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## INDIANA STATE

### House Passes Bill Enforcing Tougher Gang Penalties

**03/03/2006 Goshen, IN** | A new bill that looks to put tougher penalties on criminals convicted of gang violence is moving to the state capitol.



Just last month in Goshen, a fourteen-year-old boy was [shot](#) to death and another teen seriously hurt after a fight at a dance club.

At least six teenagers were taken into custody and police blame gang violence for the crime.

Under new legislation, the state could seek additional prison time for those who commit felonies because of their affiliation with a gang.

The House overwhelmingly passed the bill on Thursday.

Source: WNDU-TV

Full Story: [http://wndu.com/news/032006/news\\_48347.php](http://wndu.com/news/032006/news_48347.php)

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### Student Beaten as Part of Gang Ritual, Not Random Act of Violence

**03/20/06 Gary, IN** | Administrators at Bailly Junior High in Gary are justifiably upset by an apparent lie told by a white student that he was beaten at the mostly black school because of his skin color.

As it turns out, James Tokarski got beaten up all right, but not because he was white. He got beaten up as part of a gang initiation, said Detective Cpl. Nelson Otano, the juvenile officer with the Gary Police Department who did the investigation.

Tokarski then made up the racial motivation story to explain his injuries at home.

He was one of two white students at Bailly, and the other white student hasn't had any trouble, Otano said.

To see how tough this kid really was, the gang put him through its standard initiation process, which includes a pretty good beating. When the kid decided he wanted to back out, he got another beating, also standard procedure, which ended with him being unconscious.



The 14-year-old Bailly student claimed his black eye and bruises came from hateful students, but later admitted they were from a gang initiation

*Source: The Times*

**Full Story:**

[http://www.thetimesonline.com/articles/2006/03/20/columnists/mark\\_kiesling/1fc6af3a1b97908686257135007a6f6e.txt](http://www.thetimesonline.com/articles/2006/03/20/columnists/mark_kiesling/1fc6af3a1b97908686257135007a6f6e.txt)

**Related Stories:** [http://cbs2chicago.com/topstories/local\\_story\\_058203446.html](http://cbs2chicago.com/topstories/local_story_058203446.html)  
<http://garycsc.k12.in.us/pressrelease030206HATECRIME.doc>

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## Hispanic Gangs Taking Spotlight

**03/20/06 South Bend, IN** | "Gang violence has been here for some time," said Guerrero, who works for anti-gang organizations in Elkhart County. "And it's not anything new; however, the levels (of crime) are growing."

Elkhart County has experienced two alleged gang-related shooting deaths in the past 11 months.

Sixteen-year-old José Martinez was killed April 9, and 14-year-old Rogelio Reyes died Feb. 19.



"In Elkhart County, (Hispanic gangs) are a lot more prevalent, not only in numbers but in activity, than predominately black and white gangs," Wolfram said.

Like most gangs, Hispanic gangs are centered around drugs, he said.

The Vatos Locos and Sureño 13, the two most prominent Hispanic gangs in Elkhart

County, are both tied into larger gangs that began in the California prison system and have access to drugs, he said.

*Source: South Bend Tribune*

**Full Story:**

<http://www.southbendtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060320/News01/603200322/-1/NEWS01/CAT=News01>

**Related Stories:** [http://www.wndu.com/news/022006/news\\_48072.php](http://www.wndu.com/news/022006/news_48072.php)  
<http://www.fortwayne.com/mld/newssentinel/news/local/14048559.htm>

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**Regional**

**Three Inmates Stabbed at Cook County Jail**

**03/13/06 Cook County, IL** | Three Cook County Jail inmates were stabbed in two separate incidents in maximum security divisions Sunday, authorities said.

A guard and two other inmates were injured in the second fight, which happened about 7:30 Sunday night in the Division 10 day room at the facility, located near 26th and California.



A photo provided on the website of ABC

An apparently gang-related fight broke out between two inmates, said Bill Cunningham, a spokesman for the Cook County sheriff's department. Other inmates joined in, he said. The other stabbing, a result of a fight between two rival gang members, occurred about 5 p.m. in the Division 9 day room, Cunningham said. The wounded inmate was being treated at Mount Sinai Hospital.

*Source: Chicago Sun-Times*

**Full Story:** <http://www.suntimes.com/output/news/cst-nws-jailstab13.html>

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**Shirts with Gang Names Appearing in Stores**

**09/20/05 Minneapolis, MN** | Gang names on the outside of buildings is a bad sign, but just as troubling to some is what is showing up inside of stores: shirts bearing the names of gangs.

"I'd like to see these materials removed voluntarily from these stores," Minneapolis City

Councilman Gary Schiff said. "I'd like to see education with the churches in the area and the store owners."

At Lake Plaza in South Minneapolis, shirts with the names of some well-known gangs were not hard to spot in some shops. Storeowner Jose Gualpa said he plans to stop selling the controversial shirts as soon as his current inventory is gone. "Those are the last ones I have," Gualpa said.



Photo provided on wcco.com

His was not the only store where the shirts are available. While a few stores are voluntarily discontinuing the products, some said parents should also keep a better eye on what their children are buying.

"Our business is to sell what people want," store employee Juan Hernandez said. "It's not what other people don't like."

Police said they wish they could get rid of these shirts, but it's not illegal to sell them. "This is a perfect example of something where we, as the police, can't solve this problem," said Capt. Mike Martin of the Minneapolis Police Department. "It's a problem that has to be solved with community pressure."

*Source: CBS Minneapolis*

**Full Story:** [http://wcco.com/consumer/local\\_story\\_263094233.html](http://wcco.com/consumer/local_story_263094233.html)

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## **ATF: Gang Fugitive Arrested**

**03/02/06 Akron, OH** | An Akron man believed to be a member of the notorious "Hilltop Crips" street gang was arrested today when he arrived for a scheduled county court date by the ATF and the Akron Police following his federal indictment for alleged gun and drug crimes.



JOSHUA YAZDEL SPAULDING, AKA: "Young Plot" was wanted on federal arrest warrants alleging one count of felon in Possession of a Firearm and two counts of Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Distribute (Cocaine). Spaulding was indicted by a Federal grand jury on February 2, 2006 and has been a fugitive ever since.

"Guns and drugs are the tools of the trade for violent street gangs and we will not tolerate it," said Larry Brock, Resident Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Cleveland, OH. "This case is part of our ongoing effort to assist the Akron Police Department with their efforts to reduce firearms related crime in their community."



"We took this case to the ATF because there are strict mandatory sentences for these crimes should Spaulding be convicted and any sentence he receives in Federal court will be actual time served. Project Safe Neighborhoods and the assistance we receive from the ATF have been a big help in our efforts to reduce the effect of drug and gun crimes in our neighborhoods," said Sergeant Jerry Forney, APD.

*Source: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives; Akron Police Department*

**Full Story:** <http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/060302/clth052.html?.v=42>

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### **Local Town Dealing with Chicago Gang Recruiters**

**02/25/06 Stoughton, WI** | A Chicago-based gang is recruiting members in Stoughton, city officials say. Greg Hoyte, manager of the Stoughton Area Youth Center, said he first noticed a problem in December when an eighth-grader arrived at the center in tears saying he had just been "jumped" or initiated into the gang the Gangster Disciples. Since then Hoyte's been asking questions and watching for any sign of gang activity.

*Source: Wisconsin State Journal*

**Full Story:** <http://www.madison.com/wsj/home/local/index.php?ntid=76883&ntpid=3>

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### **National**

### **No More Sugar and Spice: Girl Gangs on Rise in D.C.**

**03/30/06 Washington, DC** | Princess Galloway's days as a D.C. gang member began innocently enough: She and her childhood friends had birthday parties, talked about clothes and held sleepovers at one another's houses.



"It was, like, a normal thing females do," says Princess, 16. As the girls grew older, the parties became nighttime outings to go-go clubs. Belts and bags were replaced by blades and bats as accessories. A girl gang was born. "We started fighting when a different female gang from uptown jumped one of our friends," says Princess, an honor roll student at Spingarn High School in Northeast who quit her gang after spending several stints in the Oak Hill Youth Facility for assault. "It just escalated. ... It was a back-and-forth beef."

Princess' story is becoming common in the District, where officials say girl gangs wielding everything from baseball bats to ice picks are on the rise. Female cliques increasingly are turning schoolyard spats into beatings and turf battles for respect, recognition and attention the girls don't receive at home.

*Source: The Washington Times*

**Full Story:** <http://washingtontimes.com/metro/20060330-121739-8291r.htm>

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## **Federal Sweep Results in Arrests of 375 Gang Members**

**03/10/06 Washington, CA** | A coordinated gang-enforcement operation has resulted in the arrest of 375 gang members in 23 states.

The arrested gang members include many from the notoriously violent MS-13 gang, which has become a top concern of the FBI and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.



The two-week operation, overseen by Immigration and Customs Enforcement, was part of a Department of Homeland Security effort called Operation Community Shield, which was launched in February 2005, initially to take down members of MS-13. The effort was expanded in May 2005 to go after all criminal gangs, such as the Latin Kings, 18th Street Gang, Big Time Killers, Asian Dragon Family and the Surenos.

*Source: ABC News*

**Full Story:** <http://abcnews.go.com/US/story?id=1710015>

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## **'Netbangers,' Beware**

**03/13/06 Lake Worth, FL** | Some of the gang sites are just simple, free MySpace or GeoCities blogs where people talk tough and live out their fantasies behind the safety of a screen name. Gang Web sites receive e-mails from would-be gangsters overseas who are looking to open chapters abroad. "I am ready to honour all the traditions of CLANTON gang," reads one gang chat-room post from France. "You're seeing the Internet turned into an electronic alley," says George W. Knox, who runs the National Gang Crime Research Center in Peotone, Ill.

But it's not just kids searching for vicarious thrills. Active gang members use the Web sites to communicate with each other and sometimes to pick online fights with rival gangs. What starts on the Internet can quickly spill onto the streets. Cops in Boston and Texas who broke up gang brawls in the past few years found that the altercations had been scheduled on gang Web sites.

The sites help the police in other ways. Some of them depict gang life down to the smallest details—the members' preferred tattoos, say, or how they tie their bandannas. "It's where I learned everything I know about gangs," says Det. Kevin Kuschel, who works on a gang unit for the Palm Beach County School District in Florida. Clicking through gang sites, he recently found an online photo of a 14-year-old gang member he had seen on the streets. In the picture, the boy was wielding an AK-47. When police searched his home, they found the assault rifle—and 14 other guns.



Cricket runs the Mid-City Kingdom Web site (courtesy of Newsweek)

**Source:** *MSNBC Newsweek*

**Full Story:** <http://msnbc.msn.com/id/11675822/site/newsweek/>

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## 28-Year Term for Fairfax Gang Attack

**03/11/06 Fairfax, VA** | A 19-year-old MS-13 gang member, convicted of chopping off another man's fingers with a machete outside a Fairfax County movie theater last year, was sentenced yesterday to 28 years in prison.

Wilber A. Rivera of Falls Church did not testify at his trial last summer, and he did not express any remorse when it came time for Fairfax Circuit Court Judge Jonathan C. Thacher to decide his fate. His silence did not impress the judge, who said Rivera was "apparently taking no responsibility" for his actions.

Thacher then imposed the sentence the jury recommended in August: 23 years for aggravated malicious wounding and five years for participating in a gang, to run consecutively. That gang is Mara Salvatrucha, or MS-13, whose initials Rivera had tattooed across his chest.



The machete attack, in January 2005 outside the Lee Highway Multiplex Cinemas in Merrifield, was the second gang-related incident in Fairfax involving a machete in eight months. In May 2004, a member of another gang had four fingers hacked off by three MS-13 members in the Alexandria area.

The victim in Merrifield, an admitted member of the Los Angeles-based Rollin' 60s Crips, lost three fingers on his left hand and was slashed in the head and stabbed in the side while his girlfriend and baby daughter ran from the scene.

*Source: Washington Post*

**Full Story:** <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/03/10/AR2006031001985.html>

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## **Feds Begin Trial Against Brotherhood**

**03/01/06 Santa Ana, CA** | After nearly eight years of investigation and trial preparation, the federal government opened its case Tuesday against the Aryan Brotherhood prison gang with a simple slide that read: "The Aryan Brotherhood: Blood in, Blood out."

The phrase -- borrowed from the gang itself -- sums up most of the allegations against members of the highly organized and violent white supremacist group accused in 32 murders and attempted murders in one of the largest capital punishment cases ever filed in U.S. history.



Photo courtesy of msn.com

The phrase means inmates must commit a murder to join the gang and can only leave when they die, Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Emmick said in his opening statement.

Sixteen of the 40 members arrested four years ago after a lengthy investigation could face the death penalty. At the start of the trial, Emmick detailed the alleged crimes, including orchestrating a prison war against a black gang that resulted in at least two killings.

*Source: Monterey Herald*

**Full Story:** <http://www.montereyherald.com/mld/montereyherald/news/14102880.htm>

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### **Special Report**

## **Our Gun Laws Feed Chicago Crime**

**03/18/06 Indianapolis, IN** | Relaxed gun laws are making Indiana a go-to location for out-of-state criminals looking to buy handguns and other weapons. Take Carail Weeks. The Chicago gang member, investigators said, made two trips to Marion County gun shops to purchase weapons before he was arrested in the March 3 shooting death of 14-year-old



Starkesia Reed, hit by a stray bullet as she stood inside her home in Englewood, Ill. Weeks, authorities said, used a fake Indiana identification card to buy two handguns and an AK-47 at Bradis Guns in southwestern Marion County. An AK-47 is thought to have sprayed the bullets that killed the girl.

In Indiana, no license or permit is required to purchase any gun; the state doesn't require the registration of guns; and there are no limitations on assault weapons. The state had a seven-day waiting period before a gun purchase, but that was dissolved in 1998. Gun buyers have to undergo a federal background check, but state checks -- which experts say are better at catching criminals -- are required for handguns but not for rifles, shotguns or most assault weapons. Furthermore, background checks are not required at gun shows in Indiana, and no licenses are required for private resales. While the requirements are few to purchase a gun, the state does require a handgun license to carry a weapon.



A Chicago gang member bought a weapon at Don's Guns & Galleries in Indianapolis that turned up in a Chicago robbery, according to the Chicago Tribune. From 1996 to 2000, weapons from Don's turned up in 2,294 crimes, ranking it second nationally for links to gun crimes. (Indystar.com)

Indiana's new law doubling sentences for gang members who commit a felony was pushed by Marion County Prosecutor Carl Brizzi as way to crack down on gang crimes. The law also makes the possession of fake identification illegal. Before, it was unlawful only to use false IDs. Brizzi, a Republican, said he expected the law to help keep gang members off the street but acknowledged concern for Indiana's lack of regulations once a weapon leaves a gun store.

*Source: Indianapolis Star*

**Full Story:** <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060318/NEWS02/603180489>

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**EDITOR'S NOTE**

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. We are always trying to improve the quality and effectiveness of our products.

**If you have any comments, suggestions or articles that can be used in the "G.A.I.N." Newsletter please send them to:**

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