







FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday June 27, 2013

## JOINT OPERATION IN LAS VEGAS TARGETS CRIME PERSONS CHARGED; FIREARMS SEIZED

LAS VEGAS, Nevada – The results of a long-term proactive enforcement operation targeting violent crime in the Las Vegas area were announced today by United States Attorney Daniel G. Bogden; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Special Agent in Charge Joseph M. Riehl; and Sheriff Douglas Gillespie of the Las Vegas Police Metropolitan Department (LVMPD), during a press conference in Las Vegas.

ATF and LVMPD conducted a long term investigation and worked hand in hand with prosecutors from the United States Attorney's Office and the Clark County District Attorney's Office. As a result of this partnership, 32 defendants have been charged with variety of federal and state violations including: firearms, narcotics, conspiracy to interfere with commerce by extortion, conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance, theft, obtaining money under false pretenses with gang enhancements, and battery with substantial bodily harm. During the course of this investigation multiple undercover agents and officers have infiltrated motorcycle groups on numerous occasions. Many of the defendants charged as part of this operation have lengthy criminal records and are high ranking members of motorcycle groups. Numerous spin off investigations have been conducted and developed in multiple states. Several out of state arrests were made as a result of this infiltration in the jurisdictions of California, Utah, Arizona, Texas, New York, and Hawaii. Several search warrants were served in Las Vegas and in California. Additional arrests and charges are anticipated.

The operation also resulted in the seizure of 43 firearms, including two short-barrel rifles. Law enforcement also recovered approximately 7.5 pounds of methamphetamine, 161 grams of cocaine, and over 2000 pills of prescription narcotics, and approximately \$8,100. As a result of federal violations multiple vehicles were seized during this operation. Collectively over 200 Law enforcement officers and agents were utilized in today's arrests within the Las Vegas area and approximately 100 from other jurisdictions.

Please find attached a list of the suspects arrested during the service of this morning's search and arrest warrants as well as the charges they face.

The federal cases are being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Cristina Silva and Andrew Duncan of the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Nevada. The state cases are being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Danielle Pieper. This investigation was conducted by the ATF, LVMPD, and Task Force Officers from the North Las Vegas, Henderson, Los Angeles and Montebello, CA. Police Departments.

The charges in the indictments and criminal complaints are only allegations, the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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