



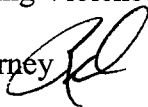
OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

ROCKARD J. DELGADILLO

CITY ATTORNEY

February 10, 2006

TO: Councilman Tony Cardenas
Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Gang Violence and Youth Development

FROM: Rockard J. Delgadillo, City Attorney 

SUBJECT: Report on City Attorney's Gang Intervention, Prevention, Suppression Programs

This report to the Ad Hoc Committee on Gang Violence and Youth Development details the gang intervention, prevention and suppression programs at the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office.

Combating gang violence and curtailing gang activity within Los Angeles neighborhoods is a top priority for the City Attorney. The City Attorney's office continues to dedicate significant resources to gang prevention, intervention and suppression initiatives, and plans to maintain and fully support its successful efforts in this area.

This report is comprised of three substantive parts. Part I will outline the work of the City Attorney's Gang Section, including a discussion on gang injunctions. Part II will discuss "Operation Bright Future", an anti-truancy and gang prevention program within the Crime Prevention and Youth Protection Section. Part III will outline the work of the Safe Neighborhoods Section.

All three Sections – the Gang Section, the Crime Prevention and Youth Protection Section and the Safe Neighborhoods Section – are part of the Criminal Branch of the Office of the City Attorney. Although each Section utilizes a unique approach to combating gangs and gang violence, the three sections work in close collaboration with one another.

I. Gang Section

The City Attorney's Office Gang Section is a specialized vertical prosecution unit within the Criminal and Special Litigation Branch of the City Attorney's Office. The Gang Section is responsible for filing and prosecuting civil and criminal actions against gangs citywide. Staffed by seasoned prosecutors, the Section has focused its efforts on: (1) securing injunctions against targeted gangs; (2) criminal prosecution of violations of gang injunction provisions and/or

misdemeanor crimes committed by gang members; and, (3) prosecution of firearms-related misdemeanor offenses.

A. Gang Injunctions

A gang injunction is a court order that operates against all members of a particular criminal street gang throughout a delineated geographic area known as the “Safe Zone.” It is obtained by the City Attorney’s Office filing a civil action in the name of the People of the State of California, in Los Angeles Superior Court, that names the gang and known members of the gang as defendants. The action seeks a judicial determination that the gang’s behavior in a particular geographic area constitutes a public nuisance, and asks that the court impose special injunctive provisions to regulate gang member activities within that area. These provisions typically prohibit gang members from:

- Associating with other known gang members in public;
- Assaulting, battering, threatening, intimidating, or annoying any known victim or witness of gang activity;
- Possessing any firearm, ammunition, or imitation firearm in public;
- Selling, possessing, or using, or remaining in the presence of anyone selling, possessing, or using, any controlled substance;
- Being present on any private property without the written consent of the owner;
- Violating a court imposed curfew by being outside between 10:00 a.m. and the following morning;
- Defacing any public or private property or possessing graffiti tools; and
- Violating certain laws prohibiting violence against another, interference with property rights, or actions constituting a nuisance.

Although filed in the name of the People, a gang injunction action is a civil proceeding. As a consequence, named defendants are not entitled to the due process protections applicable in criminal cases. However, violations of gang injunction prohibitions may be prosecuted criminally as misdemeanor offenses under Penal Code § 166(a)(4), which punishes willful disobedience of a court order.

Obtaining a gang injunction is a resource intensive project. The City Attorney’s Gang Section works closely with the Los Angeles Police Department (“LAPD”) to identify specific gangs and gang members for targeting, and then assemble the evidence necessary to support the application for the injunction. Such evidence typically includes declarations from LAPD gang experts and other police officers who have had personal contact with targeted gang members. It also includes evidence collected from crime and arrest reports, field interview cards, homicide

reports, and search warrant affidavits. In addition, photographs showing gang graffiti, gang members and their tattoos, or seized narcotics, weapons, and other contraband have proven to be compelling visual evidence of the presence and impact of a gang in a given area.

A gang injunction differs from the usual criminal prosecution in that, once in place, an injunction represents a long term commitment by the City Attorney’s Office and LAPD to address and eliminate a neighborhood’s entrenched gang problem. As a result, gang activity in the Safe Zone must be constantly monitored to ensure compliance with the injunction’s prohibitions; community support for the injunction must be sustained to ensure that the injunction serves its intended purpose of empowering community members to assist in enforcing the injunction’s prohibitions; violations of the injunction must be prosecuted; and ongoing training of LAPD must be provided as new officers are assigned to the injunction project.

Gang members may obtain release from a gang injunction if they satisfy the court that they have complied with the conditions of the injunction’s “renunciation” provision. This provision allows a gang member to petition the court to be released from the terms of the injunction upon renouncing gang membership, having had no contact with the police for three years, and having remained in school or employed for at least the last 18 months of the three-year period. Sadly, however, no gang member has taken advantage of this mechanism to date.

B. The Gun Violence Unit

As a result of a federal grant award, three senior prosecutors were added in 2001 to the Gang Section to form the Gun Violence Unit. These prosecutors are charged with enforcing local gun ordinances and are particularly important in light of the high incidence of gang crimes committed through firearm use. Working in partnership with the LAPD Gun Detail, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the California Department of Justice, these prosecutors focus their efforts on deterring illegal gun sales and transfers in addition to vigorously prosecuting state firearms violations.

C. Effectiveness of Gang Injunctions and Gang Prosecutions

The Gang Section has obtained 26 gang injunctions to date. In total, approximately 14,000 known gang members are subject to the City Attorney injunction, or approximately 35% of all gang members in the city.

In terms of geographic area, more than 60 square miles of claimed gang territory in the City of Los Angeles – 13 percent of its total area – are subject to a City Attorney injunction. (Please see Attachment 1 for a map illustrating the areas presently covered by gang injunctions obtained by the City Attorney’s Office.) The following is a list of gangs successfully targeted by the City Attorney’s Office with gang injunctions:

• 18 th Street (Hollywood)	• Grape Street Crips
• 18 th Street (Pico Union)	• Harbor City Boys
• 18 th Street (Rampart)	• Harbor City Crips
• 18 th Street (Southwest)	• Harpys

• 18 th Street (Wilshire)	• Hoovers/Trouble
• 38 th Street	• KAM
• 42 nd Street	• Langdon Street
• Avenues	• Mara Salvatrucha (MS)
• Big Hazard	• Pacoima Project Boys
• Blythe Street	• Rolling 60's
• Bounty Hunters	• Varrío Nuevo Estrada
• Canoga Park Alabama	• Venice 13
• Culver City Boys	• Venice Shoreline Crips
• Eastside Wilmas	• Westside Wilmas

Injunctions have proven to be an effective law enforcement tool in suppressing criminal gang activity while affording the victims of gang violence and intimidation the opportunity to retake control of their neighborhoods. A report issued by the 2003-2004 State Grand Jury came to the following conclusions, among others, concerning the effectiveness of Civil Gang Injunctions (“CGIs”):

- CGIs have been shown to be a useful tool in bringing about the Prevention of further gang activities by reducing gang visibility and discouraging new gang membership.”
- CGIs’ most important impact lies in Intervention. Intervention is aided by specific prohibitions against gathering, presenting gang identifiers and displaying or using communication devices.”
- CGIs have played an important but lesser role in Suppression of gang activities by providing police and prosecutors with a tool to disrupt and confront gang members.”
- “Residents are relieved from particular actions by gangs that were bothersome before (e.g. the public feels safer going to the local parks where CGIs prohibit gangs from congregating).”
- “Residents gain a greater sense of control [of their neighborhoods].”
- “Vigorous law enforcement provides an excuse for some members to get out of the gang.”
- “Youth are less exposed to gang activities when gangs stay off the streets.”

Moreover, the Gang Unit has been extremely successful in prosecuting gang cases – whether those cases arise from gang injunction violations, gang-related misdemeanor crimes, or gang-related gun crimes. In 2005, the Gang and Gun Units completed 598 prosecutions, of which 544 resulted in convictions – a 91% conviction rate. (Source: Los Angeles City Attorney’s Criminal Case Management System). (Please see Attachment 2 for YR 2005 Gang Section Data).

D. Multi-Agency Initiatives - CLEAR (Community Law Enforcement and Recovery)

The Gang Section also participated in multi-agency gang-related initiatives. One such initiative is the Community Law Enforcement and Recovery program (CLEAR). CLEAR's goal is to facilitate the recovery of gang-infested communities. This is accomplished by an infusion of coordinated resources into targeted areas of high gang crime in order to decrease gang violence and promote community recovery. This mission is accomplished through an effective collaboration among several city, county and state criminal justice agencies, and through partnerships between CLEAR's core collaborative and agencies, programs and individuals in the targeted communities. CLEAR was founded at the highest levels of local government and, on occasion, convenes a summit of the leaders of its constituent agencies: the Mayor of Los Angeles, LAPD Chief of Police, LA County Sheriff, LA City Attorney, and heads of the County District Attorney and County Probation offices, who come together to reinforce strategies against gang violence and address resource issues. At each CLEAR site, local management, operations and community engagement are handled by an Operations Team, which also works closely with a Community Impact Team (also discussed below) composed of CLEAR personnel and community stakeholders. Each Operations Team also engages other law enforcement agencies and community programs to make CLEAR a truly comprehensive anti-gang initiative.

II. "Operation Bright Future" (Crime Prevention and Youth Protection Section)

Starting in September 2002, the City Attorney's Office and the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) joined forces to reduce truancy in Los Angeles schools through Operation Bright Future (OBF), a middle school truancy prevention program. OBF, which is part of the City Attorney's Crime Prevention and Youth Protection Section, seeks to keep children in school by teaching parents of their legal responsibility to send their children to school. The program also refers parents of truant students to parenting programs and, in conjunction with the school, programs to help ensure a child's attendance (e.g., free tutoring, counseling, and mentoring programs). In the most extreme cases, after many steps have been taken to attempt to resolve the problem, the program will file misdemeanor charges against parents of excessively truant students.

A. Link Between Truancy and Gang Membership

For most children, middle school is the time when students are initially enticed into gang membership and other delinquent behaviors. Truancy impacts our community by resulting in an increase in both gang membership and juvenile crime.

Statistics show truancy to be a stepping stone to delinquent and criminal activity and a precursor to gang membership:

- A youth is three times more likely to join a gang when the youth has low school attachment, low academic achievement or learning disabilities.

- Studies show that youths who have delinquent peers are more likely to join a gang. In fact, one veteran City Attorney hard-core gang prosecutor recognized that he had “never met a gang member who wasn’t truant first.”
- 44% of juvenile crime takes place during school hours. Police agencies report that increasing daytime crime is a result of the increase in truancy.
- In California, 76% of juveniles in the California Youth Authority have missed upwards of two years of school, and 85-90% have missed a year of school prior to their incarceration.
- When the Van Nuys division of the Los Angeles Police Department conducted a three week truancy sweep, shoplifting arrests fell by 60%.
- In Miami, over 71% of 13 to 16-year-olds prosecuted for crimes had been truant.
- In Minneapolis, daytime crime dropped 68% after police began citing truant students.
- 82% of incarcerated inmates dropped out of school.

Yet, today in the LAUSD, approximately 50,000 students (20,000 in elementary schools and 30,000 in middle schools) are absent from school each day. While some of these absences are for valid reasons, many are not. Students “skip” school without their parents’ knowledge. In addition, all too often parents do not require their children to attend school.

Under California law, a student is truant when they have 3 or more unexcused absences from school during a school year. Amazingly, LAUSD attendance records show that not infrequently some students miss **50 or more** days of school in a single school year.

B. How OBF Works

Through OBF, select LAUSD middle schools and the City Attorney’s Office closely monitor student attendance. Parents of students who miss an excessive amount of school are taught of their legal responsibility to ensure that their children attend school. In the most extreme cases, after many steps have been taken to attempt to resolve the problem, the OBF prosecutors will file misdemeanor charges against parents of excessively truant students. The goal of the program, however, is to keep children in school, not to prosecute parents. Even though parent education coupled with the threat of prosecution is a powerful tool, prosecution is used as a measure of last resort, when the efforts made to educate and assist the family have failed. (Please see Attachment 3 for a step-by-step summary of how the OBF program works.)

In its first three years of operation, OBF reached over 55,000 families through letters, brochures, general assemblies and hearings. OBF currently operates in 30 middle schools. The ultimate goal is for OBF to be in each of the fifty-nine LAUSD middle schools within the City of Los Angeles. Additionally, the City Attorney’s Office has received an overwhelming request from participating schools that the program work not only with sixth grade students, but in seventh and eighth grades as well.

C. Success of OBF

From its inception in Fall 2002 through Spring 2005 OBF has had phenomenal success in combating truancy. In its first three years, OBF sent letters to 55,022 families to explain parents' legal responsibility to ensure their children's regular school attendance. Of these families, 10,269 chronic truants were identified. After a face-to-face meeting with prosecutors in a parent assembly, the number of students referred for further intervention dwindled to 821 students. After this group of students and their parents were sent to City Attorney Hearings and parenting classes, only 97 families required further intervention through the SARB process. To date criminal charges have been filed in 6 cases.

For the 2004-2005 school year, the City Attorney's Office reviewed the attendance records of the schools participating in Operation Bright Future. As is the pattern of most LAUSD schools, the overall attendance rate of the student body declined as the school year progressed. However the attendance rate of OBF students increased dramatically.

For example, the attendance rate for non-OBF students at Sepulveda between the beginning of the semester and the date of their first General Assembly was 96.9%, while the rate for the OBF students was 85.1%. By the end of the semester, however, the attendance rate for the non-OBF students decreased by an average of 2.1% while OBF students increased their attendance rate by an average 4.4%. Thus, the OBF students had **increased** their attendance rate after the General Assembly while the non-OBF students **decreased** their attendance rate throughout the semester.

A similar trend was found in the attendance patterns at each of the middle schools reviewed by the City Attorney's Office.¹ In the 20 middle schools where OBF was present in the 2004-2005 school year, the average percent increase in attendance for OBF students from the period before the General Assembly to the period after the General Assembly was 3.5%. Concurrently, the attendance rates of the non-OBF students **dropped** an average of 1.65% in the school year.

Hollenbeck middle school stands out as a great example of the OBF program's success. In the 2004-2005 school year, Hollenbeck OBF students began with an 82.7% attendance rate before the first General Assembly and finished the year with a 91.7% attendance rate. This is an increase of 8.7%. Hollenbeck's non-OBF students began with an attendance rate of 97.6% but finished the year with an attendance rate of 95.2%, a decrease of 2.25%.

Nightingale Middle School is the best example of the success of the OBF program. OBF students began the school year with an attendance rate of 80.68% and ended the school year with an attendance rate of 91.81%. This is an increase of 11.13%. (Please see Attachment 4 - all Operation Bright Future Statistics from Fall 2002 - Spring 2005).

¹ The City Attorney's Office reviewed the sixth-grade attendance records for the following middle schools: Adams, Audobon, Berendo, Bethune, Burbank, Carver, Dana, Gompers, Hollenbeck, King, LA Academy, Markham, Muir, Nightingale, Northridge, Reed, Stevenson, Sepulveda, Virgil, Webster.

In conclusion, OBF has been a success story across the board. Not only is OBF successful in keeping students in school and learning, but it also saves hundred of thousands of dollars for the school district and taxpayers. LAUSD is funded based on its attendance rates. Truancy costs the school district millions of dollars in federal and state funding due to lower daily attendance rates. The City Attorney's Office estimates that during 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 school years, the LAUSD realized over \$200,000 each year in additional revenue due to increased attendance at 20 OBF schools. With the proposed expansion of the OBF program, we estimate that the LAUSD can increase state revenue for student attendance by at least \$2 million.

III. Safe Neighborhoods Division

One of the highest priorities for the City Attorney's Office is to improve public safety and preserve quality of life within Los Angeles neighborhoods. With the creation of the Safe Neighborhoods Division – the City Attorney's Office utilizes innovative, community-based approaches focused on identifying and resolving criminal problems proactively – a strategy critical to enhancing the quality of life in a neighborhood. This approach is also critical to combating gangs and gang violence within L.A. neighborhoods.

Efforts aimed at gang activity within the Safe Neighborhoods Division are run through the Neighborhood Prosecutor Program and the Citywide Nuisance Abatement Program (CNAP), both of which will be discussed in detail below.

A. The Neighborhood Prosecutor Program

Neighborhood Prosecutors assigned to each of the 18 Divisions of the Los Angeles Police Department work closely with law enforcement, local officials, and community groups to proactively identify criminal problems specific to individual neighborhoods, and implement comprehensive, coordinated responses. Neighborhood Prosecutors reach out to community groups, residents and businesses to help identify and address "quality of life crimes" such as graffiti, vandalism, illegal dumping, transients, trespassing, prostitution and vandalism before these "broken windows" become larger problems like gang activity and gang violence.

Neighborhood Prosecutors not only vertically prosecute the offenders who commit these misdemeanor "quality of life crimes", but they also use their law enforcement knowledge to help young people steer clear of gangs. Several examples of such efforts are detailed below:

1) Juvenile Jurist Program - "From the Courtroom to the Classroom" - The goal of this program is to help students develop the knowledge and skills they need to make good choices and function as law-abiding citizens. Prosecutors teach 5th grade students about the basics of the criminal justice system over a period of nine weeks. LAPD Patrol, Senior Lead, Narcotics and Gang officers, along with judges, participate as guest speakers. The students are taught the legal consequences of tagging, drug use, gang membership and other criminal activity. They perform skits and are assigned homework to reinforce the lessons. The program culminates with a mock trial, including jury deliberations, performed by the students for the school and parents. The participating judges, officers, and prosecutors are also invited. The facts of the mock trial used in the program involve a student who brings a gun to school and unlawfully discharges it, and the legal consequences of such an action. Teachers and classes have responded very favorably to the program and have performed well.

2) Rampart Virgil Intervention Program (RVIP) - The purpose of this program is to reduce gang membership, to improve school attendance, and to improve success in school among those students at Virgil Middle School most likely to get into trouble. Neighborhood Prosecutors, members of the Rampart Division Gang Enforcement Detail, and educators made contact with these middle school students to provide alternatives to gang life by providing classroom instruction and after school activities. As part of the program, those involved also worked with the selected group of students as mentors. The program was offered as an after school enrichment program designed to offer students alternatives to gang life. The goal was to reduce gang activity among the selected group of at-risk students by improving academic achievement, teaching decision-making skills and connecting students to role models and mentors in the community. The selected students met once a week after school for seven weeks of enrichment activities. The students were paired with mentors who provided encouragement, problem solving assistance and follow up. Over the seven weeks, the sessions covered self-esteem, academics, goal setting, community resources, the criminal justice system and the negative consequences of joining a gang. The City Attorney component of the program consists of segments that focus on the role of the criminal justice system, the legal consequences of gang membership, and skills to avoid gang violence. As part of these segments, issues such as peer pressure and making the right choices were also addressed. Rampart Division Gang Enforcement Detail officers participated as guest speakers. Over the seven weeks, the students performed well and learned the importance of staying in school, avoiding gangs and making choices that will positively affect their futures. Based on the success of the program, this program is being considered for implementation at other schools throughout Rampart Division.

3) Project LEAD – As part of the City Attorney's cooperative effort with LA's Best, Neighborhood Prosecutors taught a fifth grade class at Gratts Elementary School. The goal has been to help the students develop the knowledge and skills to make good choices and function as law-abiding citizens. The students were exposed to the basics of the criminal justice system. The students were taught the legal and social consequences, as well as the dangers, of criminal activity such as drug use, gang involvement, tagging, theft, hate crimes, driving under the influence, truancy, graffiti and other issues. The curriculum also focused on self-esteem, conflict resolution and peer pressure. The 5th graders perform skits and are assigned homework to reinforce the lessons.

4) Belmont High School Project – Prosecutors, working in conjunction with LAPD Rampart Division Gang Sergeants and Patrol Officers, Educational Consultants and a Belmont HS teacher conducted a crime intervention program with selected Belmont High School students. The purpose of the program was to reduce gang membership, to improve school attendance and to improve success in school among the small percentage of Belmont High School students most likely to get into trouble. In addition, educators and law enforcement made contact with these high school students to provide alternatives to gang/criminal life by providing classroom instruction. The program goal was to reduce gang activity among the selected group of at-risk students by improving academic achievement, teaching decision-making skills and connecting students to role models and mentors in the community. The selected students met once a week for ten weeks of enrichment activities. Over the ten weeks, the sessions covered self-esteem, academics, goal setting, community resources, the criminal justice system and the negative consequences of committing crimes and gang life. The students performed well and learned the

importance of staying in school, avoiding gangs and making choices that will positively affect their futures.

5) Freemont High School Safety Collaborative Mural Project - As part of the Freemont High School Safety Collaborative, Neighborhood Prosecutors worked with students from Freemont High School and 77th Area to install murals on 6 locations that have been plagued by gang graffiti for years. The Freemont High School Safety Collaborative meets monthly to discuss various topics such as student safety and gang intervention strategies.

Alongside gang prevention efforts with young people, Neighborhood Prosecutors also focus their prevention work within specific geographic areas plagued by gang problems. Examples of such community-based efforts focused on specific neighborhoods include initiatives with the communities of Jordan Downs and Baldwin village:

1) Jordan Downs Housing Development Safety Initiative Program - Neighborhood Prosecutors participate as steering committee members in this joint partnership between the Department of Justice, Motorola, LAPD, and the City Attorney's Gang Unit and Neighborhood Prosecutor Program, to address crime and gang problems in the Jordan Downs housing development and surrounding area.

2) Baldwin Village Safer Cities Initiative - This dense, crime-ridden residential neighborhood has been dominated by the violent Black P-Stones gang. The area contains over 300 apartment buildings. The City Attorney's Gang Unit and Neighborhood Prosecutors are partnering with LAPD to target gang members and drug dealers in this area. This is one of five "Safer Cities Initiatives" championed by Chief Bratton. In November 2005, during a joint LAPD/ FBI raid, 28 warrants were served and 18 people were arrested. Neighborhood Prosecutors prosecuted over 150 quality of life crimes from this area in the last 18 months. Many of these involved gang members or associates, who loiter in public, drink in public, smoke marijuana in public and trespass. Prosecutors from the City Attorney's Citywide Nuisance Abatement Program (CNAP), detailed below, have held hearings with 8 property owners whose properties were suspected of repeated narcotics activity and have requested eviction at twenty-five (25) apartments where tenants were suspected of involvement in narcotics and/or gang related activities. Eighteen (18) tenants have already been removed and two lease addendums have been agreed upon.

B. Citywide Nuisance Abatement Program (CNAP)

Prosecutors in the Citywide Nuisance Abatement Program (CNAP), partner with law enforcement, neighborhood groups and community based organizations, and other city agencies to address neighborhood crimes such as illegal building code violations, narcotics related problems, and general blight. Specialized units within CNAP focus on specific crime prevention goals, including expediting evictions of tenants involved in drug and gang activities.

CNAP handles properties that involve gang activity either as "Abatements" or "VACATE" (Violence and Crime Activated Tenant Eviction) actions. A number of these cases also involve narcotics crimes, firearms violations, and violent crime and nuisance activity.

Typically, in an Abatement type case, a CNAP attorney will meet with a property owner to discuss ways in which the criminal activity can be voluntarily abated. Suggested improvements can include evictions of problem tenants and physical changes to the property, such as improved lighting, fencing and security cameras. If the problem is not addressed by the property owner, prosecutors can then file civil actions to enjoin ongoing nuisances such as narcotics, gang, and illegal alcohol activity. Prosecutors can also seek abatements of nuisance conditions at vacant buildings through criminal filings and demolitions (through the Department of Building and Safety).

VACATE cases usually involve properties where there is a single problem unit which can be addressed by notification to the property owner and an eviction of the tenant. Landlords are notified of the drug activity, gang-related crime, violent crime, or threats of violent crime committed by the particular tenant on the premises or within 1,000 feet of the premises and requiring eviction. The property is monitored to ensure that the problem tenant has vacated the unit, either voluntarily or through landlord initiated eviction. Informal City Attorney's Office Hearings are held in appropriate cases, as in situations where the arrestee is a minor or there is a familial relationship between the landlord and the tenant. If the tenant is not evicted by the landlord, the City Attorney's Office proceeds with an eviction.

CNAP attorneys will also focus their efforts on a particular section of a neighborhood marked with increased gang and narcotics activity which would benefit from focused enforcement of city services. These efforts are also known as "Neighborhood Block Projects." Each community's needs and resources are assessed through surveys conducted by community resource specialists. A deputy city attorney is then assigned to each block project and coordinates the implementation of a multi-agency Community Impact Team composed of enforcement, enhancement and outreach teams to improve the area. These teams are comprised of community members and representatives of government agencies.

Through its Narcotics Eviction Team (NET), CNAP prosecutors also focus on expediting evictions of drug dealers from rental properties. The Narcotics and Gang-Related Crime Eviction Program (Los Angeles Municipal Code § 47.50) requires owners of rental property to evict tenants engaging in narcotics- or gang-related criminal activity within 1000 feet of the rental property. The Narcotics Eviction Team works with property owners and LAPD officers citywide to expedite the eviction of tenants who engage in narcotics activity or gang-related crimes. The NET staff reviews all narcotics-related arrests submitted by LAPD, notifying landlords of narcotics-related offenses committed by their tenants, and pursuing criminal or civil remedies against owners who fail to evict these tenants. Eviction actions are filed by NET prosecutors when owners refuse or are too fearful to evict for specified narcotics related crimes. NET is also responsible for notifying the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) of tenants arrested for narcotics offenses. HACLA has successfully evicted and terminated benefits for those tenants.

Working on the neighborhood level, the City Attorney's Narcotics Enforcement Surveillance Team (NEST) coordinates law enforcement and prosecution resources to effectively remove conspicuous drug markets from residential neighborhoods. NEST prosecutors also vertically prosecute the narcotics-related misdemeanors generated by the NEST officers.

Some examples of CNAP efforts to suppress gang activity include:

1) Apartment building in Newton – East Coast Crips – Three apartment buildings in Newton had been taken over by the East Coast Crips. The gang terrorized and intimidated the tenants, using their apartments to sell drugs and commit other crimes. Located right next door to a school, these buildings had been a nightmare for the neighborhood for about 20 years. Using an innovative strategy, a CNAP attorney filed a general nuisance action and obtained closure of the buildings. Currently, two of the buildings are set to be acquired by the CRA and will be rehabbed.

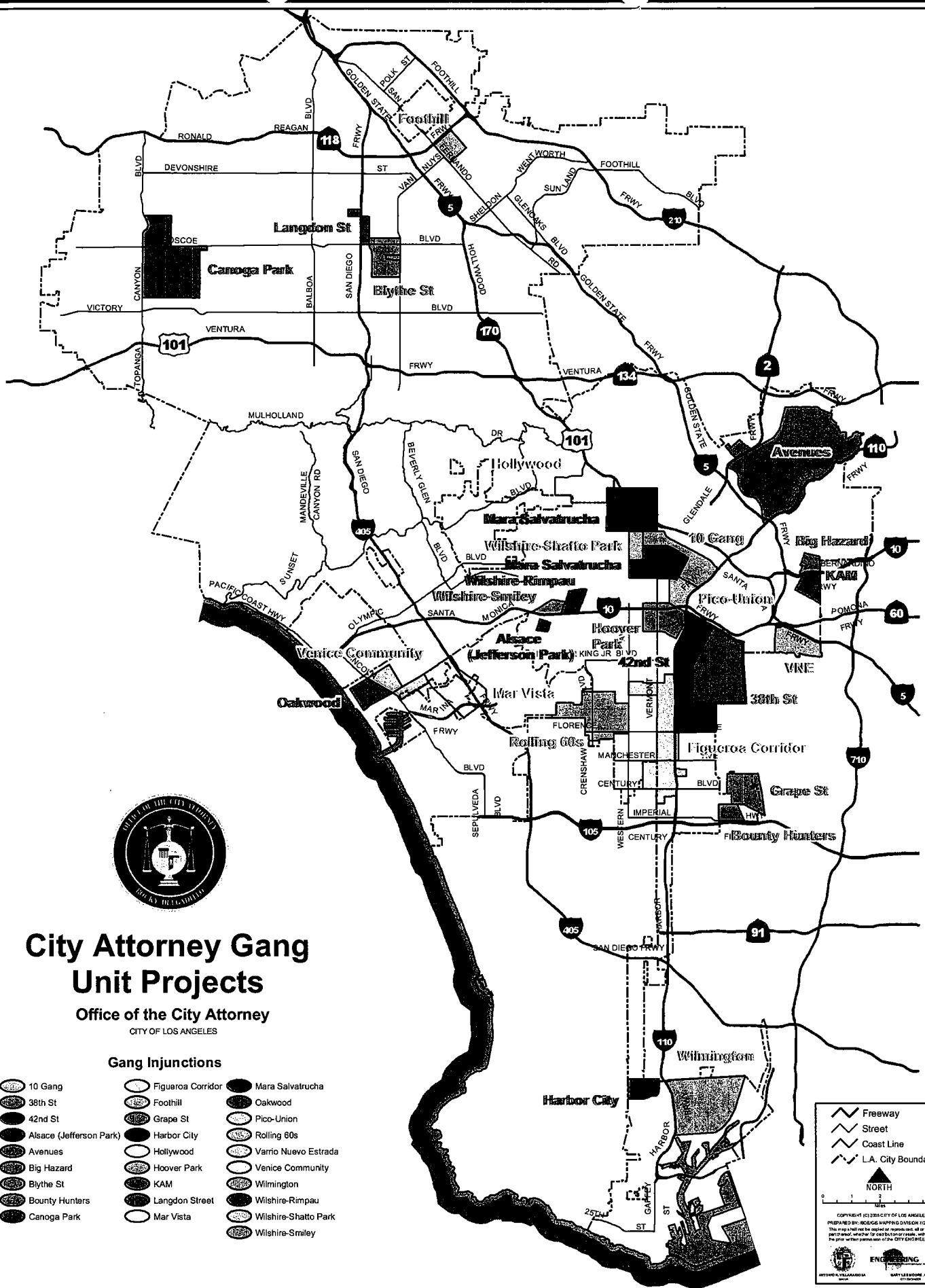
2) Three block area in Northeast – Avenues Gang – The Drew/Estara area in Northeast is an area controlled by the Avenues Gang. This three block area is under siege by five families, all of whom are members of the Avenues gang. For generations, the five families have completely controlled the drug trade in the area. Drive-by shootings, stolen cars, and violent intimidation are commonplace. A location known as the satellite house was the center of all drug sales in the area and a place where gang members would congregate. One homicide occurred at that location three years ago. An abatement case was filed and a preliminary injunction issued. Since then, the property has been vacant and completely quiet.

3) Oakwood Area of Pacific – Venice Shoreline Crips – The Venice Shoreline Crips are active in the Oakwood area of Pacific. Two single family homes had been occupied by the Shoreline Crip families for over a decade. Narcotics abatement actions were filed against owners of both properties. One property was sold and over \$100,000 in costs and attorney's fees were recovered. Drug dealing children of the property owner of the other single family home were removed and judgments obtained against all of them. Also, three V-13 gang members are being evicted from two apartment buildings in the area.

Conclusion

As a top priority for the City Attorney, the office continues to dedicate significant resources to gang prevention, intervention and suppression initiatives, and plans to maintain and fully support its successful efforts in this area through the work of the City Attorney's Gang Section, "Operation Bright Future", and the Safe Neighborhoods Section.

Should the Ad Hoc Committee on Gang Violence and Youth Development require any further information on any of the aforementioned efforts, please feel free to contact Sara Anjargolian, Policy Advisor and Deputy City Attorney, at (213) 978-8354.



City Attorney Gang Unit Projects

Office of the City Attorney
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Gang Injunctions

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Freeway
 Street
 Coast Line
 L.A. City Boundary

NORTH

0 1 2 3 4 5
 Miles

COPYRIGHT ©2004 CITY OF LOS ANGELES
 PREPARED BY: INDIGEO MAPPING DIVISION 7/2005
 THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR REPRODUCTION OR ANY
 PURPOSES, WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE
 CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

ENGINEERING
 INDIGEO ENGINEERING
 11000 W. VILLARDOVA
 GARDEN CITY, CA 91624

Totals – 2005 – Gang and Gang/Gun Cases*

Type of Case	Total # of Convictions	Total # of Prosecutions
Gang	460	503
Gang w/Gun	84	95
Gang & Gang w/Gun Combined	544	598
Conviction Rate	91%	100%

* The raw data for these figures is compiled in the following pages.

RAW DATA - 2005 - GANG CASES EXCLUDING GUN OFFENSES

Count of DISPOSITION					
COUNT	GLTY PLEA	GLTY VDT	NG VDT	DISM	GRAND TOTAL
BP25662a	1				1
H11357b	4				4
H11364	8				8
H11377				1	1
H11377a	7			1	8
H11532A	1				1
H11550	1			1	2
L41.23(2)/186.22D	1				1
L41.23/186.22D	2				2
L41.24	1				1
L41.24A	25			4	29
L41.24b	2				2
L41.24d	1				1
L41.24D/186.22D	1				1
L41.27c	1				1
L43.17	1				1
L55.09B	1				1
P148.9	1				1
P148.9A	3				3
P148a	18				18
P148A1	9			1	10
P148A1/186.22D	2				2
P166A4	220	7	1	22	250
P166A4/186.22	1				1
P166A4/186.22D	28			4	32
P166C1	1				1
P186.22A	9				9
P186.33	1				1
P186.33A	1				1
P242	8				8
P242/186.22D	4	1			5
P242/243B	2	1			3
P242/243C	1				1
P245A1	4				4
P272	1				1
P273.6A	1				1
P314-1	1				1
P415	2				2
P417.4	1				1
P422	4				4
P459				1	1
P4600A/186.22D	1				1
P466				1	1
P484A	1				1
P529-3	1				1
P594a	19			1	20
P594A/186.22	3				3
P594A/186.22D	12			4	16
P602.5A	7				7
P602K	1				1
P647B	1				1
P647b/pr	1				1
P647-C	1				1
P653.22	2				2
P653-G	1				1

P653-K	1				1
P853.7			1		1
V10851A	5				5
V10852	1				1
V12500A	1				1
V14601.1	1				1
V14601.1A	2				2
V22350	1				1
V23103	1				1
V23109A	1				1
V23152a	2				2
V2800.1A	1				1
V34506b/13CCR1161.2a	1				1
V38318a	1				1
GRAND TOTAL	451	9	1	42	503
Percent Outcomes	89.66%	1.79%	0.20%	8.35%	100.00%
Conviction Rate	91.45%				

RAW DATA - 2005 - GUN CASES RELATED TO GANGS

Count of DISPOSITION					
COUNT	GLTY PLEA	GLTY VDT	NG VDT	DISM	Grand Total
H12102.1				2	2
L55.00	1				1
P12020	1				1
P12020a	5				5
P12020A1	4				4
P12020A4	2				2
P12025A	9			2	11
P12025A1	4			2	6
P12025A1/186.22D	1				1
P12025A2	3	1		1	5
P12025A2/186.22D	1				1
P12031a	2				2
P12031a1	22			1	23
P12031A1/186.22	1				1
P12031A1/186.22D				2	2
P12034A	3				3
P12034A/186.22D	2				2
P12072	1				1
P12316B1	4				4
P12403.7A	1				1
P171-B	1				1
P245a1	1				1
P246.3	1				1
P273.5A	1				1
P417.4	3				3
P417A1	1				1
P417A2	5			1	6
P422	1				1
P594B1	1				1
V23152A/PR	1				1
GRAND TOTAL	83	1	0	11	95
Percent Outcomes	87.37%	1.05%	0.00%	11.58%	100.00%
Conviction Rate	88.42%				

SUMMARY OF OPERATION BRIGHT FUTURE PROGRAM

Step 1

At the beginning of the school year, before truancy is a problem, the schools participating in Operation Bright Future send all parents an introductory letter. The letter describes the program and outlines parents' legal responsibilities. The letter, from the Superintendent of Schools and the Los Angeles City Attorney, stresses that education is a partnership between parents and the school and that Operation Bright Future wants to help by ensuring that every student has the best future possible.

Step 2

LAUSD Pupil Service Attendance counselors (PSAs) monitor all truant students. When a student has more than 5 unexcused absences from school, the PSA counselor reviews the file and with the assistance of the Principal, Assistant Principal and School Nurse determines if the parents are failing to send their child to school. The PSA then sends a letter informing parents of the problem and their responsibilities. The counselor also forwards the student's file to Operation Bright Future.

Step 3

The City Attorney's Office sends a letter to the parents of the truant student informing them of their legal duty to insure that their child attends school. The letter also directs parents to attend a general assembly conducted by the City Attorney's office.

Step 4

A General Assembly on truancy is held twice a year at each participating school. At the General Assembly, the City Attorney's Office explains to the parents of truant students the legal ramifications a parent may face if their child is excessively absent from school without a valid excuse. They also provide solutions to truancy and resources which help combat the problems leading to a student's lack of attendance and productivity. A sign in sheet is taken by the OBF Administrator in order to cross reference the parents who received letters and the parents who attended. A second General Assembly is held a few weeks later for parents whose children qualified for OBF after the first assembly was held. Parents who fail to attend either general assembly, without an acceptable excuse, are required to attend a City Attorney Hearing as described in Step 6.

Step 5

During the month following the general assembly the PSA verifies that the students targeted in the previous steps have not missed anymore school. The PSA notifies the City Attorney's Office of those students who have missed more than 3 days following the assembly. The OBF Administrator of the City Attorney's Office evaluates the matter and determines if valid excuses for absences exist. If the OBF Administrator determines the child continues to remain truant, then the OBF Administrator sends another letter to the parents requesting their presence at a City Attorney Hearing.

Step 6

The City Attorney Hearing is held at the City Attorney's Office. A City Attorney Hearing Officer conducts the hearing. A PSA is also present, along with a prosecutor and anyone else the hearing officer and the PSA deem necessary (e.g. nurse, social worker). At the hearing, parents may be asked to sign a contract in which they promise to attend an 8 week parenting program. The hearing officer warns parents that failure to comply with all of the terms of the contract will result in a School Attendance Review Board (SARB) hearing.

Step 7

If the parent fails to complete the requisite number of parenting classes and/or the student has more than one unexcused absence in the 60 days following the City Attorney Hearing, then the parent and student are sent to a Student Attendance Review Board (SARB).

Hearings before a SARB are required for prosecution under the Education Code. These Boards are currently utilized by LAUSD for egregious truancy cases. The SARB consists of representatives from the Probation Department, the School District, the Welfare Department, the City Attorney's Office and other agencies. The SARB is conducted in the format of a court hearing to give the parents and student one last "reality check" before prosecution commences. At the hearing the SARB panel determines whether any community services can remedy the truancy. The parents and student are to comply with the SARB's directives. If the parents and student fail to comply with these directives then the SARB informs the parents that they will be prosecuted.

Step 8

If the parent and student fail to comply with the SARB's directives, then the SARB will send the file to the City Attorney's Office with instructions to prosecute the parents under Education Code s. 48291 and Penal Code s. 272.

Step 9

The City Attorney's Office reviews the file for prosecution and works with the assigned PSA to review all pertinent files and information.

**OPERATION BRIGHT FUTURE STATISTICS
FOR THE
2002-2003 SCHOOL YEAR**

School	Districts	Initial Letters Sent	GA Referrals	CA Hearing Referrals	Requested SARBS	Actual SARBS	Prosecution Referrals	Cases Filed
Gompers	I	670	29	13	0	0	0	
Markham	I	700	101	25	5	0	0	
Adams	H	750	45	8	2	2	0	
Carver	H	900	252	9	4	0	0	
Hollenbeck	H	1021	90	17	2	2	0	
LA Academy	H	1045	146	7	1	1	1*	
Stevenson	H	877	109	0	0	0	0	
Maclay	B	546	85	2	1	0	0	
Sun Valley	B	1200	177	5	1	0	0	
Berendo	F	1225	111	27	1	0	0	
Nightingale	F	701	80	3	1	0	0	
Virgil	F	928	97	14	12	0	0	
Fulton	C	829	0	0	0	0	0	
Mulholland	C	579	80	3	0	0	0	
Northridge	C	430	82	10	0	0	0	
Burbank	E	725	57	2	1	1	1**	
King	E	1074	74	13	3	0	0	
LeConte	E	843	173	21	2	0	0	
Mount Vernon	E	632	62	12	7	5	0	
Pio Pico	E	348	25	3	1	1	0	
Totals:		16023	1875	194	44	12	0	

* disabled child who wasn't receiving required transportation from LAUSD.

**innacurate attendance records.

**OPERATION BRIGHT FUTURE STATISTICS
FOR THE
2003-2004 SCHOOL YEAR**

School	Districts	# of Tracks	Initial Letters Sent	GA Referrals	CA Hearing Referrals	2nd GA Referrals	2nd Hearing Referrals	SARBS	Cases Filed
Gompers	I	T	550	72	6	0			
Markham	I	T	800	186	6	0			
Adams	H	3	625	58	5	43		2	
Carver	H	3	926	83	5	64			1
Hollenbeck	H	T	915	84	4	0			
Webster	D	T	363	47	7	0			
Marina	D	T	495	58	7	0			
LA Academy	H	3	934	68	4	0	4		
Sun Valley	B	3	871	95	4	94	9	1	
Berendo	F	3	1116	345	9	162	56	1	
Nightingale	F	T	638	50	3	108		1	
Virgil	F	3	922	584	3	0		1	
Sepulveda	A	T	1021	73	11	22			
Northridge	C	T	345	64	12	0			
Burbank	E	3	694	82	3	222		1	
King	E	3	789	48	8	0		10	
Le Conte	E	3	729	568	41	601	7		
Pio Pico	E	3	303	0	0	0			1
Mann	G	T	434	236	0	0			
Muir	G	4	700	208	14	0	14		
						0			
Totals:			14170	3009	152	1316	90	17	2

**OPERATION BRIGHT FUTURE STATISTICS
FOR THE
2004-2005 SCHOOL YEAR**

School	Districts	# of Tracks	Grade Levels Served	# of Initial Letters Sent	Referrals to GA	Referrals to Hearings	SARBS	Cases Filed
Adams MS	5	3	6	766	52	0	1	
Audobon MS	3	T	6,7,8	1965	693	73	1	2
Berendo MS	3	3	6,7,8	3273	723	43	4	
Bethune MS	4	4	6,7,8	2568	556	89	0	
Burbank MS	3	3	6	703	92	21	5	
Carver MS	3	3	6	993	294	38	0	
Dana MS	8	T	6	665	125	30	3	
Gompers MS	7	T	6	741	220	19	0	
Hollenbeck MS	5	T	6	932	112	6	0	
King MS	4	3	6	900	85	0	0	
LA Academy	5	3	6	1033	170	18	4	
Markham MS	7	T	6	590	139	23	0	1
Muir MS	7	4	6	810	187	44	8	1
Nightingale MS	5	T	6,7,8	2010	338	19	1	
Northridge MS	1	T	6,7,8	1220	139	21	2	
Reed MS	2	3	6	689	148	16	0	
Stevenson MS	5	T	6	925	171	14	1	
Sepulveda MS	1	T	6	725	75	10	4	
Virgil MS	4	3	6,7,8	2786	952	41	2	
Webster MS	3	T	6	535	114	12	2	
Total Numbers				24829	5385	537	38	4