defendant under a new interstate domestic violence statute contained in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, the first such prosecution in the country. The defendant was arrested on December 1, 1994, when he took his unconscious, extremely dehydrated wife to a hospital in Kentucky in a battered condition, suffering from a head wound. Blood was found in the trunk of the car. The evidence indicated that the defendant had left West Virginia and traveled for six days before taking his wife to the hospital. The defendant is scheduled for trial in May. The wife remains in a coma from loss of blood and oxygen deprivation.

V. Conclusion

As this report illustrates, much has been accomplished during the first year of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. The efforts and results cited throughout the report are only examples of the type and degree of work that has been performed throughout the country.

Together, law enforcement officials and local communities have designed creative strategies that address their most serious, local violent crime problems. They have forged new partnerships that are resulting in an unprecedented level of cooperation among federal, state and local officials and local communities.

But, even with the accomplishments made over the past year, violent crime continues to threaten the lives and safety of Americans. Violent crime is a problem that will not be easily or quickly solved. Nor will its solution be achieved by any one person, agency, or organization. Its solution lies in continued, and increasing cooperation among the various levels of government, law enforcement agencies and local communities. Only comprehensive strategies that obtain the maximum results from law enforcement resources and the criminal justice system will achieve the results we desire. With much work still to be done, we will remain steadfast on our course.

San Diego County

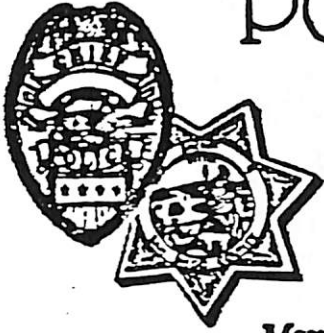
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SAN DIEGO, CA.
MAY 10 10 53 AM '94

POLICE CHIEFS' & SHERIFF'S

Association ...

578 ORANGE
CORONADO, CALIFORNIA 92118
TELEPHONE (619) 522-7355



May 6, 1994

OFFICERS

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Jack Brown
Coronado

Vice President
Rick Emerson
Chula Vista

Secretary/Treasurer
Martin Hight
S.D. Port District

Honorable Alan D. Bersin
United States Attorney
Southern District of California
United States Courthouse
940 Front Street, Room 5152
San Diego, California 92101-8800

Dear Mr. Bersin:

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John Carpenter
SDSU

John Anderson
UCSD

On behalf of the members of the San Diego County Police Chiefs' and Sheriff's Association, I am pleased to extend the Association's unanimous support and endorsement of your Operation Plan for the National Anti-Violent Crime Initiative.

The proposed Task Force strategy, combining state, local and federal law enforcement resources with both state and federal prosecutorial support, allows for a coordinated and cooperative initiative to removing violent offenders from the streets of San Diego and Imperial Counties. The concentration of Task Force resources on the three identified core precipitants of violence; gangs, fugitives and major offenders, will allow Task Force operations to focus on those persons who trade daily in violence and fear within our local communities.

As you know, San Diego County law enforcement agencies of all levels enjoy an unprecedented reputation for interagency cooperation in pursuit of effective regional law enforcement. Local agencies have jointly participated in successful task force operations on a continuous basis for more than thirty years. I know of no other region of the Country wherein local, state and federal agencies so quickly and enthusiastically embrace the concept of shared resources, teamwork and a singular focus of effort. The ground work for the success of the Attorney General's Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, and the implementation strategy you have selected, is well founded in this County.

As the Initiative progresses, I am certain all local law enforcement agencies will be eager to participate within their capabilities. The police chiefs of San Diego County recognize that our county's geographic location and proximity to the Mexican border produce unique criminal problems not easily addressed by conventional means. We further recognize that no one agency; local, state or federal, has the abilities to independently suppress the ever increasing wave of violence and the pervasive resulting fear such violence brings.

Please assure Attorney General Reno of our sincere support for both the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative and your strategies for implementation. We very strongly encourage her full support of your submitted Operational Plan.

I look forward to working with you in our mutual effort to enhance the quality of life within our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. M. Drown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Jack Drown



82 East University Avenue
Champaign, Illinois 61820

January 24, 1995

Ms. Frances Hulin, United States Attorney
C/O Patrick Vaughn
Federal Building
600 E. Monroe Street
P.O. Box 375
Springfield, Illinois 62705

Dear Ms. Hulin:

I am writing in support of the efforts of the anti-violence task force that has been meeting in our area. Two of my staff members regularly attend these meetings and consider the information gained and the problem solving that goes on worthwhile.

As you know violent crime is not a single jurisdiction or single agency problem. The anti-violence task force is the only effort in our area combining state, local, and federal agencies to reduce violent crime. We are pursuing a federal case at the time of this writing involving inter-state auto thieves responsible for theft of vehicles and accompanying violence in our community.

Without the ability to coordinate efforts across jurisdictional and agency lines we will continue to operate at a disadvantage to criminals who respect no boundaries. I urge you to continue these efforts at coordinating anti-violence efforts in our area.

Sincerely,

Donald L. Carter
Chief of Police



CHARLOTTE

February 13, 1995

Mr. Mark T. Calloway
United States Attorney
Western District
State Of North Carolina
227 W. Trade Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Dear Mr. Calloway,

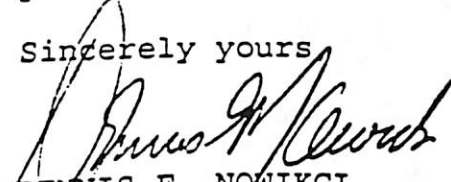
The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department has been involved with the United States Attorney's Office for a number of years in combating crime in the Charlotte area. During this period of time numerous drug and criminal organizations have been prosecuted and dismantled as the result of prosecutions in federal court. The working relationship our Department has enjoyed with the United States Attorney's Office has proved to be very successful.

In September, 1992 a structured violent crimes task force was established in Charlotte. The Bureau Of Alcohol, Tobacco, And Firearms and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department are the lead agencies in this effort. The North Carolina State Bureau Of Investigation, the United States Secret Service, and the Federal Bureau Of Investigation also participate in this task force. During this time period your office has coordinated the work of this task force in a very effective and efficient manner. Your leadership has contributed greatly to this becoming what we feel is one of the best partnerships in the country between local, state, and federal agencies in combating violent crime. Numerous violent drug gangs operating in our neighborhoods have been prosecuted and removed from our community as a direct result of this successful effort. Violent crime was down 10% in Charlotte-Mecklenburg during 1994 which included a 31% decrease in murders, a 17% decrease in robberies and a 6% decrease in aggravated assaults.

We are in the process of implementing community-problem oriented policing in the entire county. Preventing the next crime is our new mission statement and problem solving is our basic unit of work. The investigative work being done by the Violent Crimes Task Force and successful prosecution by your assistants of these violent drug gangs who operate in our neighborhoods is helping us prevent future crimes and contributes greatly to problem solving in our neighborhoods and the community.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for your leadership in the effort to combat violent crime in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. This appreciation extends to all of your assistants and the other persons in your office involved in this cooperative effort.

Sincerely yours



DENNIS E. NOWICKI
Chief Of Police

The New York Times

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1994

Using the Racketeering Law To Bring Down Street Gangs

By MATTHEW PURDY

A year ago, the C & C drug gang ruled a corner of the South Bronx with assaults, kidnappings and murders, doing its part to make the 40th Precinct one of the most dangerous in New York City.

But just how big a role the gang played became clear only after the C & C gang and one of its rival groups were virtually eliminated by Federal racketeering indictments, using a law originally intended to fight the Mafia.

With a relatively small number of gang members — just over 30 — now off the streets in the South Bronx, homicides in the 40th Precinct have been cut by more than half, with 30 reported in the first nine months of the year compared with 66 in the same period last year. The number of reported robberies and burglaries fell by 20 percent, assaults dropped 12 percent and rapes dropped 29 percent.

The prosecutions in the 40th Precinct are part of a growing effort by the Government to use Federal racketeering laws to attack street gangs in cities nationwide, reflecting a recognition that those gangs are at least as menacing as the Mafia families. This year, the Government has indicted members of about two dozen gangs around the country, twice the number of cases it made last year.

Even as New York City crime

figures appear headed for their fourth straight annual decline, veteran police officials expressed surprise at the results in the 40th Precinct. "In my career, I never remember there being a situation like this where you arrest some guys and things drop off like that," said Edward Cappello, the deputy chief of the police department's Bronx Detective Command.

Lieut. Michael Bramble, the precinct's lead detective, said, "With a nucleus of 20 people who are hardened criminals, who were murderers, they ran the neighborhood." He said gang members committed "a significant number of homicides, burglaries and assaults" and created a fertile territory for others to commit crimes.

Statistics aside, Mott Haven remains a dangerous neighborhood, where residents say the drug trade remains brisk. But to many people there, like Fernando Diaz, a neighborhood grocer, the racketeering cases have made the streets noticeably calmer, and the Rev. Gerald Ryan, of St. Luke's Catholic Church, said, "This year, we haven't had a funeral the result of violence in some time."

Enacted in 1970 to fight the mob, the Federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, or RICO, has proven to

Continued on Page B5, Column 1

Continued From Page A1

be a more potent weapon against entrenched gangs than the state laws traditionally used against street crime, Federal and local law-enforcement officials say.

Unlike state laws, which are designed mostly for addressing individual crimes, the RICO law permits prosecution of gang members for being part of an enterprise that commits a series of crimes. A racketeering conviction involving murder carries a life sentence without parole. Under the new Federal anti-crime legislation, some of those convictions will carry a possible death sentence.

Also unlike state courts, Federal courts permit wide use of uncorroborated testimony from accomplices, which is often essential in proving a criminal conspiracy. And prosecutors say it is easier to have a defendant held in prison without bail before a trial in the Federal system than in the state system.

"It's very powerful," said Merrick Garland, an associate deputy Attorney General of the Justice Department. "We are intentionally trying to use the Federal Government's prosecution weapons to bring down a whole enterprise, rather than one murder here and one murder there."

In the South Bronx, the C & C gang had operated in the area of 139th and Brook Avenue since 1987, extorting money from drug dealers in exchange for selling drugs unimpeded.

The gang — named for its two leaders, George Calderon and his cousin Angel Padilla, known as Cuson — enforced a strict set of rules, including no sales to children on the way to school, and squashed competition through kidnapping, assaults, robbery and murder, the Federal indictment charges.

The police estimate that at its peak, the gang handled \$100,000 to \$500,000 a week. And while the Federal indictment charges gang members with 14 murders, police officials said gang members were being investigated in connection with as many as 80 murders going back to the late 1980s.

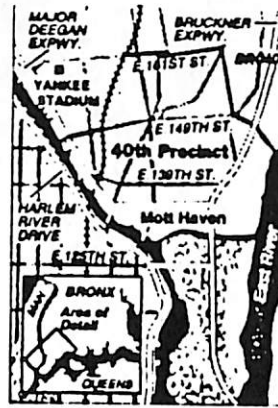
... to White, the United States

CRIME REPORT

40th Precinct

Complaints through Oct. 2. The figures are the most recent available.

	Complaints	% change from '93
Assault	744	-12%
Burglary	841	-20
Grand larceny	478	-18
Grand larceny motor vehicle	433	-13
Homicide	30	-55
Rape	39	-29
Robbery	1,136	-20
Total	3,711	-10



Source: N.Y.C. Police Dept.

The New York Times

"No matter how many branches you cut it's always going to come back."

In addition to the skepticism of neighbors, defense lawyers are concerned about the increasing use of racketeering laws. The lawyers say it allows prosecutors to introduce testimony about a wide range of alleged misdeeds that unfairly tarnish minor figures in conspiracies and can create an overblown picture of a gang's organization.

"There's a tremendous spillover

effect," said Leonard Joy, who heads the Federal defense division of New York's Legal Aid Society. "It makes it difficult to get a fair trial." And he acknowledged that with stiffer Federal sentences "you can make a deal a lot easier in the state than you can with the Feds."

In the last two years, the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York has brought racketeering cases against eight gangs, charging them with a

total of 80 murders. The first case involved two gangs that were kidnapping drug dealers and then torturing and killing them if ransom demands were not met. Recent cases have focused on Asian gangs and the Latin Kings, a violent drug gang that operates both in prisons and on the street.

In addition, since Attorney General Janet Reno launched an initiative against violent crime last October, the racketeering law has been used against gangs like the Bottoms Boys in Shreveport, La., the L.A. Boys in Buffalo, N.Y. and the Bloods and Crips in Omaha.

The emphasis on street crime is a significant change for federal law enforcement.

"The F.B.I. was involved with the mob, but no one wanted anything to do with drug gangs because they were centered in poor communities," said Lieutenant Bramble. "You're not talking about Damon Runyon characters dressed in \$1,000 suits and driving limousines. You're talking about homegrown thugs preying on their neighbors."

In Washington, where prosecutors have successfully used racketeering cases against gangs, John Brennan, a narcotics officer, said that in those cases "they normally take down the whole organization from the street runners up to the top." As a result, he said, it is not usual to see a dip in crime after a gang is removed.

"Eventually, someone may try to take over, but it takes them a while to regroup," he said.

DURHAM

A4

Covering Durham and Durham
County, Research Triangle
Park and North Carolina

Joint effort is cutting Durham crime

By KAMMIE MICHAEL
The Herald-Sun

A concerted, yearlong effort involving courageous cops backed by strict federal sentencing laws is succeeding in making Durham's dangerous housing communities safer, police said.

Durham's multagency Violent Crime Task Force wrapped up its first year of operation Friday by arresting eight alleged members of a drug-dealing gang called "The Pimps" operating in the Oxford Manor housing community. Like others arrested by the task force, the eight were charged with federal drug and weapons violations.

In the past year, 31 people arrested by the task force have been convicted of federal fire-

arms charges and sentenced to federal prison, said Paul Lyon, Special Agent in Charge with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

Under current federal law, the mandatory sentence for firearms violations is five years, Lyon said. And under federal sentencing guidelines, criminals actually will serve a much larger proportion of their sentence than they would in a state prison.

Although many of the arrests over the year involved large-scale cocaine dealing, netting 36 kilos of cocaine, drug busts are not the main focus of the task force.

"Our intent is not to go out and seize drugs," said Durham Police Capt. Paul Martin. "Our

"It was unsafe for children to play for fear of gunfire ... We have taken a significant step in ensuring that our children and residents of our housing communities can live a good life and a safe life."

JACKIE McNEIL
DURHAM POLICE CHIEF



intent is to make communities substantially safer. Our intent is to make Durham a safer place to live. This has been one of the most successful operations I've been involved in."

The most recent phase of the operation was concentrated in the Oxford Manor housing community in northern Durham.

"Oxford Manor had become ... a regional drug-dealing cen-

ter," Martin said. "A lot of money was made in Oxford Manor."

Martin said "The Pimps" were an armed drug gang that took over apartments from the legal residents and used them as a place to package drugs.

Undercover members of the task force infiltrated the gang and made several purchases of drugs and weapons during a five-month operation.

"An undercover SBI agent on many occasions risked his life going into these areas and buying weapons," said Jim Coman, SBI director. "This underscores the fact that law enforcement is committed to going into areas where several of these violent gangster-types felt they were

untouchable."

"We've made gigantic strides in Oxford Manor," Martin said.

During the past year, the task force targeted violent, armed drug dealers in three Durham Housing Authority communities: Oxford Manor, Few Gardens and Liberty Street.

"It was unsafe for children to play for fear of gunfire," Police Chief Jackie McNeil said at a news conference Friday. "Residents have a difficult time sleeping because of the noise and the gunfire."

"Traditional policing has not impacted on this so we made a collective effort to deal with the violence. We have taken a significant step in ensuring that our children and residents of

please see CRIME/A7

CRIME FROM A4

our housing communities can live a good life and a safe life," he said.

A grant funding violent crime task forces throughout North Carolina has been renewed for the next two years, Coman said Friday. The task force is made up of officials of the Durham Police Department, the SBI, ATF, Durham Housing Authority, Durham District Attorney's Office, the U.S. Attorney's Office in Greensboro and the Durham County Sheriff's Department.

*Prosecutions appear to have pushed
a thriving drug trade underground, and tenants say that
the almost-nightly gunfire has subsided*

Federal officials work to clean up Salem Gardens

By Ian Hoffman
JOURNAL REPORTER

The one long street into Salem Gardens curls back on itself at "the Circle," the heart of the apartment complex and home to its nighttime market in crack cocaine.

The layout is a drug dealer's dream. Lookouts can see police nearly a minute before they arrive.

So drive-thru crack sales at Salem Gardens have flourished for years, fed by lines of outside traffic. "Bump runners" took orders at curbside and openly swapped crack for cash. The dealers lounged in apartments or shadowed breezeways. They settled disputes with shotguns, assault rifles and 9-mm pistols. The gunfights often drove tenants and their children

to sleep on the floor. Some blocked their windows with bookcases to stop stray bullets.

This summer has been different.

Three of Salem Gardens' crack dealers, including two suspects in shootouts at the complex, pleaded guilty recently to federal drug-trafficking and weapons charges.

For now, the prosecutions — coupled with the fatal shootings of some dealers — appear to have driven the crack trade indoors, and tenants say that the almost-nightly gunfire has subsided.

Federal prosecutors aren't walking away just yet. U.S. Attorney Walter C. Holton Jr. has more in mind for Salem Gardens.

Federal attorneys under Holton are working with the

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to pressure the apartments' owners into making the complex a better, safer place to live.

Holton plans on forging similar partnerships to attack and prevent violent crime in other neighborhoods throughout the 24 counties in his district. Law-enforcement agencies alone are unable to deal with poverty, unemployment or broken families — factors that Holton sees as the roots of violent crime.

"We want to develop a sense that our criminal prosecutions, particularly in the area of violent crime, are part of a larger picture. We want to ensure that we are not operating in a vacuum," he said.

See SALEM GARDENS, Page E6

SALEM GARDENS

Continued From Page E1

HUD, which subsidizes rent at Salem Gardens, has rated housing conditions there "below average" or "unsatisfactory" for more than a year. Yet the agency had little success in forcing the owners to do more.

The owners, Salem Properties Ltd. of Atlanta, were more than \$400,000 behind on repairs last spring, Holton said.

Tenants complain about leaking roofs, backed-up toilets, worn carpet and appliances, broken windows and holes in the walls.

Holton said he also wants some improvement in security at the complex: better outdoor lighting, fences to keep nontenants out and perhaps private security guards.

Tenants have a legal right to peaceful enjoyment of their homes, he said, and the complex owners have a duty to provide it.

"There's an obligation to provide basic security," he said.

With encouragement from Holton's office, HUD has barred Salem Properties from similar Section 8

housing programs and required that its management company withhold part of rent collections for repairs.

So far, the management company has responded with some repairs and proposals for more than it has promised before.

"It appears to me at this point that we have at the very least gotten their attention," Holton said last week. "We're still in the early stage of this process, but we intend to follow it through."

If the repair backlog persists at Salem Gardens, HUD and Holton's office will consider other tactics: collecting the rent directly to make the repairs or suing the management and owners to force compliance with HUD housing standards.

Cooperation between a U.S. attorney and HUD: on such a project is new to North Carolina. It grew out of the drug investigation by the city police and agents with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the State Bureau of Investigation.

Agents told Holton that tenants described an atmosphere of fear at the apartments. The complex manager later made a tearful plea to a federal prosecutor for his help in cleaning up the neighborhood.

Now, after the arrests, said Detective Kent C. Sherrill: "It's gone from where people were afraid to go out at night to where people do go out. The kids play and feel safer in the community."

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CITY OF CAIRO

JAMES E. WILSON, Mayor
1501 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 393
CAIRO, ILLINOIS 62914-0393

JAMES A. FLUMMER
City Attorney &
Corporation Counsel
J. D. RUSSELL
Treasurer
BRENDA J. MILLER
City Clerk

U.S. Attorney Chuck Grace
Benton, IL

Dear U.S. Attorney Grace:

This is to compliment and to verify the significant difference in the level of crime, especially drug related, in the City of Cairo, IL since the inception of the Safe Street Program in our City.

As you and the Department of Justice are aware, the City of Cairo was the center of drug distribution and crime in a three state area, Illinois, Kentucky and Missouri.

The magnitude of the crime element totally overwhelmed our police force. This magnitude resulted in the request from the Governor of the State of Illinois to send in State Police to help patrol the City of Cairo (which they did).

Today, the drug crime rate has dropped tremendously from the peak about two years ago...this is a direct result of the Safe Streets Program the City of Cairo has entered into with the Department of Justice.

The Safe Street Program exceeded all expectations and the cooperation from the U.S. Attorney's office, FBI, with the City of Cairo Police Department, the Housing Authority Task Force, and local State's Attorney has been unprecedented and very effective.

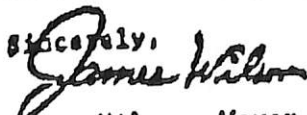
In particular, the leadership of Robert Dueker of the Carbondale, IL Federal Bureau of Investigation Office has been the guiding influence in the success of this program, without whom the program could not have succeeded to the degree that it has.

Regardless to whom you speak - be it local Judges, State's Attorney, Probation Department or local Police - the praise of the Department of Justice, FBI and Safe Street Program is great.

In summary, without the federal participation within the city of Cairo, we would have been one of the most drug crime driven communities in the United States.

We wholeheartedly thank you and ask for your continued efforts.

Sincerely,



James Wilson, Mayor
CITY OF CAIRO, ILLINOIS



609 East College Street
P.O. Box 2047
Carbondale, Illinois 62902-2047
Phone 618-549-5302
Fax 618 457 3283

February 9, 1995

Mr W Charles Grace
United States Attorney
Southern District of Illinois
Benton, IL 62812

Dear Chuck,

I wanted to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for the efforts of your office in implementing and maintaining the Jackson County Violent Crime Initiative. Since its inception in August, it is obvious to me as a police administrator that the program is making a difference. We have coordinated some important drug investigations which have made a significant impact on the crack cocaine trade. And just as importantly, we have established new lines of communication between our police agencies.

Since August, the efforts of the officers assigned to the initiative have resulted in over 20 arrests of individuals for possession with the intent to deliver crack cocaine. Several other individuals have charges pending on related state cases and we are working jointly with agencies in Springfield and Chicago on a major gang conspiracy case. Additionally, we have conducted several search warrants which have closed six crack houses.

Throughout this initiative, we have recognized an important component of our success is the development of community support and involvement in our efforts. We have established a Gang Task Force in Carbondale comprised of schools, business, police, social service, corrections, probation, clergy and community residents. The Task Force is developing prevention, intervention and enforcement strategies designed to address gang activity in our community. We have been in contact with the clergy in the community offering to do educational presentations for their congregations on the police and community's roles in combatting drugs and violence. We have also conducted a variety of school and business training programs, including presentations to our motel operators.

While we take pride in the successes we have outlined above, I think I am most proud of our efforts to ensure communication between local, state and federal police officials. I have been a police officer in Jackson County for over 17 years, and I can without reservation say the level of communication and cooperation is unprecedented in my experience. This may be best exemplified by our recent agreement to develop a county-wide gang intelligence system to be housed within our agency. In fact, we have requested funds through your office in support of these efforts.

You and your staff should take great pride in these accomplishments. Without your leadership, I believe this initiative would never have been developed or so successful. I thank you for the commitment you have made to addressing violent crime in our communities. Together, I believe we are making a difference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Strom". The signature is stylized with a large initial "D" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Don Strom
Chief of Police



CITY OF MILLBROOK

P.O. Box C
3821 Grandview Road
Millbrook, Alabama 36054

Richard Long
Lisa Lee
Steve Weaver
Charles Duncan
Joseph Faulk
City Council

A. T. "Moe" Minor
Mayor

July 28, 1994

Phone (205) 285-6428
Fax (205) 285-6460

Honorable Redding Pitt
United States Attorney
Middle District of Alabama
P.O. Box 197
Montgomery, AL 36101-0197

Dear Mr. Pitt,

Please extend my personal appreciation to the members of the Violent Crimes Task Force for their tremendous effort in the Hazel Liveoak murder investigation. This group of agents and officers provided a tremendous team effort towards this investigation.

As the police chief of a small department, it felt good to see members of Montgomery Police Department, Prattville Police Department, and your task force provide quick assistance in this investigation. A team effort does make a difference.

Mrs. Liveoak was a long time resident of Millbrook, Alabama and well respected in our community. Her death has effected all who knew her and many who never met her. The world of crime and drugs was one which she had only heard about, yet she died a victim of its culture.

I appreciate your efforts in establishing the Violent Crimes Task Force. The Millbrook Police Department welcomes you as the U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Alabama. Should you or your office ever require the assistance of our department, please do not hesitate to call us.

Sincerely,

Danny C. Pollard
Chief of Police
City of Millbrook, Alabama

Attachment: Letter from Mrs. Liveoaks family



First Baptist Church

JIMMY BLANTON
Pastor

MICHAEL E. PARKS
Director of
Music Ministries

JAY EVANS
Minister of Students
and Discipleship

1135 Watson Boulevard • Warner Robins, GA 3109

(912) 922-8152 • 922-3622

July 20, 1994

The Violent Crime Task Force
% Chief Danny Pollard
Millbrook City Police Department
P.O.B. C
Millbrook, AL 36054

Dear Sirs:

The family of Mrs. Hazel Liveoak would like to thank you, the Violent Crime Task Force, for your assistance in the capture of people responsible for her death. Your quick work made the anguish of this experience easier for us all to handle.

When the word first came that her body was found we thought that it would be just about impossible to find the people responsible. But you did your job in a very professional way which proved that criminals do not always walk away from the crimes which they have committed. You all did an outstanding job and for that we are very grateful.

With grateful hearts to you and our Lord,

Janice L. Wester, Anita L. Blanton, and Larry E. Liveoak

... in the Heart of the City, with a Heart for the City



First Baptist Church

JIMMY BLANTON
Pastor

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With grateful hearts to you and our Lord,

Janice L. Wester, Anita L. Blanton, and Larry E. Liveoak

... in the Heart of the City, with a Heart for the City

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE	March 6, 1995
TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, Agency/Post)		Initials	Date
1. Jo Ann Harris, AAG, CRM			
2.			
3.			
4.			
<p>REMARKS:</p> <p>Attached is the current draft of the Anti Violent Crime Initiative Anniversary Event, and of the Anniversary Report. Please add whatever you would like about the role/activities of the Criminal Division, and get it to Nick Gess as soon as possible.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions.</p>			
FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)		Room No. -Bldg.	
Merrick B. Garland  Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice		4206-Main DOJ	
		Phone No.	202-514-2105

**ANTI-VIOLENT CRIME INITIATIVE
FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY EVENT
MARCH 16, 1995**

The White House
Washington, DC

The President
The Attorney General
The Secretary of the Treasury
The Deputy Attorney General
The Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division
The Director of the Executive Office for United States Attorneys
Representatives of State and Local Law Enforcement
and Prosecutive Agencies

I N D E X

- A. Event Memo
- B. Remarks of AG
- C. DAG Memo to United States Attorneys
- D. Statement of United States Attorney
- E. Press Release of United States Attorney

**ANTI-VIOLENT CRIME INITIATIVE
FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY
MARCH 16, 1995**

CONTACT: Nicholas M. Gess
616-6484

I. PURPOSE

To report on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. The announcement will take the form of a briefing which you will give the President.

II. BACKGROUND

The purpose of this event is to permit the Administration to take appropriate credit for the positive effect on the criminal justice system which the AVCI has had.

The Criminal Division conceived of an anti-violent crime initiative as a means to stress the importance of the formation of state and local partnerships and the need to enhance the use of federal resources to combat violent crime. In March 1994, the AVCI was announced during a nationwide conference call to which the United States Attorneys, federal agency heads and local special agents-in-charge were party. One year has now passed and it is appropriate for to highlight the Department's accomplishments.

Approximately one hour after the Presidential event, every United States Attorney will coordinate an event in his/her district. The purpose is not only to highlight the Department's support for the AVCI, but also to recognize that the strength of the AVCI is local in nature.

III. PARTICIPANTS

You will be joined in an appropriate room [ROOM****] by appropriate Cabinet officers, police officers who have worked on some of the cases which will be highlighted. Appropriate representatives of the law enforcement and state prosecutors organizations will be present. Finally, selected United States Attorneys and others will join the event by conference call.

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- o Uniformed officers enter
- o Other attendees enter
- o Cabinet officers enter
- o POTUS enters and is seated in a location such that speakers are briefing him and the audience.
- o Attorney General remarks, briefing POTUS.
- o POTUS greets those joining event by conference call. They respond by saying no more than "hello".
- o POTUS responds
- o Attorney General closes with simple "thank you."
- o Attorney General and those without speaking parts gather at media stakeout to briefly reenforce cooperation message.

V. PRESS PLAN

This is a media event. Coverage as per White House. We recommend pool spray coverage in the event room and a media stakeout on the White House grounds after the event.

VI. REMARKS

See attached.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

- A. Remarks
- B. Talking Points
- C. AVCI Book

**REMARKS OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE AVCI**

**March 16, 1995
The White House
Washington, DC**

Mr. President, [ACKNOWLEDGMENTS], this month marks the first anniversary of our violent crime initiative, a partnership of federal, state and local law enforcement and community groups across America to concentrate resources on crimes involving our most serious repeat violent offenders.

In January 1994, you addressed the people of this country in your State of the Union address. You centered your remarks on the problem of violent crime. You promised America 100,000 new police officers, tough new laws to punish repeat violent offenders, including mandatory life in prison for the worst of them - Three Strikes and You're Out - and funds for prevention programs which are enforcement.

Your covenant with America became a reality last September 13 on the lawn of the White House when you signed into law the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. Although it was a day rich in our nation's history amidst our most important monuments, a win for all Americans, as the

Crime Bill, the product of six years of bipartisan work became law, there was an over-arching sadness as you evoked the memory of some of the innocent victims of terrible crimes who were not in Washington that day.

As you know, we could not wait for the Crime Bill to be enacted into law. As soon as you spoke, action was important. Last March, I called our federal agency heads, the ninety-three United States Attorneys and local federal agents together for a teleconference. We charged them with undertaking an initiative to combat violent crime.

Since last March 1, federal prosecutors across the country have filed 5,270 cases against 7,109 violent offenders. This is just a small percentage of the violent crime prosecuted in the country. Statistical information for state and local prosecutions simply is not available and will not be available for some time. However, we are certain that the impetus provided by your initiative will result in like numbers in state and local courts.

Unlike other initiatives, the impetus here may come from Washington, but the plans and the goals come from the community. I asked each United States Attorney to consult with the federal, state, county and local law enforcement officers as well as the state and local prosecutors with whom they work on a daily basis, to develop a joint strategy to combat violence. This was

not to be a program headed by the federal government, but rather a true partnership, for I do not believe that the public cares one whit whether the officer who investigates their child's murder carries a badge which says FBI, Chicago Police Department, or Multanomah County Sheriff's Department. As Muskogee, Oklahoma Chief of Police Rex Eskridge said, "we've got a lot of calls from people who said keep it up, whatever you're doing just keep it up."

This was a massive undertaking. In the words of Sacramento, California District Attorney Steve White, "it is no small matter to get law enforcement officials at federal, state and local levels and from various agencies to work together in common purpose." He was right, but we have done it and it has been worth it. As he so eloquently put it, "we'll never know ... how many crimes have been averted or how many would-be victims spared, as a result of this action."

Mr. President, the Initiative has taken many forms because America is a country rich in variety. There are, however, certain themes which run throughout.

First, in communities across the country, gang-related violence has shattered the ability of residents to feel safe and secure. Many districts have focused their task force efforts on dismantling criminal gangs, using federal

racketeering statutes. Others have used federal and state narcotics laws and other violent crime tools to dismantle organizations. From September 13 on, we have had at our disposal the many new gang violence provisions of the Crime Bill.

Gangs are not limited to Los Angeles, Houston and New York. One successful initiative, Operation Tigers Eye in the Northern District of Iowa, resulted in the arrests of 43 members of a violent drug trafficking organization operating in Fort Dodge, a community with only 29,000 residents. I am pleased to report to you that so far, 38 of those criminals have been convicted and that following the arrests 1994 became the first year in several when there were no reported murders in Ft. Dodge.

Another strategy is to focus on the most violent offenders in the community and to use all legitimate law enforcement measures to take them off the streets. In the Middle District of North Carolina, a federal, state and local violent crime task force has targeted the 500 most violent criminals in Guilford County. My colleague, Greensboro North Carolina Police Chief Sylvester Daughtry, former head of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, said, "this has great potential to rid the streets of repeat offenders. That should be our No. 1 priority."

Elsewhere, in Eastern Tennessee, a violent crime task force investigated a significant carjacking problem in the area. In May 1994, two defendants were indicted for carjacking after an incident in which they called a taxi, robbed the driver, put him in the trunk of the cab and pushed the cab of a 106-foot embankment onto a creek. The driver survived. Both defendants pleaded guilty.

Gun violence is a plague. Prosecutors are using tough federal firearms laws to charge repeat offenders. In Robinson Township, Pennsylvania, Robert Maxwell is charged with the October 23, 1994 robbery of the Twin Highway Drive-In Flea Market in Robinson Township, Pennsylvania. He is alleged to have threatened a victim with a .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun and demanded that the victim take him to her vehicle. When the victim offered Maxwell money, Maxwell said, "I don't want your car, I want you." The victim was able to escape and Maxwell fled in the victim's vehicle. According to court documents, Maxwell has previously been convicted of robbery with a firearm and arson in 1973 and rape with an ice pick and other sexual assault crimes in 1981. The case is awaiting trial in Federal court.

Thus, we have brought federal firearms prosecutions against 3,255 criminals. By vigorously prosecuting major offenders for whatever violation is

apparent, we are doing our part to take these dangerous men and women off the street.

In the same vein, violent crime efforts have targeted serious offenders who commit homicides, bank robberies, violence in public housing and on the tribal lands of Native Americans.

Although each strategy is local in nature and is the product of hard work by the men and women of law enforcement, it is telling that so many of the strategies focus on the need for cooperation, not only between federal, state and local government, but between prosecutors and police and the government and community groups. This validates what we have all talked about, that law enforcement can be effective, that we can do something about crime, and that there is so much we can do when we talk with each other.

Mr. President, we have much work to do. The first year of this initiative has been a success and America is safer for it. But we cannot rest. While children die in drive-by shootings, while cocaine is sold on the street and while gangs keep the elderly indoors for fear that they will be killed if they venture out, we must continue to work.

Your support for this initiative and the fight against violence has meant much to the thousands of men and women of federal, state and local law

enforcement as well as the federal, state and local prosecutors who take these cases to court. Some of them are here today and I know that if each could step up to this microphone, they would join me in expressing their thanks.

MEMORANDUM FOR: All United States Attorneys

FROM: Jamie S. Gorelick
Deputy Attorney General

SUBJECT: First Anniversary of the Anti-Violent
Crime Initiative

This month marks the first anniversary of the Attorney General's Anti-Violent Crime Initiative (AVCI). The success of the AVCI is in large measure due to the efforts which you, along with your Assistants and staff, have undertaken. The Attorney General and I wish to assure that this effort is properly recognized and that each United States Attorney's office is the recipient of proper recognition for its role.

On March 16, 1995, the Attorney General will brief the President on the results of the first year of the AVCI. We will provide exact timing information via EMAIL later in the week. One hour after the event in Washington concludes, you are requested to coordinate and host an appropriate event to recognize the first anniversary of the AVCI in your district.

The event should focus on the AVCI and should involve participation by appropriate representatives of state and local law enforcement and prosecutive agencies. We ask that you strictly adhere to the time schedule as it has been carefully coordinated with the White House and the Attorney General as well as other cabinet officials.

We recognize that many of you are extremely pressed for time and accordingly we have taken the liberty of drafting a press release and a statement into which you may insert appropriate examples. You should feel free to edit these materials as you see fit.

We ask that you undertake the following:

DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT March 4, 1995 // 1:05 P.M. NGESS\AVCI.111

- o Consult with state and local law enforcement and prosecutive agencies as to the content of the event and assure that your local federal law enforcement agency heads are involved in the planning process.
- o Select appropriate cases and techniques as exemplifying the efforts in your district. Please select cases in which there are sufficient public details so as to permit appropriate comment. Also, select cases in which you worked with the state and locals through your task force.
- o Issue a media advisory at an appropriate time prior to the scheduled event.
- o Validate assertions which you make in your release and/or statement by preparing press packets with public documents such as copies of news stories, indictments and judgment and commitment orders. You may wish to consider producing enlargements of this document in order to highlight particular cases.
- o Assure that appropriate credit is given to Assistants and staff in your office as well as state and local prosecutors and law enforcement and that appropriate individuals are actually involved in or are available for public comment.

In order to assure that you have the support which you need, I have asked Paul Fishman (202-514-4376) from my office and Nicholas M. Gess (202-616-6484) from the Executive Office for United States Attorneys to make themselves available to answer your substantive questions about event planning and other issues. I have also asked Bert Brandenburg and Gina Talamona of the Office of Public Affairs (202-514-2088) to make themselves available to answer specific questions regarding the media aspects of this event.

Thank you for all of your efforts. Please convey my thanks to the Assistants and the staff in your office.

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY REMARKS

INTRODUCTIONS

One hour ago, Attorney General Reno briefed President Clinton on the results of the first year of the Administration's Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. He said, "[INSERT QUOTES FROM POTUS REMARKS]. As she told our President, while the impetus for the initiative may have originated in Washington, this is not a Washington, but rather a local program. Here in _____, the community has worked together to fight violent crime and we should take this opportunity to assess what we have done.

Today is not about victory and it is not a celebration. But it is a day of hope, a day to reflect on the progress we have made, and a day to commit to work harder in the coming year.

Today is also a day to reflect on how we can use the new tools given us under the Crime Bill. It was only signed into law on September 13, but there are remarkable efforts which will be possible as the result of the new law. First, 100,000 new police officers will mean an almost 20% increase in available law enforcement. Second, tough new statutes such as Three Strikes and You're Out will permit us to assure that the most serious violent offenders

are off the street forever. Third, the Crime Bill means that there will be money to prevent crime from happening in the first place.

A year ago this month, I participated in a teleconference with Attorney General Reno, FBI Director Freeh and the heads of the other federal law enforcement agencies and my colleagues, the other United States Attorneys elsewhere in the nation. As the result of that teleconference, here in [LOCATION], I asked [NAMES / TITLES] to sit down and discuss the violent crime problem and determine how we could all best jointly address the issue. We did so and determined that our major priorities would be [CRIME / TYPES OF CRIMES / THEORIES OF PROSECUTION]. We turned this plan into reality when on [DATE], [DEFENDANTS ARRESTED / CHARGED WITH]. Now, [NUMBER] have pleaded guilty / have been sentenced.

Since that times, my colleagues and I across the country have filed a total of 5,270 criminal cases against 7,109 violent and repeat offenders. Here in _____, we have filed _____ criminal cases against _____ such offenders. This is only a small percentage of the number of violent crime prosecutions either across the country or here in _____. The vast majority are and will continue to be prosecuted by my colleagues in the _____ system as part of our partnership against violent crime.

Since then, several cases exemplify not only tough tactics, but cooperative efforts. [GIVE CASES, DETAILS, WHY COOPERATION IMPORTANT].

Violent Crime is a problem across America. We will not solve the problem in a day or in a year. However, we have made great strides. Those strides are in large measure due to some of the people here today [INTRODUCE AUSA's, AGENTS, COPS]. Everybody here in [LOCATION] should take the opportunity to thank these folks and people like them.

I look forward to serving this community as United States Attorney as long as the President allows me that privilege. I can assure you that violent crime will continue to be the priority which it has been. Thank you.

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY PRESS RELEASE

United States Attorney _____ today announced the first anniversary of his office's anti-violent crime initiative. The initiative, part of a nationwide program, was also the subject of a briefing by Attorney General Reno for the President at *** EST.

Earlier today, United States Attorney gathered with [OTHER OFFICIALS] at [LOCATION] to discuss the cooperative efforts which underlie the initiative. S/he explained that here in [LOCATION], s/he had asked [NAMES / TITLES] to sit down and discuss the violent crime problem and determine how all could best jointly address the issue. They did so and determined that the major priorities would be [CRIME / TYPES OF CRIMES / THEORIES OF PROSECUTION]. This plan became reality when on [DATE], [DEFENDANTS ARRESTED / CHARGED WITH]. Now, [NUMBER] have pleaded guilty / have been sentenced.

United States Attorney noted that nationally, federal prosecutors had filed 5,270 criminal cases against 7,109 violent and repeat offenders and that here in _____, _____ criminal cases had been filed against _____ such offenders.

United States Attorney _____ pointed to several cases as exemplifying not only the cooperation required in order to assure success, but the serious consequences for those who commit violent crimes:

INPUT EXAMPLES

DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT March 4, 1995 // 1:05 P.M. NGESS\AVCI.111

At the conclusion of the meeting, United States Attorney took the opportunity to recognize the efforts of [AUSAs, agents, police, local prosecutors by name] as community examples. S/he said, "everyone here in [LOCATION] should take this opportunity to thank these folks and people like them."

United States Attorney [NAME] said, "crimes of violence are an attack on our most basic freedoms, the people of [COMMUNITY] have been well served by the members of my staff and the commitment of the Clinton Administration to their well-being. I look forward to another year of hard work - work which will be well worth it."

DRAFT

U.S. Department of Justice

Anti-Violent Crime Initiative

The Attorney General's Report to the President



Year One

March 1994 - February 1995

Anti-Violent Crime Initiative

The Attorney General's Report to the President

- - The First Year

"I want to form a true partnership between federal, state and local law enforcement agencies throughout this nation to ensure that career criminals, dangerous offenders and drug traffickers get strict and certain sentences that put them away and keep them away."

Janet Reno
Attorney General

I am pleased to address today the results achieved during the first year of the Administration's Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. A year ago, the Vice President and I announced this important initiative and called upon the 93 U.S. Attorneys throughout the country to work with their local communities and with federal, state and local law enforcement officials to develop coordinated strategies to address the most serious violent crime problems within their jurisdictions. I am able to report today that coordinated strategies have been developed in each jurisdiction throughout the country. Additionally, the work required to implement these strategies is well underway. Our successes over the past year have resulted from all working together through the new partnerships that were forged to address the formidable acts of violence that threaten the lives and safety of millions of Americans.

Overview

As announced a year ago, the overriding objective of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative is not to federalize all violent crimes but, instead, for federal prosecutors to work in tandem with members of their local communities and with federal, state and local law enforcement officials to:

- o identify the most serious violent crime problems within their jurisdictions and focus on creative solutions for those problems;
- o involve the community with federal, state and local officials to address violence and restore quality of life to our neighborhoods;
- o redirect task force efforts where feasible to maximize the use of federal, state and local law enforcement resources;
- o forge partnerships with state and local prosecutors to facilitate the exercise of coordinated, sound prosecutive judgement; and
- o work to address all issues that may impact on the effective prosecution of violent crime including the coordination of charging decisions among federal, state and local authorities, taking into account the availability of state laws to address violent crime.

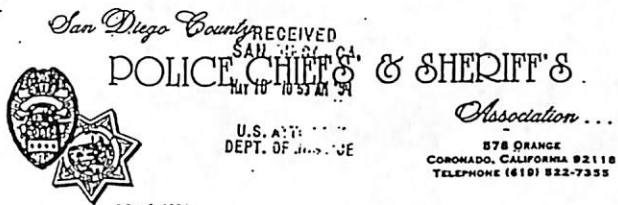
The overriding objective, then, of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative is to do what is best for each violent crime case and, at the same time, to do what is best for each community. This represents the strategic planning and approach that has been taken over the past year. Many U.S. Attorneys report an

unprecedented cooperation among federal, state and local officials in addressing violent crime. Also, communities have experienced a decrease in violent crime following the successful conclusion of multi-agency investigations and prosecutions.

Between March 1 and December 31, 1994, the U.S. Attorneys filed a total of 5,270 criminal cases against 7,109 violent and repeat offenders. These cases represent only those filed by federal prosecutors in United States District Court, and do not speak to the prosecutorial work that has also been undertaken by state and local prosecutors throughout the country during the past year.

Federal, State and Local Law Enforcement and Community Coordination

"... We recognize that no one agency; local, state or federal, has the abilities to independently suppress the ever increasing wave of violence and the pervasive resulting fear such violence brings. . ."



May 6, 1994

OFFICERS
 President
 Jack Brown
 Coronado
 Vice President
 Rick Emerson
 Chula Vista
 Secretary/Treasurer
 Martin Hight
 E.D. Port District

Honorable Alan D. Berlin
 United States Attorney
 Southern District of California
 United States Courthouse
 940 Front Street, Room 5152
 San Diego, California 92101-8800

Dear Mr. Berlin:

EXECUTIVE BOARD
 Clarence Vest
 Chief, Border Division
 Robert Yates
 Coronado
 Edwin L. Miller, Jr.
 District Attorney
 Jack Smith
 El Cajon
 Vincent Jimna
 Escondido
 Bill Espinoza
 FBI
 Walt Michler
 La Mesa
 Keith Rousey
 National City
 Bruce Dumas
 Oceanside
 Michael Spakke
 San Diego Co. Marshals
 Alan Cragin
 San Diego Co. Probation
 Jim Roache
 San Diego Co. Sheriff's
 Jerry Sanders
 San Diego Police
 John Carpenter
 SDCU
 John Anderson
 UCSD

On behalf of the members of the San Diego County Police Chiefs' and Sheriff's Association, I am pleased to extend the Association's unanimous support and endorsement of your Operation Piza for the National Anti-Violent Crime Initiative.

The proposed Task Force strategy, combining state, local and federal law enforcement resources with both state and federal prosecutorial support, allows for a coordinated and cooperative initiative to removing violent offenders from the streets of San Diego and Imperial Counties. The concentration of Task Force resources on the three identified core precipitants of violence; gangs, fugitives and major offenders, will allow Task Force operations to focus on those persons who trade daily in violence and fear within our local communities.

As you know, San Diego County law enforcement agencies of all levels enjoy an unprecedented reputation for interagency cooperation in pursuit of effective regional law enforcement. Local agencies have joyfully participated in successful task force operations on a continuous basis for more than thirty years. I know of no other region of the Country wherein local, state and federal agencies so quickly and enthusiastically embrace the concept of shared resources, teamwork and a singular focus of effort. The ground work for the success of the Attorney General's Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, and the Implementation strategy you have selected, is well founded in this County.

As the Initiative progresses, I am certain all local law enforcement agencies will be eager to participate within their capabilities. The police chiefs of San Diego County recognize that our county's geographic location and proximity to the Mexican border produce unique criminal problems not easily addressed by conventional means. We further recognize that no one agency; local, state or federal, has the abilities to independently suppress the ever increasing wave of violence and the pervasive resulting fear such violence brings.

Please assure Attorney General Reno of our sincere support for both the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative and your strategies for implementation. We very strongly encourage her full support of your submitted Operational Plan.

I look forward to working with you in our mutual effort to enhance the quality of life within our region.

Sincerely,

 Jack Brown

The coordination of federal, state and local law enforcement efforts has been critical to the success of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. Effective communication and appropriate use of available resources is paramount, whether attained through specially-established violent crime task forces, enhancement of existing task forces, or informal means. A variety of methods have been employed over the past year to ensure that the highest level of communication and the best use of resources are achieved. In cities such as New Orleans and Detroit, for example, federal and local law enforcement agents now share working space inside police headquarters.

In other communities, such as Sacramento, a federal, state and local Anti-Violent Crime Strike Team was created, with a focus on armed repeat offenders, criminal aliens, and gangs. The Team's first phase, conducted in Sacramento County, led to the arrest of 64 targets, including two murder suspects and one defendant who had 19 prior convictions. Pleased with the good results, the Sacramento Police Department spearheaded an effort to create a permanent multi-agency unit, the Sacramento Career Criminal Apprehension Program Task Force. A similar task force approach in San Diego has resulted in the arrest of more than 1,250 felony fugitives since April 1994. Under the San Diego Gang Group more than 170 gang-related prosecutions have been initiated in state court, and about 150 defendants charged in federal court since August 1994.

In yet other communities, efforts under the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative have responded to particular law enforcement needs. In Atlanta a Mobile Crime Scene Unit, staffed by agents of the FBI and Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI), was created to respond promptly to the scene of violent crimes. The Director of GBI noted the overwhelming number of Crime Scene Unit requests received from local law enforcement agencies and his belief that the Unit is clearly serving law enforcement and resulting in an efficient and effective resolution of violent crime cases.

Equally important, many U.S. Attorneys have engaged in community outreach efforts to expand coordination of the fight against violent crime to citizens and groups within their jurisdictions. In Pittsburgh, at the behest of the U.S. Attorney and other community leaders, all eight television stations will simultaneously air a jointly produced program to kick off a month-long campaign to bring peace to Pittsburgh's streets. The campaign involves dozens of area businesses, community groups, and individuals in an effort to reverse the cycle of violence that has made homicide the number one cause of death of teenagers in the area.

Targeting Violent Individuals

"This has great potential to rid the streets of repeat offenders. That should be our No. 1 priority. These are the most violent of the violent."

*—Sylvester Daughtry
Police Chief
Greensboro, North Carolina*

A strategy over the past year in many jurisdictions has been to focus on the most violent offenders in the community and use legitimate law enforcement measures to take these offenders off the streets. Such measures might include surveillance, reinvestigating unsolved cases in which the targeted offender is a suspect, and developing cases against associates of a targeted offender in an effort to obtain cooperation. In the District of Columbia, a Major Violators Project (MVP) was initiated in which agents compile a list of persons known by law enforcement to have been involved in a disproportionate amount of serious violent crimes in the area. The U.S. Attorney assigns MVP attorneys to coordinate cases with the agents. As a result of the project, investigations are better coordinated by law enforcement agencies. Since the MVP's inception, 35 persons have been removed from the list, primarily because of convictions resulting in a substantial sentence.

Other jurisdictions have developed similar approaches. In the Middle District of North Carolina, a federal state and local violent crime task force has targeted the 500 most violent criminals in Guilford County.

Yet other jurisdictions have focused on major offenders who are committing particular types of violent crime, such as in the Eastern District of Tennessee which has a significant carjacking problem. A carjacking defendant was sentenced in September 1994 to life in prison plus 300 months and, since then, the district has not experienced a single carjacking crime. Over the past year, numerous other districts have targeted and aggressively pursued violent individuals, filing cases against them in United States District Court where appropriate.

Efforts in Specific Violent Crime Areas

Violent crime has no boundaries either in type or effect, and cuts across all sectors of society. It includes the acts of gang members who terrorize America's neighborhoods and inflict fear and bodily harm on others through the commission of crime. It includes the acts of those with long criminal histories or excessively violent criminal behavior who possess or use firearms to commit bank robberies, carjackings, and kidnappings, as well as of those who traffick in firearms illegally. It includes children who commit violent crimes and children who suffer the consequences of violent crime. It affects all communities--urban and rural, citizens of all ages, people of all walks of life.

"... without the ability to coordinate efforts across jurisdictional and agency lines we will continue to operate at a disadvantage to criminals who respect no boundaries."

*—Donald L. Carter
Chief of Police
Champaign, Illinois*

Gun Violence

Under the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, federal firearms prosecutions have focused on individuals with long criminal histories or excessively violent criminal behavior, and those who sell firearms as gun runners. Between March 1 and October 31, 1994, the U.S. Attorneys charged 3,255 defendants with federal firearms violations. During the same period of time, 1,114 defendants were convicted, which represents an 86 percent conviction rate. Ninety-four (94) percent of those sentenced during this time were sent to prison. The average sentence of incarceration was 92 months, with 90 defendants sentenced to life or more than 15 years. The U.S. Attorneys rely on the joint efforts of federal, state and local law enforcement and stiff federal penalties to prosecute firearms offenders successfully.

Many jurisdictions have also focused investigative resources on tracking firearms in an effort to identify suppliers of illegal firearms, particularly those who supply firearms to juveniles. In February 1995, the U.S. Attorney in New Jersey, along with the New Jersey Attorney General, the state's 21 county prosecutors, the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

(ATF), and the heads of law enforcement agencies signed a Memorandum of Understanding requiring universal firearms tracing in the state. In Kentucky, the ATF and Louisville Police have formed a task force to focus on firearms trafficking schemes. The emphasis is on guns purchased in Louisville and trafficked to such cities as Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C. In Atlanta, too, the focus is on firearms trafficking and on persons making multiple firearms purchases.

In the District of Columbia, an intensive multi-agency gun initiative is being planned to address the city's high level of gun violence. An objective is to reduce the city's violent crime rate by 40 percent to the level that existed prior to 1986 when the crack cocaine epidemic fueled gun violence in the area. The initiative will involve seizing and tracing illegal weapons, increasing the certainty of punishment for firearms offenses, and educating the city's youth about the destructive potential of gun possession.

Gang Violence

February 13, 1995



Mr. Mark T. Calloway
United States Attorney
Western District
State Of North Carolina
227 W. Trade Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Dear Mr. Calloway,

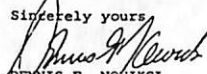
The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department has been involved with the United States Attorney's Office for a number of years in combating crime in the Charlotte area. During this period of time numerous drug and criminal organizations have been prosecuted and dismantled as the result of prosecutions in federal court. The working relationship our Department has enjoyed with the United States Attorney's Office has proved to be very successful.

In September, 1992 a structured violent crimes task force was established in Charlotte. The Bureau Of Alcohol, Tobacco, And Firearms and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department are the lead agencies in this effort. The North Carolina State Bureau Of Investigation, the United States Secret Service, and the Federal Bureau Of Investigation also participate in this task force. During this time period your office has coordinated the work of this task force in a very effective and efficient manner. Your leadership has contributed greatly to this becoming what we feel is one of the best partnerships in the country between local, state, and federal agencies in combating violent crime. Numerous violent drug gangs operating in our neighborhoods have been prosecuted and removed from our community as a direct result of this successful effort. Violent crime was down 10% in Charlotte-Mecklenburg during 1994 which included a 31% decrease in murders, a 17% decrease in robberies and a 6% decrease in aggravated assaults.

We are in the process of implementing community-problem oriented policing in the entire county. Preventing the next crime is our new mission statement and problem solving is our basic unit of work. The investigative work being done by the Violent Crimes Task Force and successful prosecution by your assistants of these violent drug gangs who operate in our neighborhoods is helping us prevent future crimes and contributes greatly to problem solving in our neighborhoods and the community.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for your leadership in the effort to combat violent crime in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. This appreciation extends to all of your assistants and the other persons in your office involved in this cooperative effort.

Sincerely yours,


DENNIS E. NOWICKI
Chief Of Police

". . . Numerous violent drug gangs operating in our neighborhoods have been prosecuted and removed from our community as a direct result of this successful effort. . ."

Violent gang members threaten the safety and stability of our neighborhoods and inflict fear and bodily harm on others through the commission of crime. In communities across the country, gang-related violence has robbed residents of the ability to enjoy their streets and homes. Over the past year, many jurisdictions have focused their efforts on dismantling violent criminal gangs, using federal racketeering statutes. Additional strategies include use of other laws, including federal and state narcotics statutes, as well as outstanding warrants, to take violent gang members off the streets.

The Saginaw, Michigan Gang Crime Task Force, created to target gangs committing murders, drive-by shootings and drug distribution, has apprehended over 100 violent criminals.

In Shreveport, Louisiana, 45 federal and local warrants were issued against the "Bottoms Boys," a violent drug gang in the Ledbetter Heights neighborhood. A federal racketeering indictment charged 13 defendants with operating a continuing criminal enterprise and committing offenses involving murder and drug distribution. Twelve leaders and organizers of the gang face life in prison, if convicted. According to Shreveport police, a comparison of crime data for the five months preceding and following the arrests reflects a 34 percent decline in violent crime in the neighborhood that had been controlled by the Bottoms Boys.

In Youngstown, Ohio, four members of the "Ready Rock Boys" were convicted and eight others pled guilty to federal narcotics and weapons charges related to crack cocaine distribution. The group's activities included numerous drive-by shootings, one in which an innocent bystander was killed. Three of the defendants face life in prison without parole. Youngstown police report a dramatic decline in violent crime since the Ready Rock Boys were indicted and detained.

An investigation, known as Operation Tiger's Eye, resulted in the arrests of 43 members of a violent drug trafficking gang operating in Ft. Dodge, Iowa, a community of 29,000 residents. So far, 38 of those defendants have been convicted of narcotics and weapons charges. Following the arrests, 1994 became the first year in several years when no murders were reported in Ft. Dodge and aggravated assaults declined by 33 percent.

These efforts, just a few of the many undertaken, serve to demonstrate the universal reach of gang violence and that significant prosecutions can improve the quality of life in those communities where gangs operate.

Homicide

Multi-agency investigations in some jurisdictions have had a marked effect on the rate of homicide. Over the past year, the Southern District of New York has made significant strides in forging relationships with local police and district attorneys, overcoming old rivalries that impeded a coordinated effort against violent crime in the past. As a result of cooperative efforts, the district has closed dozens of murders in the course of conducting racketeering investigations of violent street gangs.

Notably, in New York City, federal and local law enforcement officials took one violent gang off the street and, two months later, took down members of the gang that tried to replace it. In May 1994, 17 alleged members of a violent Bronx-based organization called "C & C" were charged in a 73-count racketeering indictment that included murder, kidnapping, assault, narcotics trafficking, and firearms offenses. According to the indictment, members of the gang extorted money from drug dealers and enforced its control over the dealers through violence, including murder.

As "C & C" was effectively being dismantled by the joint federal/state/local investigation, another gang took over its violent extortionate activities. In July 1994, 15 alleged members of that gang, the "Willis Avenue Lynch Mob," were charged in a 49-count racketeering indictment that included two murders, one attempted murder, armed robbery, carjackings, firearms offenses, and extortion.

Since March 1994, the district has obtained the indictments of 11 violent groups and numerous individuals. The cases have solved over 75 murders and charged over 160 defendants. Of 92 convictions obtained in the past year, 48 defendants were sentenced to life. The cases are particularly significant because the murders would never have been solved except for federal intervention. The proof of the murders depended for the most part on accomplice testimony, evidence that is disfavored in New York state courts. For that reason, none of the murder predicates in the indictments had been prosecuted by the state, and most could not have been.

Additionally, the indictments have had a significant impact on the community, causing a precipitous drop in the murder rate in two precincts. In the Bronx, following the arrests of alleged members of the "C & C" gang and the subsequent arrests of gang members seeking to take over from "C & C," the murder rate dropped in half, where it has remained since the arrests. In Manhattan's 32nd precinct, which ranks among the city's top five

precincts in murders, narcotics-related murders dropped to one since the arrests last August of members of a murderous narcotics organization.

Similar results were noted in San Antonio, following the successful prosecution of more than 40 upper echelon leaders of the notoriously violent Texas Mexican Mafia. In 1994, there was a decline in most categories of violent street crime in San Antonio.

In the District of Columbia in 1994, there was a 12 percent reduction in the number of homicides from the previous year, resulting in the lowest homicide rate since 1988. Law enforcement officials attribute this decline, and much of the district's success in combatting violent crime in the city, to innovative strategies implemented pursuant to the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative.

In 1994, the city of Charlotte experienced a 30 percent reduction in the homicide rate. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police attribute this to the work of the Charlotte Violent Crime Task Force, the cornerstone of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative in the Western District of North Carolina. The multi-agency task force, which focuses on the prosecution of entire criminal organizations, has a 95 percent conviction rate.

Although in less populous districts the homicide rate is far lower than in cities like New York or Washington, the impact of homicide on the community is no less severe, and the results of intensive investigation no less appreciated.



JIMMY BLANTON
Pastor

MICHAEL E. PARKS
Director of
Music Ministries

JAY EVANS
Minister of Students
and Discipleship

First Baptist Church

1135 Watson Boulevard • Warner Robins, GA 31093
(912) 922-8152 • 922-3622

July 20, 1994

*Middle District
of Alabama*

The Violent Crime Task Force
% Chief Danny Pollard
Millbrook City Police Department
P.O.B. C
Millbrook, AL 36054

Dear Sirs:

The family of Mrs. Hazel Liveoak would like to thank you, the Violent Crime Task Force, for your assistance in the capture of people responsible for her death. Your quick work made the anguish of this experience easier for us all to handle.

When the word first came that her body was found we thought that it would be just about impossible to find the people responsible. But you did your job in a very professional way which proved that criminals do not always walk away from the crimes which they have committed. You all did an outstanding job and for that we are very grateful.

With grateful hearts to you and our Lord,

Janice L. Wester, Anita L. Blanton, and Larry E. Liveoak

In Nebraska, Weed and Seed funds were used in 1994 to pay overtime to a team of uniformed officers engaged in proactive interdiction and violent crime enforcement. In 1993, in the heart of the Weed and Seed target site, there were three homicides and numerous felony assaults, many of them gang related. As a result of the intensive investigative efforts in 1994, there were no homicides or felony assaults in the targeted area.

Bank Robbery

Because of the significant level of bank robbery in some jurisdictions, a number of task force efforts have been directed to this problem. There were 222 bank robberies in the state of Oregon during 1994. As a result, virtually every bank robbery in the district is prosecuted in federal court. Since the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative was announced, the U.S. Attorney has obtained 55 indictments against 59 defendants for bank robbery. While it is too early to predict a trend, bank robberies in Oregon declined by ten percent during the first year of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative.

Bank robbery is the major violent crime problem in the Middle District of Tennessee. The District Attorneys General recently requested that the federal government continue to prosecute bank robberies because of the availability of higher federal penalties. Since March 1994, charges have been brought against 11 bank robbers in the district.

A successful prosecution in the Northern District of Illinois resulted in the convictions of a father-son duo who engaged in a violent bank robbery spree in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana. The father was convicted in state court in Indiana of attempted murder for shooting at a police officer during a getaway attempt. With the cooperation of federal, state, and local agencies in the three states, the father and son were indicted in Chicago on federal charges in connection with the commission of 19 bank robberies. Convicted in January 1995, the father and son will spend the rest of their lives in prison.

Juvenile Violence

Juvenile violence is increasingly the most serious violent crime problem in many jurisdictions. Federal prosecutors are pursuing more aggressively the prosecution of violent, armed juveniles, or working more closely with state and local prosecutors to ensure prolonged incarceration of violent juvenile offenders.

Many federal prosecutors are also involved in community efforts designed to stem the rise in juvenile violence. The U.S. Attorney in Pittsburgh has formed the Youth Crime Prevention Council of Allegheny County, and is coordinating community efforts to reduce youth violence by providing meaningful alternatives to criminal activity. Since August 1994, the U.S. Attorney's office in the Middle District of Pennsylvania has conducted a series of educational programs in local schools. In these programs, prosecutors, police, victims of violent crime, and juveniles caught up in the juvenile justice system warn young people about the dangers of juvenile violence.

The following cases illustrate the wanton violent crime that is being committed by an increasing number of juvenile offenders and some of the law enforcement efforts that have been made under the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative.

In the Eastern District of Texas, a juvenile is believed responsible for the carjacking-murder on April 19, 1994, of 63-year-old John Luttig in Tyler, Texas. Luttig was the father of Fourth Circuit Judge Michael Luttig, a former Justice Department attorney. An intensive multi-agency investigation led to the arrest of brothers Cedrick and Donald Coleman and a juvenile. The juvenile allegedly fired the fatal shots with a .45 automatic. The Colemans were convicted federally of offenses related to the carjacking and sentenced to terms in excess of 40 years each. The juvenile faces a capital murder charge in state court.

A juvenile was identified as a shooter in an execution-style double homicide that was committed in Huntington, West Virginia, in October 1994. An intense, coordinated federal-local investigation disclosed that the shootings were drug related. The juvenile is charged in state court with first degree murder. His three accomplices, all older teenagers, were indicted federally on narcotics and weapons charges.

In the Western District of Texas, a juvenile and an adult stabbed a victim 27 times when the victim resisted a robbery. The defendants returned to the scene twice to wipe away fingerprints and remove evidence of the crime. Each time they returned, the victim was still alive. The victim died before help arrived. Both defendants pled guilty, the juvenile having agreed to be certified as an adult.

Violent crime also includes violence directed at children. As part of the FBI Violent Crimes Task Force in Los Angeles, a multi-agency Violent Crimes Against Children initiative is being developed. The initiative will emphasize the increasing use of computer technology to commit crimes against children. The task

force will work with a new Child Abductions Task Force operation now being established by the FBI in Los Angeles, which is working with local law enforcement officials on unsolved cases.

Violence in Public Housing

Prosecutions appear to have pushed a thriving drug trade underground, and tenants say that the almost-nightly gunfire has subsided

Federal officials work to clean up Salem Gardens

By Ian Hoffman
JOURNAL REPORTER

The one long street into Salem Gardens curls back on itself at "the Circle," the heart of the apartment complex and home to its nighttime market in crack cocaine.

The layout is a drug dealer's dream. Lookouts can see police nearly a minute before they arrive.

So drive-thru crack sales at Salem Gardens have flourished for years, fed by lines of outside traffic. "Bump runners" took orders at curbside and openly swapped crack for cash. The dealers lounged in apartments or shadowed breezeways. They settled disputes with shotguns, assault rifles and 9-mm pistols. The gunfights often drove tenants and their children

to sleep on the floor. Some blocked their windows with bookcases to stop stray bullets.

This summer has been different. Three of Salem Gardens' crack dealers, including two suspects in shootouts at the complex, pleaded guilty recently to federal drug-trafficking and weapons charges.

For now, the prosecutions — coupled with the fatal shootings of some dealers — appear to have driven the crack trade indoors, and tenants say that the almost-nightly gunfire has subsided.

Federal prosecutors aren't walking away just yet. U.S. Attorney Walter G. Holton Jr. has more in mind for Salem Gardens. Federal attorneys under Holton are working with the

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to pressure the apartments' owners into making the complex a better, safer place to live.

Holton plans on forging similar partnerships to attack and prevent violent crime in other neighborhoods throughout the 24 counties in his district. Law-enforcement agencies alone are unable to deal with poverty, unemployment or broken families — factors that Holton sees as the roots of violent crime.

"We want to develop a sense that our criminal prosecutions, particularly in the area of violent crime, are part of a larger picture. We want to ensure that we are not operating in a vacuum," he said.

See SALEM GARDENS, Page E6

SALEM GARDENS

Continued From Page E1

HUD, which subsidizes rent at Salem Gardens, has rated housing conditions there "below average" or "unsatisfactory" for more than a year. Yet the agency had little success in forcing the owners to do more.

The owners, Salem Properties Ltd. of Atlanta, were more than \$400,000 behind on repairs last spring, Holton said.

Tenants complain about leaking roofs, backed-up toilets, worn carpet and appliances, broken windows and holes in the walls.

Holton said he also wants some improvement in security at the complex: better outdoor lighting, fences to keep nontenants out and perhaps private security guards.

Tenants have a legal right to peaceful enjoyment of their homes, he said, and the complex owners have a duty to provide it.

"There's an obligation to provide basic security," he said.

With encouragement from Holton's office, HUD has barred Salem Properties from similar Section 8

housing programs and required that its management company withhold part of rent collections for repairs.

So far, the management company has responded with some repairs and proposals for more than it has promised before.

"It appears to me at this point that we have at the very least gotten their attention," Holton said last week. "We're still in the early stage of this process, but we intend to follow it through."

If the repair backlog persists at Salem Gardens, HUD and Holton's office will consider other tactics: collecting the rent directly to make the repairs or suing the management and owners to force compliance with HUD housing standards.

Cooperation between a U.S. attorney and HUD on such a project is new to North Carolina. It grew out of the drug investigation by the city police and agents with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the State Bureau of Investigation.

Agents told Holton that tenants described an atmosphere of fear at the apartments. The complex manager later made a tearful plea to a federal prosecutor for his help in cleaning up the neighborhood.

Now, after the arrests, said Detective Kent C. Sherrill: "It's gone from where people were afraid to go out at night to where people do go out. The kids play and feel safer in the community."

As part of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, the U.S. Attorneys experiencing a high degree of violence in public and assisted housing were asked to address that violence as part of their strategies. The U.S. Attorneys responded. As illustrated above, the U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina implemented crime prevention strategies in a Winston-Salem apartment complex following the convictions of four defendants on narcotics charges. In Puerto Rico, a Violent Neighborhood Initiative is aimed at violent gangs that operate in neighborhoods and housing projects. And, in Los Angeles, task force agents focus on the P.J. Crips, one of the city's most notorious and violent street gangs, that at the height of power exerted almost total control over criminal activities in a large public housing project and its environs.

Many significant prosecutions of defendants who commit crimes in and around public housing have been undertaken. A number of these cases have produced demonstrable results. For example, the U.S. Attorney's office for the Southern District of Illinois has handled a large number of crack cocaine cases which, prior to the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, were handled by the state and resulted in probation. Now, as a direct result of this task force effort, open, notorious, drug dealing which was commonplace in East St. Louis and Cairo has almost been eliminated. Over 69 federal and 38 state prosecutions resulted from law enforcement efforts in a federal housing project in Cairo which served as the distribution center for crack cocaine in a three-state area. The project is now a peaceful residential complex.

The Tacoma, Washington, Violent Crime Task Force stepped up its focus on violent offenders in the Hilltop area of the city, with an emphasis on drug dealers and felons in possession of firearms. Since March 1994, the task force has presented 18 cases for prosecution. A recent investigation, called Operation Hardrock, targeted street drug dealers in the Hilltop area. Approximately 80 dealers were arrested for over 100 videotaped transactions. These task force efforts have had an impact in the area. The drug dealers rarely carry firearms during their transactions. The word on the street is to avoid getting "vamped," that is, caught and prosecuted by the federal government because of substantially higher prison sentences.

Violence in Indian Country

In districts where the U.S. Attorneys have jurisdiction to prosecute serious crimes on Indian reservations, strategies have been implemented to enhance the federal response to violence in Indian country. A number of districts have dedicated one or more prosecutors to these cases. Prosecutors and federal agents are spending more time on the reservations, investigating cases and coordinating efforts with tribal law enforcement authorities. The districts report that these efforts have dramatically improved relationships with local tribes.

Other efforts include formulating protocols to investigate and prosecute sexual assaults and other violent crimes in Indian country, and developing multi-disciplinary teams to enhance the response of law enforcement and other community groups to violent crime. Additionally, the U.S. Attorney's office in the Eastern District of Wisconsin has established a network for all federal prosecutors in the country to share information and concerns arising from the prosecution of cases in Indian country.

In Arizona, the U.S. Attorney's Office, the FBI, and criminal investigators from the Navajo Reservation have joined forces in a Safe Trails Violent Crime Task Force. Described as the first of its kind in Indian country, the task force thus far has dramatically decreased the length of time it generally takes to move cases through the criminal justice system.

As an example of increased response time resulting from such focused efforts, when a county sheriff was murdered on the Menominee reservation in Wisconsin, two Assistant U.S. Attorneys and four FBI agents went to the reservation on the day the body was found. The case was indicted the following day, October 18, 1994. By February 2, 1995, the defendant had pled guilty. This quick and intense effort improved relationships with the residents of the reservation and increased confidence in the justice system.

As an integral part of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, the District of New Mexico has developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the FBI, ATF, DEA, BIA, and tribal police. The MOU will implement a system of vertical investigation using multi-disciplinary teams. The intent of the agreement is to foster increased cooperation, mutual assistance, and more timely and effective investigations of violent crime in Indian country. In the 12 months preceding the anti-violence initiative, only 38 Indian country cases were indicted in the district. Since the inception of the initiative, the district has obtained indictments or filed charges by information in 64 violent crime cases arising in Indian country, an increase of 68 percent.

Prison Violence

Violence in federal penitentiaries has caused some districts to adapt their violent crime strategies to address the problem of prison violence. There have been six inmate killings in the Atlanta penitentiary within the past year, the most recent on February 12, 1995, as well as the murder of a correctional officer by an inmate in December. In order to address the increased violence, the U.S. Attorney is focusing on prison violence. Adopting a "zero tolerance" policy, the district intends to prosecute all inmate assaults on correctional staff, all cases of weapons and narcotic possession by inmates, and the introduction of controlled substances into the prison.

The Eastern District of Virginia, too, has expanded its efforts at the Lorton Reformatory Correctional Complex, adding a multi-agency Lorton Task Force to its overall anti-violent crime strategy. At Lorton, there are a large number of violent assaults on correctional officers, as well as inmate assaults. There are often close links between the violent incidents and drug-related disputes. On May 13, 1994, Henry "Little Man" James, who had been convicted of murder in the November 1991 random shooting of a woman on the Anacostia Freeway in Washington, D.C., pled guilty to stabbing two inmates at Lorton. His conviction added over 10 years to his sentence.

Violence in Rural Areas

The incidence of violent crime is not restricted to high density urban areas. A number of districts have made concerted efforts to address violent crime in their less populous areas. The District of Maine, for instance, sought and obtained from the Drug Enforcement Administration a report on rural drug enforcement that contains a strategic analysis of drug trafficking trends in the state. The district plans to utilize the report to assist in developing strategies to combat drug-related violence in rural areas.

In the Western District of Texas, 12 alleged members of a Houston gang traveled to a rural community where gang members entered banks, terrorized customers and employees, and took \$177,000 in cash. While fleeing the community, the conspirators shot at passersby. They stopped at a cemetery to steal another car where they shot and killed an 82-year-old woman who was tending her husband's grave. They stole her car and engaged in a shootout with law enforcement officers before being apprehended. So far, nine of the defendants have pled guilty to federal charges. The Southern District of Texas has assisted the Western District of Texas on these and other related prosecutions.

Domestic Violence

While, traditionally, domestic violence is investigated and prosecuted by state and local law enforcement agencies, U.S. Attorneys have responded to domestic violence cases that have a federal nexus. In some districts, U.S. Attorneys are working within the community to increase awareness of issues related to domestic violence.

The U.S. Attorney in Hawaii, for example, has focused attention on domestic violence that occurs on military installations. This initiative will coordinate all law enforcement and social service agencies that respond to reports of domestic violence on military bases in an effort to establish consistency in the treatment of offenders.

In Maine, where domestic violence was identified as the district's most serious violent crime problem, the U.S. Attorney is working with the court to implement provisions of the Violence Against Women Act, contained in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. Under a provision that restricts firearms possession by persons who are subject to a domestic violence restraining order, the U.S. Attorney submitted to the Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court a sample restraining order containing the requisite language to serve as a predicate for the federal offense. The Chief Judge has since indicated that the form is to be adopted in all courts in Maine. As a result, the district will be in a better position to prosecute effectively domestic abusers in possession of guns.

In January 1995, the Southern District of West Virginia indicted a defendant under a new interstate domestic violence statute contained in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, the first such prosecution in country. The defendant was arrested on December 1, 1994, when he took his unconscious, extremely dehydrated wife to a hospital in Kentucky in a battered condition, suffering from a head wound. Blood was found in the trunk of the car. The evidence indicated that the defendant had left West Virginia and traveled for six days before taking his wife to the hospital. The wife remains in a coma from loss of blood and oxygen deprivation.

Conclusion

As this report illustrates, a great deal of work has been accomplished by federal, state and local law enforcement officials and communities around the country during the first year of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. Together, law enforcement officials and members of communities have designed creative strategies that will work to address their most serious, local violent crime problems. Together, they have implemented their strategies--taking that action required to obtain maximum results from all law enforcement resources and maximum results from the criminal justice system. The new partnerships that were forged over the past year resulted in an unprecedented level of cooperation among federal, state and local officials and members of the community.

Even with the accomplishments made over the last year, violent crime continues to threaten the lives and safety of Americans. We know that violent crime is a problem that will not be easily or quickly solved. We know, too, that its solution cannot be achieved by any one person, agency, or organization. Its solution rests in the hands of all of our Nation's law enforcement entities and in the hands of all Americans. This is the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative that has been employed over the past year. While much work remains, we will remain steadfast on our course.

**ANTI-VIOLENT CRIME INITIATIVE
FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY EVENT
MARCH 16, 1995**

The White House
Washington, DC

The President
The Attorney General
The Secretary of the Treasury
The Deputy Attorney General
The Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division
The Director of the Executive Office for United States Attorneys
Representatives of State and Local Law Enforcement
and Prosecutive Agencies

I N D E X

- A. Event Memo
- B. Remarks of AG
- C. DAG Memo to United States Attorneys
- D. Statement of United States Attorney
- E. Press Release of United States Attorney

**ANTI-VIOLENT CRIME INITIATIVE
FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY
MARCH 16, 1995**

CONTACT: Nicholas M. Gess
616-6484

I. PURPOSE

To report on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. The announcement will take the form of a briefing which you will give the President.

II. BACKGROUND

The purpose of this event is to permit the Administration to take appropriate credit for the positive effect on the criminal justice system which the AVCI has had.

The Criminal Division conceived of an anti-violent crime initiative as a means to stress the importance of the formation of state and local partnerships and the need to enhance the use of federal resources to combat violent crime. In March 1994, the AVCI was announced during a nationwide conference call to which the United States Attorneys, federal agency heads and local special agents-in-charge were party. One year has now passed and it is appropriate for to highlight the Department's accomplishments.

Approximately one hour after the Presidential event, every United States Attorney will coordinate an event in his/her district. The purpose is not only to highlight the Department's support for the AVCI, but also to recognize that the strength of the AVCI is local in nature.

III. PARTICIPANTS

You will be joined in an appropriate room [ROOM****] by appropriate Cabinet officers, police officers who have worked on some of the cases which will be highlighted. Appropriate representatives of the law enforcement and state prosecutors organizations will be present. Finally, selected United States Attorneys and others will join the event by conference call.

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- o Uniformed officers enter
- o Other attendees enter
- o Cabinet officers enter
- o POTUS enters and is seated in a location such that speakers are briefing him and the audience.
- o Attorney General remarks, briefing POTUS.
- o POTUS greets those joining event by conference call. They respond by saying no more than "hello".
- o POTUS responds
- o Attorney General closes with simple "thank you."
- o Attorney General and those without speaking parts gather at media stakeout to briefly reenforce cooperation message.

V. PRESS PLAN

This is a media event. Coverage as per White House. We recommend pool spray coverage in the event room and a media stakeout on the White House grounds after the event.

VI. REMARKS

See attached.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

- A. Remarks
- B. Talking Points
- C. AVCI Book

**REMARKS OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE AVCI**

**March 16, 1995
The White House
Washington, DC**

Mr. President, [ACKNOWLEDGMENTS], this month marks the first anniversary of our violent crime initiative, a partnership of federal, state and local law enforcement and community groups across America to concentrate resources on crimes involving our most serious repeat violent offenders.

In January 1994, you addressed the people of this country in your State of the Union address. You centered your remarks on the problem of violent crime. You promised America 100,000 new police officers, tough new laws to punish repeat violent offenders, including mandatory life in prison for the worst of them - Three Strikes and You're Out - and funds for prevention programs which are enforcement.

Your covenant with America became a reality last September 13 on the lawn of the White House when you signed into law the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. Although it was a day rich in our nation's history amidst our most important monuments, a win for all Americans, as the

Crime Bill, the product of six years of bipartisan work became law, there was an over-arching sadness as you evoked the memory of some of the innocent victims of terrible crimes who were not in Washington that day.

As you know, we could not wait for the Crime Bill to be enacted into law. As soon as you spoke, action was important. Last March, I called our federal agency heads, the ninety-three United States Attorneys and local federal agents together for a teleconference. We charged them with undertaking an initiative to combat violent crime.

Since last March 1, federal prosecutors across the country have filed 5,270 cases against 7,109 violent offenders. This is just a small percentage of the violent crime prosecuted in the country. Statistical information for state and local prosecutions simply is not available and will not be available for some time. However, we are certain that the impetus provided by your initiative will result in like numbers in state and local courts.

Unlike other initiatives, the impetus here may come from Washington, but the plans and the goals come from the community. I asked each United States Attorney to consult with the federal, state, county and local law enforcement officers as well as the state and local prosecutors with whom they work on a daily basis, to develop a joint strategy to combat violence. This was

not to be a program headed by the federal government, but rather a true partnership, for I do not believe that the public cares one whit whether the officer who investigates their child's murder carries a badge which says FBI, Chicago Police Department, or Multanomah County Sheriff's Department. As Muskogee, Oklahoma Chief of Police Rex Eskridge said, "we've got a lot of calls from people who said keep it up, whatever you're doing just keep it up."

This was a massive undertaking. In the words of Sacramento, California District Attorney Steve White, "it is no small matter to get law enforcement officials at federal, state and local levels and from various agencies to work together in common purpose." He was right, but we have done it and it has been worth it. As he so eloquently put it, "we'll never know ... how many crimes have been averted or how many would-be victims spared, as a result of this action."

Mr. President, the Initiative has taken many forms because America is a country rich in variety. There are, however, certain themes which run throughout.

First, in communities across the country, gang-related violence has shattered the ability of residents to feel safe and secure. Many districts have focused their task force efforts on dismantling criminal gangs, using federal

racketeering statutes. Others have used federal and state narcotics laws and other violent crime tools to dismantle organizations. From September 13 on, we have had at our disposal the many new gang violence provisions of the Crime Bill.

Gangs are not limited to Los Angeles, Houston and New York. One successful initiative, Operation Tigers Eye in the Northern District of Iowa, resulted in the arrests of 43 members of a violent drug trafficking organization operating in Fort Dodge, a community with only 29,000 residents. I am pleased to report to you that so far, 38 of those criminals have been convicted and that following the arrests 1994 became the first year in several when there were no reported murders in Ft. Dodge.

Another strategy is to focus on the most violent offenders in the community and to use all legitimate law enforcement measures to take them off the streets. In the Middle District of North Carolina, a federal, state and local violent crime task force has targeted the 500 most violent criminals in Guilford County. My colleague, Greensboro North Carolina Police Chief Sylvester Daughtry, former head of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, said, "this has great potential to rid the streets of repeat offenders. That should be our No. 1 priority."

Elsewhere, in Eastern Tennessee, a violent crime task force investigated a significant carjacking problem in the area. In May 1994, two defendants were indicted for carjacking after an incident in which they called a taxi, robbed the driver, put him in the trunk of the cab and pushed the cab off a 106-foot embankment onto a creek. The driver survived. Both defendants pleaded guilty.

Gun violence is a plague. Prosecutors are using tough federal firearms laws to charge repeat offenders. In Robinson Township, Pennsylvania, Robert Maxwell is charged with the October 23, 1994 robbery of the Twin Highway Drive-In Flea Market in Robinson Township, Pennsylvania. He is alleged to have threatened a victim with a .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun and demanded that the victim take him to her vehicle. When the victim offered Maxwell money, Maxwell said, "I don't want your car, I want you." The victim was able to escape and Maxwell fled in the victim's vehicle. According to court documents, Maxwell has previously been convicted of robbery with a firearm and arson in 1973 and rape with an ice pick and other sexual assault crimes in 1981. The case is awaiting trial in Federal court.

Thus, we have brought federal firearms prosecutions against 3,255 criminals. By vigorously prosecuting major offenders for whatever violation is

apparent, we are doing our part to take these dangerous men and women off the street.

In the same vein, violent crime efforts have targeted serious offenders who commit homicides, bank robberies, violence in public housing and on the tribal lands of Native Americans.

Although each strategy is local in nature and is the product of hard work by the men and women of law enforcement, it is telling that so many of the strategies focus on the need for cooperation, not only between federal, state and local government, but between prosecutors and police and the government and community groups. This validates what we have all talked about, that law enforcement can be effective, that we can do something about crime, and that there is so much we can do when we talk with each other.

Mr. President, we have much work to do. The first year of this initiative has been a success and America is safer for it. But we cannot rest. While children die in drive-by shootings, while cocaine is sold on the street and while gangs keep the elderly indoors for fear that they will be killed if they venture out, we must continue to work.

Your support for this initiative and the fight against violence has meant much to the thousands of men and women of federal, state and local law

enforcement as well as the federal, state and local prosecutors who take these cases to court. Some of them are here today and I know that if each could step up to this microphone, they would join me in expressing their thanks.

MEMORANDUM FOR: All United States Attorneys

FROM: Jamie S. Gorelick
Deputy Attorney General

SUBJECT: First Anniversary of the Anti-Violent
Crime Initiative

This month marks the first anniversary of the Attorney General's Anti-Violent Crime Initiative (AVCI). The success of the AVCI is in large measure due to the efforts which you, along with your Assistants and staff, have undertaken. The Attorney General and I wish to assure that this effort is properly recognized and that each United States Attorney's office is the recipient of proper recognition for its role.

On March 16, 1995, the Attorney General will brief the President on the results of the first year of the AVCI. We will provide exact timing information via EMAIL later in the week. One hour after the event in Washington concludes, you are requested to coordinate and host an appropriate event to recognize the first anniversary of the AVCI in your district.

The event should focus on the AVCI and should involve participation by appropriate representatives of state and local law enforcement and prosecutive agencies. We ask that you strictly adhere to the time schedule as it has been carefully coordinated with the White House and the Attorney General as well as other cabinet officials.

We recognize that many of you are extremely pressed for time and accordingly we have taken the liberty of drafting a press release and a statement into which you may insert appropriate examples. You should feel free to edit these materials as you see fit.

We ask that you undertake the following:

DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT March 4, 1995 // 1:05 P.M. NGESS\AVCI.111

- o Consult with state and local law enforcement and prosecutive agencies as to the content of the event and assure that your local federal law enforcement agency heads are involved in the planning process.
- o Select appropriate cases and techniques as exemplifying the efforts in your district. Please select cases in which there are sufficient public details so as to permit appropriate comment. Also, select cases in which you worked with the state and locals through your task force.
- o Issue a media advisory at an appropriate time prior to the scheduled event.
- o Validate assertions which you make in your release and/or statement by preparing press packets with public documents such as copies of news stories, indictments and judgment and commitment orders. You may wish to consider producing enlargements of this document in order to highlight particular cases.
- o Assure that appropriate credit is given to Assistants and staff in your office as well as state and local prosecutors and law enforcement and that appropriate individuals are actually involved in or are available for public comment.

In order to assure that you have the support which you need, I have asked Paul Fishman (202-514-4376) from my office and Nicholas M. Gess (202-616-6484) from the Executive Office for United States Attorneys to make themselves available to answer your substantive questions about event planning and other issues. I have also asked Bert Brandenburg and Gina Talamona of the Office of Public Affairs (202-514-2088) to make themselves available to answer specific questions regarding the media aspects of this event.

Thank you for all of your efforts. Please convey my thanks to the Assistants and the staff in your office.

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY REMARKS

INTRODUCTIONS

One hour ago, Attorney General Reno briefed President Clinton on the results of the first year of the Administration's Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. He said, "[INSERT QUOTES FROM POTUS REMARKS]. As she told our President, while the impetus for the initiative may have originated in Washington, this is not a Washington, but rather a local program. Here in _____, the community has worked together to fight violent crime and we should take this opportunity to assess what we have done.

Today is not about victory and it is not a celebration. But it is a day of hope, a day to reflect on the progress we have made, and a day to commit to work harder in the coming year.

Today is also a day to reflect on how we can use the new tools given us under the Crime Bill. It was only signed into law on September 13, but there are remarkable efforts which will be possible as the result of the new law. First, 100,000 new police officers will mean an almost 20% increase in available law enforcement. Second, tough new statutes such as Three Strikes and You're Out will permit us to assure that the most serious violent offenders

are off the street forever. Third, the Crime Bill means that there will be money to prevent crime from happening in the first place.

A year ago this month, I participated in a teleconference with Attorney General Reno, FBI Director Freeh and the heads of the other federal law enforcement agencies and my colleagues, the other United States Attorneys elsewhere in the nation. As the result of that teleconference, here in [LOCATION], I asked [NAMES / TITLES] to sit down and discuss the violent crime problem and determine how we could all best jointly address the issue. We did so and determined that our major priorities would be [CRIME / TYPES OF CRIMES / THEORIES OF PROSECUTION]. We turned this plan into reality when on [DATE], [DEFENDANTS ARRESTED / CHARGED WITH]. Now, [NUMBER] have pleaded guilty / have been sentenced.

Since that times, my colleagues and I across the country have filed a total of 5,270 criminal cases against 7,109 violent and repeat offenders. Here in _____, we have filed _____ criminal cases against _____ such offenders. This is only a small percentage of the number of violent crime prosecutions either across the country or here in _____. The vast majority are and will continue to be prosecuted by my colleagues in the _____ system as part of our partnership against violent crime.

Since then, several cases exemplify not only tough tactics, but cooperative efforts. [GIVE CASES, DETAILS, WHY COOPERATION IMPORTANT].

Violent Crime is a problem across America. We will not solve the problem in a day or in a year. However, we have made great strides. Those strides are in large measure due to some of the people here today [INTRODUCE AUSA's, AGENTS, COPS]. Everybody here in [LOCATION] should take the opportunity to thank these folks and people like them.

I look forward to serving this community as United States Attorney as long as the President allows me that privilege. I can assure you that violent crime will continue to be the priority which it has been. Thank you.

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY PRESS RELEASE

United States Attorney _____ today announced the first anniversary of his office's anti-violent crime initiative. The initiative, part of a nationwide program, was also the subject of a briefing by Attorney General Reno for the President at *** EST.

Earlier today, United States Attorney gathered with [OTHER OFFICIALS] at [LOCATION] to discuss the cooperative efforts which underlie the initiative. S/he explained that here in [LOCATION], s/he had asked [NAMES / TITLES] to sit down and discuss the violent crime problem and determine how all could best jointly address the issue. They did so and determined that the major priorities would be [CRIME / TYPES OF CRIMES / THEORIES OF PROSECUTION]. This plan became reality when on [DATE], [DEFENDANTS ARRESTED / CHARGED WITH]. Now, [NUMBER] have pleaded guilty / have been sentenced.

United States Attorney noted that nationally, federal prosecutors had filed 5,270 criminal cases against 7,109 violent and repeat offenders and that here in _____, _____ criminal cases had been filed against _____ such offenders.

United States Attorney _____ pointed to several cases as exemplifying not only the cooperation required in order to assure success, but the serious consequences for those who commit violent crimes:

INPUT EXAMPLES

DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT March 4, 1995 // 1:05 P.M. NGESS\AVCI.111

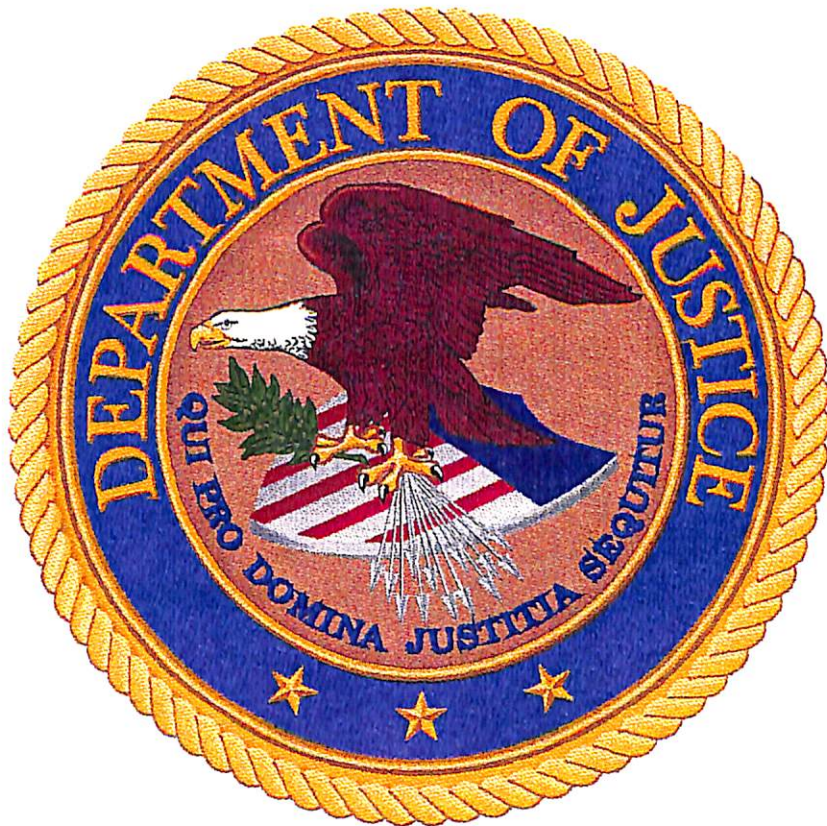
At the conclusion of the meeting, United States Attorney took the opportunity to recognize the efforts of [AUSAs, agents, police, local prosecutors by name] as community examples. S/he said, "everyone here in [LOCATION] should take this opportunity to thank these folks and people like them."

United States Attorney [NAME] said, "crimes of violence are an attack on our most basic freedoms, the people of [COMMUNITY] have been well served by the members of my staff and the commitment of the Clinton Administration to their well-being. I look forward to another year of hard work - work which will be well worth it."

U.S. Department of Justice

Anti-Violent Crime Initiative

The Attorney General's Report to the President



Year One
March 1994 - February 1995

Anti-Violent Crime Initiative

The Attorney General's Report to the President

- - The First Year

"I want to form a true partnership between federal, state and local law enforcement agencies throughout this nation to ensure that career criminals, dangerous offenders and drug traffickers get strict and certain sentences that put them away and keep them away."

*Janet Reno
Attorney General*

I am pleased to address today the results achieved during the first year of the Administration's Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. A year ago, the Vice President and I announced this important initiative and called upon the 93 U.S. Attorneys throughout the country to work with their local communities and with federal, state and local law enforcement officials to develop coordinated strategies to address the most serious violent crime problems within their jurisdictions. I am able to report today that coordinated strategies have been developed in each jurisdiction throughout the country. Additionally, the work required to implement these strategies is well underway. Our successes over the past year have resulted from all working together through the new partnerships that were forged to address the formidable acts of violence that threaten the lives and safety of millions of Americans.

Overview

As announced a year ago, the overriding objective of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative is not to federalize all violent crimes but, instead, for federal prosecutors to work in tandem with members of their local communities and with federal, state and local law enforcement officials to:

- o identify the most serious violent crime problems within their jurisdictions and focus on creative solutions for those problems;
- o involve the community with federal, state and local officials to address violence and restore quality of life to our neighborhoods;
- o redirect task force efforts where feasible to maximize the use of federal, state and local law enforcement resources;
- o forge partnerships with state and local prosecutors to facilitate the exercise of coordinated, sound prosecutive judgement; and
- o work to address all issues that may impact on the effective prosecution of violent crime including the coordination of charging decisions among federal, state and local authorities, taking into account the availability of state laws to address violent crime.

The overriding objective, then, of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative is to do what is best for each violent crime case and, at the same time, to do what is best for each community. This represents the strategic planning and approach that has been taken over the past year. Many U.S. Attorneys report an unprecedented

cooperation among federal, state and local officials in addressing violent crime. Also, communities have experienced a decrease in violent crime following the successful conclusion of multi-agency investigations and prosecutions.

Between March 1 and December 31, 1994, the U.S. Attorneys filed a total of 5,270 criminal cases against 7,109 violent and repeat offenders. These cases represent only those filed by federal prosecutors in United States District Court, and do not speak to the prosecutorial work that has also been undertaken by state and local prosecutors throughout the country during the past year.

Federal, State and Local Law Enforcement and Community Coordination



May 6, 1994

"... We recognize that no one agency; local, state or federal, has the abilities to independently suppress the ever increasing wave of violence and the pervasive resulting fear such violence brings..."

OFFICERS
President
 Jack Drown
 Coronado
Vice President
 Paul Emerson
 Chula Vista
Secretary/Treasurer
 Martin Hight
 E.D. Port District

Honorable Alan D. Berlin
 United States Attorney
 Southern District of California
 United States Courthouse
 940 Front Street, Room 5152
 San Diego, California 92101-8800

Dear Mr. Berlin:

EXECUTIVE BOARD
 Clarence Yock
 Chief, Border Division
 Robert Vitek
 Coronado
 Edwin L. Miller, Jr.
 District Attorney
 Jack Smith
 El Cajon
 Vincent Jimna
 Escondido
 Bill Espinoza
 FBI
 Wes Mitchell
 La Mesa
 Ken Roeser
 National City
 Bruce Dunne
 Oceanside
 Michael Spahr
 San Diego Co. Marshals
 Alex Oregon
 San Diego Co. Probation
 Jim Roache
 San Diego Co. Sheriff's
 Jerry Sanders
 San Diego Police
 John Carpenter
 ESU
 John Anderson
 UCSD

On behalf of the members of the San Diego County Police Chiefs' and Sheriff's Association, I am pleased to extend the Association's unanimous support and endorsement of your Operation Plan for the National Anti-Violent Crime Initiative.

The proposed Task Force strategy, combining state, local and federal law enforcement resources with both state and federal prosecutorial support, allows for a coordinated and cooperative initiative to removing violent offenders from the streets of San Diego and Imperial Counties. The concentration of Task Force resources on the three identified core precipitants of violence; gangs, fugitives and major offenders, will allow Task Force operations to focus on those persons who trade daily in violence and fear within our local communities.

As you know, San Diego County law enforcement agencies of all levels enjoy an unprecedented reputation for interagency cooperation in pursuit of effective regional law enforcement. Local agencies have jointly participated in successful task force operations on a continuous basis for more than thirty years. I know of no other region of the Country wherein local, state and federal agencies so quickly and enthusiastically embrace the concept of shared resources, teamwork and a singular focus of effort. The ground work for the success of the Attorney General's Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, and the Implementation strategy you have selected, is well founded in this County.

As the Initiative progresses, I am certain all local law enforcement agencies will be eager to participate within their capabilities. The police chiefs of San Diego County recognize that our county's geographic location and proximity to the Mexican border produce unique criminal problems not easily addressed by conventional means. We further recognize that no one agency; local, state or federal, has the abilities to independently suppress the ever increasing wave of violence and the pervasive resulting fear such violence brings.

Please assure Attorney General Reno of our sincere support for both the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative and your strategies for Implementation. We very strongly encourage her full support of your submitted Operational Plan.

I look forward to working with you in our mutual effort to enhance the quality of life within our region.

Sincerely,

 Jack Drown

The coordination of federal, state and local law enforcement efforts has been critical to the success of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. Effective communication and appropriate use of available resources is paramount, whether attained through specially-established violent crime task forces, enhancement of existing task forces, or informal means. A variety of methods have been employed over the past year to ensure that the highest level of communication and the best use of resources are achieved. In cities such as New Orleans and Detroit, for example, federal and local law enforcement agents now share working space inside police headquarters.

In other communities, such as Sacramento, a federal, state and local Anti-Violent Crime Strike Team was created, with a focus on armed repeat offenders, criminal aliens, and gangs. The Team's first phase, conducted in Sacramento County, led to the arrest of 64 targets, including two murder suspects and one defendant who had 19 prior convictions. Pleased with the good results, the Sacramento Police Department spearheaded an effort to create a permanent multi-agency unit, the Sacramento Career Criminal Apprehension Program Task Force. A similar task force approach in San Diego has resulted in the arrest of more than 1,250 felony fugitives since April 1994. Under the San Diego Gang Group more than 170 gang-related prosecutions have been initiated in state court, and about 150 defendants charged in federal court since August 1994.

In yet other communities, efforts under the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative have responded to particular law enforcement needs. In Atlanta a Mobile Crime Scene Unit, staffed by agents of the FBI and Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI), was created to respond promptly to the scene of violent crimes. The Director of GBI noted the overwhelming number of Crime Scene Unit requests received from local law enforcement agencies and his belief that the Unit is clearly serving law enforcement and resulting in an efficient and effective resolution of violent crime cases.

Equally important, many U.S. Attorneys have engaged in community outreach efforts to expand coordination of the fight against violent crime to citizens and groups within their jurisdictions. In Pittsburgh, at the behest of the U.S. Attorney and other community leaders, all eight television stations will simultaneously air a jointly produced program to kick off a month-long campaign to bring peace to Pittsburgh's streets. The campaign involves dozens of area businesses, community groups, and individuals in an effort to reverse the cycle of violence that has made homicide the number one cause of death of teenagers in the area.

Targeting Violent Individuals

"This has great potential to rid the streets of repeat offenders. That should be our No. 1 priority. These are the most violent of the violent."

*—Sylvester Daughtry
Police Chief
Greensboro, North Carolina*

A strategy over the past year in many jurisdictions has been to focus on the most violent offenders in the community and use legitimate law enforcement measures to take these offenders off the streets. Such measures might include surveillance, reinvestigating unsolved cases in which the targeted offender is a suspect, and developing cases against associates of a targeted offender in an effort to obtain cooperation. In the District of Columbia, a Major Violators Project (MVP) was initiated in which agents compile a list of persons known by law enforcement to have been involved in a disproportionate amount of serious violent crimes in the area. The U.S. Attorney assigns MVP attorneys to coordinate cases with the agents. As a result of the project, investigations are better coordinated by law enforcement agencies. Since the MVP's inception, 35 persons have been removed from the list, primarily because of convictions resulting in a substantial sentence.

Other jurisdictions have developed similar approaches. In the Middle District of North Carolina, a federal state and local violent crime task force has targeted the 500 most violent criminals in Guilford County.

Yet other jurisdictions have focused on major offenders who are committing particular types of violent crime, such as in the Eastern District of Tennessee which has a significant carjacking problem. A carjacking defendant was sentenced in September 1994 to life in prison plus 300 months and, since then, the district has not experienced a single carjacking crime. Over the past year, numerous other districts have targeted and aggressively pursued violent individuals, filing cases against them in United States District Court where appropriate.

Efforts in Specific Violent Crime Areas

Violent crime has no boundaries either in type or effect, and cuts across all sectors of society. It includes the acts of gang members who terrorize America's neighborhoods and inflict fear and bodily harm on others through the commission of crime. It includes the acts of those with long criminal histories or excessively violent criminal behavior who possess or use firearms to commit bank robberies, carjackings, and kidnappings, as well as those who traffick in firearms illegally. It includes children who commit violent crimes and children who suffer the consequences of violent crime. It affects all communities--urban and rural, citizens of all ages, people of all walks of life.

"... without the ability to coordinate efforts across jurisdictional and agency lines we will continue to operate at a disadvantage to criminals who respect no boundaries."

*—Donald L. Carter
Chief of Police
Champaign, Illinois*

Gun Violence

Under the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, federal firearms prosecutions have focused on individuals with long criminal histories or excessively violent criminal behavior, and those who sell firearms as gun runners. Between March 1 and October 31, 1994, the U.S. Attorneys charged 3,255 defendants with federal firearms violations. During the same period of time, 1,114 defendants were convicted, which represents an 86 percent conviction rate. Ninety-four (94) percent of those sentenced during this time were sent to prison. The average sentence of incarceration was 92 months, with 90 defendants sentenced to life or more than 15 years. The U.S. Attorneys rely on the joint efforts of federal, state and local law enforcement and stiff federal penalties to prosecute firearms offenders successfully.

Many jurisdictions have also focused investigative resources on tracking firearms in an effort to identify suppliers of illegal firearms, particularly those who supply firearms to juveniles. In February 1995, the U.S. Attorney in New Jersey, along with the New Jersey Attorney General, the state's 21 county prosecutors, the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), and the

heads of law enforcement agencies signed a Memorandum of Understanding requiring universal firearms tracing in the state. In Kentucky, the ATF and Louisville Police have formed a task force to focus on firearms trafficking schemes. The emphasis is on guns purchased in Louisville and trafficked to such cities as Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C. In Atlanta, too, the focus is on firearms trafficking and on persons making multiple firearms purchases.

In the District of Columbia, an intensive multi-agency gun initiative is being planned to address the city's high level of gun violence. An objective is to reduce the city's violent crime rate by 40 percent to the level that existed prior to 1986 when the crack cocaine epidemic fueled gun violence in the area. The initiative will involve seizing and tracing illegal weapons, increasing the certainty of punishment for firearms offenses, and educating the city's youth about the destructive potential of gun possession.

Gang Violence

" . . . Numerous violent drug gangs operating in our neighborhoods have been prosecuted and removed from our community as a direct result of this successful effort. . . "

February 13, 1995



Mr. Mark T. Calloway
United States Attorney
Western District
State Of North Carolina
227 W. Trade Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Dear Mr. Calloway,

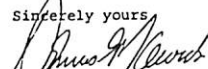
The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department has been involved with the United States Attorney's Office for a number of years in combating crime in the Charlotte area. During this period of time numerous drug and criminal organizations have been prosecuted and dismantled as the result of prosecutions in federal court. The working relationship our Department has enjoyed with the United States Attorney's Office has proved to be very successful.

In September, 1992 a structured violent crimes task force was established in Charlotte. The Bureau Of Alcohol, Tobacco, And Firearms and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department are the lead agencies in this effort. The North Carolina State Bureau Of Investigation, the United States Secret Service, and the Federal Bureau Of Investigation also participate in this task force. During this time period your office has coordinated the work of this task force in a very effective and efficient manner. Your leadership has contributed greatly to this becoming what we feel is one of the best partnerships in the country between local, state, and federal agencies in combating violent crime. Numerous violent drug gangs operating in our neighborhoods have been prosecuted and removed from our community as a direct result of this successful effort. Violent crime was down 10% in Charlotte-Mecklenburg during 1994 which included a 31% decrease in murders, a 17% decrease in robberies and a 6% decrease in aggravated assaults.

We are in the process of implementing community-problem oriented policing in the entire county. Preventing the next crime is our new mission statement and problem solving is our basic unit of work. The investigative work being done by the Violent Crimes Task Force and successful prosecution by your assistants of these violent drug gangs who operate in our neighborhoods is helping us prevent future crimes and contributes greatly to problem solving in our neighborhoods and the community.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for your leadership in the effort to combat violent crime in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. This appreciation extends to all of your assistants and the other persons in your office involved in this cooperative effort.

Sincerely yours,


DENNIS E. NOWICKI
Chief Of Police

7

Violent gang members threaten the safety and stability of our neighborhoods and inflict fear and bodily harm on others through the commission of crime. In communities across the country, gang-related violence has robbed residents of the ability to enjoy their streets and homes. Over the past year, many jurisdictions have focused their efforts on dismantling violent criminal gangs, using federal racketeering statutes. Additional strategies include use of other laws, including federal and state narcotics statutes, as well as outstanding warrants, to take violent gang members off the streets.

The Saginaw, Michigan Gang Crime Task Force, created to target gangs committing murders, drive-by shootings and drug distribution, has apprehended over 100 violent criminals.

In Shreveport, Louisiana, 45 federal and local warrants were issued against the "Bottoms Boys," a violent drug gang in the Ledbetter Heights neighborhood. A federal racketeering indictment charged 13 defendants with operating a continuing criminal enterprise and committing offenses involving murder and drug distribution. Twelve leaders and organizers of the gang face life in prison, if convicted. According to Shreveport police, a comparison of crime data for the five months preceding and following the arrests reflects a 34 percent decline in violent crime in the neighborhood that had been controlled by the Bottoms Boys.

In Youngstown, Ohio, four members of the "Ready Rock Boys" were convicted and eight others pled guilty to federal narcotics and weapons charges related to crack cocaine distribution. The group's activities included numerous drive-by shootings, one in which an innocent bystander was killed. Three of the defendants face life in prison without parole. Youngstown police report a dramatic decline in violent crime since the Ready Rock Boys were indicted and detained.

An investigation, known as Operation Tiger's Eye, resulted in the arrests of 43 members of a violent drug trafficking gang operating in Ft. Dodge, Iowa, a community of 29,000 residents. So far, 38 of those defendants have been convicted of narcotics and weapons charges. Following the arrests, 1994 became the first year in several years when no murders were reported in Ft. Dodge and aggravated assaults declined by 33 percent.

These efforts, just a few of the many undertaken, serve to demonstrate the universal reach of gang violence and that significant prosecutions can improve the quality of life in those communities where gangs operate.

Homicide

Multi-agency investigations in some jurisdictions have had a marked effect on the rate of homicide. Over the past year, the Southern District of New York has made significant strides in forging relationships with local police and district attorneys, overcoming old rivalries that impeded a coordinated effort against violent crime in the past. As a result of cooperative efforts, the district has closed dozens of murders in the course of conducting racketeering investigations of violent street gangs.

Notably, in New York City, federal and local law enforcement officials took one violent gang off the street and, two months later, took down members of the gang that tried to replace it. In May 1994, 17 alleged members of a violent Bronx-based organization called "C & C" were charged in a 73-count racketeering indictment that included murder, kidnapping, assault, narcotics trafficking, and firearms offenses. According to the indictment, members of the gang extorted money from drug dealers and enforced its control over the dealers through violence, including murder.

As "C & C" was effectively being dismantled by the joint federal/state/local investigation, another gang took over its violent extortionate activities. In July 1994, 15 alleged members of that gang, the "Willis Avenue Lynch Mob," were charged in a 49-count racketeering indictment that included two murders, one attempted murder, armed robbery, carjackings, firearms offenses, and extortion.

Since March 1994, the district has obtained the indictments of 11 violent groups and numerous individuals. The cases have solved over 75 murders and charged over 160 defendants. Of 92 convictions obtained in the past year, 48 defendants were sentenced to life. The cases are particularly significant because the murders would never have been solved except for federal intervention. The proof of the murders depended for the most part on accomplice testimony, evidence that is disfavored in New York state courts. For that reason, none of the murder predicates in the indictments had been prosecuted by the state, and most could not have been.

Additionally, the indictments have had a significant impact on the community, causing a precipitous drop in the murder rate in two precincts. In the Bronx, following the arrests of alleged members of the "C & C" gang and the subsequent arrests of gang members seeking to take over from "C & C," the murder rate dropped in half, where it has remained since the arrests. In Manhattan's 32nd precinct, which ranks among the city's top five precincts in murders, narcotics-related murders dropped to one since the arrests last August of members of a murderous narcotics organization.

Similar results were noted in San Antonio, following the successful prosecution of more than 40 upper echelon leaders of the notoriously violent Texas Mexican Mafia. In 1994, there was a decline in most categories of violent street crime in San Antonio.

In the District of Columbia in 1994, there was a 12 percent reduction in the number of homicides from the previous year, resulting in the lowest homicide rate since 1988. Law enforcement officials attribute this decline, and much of the district's success in combatting violent crime in the city, to innovative strategies implemented pursuant to the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative.

In 1994, the city of Charlotte experienced a 30 percent reduction in the homicide rate. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police attribute this to the work of the Charlotte Violent Crime Task Force, the cornerstone of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative in the Western District of North Carolina. The multi-agency task force, which focuses on the prosecution of entire criminal organizations, has a 95 percent conviction rate.

Although in less populous districts the homicide rate is far lower than in cities like New York or Washington, the impact of homicide on the community is no less severe, and the results of intensive investigation no less appreciated.

First Baptist Church

1135 Watson Boulevard • Warner Robins, GA 31093

(912) 922-8152 • 922-3622

July 20, 1994

*"... you proved
that criminals do not
always walk away. . . .
and for that we are
grateful. . . ."*

*Middle District
of Alabama*

The Violent Crime Task Force
% Chief Danny Pollard
Millbrook City Police Department
P.O.B. C
Millbrook, AL 36054

Dear Sirs:

The family of Mrs. Hazel Liveoak would like to thank you, the Violent Crime Task Force, for your assistance in the capture of people responsible for her death. Your quick work made the anguish of this experience easier for us all to handle.

When the word first came that her body was found we thought that it would be just about impossible to find the people responsible. But you did your job in a very professional way which proved that criminals do not always walk away from the crimes which they have committed. You all did an outstanding job and for that we are very grateful.

With grateful hearts to you and our Lord,

Janice L. Wester, Anita L. Blanton, and Larry E. Liveoak

In Nebraska, Weed and Seed funds were used in 1994 to pay overtime to a team of uniformed officers engaged in proactive interdiction and violent crime enforcement. In 1993, in the heart of the Weed and Seed target site, there were three homicides and numerous felony assaults, many of them gang related. As a result of the intensive investigative efforts in 1994, there were no homicides or felony assaults in the targeted area.

Bank Robbery

Because of the significant level of bank robbery in some jurisdictions, a number of task force efforts have been directed to this problem. There were 222 bank robberies in the state of Oregon during 1994. As a result, virtually every bank robbery in the district is prosecuted in federal court. Since the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative was announced, the U.S. Attorney has obtained 55 indictments against 59 defendants for bank robbery. While it is too early to predict a trend, bank robberies in Oregon declined ten percent during the first year of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative.

Bank robbery is the major violent crime problem in the Middle District of Tennessee. The District Attorneys General recently requested that the federal government continue to prosecute bank robberies because of the availability of higher federal penalties. Since March 1994, charges have been brought against 11 bank robbers in the district.

A successful prosecution in the Northern District of Illinois resulted in the convictions of a father-son duo who engaged in a violent bank robbery spree in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana. The father was convicted in state court in Indiana of attempted murder for shooting at a police officer during a getaway attempt. With the cooperation of federal, state, and local agencies in the three states, the father and son were indicted in Chicago on federal charges in connection with the commission of 19 bank robberies. Convicted in January 1995, the father and son will spend the rest of their lives in prison.

Juvenile Violence

Juvenile violence is increasingly the most serious violent crime problem in many jurisdictions. Federal prosecutors are pursuing more aggressively the prosecution of violent, armed juveniles, or working more closely with state and local prosecutors to ensure prolonged incarceration of violent juvenile offenders.

Many federal prosecutors are also involved in community efforts designed to stem the rise in juvenile violence. The U.S. Attorney in Pittsburgh has formed the Youth Crime Prevention Council of Allegheny County, and is coordinating community efforts to reduce youth violence by providing meaningful alternatives to criminal activity. Since August 1994, the U.S. Attorney's office in the Middle District of Pennsylvania has conducted a series of educational programs in local schools. In these programs, prosecutors, police, victims of violent crime, and juveniles caught up in the juvenile justice system warn young people about the dangers of juvenile violence.

The following cases illustrate the wanton violent crime that is being committed by an increasing number of juvenile offenders and some of the law enforcement efforts that have been made under the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative.

In the Eastern District of Texas, a juvenile is believed responsible for the carjacking-murder on April 19, 1994, of 63-year-old John Luttig in Tyler, Texas. Luttig was the father of Fourth Circuit Judge Michael Luttig, a former Justice Department attorney. An intensive multi-agency investigation led to the arrest of brothers Cedrick and Donald Coleman and a juvenile. The juvenile allegedly fired the fatal shots with a .45 automatic. The Colemans were convicted federally of offenses related to the carjacking and sentenced to terms in excess of 40 years each. The juvenile faces a capital murder charge in state court.

A juvenile was identified as a shooter in an execution-style double homicide that was committed in Huntington, West Virginia, in October 1994. An intense, coordinated federal-local investigation disclosed that the shootings were drug related. The juvenile is charged in state court with first degree murder. His three accomplices, all older teenagers, were indicted federally on narcotics and weapons charges.

In the Western District of Texas, a juvenile and an adult stabbed a victim 27 times when the victim resisted a robbery. The defendants returned to the scene twice to wipe away fingerprints and remove evidence of the crime. Each time they returned, the victim was still alive. The victim died before help arrived. Both defendants pled guilty, the juvenile having agreed to be certified as an adult.

Violent crime also includes violence directed at children. As part of the FBI Violent Crimes Task Force in Los Angeles, a multi-agency Violent Crimes Against Children initiative is being developed. The initiative will emphasize the increasing use of computer technology to commit crimes against children. The task force will work with a new Child Abductions Task Force operation now being established by the FBI in Los Angeles, which is working with local law enforcement officials on unsolved cases.

Violence in Public Housing

*Prosecutions appear to have pushed
a thriving drug trade underground, and tenants say that
the almost-nightly gunfire has subsided*

Federal officials work to clean up Salem Gardens

By Ian Hoffman
JOURNAL REPORTER

The one long street into Salem Gardens curls back on itself at "the Circle," the heart of the apartment complex and home to its nighttime market in crack cocaine.

The layout is a drug dealer's dream. Lookouts can see police nearly a minute before they arrive.

So drive-thru crack sales at Salem Gardens have flourished for years, fed by lines of outside traffic. "Bump runners" took orders at curbside and openly swapped crack for cash. The dealers lounged in apartments or shadowed breezeways. They settled disputes with shotguns, assault rifles and 9-mm pistols. The gunfights often drove tenants and their children

to sleep on the floor. Some blocked their windows with bookcases to stop stray bullets.

This summer has been different.

Three of Salem Gardens' crack dealers, including two suspects in shootouts at the complex, pleaded guilty recently to federal drug-trafficking and weapons charges.

For now, the prosecutions — coupled with the fatal shootings of some dealers — appear to have driven the crack trade indoors, and tenants say that the almost-nightly gunfire has subsided.

Federal prosecutors aren't walking away just yet. U.S. Attorney Walter C. Holton Jr. has more in mind for Salem Gardens.

Federal attorneys under Holton are working with the

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to pressure the apartments' owners into making the complex a better, safer place to live.

Holton plans on forging similar partnerships to attack and prevent violent crime in other neighborhoods throughout the 24 counties in his district. Law-enforcement agencies alone are unable to deal with poverty, unemployment or broken families — factors that Holton sees as the roots of violent crime.

"We want to develop a sense that our criminal prosecutions, particularly in the area of violent crime, are part of a larger picture. We want to ensure that we are not operating in a vacuum," he said.

See SALEM GARDENS, Page E6

SALEM GARDENS

Continued From Page E1

HUD, which subsidizes rent at Salem Gardens, has rated housing conditions there "below average" or "unsatisfactory" for more than a year. Yet the agency had little success in forcing the owners to do more.

The owners, Salem Properties Ltd. of Atlanta, were more than \$400,000 behind on repairs last spring, Holton said.

Tenants complain about leaking roofs, backed-up toilets, worn carpet and appliances, broken windows and holes in the walls.

Holton said he also wants some improvement in security at the complex: better outdoor lighting, fences to keep nontenants out and perhaps private security guards.

Tenants have a legal right to peaceful enjoyment of their homes, he said, and the complex owners have a duty to provide it.

"There's an obligation to provide basic security," he said.

With encouragement from Holton's office, HUD has barred Salem Properties from similar Section 8

housing programs and required that its management company withhold part of rent collections for repairs.

So far, the management company has responded with some repairs and proposals for more than it has promised before.

"It appears to me at this point that we have at the very least gotten their attention," Holton said last week. "We're still in the early stage of this process, but we intend to follow it through."

If the repair backlog persists at Salem Gardens, HUD and Holton's office will consider other tactics: collecting the rent directly to make the repairs or suing the management and owners to force compliance with HUD housing standards.

Cooperation between a U.S. attorney and HUD on such a project is new to North Carolina. It grew out of the drug investigation by the city police and agents with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the State Bureau of Investigation.

Agents told Holton that tenants described an atmosphere of fear at the apartments. The complex manager later made a tearful plea to a federal prosecutor for his help in cleaning up the neighborhood.

Now, after the arrests, said Detective Kent C. Sherrill: "It's gone from where people were afraid to go out at night to where people do go out. The kids play and feel safer in the community."

As part of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, the U.S. Attorneys experiencing a high degree of violence in public and assisted housing were asked to address that violence as part of their strategies. The U.S. Attorneys responded. As illustrated above, the U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina implemented crime prevention strategies in a Winston-Salem apartment complex following the convictions of four defendants on narcotics charges. In Puerto Rico, a Violent Neighborhood Initiative is aimed at violent gangs that operate in neighborhoods and housing projects. And, in Los Angeles, task force agents focus on the P.J. Crips, one of the city's most notorious and violent street gangs, that at the height of power exerted almost total control over criminal activities in a large public housing project and its environs.

Many significant prosecutions of defendants who commit crimes in and around public housing have been undertaken. A number of these cases have produced demonstrable results. For example, the U.S. Attorney's office for the Southern District of Illinois has handled a large number of crack cocaine cases which, prior to the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, were handled by the state and resulted in probation. Now, as a direct result of this task force effort, open, notorious, drug dealing which was commonplace in East St. Louis and Cairo has almost been eliminated. Over 69 federal and 38 state prosecutions resulted from law enforcement efforts in a federal housing project in Cairo which served as the distribution center for crack cocaine in a three-state area. The project is now a peaceful residential complex.

The Tacoma, Washington, Violent Crime Task Force stepped up its focus on violent offenders in the Hilltop area of the city, with an emphasis on drug dealers and felons in possession of firearms. Since March 1994, the task force has presented 18 cases for prosecution. A recent investigation, called Operation Hardrock, targeted street drug dealers in the Hilltop area. Approximately 80 dealers were arrested for over 100 videotaped transactions. These task force efforts have had an impact in the area. The drug dealers rarely carry firearms during their transactions. The word on the street is to avoid getting "vamped," that is, caught and prosecuted by the federal government because of substantially higher prison sentences.

Violence in Indian Country

In districts where the U.S. Attorneys have jurisdiction to prosecute serious crimes on Indian reservations, strategies have been implemented to enhance the federal response to violence in Indian country. A number of districts have dedicated one or more prosecutors to these cases. Prosecutors and federal agents are spending more time on the reservations, investigating cases and coordinating efforts with tribal law enforcement authorities. The districts report that these efforts have dramatically improved relationships with local tribes.

Other efforts include formulating protocols to investigate and prosecute sexual assaults and other violent crimes in Indian country, and developing multi-disciplinary teams to enhance the response of law enforcement and other community groups to violent crime. Additionally, the U.S. Attorney's office in the Eastern District of Wisconsin has established a network for all federal prosecutors in the country to share information and concerns arising from the prosecution of cases in Indian country.

In Arizona, the U.S. Attorney's Office, the FBI, and criminal investigators from the Navajo Reservation have joined forces in a Safe Trails Violent Crime Task Force. Described as the first of its kind in Indian country, the task force thus far has dramatically decreased the length of time it generally takes to move cases through the criminal justice system.

As an example of increased response time resulting from such focused efforts, when a county sheriff was murdered on the Menominee reservation in Wisconsin, two Assistant U.S. Attorneys and four FBI agents went to the reservation on the day the body was found. The case was indicted the following day, October 18, 1994. By February 2, 1995, the defendant had pled guilty. This quick and intense effort improved relationships with the residents of the reservation and increased confidence in the justice system.

As an integral part of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative, the District of New Mexico has developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the FBI, ATF, DEA, BIA, and tribal police. The MOU will implement a system of vertical investigation using multi-disciplinary teams. The intent of the agreement is to foster increased cooperation, mutual assistance, and more timely and effective investigations of violent crime in Indian country. In the 12 months preceding the anti-violence initiative, only 38 Indian country cases were indicted in the district. Since the inception of the initiative, the district has obtained indictments or filed charges by information in 64 violent crime cases arising in Indian country, an increase of 68 percent.

Prison Violence

Violence in federal penitentiaries has caused some districts to adapt their violent crime strategies to address the problem of prison violence. There have been six inmate killings in the Atlanta penitentiary within the past year, the most recent on February 12, 1995, as well as the murder of a correctional officer by an inmate in December. In order to address the increased violence, the U.S. Attorney is focusing on prison violence. Adopting a "zero tolerance" policy, the district intends to prosecute all inmate assaults on correctional staff, all cases of weapons and narcotic possession by inmates, and the introduction of controlled substances into the prison.

The Eastern District of Virginia, too, has expanded its efforts at the Lorton Reformatory Correctional Complex, adding a multi-agency Lorton Task Force to its overall anti-violent crime strategy. At Lorton, there are a large number of violent assaults on correctional officers, as well as inmate assaults. There are often close links between the violent incidents and drug-related disputes. On May 13, 1994, Henry "Little Man" James, who had been

convicted of murder in the November 1991 random shooting of a woman on the Anacostia Freeway in Washington, D.C., pled guilty to stabbing two inmates at Lorton. His conviction added over 10 years to his sentence.

Violence in Rural Areas

The incidence of violent crime is not restricted to high density urban areas. A number of districts have made concerted efforts to address violent crime in their less populous areas. The District of Maine, for instance, sought and obtained from the Drug Enforcement Administration a report on rural drug enforcement that contains a strategic analysis of drug trafficking trends in the state. The district plans to utilize the report to assist in developing strategies to combat drug-related violence in rural areas.

In the Western District of Texas, 12 alleged members of a Houston gang traveled to a rural community where gang members entered banks, terrorized customers and employees, and took \$177,000 in cash. While fleeing the community, the conspirators shot at passersby. They stopped at a cemetery to steal another car where they shot and killed an 82-year-old woman who was tending her husband's grave. They stole her car and engaged in a shootout with law enforcement officers before being apprehended. So far, nine of the defendants have pled guilty to federal charges. The Southern District of Texas has assisted the Western District of Texas on these and other related prosecutions.

Domestic Violence

While, traditionally, domestic violence is investigated and prosecuted by state and local law enforcement agencies, U.S. Attorneys have responded to domestic violence cases that have a federal nexus. In some districts, U.S. Attorneys are working within the community to increase awareness of issues related to domestic violence.

The U.S. Attorney in Hawaii, for example, has focused attention on domestic violence that occurs on military installations. This initiative will coordinate all law enforcement and social service agencies that respond to reports of domestic violence on military bases in an effort to establish consistency in the treatment of offenders.

In Maine, where domestic violence was identified as the district's most serious violent crime problem, the U.S. Attorney is working with the court to implement provisions of the Violence Against Women Act, contained in the Violent Crime Control and Law

Enforcement Act of 1994. Under a provision that restricts firearms possession by persons who are subject to a domestic violence restraining order, the U.S. Attorney submitted to the Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court a sample restraining order containing the requisite language to serve as a predicate for the federal offense. The Chief Judge has since indicated that the form is to be adopted in all courts in Maine. As a result, the district will be in a better position to prosecute effectively domestic abusers in possession of guns.

In January 1995, the Southern District of West Virginia indicted a defendant under a new interstate domestic violence statute contained in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, the first such prosecution in the country. The defendant was arrested on December 1, 1994, when he took his unconscious, extremely dehydrated wife to a hospital in Kentucky in a battered condition, suffering from a head wound. Blood was found in the trunk of the car. The evidence indicated that the defendant had left West Virginia and traveled for six days before taking his wife to the hospital. The wife remains in a coma from loss of blood and oxygen deprivation.

Conclusion

As this report illustrates, a great deal of work has been accomplished by federal, state and local law enforcement officials and communities around the country during the first year of the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. Together, law enforcement officials and members of communities have designed creative strategies that will work to address their most serious, local violent crime problems. Together, they have implemented their strategies--taking that action required to obtain maximum results from all law enforcement resources and maximum results from the criminal justice system. The new partnerships that were forged over the past year resulted in an unprecedented level of cooperation among federal, state and local officials and members of the community. The efforts and results cited above serve only as examples of the type and degree of work that has been performed throughout the country.

Even with the accomplishments made over the last year, violent crime continues to threaten the lives and safety of Americans. We know that violent crime is a problem that will not be easily or quickly solved. We know, too, that its solution cannot be achieved by any one person, agency, or organization. Its solution rests in the hands of all of our Nation's law enforcement entities and in the hands of all Americans. This is the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative that has been employed over the past year. While much work remains, we will remain steadfast on our course.