Crime Gun Intelligence Centers (CGICs)

FACT SHEET

Fast Facts

ATF's Crime Gun Intelligence Centers serve as intelligence hubs and coordination centers for local, state and federal responses to mass shootings and other major crimes involving firearms.

CGICs use cutting-edge forensic science and crime gun evidence to support the investigation and prosecution of violent criminals.

CGICs are an interagency collaboration between ATF, law enforcement agencies, forensics labs, academic institutions and prosecutors committed to stopping gun crimes.

ATF's NIBIN and eTrace systems are two primary tools that CGICs use to identify violent shooters and their sources of crime guns.

ATF launched its Crime Gun Intelligence Centers (CGICs) in July 2016 as interagency collaborations to collect, analyze and distribute intelligence data about crime guns, mass shootings, and major incidents across multiple jurisdictions. CGICs provide investigative leads and support to crime gun intelligence initiatives across the United States and beyond.

CGICs use vital tools such as the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) to support their mission. Analysts use NIBIN to collect and compare digital scans of guns and cartridge casings found at crime scenes across the country. Law enforcement officials use the potential matches or "leads" that NIBIN generates to identify links between shootings and other firearms-related cases in different jurisdictions.

ATF CGICs take a preventative approach to violent crime by targeting and prosecuting the sources of crime guns. Their key tool in this effort is eTrace, a secure, web-based law enforcement network run by ATF's National Tracing Center. The system assists the NTC and other law enforcement agencies during their comprehensive traces of recovered crime guns from manufacturing to the last legal purchase. Investigators use this data to uncover patterns of firearms trafficking, identify illegal and "straw" firearms purchasers, and develop leads to recover firearms used in violent crimes.

CGIC's develop leads to recover firearms used in violent crimes.

ATF

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC
SERVING OUR NATION

THE NUMBERS

25 CGICs are strategically located **across** the nation to **analyze** criminal intelligence and **support interagency responses** to **violent crimes.**

67,000 investigative leads were generated by **220 NIBIN locations** in fiscal year (FY) 2019.

450,000 crime guns were **traced** back to their **origins** by the **National Tracing Center** in FY 2019.

Close partnerships allow CGICs to provide actionable intelligence that is specific, resulting in more communication, investigative leads, and prosecutions.

CGICs are staffed by ATF special agents, industry operations investigators, other law enforcement agencies, forensics experts, intelligence specialists and prosecutors focused on stopping violent gun crimes. These close partnerships allow CGICs to provide actionable intelligence that is specific to local communities, resulting in more communication, investigative leads, and prosecutions.

COMBATING VIOLENT CRIME

CGICs disrupt the shooting cycle by identifying and prosecuting shooters and their sources of crime guns. These continued efforts directly support the Department of Justice's Operation Relentless Pursuit and Project Guardian initiatives.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN)
- eTrace: Internet-Based Firearms Tracing and Analysis
- National Tracing Center
- Local Law Enforcement Crime Gun Intelligence Center Integration Initiative