

MS-13 National Gang Task Force

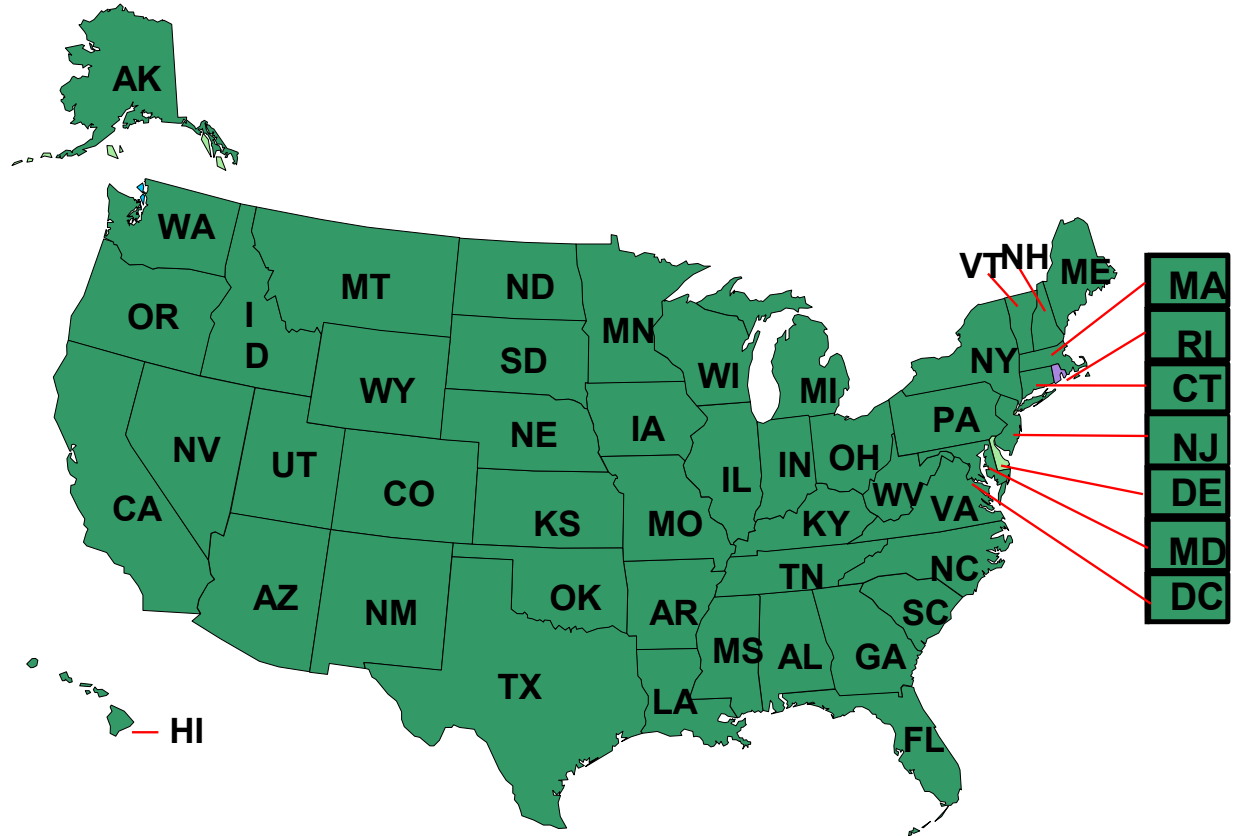


US Overview

MS-13 and 18th Street were both founded in Los Angeles. The greater Los Angeles area continues to have one of the largest concentrations for both gangs.

MS-13 has been identified as having cliques in 42 States.

18th Street has been identified in 37 states.



MS-13 NGTF Overview

- MS-13 National Gang Task Force established at FBIHQ December 2004.
- Supports and coordinates local, state, and federal investigations of MS-13 and 18th Street gangs into national and international level investigations.
- Coordinates intelligence and investigations between the United States, Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

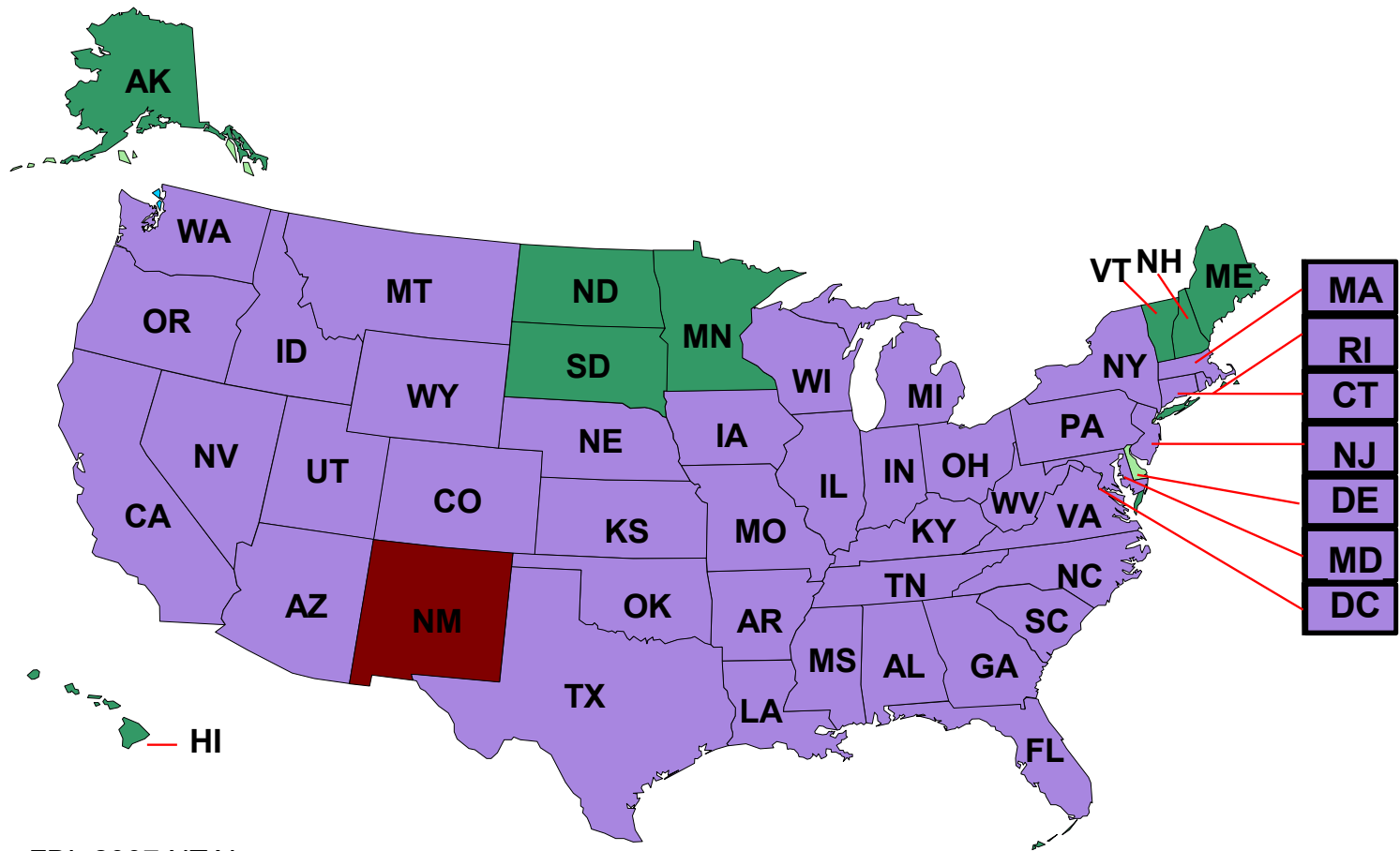
US Overview of MS-13

- Identified MS-13 activity in 42 states and DC.
- Strong presence is in California, Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area, and New York.
- Presence in rural areas.
- Network based on Central American communities and day-laborer industries such as construction, meat packing, and landscaping.
- Varying MS-13 population estimates 6,000 – 8,000

MS-13 states with clique activity = 

MS-13 transient activity no established cliques = 

MS-13 states with no reported activity = 



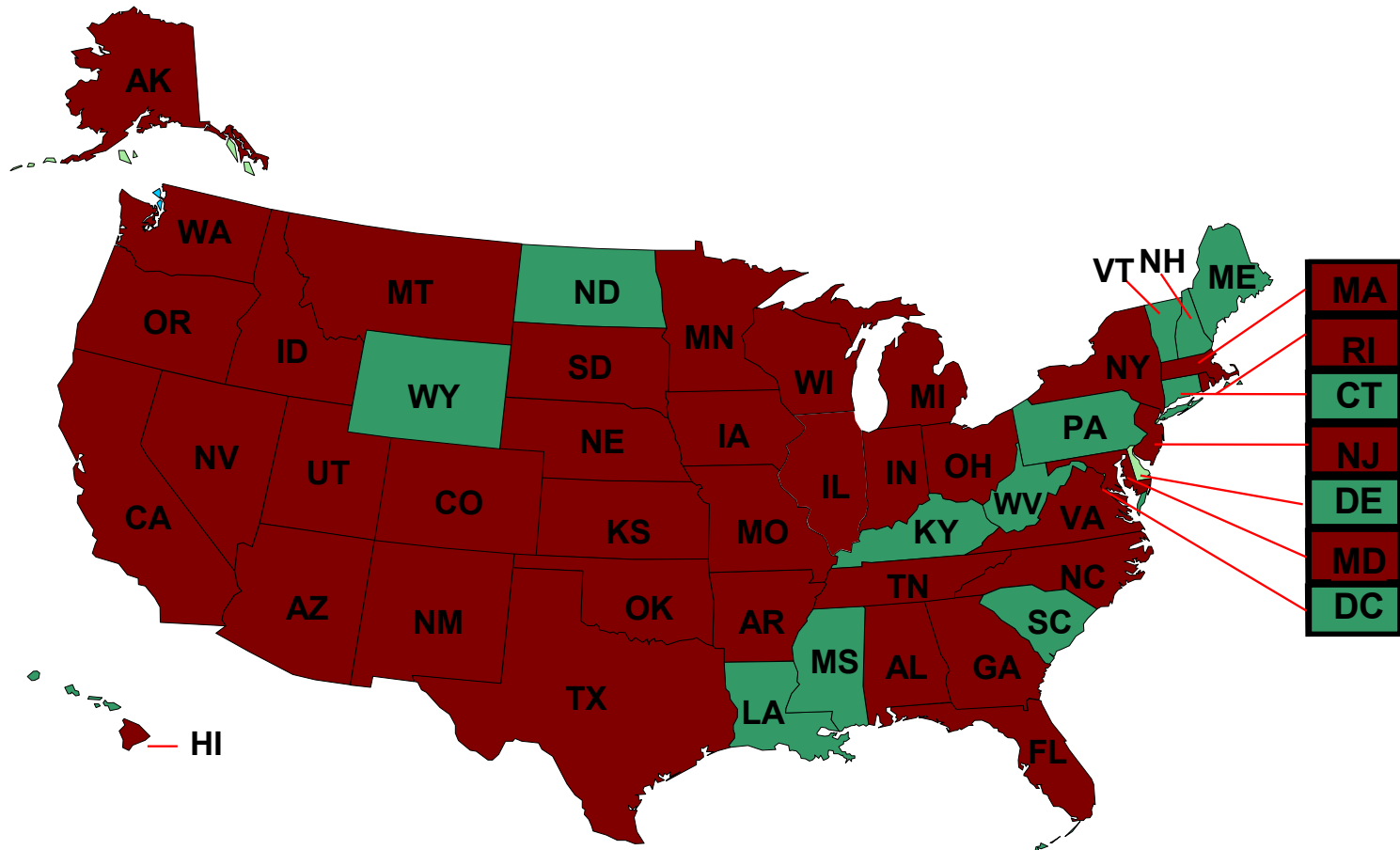
US Overview of 18th Street

- Identified in 37 states and 11 countries
- One of the largest Hispanic gangs in the U.S.
- Estimated membership 13,000 – 20,000
- The largest concentration of members is in Los Angeles, CA
- Maintain a strong network through family, friends and members over internet, telephone and mail

18th Street reported presence =



No reported 18th Street presence =



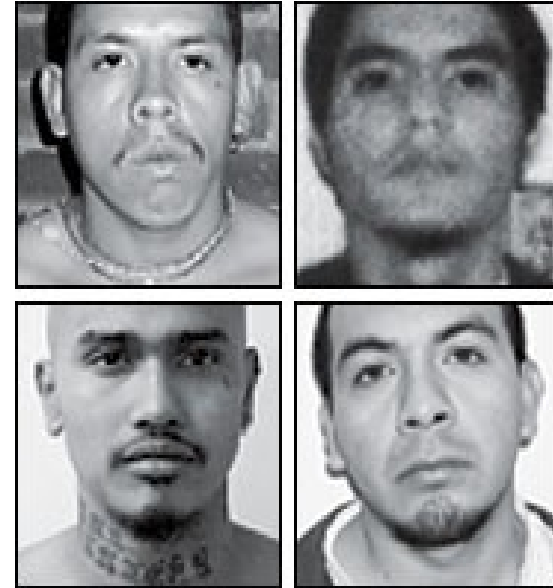
Based on law enforcement reporting

Street Gang Migration

- ▶ Employment
- ▶ Relocation of Families
- ▶ New Lucrative Criminal Markets
- ▶ Limited Law Enforcement Presence
- ▶ Avoid Retribution from Rival Gangs
- ▶ Avoid Apprehension by Law Enforcement

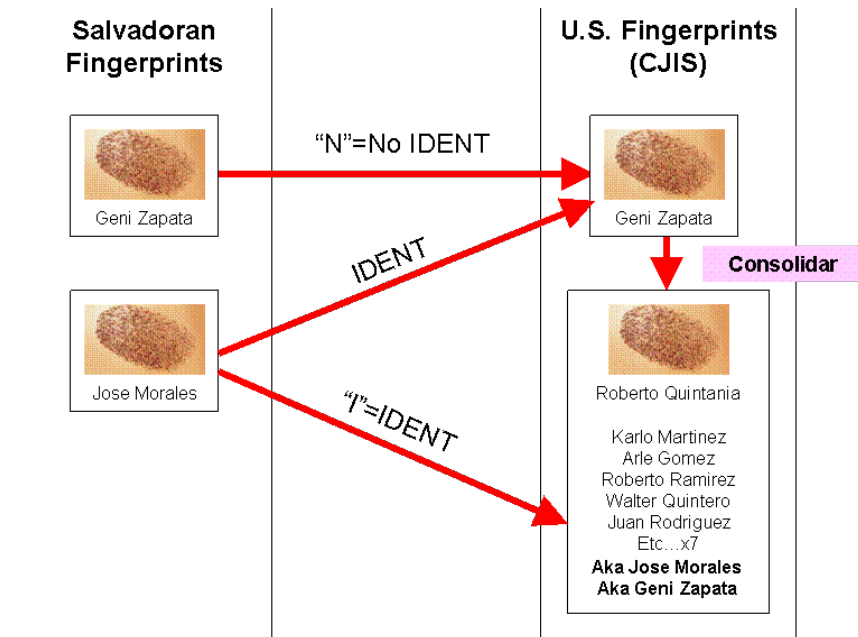
Criminal Activity

- Homicide
- Prostitution
- Malicious wounding or felonious assaults
- Auto theft (chop shops, larceny from auto)
- Intimidation and extortion
- Drug distribution (limited to date)
- Burglaries (home invasion and businesses)
- Weapons trafficking (limited to date)
- Shoplifting (possibly as part of larger organized crime groups)



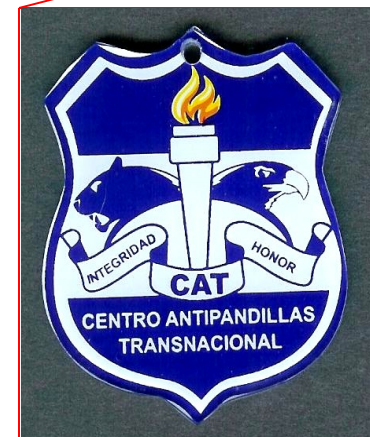
CAFÉ

- The MS-13 NGTF has instituted a criminal file/fingerprint retrieval initiative known as the Central American Fingerprint Exploitation (CAFÉ).
- The CAFÉ initiative has been developed to retrieve the criminal fingerprints from the countries of El Salvador, Mexico, Guatemala, Belize and Honduras.
- The purpose of this retrieval and exploitation has been to assist in the identification of repeat criminal offenders, including gang members, with criminal histories in more than one country.



Transnational Anti-Gang Program

- TAG will augment current FBI Resolution-6 resources in Mexico to investigate and counter trans-border criminal gang activity in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Chiapas, Mexico.
- Placing 2 FBI Agents in El Salvador to work in conjunction with “specific” El Salvador Police (PNC) Officers on the organized crime efforts of MS-13 and 18th Street.
- Designed to enhance cooperation and coordination amongst law enforcement agencies, to support and facilitate domestic and international operations which target significant transnational criminal gangs.



Other Foreign Initiatives

- Foreign Police Officer Exchange Program.



- Foreign Analyst training conducted in country by MS-13 NGTF and NGIC.
- Joint U.S. proactive investigations with Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

Mara Salvatrucha (MS 13)



18th Street

