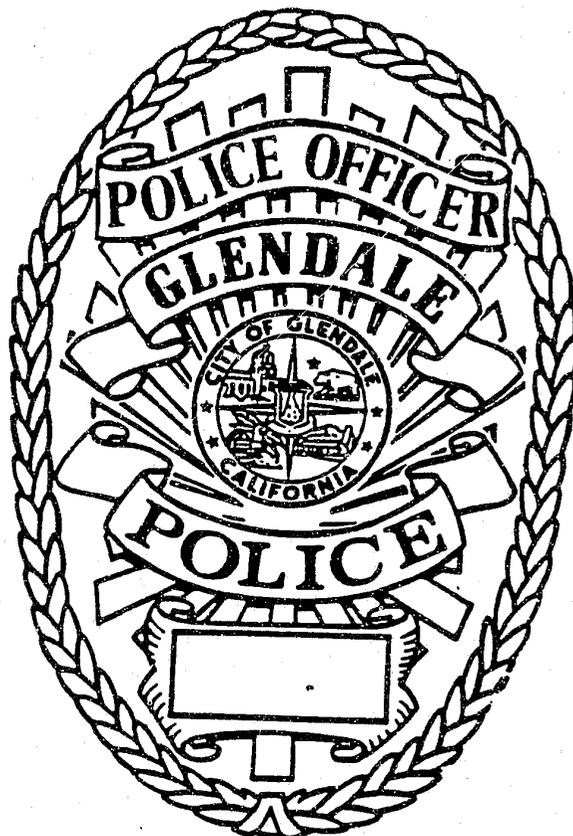


# CITY OF GLENDALE

Police Department

## GANG TRAINING MANUAL



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Chief of Police

*As prepared by the Gang Investigation Unit*



*Glendale, California - The Jewel City*

148396

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## DEFINITION OF A GANG

A gang is a group of people who form an alliance for a common purpose and engage in acts injurious to public morals, or to pervert or obstruct justice, or the due administration of laws or engage in criminal activity either individually or collectively.

This definition is the official description of a gang and is used for identifying gangs, gang members, and eventual data input into a Statewide street gang information data base, if Assembly Bill 3414 becomes law.

## OVERVIEW

In the 1940's the Toonerville Gang developed in the City of Los Angeles neighborhoods bordering southeast and southwest Glendale. This era was known widely as the "Zoot Suit" period and was the recognized beginning of street gangs in the L.A. area.

During this time period the area became known as Toonerville after a local factory. The Pacific electric red car tracks ran through the area and the local trolley became known as the Toonerville trolley. As a result the local zoot suiters took the name "Toonerville."

The Toonerville gang evolved into a traditional street gang during the 1950's and 1960's but had little direct effect on Glendale.

In the late 1960's and early 1970's the Toonerville Gang was involved in drive-by shootings, assaults, homicides, robberies, and burglaries within the Glendale city limits. The Toonerville gang had emerged as a Hispanic street gang and attempted to flex its muscles into Glendale which had no known gang.

In the late 1970's and early 1980's many of the older hardcore street gang members of Toonerville gang were in prison or had moved on.

In about 1978 three members of Toonerville (the Guagorena brothers) had moved to Burbank and started "Burbank Tres" or the Burbank Three Hispanic Street Gang. This gang has grown substantially and been involved in robberies, assaults, homicides, burglaries, and narcotics. This gang is still very active in the Burbank area.

In approximately 1982 the Toonerville gang split into two factions with the SPRR tracks being the dividing line. Both groups are considered Toonerville with the Glendale side being known as Southside Toonerville and the L.A. side being known as Northside Toonerville.

During 1986 the Toonerville gang was involved in a couple of incidents that illustrate their dangerous attitudes. In one incident Toonerville gang members threw tire irons and rocks at two officers having coffee at a local fast food location in an attempt to injure them. Approximately a week later two officers observed watching one officer while removing a concealed handgun from his boot, however the second officer spotted the gun and drew down on the suspect before the suspect could use the gun and about eight months later three officers shot and killed a Toonerville gang member in Southwest Glendale. As a result Toonerville made threats and planned to shoot a Glendale officer in retaliation. Through the efforts of Glendale police investigators, officers, and LAPD's Gang Unit this threat was neutralized.

In about 1978 a group of Hispanics on the Westside of Glendale formed a gang called "Westside Locos" (Westside Crazies). This gang has grown over the years and is involved in narcotics, assaults, robberies, burglaries, and auto theft.

During 1988 other gangs attempted to form in Glendale. Most of these gangs were offshoots of Toonerville or Westside Locos. These included Columbus Boys, Vine Street Boys, as well as a couple of girl gangs.

Neighboring gangs from Burbank frequently are encountered in Glendale. These gangs are Burbank Tres, Burbank Executioners, Burbank Punk Organization, and Varrio Lake Street which is a composite group of Westside Locos and Burbank Tres.

Gangs from LAPD that are encountered in Glendale include Frogtown, 18th Street, Clanton, Insane Ones, Mubhay Pinoy, Trupanga Hudas, Rockwoods, Rascals, Pinoy Heal, Crips, and Blood Gangs as well as many others.

There has been an increase in gang activity by Asian Gangs. These gangs are unique in that they don't follow traditional gang structure and are not turf minded like other gangs. They are often the children of professional people such as doctors and are frequently honor students. They are active in auto burglary, residential robbery, and assaults. They tend to be cold blooded and violent.

In addition to having local gangs, Glendale has a problem with transient gangs. These gangs will frequently come to Glendale for the sole purpose of committing crimes.

Additionally, the courts have placed many gang members on probation and/or parole. Part of the court order requires them to move from their home gang area. As a result many individual gang members from various gangs are residing in Glendale. This includes members of the Crips and Bloods. Their friends will come to Glendale to visit and often commit crimes here before leaving.

## JUVENILE PROBLEMS/GANGS

## SUMMARY

The phenomenon of youth gangs in California began in the late 1960's. Since that time, law enforcement has witnessed a rapid escalation in the number of violent acts directed not only towards other youth gang members but members of the general public. The Attorney General appointed a Task Force in June 1980 to study this problem on a statewide basis and to develop recommendations relevant to the enforcement and prosecution of crimes attributed to youth gangs. During the following months, the Task Force identified approximately 765 youth gangs operating within California with an estimated membership of approximately 52,400. Crimes attributed to these gangs range from vandalism to homicide. Although youth gang activity has been most prominent in large metropolitan areas of the state, rural areas are also beginning to experience violence resulting from youth gang activity.

A youth gang is an organization of individuals normally between the ages of 14-24 years. It is loose knit, without structure, and the strongest or boldest member is usually the leader. The gang has a name, claims a territory or neighborhood, is involved in criminal activity, and its members associate on a continuous basis. Their activities include violent assaults against other gangs, as well as committing crimes against the general population.

Gang members are usually males who join the gang by either committing a crime or undergoing an initiation procedure. Their motivation for joining the gang is usually for identity or recognition, protection, fellowship and brotherhood, or through intimidation.

The term "low rider" is sometimes used synonymously with youth gangs. This is unfortunate, since "low rider" car club members have invested a great deal of time, money and effort in their vehicles and normally do not become involved in criminal gang activities. They hold fund-raising activities, as any established club does, and are generally law-abiding individuals.

There are some indications that the prison-gang influence on youth gangs is increasing; however, a number of surveys conducted by the Department of Justice have been unable to substantiate allegations that prison gang members have actively recruited youth gang members in any substantial number into their organization.

The causes of youth gang violence range from revenge for a real or imagined wrong-doing to competition for control over a particular criminal enterprise. As youth gangs have become more sophisticated, the types of weapons used have evolved from fists, feet and knives to handguns, automatic weapons and sawed-

off shotguns. The most frequent violent crime committed by youth gangs is the "drive-by" shooting. Members from one gang will drive by the homes, vehicles or hang-outs of a rival gang and shoot at members of that gang, shouting the name or slogan of their own gang.

Although most gangs are formed along racial or ethnic lines, violence between gangs is normally Black gang vs Black gang or Hispanic gang vs Hispanic gang. Conflicts between ethnic groups have been known to occur, but are rare.

The structure of a youth gang can range from a loose-knit group of individuals who know one another and commit crimes together, to a formal organization, with one leader or a ruling council of several members, abiding by written rules and regulations which delineate expected behavior and disciplinary action to be taken against their own members or against members of the community.

The leaders within a gang usually acquire their positions of power by being the "baddest" guy around or by possessing leadership ability. The leadership of the gang usually comes from the ranks of its "hard core" members, typically the most violent and streetwise.

Associate members are those who frequently affiliate with known gang members for status and recognition, but who move in and out of the gang on the basis of their interest in gang functions.

While there is no formal structure within most gangs, there does exist a system of crime specialization. One member of a gang may engage in illegal activity at which he is proficient, such as burglary, robbery, extortion, etc., and share the proceeds with his fellow gang members.

Youth gangs are usually organized along ethnic lines and are comprised of Asian, Black, Hispanic, or White groups. Although they organize themselves according to ethnicity, the gangs are not necessarily representative of the ethnic community of which they are a part.

The majority of gangs are either Black or Hispanic; however, this varies in some geographic areas in the State because of the ethnic composition of the population.

The most prominent Asian gangs are the Chinese, Filipino, Korean and Indochinese. While each has its own unique characteristics, most have roots in their country of origin. Asian gangs are generally concerned with protecting the profits to be gained from criminal enterprises, rather than protecting a particular turf or territory.

Asian gang members are usually between the ages of 18 to 25 years. They wear no particular mode of dress and, with the exception of Chinese and Filipino gangs, do not use graffiti or wear tattoos.

Black gangs originated in Los Angeles in the 1970's, but have spread to other major cities in California. Black gangs are generally broken down into the Crips and those that are anti-Crips, or "Crip Killers". Although gangs within these two factions identify themselves as being part of one or the other, the gangs are separate, independent groups which may form alliances with one another or may engage in gang warfare between each other.

Black gangs are involved more often in crimes against the general population than in gang warfare. Gang war which do occur are usually not over protection of turf or territory, but result from traditional rivalries between gangs.

Black gang members use colorful nicknames, or monikers, to identify themselves, adopt a particular mode of dress, use graffiti and hand signals, and have been occasionally known to wear tattoos.

Hispanic youth gang activity was first recognized in the early 1900's in the Southern California area, but has increased and spread throughout the State. Hispanic gangs name their gang after a geographic area and defend that territory or "turf". They form alliances for purposes of strength. Inter-gang feuds and "wars" occur largely over territory or as a result of some real or imagined transgression by a rival gang.

Hispanic gang members usually adopt a particular mode of dress, mark their territory with graffiti which uses a common code of slang, and wear tattoos which identify their gang affiliation.

The formation of white youth gangs is a relatively recent phenomenon and there is little information available concerning their characteristics and activities; however, it appears that they are growing in number and that the criminal activities attributable to them are increasing.

Some white gangs appear to be the outgrowth of groups involved in alcohol or drug abuse. Others associate themselves with white supremacy groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, the American Nazi Party and/or the Supreme White Power. The rougher individuals form into youth gangs calling themselves by names such as Stoners, Surfers, Cowboys, Goat Ropers, Okies, or Arkies.

Youth gang members use graffiti, hand signals and tattoos to signify their membership in a gang and to communicate their gang affiliation to others. An understanding of these methods and their meanings can assist in the identification of youth gangs.

Because the youth gang problem takes various forms in individual communities, there is no single solution which may be applied uniformly throughout California. A number of criminal justice agencies and community groups have established programs, ranging from the identification and apprehension of violent offenders to the redirection of gang members into positive activities, which may be adapted to address individual community needs. A listing of those programs has been included.

There are also several areas in which the problem of youth gang violence can most appropriately be addressed through legislation. The Task Force has prepared a series of recommendations for the direction in which the law should move to assist criminal justice agencies in the dealing with this problem.

Procedures for conducting investigations and prosecuting cases involving youth gangs require different tactics than those used in other criminal cases. A guide for the Investigation and Prosecution of Youth Gang Violence in California is directed to criminal justice agencies only and includes those procedures.

#### AGES

Youngsters can become active in gangs at a very young age, as soon as they can begin to contribute to the gang's aims. Depending on the individual's family gang history, the youngster may start off either as a peripheral member who can be salvaged or a hardcore tough who can't. The older a member becomes, the more he advances in the gang as a marginal and eventually hardcore member.

- 1) Hardcore. Crazy acting "vato loco," shooter, very active.
- 2) Marginal. Close to hardcore, involved in almost everything.
- 3) Peripheral. Hangs around occasionally.

Gang members normally drop out around the age of 21 or 22. There is no set rule, but after that age they are veterans or "Veteranos" and their involvement in gang activity becomes more advisory in nature. Some take on a "Godfather" type of role to younger gang members. At this point the veteran is probably involved in economic crime to support a narco habit or because he is unable to hold gainful employment.

## LOCATION OF GANGS

Gang members often claim to be soldiers of the community defending their turf against outsiders. The fact of the matter is that gang members victimize local citizens, robbing, raping, burglarizing and in general terrorizing their own community. Gang members travel throughout the area and generally behave like thugs wherever they go. The beaches, Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm and Magic Mountain are a few examples of recreational locations where gang violence can erupt if the ingredients are right. During the past 10 to 15 years, the gang phenomenon has spread to practically every major city in the western part of the United States. Smaller cities are not immune. They too are experiencing the problem of vicious gangs.

## WEAPONS USED

Just about every type of handgun, rifle or knife may be used by gang members. Whatever he or she can obtain may be used.

## **THE BIGGEST WEAPON EMPLOYED TO DISSUADE VICTIMS AND WITNESSES FROM TAKING ACTION AGAINST THE GANG MEMBER IS INTIMIDATION.**

The fear of retaliation discourages victims and witnesses from testifying in court. Telephone calls at night, a gang packed courtroom, verbal abuse and slow moving automobiles past a witnesses house are common methods used to frighten a witness into silence. Most witness intimidation occurs between the time of the gang incident and the preliminary hearing or during the court appearances by witnesses.

There are measures which should be taken to insulate the witness from potential violence.

The main point to stress in dealing with witnesses is that gang members operate behind the shadow of fear and are rarely brave enough to carry their threats into action. If the gang succeeds in preventing testimony, the gang's hold on the community will only get stronger and the violence will increase. For the hostile witness whose testimony is absolutely necessary, personal service of the subpoena followed by a body attachment if he should fail to appear is the only route to follow. Witness protection should begin prior to the filing of the criminal complaint and should not end until the potential danger to the witness has disappeared.

## WHAT ETHNIC GROUPS

Gangs come in all colors. No ethnic group can state that members of their race are not involved in some type of anti-social gang. However, one must keep in

mind that only 1% - 3% of all youngsters are involved in gang activity. (97% are not.) This is an estimate only based on the number of gang members currently in file.

## ASIAN GANGS

While each Asian gang has its own unique characteristics, most have roots in their country of origin which are continued when members arrive in the United States. Asian gangs are similar to other ethnic gangs in that they are started and organized into groups to protect their communities. However, Asian gangs generally are concerned with protecting the profits to be gained from illegal activities within their communities, rather than protecting their territory or "turf."

The age of the Asian gang member ranges from 14-25 years, the same as Black and Hispanic gang members. Younger gang members are more often involved in criminal activity than their older associates, mostly due to peer pressure and daily contact at school. Also, these younger members are utilized frequently to commit crimes for their senior comrades.

Initiation into Asian gangs basically requires new members to swear loyalty to the organization and commit various crimes approved and witnessed by active leaders and members.

This section on Asian youth gangs will focus primarily on the Chinese gangs due to their prominence. The other known Asian gangs -- Filipino, Korean, and Indochinese -- will be discussed briefly.

## CHINESE GANGS

The formation of Chinese gangs in California can be tracked back to the latter part of the 19th Century with the influx of large numbers of Chinese immigrants. Because of language barriers, customs, culture, etc., various Chinese communities were formed. With the formation of these communities, the Tong organization was born.

The first Chinese gangs observed in California resulted from criminal alliances being formed within the Tong organization, a benevolent group formed to provide support and financial assistance to Chinese families in establishing businesses. However, some members of the Tongs became involved in illegal activities such as extortion, gambling, and prostitution. In order to protect these criminal interests and intimidate families who had borrowed money, "look-see boys" were recruited from within the Chinese community to act as eyes and ears and

report the presence of police and strangers in the vicinity of gambling dens, houses of prostitution, or other designated locations. From the ranks of the "look-see boys" (who wanted to share in the lucrative profits of these illegal activities) evolved the Chinese gangs of today.

In 1965, the first Chinese youth gang was formed in Los Angeles and San Francisco - the Wah Ching, which literally translated means "Chinese Youth." The one prerequisite for being a member was to have been born in Hong Kong. The Wah Ching soon developed a reputation for torture, murder, and other violent acts which allowed them to extort businesses and other community members.

In early 1970, a member of the Wah Ching, Joe Fong, left the gang and formed a group called the Chung Ching Yee, or Joe Fong Gang, now known as the "Joe Boys." Both the Wah Ching and the Joe Boys compete for control of illegal gambling, extortion, and other criminal activities within their communities. There are currently approximately 300 members of the Wah Ching in both Los Angeles and San Francisco, and 175 members of the Joe Boys in these two cities. The rivalry between the two gangs resulted in the now infamous "Golden Dragon Massacre" in which five people were killed and eleven wounded when the Joe Boys attempted to eliminate the leadership of the Wah Ching.

The Golden Dragon restaurant in San Francisco's Chinatown was filling up with nearly 100 customers at 2 a.m., Sunday, September 4, 1977. Some of them were tourists from other cities, such as Seattle and Los Angeles, who were spending Labor Day weekend in San Francisco. Many were local residents who had just come from the bars and discotheques in Chinatown. Small groups of Asian youths were seated at various tables and booths in the restaurant.

About ten miles away, a dozen Chinese youths, commonly known as "Joe Boys", were sitting in a house in Daly City waiting for a telephone call. A few minutes later, the phone rang. The message was short. "The Wah Ching are at the Golden Dragon." Five youths left the house, got into two cars and headed north into San Francisco. One of the drivers was 16; the other was 23. Three 17 year old youths rode with the younger driver. They were holding two shotguns, a .38 caliber revolver and a .45 caliber semi-automatic rifle, all loaded.

At 2:40 a.m., the diners in the Golden Dragon noticed that something strange was happening inside the front entrance. They saw three young males wearing stocking masks and holding guns. The three gunmen quickly spread out, pointed their guns directly at the surprised diners and opened fire.

Five people died and eleven were wounded. Most of the dead and seriously wounded were young Asians, college students, law students, and church members. The other young Asian diners, who had escaped death and injury by ducking under tables, were the Wah Ching, the target of the assault.

The Golden Dragon incident was not a spontaneous or isolated incident. It was a planned and coordinated effort by the Joe Boys to destroy the leadership of the Wah Ching, their rival gang. Additionally, members of the Hop Sing Boys were present at the restaurant and were fired upon by the Joe Boys.

All but one of the Joe Boys who took part directly or indirectly in the incident have since been apprehended. The effort to eliminate the Wah Ching leadership by killing them in the Golden Dragon restaurant was a retaliatory move for an incident which occurred just two months earlier.

In addition, San Francisco has two other gangs called the Hop Sing Boys and the Kit Jai Boys (Kid Boys) with approximately 50 members each.

Chinese gangs generally have no single leader, but are cellular, independent operations which may join together when confronted by a common enemy.

There is no standard, recognizable dress for Chinese gang members, although some members of the Wah Ching have been known to wear T-shirts with their gang name printed on them. Some members of this gang also have tattoos with the gang name or initials.

#### FILIPINO GANGS

Filipino gangs had their beginning in the Philippines. Following World War II many hard-core criminals who were released from prison in the Philippines formed gangs, establishing territorial grounds and concentrating their criminal activities within the city of Manila.

In 1968, the U.S. immigration quota for nationals of the Asian-Pacific triangle was increased, and Filipino communities throughout the U.S., particularly on the West Coast, grew dramatically. While the Filipino community as a whole had a very low crime rate, some of its members formed gangs which have grown into a serious law enforcement problem.

Filipino gang members may be identified by tattoos of their gang names. Unlike most other Asian gangs, Filipino gangs display their gang name in graffiti.

In contrast to other youth gangs mentioned in this report, hard-core members of Filipino gangs are usually older, with some in their 30's. However, it is the younger members who are used to run weapons and drugs and who often commit the most violent acts in order to prove themselves.

Although many cities in California have some type of Filipino gang, the greatest concentrations are located in the San Francisco and Los Angeles areas. San Francisco, with the largest number of Filipino gangs, has three which are the most active:

1. Bahala Na, or BNG, which is presently the largest and most violent-prone gang in the city.
2. LVM (which stands for the three main groups of islands in the Philippines -- Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao) is a gang which has been at war with the Bahala Na for the past several years.
3. The Frisco Boys, formed in San Francisco approximately 15 years ago, has an active membership of about 50. Its two sub-groups are the "Batang 13", or Youth of 13, and the "Batang Frisco", or Youth of San Francisco.

Three other gangs -- the "Ugat Banal" (or Blood Brother), the "Sinta Seven," and the "Sige-Sige Sputniks" (SS Sputniks) are also based in San Francisco but are less active than those previously mentioned.

Other cities in the Bay area have Filipino gangs such as the "Oakland Boys," the "Manila Boys" (from Newark and Fremont), the "Union City Boys," and others too numerous to mention. These gangs look to the San Francisco gangs for leadership.

There are two major Filipino gangs in the Los Angeles area:

1. The "Satanas" gang was formed in 1972 by a former Sige-Sige Sputnik through recruitment of high school students. Its current membership is primarily foreign born and ranges in age from 14-32 years. Gang warfare frequently occurs between the Satanas and Hispanic youth gangs.
2. The "Barkadang Guam" is made up of Filipinos who are from the Island of Guam. While the gang is relatively small with only approximately 20 members, its involvement in criminal activities such as narcotics, burglary, muggings, and assaults with deadly weapons has made it a significant law enforcement problem.

## KOREAN GANGS

Korean youth gangs are found primarily in the Los Angeles area, where they are becoming a significant law enforcement problem. The gangs are involved in such criminal acts as extortion, robbery and burglary and have as their victims other members of the Korean community. Victim/witness intimidation is very common and further complicates law enforcement efforts.

Korean gang members are usually newly arrived immigrants who have been in the U.S. for less than five years. The structure of the gangs reflect their traditional respect for elders, with younger gang members being subservient.

Korean youth gangs do not use graffiti and do not wear distinguishing clothing or tattoos. Gang warfare between the various Korean youth gangs or against other ethnic groups is virtually unknown.

#### INDOCHINESE GANGS

There are very few Vietnamese youth gangs in California, but those which have formed are located primarily in the Los Angeles/Orange County area where large numbers of Vietnamese settled in the mid-1970's. The gangs are involved in extortion of businesses within the Vietnamese community in exchange for "protection."

Thai gangs, while few in number, are involved in extortion of community businesses, loan sharking, gambling and narcotics smuggling. Again, victim/witness intimidation make enforcement difficult.

#### BLACK GANGS

Black youth gangs in California originated in the heavily populated areas of Los Angeles. As early as the 1920's, a gang known as the "Boozies" formed in Los Angeles. This gang was primarily involved in street crime. It wasn't until the late 1930's to the early 1960's, during which time more Black gangs were formed, that inter-gang rivalry and warfare began.

In 1972, the "Crips" gang emerged in the southwest portion of Los Angeles and spread their violence through the south central Los Angeles area. Gangs such as the Piru, Bounty Hunters, Outlaws, Brims, and Bishops were formed in retaliation to combat the violent actions of the Crips. The formation of Black youth gangs spread from the Los Angeles area to include other major cities in California.

Black gangs, though they may have many different names, are generally broken down into those that are Crips and those that are anti-Crips or "Crip Killers." Although the gangs within these two factions usually identify themselves as being part of one or the other, the gangs are separate, independent groups which may form alliances with one another or may engage in gang warfare between each other.

Black youth gangs are involved more often in crimes against the general population than in gang warfare. While gang wars do occur from time to time,

they are usually not over the protection of turf or territory, but can result from traditional rivalries between gangs. The concept of "protection of the neighborhood" does not appear to be as important to Black youth gangs as it is with Hispanic gangs.

The members of the Black gangs use colorful monikers or nicknames to describe themselves such as "Sir Rob," "Super Fly" and "Killer." Many times these monikers will be synonymous with the type of weapon the gang member carries or with which he is proficient, i.e., "Little .45;" or they will describe his talent in other areas, i.e., "Sock-Eye," describing a good fighter, or "Greasy Mitt," a good car thief.

Very few Black gang members adorn their bodies with tattoos. One of the standard ways they identify themselves as gang members is with colored scarves or "rags," which signify their gang affiliation. Crips use blue or blue and black; Crip Killers normally use red. The rags are usually worn hanging out of their back pants pocket or jacket pocket.

## HISPANIC GANGS

In the early 1900's, the first evidence of Hispanic gangs surfaced in the Southern California area. Between 1910 and 1925, there was a great influx of immigrants to the Los Angeles area from Mexico due to the political instability of that country. These immigrants tended to reside in close proximity to other Hispanics who had migrated from the same geographical area in Mexico. Rivalry developed between some of the immigrants from different areas, leading to the evolution of the first known gangs.

The depression of the 1930's and the pre-World War II era further contributed to the migration of Hispanic families to California from Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. In the course of time, these newcomers fragmented into several groups, each claiming its own territory or turf.

More new gang territories were formed in the 1960's and 1970's as a result of freeway construction, urban renewal and a desire of some parents to relocate their families to a better environment.

By the early 1970's, other areas of the state started noticing an increase in gang graffiti, violence, and crime. In 1972, San Diego authorities identified three Hispanic gangs operating within the area. By 1978 the number of gangs had grown to approximately 25 with an estimated membership of 1,500. Other communities in Central and Northern California also noticed increased youth gang activity accompanied by an escalating assault and homicide rate, primarily involving gang members.

Hispanic gangs invariably name their gang after a geographical area or "turf." something they feel is worth fighting for and defending. Foremost in each gang member's mind is the belief that "the gang is more important than the individual member." This philosophy contributes to the perpetuation of gang activity by members, even with the knowledge they may die in the commission of such activity.

Law enforcement officers responding to the commission of a crime by a Hispanic gang member must be concerned not only with the crime itself but the gang's ideology, long-standing tradition, and strong loyalty. The relocation of a gang to a new area does not weaken their loyalty to the gang nor to the area in which they were originally formed. For example, three major Hispanic street gangs in the Southern California area are named after streets which have not existed for years.

Hispanic gang activity often becomes a "family affair." Young males, ages 10-13, will be the "Pee Wees" or the "Lil Winos" within the gang. Ages 14-22 comprise the hard-core members who are involved in gang enforcement and crimes of a gang-related nature. Anyone who lives past 22 becomes a "Veterano." The "Veterano" may actively participate in crimes, but more often will give aid, shelter and advice to younger gang members. They will hide members from the police, dispose of weapons used in crimes, and provide places for the members to meet and have parties.

Hispanic gangs form alliances for purposes of strength. Inter-gang feuds and "wars" occur largely over territory or as a result of some real or imagined transgression by a rival gang.

#### PRISON GANG INFLUENCE

There are some indications that the prison-gang influence on youth gangs is increasing. Some youth gang members have been associated with, or recruited by, prison gang members. This is due largely to family relationships, with the older relative being a prison gang member.

The first prison gang originated in 1957 at Deuel Vocational Institution (DVI) at Tracy, adopting the name of "The Mexican Mafia," known best as "La EME." This gang was founded by thirteen (13) individuals, all of whom were heavy gang members from differing neighborhood gangs in Southern California.

The second prison gang was formed in 1965 at the Correctional Training Facility (CTF) at Soledad. La Nuestra Familia (NF) was organized by other Hispanics to compete with "La EME" in criminal activity and for protection. The majority of the members of La Nuestra Familia came from Northern California communities in contrast to the Mexican Mafia whose basic membership was from Southern California--mainly the Los Angeles area.

The next two prison gangs to organize were the Black Guerrilla Family (BGF) and the Aryan Brotherhood (AB). Both were organized in the mid-sixties for the purpose of furthering their criminal activity and self-protection. These two prison gangs have members from throughout the State of California.

Shortly after La Nuestra Familia was organized, it came into conflict with the Mexican Mafia, both gangs attacking one another wherever or whenever the opportunity presented itself. Initially this conflict was contained mainly within California Department of Corrections' (CDC) institutions. However, in the early 1970's CDC separated known prison gang members from rival prison gangs by segregating them to specific CDC institutions.

The Mexican Mafia and La Nuestra Familia conflict generated alliances by the other two prison gangs. The Black Guerrilla Family (BFG) formed an alliance with La Nuestra Familia, and the Aryan Brotherhood (AB) formed an alliance with the Mexican Mafia.

It wasn't until the late 1960's that the CYA started housing wards on a regional basis as much as possible, irrespective of youth gang affiliation. The regionalization followed trends in the correctional field which indicated that by incarcerating a person in an institution near his home, his reintegration into society would be easier.

It was at this same time a noticeable change was observed in the dynamics between gang members from Southern California, and the gang-type wards from Northern California reacted to these changes. The Southern California gang vs. the Northern California gang phenomenon became observable, and animosities started to develop on a parallel with the different prison gangs.

Southern California gang members coming into CYA institutions openly identified with the number 13. When the gang members were questioned about the number 13, they would state "SUR," the Spanish word for south, meaning "Southern California." Furthermore, members of different gangs from Southern California, while incarcerated, called a truce to their street rivalries. The end result was that a gang of gangs under the banner of "SUR/13" was formed.

Virtually all Hispanic CYA wards are cognizant of the Southern vs. Northern California gang phenomenon prior to their commitment to the California Youth Authority. They have been exposed to it in their communities, youth gang, juvenile hall, or county camps. Most wards do identify and become involved with the "SUR" (Southern California) vs. "NORTE" (Northern California) gang phenomenon.

In 1976, an intensive investigation was conducted regarding CYA wards suspected of being involved in prison gang activity. The results revealed that prison gang members of La Nuestra Familia, La EME, the Black Guerrilla Family, and the Aryan Brotherhood have been in various CYA institutions since the inception of each respective prison gang.

Between 1975 and 1977, La Nuestra Familia recruited a large number of youthful offenders in the community or in county jails who were facing commitment to the California Youth Authority. Some received formal training from NF members housed in the same jail. Many recruits had been associating with NF members and committing crimes in the same areas as NF members, making these youths prime candidates for membership in the NF.

These offenders, upon being committed to the California Youth Authority, continue to communicate with their sponsors (the NF member who recruited them and vouched for them). They transmit prison gang related information via mail, visitors, telephone calls, messengers, etc. from CYA institutions to their sponsors in the Department of Corrections, county jail or out in the community.

Further evidence supporting the connection between youth gangs and prison gangs was the discovery in 1977 of an NF regiment actively operating in a CYA institution. An NF lieutenant and security officer (an NF member appointed to receive all sensitive NF information or investigate anything affecting the organization) had been appointed to the regiment consisting of approximately fifteen members. Formal schooling in NF philosophies and procedures was being conducted at that institution. At the same time it was learned that the NF had been actively recruiting at another CYA institution since 1975.

Prison gang members have always used graffiti to identify their presence. Youth gang graffiti, with the Mexican Mafia graffiti an integral part of it, is now found in the Los Angeles area. Northern California communities that reveal La Nuestra Familia graffiti are primarily Fresno, Stockton, and San Jose. The animosity that exists between the Mexican Mafia and La Nuestra Familia is seen in the graffiti. One gang will cross out their enemy's graffiti, which identifies with one prison gang, and impose their own, which identifies with a different prison gang, in its place.

Black Guerrilla Family graffiti has been observed in a Southern California community where BGF members were known to be operating.

The Whites/Caucasians that are committed to the CYA band together in a quasi-gang grouping under the banner of Supreme White Power (SWP), Supreme White

People, or Supreme White Pride. The hardcore individuals in this group are Neo-Nazis. Members identify and sympathize with the Aryan Brotherhood (AB), and have been known to transmit prison gang information relative to AB activities to various CDC institutions.

CYA wards from Northern California communities who were involved in youth gang activity reacted to the Southern California gang restructuring by forming their own gang of gangs for self-protection. They identified with the number 14 (the fourteenth letter of the alphabet being the letter "N"). When the Northern California gang members were interviewed, they would state the number 14 meant the letter "N" or "ENE" for Norte or "Northern California."

Animosities developed gradually from 1970 to the present between the Northern and Southern Hispanics. Conflicts were solely the result of Northern California gang member vs. Southern California gang member. At times "truces" were established between the groups, but any time a heavy gang leader (either from Southern or Northern California) arrived at an institution, a power struggle inadvertently developed between the gangs. Once the struggle was resolved another truce would be established.

The early 1970's revealed a change in the Northern vs. Southern gang phenomenon. The Southern Hispanics declared that they either belonged to or favored "La EME," and referred to each other as "Mexican" or "Mexicanos." Conversely, the Northern Hispanics stated they were either a member of or favorably supported La Nuestra Familia and referred to each other as "Chicanos."

Since 1973, CYA wards have identified with the different prison gangs in their correspondence. During interviews with CYA wards, many identify themselves by their street name (moniker), youth gang, and the number 13, and obligingly state "EME." When asked about the number "13", they would reply "13" meant "SUR" (Southern California). When queried about "EME," these wards would respond "Mexican Mafia."

Further questioning concerning Mexican Mafia membership usually elicited the reply, "I'm not Mafia yet, but I'll be a Mafia member as soon as I can. I will do anything they ask me to do so that when I'm old enough, I'll be a Mafia member."

Many CYA wards from Northern California identified with the number 14, meaning Norte. In 1975, they openly started writing "NF," or including NF drawings on their letters indicating an association with or membership in La Nuestra Familia. During interview with CYA wards in regards to the number 14, they stated it stood for "EME" (the phonetic pronunciation of the letter "N" in Spanish). When the individuals were questioned what this meant, their reply

would be "Nuestra Familia." CYA wards identifying with the NF also indicated they were not NF members but would do whatever they were asked so that they could eventually become members. Many of the wards interviewed stated they first learned about the NF through a relative who was a member, or a "homie," who is a fellow-gang member, normally from the same gang.

The rivalry existing between "La EME" and La Nuestra Familia in the prison system is directly reflected in the individual conduct of CYA wards. Gang members identifying with "La EME" and the NF are keenly aware of the "enemy" status of opposing gang members and are prepared "to take care of business" if and when the opportunity arises. They are also educated as to the historical development of prison gangs and the alliances formed between prison gangs.

In the late 1960's, an increasing number of Black youths involved themselves in youth gang activity.

The Crips, considered to be the most powerful Black youth gang in Southern California, was organized during the early 1970's. The most violent members identify with the Black Guerrilla Family (BGF) and were usually exposed to BGF philosophies and members in their own communities.

When prison gang members are paroled, they generally return to their old neighborhoods where youth gang members emulate and idolize them. The dream of many youth gang members is to be a prison gang member. They see the prison gang member as a reflection of themselves, their future, and their goals in life. Youth gang members have been used to perpetrate crimes such as burglaries, robberies, and at times, to commit a homicide for their respective prison gang. On occasion, prison gang leadership has directed that favors be awarded to youth gang leaders to encourage alignment with the prison gang.

Another direct tie between youth gangs and prison gangs is kinship. Often all the brothers in one family within the criminal justice system are also prison gang members. In all known cases, the brothers were members of the same youth gang or a gang in the area where they grew up.

There are indications that prison gang influences on youth gangs are increasing, resulting in the expectation by many youth gang members that they will eventually become members of a particular prison gang. This trend, if not controlled, will result in serious problems for the community and law enforcement.

#### WHAT DO GANGS DO

The gangs monitored by law enforcement are generally involved in criminal activity ranging from murder to vandalism.

## GRAFFITI

The writing of gang names, slogans, numbers, etc. on walls, desks, chairs and other types of property is called graffiti. Paint spray cans and marking pens are the most common graffiti tools used by gang members. Graffiti is a method of marking off a gang turf and is also used as a form of advertisement. The urge to write their names and gang monikers is overwhelming and regardless of where they visit, graffiti will be written if the opportunity arises.

Graffiti is used only to communicate messages between gangs, not to the general public, and has codes which have common meaning throughout California. When the gang name is placed within a rival gang's territory, and the other gang's name is crossed or "x'ed" out, the graffiti serves as a challenge to the rival gang.

Although graffiti is an eyesore, it allows the police to keep track of pending gang conflicts, serves as a roster of gang members, and will often lead to the suspect of a gang-related crime. Graffiti has been left at the scene of many crimes and has enabled investigating officers to arrest the responsible gang members.

## TATTOO'S

Tattoo's are extensions of graffiti. Gang members who are very active with the gang tattoo themselves in order to show fellow gang members their allegiance to the gang and also to advertise to outsiders where they are from. It can also be positively stated that an individual who tattoos himself is more than just a peripheral or a casual associate. Although tattooing is most popular with Latin street gangs, this form of identification or advertising is practiced by gang members of all races. Organizations involved in criminal activity and who are not street gangs also use tattooing to identify with the organization. Some examples are: The Hell Angels, The Mexican Mafia, The Aryan Brotherhood and The Nuestra Familia.

The gang name, a girlfriends name, the gang members nickname or "Placa" will appear on arms, chests, wrists and hands. A teardrop tattooed at the outside corner of the right eye may indicate that:

1. The gang member has spent at least one year at the Youth Authority or state prison or:
2. The gang member has committed a murder

## MONIKERS

Monikers (nicknames) are often used by gang members in place of true names. Often-times fellow gang members do not know the true names of their friends. The names are selected or given by fellow gang members based on physical or personal characteristics. Some examples of Hispanic monikers are:

	ENGLISH TRANSLATION
Negro	Dark
Blackie	Dark
Bosco	N/A
Conejo	Rabbit
Pato	Duck
Payaso	Clown
Mosca	Fly
Cuate	Twin
Flaco	Skinny
Huero	Light Skinned
Joker	N/A
Goofy	N/A

It is important to keep in mind when investigating gang related crimes where monikers are used, that Hispanic gangs occasionally use both Spanish and English monikers.

Black gang monikers are normally selected for a reputation that a gang member wants or already has. Some examples are:

Junebug  
 T Bone  
 Lover  
 Mr. Cool  
 Player  
 Killer  
 Mad Dog  
 Rock  
 Bo Dee

The word dog is very popular and is often attached to another name like killer dog, mad dog, etc.

## WEAPONS

Gang members have access to a wide assortment of guns and knives stolen in burglaries and robberies or from parents. It would appear, alarmingly, that street gangs are obtaining greater access to semi and fully automatic weapons.

## OFFICER'S SAFETY

Gang members will conceal their weapons in many of the standard ways; waistband, boottop, under a hat. They will also let the girls carry the weapon, knowing they will not usually be searched by male officers. Gang members will cut replaceable sections in the side panels of their cars to hide the weapons or under car door speakers. Do not overlook these locations when searching a gang members vehicle.

## VEHICLES

Latin street gangs drive a variety of cars, but mostly they prefer the older model Chevrolet's, lowered and adorned with various equipment (some illegal) such as extra small chrome or vinyl steering wheels, fur on the dashboard, and chrome or mag wheels. Holes in the floorboards, under the mats, should be watched for. These are used to drop weapons from the moving vehicle after a gang shooting. Unlike throwing the weapon from a window, the pursuing officer will be uncertain of which gang member in the vehicle dropped the gun and it will substantially weaken the officer's case in court.

## ATTITUDES

Gang members attitudes toward the police will range from joking and co-operative to open hostile and combative. On his own territory and with other gang members, the gang member will tend to be more daring and belligerent to officer's that they might be stopped alone in another area.

A gang member, literally shot to pieces by a rival gang will lie on his gurney in an emergency room and belligerently refuse to co-operate with officer's trying to catch his assailant. Or, he will pleasantly tell you, "Don't worry, I'll take care of it myself." This of course means that soon, a member of the rival gang will be shot or shot at, whether or not he is the suspect.

If the gang member makes a report at all (many do, since they feel that the police will help identify the person who shot him, so he can retaliate later) they seldom show up in court. Officer's are advised to write down a signed statement or if possible, tape, any interview with a gang member following a crime.

## GANG SLANG

Slang terms used in one geographical area may have a different meaning in another area of the State. Besides having a different meaning, a word may have different emphasis or connotation from area to area or group to group.

Some terms will be used exclusively by one group. When used by another group, those terms may carry a derogatory connotation.

As sociological and cultural changes occur, new words may be devised for previously used slang terms by all gang/barrio/neighborhood/street groups.

## HAND SIGNALS

Youth gang members employ several means of non-verbal communication to acknowledge their gang or to challenge rival gangs, including hand signals or "throwing signs."

These signals or "signs" are made by forming letters or numbers with the hands and fingers, depicting the gang symbol or initials. By using these signals, the gang member can show which gang he belongs to and issue challenges to other gangs in the vicinity. Law enforcement officers should be aware of these signals, since they may give an indication of gang affiliation and pending gang violence. It has been reported that some gang members have adopted the "deaf" alphabet to form their gang "sign."

## PROFILE

### APPEARANCE

The Latin Gang Member will usually dress in manner that almost immediately will identify him as a member of a gang and that a crime in which he is involved may be gang related. A policeman who encounters these characteristics in an FI situation or a description on a crime report should be aware of these characteristics.

#### 1. HEADGEAR

Gang members will generally wear a:

##### WATCHCAP:

The blue knit watchcap was once part of the inmate uniform at Youth Authority Facilities. Though no longer required, hardcore gang members will wear the cap, even in very hot weather. It gives them status since it is associated with "having been to the joint".

**SWEATBAND:**

A scarf or bandana approximately one to two inches wide is worn almost over the eyes, over the forehead.

**HAT:**

A standard felt hat (widely worn by all men in the 1950's) with the brim turned slightly up and again worn closely to the eyes.

**2. SHIRTS**

Gang members will wear:

**PENDLETONS:**

The shirt will be of all colors, plaid, buttoned to the neck, and the sleeves. The shirt may be used to hide tattoos during the commission of crimes.

**UNDERSHIRT:**

The strap overshooulder undershirt is favored wear in hot weather.

**T-SHIRT:**

The round or V-neck T-shirt is also a favorite.

**3. PANTS:**

Gang members favor:

**KHAKI PANTS:**

Standard khaki work pants, highly starched with a crease, baggy and too long, usually slit up the ankle along the seam 6 to 8 inches.

**BLUE JEANS:**

Standard work jeans, starched, creased and baggy, rolled at the cuff, slit along the seam.

**4. SHOES:**

Black or brown oxford or Italian style with optional toe bands. Many gang members remove the heel so as to be able to maintain a mocking, knees forward "gang stance" for long periods.

## COMMON FILIPINO GANG DRESS

### HAIR:

1. Often a pompadour with long flip or tail.
2. Shaved or close cropped have been seen also.

### HEADGEAR:

Baseball caps, sometimes with first initials of gang name or custom printed with gang name.

### SHIRTS:

Usually dress style shirts, very colorful worn with shirt tails out.

### PANTS:

Dark colored baggy pants.

### SHOES:

Van brand shoes, colors not significant.

## COMMON ARMENIAN GANG DRESS

### HAIR:

1. Wavy and natural cut.
2. Short, cropped, "Cholo" style of cut.

### HEADGEAR:

1. Baseball caps, frequently dark colored with preference for Kings and Raiders teams.
2. Oakland "A's" baseball caps "A" for Armenian.
3. Corona beer and Hussong's Fedora style caps.

### SHIRTS:

1. Will dress in shirt styles similar to Hispanic gangs as well as casual and dress shirts.

### PANTS:

Will dress in slacks, jeans and coveralls as well as traditional Hispanic style pants and cutoff shorts.

### SHOES:

Nike running shoes, black suede shoes, black leather shoes.

## COMMON BLACK GANG DRESS

### HAIR:

Styles change frequently.

### HEADGEAR:

1. Baseball caps, frequently dark colored with preference for Kings and Raiders teams.
2. Baseball caps with initials of teams that are same as gang initials.
3. Bandanas, red for bloods and blue for crips.

### SHIRTS:

Styles will vary from gang to gang, but generally will reflect the color of their gang, i.e., blue for crip and red for blood.

### PANTS:

Same as above

### SHOES:

Running shoes, crips will wear British Knights (BK for Blood Killer).

## COMMON HISPANIC GANG DRESS

## HAIR:

Often shaved or closely cropped.

## HEADGEAR:

Baseball caps - often with letters indicating gang such as "T" for Toonerville, "E" for Elmwood, "W" for Westside Locos, "C" for Clanton, "A" for Avenues.

Bandanas - usually dark colored, frequently with paisley print pattern.

## SHIRTS:

1. Plaid long sleeve shirts frequently buttoned at collar only.
2. Dark colored sweatshirts.
3. White T-shirts.
4. White tank top.

## BELTS:

1. Web military style belts, usually dark blue or black. Brass buckles sometimes have first letter of gang name engraved.

## PANTS:

1. Dark colored baggy pants such as denim.
2. Khaki pants, often baggy.
3. Coverall denims with top portion unbuttoned hanging down.
4. Pants cut off below knee (usually worn with white knee high tube socks).

## SOCKS:

1. Dark unless shorts/cutoff pants are worn, then it's tube socks.

## SHOES:

1. Black military style oxford.
2. Black suede shoes.
3. Black tennis shoes.

## ASIAN GANGS

### EXPANSION OF THE ASIAN COMMUNITY

In 1965, amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act increased the quota for nationals from the Asian-Pacific triangle, allowing 20,000 instead of 100 person to immigrate to the United States each year. Since 1968, when the law went into effect, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of Asian immigrants in the United States. Of course, with the recent influx of the Vietnamese "Boat People" only added to the overwhelming increase of Asians in the United states.

Los Angeles, one of the first cities of entry, became a haven for those seeking a better life. The Asian community which experienced a dramatic population increase since the 1965 immigration law is among the oldest communities in Los Angeles. Asians immigrated voluntarily to the United States for the opportunity to excel educationally and economically.

The great majority of the Asian population in Los Angeles is composed of recent immigrants from countries with very different cultural backgrounds and languages. These idiosyncrasies complicate the ability of law enforcement to effectively enforce the laws in the community. The vast language difference in the laws plus fear of the police causes additional distrust and doubts in the abilities of law enforcement to cope with crime problems in the Asian community.

### CHARACTERISTICS OF ASIAN GANGS

Most Asian gangs are basically organized in their country of origin and moves to the United States as their respective communities grow. Asian gangs are no different from any other ethnic gangs. They all started and organized themselves into a group to protect their communities and its residents. In its basic stage, an Asian gang appeared to be a benevolent association or a group of community leaders organized to help the community with its problem. Take the Chinese as an example. The Tong would assist a family in starting a business or even to the extent of loaning money. It was not long after such a transaction that the borrower would begin to feel pressured. This pressure generally comes for the Tong henchman who would act as the collector, or in plain terms, the extorter, killer or maimer. The Tong which was organized to be a benevolent group was after all a criminal group.

Just like any other organization, when it gets influential and powerful, political factions start within the organization itself. Members and followers become more loyal and dedicated to one particular leader of the organization. These loyalties spawn gang off shoots such as the Chines Wah Chings, Yu Li's, Joe Fong, The Filipino Satanas, Taboos, Bahala Na, Luzviminda and CXO.

Even the Japanese Nisei and Sansei (2nd and 3rd generation) were at war with each other for gang supremacy at one time. Today, however, these youths are associating with American born Chinese and have formed a new gang called the Homeboys.

#### METHODS OF OPERATION

Each Asian gang has its own unique characteristics. The potential for violence especially among juveniles and young adults exist in all Asian communities.

Unlike most other gang groups Korean gangs are strongly influenced by the old traditions. The Koreans have very close ties with each other and the authority of supervision is in the age difference. Most Korean gang members are newly arrived immigrants with less than five years in the United States, clinging to the Korean tradition while taking advantage of the American judicial system. While Mexican gangs fight for territorial turfs, the Koreans involve themselves in quick money making criminal ventures. Even though the Korean gangs are divided into three major groups, the distinction of the factions are slight, since all groups are equal and the influence is interlaced. Though local law enforcement agencies try to classify these gangs for their own comprehension, the three major gangs are just one group.

Extortion, A.D.W., robbery and rape are common occurrences in the Korean community perpetrated by these young thugs. Using the repressive methods of retaliation to discourage the victims from reporting crimes to the authorities.

Chinese are subjected to the same type of crimes as the Korean, with fear of retaliation as a prime reason for non reporting of crimes. Violent confrontations can be expected between established youth gangs who have in the past proven that the potential for violence exist in gang rivalries that have resulted in the execution type murders such as Wah Chings vs. Joe Fong.

Extortion and robbery are commonly committed by Chinese gangs. Because of its quick monetary rewards and expression of power and intimidation these crimes are a favorite of gang members.

The Vietnamese who assimilated easily in Chinatown attempted to conquer the Wah Ching stronghold in Los Angeles, but were quickly repelled by the more established and notorious Chinese youths. Vietnamese gangs such as the Frogmen, Black Dragons and Pink Knights are commonly seen in the Los Angeles area around Vietnamese businesses, but their control lies in Orange County where most members of their community settles.

Vietnamese gangs prey primarily on businesses and demand money and services in exchange for being left alone.

Filipinos, just like any other ethnic groups, are heavily involved in gang activities even though Los Angeles gang members are not as dominating as their Northern California counterparts. Filipinos are subdivided into numerous factions and are constantly warring with Mexican gangs. It should be noted that Filipino gangsters in Los Angeles are not solidly organized because the community is widely dispersed even though there are a few concentrated pockets where these gangs are active. Unlike other Asian gangs, the Filipinos are into heavy advertisements of their gang "placa." Graffiti is commonplace in the Filipino community.

Thai gangsters are heavily involved in extortion, loansharking, gambling operations and narcotics smuggling. They are well known in their community but relatively unknown to law enforcement. Once again, fear of retaliation and intimidation prevent police from getting any information regarding these types of crimes. The Thai's like their Chinese counterparts prey on their community business people.

Other minority Asian groups such as East Indians, Guamenians, and other Pacific Islanders have their own little organizations. The Samoans, such as the Pakalolo Boys and the Brothers of Samoa are giving Carson Sheriffs and Harbor Area police officers a big headache.

## RECRUITMENT

The average age of the typical Asian gangster is from 18 years to 25 years, a little older than the Black or Latin gang member. The young gang members, however, are the ones who get in trouble more often than their older associates mostly due to peer pressure and their daily contacts at school. Often these younger gangsters are utilized to commit crimes for their senior comrades. However, after a few arrests and unfavorable contacts with the police these young hoods learn to maneuver the American judicial system to their advantage. They quickly learn that the American laws are a lot more lenient than the laws of their country of origin. Some even brag that they can beat the system.

The Wah Chings are foreign born Chinese from Hong Kong and keep their membership limited. The Oakland based Yu Li's are basically the same. The age range is 14-35 years of age. The Joe Fong gang is a mixture of many racial members such as the Wah Chings, American born Chinese, Vietnamese and Caucasians. They range in age from 14-38 years. The Korean gangs are mostly foreign born although they associate with American born Koreans. Their age range is anywhere from 13-30 years. They usually have a Korean godfather who is older than 30 years. In San Francisco, Filipinos are subdivided into regions and dialects spoken because of the high concentration of Filipinos in one segment of the city. In Los Angeles, however, gang membership does not require any requisite because of a very low gang participation. Mexican, Whites and

Blacks are recruited to the Satanes and Taboos alike. Japanese youths associate themselves with American born Chines forming the Homeboys who are usually 13-22 years in age.

Initiation among these gangs are basically the same. They swear loyalty to the organization and commit various crimes witnessed and approved by active leaders and members.

#### GANG VS. GANG

As more immigrants arrived in the different large cities, "Chinatowns," "Koreatowns," "Filipinotowns," "Japanesetowns" and other "Asiantowns" formed. As these towns flourished, gang members set their territorial grounds to govern. This is where continuous bloody gang warfare begins.

Well planned assassinations and execution type murders as well as driveby shootings were popular among these gangsters. Before, during and after Joe Fong's incarceration, his determination to control Chinatown cost many lives. Gang retaliation is very common between these two groups. Filipinos fight among themselves and execute similar gang type activities. They also have a continuing war with the 18th Street gang. Thai's and Koreans have a commanding control over their respective communities and as of this time have little or no gang confrontations. But as these communities grow gang rivalry within their own community can also be expected.

#### OVERVIEW OF ASIAN COMMUNITIES

##### NARRATIVE OF ASIAN COMMUNITIES

(A) The Korean community is comprised of 85-95% recent immigrants from Korea. Of these immigrants approximately 27-30% are totally non-English speaking. The immigrant population is expected to increase at the rate of 10/15,000 a year.

A recent survey revealed that many of the Koreans are college graduates or were employed as professionals in Korea, but due to restrictions on licensing and permits, most of these individuals are not employed in their field of expertise. A large segment of the population is rumored to be in Los Angeles as undocumented aliens.

The American born Korean, being of such a small numeric portion of the total Korean community, has little influence on the overall Korean populous aliens.

(B) The Filipino community could well become one of the major ethnic minorities in Los Angeles. An examination of the Filipino community revealed that the immigrant population makes up approximately 70% of the total Filipino

populous of Los Angeles. Again the undocumented aliens from the Philippines and Guam make up a significant portion of the total immigrant population.

The American born Filipino community plays a major role in assisting the immigrant population assimilate in Los Angeles. In most cases the immigrants have little problem in the English language, but most would rather converse with their native tongue. Immigrant Filipinos speak one of four languages, Tagalog the national language, or Pampango, Visaya or Ilocano.

(C) The Chinese is the most diversified Asian community, in that the Chinese speaking people immigrated from various countries in Asia, Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Viet Nam and other Southeast Asian countries. To complicate matters, the Chinese have two major languages (Cantonese and Mandarin) with a myriad of dialects.

The immigrant population of the Chinese comprises over 70% of the total Chinese population of Los Angeles. With Chinese immigrating from Taiwan in greater numbers coupled with the masses leaving the Southeastern Asia and Mainland China now being recognized by the United States, this percentage can only increase.

Immigrants from these countries are the result of wars, suppression of freedom and poverty, therefore, the make up of these communities are from various economic and political background. The languages of these communities are dissimilar except for the Chinese who have a common language.

#### POTENTIAL FOR VIOLENCE

The Asian communities have in the past been considered the "model community," due to the absence of crime among Asians. This misconception by the Department and the general public was the result of the Asian communities being neglected by the police. Prior to the inception of the Asian Task Force, reported crime in the Asian communities was minimal. Following an intense program to educate Asians on the importance of crime reports, reported crimes in the Asian communities have increased substantially.

With the bulk of the Asian population being of recent immigrants, the potential of an Asian being a victim of violence is appreciably greater than the "average citizen." Contributing to the complications of policing the Asian communities is: ignorance of the laws, reporting of crimes, embarrassment and the lack of confidence in the Department's ability to deal with their victimization.

The potential for violence exists in all Asian communities, in dissimilar forms:

(A) Koreans of the Los Angeles area are subjected to the influence of the Korean government. Rumors of Korean C.I.A. agents in Los Angeles adds to the apprehension of the Korean populous, this factor can result in the violent confrontation between the pro and anti Korean government factions.

Extortion, A.D.W., robbery and rape are common occurrences in the Korean community perpetrated by the "young thugs" from the street gangs of Korea. Using the repressive tactic of retaliation to discourage the victims from reporting crimes to the authorities, crimes proliferate, when the suspects feel immune from prosecution.

(B) Chinese are subjected to the same type of crimes as the Korean, with fear of retaliation as a prime reason for non reporting of crimes. Violent confrontations can be expected between the established businessmen in Chinatown and the "new immigrants," in addition, the Vietnamese refugees are causing the overcrowding of Chinatown and minor confrontations are already evident. Youth gangs have in the past proven that the potential for violence exist in gang rivalries that have resulted in the execution type murders.

## VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY

### BACKGROUND

In 1975 the war in Vietnam was over and the Vietnamese started to immigrate to the United States. During the mass exodus many Vietnamese with criminal backgrounds fled to the United States. Most Vietnamese were fleeing because of past employment with the United States government or because they were high ranking military or governmental officials. The criminal elements and prostitutes knew they would be recognized if they used their real names so they got rid of their I.D. cards.

When they arrived in the United States resettlement camps, they gave the immigration investigators phony names. These names go back to their culture. Most Vietnamese have three (3) names; one for school or business, one by birth and one they are known by in their home village, city or country. In some cases, these names are now being used in the United States to get jobs, cheat on public social and welfare programs, and to hide from the police or government agencies.

### POPULATION

They mostly congregate by the ocean as they were raised by the sea, i.e., Texas, Florida, New York and California. It is estimated that there are in excess of 350,000 Vietnamese in the United States, and over 200,000 in California. Orange and Los Angeles Counties, because of their proximity to the ocean, International Airport access and jobs, have the greatest population. Cities with

major Vietnamese communities on the west coast are San Diego, 9,000; Santa Ana, Tustin and Orange, 12,000; Westminster and Garden Grove, 20,000; Anaheim, 6,000; Monterey Park, Alhambra and San Gabriel area, 8,000; Los Angeles 50,000; San Jose 8,000; Sacramento, 10,000; and San Francisco, 5,000.\* Based upon our own personal research and surveys, these estimates appear to be very conservative.

## JOBS

In the USA, Vietnamese work in jobs where language is not a problem, such as electronic assembly, medical equipment assembly, pharmaceuticals, and the garment industry sewing as it is tax free and few people will know when visiting a Vietnamese home to be aware of industrial-type sewing machines. Vietnamese are also opening their own businesses, stores, restaurants and bars in order to pull the Vietnamese together for the purpose of forming a political base. City, county, state, and federal jobs are the most prized jobs as they have power to be used in the community.

## POLITICS

There is a great drive to get organized but difficulty arises because of religion and economics. The rich don't trust the poor and vice versa. Catholics don't trust the Buddhist and vice versa. Citizenship is now coming for the 200,000 that came in 1975-1976. Vietnamese like to vote as it shows power. Cities with a heavy population of Vietnamese will probably have Vietnamese in the city government within the next three years. There is already a Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce in most cities where they reside.

## CRIMES

Many Vietnamese gang members are involved in extortion, rape (most go unreported), murder, ADW, and many other types of criminal activity. Most of their victims were known by them in Vietnam or here in the USA, through the immigration process because they knew who had money and who could be extorted. Most Vietnamese gangs meet in restaurants between 1030 and 1330 hours because many Vietnamese keep late hours and sleep in. Most gang members have guns, 45 cal. auto.; 22 cal. auto.; and shotguns because most of these guns were used in the war and they have knowledge of their operation. Guns are hidden in the trunks of the cars, under houses, in attics, and in backyards in the garden, wrapped in plastic. Most gang members prefer Trans Am's, Camaro's, Datsun 280ZX, as these are considered to be fast cars. The higher gang members prefers vans, Trans Am's, and Z-28 sedans. They often like to go to Vietnamese night clubs to dance, drink and talk about their criminal activities.

\*Statistics from U.S. Dept. of Census and CA Dept. of Social Services 1980

They have been joining the "Wah Ching" in the Los Angeles area, and "Joe Fong" in the San Francisco area. The older gang members are ex-military, paratroopers, frogmen, and Rangers. Many Asian restaurant and bar owners have a relationship with the gangs. They are either involved or are being extorted. The gang members eat and drink free in these bars. Most gang members dress flashy, with high-heeled shoes.

#### HANGOUTS

Cafe de la Grand	Hollywood
Tu Do Bar	On Beach Blvd by Westminster
Que Hung	Westminster
Huong My	Westminster
Saigon City	West First Street, Santa Ana
Cinema Land	Anaheim
Sung Lee	North Spring Street, Los Angeles
Thanh Po	Hill and Ord Streets
Linden Hotel Ballroom	Long Beach
Figueroa Hotel Ballroom	900 Blk S. Figueroa, Los Angeles
Saigon	704 N. Figueroa St., Los Angeles
A Di Da	Buddhist Temple, 916 S. Berendo
Phap Hoa Tu	Temple, 2219 W. 9th St.
Vietnamese Buddhist Temple	863 S. Berendo
Pool Halls	Chinatown, Los Angeles, Westminster

#### MOBILITY

The gangs are very mobile and frequently travel to San Jose, Sacramento, San Diego and Orange County.

#### GANG IDENTIFICATION

Most will deny gang affiliation. Some have tattoos of skull and cross bones, dragons; mostly on their arms or the upper torsos of their bodies. Some carry more than one I.D. or driver's license. They will commonly reverse their names to avoid true identification. Last names commonly used are:

TU	HANH	HOA	VO
VAN	KHANH	NAM	VU
DO	DUC	LE	DAO
NGUYEN	BA	TRAN	DINH
DUONG	HOANG	HUYNH	NGO

Vietnamese have three (3) sets of names:

1. One of birth
2. One for school or business
3. One for family use or neighborhood use

Gang members are greatly influenced by "Bruce Lee" movies or Hong Kong gangster movies. They tend to commit crimes just like the movie scripts. They now understand our judicial system and almost always request a lawyer. They are not territorial, but they tend to stay in their own communities. Vietnamese are of no specific age group. They are organized in the pyramid structure. Weapons are purchased from gun shops, sporting good stores, with a preference towards buying shotguns. They don't normally buy "Saturday Night Specials."

After committing a crime, they go underground in their communities. Vietnamese have no respect for uniformed police, and they may shoot to kill from fear of internment. They seem more afraid of plain clothes officers. Because of their culture, they view plain clothes as secret police. They are political in nature and they strive for power in the community. They want their people in the power base or as community spokesmen. Women are used as a means of banking money, getting apartments and buying cars. Most property is kept in the woman's name. Women used are mostly young unmarried girls who have children from the infant to five-years range.

Older women are invited in if they had backgrounds in dope, prostitution or bars activity. For security reasons, they stick to these type of women. Most gangs come from the same area of Vietnam.

Saigon	Cowboys; now Frogmen
Pink Night	Delta; Camau; Can Tho
Saigon	Dragon
Nha Trang	Looms
Vung Tao	Loi Ho; ex-military
Airborne	Rangers; Thunder Tiger; ex-military

When a "hit" is going to be made, they will generally use any car other than their own. They will often borrow a friend's car or steal license plates.

In the latter part of the 19th Century, a large number of Chinese people had immigrated into the United States. During that time, community family groups known as "Tongs" were organized to assist the people in the Chinese community with financial or business problems. The Tongs had one thing in mind - that was the interests of their organizations. They were established primarily for protection and not as a benevolent group. For example: if you were a Chinese person and wanted to start a business, you would pay an interest on the money they had loaned you and also for protection from their "henchmen." Henchmen were people used by the Tongs to bribe, extort, kill, rob, and steal their own clients.

As more immigrants came into the United States, the organizations known as Tongs divided the Chinese community into territories suited for each Tong organization. They also became more involved in gambling, vices and extortion.

After World War II, they became better organized and more community-minded by setting up store front associations with the same Tong idea in mind. These organizations continue to exist for the Chinese people only.

In the 1960's a large influx of "Paper Sons" from Hong Kong began immigrating into the United States. "Paper Sons" are immigrants from Asia who are sponsored by agencies or residents in the United States. These so-called sponsors make up false names and addresses of fictitious businesses so that the immigrants can acquire the necessary papers to come to the United States to work. Once they arrive in the United States, they are bribed to pay more money in fear of being turned over to the immigration authorities.

The Chinese communities in the United States grew very rapidly, especially in the cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles. The Tong organizations grew to their peak in power and influence in the Chinese-American communities.

Due to the vast influx of a large number of immigrants into these communities, the gambling houses grew in popularity. Some of the games that are played are Pye Rue, Mah Jong, Poker, Blackjack and Dice. They also have in these gambling houses, "Money Loan Services" in which they charge exorbitant interest rates.

Pye Rue is a game played with Chinese design domino chips. Minimum amount of money accepted in order to play in this game is \$1,000.00. With Mah Jong any amount of money is accepted to get into the game. It is played with ivory chips with pictures on them having a number sequence. It is a form of Chinese Baccarat.

Poker and Blackjack are naturally played with cards having Chinese designs and pictures on them. They also have numerous variations of games played with a different number of dice.

The Tongs began in the early 1960's to recruit young Chinese youths from the local neighborhood juvenile gangs to work as "Look See" boys. These "Look See" boys would stand guard at these gambling houses and look out for police who would be attempting to raid the gambling houses.

The Tongs got rid of their henchmen and began using the "Look See" boys in the same capacity as the henchmen. Due to the very small amount of money that was paid by the Tongs to the "Look See" boys for doing their dirty

work, caused the "Boys" to join together and form a group called the "Wah Chings," which means Young Youth. The forming of this new organization took place around 1965.

All of the Wah Chings were Hong Kong born. Even to this day, that is still one of the prerequisites to being a Wah Ching. The Wah Chings operated in conjunction with the Tong organization in that area. The Tong organizations were respected by the Wah Chings because they continued to have the knowledge, experience, and benevolent influence that they portrayed in the community.

The Wah Chings, because of their strength as a group using their "muscle power," were able to acquire more money in their settlements on contracts with the \*(1) Waring Tong organizations. They were also able to extort more money from the merchants and people being that they already had the feared reputation of being brutal and ruthless in the community. Sadly enough, the Wah Ching group grew and began dividing the Chinese-American communities into territories.

Unforeseeable enough, the older Wah Chings began having quarrels and disagreements with the younger Wah Chings about the large sums of money collected from the community.

This resulted in a split of the Wah Ching group the older Wah Chings broke away and formed a new group called the "Yu Li."

This break away from the Wah Chings by the older group occurred some time in the 1960's.

Jon Fong, one of the Yu Li members, is currently serving time in San Quentin Prison for murder.

The Wah Chings and the Yu Li's had their own territories to manipulate. As the community continued to grow, so did their lust and desire for more money. They began infiltrating each other's territories in search of new business. These actions sparked an entire era of gangland-style killings. Included were the Wah Chings, the Yu Li's, and citizens that did not want to cooperate with either of these two opposing groups.

Their style of killing is very brutal. Many times they tie their victims, torture them, and sometimes commit mayhem. They then shoot them numerous times throughout the head and body, and finally, they would dump the body in the ocean or a lake. The Modus Operandi is generally the same, but a different killer is used.

\*(1) Waring Tong: The Tong organization knowingly and actively being involved with gambling, vice, and extortion.

These Wah Ching and Yu Li slayings are very difficult to solve by the police because the killers are hired from other cities. An example: A Los Angeles Wah Ching or Yu Li henchman is hired to kill someone in San Francisco. When he completes the mission, he then goes to another part of the country to hide and is believed to seek refuge in the same organization of that Chinese-American community.

Chinese-American communities exist in many parts of the country; on the west coast, east coast, Midwest and southern part of the country. There are also communities in Canada.

Some of the names of the Tong organizations on the west coast are the "Bing Kong Tong" and the "Hop Sing Tong" in Los Angeles, and the "Su Sing Tong" in Oakland. On the east coast, and also the richest of the Tong organizations, is the "On Ling Tong." Their henchman are known as White Eagles. It is the same group of Wah Ching except with a different name.

In recent years, the police community relations section and detectives of the various police departments, have been working in the Chinese-American community to try to explain the importance and necessity of citizens coming forth with evidence to convict the Wah Ching and Yu Li slayers. This would help rid the Chinese-American community of fear and unrest.

### VIETNAMESE YOUTH GANGS

There are approximately six major Vietnamese youth gangs in California. They are located in every city that contains a Vietnamese population. There are other Vietnamese that are aligned with the Chinese gangs as they are Vietnamese or Chinese descent. They run with the Wah Chings, Joe Boys, Kit Jai. They speak the Cantonese language and sometimes pass themselves off as Chinese. They are generally able to speak Vietnamese and Chinese.

1. SAN FRANCISCO AREA

Approximately 200 involved in the bay area. Mostly Viet Ching or Joe Fong Boys.

2. SACRAMENTO

Approximately 150 Viet Chings.

3. LOS ANGELES AREA

Approximately 500 Viet Chings, Wah Chings and Dragon Boys.

4. SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

Approximately 150 Viet Chings, Pomona Boys, Kit Jai and Cool Boys.

5. ORANGE COUNTY

Approximately 100 Luns, Viet Chings and Pink Nights.

6. SAN DIEGO AREA

Approximately 60 Viet Chings.

**TATTOO:**

Eagle, Dragon, Panther, Boat; Located on arms, back or chest.

**VIETNAMESE BACKGROUND:**

They are very loyal to the gang and not territorial. They are not afraid of the police or other gangs. They will shoot quickly, and like to carry guns; 380, 45 cl., 38 cal., 22 cal., small sized automatics or 2" pistols. Some carry sawed off shotguns.

They band together for security of the group and survival against other gangs. They don't mix socially with other people. Most are school dropouts. Many are from adopted homes as their families are either dead or still in Vietnam. They get their money from extortion or burglaries from homes and vehicles. They tend to hang around video stores, bowling alleys, schools and restaurants.

It is rumored that some youths who work in a gas station on Imperial Boulevard are starting to hang around with black gang members.

The unique thing about Korean gangs is that they are loyal to their schools. For example, Hollywood High will fight gang members from Los Angeles High.

The reasons for the existence of these gangs are the usual ones, as with any ethnic group. They band together for survival against other gangs. With the Korean gangs, there is the additional problem of assimilating into the American mainstream. There is a great cultural difference. There are social adjustments to be made. There soon develops a cultural gap between the student and their parents. Most Korean parents work 10 to 12 hours a day in their market, store or restaurant. This leaves the kids by themselves, which tends to promote juvenile delinquency.

**CRIMES**

Many of the young Korean gang members are involved in burglaries, victimizing primarily Korean residences. Koreans who reside in the upper middle to upper class areas of Los Angeles, Ventura, Orange and San Diego Counties are the most susceptible victims of Korean gang burglaries.

Most burglaries committed by gang members are usually perpetrated between the hours of 1000 hours to 1500 hours. During the commission of the crime, the gang members are selective in searching established areas of the residence and taking certain items. Money, jewelry, guns and other small expensive items are the favorite targets of the gangs.

M.O.

The Korean burglary gangs are a well organized and well planned crime organization. Usually, prior to carrying out a burglary, gang members gather at a local Koreatown hangout to decide on a potential area to victimize. Once at the meeting location, the group will use the Korean telephone directory and, on occasions, the regular English directory to select the most lucrative areas. If, after a time, it is determined that the potential victim is not at home, the group will respond to the residence by following a map guide. At the scene, a juvenile or other youthful inexperienced suspect is instructed to break into the house. He is usually armed with a gun and makes a cursory search of the interior of the house for any inhabitants. Upon determining that no one is in the location, the burglars ransack the bedrooms and check hiding places commonly used by the Koreans. The stolen items are then given to the older members who deal with a "fence" in the Hollywood area.

## MOTORCYCLE GANGS

With a national law enforcement focus directed more and more toward criminal violence, outlaw motorcycle gangs have gained increasing National and International attention in recent years.

According to an article in the February 21, 1983 Crime Control Digest, the Federal Government is holding Hearings, in an in-depth look at organized crime. Arranged by members of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations (PSI), these Senators are urging the Federal Government to become more involved in fighting non-traditional organized crime, such as national biker gangs.

Police officers, district attorneys and former members of outlaw motorcycle gangs told the PSI that the Federal Government needs to establish Special Task Forces aimed at disrupting the highly organized nationwide biker gangs.

Investigations of the activities of major outlaw motorcycle gangs in the United States, Canada and abroad have confirmed a deepening gang involvement in narcotics manufacturing and distribution, prostitution, weapons related violations, extortion, murder, arson-for-hire, pornography, and interstate transportation of stolen property.

Law enforcement officers conducting gang investigations see these groups as posing complex criminal problems. Combating all of the outlaw motorcycle gangs is a full-time specialized job.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff Departments Motorcycle Gang Unit which is a part of the Special Units Detail of the Detective Services Bureau performs just such a task and requests any information or questions, concerning outlaw motorcycle gangs, be directed to the Unit at the Hall of Justice, 211 W. Temple St., Room 726, Los Angeles, California 90012 or through the 24 hour telephone number (213)974-4331.

### INTRODUCTION

Bike gangs, started in the early 1950's as loosely knit rowdy groups, began to gain real impetus by the early 1960's represent, according to American Motorcycle Association (A.M.A.) statistics, only about 1% of the nation's bikers. They are regularly involved in murder, rape, assault, burglary, narcotics, auto and cycle theft, prostitution, weapons offenses and intimidation of citizens who witness their criminal acts. Charges are often not filed and the cases not prosecuted because witnesses are afraid to testify, and other club members

perjure themselves for their cohorts. Members seem to thrive on these activities as signs of their one percenter image. Because of their possession of, and expertise in, sophisticated weapons and their intricate intelligence networks, they pose an especially formidable threat to society in general and law enforcement in particular.

Presently, there are several thousand outlaw motorcyclists residing in virtually every state in the nation, and are organized into more than 500 dangerous clubs. While the exact number is not known, it appears dangerous motorcycle gangs, as well as the corresponding problems posed by these groups to law enforcement, are concentrated in the states of California, Ohio, Texas, Florida, New York, as well as the areas of the Pacific Northwest, Great Lakes, mid-Atlantic, and New England.

Not all outlaw gangs are sophisticated criminal organizations. On the contrary, only four appear to have the national or inter-regional importance and a criminal impact which would warrant an investigation for violation of Title 18, USC 1962, the Federal "Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations" (RICO) statute. These include the Hell's Angels, Outlaws, Pagans, and Bandidos. These gangs operate in more than eleven states, while the Hell's Angels and Outlaws have chapters in various cities in Canada.

To date, the Hell's Angels is the only motorcycle gang to have chapters in Europe, Australia, and New Zealand, and the Bandidos having chapters in Australia.

Although the first three have been a problem for law enforcement for a number of years, the Bandido organization has escalated into national prominence only during the late 1970's. Regardless of national importance, all outlaw gangs represent certain problems for law enforcement agencies and should be judged on the basis of the size of their membership, the executive and management skills of their leaders, the criminal expertise and background of their membership, their impact on interstate criminal activities, and the degree of their multi-crime threat to society.

### DANGEROUS MOTORCYCLE GANGS

With the war over in 1945, thousands of veterans drifted back home trying to take up their lives where they had left off. Many rejected the accepted values of going back to prewar patterns. War had meant excitement. Coming home was excruciatingly boring. One of the ways to look for the type of excitement they searched for was riding a high-powered Harley Davidson or Indian motorcycle. The West Coast became the mecca for gangs of ten to thirty young men on powerful machines who roamed the highways in search of adventure, and where none could be found, they created their own.

Loosely knit groups, like the "P.O.B.O.B." (Pissed off Bastards of Bloomington) and the "Market Street Commandos," motorcycles were not a readily available commodity and riders were happy to find company.

### THE HOLLISTER, CALIFORNIA INCIDENT:

Hollister was a small town, an hour's drive south of San Francisco. In 1946, over the July 4th weekend, the American Motorcycle Association was sponsoring the Annual Motorcycle "Dirt Hill Climb" Races that drew hundreds of contestants and thousands of spectators. The seven man police force watched apprehensively as the town filled up with bikers.

During the evenings, drag races were common on Main Street and fist fights grew to unmanageable proportions. One member of the "Pissed Off Bastards of Bloomington" Motorcycle Club was arrested for fighting, and the rest of his friends were so enraged at this, they descended on the jail and demanded his release. When local authorities refused, the estimated mob of 750 literally tore the small community apart. This incident, highly publicized at the time, was the introduction of dangerous motorcycle gangs to society and law enforcement authorities as well.

Nevertheless, the Hollister incident contributed three very important biker traditions that survive to this day: The 4th of July run, the one-percenter image, and calling anyone not part of the sub-cult, "Citizen."

After Hollister, the P.O.B.O.B.'s membership started increasing and the new blood came in bringing new ideas. One thought was to change the club's name, so after the final vote was counted the club took on its new identity, "Hell's Angel's"

Hollywood, in its own way, assisted with the mushroom effect of gangs forming throughout the nation. There were such movies as the "Easy Riders" and "Hell's Angel's on Wheels." Only preceded by the largest contributor, "The Wild One," which was Hollywood's version of Hollister.

### ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

#### BACKGROUND

There are numerous motorcycle gangs that have chapters in various cities and states around the nation. These gangs are usually structured with the leader being the national president who is located at, or close by the national headquarters or sometimes called the "Mother Chapter." Next you usually find the position of district, territorial, or regional representative who is the

liaison between the national president and local chapter presidents. He usually holds the authority to solve local problems without going to the president.

Motorcycle gangs who lack the size and sophistication will most always be structured with only the rank and file as related to local chapters.

Dangerous motorcycle gangs allow only a White male membership; however, just recently all Black one percent clubs have been formed and are in various parts of the nation. In order to identify these clubs you must contact the local expert in your area that deals with motorcycle gangs.

#### NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Many times the founder of the club. He will usually be located at or near the national headquarters. In many cases he will have a select group of individuals who answer only to him as bodyguards and organizational enforcers. In most cases he will possess the authority to make final decisions over all club matters, and can overrule any voted decisions. He generally has the final say.

#### TERRITORIAL OR REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

In some cases called the national vice president in charge of whatever region or district he is assigned. His duties are usually to handle all problems that the local chapters are unable to handle at their level. Any problems that involve the club as a whole will usually be sent up to the national headquarters.

#### NATIONAL SECRETARY-TREASURER

He is responsible for handling the club's money, and collecting dues from local chapters. He makes changes and drafts of new club by-laws. He records the minutes and maintains the records on all headquarters or regional officers meetings.

#### NATIONAL ENFORCER

This position answers directly to the national president. He sees to it that the president's orders are carried out. He may act as the president's bodyguard, along with handling all the special situations like punishment for club violations, or retrieve the colors from a member who has left the club. He has also been known to locate an ex-member and remove the club's tattoo from his person.

## CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Usually a person through a combination of personal strength, leadership skills, and personality has either claimed the position, or been voted in. He has final authority over all chapter business and members. Usually his word is law within that chapter.

## VICE PRESIDENT

This individual is the second in command and the right hand of the chapter president. He resides over club affairs in the absence of the president. Normally, he is hand picked by the president.

## SECRETARY-TREASURER

Usually a chapter member who has the best writing skills. He will keep the chapter roster, and maintain a crude accounting system for the chapter. He takes the minutes at all chapter meetings and collects the dues and/or fines. Any bills the chapter has he is responsible for paying.

## SERGEANT AT ARMS

Because of the unruly and violent nature of outlaw gangs, each chapter has an individual whose principal duty is to maintain order at club meetings, functions and runs. He is normally the strongest member physically and is completely loyal to the president. He may administer beatings to fellow members for violation of club rules. He is the club enforcer for that chapter.

## ROAD CAPTAIN

A rather unique gang officer, the Road Captain fulfills the role of a logistician and security chief for club sponsored "runs," or outings. The Road Captain maps out routes to be taken during runs, arranges for refueling, food, and maintenance stops. He will carry the club's money and use it for bail if necessary. The Road Captain will usually make contact with local law enforcement officials to express the club's intentions while in their jurisdiction.

## MEMBERS

The rank and file, fully accepted, and dues paying members of the gang, are the individuals who carry out the decisions of the club's leadership and who have sworn to live by the club's by-laws. Normally, gangs have limited membership.

This afford the president greater control over the affairs of the gang. At the same time, limited membership helps to insure that the gang's criminal efforts are not compromised to law enforcement. When a gang becomes too large, there is a tendency to divide the membership into various chapters, based on geographic location of members.

#### PROBATE OR PROSPECTIVE MEMBER

These are the club hopefuls who spend from one month to one year in a probationary status, and who must prove during that time that he is worthy of becoming a club member. Many clubs require the probate to commit a felony with fellow members observing, so as to weed out weak individuals and infiltration by law enforcement. Probates must be nominated by a regular member and receive a unanimous vote for acceptance. They carry out all menial jobs at the clubhouse and for other members. They are known to carry weapons for other club members, and stand guard during club parties. The probate will not wear the club's colors. He will only wear a jacket with the bottom rocker showing the location where he is from. He has no voting rights, until voted in himself and completes an initiation and is awarded his colors.

#### ASSOCIATES OR HONORARY MEMBERS

An individual who has proved his value or usefulness to the gang. These individuals may be professional people who have in a manner commensurable with their profession been supportive of the gang, or proven criminals with whom the gang has had a profitable, illicit relationship. Some of the more noted ones are attorneys, bail bondsmen, motorcycle shop owners, and auto wrecking yard owners. These individuals are allowed to party with the gang, either in town or on their runs; however, they do not have voting status, attend club meetings, or wear the club colors.

There is one outlaw gang association that deserves special mention. When bikers are convicted and sentenced to a correctional facility, they find themselves far removed from the protection of their club and in a hostile environment. To insure their own well-being, they are likely to associate with members of other outlaw gangs and with established radical White Power groups at the penal institution. Notably in Southwest and West Coast facilities, outlaw motorcycle members tend to align themselves with an institution's Aryan Brotherhood prison gang.

#### CONSTITUTION OR BY-LAWS

All outlaw motorcycle clubs have, in one form or another, by-laws or a constitution that sets forth accepted standards of conduct for club members and administrative procedures for gang's operations. The larger the club, the more the tendency and need to develop a written document.

Typically, by-laws govern such matters as membership requirements, fines for misconduct or breaking club rules, acceptable behavior during "runs," and similar matters.

In reviewing various club by-laws, we find the majority of rules are the same. The following are examples:

1. All persons must be 18 years of age for membership.
2. All prospective new members must be sponsored by an old member.
3. All prospective new members must complete a probation period.
4. Each new member will pay (clubs set fee) the national headquarters initiation fee.
5. Each member will pay monthly dues to his chapter, set by the local president.
6. No member shall transfer from one chapter to another without the permission of both presidents and pay a transfer fee to the national treasurer.
7. When a member is in another chapter's jurisdiction, he will abide by their by-laws and president.
8. Any member caught using the needle will lose his colors and everything that goes with them.
9. Harley Davidson or Indian motorcycles will be the only bike used while in this club.

### COLORS

The proudest possession of any outlaw motorcycle gang member is his "colors," which is his outlaw duty uniform and claim to membership in a particular club. Colors refer both to the official emblem of the gang and a member's cutoff (sleeveless) denim or leather jacket which has been embroidered with the club logo (on the center rear of the jacket), the name of the club on the top rocker, and the club location underneath. Also saved or pinned on the colors will be all other authorized club patches which are usually offensive to society.

For outlaw gangs, colors are even more prestigious than motorcycles. While the motorcycle is a symbol of an individual's desire for a particular lifestyle, "colors" display his dedication to a particular gang, its ideals, and its philosophies. The loss of one's "colors" to a rival club member means extreme loss of face and can be a basis for expulsion from the club. The loss inevitably arouses intense hatred against the individual or rival club who took the colors. Many gang wars have started in this manner.

## PATCH PULLING OFFENSES

There are various "patch pulling" offenses common to many biker clubs. One of the first such offenses listed in club rules, ironically, is drug addiction. Bikers know that a man's loyalty to the needle is greater than that paid to the club, and the club comes first - before family, friends and anything else.

Other patch pulling offenses often listed on the club's rules are: stealing from another club member, renegeing on a drug deal made with another member, pulling a gun at a club meeting, and hitting a brother biker.

Frequently, the guild party will be reduced to ranks by having to probate again and pay a fine. What is not written into the rules is the guilty member will also probably undergo a severe beating for his alleged indiscretions.

## INITIATIONS

After a prospective member (probate or prospect) has met the probationary period, his initiation into the club is held. At this time he receives his "colors" from the ranking club member. His colors at this point are referred to as originals, however after the initiation that term is no longer used.

With upwards to 900 dangerous motorcycle gangs in existence, it's difficult to list all the various acts required for new members to perform during initiations. Each gang had its own requirements which run from the low key college type stunts to the most outrageous, disgusting and shocking acts one could think of. Rituals range from stopping a woman in public and demanding she take off her underpants and hand them to you, to laying on the ground face down while fellow bikers urinate, defecate, and vomit on your original colors. Some clubs may just pour grease and oil over you, while others may require you to submit to the sexual pleasures of the club mascot which in most cases is a dog.

From this point, washing your colors is taboo. The initiate biker must now wear his colors (when required by the club) until they literally fall off his back. The worse they look, the more class the baker gains.

The above mentioned rituals for the most part are still performed by the majority of motorcycle gangs today. However, a few gangs, such as teh Hell's Angels, feel that due to their size, wealth, and sophisticated activities they no longer require their members to degrade themselves. They feel a good thorough background investigation is more important than testing his loyalty and desire through other means. Due to the Hell's Angels new philosophy, you no longer see them wearing dirty colors.

## GANGS BASIC PHILOSOPHIES

## FTW

"Fuck the World" (FTW) is their motto and arrogant attitude by which this sub-culture attains its goals and objectives. They have given up on society and the politicians' one way law. They don't want to be like the normal citizen or dress like them. This is why they have created their own dress code which is filthy, repulsive and often offensive. The most shocking and disgusting acts bikers could perform in our society would only raise their image and social standards within their own environment.

Retribution is strictly an eye for an eye. Bikers would have it no other way, with their code of honor strictly enforced. They make it easy to be hated. After all, that is their main objective.

## PRIORITIES IN LIFE

First priority of any club member is his feelings and respect for his colors and the club. They rate equal loyalty, and it has been said, members would give their life for either one.

Second priority is the biker's motorcycle. It's no surprise to find a motorcycle in the living room of members' homes, or to find they spend more time with their bikes than anything else. It's their second most cherished possession and a major status symbol.

The third priority is either his dog or old lady, depending on which one he owns. If he owns both we must keep in mind that there are very few cases known that members have bought, sold, traded or given away dogs, as the women are.

## WHITE SUPREMACY

Their feelings strongly parallel those of the Ku Klux Klan and the late Adolf Hitler's beliefs. This is seen by the tattoos, patches and pins worn by the members, such as Nazi Swastikas, White Power Fist, and pins that openly state, "White Supremacy."

There are no known Negro males who hold membership with any White outlaw gang; however, there are a number of all Black one percent gangs throughout the United States.

## LOYALTY

It goes without saying that loyalty is high on the list of bikers' philosophies; not only to the club itself, but to your brothers. In any situation it's not a matter of whether your brother is right or wrong it's the fact that he is your brother.

Loyalty is one conviction that is strictly enforced. If you break the code of silence you will be hunted down and killed.

## THE ROLE OF THE MOTORCYCLE

Next to a gang's "colors," a biker's most cherished possession is his motorcycle. So esteemed is the motorcycle that its destruction by or loss to a rival gang member not only results in much loss of face but also could be grounds for expulsion from the club.

The motorcycle fulfills several roles in the gang. Obviously it is a means of transportation. Secondly, it is a requirement for club membership and is in itself a status symbol. Thirdly, it is the one material object all members own, and the one mechanical object in which they have a common interest.

Finally, the motorcycle, along with the very dress of club memberships to perpetuate the image of the club as a disciplined and paramilitary organization and has a certain macho or shock value for the biker in his dealing with other gang members, local law enforcement officers, and private citizens.

There is, moreover, a hard to define, near mystical bond between a biker and his bike, as well as an ill-defined feeling about motorcycles that tends to unite the members of a motorcycle gang. The exact relationship between a biker and his "chopper" cannot be totally explained. Nevertheless, law enforcement personnel should be aware of this bond, as well as the role of the motorcycle in outlaw gang affairs.

There are two prerequisites from motorcycles that outlaw gangs strictly enforce, and which gang members religiously follow. One, they have to be a certain size (differs from club to club; however, usually the minimum is 500 cc) and more importantly, they have to be American made. For the outlaw member, the Cadillac of motorcycles is an older Harley Davidson that has been modified to meet certain club or personal standards.

## CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES

Outlaw motorcycle gangs will do virtually anything to make money. They will use whatever method of violence they deem necessary to establish control over an area for the purpose of conducting criminal activity. Gangs have been responsible for countless bombings and execution style slayings of rival gang members and members of their own club who have interfered with the criminal activity of the gang.

An example of some of the more common illegal activities they are involved in are as follows:

### MOTORCYCLE THEFTS

One of the oldest illegal activities of motorcycle gangs is bike thefts. Such activity ranges from selling the parts to redocumenting and selling the entire bike. Many gangs have well-established outlets for disposing of stolen motorcycles and, in many cases, they have their own motorcycle repair shops. These repair shops often become hangouts for gang members and provide a convenient cover for selling stolen parts and altering the original characteristics.

### PROSTITUTION

This activity provides a daily income to the club and its members. Females usually operate on the street or in club owned massage parlors. Many of the women will dance in G0-Go bars or work as cocktail waitresses and prostitute on the side.

### NARCOTICS

From the manufacture to distribution, many motorcycle gangs around the nation control the methamphetamine market. This by far brings in the largest profit to the club or members. Bike gangs deal and use most every form of narcotic; however, if they are caught using the needle, they will lose their "colors" and be thrown out of the club. This is a violation of most every gang's by-laws.

### ILLEGAL WEAPONS

The fastest growing criminal endeavor of the gangs is the possession, transportation, and sale of both automatic and prohibited weapons along with various forms of explosives. It has been documented that outlaw motorcycle gangs currently possess and can acquire automatic weapons from a variety of sources. These weapons have been shipped not only interstate but also internationally to Canada between members of various clubs.

Other criminal activities motorcycle gangs are involved in for profit are extortion, burglary, forgery, counterfeiting, welfare fraud, arson, and loan sharking.

There are various criminal acts that are committed by large portions of the biker population; however, usually not for profit - this being sex offenses, thefts, damaging property, carrying prohibited weapons, and kidnaping for rape.

Last but not least, spontaneous crimes that are of grave concern to the law enforcement community, are the rising criminal acts of assault on law enforcement officers, resisting arrest, obstruction of justice, obstructing police, intimidation of witnesses and the invasion of privacy by means of electronic equipment.

### INVESTING THEIR PROFITS IN LEGAL BUSINESS

The days of throwing their money away on parties, booze, and women are over. We find today that the majority of the larger motorcycle gangs are using a portion of their profits from criminal activity in investments in legal business. For example, some of the businesses owned by motorcycle gangs are mobile catering companies, bike repair shops, wrecking yards, massage parlors, investment firms, apartment houses, resort hotels, bars, ice cream shops, tow companies and private residences. This then gives the gangs the means of washing their profits from illegal activities through their legal businesses.

### MAFIA CONNECTIONS

Outlaw motorcycle gang members have taken contracts money from more traditional organized criminal elements to be "enforcers." This would mean they would act as muscle for the Mafia to collect bad debts. This has been documented through gang members and organized crime figures who have turned witness.

### MOBILITY

Outlaw gangs, particularly the more sophisticated, have avoided using motorcycles as a conveyance during the commission of crimes. Major gang criminals have found it more advantageous to forsake motorcycles and the wearing of "colors" for late model automobiles and business suits. In fact, appearing straight provides gang members with a degree of security and a cover for carrying out criminal acts.

A second type of mobility enjoyed by outlaw gangs poses a more serious threat to law enforcement officials and to their ability to investigate a gang's criminal activities. This involves an outlaw motorcycle gang's ability to move illicit goods by sending members from one geographical area to another, and from one chapter to another without arousing the suspicions of local citizens or law enforcement. In a sense, outlaw gangs have an internal and reliable pipeline (members) for the flow of illicit goods among their chapters. Because of the extreme loyalty of the members to the club, law enforcement authorities have found it difficult to infiltrate the pipeline or to penetrate the clubhouses.

Club chapters also provide a valuable service to the gang by protecting and safeguarding members wanted for crimes committed in other geographical locations. The ability of fugitives to move freely from one chapter to another is obviously a distinct advantage for gangs and represents yet another serious problem for the law enforcement community, especially since most concerned law enforcement personnel would have at best, limited jurisdiction in other geographical areas. When a gang member flees from prosecution, the new chapter usually provides him with false papers and identification cards to help develop his cover in his new location. At the same time, the member himself finds the transition to the new area relatively smooth, since the new chapter is prepared and willing to accept him with few reservations. All this, of course, makes it much more difficult for law enforcement to apprehend the fugitive.

Finally, outlaw motorcycle gangs possess a type of internal mobility that enables them to shift from one criminal effort to another without materially changing the composition of their organization. The criteria for a gang's involvement in a particular criminal effort is simply what type of expertise the club has in that effort, whether that effort is more profitable than the criminal act in which the gang is already involved, and to what extent law enforcement officers are enforcing (or are capable of enforcing) the laws that govern certain criminal behavior.

## INTIMIDATION

Outlaw motorcycle gangs are notorious for their intimidation of private citizens and for acts of violence against those who oppose them. Intimidation can be as subtle as several gang members, dressed in their "colors," descending upon a courtroom in support of a member on trial, to the outright harassment and oral abuse of a witness. Even more widely known is the "code of retribution" against anyone who opposes a gang. This has taken the form of all shades of violence, from simple assaults to murder.

The obvious violent nature of motorcycle gangs, and the extensive criminal background of the members, is proof enough that anyone standing witness against a member or gang could be in grave danger.

## BIKER INTELLIGENCE NETWORK

Outlaw motorcycle gangs operate in an environment which is conspiratorial and often violent. They have, consequently, found it prudent to develop an intelligence system to protect themselves from their two principal adversaries: law enforcement and rival gangs. Generally the more criminally involved the gang, the greater the need for an elaborate intelligence system. Many of the systems were developed over time, and others were likely acquired by gang members during military service or learned in penal institutions.

### INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

In your larger, more sophisticated gangs, one member will be assigned the duties of collecting and updating intelligence. One of his responsibilities is usually compiling a photo album with descriptions of rival club members in case of war. It has also been found that the same type of album has been used to identify law enforcement personnel and any other information that could be helpful.

These individuals are extremely mobile, and will travel from chapter to chapter, upon request, assisting the local president with surveillance or whatever their needs are, and never go near the clubhouse or wear the clothing that would connect him to a bike gang.

### COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

The major type of communication is via the telephone. Some clubs have recorded as much as 450 phone calls a month to locations around the world. One club, the Hell's Angels, is known to pay the monthly telephone bill of five smaller clubs, obviously to keep the lines of communication open for intelligence.

The Hell's Angels print a newsletter from each chapter and it is then sent to each chapter around the world.

At one time, Bandidos published a newspaper called the "B.F.B.B. Star."

### USE OF WOMEN

Once trusted, their role turns to intelligence gathering. They will go into the community and take jobs at city, county, and state offices where they have access to blank birth certificates, drivers licenses and other useful documentation. Other areas of employment the women will seek is that of police records clerks, telephone operators, employees in welfare offices, and positions within penal institutions.

## BIKER WOMEN

Outlaw motorcycle gangs are male dominated and highly chauvinistic. Women are treated as little more than playthings, generally victimized by forcing them into prostitution or street level drug traffickers, and quite often physically abused. Generally they are bought, sold, traded or given away within the club.

Bikers pick up their women like a lot of other men - either in bars, hitchhikers, or runaways. The macho image prevails, and when asked if "you want a ride on my motorcycle," they're usually hooked.

Strangely enough, and despite the abuse these women receive, there is never a shortage. An unlimited number of good-looking females, it seems, are attracted not so much to the bikers themselves but the macho image that they represent as well as the lifestyle and excitement within the sub-culture. They choose a life which seems as exciting as a roller coaster ride, fast motorcycles, macho men, drugs, alcohol, parties, guns, topless bars, and "any way you want it" sex.

The women of the gang will often carry guns and drugs in their handbag or on their person to help the biker, who oftentimes is prohibited from possessing a firearm because of being a convicted felon. They are often trained in ditching guns and drugs when being approached by the police.

As a source of income to the club, the women are usually put to work in topless bars where they hustle drinks, dance nude or topless, prostitute themselves, or set up patrons to be rolled. They usually average between \$75.00 to \$200.00 per night. Bikers of course exploit these females to the fullest, and no doubt live off the proceeds from the women's earnings.

Women of motorcycle gangs mainly fall into two broad categories: Mamas or Sheep and Old Ladies.

### MAMAS OR SHEEP

These are women who belong to the club at large. They belong to every member and are expected to consent to the sexual desires of anyone at anytime. They perform medial tasks around the clubhouse, however do not attend club meetings. Some clubs permit these women to wear "colors" with the inscription, "Property of" (club name), embroidered on the back.

### OLD LADIES

These are the wives or steady girlfriends of club members. They belong to one member of the club, therefore, sexual and other demands can only be made by their husband or boyfriend.

An Old Lady is not a card carrying club member, and like the Sheep are not permitted to attend club meetings. They also will wear "Property of" colors; however, with the name of the biker she belongs to on the bottom rocker.

The women will usually supply bikers with a place to stay, and afford them a permanent address in order to collect welfare.

As mentioned in the section on "runs," the women and probates are the ones that usually drive the crash truck or war wagon during their outings.

## RUNS

A run is nothing more than a group of bikers from one club chapter, or a number of chapters, traveling together on a sanctioned outing to a certain location for a special reason. The formation of motorcycles is two abreast, and usually always within the posted speed limit.

Club officers and members ride in certain positions while in formation, along with one or two crash trucks.

Runs generally take some organizing. Bikes cannot transport cases of beer, sleeping bags, illicit weapons, or drugs; and the bikes themselves must appear to be clean if stopped on the highway by the police. A crash truck will either trail or precede (many times both) the main body of bikers by a mile or so. Crash trucks will carry spare motorcycle parts in case of break-downs, sleeping bags, beer, drugs, and weapons, and many times be equipped with mobile telephones, police scanners, and a CB radios.

The women or probates usually always drive the crash trucks, and are trained in ditching the weapons and drugs when being approached by the police.

Crash trucks come in various sizes, styles, and shapes. They could be vans, panel trucks, converted school buses, pick-up trucks or even automobiles.

When stopping runs, if possible, both the the bikes and crash trucks should be stopped simultaneously. If your manpower does not allow this, then a stop should be made on the crash truck first.

## FORMATION AND LINEUP DURING RUNS

### PRESIDENT

Rides at the front of the formation next to the center of the roadway

### ROAD CAPTAIN

Also rides at the front of the formation next to the president, on the curb or edge of the roadway side.

### FULL COLOR WEARING MEMBERS

These individuals, including the Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer, will ride two abreast behind the President and Road Captain.

### SERGEANT AT ARMS

Rides in the last row of the regular membership on the curb or right side.

### STRIKERS/PROBATES

Ride two abreast following the regular, color wearing membership.

### ASSOCIATES

Ride two abreast following the probates.

### ENFORCER

If the chapter has this position he will be the last man in formation on the curb side.

### ASSISTANT ROAD CAPTAIN

If the run is large enough, an assistant will be appointed and he also will be the last man in formation on the side nearest the center line.

### CLUBHOUSES

Clubhouses come in various styles and sizes depending upon the gang's available funds. Their locations could be on farms, in residential areas or downtown business districts.

The majority of clubhouses today are for partying, working on their motorcycles and club business meetings. With the increased raids on clubhouses by law enforcement personnel, and the danger of attacks by rival clubs, members are taking up lodging at other locations. However, the majority of clubhouses which are utilized by the larger, more sophisticated gangs require a 24-hour guard upon the premises. In some cases the members have purchased homes on the same block as the clubhouse in order to afford extra security when needed.

Some gangs have strict rules (after being raided by the police) that say no weapons, drugs, or stolen motorcycles to be held on the property. The clubhouse must be kept clean, but at the same time it must provide safety to its members.

## EXTERIOR FORTIFICATION

Some clubs first started by using steel reinforced doors with special locks, and steel shutters or steel mesh over the windows. One gang even went to the extent of having a Mosler safe door installed as a rear door.

A more popular security device nowadays is the standard chainlink fence with the barbed wire on top. This fence will run the entire outer perimeter of the property with a reinforced gate at the entrance. Running inside the chainlink fence immediately surrounding the buildings, they are now constructing a concrete cinderblock wall with built-in gun ports. For added security measurers they will have guard dogs, either German Shepherds or Doberman Pinchers, running loose in the open area between the two fences.

One club added framing between the cinderblock wall and roof of the clubhouse, then attached steel mesh to the framing. This now makes it extremely difficult to penetrate the walls or windows with any kind of thrown objects.

## INTERIOR FORTIFICATION

They are reinforcing the pillars and framing with steel, along with sheets of armored plating waist high on all exterior walls to guard against bullet and shotgun pellets. Some clubs will only stack cinderblocks from the floor to the bottom of the windows for protection. The windows may have wooden or steel shutters available to be closed from the inside. Fire doors and steel plating attached to the interior side of a regular front door are used.

## ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

Many clubhouses are equipped with anti-burglar alarms, which ring at local members' homes, and security flood lights. Also used are closed-circuit television cameras which view the street or approaches to the clubhouse and are monitored on televisions inside the house.

Also found are police radio scanners, listings of law enforcement radio frequencies, tracking devices, telephone eavesdropping and de-bugging equipment, along with anti-intrusion devices.

## BOOBY TRAPS

Poisonous snakes will be placed in various locations, such as dresser drawers, kitchen cabinets, and cardboard boxes on a shelf in the clothes closet, just waiting to strike at the first person to open its place of confinement.

Guns and weapons could be hidden inside furniture, behind pictures, and under flooring in case of a surprise attack from a rival gang or law enforcement officers.

A spring-load rat trap, with a crude firing pen attached to the spring lever, and a small hole drilled at the end with a 22 shell inserted, is used as a warning device or to injure when the line is moved, causing the trap to activate.

A two liter plastic soda bottle containing one-third concentrated sulfuric acid, and approximately two cups of gasoline; a tea bag (tea removed) containing potassium chlorate granulated sugar will hang inside the bottle with the string secured by the bottle caps, however not touching the liquid. The bottle will be leaned against a wall or door, and as soon as it is knocked or pushed over, the substances come together causing an immediate burst of fire with intense heat.

## CALIFORNIA OUTLAW MOTOR CYCLE GANGS

### BACKGROUND

#### DEFINITION

Approximately 370 Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs (OMGs) have been active in California since the 1950's. These gangs range in level of criminal sophistication from groups of local thugs to well-organized criminal networks. As this time, more than 50 OMGs are criminally active within the state. The primary criminal threat posed by the more complex OMGs comes from the participation of career criminals who provide an experience resource for any criminal endeavor. It is for this reason the California Department of Justice (DOJ) maintains an interest in these gangs and defines OMGs as:

"Organizations whose members utilize their motorcycle club affiliation as a conduit for criminal enterprises. The nature of their criminal activity is generally conspiratorial and included crimes such as extortion; business infiltration; and trafficking in drugs, illegal weapons, and stolen property."

Criminal incidents associated with these activities include homicides, assault, and victim/witness intimidation.

#### ACTIVE CALIFORNIA OUTLAW MOTORCYCLE GANGS

OMGs are well established throughout this state. Most of the gangs are small and not well organized. However, these small gangs cannot be ignored because they affiliate with the more criminally sophisticated gangs and thus serve to expand the larger organizations' geographic territory for criminal enterprises. DOJ has identified 55 OMGs now active in this state.

While most of these (35) exist primarily within their own counties, eight gangs have created a presence in three or more counties within the state. The gangs and number of counties in which their presence has created problems are:

<u>Gangs</u>	<u>Counties</u>
Hells Angels	25
Misfits.	8
Vagos	6
Mongols	4
Sons of Hawaii	4
Sundowners	4
Hessians	4
Barhoppers	4

While the Hells Angels are an international organization, clubs such as the Hessians, Mongols and Sundowners also spread into other states.

### LOCATION OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES

Nearly every county in California is experiencing problems with motorcycle gangs. Criminal activities within the urban areas include drug distribution, and the ownership of businesses or business fronts for laundering money. Well over half the urban and rural counties in this state, representing 98% of the population, have observed the presence of OMGs. Most police agencies in these counties consider these gangs a moderate to significant criminal threat to the community. DOJ has identified 18 categories of crimes in which OMGs are currently involved. The following table depicts the top six crime categories and the number of counties experiencing significant problems.

<u>Crime Category</u>	<u>Counties</u>
Drug Law Violations	37
Theft/Receiving Stolen Property	20
Homicide	13
Assaults	12
Weapons Violations	9
Victim/Witness intimidation	7

The remaining crime categories resulting from OMG activities are:

Rape/Kidnapping	Money Laundering
Robbery	Marijuana Cultivation/Protection
Burglary	White Collar Crime
Extortion	Arson
Prostitution and Pornography	Explosives
Loansharking	Counterfeiting Money

The violence potential of OMGs within these counties is considered as moderate to high. Rural areas are preferred for covert operation of drug labs and have provided refuge for fugitives. In recent years, the Northern California Sierra range has experienced an influx of OMG members which is causing some concern among police agencies in those areas.

### ESTIMATE MEMBERSHIP

Actual membership is hard to determine because the only accurate way to verify gang status is to document members wearing their colors. The high mobility of these gang members limits positive documentation of gang size. DOJ estimates

that the 55 gangs in California have a total of nearly 3,000 members and criminal associates. The eight multijurisdictional OMGs identified on page one may have as many as 1,000 members.

Knowing the total membership size of these gangs is not as important as the level of criminality for individual members. As with any organization, law enforcement concentrates on the criminal core of the group rather than the general membership. Further, numbers are not significant because smaller gangs can be just as criminally active as the more notorious gangs.

Membership for any of these gangs is also further expanded by criminally oriented non-member associates. For example, many of the illicit drug labs which are controlled by OMGs are operated by non-members. This effectively expands the criminal activity of these gangs but not their membership.

## CHARACTERISTICS

Spokesmen for the more notorious OMGs present themselves as organizations sharing only a common interest in riding motorcycles. The West Coast president of the Hells Angels, Sonny Barger, has stated, "We're just a bunch of guys trying to get along in the world." Fortified clubhouses, arsenals including automatic weapons, OMG counterintelligence efforts, and organized criminal activities indicate these groups are more than just social motorcycle organizations.

Individual OMGs appear to be very close knit groups whose membership is generally selective. Unlike other clubs or social organizations in which anyone with similar interest can join, OMGs are far more selective. Membership requires introduction to club members, a "prospect" period of several months and a final vote of acceptance. No one may attend club meetings other than full members. With the exception of some social events, which is strictly enforced. Therefore, no one other than members really knows what transpires during club meetings. Because of the apparent atmosphere of secrecy relating to these clubs, it is not known how much, if any, criminal activity is planned during club functions.

In an effort to gain a better insight into the nature of these gangs, 73 OMG members were studied by DOJ's Bureau of Organized Crime and Criminal Intelligence (BOCCI) during March 1983. The study group consisted of the 1981 gang officers and key members from 13 chapters of the Hells Angels in California. The total criminal careers reflected in the DOJ criminal history folders for the 73 subjects were previewed. The average length of their criminal careers was 15 years. The primary items gleaned from them included:

- o Arrests and convictions
- o Prison terms

- o Subject age and length of known criminal career
- o Aliases

The 73 OMG members have incurred 743 arrests and 249 convictions during their criminal careers. These figures do not include arrests for traffic and other minor violations. Table 1, on the next page, depicts the nature of their arrests and convictions.

If arrest data are an indication of the criminal activities of these gang members, it would appear the top three criminal activities are property crimes (burglary and thefts), drug violations and assaults. DOJ's criminal history folders revealed that most of the property crimes resulted in felony arrests for grand theft, vehicle theft, and receiving stolen property. The drug law violations were predominantly for transporting, possession for sale, and sale of dangerous drugs. The involvement in drug distribution is further supported by the fact that in one OMG chapter of 38 members, 13 are known to be knowledgeable in setting up or operating methamphetamine labs. Assault arrests were generally in the category of felony assault with deadly weapons.

TABLE 1

TOTAL ARREST AND CONVICTIONS OF 73 SURVEYED  
MOTORCYCLE MEMBERS

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Arrests</u>	<u>Convictions</u>
Murder/Attempted Murder	23	5
Rape/Kidnap	32	25
Assault	109	31
Burglary	48	12
Theft/Receiving Stolen Property	121	34
Drugs	129	38
Weapons	76	23
<u>Other</u>	<u>167</u>	<u>75</u>
Total	743	249

One indication of sustained criminal activity is the year in which the OMG members were last arrested. Table 2 provides some insight into the present status of the criminal careers of the 73 survey subjects.

TABLE 2

## LAST ARREST OF OUTLAW MOTORCYCLE GANG MEMBERS SURVEYED

	Total	(Prior to) 1978	1978	1979	1980	1981	(Thru 4/83) 1982	1983
Arrests	73	19	12	6	6	9	20	1
Percent	100.0*	26.0	16.4	8.2	8.2	12.3	27.4	1.4

Table 2 illustrates that most of the OMG members are still criminally active, with 74 percent of them having been arrested within the past five years. The average age of the OMG members surveyed is 37 years indicating a continued criminal career at an age well beyond the average California offender, whose criminal career generally peaks in his 20's. According to the California Bureau of Criminal Statistics (BCS), 68 percent of the people arrested in California in 1981 were under the age of 30.

The most recent data from BCS shows 56.8 percent of all adult felony arrests resulted in convictions. Conviction rates (Table 1) for OMG members, with one exception, fall well below those for other adult felons arrested in California. The 73 subjects examined here had a 33.5 percent conviction rate. Unfortunately, DOJ criminal history folders provide little information as to why cases are dismissed. Disposition comments are generally limited to "insufficient evidence" or "dismissed in the interest of justice." Entries such as "victim refuses to testify" or "not available to testify," and arrest for attempts to dissuade witnesses were indicated on seven of the subjects' records possibly suggesting some explanation as to the lower conviction rates.

A good example of intimidation was exhibited in 1982 during a federal case against a Hells Angels member in Cleveland, Ohio. The loss of the case was attributed, in part, to problems created by other gang members which may have influenced jury decisions. These problems included threats to victims, witnesses, jury members and their families, as well as prosecutors and police officers. One technique of the intimidation was the very presence of Hells Angels in the courtroom. Members located residences of jury members and drove their motorcycles slowly by the members' homes daily in a further effort to intimidate. They appeared daily, en masse, wearing colors and virtually filled the first three rows of the courtroom (immediately in front of the jury box). They also posted two members at every door during the trial. These members came from all over the country and included the Oakland Hells Angels President Sonny Barger.

Currently, 5 of the 73 subjects are involved within the criminal justice system. Two are under indictment for murder and federal racketeering charges. Two are in federal prison for interstate firearm and drug trafficking, and one is in state prison for assault with a deadly weapon. Including the 3 now in prison, 28 of the 73 gang officers have served time in prison.

Many OMG members resist providing positive identification by acquiring duplicate identifications such as multiple drivers licenses. During their criminal careers, approximately 50 percent of the 73 gang members have used aliases. Some have used only one additional name while others have used as many as seven. The 73 gang officers have used a total of 89 different names.

## OUTLAW MOTORCYCLE GANGS

Identification of members and associates.

Identification of Outlaw Motorcyclists is vitally important to law enforcement.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department maintains a file of over 60,000 outlaw gang members and associates. The L.A.S.O. file is the largest known file of it's kind in the United States and is constantly being updated as to members identity, gang affiliation, activities, etc.

On all field interrogation cards complete information is needed on any person suspected of being an outlaw biker or an associate.

Include street names: Shorty, Bear, Fuzzy, Etc. All bikers have street names and are usually proud to reveal it if you only ask them. Many bikes do not know other bikers by their legal names.

Indicate the name of their colors and a brief description if at all possible.

Locate any and all tattoo's. This is very important in the identification of outlaw bikers.

Indicate any oddities such as one finger missing, crooked nose, bug stains on teeth, etc.

Be aware you may be tape recorded, whether on the street, in a house or on the telephone.

Levi jacket (colors) insignias and patches.

Wings: Worn usually on Left breast area of jacket.

WHITE: MEMBER ORALLY COPULATED WHITE FEMALE GENITAL AREA.  
BLACK: MEMBER ORALLY COPULATED NEGRO FEMALE GENITAL AREA.  
BROWN: MEMBER ORALLY COPULATED ANAL APERTURE.  
RED: MEMBER ORALLY COPULATED FEMALE MENSTRUATING.  
GREEN: MEMBER ORALLY COPULATED OR HAD INTERCOURSE WITH FEMALE SUFFERING FROM VENEREAL DISEASE.  
PURPLE: MEMBER HAD INTERCOURSE WITH FEMALE CADIVER.  
YELLOW: MEMBER ORALLY COPULATED ORIENTAL FEMALE.

GOLD WINGS: ULTIMATE OF ALL WINGS AND CAN BE LEFT TO ONES IMAGINATION AS TO WHAT REQUIREMENTS HAD TO BE MET.

Any recurring acts above, permits member to wear hash marks below his wings.

OR PATCHES:

Indicates wearer wants to be recognized as an outlaw motorcycle gang member as mentioned by A.M.A.

PATCH:

(Outlaw Association of America), same shape as the A.M.A.)  
(American Motorcycle association), triangle, except O.A.A. patch has in addition, a hand in middle with middle digit finger extended.)

The O.A.A. is an internal biker group representing several middle and eastern states in the U.S.A.

CLASPED HANDS PATCH:

Alliance determining an internal organization formed between different clubs.

PATCH:

Thirteenth letter of alphabet, "M" meaning marijuana.

M.F.:

Mother Fucker

F.T.W.:

Fuck the World

D.F.F.L.:

Dope forever, forever loaded

A.F.F.L.:

Acid or alcohol forever, forever loaded

A.F.F.A.:

Angels forever, forever angels

69:

## JOINT ORAL COPULATION

### FILTHY FEW:

Signifies special group in Hell's Angels

Other emblems, pins, Etc., such as German Swastika, worn for shock value only.

Upside down law enforcement patch means it was taken from a law enforcement officer.

Upside down patch of a club in possession of another club means the club was taken down by the club displaying the patch upside down. The colors may be displayed on the club house wall or small patch may be worn on colors.

### MALE MEMBERSHIP:

- \* Must be 21 years old or have identification showing 21 years of age.
- \* Own or be able to obtain a motorcycle either by theft or buying.  
(In some clubs a certain type of motorcycle is needed).
- \* Associate for a designated time with the club members, this may be a few days to as long as a year in some clubs or gangs.
- \* In nearly all clubs a unanimous vote is needed for membership, or if not a unanimous member vote then at least all the clubs officers must be unanimous in their voting.
- \* In nearly all clubs, using narcotics as well as committing at least one felony crime is required. This keeps out the infiltration of law enforcement, also keeps out the straight citizens and establishment.
- \* Be able to submit that all your worldly possessions are club property.  
(In nearly all gangs the motto is "One for all and all for one for the good of the club").

### INITIATION

Furnish a female for your own initiation. This female could be one who is a willing participant or one who is not willing, but of your own choosing, such as grabbing a girl off the street, etc. The initiation is usually held in the club house or at some isolated location with all the clubs members present. The female strips nude, or is stripped by the members, and lays on the new member's colors. Each member who desires has intercourse

with the female, the new member being last in line. The semen from the female's vagina is allowed to run onto the new colors, and after the numerous acts of intercourse, the members may urinate on the colors, defecate vomit, pour beer onto them or whatever the members so desire, for on this night of initiation the new member is at the mercy of his brother club members. The rules of most clubs forbid the colors to ever be washed. The night ends in one big dope and booze party.

#### FEMALE ASSOCIATES:

Females are never members.

Remember: When filling out field interrogation cards on females, note all tattoos. The best I.D. available on many female Jane Does found are tattoos.

#### WEAPONS COMMON TO OUTLAW MOTORCYCLISTS:

Buck Knives  
Motorcycle Chains  
Razors  
Bayonets  
Hatchets  
All types of Clubs  
All types of Guns

There have been reports of outlaw bikers carrying knives and guns resembling fountain pens. Homemade shotguns resembling road flares. Homemade shotguns that are mounted within the motorcycle handle bars and the foot pegs.

Search the entire subject and his motorcycle for your own safety. Bikers are known to carry weapons in special zippered type seats, in the gas tank, under the fenders, in the head light assembly, etc.

**NOTE: DON'T OVERLOOK THE GIRLFRIEND OF THE SUBJECT, SHE MAY BE CARRYING THE GUN OR KNIFE. THE BROAD OF A BIKER CAN PROBABLY BESTOW NO HIGHER HONOR ON THE CLUB THAN KNIFING OR SHOOTING A COP TO SAVE HER OLD MAN.**

## IDENTIFICATION OF MOTORCYCLES, TRUCKS, OR AUTOS:

Be complete  
Full readable licence number  
Colors of the vehicle  
Any and all oddities  
Year and make

When talking to bikers, never start a conversation with the term "What's going on." Bikers hate the term, they relate it to police officers fishing for information.

## JARGON:

The jargon used by outlaw motorcyclists is very similar to that used by the hippie and narcotic user. This is most likely due to the close association of these persons.

Examples pertaining to outlaw bikers:

1%ers:

The 1% symbol is derived from a statement by the American Motorcycle Association (AMA) that 99% of the country's motorcyclists belong to the AMA and are law-abiding individuals. The 1% symbol has thus become the mark of the outlaw biker rider and they display it on their colors, and many have it tattooed on their person.

13:

Patch worn on an outlaw member's colors, symbolizing that the biker either smokes marijuana, deals in it, or has contacts for methamphetamine.

666:

Patch worn on an outlaw member's colors, or tattoo, symbolizing the mark of Satan.

69:

Patch worn on an outlaw member's colors, or tattoo, symbolizing that the wearer has committed cunnilingus or fellatio with witnesses present.

22:

Having been in prison.

**A.M.A.:**

American Motorcycle Association. It's composed of average people who like motorcycles and the companionship of club activity. They are seldom intentionally a problem to police are usually willing to cooperate with law enforcement. According to the A.M.A., they constitute 99% of the nation's cyclists.

**ANGEL DUST:**

Terminology for P.C.P.

**ANGELS' BIBLE:**

Harley-Davidson motorcycle manual. Frequently used for their private weddings and torn up for divorce proceedings.

**APE-HANGERS:**

High rising handlebars on motorcycles. Derived from the fact that bikers dangle their arms over them in ape fashion.

**A.F.F.A.:**

Angels Forever Forever Angels

**A.F.F.L.:**

Angels Forever Forever Loaded

**BACK PACK:**

Full colors tattooed on member's back.

**B.F.F.B.:**

Bandidos Forever Forever Brothers

**B.F.F.P.:**

Brothers Forever Forever Pagan

**BIBLE:**

Harley-Davidson repair manual

**F.T.B.F.:**

Bikers Together Bikers Forever

**CATWALK:**

Drive with front wheel off the ground. Also known as wheelie.

**CHOPPER:**

Chopped or cut down motorcycle. All unnecessary equipment stripped with only the bare essentials left on the bike. Usually the front brake and fender removed, wheel fork extended forward and the handlebars set high.

**CITIZEN:**

A cyclist who belongs to the A.M.A., not a member of the 1% club.

**CLASS:**

To do something out of the ordinary, usually an act which is violent and/or shocking to the public.

**COLORS:**

The official uniform of all outlaw motorcycle gangs. The colors consist of a sleeveless levi or leather jacket, with club patch on the back, and various other patches, pins, and Nazi metals attached to the front. Colors belong to the club, are worn only by male members, and are always held sacred by outlaw gang members.

**CRASH TRUCK:**

A van, panel truck, or converted school bus that follows the motorcycle gangs runs, and picks up broken down bikes. Also known to carry the club's weapons, drugs, supplies, and camping gear. Usually driven by one of the females.

**CROSS:**

An emblem worn by 1%ers, either as an earring, patch or pin attached to the colors.

White cross - Earned when a person digs open a grave, removes an article from the deceased with witnesses present, and wears it on his colors.

Red cross - Earned by committing homosexual fellatio with witnesses present.

**CUTIE:**

A female picked up off the street and taken to the clubhouse or other place for a party. She is the victim of a gang bang, rape and beating. Later, she is released with threats on her life and family if she talks to police.

**D.F.F.L.:**

Dope Forever Foreyer Loaded

**DRESSER:**

Large Harley-Davidson motorcycle with custom trim, saddle bags; used in bike shows.

**EIGHTBALL:**

Patch worn on colors, earned by committing homosexual sodomy with witnesses present.

**FASH TRUCK:**

Same as crash truck. This term comes from Canada.

**FREE RIDER:**

An individual who shares the same values and enjoys the same life-style as outlaw gang members but who prefers to keep a degree of freedom of choice by not formally belonging to one specific club.

**F.T.W.:**

Standing for "Fuck the World," these initials are found on membership cards, as tattoos, and are patches or pins on colors.

**GARBAGE WAGON:**

A stock motorcycle with standard parts intact, loaded with saddlebags and chrome, as distinct from a chopper.

**HARDTAIL:**

A rigid motorcycle frame with no shock absorbing device on the rear.

**HEAT:**

Law enforcement officer, also known as the Man.

**HOG:**

Harley-Davidson motorcycle

**JAP SCRAP:**

Japanese motorcycles or foreign made bikes.

**KNUCKLEHEAD:**

A type of Harley-Davidson engine manufactured prior to 1948, which was characterized by large nuts on the right side of engine above the cylinders. Appearance is somewhat similar to knuckles.

**LEGAL NAME:**

Most outlaw motorcycle club members have nicknames or club names which are called "Legal Names" by club members. They are also called "Street Names."

**LONER:**

See "Free Rider."

**MAMA:**

A girl available to all club members, usually sexually.

**P.O.C.:**

Patch on colors, meaning motorcycle club.

**NOMAD:**

They are members of a motorcycle gang and will wear the club's colors. The bottom rocker will read "Nomad." In some clubs they are the enforcers. They do not belong to any one chapter. He will attend club meetings and pay required dues to different chapters, depending on his travels.

**O.F.F.O.:**

Outlaws Forever Forever Outlaws

**OLD LADY:**

Wife or steady girlfriend of a club member.

**ORIGINALS:**

A member's first set of colors which are never to be cleaned.

**PARTICIPATE:**

To aid a member in a fight by ganging up on the opponent.

**P.O.B.O.B.:**

Pissed Off Bastards of Bloomington - the original gang that later developed into the Hell's Angels.

**P.P.D.S.P.E.M.F.O.B.B.T.**

"Pill Popping Dope Smoking Pussy Eating Mother Fucken Outlaw Brothers Biken Together" found on tattoos, colors, and business cards.

**PROBATE:**

Club membership hopefuls, who ride with the gang during their probationary period. After this time a unanimous vote must be cast by the membership for acceptance, initiation, and awarding of colors.

**PROSPECT:**

A prospective member.

**PULL A TRAIN:**

For a girl to have sexual intercourse with each man in the group, any way he would like it, one after another.

**RUN:**

A club sanctioned outing for a day, weekend, or week, to a certain location for a party, camping, or special event. Sometimes with other chapters and/or clubs.

**SHEEP:**

Same as "Mama."

**SISSY BARS:**

Bars, often high bars, on the rear of a motorcycle used as a back-rest for a passenger.

**STATIC:**

Trouble or harassment from law enforcement authorities or other members of motorcycle clubs.

**STRIKER:**

A prospective member; term normally used by Canadian clubs.

**SUCK TO THE BULLS:**

Talk or act friendly towards policemen.

**THE MAN:**

Police or Law Enforcement Officer

**TURN OUT:**

When all members come together in the case of an initiation for a new member, or for a girl to pull a train for the first time.

**WAR WAGON:**

A vehicle used to transport the club's arsenal during an outing when trouble is expected from other clubs.

**WHITE POWER FIST:**

Patch worn on colors which displays the gang's racial ideals and philosophies of White supremacy.

**WINGS:**

An emblem worn by 1%ers, as a pin or patch (cloth) attached to the colors  
All wing earning must be witnessed.

TOONERVILLE GANG PROFILE (TVR)  
(HISPANIC)

Since approximately 1936 Toonerville has been a Hispanic gang in the Glendale area. Toonerville divided into Northside (LA) and Southside (Glendale) in approximately 1980.

While the Northside (LA) and Southside (Glendale) are separate entities, they can generally be considered one gang.

Toonerville's criminal activities have included murder, drive-by shootings, assaults, robberies, burglaries, arson, auto theft, auto burglary and narcotics violations.

Toonerville has an existing feud with the following gangs:

Westside Locos/Burbank Elmwood St.  
Rascals  
Frogtown  
Avenues  
Armenian Power

Toonerville has no official clothing or color. However, gang members like Raiders hats and jackets. Toonerville gang members frequently use baseball caps with the letter "T". On occasion they have had custom caps made with the words "Toonerville."

Toonerville members have had sweatshirts made up in the past. These sweatshirts displayed the word Toonerville.

LOGOS:

TVR  
Toonerville  
TVR 13  
TVR N/S  
TVR S/S

ELMWOOD STREET PROFILE (BER)  
(HISPANIC)

Burbank Elmwood Locos formed in the Burbank area near Lake Street/ Elmwood in approximately 1980. Its members wear all styles of clothing but commonly wear typical Hispanic gang style.

Burbank Elmwood Street is closely allied with the Westside Locos and frequently hangout together. Together they sometimes use the name Barrio Lake St.

Criminal activities include assault, drive-by shootings, robbery, auto theft and narcotics violations.

Burbank Elmwood has feuds/wars with the following gangs:

Toonerville  
Chevy Chase Locos  
North Hollywood Boys  
Armenian Power

CHEVY CHASE LOCOS GANG PROFILE (CCL)  
(HISPANIC)

Chevy Chase Locos was formed in the Chevy Chase Park (L.A.) area in approximately 1987. It is a Hispanic gang closely associated with Toonerville.

Chevy Chase Locos have no known colors but may wear traditional Hispanic gang style of clothes as well as everyday clothes. Baseball caps include the letter "C" or "CCB" or "CCL." Some members have been seen wearing Raider caps and jackets.

Criminal activity has included murder, drive-by shootings, auto theft and narcotic violations.

Chevy Chase Locos have known feuds/wars with:

Rascals  
Westside Locos/Burbank Elmwood  
Frogtown

Logos:

CCL  
CCB  
CCR  
Chevy Chase Locos  
Chevy Chase Boys  
Chevy Chase Rifa

BURBANK TRES GANG PROFILE (BTR)  
(HISPANIC)

Burbank Tres (Burbank 3) was formed in 1976 when three brothers moved from Glendale's Toonerville area to Burbank. This gang was originally associated with Toonerville but has since grown distant from them.

Burbank Tres will often wear traditional Hispanic gang attire but can also be found wearing everyday styles.

Criminal activity has included murder, drive-by shootings, assaults, robberies and narcotics violations.

Burbank Tres has no known colors but may wear baseball caps with the letter "B" or "BTR."

Currently Burbank Tres seems to be getting along with neighboring gangs.

Logo:

BTR  
Burbank 3  
Burbank Tres

CLANTON GANG PROFILE (C-14)  
(HISPANIC)

The Clanton (pronounced Clantone) gang is an old East Los Angeles Gang dating back to the 1930's.

Clanton has appeared in small numbers in Glendale since the mid-1970's. However, in 1987 an increase in membership was noted. In fact in 1989, Clanton is probably the fastest growing gang in Glendale.

Criminal activities include murder, robbery, drive-by shootings, assaults, burglaries, auto burglaries, auto theft and narcotics violations.

Clanton has no known colors but often will dress in traditional Hispanic gang style. Clanton will often wear baseball caps with the logo C-14.

Known Local feuds/wars are with:

Toonerville

Clanton

Clanton Locas (Female)

RASCALS GANG PROFILE (TRS)  
(HISPANIC - FILIPINO)

The Rascals are a county wide gang, generally Hispanic in nature. However, there are some Filipino gang members. The Rascals are active in the S/E and S/W parts of Glendale and the Atwater area.

The Rascals will dress in everyday clothes, but will dress in a Hispanic gang style.

The Rascals only known allies are Pinoy Real. The Rascals have a feud war with:

The Insane Ones  
Toonerville  
Chevy Chase Locos  
Rockwood

Criminal activity has included murder, robbery, drive-by shootings, auto theft and narcotics violations. The Rascals are frequently involved in violent confrontations and have shot at the police in the past.

Logos:

TRS  
The Rascals

FROGTOWN GANG PROFILE (FTR)  
(HISPANIC)

Frogtown is an old Hispanic gang going back to the 1940's. Its name comes from the fact that in one particular year frogs from the nearby L.A. River over ran the residential area.

Frogtown has no known colors but will often wear shirts or times that display frogs. Frogtown will wear contemporary styles as well as traditional Hispanic gang style of clothes.

Criminal activity has included murder, robbery, drive-by shootings, assaults and narcotics violations.

Frogtown is known to have feuds/wars with:

Toonerville  
Avenues  
Chevy Chase Locos  
Cypress Park

Logos:

FTR  
F-Town  
Frogtown

FLIPSIDE-13 GANG PROFILE (FS-13)  
(FILIPINO)

Flipside is a large Filipino gang. Its members reside throughout the Southland with a strong influence in Glendale, West Covina and Walnut.

Flipside has no known colors but will dress in a Filipino gang style, especially with black baggy pants and Van's shoes.

Criminal activity has included attempt murder, assaults, drive-by shootings, auto burglary and narcotics violations.

Flipside is known to have feuds/wars with:

Mubhuay Pinoy  
Pinoy Real  
Joff Rox  
Trupang Hudas  
Rebel Boys

Logos:

FS-13  
Flipside

AVENUES GANG PROFILE (AVES)  
(HISPANIC)

The Avenues have been around since the late 1930's. The Avenues are a well established Hispanic gang with families having belonged for generations.

The Avenues do not have any known colors but will often wear the Oakland "A's" baseball cap. The Avenues will dress in a traditional Hispanic gang style as well as contemporary styles.

Criminal activity includes murder, robbery, assaults, drive-by shootings, auto theft and narcotics violations.

Avenue's have a history of feuds/wars with:

Toonerville  
Cypress Park  
Frogtown  
And Others

Logos:

Ave's  
Avenues

SATANAS GANG PROFILE (STS)  
(FILIPINO)

Satanas is one of the oldest Filipino gangs with its roots going back to the Philippines. Satanus was formed in the Philippine as a social club. Satanus is throughout Southern California.

Satanus has no known colors and generally dresses in everyday type clothes. Some members may "dress down" in a typical Filipino gang style.

Satanus members often have circular scars from cigarette burns on the tops of their hand(s) near the thumb.

Criminal activities have included murder, drive-by shootings, auto theft, auto burglaries and narcotics violations.

Satanus have known local feuds/wars with:

Flipside 13  
Tropano Hudas

Logos:

STS  
Satanus

HELLSIDE GANG PROFILE (HSG)  
(FILIPINO)

Hellside is a Filipino gang throughout Southern California. It has a small number of members in Glendale and has not been active in street gang activity in this area.

Hellside has no known colors but has been known to wear baseball caps with the letter "H" on them.

Logos:

HSR  
HS-13

PINOY REAL GANG PROFILE (PR-13)  
(FILIPINO)

Pinoy Real is a long established Southern California Filipino gang. It traces its roots back to the Philippines.

Pinoy Real is not known to have any colors. Normally the gang members wear every day type clothes but some will wear the baggy style pants.

Pinoy Real's criminal activity has included murder, drive-by shootings, assaults, auto burglaries and narcotic violations.

In the local area Pinoy Real is known to have a feud/war with:

Flipside-13  
Mubhudy Pinoy  
Tropang Hudas  
The Insane Ones

Logos:

PR-13  
PR

TROPANG HUDAS GANG PROFILE (THS)  
(FILIPINO)

Tropang Hudas is a Filipino gang that began in the Glendale area. This gang has expanded throughout the Southland to Santa Clarita, Eagle Rock, Granada Hills, West Covina, Rialto and Fontana.

Tropang Hudas (Devil's Troops) does not have any known colors. Tropang Hudas has dressed in traditional Filipino gang style as well as everyday type clothes.

Criminal activities have included drive-by shootings, assaults, auto theft, auto burglaries and narcotic violations.

Tropang Hudas has known feuds/wars with:

Flipside-13  
Pinoy Real  
Satanas

Logos:

THS

BURBANK PUNK GANG PROFILE (BPO)  
(WHITE)

Burbank Punk Organization was founded in the Burbank-North Hollywood area during the punk rock era of the late 1970's early 1980's.

Currently, they have no known colors and wear contemporary styles. Burbank Punk will write its graffiti similar to Hispanic gangs.

The Burbank Punk Organization has recently fostered a new group called "The Insane Hoodlum Vandals." Overall their impact on Glendale has been minimal.

Logos:

BPO

ARMENIAN POWER GANG PROFILE (AP)  
(ARMENIAN)

Armenian Power is a gang generally made up of Soviet and Mid-Eastern Armenians. It's name was adopted by the gang from the saying "Armenian Power" signifying Armenian unity.

The Armenian Power is not known to have any colors or particular style of dress. They rarely admit to membership and seldom mark themselves in any manner.

However, some members have tattoos, "Armenian Power" and have marked items with AP or Armenian Power. Additionally, they have a hand sign typical of a street gang. Some members have been found marking items in a traditional gang style with gang name/moniker, i.e., "AP Droopy".

Criminal activity includes extortion, intimidation, drive-by shootings, assaults, auto theft, auto burglary and narcotics violations.

Armenian Power's existence is denied in the Armenian Community due to embarrassment/intimidation. They are active in Glendale, Pasadena, Hollywood and possibly Fresno.

Armenian Power has developed feuds/wars with most of the area's Hispanic gangs.

Logos:

AP  
Armenian Power  
AP W/S

LIL PINOY SATANAS GANG PROFILE (LPS)  
(FILIPINO)

Lil Pinoy Satanas is a newly developing Filipino gang in Southern California. They appear to be associated in Glendale with Flipside.

Lil Pinoy Satanas has no known gang colors but will "dress down" in typical Filipino gang attire.

Criminal activity has been limited to assaults and auto burglary.

Lil Pinoy Satanas is not known to have a feud/war with any gangs in the Glendale area.

Logo:

LPS  
LPS/FS-13

WESTSIDE LOCOS (MALE) (WSL)  
(HISPANIC)  
WESTSIDE LOCAS (FEMALE)

The Westside Locos formed in the area of Winchester/San Fernando in approximately 1976. Its member wear all styles of clothing. However, hardcore members will often dress in a typical Hispanic gang style. Westside Locos are a separate gang but closely associated with Burbank Elmwood Street. Together they use the umbrella name "Barrio Lake St."

Criminal activities include assaults, drive-by shootings, robbery, burglary, auto theft, auto burglary and narcotics violations.

Westside Locos have no known colors or official clothing. However, they have had caps and shirts printed with Westside Locos. They also wear Raiders caps/jackets.

Westside Locos have existing feuds/wars with the following gangs:

Toonerville  
Chevy Chase Locos  
Armenian Power  
Black Diamonds

Logos:

Westside Locos  
Locos

KNOWN GANGS HAVING AN EFFECT ON GLENDALE

LATIN GANGS:

TOONERVILLE (NORTHSIDE AND SOUTHSIDE) TVR  
WESTSIDE LOCOS WSL  
BURBANK TRES BTR  
BURBANK EXECUTIONERS BER  
BURBANK PUNK ORGANIZATION BPO  
LOMITA LOCAS (GIRLS ASSOCIATED WITH TVR) LLs  
LITTLE TIME LOCOS (ASSOCIATED WITH WSL) LTLs  
CLANTON

ASIAN GANGS:

MUBHAY PINOY MP-13  
TROPANG HUDAS THS  
KOREAN KILLERS KK  
PINOY REAL PR-13  
CRAZIES CYS  
FLIPSIDE FS-13  
SATANAS STS  
LIL PINOY SATANAS LPS

MISC. GANGS:

GLENDALE STONERS GS  
ARYAN BROTHERHOOD AB  
ARMENIAN POWER AP W/S-AP  
FIGHTERS FOR FREEDOM FFF  
PERFECTING THE ARTS PTA  
FROGTOWN FTR  
18TH STREET 18 ST.  
NORTH HOLLYWOOD BOYS NHBZ  
THE INSANE ONES T10S  
VINELAND BOYS VBZ

There have been several other small gangs that have written on walls that have not been seen as a threat or identified yet.

STREET TERRORISM ENFORCEMENT ACT  
ELEMENTS OF THE OFFENSE

PENAL CODE SECTION 186.22(a)

1. "Any person"
2. "who actively participates"
3. "in a criminal street gang"
4. with knowledge that the gang's members engage in or have engaged in a pattern of criminal gang activity

and

5. who willfully promotes, furthers, or assists in any felonious criminal conduct by members of that gang

shall be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for a period not to exceed one year or in state prison for one, two or three years.

**Criminal Street Gang defined:**

1. an ongoing organization, association or group of three or more person whether formal or informal
  - a. having as one of its primary activities the commission of one or more of the following:

ADW  
Robbery  
Homicide or Manslaughter  
Sale or poss. for sale of narcotics  
Shooting inhabited dwelling or car  
Arson  
Witness intimidation  
Vehicle theft

- b. which has a common name or common identifying sign or symbol

- c. whose members individually or collectively engage in or have engaged in a pattern of criminal gang activity.

PATTERN OF CRIMINAL GANG ACTIVITY DEFINED

1. "Pattern of criminal gang activity defined:

- a. the commission, attempted commission or solicitation of two or more of the following:

- ADW
- Robbery
- Homicide or Manslaughter
- Sale or poss. for sale of narcotics
- Shooting inhabited dwelling or car
- Arson
- Witness intimidation
- Vehicle Theft

- b. with one or more of the offenses occurring after September 26, 1988

and

- c. the last of those offenses occurred within three years after a prior offense

and

- d. the offenses were committed on separate occasions or by two or more persons

HISPANIC

AQUI

HERE

AWETADO

MAD, FURIOUS, UPSET

AZILAN  
New

OCCUPIED MEXICO (CA.,

Treaty of

Mexico, TX, AZ, CO,

Guadalupe) S/W U.S.

BALE

NOT WORTH ANYTHING

BAILE  
MEAN

DANCE BUT USED TO  
FIGHT

BARRIO

NEIGHBORHOOD  
(not slang)  
SYNONYMOUS WITH GANG  
MOST OF THE TIME

BIRRIA, PISTO

BEER, DRINK (Referring  
to Alcohol)

BLANCA

WHITE (Female  
Reference)

BLANCO

WHITE (Male Reference)

BORAREGO

SMALL BAG

CACA

DRUGS, SHIT

CAMARADA

FRIEND, ASSOCIATE

CALIFAS

CALIFORNIA

CALMATE CULO (CULERO)

CALM DOWN ASSHOLE

CANTON

HOME, HOUSE

CARCANCHA

CAR (JUNKER)

CARNALA

SISTER

CARCEL, BOTE, TANQUE

JAIL

CARCOS

SHOES

CARRUCHA

CAR

CATORCE

FOURTEEN

CHALE

NO

CHAMARA

JACKET

CHANSA

CHANCE

CHANTE

HOUSE, HOME

CHATA

GIRLS NICKNAME (PUFFY  
CHEEKED)

CHAVALA

GIRL, LITTLE GIRL

CHECKED IN  
GANG/

INITIATED INTO THE  
GROUP

CHINGARO

FUCK THEM UP OR  
SCREWED HIM UP

CHINGASOS

FIGHTING, BLOWS

CHIVA

HEROIN

CHOLA

GIRL INVOLVED IN GANG  
TYPE ACTIVITY

CHOLO

BOY INVOLVED IN GANG  
TYPE ACTIVITY

CHUCO

VETERANS (Veterans of  
the Gang) PACHUCO,  
GANGSTER

CHUNTAROS, MOJADOS

REFERRING TO MEXICAN NATIONALS IN U.S.

CHUPAR, DORAR

TO SMOKE (Suck, Cook to Brown)

CLIKA, CLICA

GANG

COMIDA

FOOD

COMPA

COMPANY, LIVING UNIT

COMPS, COMPAS, COMPADRES

REFERS TO THE PERSON CHOSEN BY THE PARENTS OF A CHILD FOR THE PURPOSE OF BEING THAT CHILD'S GODFATHER OR CO-FATHER

CON

WITH

CON SAFOS ("C/S")

"ANYTHING YOU WRITE OVER OR BELOW WHAT WE WROTE GOES BACK TO YOU TWICE AS BAD"

CONTROLAMOS

WE CONTROL

CONTROLAR

CONTROL

CURATO

ROOM

CULO

HIND-END

DEDO

FINGER, TO FINGER SOMEONE

DESPENSA

EXCUSE ME

DIMED

INFORMED TO THE MAN (Police)

DISCO

NON-GANG MEMBER, ONE  
INTO THE DISCO SCENE

DONDE?

WHERE YOU FROM?

EL

THE

EL CONDADO

THE COUNTY (Jail)

EL JALE

THE JOB

EME

PHONETIC WRITING OF  
THE LETTER "M" IN  
SPANISH

EME

EME (Mexican Mafia)

ENE

WRITTEN TO MEAN  
"NORTE" NORTHERN  
CALIFORNIA

ENE EFE

SPANISH FOR THE "NF"  
MEANING "NUESTRA  
FAMILIA"

ESE!

HEY! HEY MAN!

ESE'S

CHICANOS

ESE VATO!  
THAT

HEY DUDE! HEY MAN!

FARMERO

MEMBER OF NUESTRA  
FAMILIA  
(Prison Gang)

FERRIA

MONEY, CHANGE

FIRME

GOOD, STRAIGHT  
PERSON, FINE

FRAJAR

FRAJOS

FILA

FILERO

GANGA

GAVA

GAVACHOS

GORA

GRIFA, RIFA, RIFER

GRIFA, YESCA, MOTA  
YIERBA, SACATE

HARD-LOOK

HEROINA, CHIVA, CARGA

HOMEBOY, HOMIE(s)

HORALE

HUEROS

HUEVON

I' TE WACHO

JEFA, JEFITA

JEFE, JEFITO

TO LIGHT A CIGARETTE

CIGARETTES

KNIFE

KNIFE

GANG

ANGLOS, WHITES

ANGLOS

CAP, HAT

MARIJUANA

MARIJUANA

STARING AT, GROUNDS  
TO FIGHT OVER

HEROIN

ONE OF THE BOYS FROM  
THE NEIGHBORHOOD  
(GANG GROUP)

ALL RIGHT,  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ANGLOS, LIGHT COLORED

LAZY

I'LL SEE YOU LATER

MOTHER

FATHER, BOSS

JOTA

LESBIAN

JOTO

FAG, QUEER,  
HOMOSEXUAL

JUNTA (JUNTE)

MEETING

JURA (JUDA)

POLICE OATH TAKER

KICKS

SHOES

LA

THE

LA CHINCA

THE DAMN ACTIVITY  
(Refers to Work)

LE LEY

POLICE, THE LAW

LA MIGRA

IMMIGRATION

LAMBION

KISS ASS

LA RAZA

THE RACE (Referring to  
Chicano Race)

LA TROLA

THE MATCH

LEVA

SILENT TREATMENT

MANO

HAND

MARICON

HOMOSEXUAL

MARRANO, (A)

PIG, POLICE OFFICER

MARRIED

JOINED (JOINED A GANG/  
GROUP)

MAYATE, TINTO, CHANATE, PINA

BLACK PERSON

MECHA

MATCH

MENSO

IDIOT

MM

MEXICAN MAFIA  
(Caution-it can mean  
Mariana Maravilla  
NEIGHBORHOOD GANG)

MONO

MOVIE

MOSA, MOSCA

PEST (Fly)

MOTA

MARIJUANA

MOTA, DURA, CONCENTRADO  
ACHE (H)

HASHISH

MOVIDA'S

RULES AND  
REGULATIONS OF  
THE CHICANOS

- N -

NORTE (NORTE CALIFAS)

NADA

NOTHING

NEGROS

BLACKS

NEL

NO

ORALE

OKAY, STOP FOOLING  
AROUND

ORALE

HEY! OKAY! RIGHT ON!

PACHUCO

CONTEMPORARY  
ZUITE/ZOOT

PEACE

PC (Protective Custody)

PEDO

FART, FIGHT, TROUBLE,  
DRUNK SHIT

PENDEJO

STUPID

PILDORAS, PASTILLAS

PILLS

PINCHES	BASTARDS/CHICKEN-SHIT DUDES
PINA	BLACK
PINTA	PENITENTIARY, PRISON
PINTO	STATE PRISONER, EX-CONVICT
PISTIAR	TO DRINK (Refers to Alcohol)
PISTO	BOOZE
PLACA	NAME, PLAQUE
PLACA	POLICE, PLACQUE BADGE
PLAYA	SHOWER, SWIMMING POOL
POLVO	DUST
POR VIDA	FOR LIFE
POR VIDA ("P/V")	"FOREVER"
PRES	PRESIDENT
PRIMO	COUSIN
PUNTAS, AGUJA, CLAVO	NEEDLE
PURO CACA/PEDO	PURE BULLSHIT
PUTO	QUEER, MALE PROSTITUTE, HOMOSEXUAL, FAG
QUE GACHO	BUMMER, BAD SCENE, BAD EXPERIENCE

QUETTE

GUN (Commonly used to refer to any firearm)

RANFLA

CAR

RATA

RAT, SNITCH

REFIN, PIPIRIN

FOOD

REFINAR

TO EAT

RELAJE

SNITCH, TURNCOAT

RIFA

RULE, REIGN, "WE CONTROL," WE ARE THE BEST

RAFA, RIFAN, RIFAMOS

RULE, WE RULE, REIGN, CONTROL

ROLAS

RECORDS

RUKA, RUCA

LADY, OLD LADY, GANG CHICK

SABES QUE ESE?

YOU KNOW WHAT MAN?

SANCHO, JODY

WIFE'S BOYFRIEND

SIEMPRE

ALWAYS, FOREVER

SIMON

YES

SNIZZLE

SNITCH, TURNCOAT

SQUENTAR

LEAVE-SPLIT

SUR

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

TALCO

COCAINE, POWDER

TERONES

BLACKS

TINTO	BLACK
TIP	GANG
TONTO	DUMMY
TORCIDA	LOCKED UP, CYA, PRISON, JUVENILE HALL, etc.
TORCIDO	TWISTED, TO BE ARRESTED, BUSTED
TOGHES	WHITES
TOTAL	ALL THE WAY
TRECE	THIRTEEN
TRES	THREE
TRUCHA	WATCH OUT! GET WITH IT! LOOK OUT! BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE MAN, BE CAUTIOUS
TU	YOU
VARRIO	NEIGHBORHOOD-SYM. WITH GANG MOST OF THE TIME
VASO	GLASS
VATO	MAN OR BOY, GUY, CHICANOS REFER TO ANOTHER- A VATO
VATO LOCO	CRAZY DUDE, A PERSON THAT'S WITH IT, GANGSTER
VISA	VICE-PRESIDENT

VISA

ARM

VIVA

"LIVE" (NOT SLANG)  
USED AS "LONG LIVE"

WACHA

LOOK, SEE HERE

YA BASTA

ENOUGH

YA STUVO

IT'S OVER WITH, THAT'S  
IT

YESCA, VESDA

MARIJUANA, WEED

YIERBA

MARIJUANA (PROPER  
SPANISH FOR HERB)

YQUE

SO WHAT (CHALLENGING)  
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO

DO

ABOUT IT

ZACATE

MARIJUANA (ALSO  
PROPER SPANISH FOR  
GRASS)

8

"H" EIGHTH LETTER OF  
THE ALPHABET FOR  
"HEROIN"

13

MEANING "M" FOR  
MARIJUANA

13 SUR

SOUTHERN CALIFAS  
(SO. CA)

13

MEXICAN MAFIA

14

"N" FOURTEENTH LETTER  
OF THE ALPHABET

## GUIDE TO READING GANG GRAFFITI

### EXAMPLE

1. Step One                      B H G R  
Barrio or Varrio              PQS  
Meaning Neighborhood -13-  
or Group/Clique              L's
2. Step Two                      B H G R  
The 'HG' Meaning              PQS  
Hawaiian Gardens City -13-  
and Gang/Clique              L's
3. Step Three                      B H G R  
The letter 'R' meant              PQS  
to be "RIFA," meaning -13-  
Rule, Reign, or Control      L's
4. Step Four                      B H G R  
The actual gang group          PQS  
abbreviation of 'PQS'        -13-  
"PEQUENOS," from              L's  
from Hawaiian Gardens.  
(Normally younger group,  
i.e., Chicos, Midgets, or  
Tiny's)
5. Step Five                      B H G R  
The Number '13'              PQS  
stands for "SUR"              -13-  
meaning Southern              L's  
California
6. Step Six                      B H G R  
The letter 'L' or              PQS  
'L's is used to              -13-  
mean the Vato              L's  
Locos or the Crazy  
Ones/Brave Ones.  
Not normally a  
separate gang or  
clique.

\* The number 13 is sometimes used by younger gang members to mean Marijuana.



