



ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Seattle Field Division

Contact: ATF Special Agent Nick Starcevic
(206) 389-5904
Sgt. Robert Goetz, Everett Police Department
(425) 257-8404

For Immediate Release
June 5, 2008

ATF ANNOUNCES 16 ARRESTS IN EVERETT, WASHINGTON

EVERETT, Wash. – The ATF Violent Gang Task Force, along with the Everett Police Department’s Anti-Crime Team (ACT) and the Snohomish County Regional Drug Task Force (SRDTF), executed numerous federal and state arrest warrants and two federal search warrants during the “Snohomish County Gang Project” announced Special Agent in Charge Kelvin N. Crenshaw of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Seattle Field Division. The individuals arrested allegedly operated an intricate narcotics trafficking business in and around the city of Everett. They were arrested on both federal and state firearms and drug charges.

Five defendants – charged with federal firearms and federal drug violations – were arrested without incident this week, capping a nine-month investigation. Investigators recovered firearms, including a machine gun, and significant amounts of narcotics. Eleven defendants were arrested on state drug charges. At this time five defendants remain at large.

“ATF’s primary concern is the safety of our citizens. By removing these violent gang members from our streets, we can reclaim our neighborhoods so our residents and children can enjoy their freedom without fear of injury or drug dealers”, Crenshaw said. “ATF and our law enforcement partners will strive to make our streets safer by targeting these violent armed criminal organizations and put their vicious members in prison”.

“The recently completed ATF/Everett PD investigation of drug, illegal weapons and gang activity in the Casino Road area of Everett resulted in the arrest of numerous individuals who have negatively impacted the lifestyles of all who live in south Everett,” Chief Jim Scharf of the Everett Police Department said. “These investigations are manpower and time intensive which require federal assistance for successful outcomes. We are very appreciative of the support we received from the ATF and look forward to future cooperative investigative partnerships.”

Page 2

The ATF Violent Gang Task Force is a coordinated effort by the Seattle Police Department, King County Sheriffs Office, Kent Police Department, Washington Department of Corrections and ATF.

The public is reminded that all persons arrested are only alleged to have committed a crime. A defendant is presumed innocent of the charges and it is the government's burden to prove a defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

More information on ATF and its programs can be found at www.atf.gov.

###