

Operation Red Reaper

I. Warning Admonishment

- a. **Red Reaper Promo Video**
- b. **Agent Rochester Bio**
- c. **Sergeant Pierce Bio**

II. Course objectives

- a. Understand the Organizational Structure of the Nuestra Familia.
- b. Identify how Norteno street regiments are controlled from prison.
- c. Understand the influence and authority the Nuestra Familia has over Nortenos.
- d. Understand the common types of organized crimes committed by the Nuestra Familia.
- e. Review of the investigative techniques utilized by law enforcement to intercept and interdict the crimes of the Nuestra Familia.

III. Terms and acronyms

- a. •Carnal or (C): NF member
- b. •UC (Undercover Carnal): An NF member who keeps his membership a secret from Nortenos and Nsols
- c. •Nsol (Norteno Soldado): Northern Structure member
- d. •The MOB or The Organization: The Nuestra Familia as a whole
- e. •Water: Methamphetamine
- f. •Soda: Cocaine

IV. Terms and acronyms

- a. •The High School: Tulare County
- b. •The University: Kings County
- c. •Hittin' Licks: Committing Robberies
- d. •Contributions: Extortion Payments from the Regiment
- e. •Toys/Cuetes: Firearms
- f. •The Rez: Tachi Casino and Reservation

V. GENERAL ADVOCATES OFFICE

- a. DAVID CERVANTES
- b. LISTED RESPONSIBILITIES

VI. GENERAL OF PRISONS

- a. JAMES PEREZ
- b. LISTED RESPONSIBILITIES

VII. KNOWN PRISON REGIMENT COMMANDERS

- a. High Desert State Prison – Mando Cuen
- b. California Correctional Center– Grumpy Winters
- c. CSP Sacramento – Samuel Luna

- d. Substance Abuse Treatment Facility – Mike Acosta
- e. Pleasant Valley State Prison – Chino Douglas
- f. Solano – Trinidad Martinez

VIII. Street Regiment General

- a. Antonio Guillen
- b. Listed Responsibilities

IX. Street regiment breakdown

X. Street Regiment Description

- a. The NF like to see each hood represented in the regiment. This is so these older “big homies” can manipulate younger Nortenos into committing crimes for the regiment, while the young Norteno thinks he’s doing it for his hood. In an effort to protect the regiment from informants, it is separated into small cells of 3-5 man squads. Squad members report to squad leaders, who report to the reserve OA of the regiment, who reports to the regiment OA, who reports to the RC; often in prison.

XI. Street Regiment Chart

- a. Each gang set in the county represented in the regiment chart.

XII. Street Regiment Chart

- a. Each gang set in the county represented in the regiment chart.

XIII. Street Regiment Video

XIV. Video of former NF member describes regiment positions

XV. Operation red reaper

- a. In the last several years, an increase in violent crimes within the Central Valley caused the Kings County Major Crimes Task Force to initiate an in-depth investigation into the crimes and the Nortenos associated. As the investigation progressed it was clear the crime syndicate known as the Nuestra Familia was responsible for influencing and ordering many of the criminal acts. KCMCTF quickly enlisted the assistance of several allied agencies including but not limited to CDCR – SSU, GIO, IGI, local Police and Sheriff Departments, CHP, DOJ and the FBI.

XVI. Red Reaper Media Release

XVII. Wire tap affidavit

- a. It must be sworn and attested to by an investigative or law enforcement officer.
- b. It must identify the target subjects, describe the facility or location that is the subject of the proposed wiretap, and list the alleged offenses.

- c. It must establish probable cause that the named subjects are using the facility or location to commit the stated offenses. Any background info should be addressed.
- d. It must explain the need for the proposed wiretap and provide in detail the other investigative procedures which have been tried and failed or are too dangerous to employ.
- e. It must contain a full statement of any known previous applications made to any judge, involving the same persons, or places.
- f. F. It must contain a statement of the period of time for which the wiretap is to be maintained.
- g. It must state the monitoring agents will minimize all non-background info should be addressed.
- h. It must explain the need for the proposed wiretap and provide in detail the other investigative procedures which have been tried and failed or are too dangerous to employ.
- i. It must contain a full statement of any known previous applications made to any judge, involving the same persons, or places.

XVIII. Necessity &Exhaustion

- a. Examples of exhausting investigative techniques.

XIX. Federal influence

- a. Validated federal NF member, John Reyna takes control of Kings
- b. County, after being released from BOP and doing a short stint in
- c. Pleasant Valley State Prison.

XX. Shank's regiment

- a. Top priority was to identify who was in charge of the regiment. Once Reyna was identified then all the players throughout the county needed to be identified. Top targets should be individuals released from prison as they are inclined to be more sophisticated and likely to be Nsols.

XXI. New years eve

- a. This picture was posted on Facebook on New Years Eve. It was the last time anyone saw Sal Valdovinos alive.

XXII. Regiment Commander Void

- a. After Federal NF member John Reyna and his codefendant Joe Trejo were arrested for murder, a void for Regiment Commander of Kings County needed to be filled.

XXIII. Status of NF member Shanks

- a. Audio and transcription of phone call about shanks

XXIV. Regiment activity – conspiracy to commit murder

- a. Information passed from the prison, makes it to the county jail.

XXV. NF crimes

a. Firearms Trafficking

- i. Phone Call about protecting the package and selling ghost guns.

b. Firearms deals

- i. Trejo were arrested for murder, a void for Regiment Commander of Kings County needed to be filled.

XXVI. Narcotic sales

- a. Five pounds of meth in to be traded for Cadillac Escalade.

XXVII. Narcotic sales

- a. Five pounds of meth to be traded for Cadillac Escalade.

XXVIII. Narcotic sales

- a. Five pounds of meth in car with minor.

XXIX. Operational Seizures

- a. Over the entire course of the investigation the following was achieved:
 - i. •96 arrested
 - ii. •84 Marijuana plants seized
 - iii. •74 firearms seized
 - iv. •37lbs of packaged marijuana seized
 - v. •13lbs of meth seized
 - vi. •105 cellular phones seized
 - vii. •Over \$91,000 dollars seized

XXX. Contact Information

MS13

I. Background — birth and spread of MS13

- a. MS13 grew out of LA
- b. Deportation turned a small problem into an international problem
- c. Organizational structure with reintroduction to US i. East Coast ii. West Coast
 - 1. Mexican Mafia
 - 2. Cartels iii. Others
- iv. 503 noted, but not part of this investigation

d. Structure at the local level

- i. Cliques/programs/zones ii. The LA Turfs are international iii. Levels within cliques up to Homeboys — unique Mendota format?

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2. Mendota case example
 - a. Extortion letter — issues with small agency
 - b. Series of homicides in and around Mendota
 - c. Contact with witness — later found dead
3. Formation of a Task Force grafted onto an existing Task Force
 - a. Homicide placed in charge
 - b. Pre-existing MAGEC ties to Federal partners
 - c. No movement
4. Wire
 - a. Federal and State T3 used — history of working together
 - b. Wide net on cell phones and social media
 - c. Expanded list of Target Subjects
 - d. Structure and players for Mendota
 - i. Homeboys/Homegirls
 - ii. Ties to LA
 - iii. Ties to other Programs
 - iv. "safe" location to hide out
 - e. Activities
 - i. MJ use and sales — no meth
 - ii. No HT
 - iii. Assaults, murders, extortion
 - iv. Mendota and then back to LA and MacArthur Park
5. Take Down
 - a. Federal, state and MAGEC
 - b. Currently in Federal and State Court systems
6. Results and Lessons:
 - a. MS13 remains, but leaderless
 - b. Crime — homicides — down significantly
 - c. MAGEC model worked — multi agency is a proven strategic model
 - d. MS13 looking for a new home?

Social Media Going Beyond Phones

- I. Background
 - a. Different platforms
 - b. Considerations
- II. Where to start
 - a. Things to consider
 - b. Legal hurdles
- III. Working w/Social media
 - a. Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat
 - b. Court orders
- IV. Types of crimes to intercept
 - a. Homicide
 - b. Robbery
 - c. Is there enough to write a wire
- V. What to expect
 - a. What will social media provide
 - b. How can I use that information
- VI. New things within social media
 - a. How to use to your advantage
 - b. How social media works with law enforcement
- VII. Questions
 - a. Open to any questions attendees may have
 - b. Provide contact info

Covert/Undercover Operations Outline

- I. Background/History of Handler
 - A. Law Enforcement Career
 1. 1989-1993 Central Jail, Explain Culture
 2. 1993-1998 Patrol East County,
 3. 1998-2001 SWAT
 4. 2001-2018 Special Investigations Division; Gangs/Narcs/FBI/Intel/UC Work
 - B. Significance of 2015
 1. Handler leaves FBI, returns to Sheriff's Intel
 2. Responsible for monitoring Sureno/Mexican Mafia Operations
 3. CI enters into investigative picture
 - C. Significance of the South Bay San Diego Murder
 1. Reveals active South Bay gang members
 2. CI is arrested and interviewed based on murder investigation
- II. Background/History of CI

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- A. Early Childhood
 - 1. Grew up in gang household
 - 2. Father's Influence
- B. Teenage Years
 - 1. Attempts to escape gang life
 - 2. Influence of older Uncles & Cousins
 - 3. Succumbs to pressure of family & neighborhood
 - 4. In and out of juvenile criminal justice system
 - 5. Early gang life
- C. Adulthood
 - 1. Criminal activity as an adult
 - 2. Criminal sophistication
 - 3. Close circle of allies in the gang world
- D. Prison Experience
 - 1. Explain reason for 10-year prison sentence
 - 2. Acclimation to prison world
 - 3. Obtaining power in prison
 - 4. Navigating politics within prison
 - 5. Being released from prison; placed on parole
- III. Handler & CI Work in Joint Cooperation
 - A. The "Signing Up" Process
 - 1. Working with the District Attorney's Office
 - 2. Approval and "Buy-In" from Handler's command
 - 3. Concerns from perspective of CI
 - 4. Concerns from perspective of Handler
 - B. Early Work With CI
 - 1. The "Trust Factor" between CI and Handler
 - 2. Monitored telephone calls made by CI to targets of interest
 - 3. Narcotics purchases
 - 4. Weapons purchases
 - C. Undercover Work with CI
 - 1. Early street work conducted
 - 2. Major operations
 - 3. Jail Operations
 - D. Covert Jail Operations
 - 1. Early operations conducted
 - 2. Learning from each other
 - 3. Improving as team evolves
 - 4. How operations are conducted

State Legal Updates

I. The Final Synthesis of SB 230 and AB 392.

- a. We explain the new use of force legislation in California – Can we live with it?
 - i. Overview AB 392

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1. Penal Code §835a(a)(1) - Basis for Use of Force by an Officer
 2. Penal Code §835a(a)(2) - Basis for Use of Force by an Officer
 3. Penal Code §835a(a)(3) - Evaluation of an Officer's Use of Force
 4. Penal Code §835a(a)(4) – New Law but Familiar Standards
 5. Penal Code §835a(a)(5) – Persons with Mental Health/ Developmental Issues
 6. Penal Code §835a(c)(1)(A) – Use of Deadly Force
 7. Penal Code §835a(c)(1)(B) – Deadly Force to Apprehend Fleeing Felon
- ii. Overview of SB 230 – companion to 392 with training and policy requirements
- b. Suggested questions of clients during client preparation for OIS interviews – additional articulation needed in wake of passage of new bill
 - c. Report documentation – How is this changing after passage of AB 392?

Federal Prosecutions of Violent Crimes

- A. Demystifying the Federal Criminal System
 1. Potential Federal Charges
 - a. RICO – more about that later
 - b. Hobbs Act Robbery, Bank Robbery, Car Jacking
 - c. Drug Trafficking
 - d. Felon-in-Possession of Firearm
 - e. Etc. -- Pimping/Brothels, Gambling, Obstruction of Justice
 2. How to Present a Case to the Feds
 - a. Present Early – Consult at Outset of Investigation
 - b. What to Present: Targets, Crimes, How We Can Prove It
 3. What to Expect
 - a. Timing of Case Acceptance

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- b. Follow up Requests from AUSAs
 - c. The Life of the Case
 - d. Sentencing Results
 - 4. Use of Grand Jury as an Advantageous Investigatory Tool
 - a. GJ Subpoena vs Search Warrant
 - b. Reluctant Witnesses
 - c. Obstruction Charges – 1001, etc.
 - 5. Developing and Using Cooperators
- B. Using RICO to Charge the Most Violent Gang Members, as well as the Leaders of the Gangs who do not Directly Participate in the Violence.
 - 1. What Criminal Activity Should Make You Consider Using RICO
 - a. Gang + Violence
 - b. Organized Criminal Activity + Violence or \$\$\$\$
 - 2. Legal Requirements for a RICO Conspiracy:
 - a. Association-in-Fact Enterprise effecting Interstate Commerce;
 - b. Racketeering Activity -- qualifying crimes;
 - c. Pattern of Racketeering;
 - d. Defendant Involved – member or associate.
 - 3. The Many Advantages to Charging RICO, and a few Disadvantages
- C. Other Issues in Federal Prosecutions
 - 1. Probation Search Issues
 - 2. SW with Hobbs Section