

Winston-Salem
Police GANG UNIT



Public Safety Committee Update (November 2020)

WSPD Gang Unit

- Formed in 2006
- Allocated manpower:
 - 1 Sergeant
 - 2 Corporals
 - 7 Officers
- FBI/Safe Streets Task Force
- HSI Task Force
- Gang Graffiti Coordinator
- Awarded the NCGIA Gang Unit of the year for 2011 and 2016
- NCGIA Special Achievement Award - 2019

What Does the Gang Unit Do?

- Identification/Validation
- GANGNET
- Follow-up Investigations
- Enforcement of law pertaining to gang members
- Spray Paint Sales Operation (C.O.38-15.1)
- Surveillance
- Community Presentations
- Department Training
- Assist Federal Agencies
 - HSI/ICE
 - ATF
 - FBI

Winston-Salem / Forsyth County Gang Steering Committee

The Winston-Salem/Forsyth County government leaders and agencies became actively engaged in shaping a comprehensive gang prevention strategy by leading the creation of the W-S/FC Gang Reduction Steering Committee. The committee's work is based upon targeted suppression, direct intervention, and prevention programs and activities. The committee adopted a strategic plan in 2010 that continues to guide their work.

Winston-Salem / Forsyth County Gang Steering Committee

- The Committee consists of three Action Teams...
 1. **Intervention and Prevention**
 2. **Law Enforcement**
 3. **Clergy**
- The Gang Unit utilizes a Juvenile Referral Form for at-risk youth.

Winston-Salem / Forsyth County Gang Steering Committee Members

- Co-Chairman- Pastor Curtis Friday-The Love Church
- Co-Chairman-Pastor Jayson Sloan-St. Peter's World Outreach Center
- Dr. Pam Peoples-Joyner-Winston-Salem Police Department
- Leroy Richardson-City SPIRITS
- Sergeant T.R. Walley-Winston-Salem Police Department Gang Unit
- Retired Sergeant William Herrera (NYPD)-Hispanic League
- Antonio Stevenson-My Brother's Second Chance
- Bill McClain-GIDE
- Chelsey Wiggins-City of Winston-Salem
- David Moore-Southside Rides
- Sergeant Dwayne Little-Forsyth County Sheriff's Office
- Gary Lash-City of Winston-Salem/Recreation and Parks
- Sharon Frazier-Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools
- Sylvia Adams-Boys and Girls Club
- Tabetha Childress-City of Winston-Salem/Community Assistant Liaison
- Stan Clarkson-Chief Court Counselor-Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice

What is a “Gang”???

NCGS 15A 1340.16(2a)

- Any ongoing organization, association or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, having as one of its primary activities the commission of a felony or violent misdemeanor offenses, or delinquent acts that would be felonies or violent misdemeanors if committed by an adult, and having a common name or common identifying sign, colors or symbol.

.....that’s nice, so what do we look for in a gang?

1. THREE OR MORE PERSONS
2. COMMIT FELONIES OR VIOLENT MISDEMEANORS
3. COMMON NAME, SIGN, SYMBOL or COLORS

Validation Process/Intelligence Files

THREE OR MORE SELECTIONS REQUIRED FOR VALIDATION

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Self-Admission of Gang Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> | Physical Evidence of Gang Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Reliable Source (including parent/guardian) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tattoo's/Markings Assoc. with Gang |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Gang Symbols, Hand Signs, or Graffiti | <input type="checkbox"/> | Gang Language/Terminology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Display of Colors or Style of Dress | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social Media Appearance Promoting Gang |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Involvement in Gang Activity | <input type="checkbox"/> | (Blank Box) |

Comments: _____

- Once validated, gang members have an “alert” placed in the system that lasts for 5 years (28 C.F.R. § 23.20)
- Gang alert is purged after 5 years if member has no other gang contacts
- GangNet is the state database for all gang intelligence files

Gang Stats (2018 vs. 2019)

2018 vs 2019 Gang related and All Gang Member Involved Crime

| | | 2018 | 2019 | Total | | |
|---------------|--------------------|------------|------------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| PART 1 CRIMES | AGGRAVATED ASSAULT | 215 | 255 | 470 | ↑ | 18.60% |
| | BURGLARY | 161 | 166 | 327 | ↑ | 3.11% |
| | HOMICIDE | 10 | 12 | 22 | ↑ | 20.00% |
| | LARCENY | 251 | 234 | 485 | ↓ | -6.77% |
| | MV THEFT | 119 | 108 | 227 | ↓ | -9.24% |
| | RAPE | 9 | 8 | 17 | ↓ | -11.11% |
| | ROBBERY | 61 | 66 | 127 | ↑ | 8.20% |
| | Total | 782 | 813 | 1,595 | ↑ | 3.96% |

Gang Stats (2018 vs. 2019)

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|----------|
| PART 2 CRIMES | ALL OTHER OFFENSES | 972 | 737 | 1,709 | ↓ | -24.18% |
| | ARSON | 6 | 4 | 10 | ↓ | -33.33% |
| | COMMUNICATING THREATS | 161 | 160 | 321 | ↓ | -0.62% |
| | DISORDERLY CONDUCT | 204 | 125 | 329 | ↓ | -38.73% |
| | DRUGS | 321 | 426 | 747 | ↑ | 32.71% |
| | DWI | 26 | 24 | 50 | ↓ | -7.69% |
| | EMBEZZLEMENT | 2 | 3 | 5 | ↑ | 50.00% |
| | FAMILY OFFENSES | 15 | 9 | 24 | ↓ | -40.00% |
| | FORGERY | 4 | 9 | 13 | ↑ | 125.00% |
| | FRAUD | 66 | 55 | 121 | ↓ | -16.67% |
| | GAMBLING | 1 | 0 | 1 | ↓ | -100.00% |
| | KIDNAPING | 11 | 5 | 16 | ↓ | -54.55% |
| | LIQUOR LAWS | 4 | 12 | 16 | ↑ | 200.00% |
| | PORNOGRAPHY | 4 | 5 | 9 | ↑ | 25.00% |
| | PROSTITUTION | 0 | 3 | 3 | | N/C |
| | RUNAWAY | 0 | 23 | 23 | | N/C |
| | SEXUAL OFFENSES | 5 | 5 | 10 | | 0.00% |
| | SIMPLE ASSAULT | 421 | 384 | 805 | ↓ | -8.79% |
| | STATUTORY RAPE | 1 | 3 | 4 | ↑ | 200.00% |
| | STOLEN PROPERTY | 33 | 35 | 68 | ↑ | 6.06% |
| | TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS | 156 | 159 | 315 | ↑ | 1.92% |
| | TRESPASSING | 133 | 123 | 256 | ↓ | -7.52% |
| | VANDALISM | 220 | 264 | 484 | ↑ | 20.00% |
| | WEAPONS VIOLATION | 138 | 180 | 318 | ↑ | 30.43% |
| Total | 2,263 | 2,214 | 4,477 | ↓ | -2.17% | |
| Total | 2,812 | 2,818 | 5,630 | ↑ | 0.21% | |

WSPD Gang Statistics (2019)

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|-----------|
| Validated Gang Members | | 614 |
| Gang Subjects of Interest | | 800 |
| Arrests | | 499 |
| Property Seized | | \$284,136 |

- The Gang Unit monitors approximately 1,588 subjects (validated gang members, suspected gang members, and former gang members)
- There are approximately 30 active gangs in Winston-Salem

Gang Unit 2019

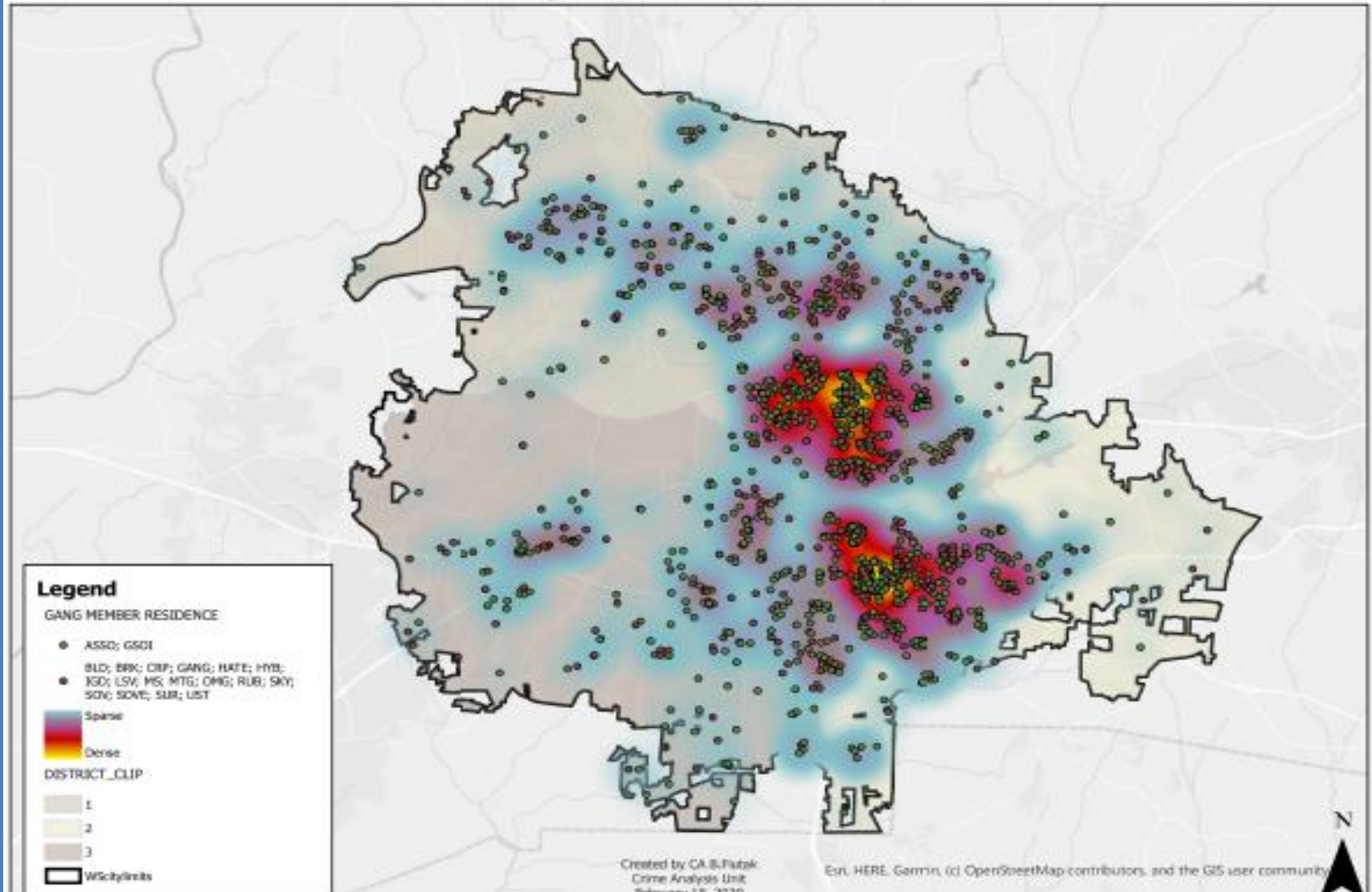
- In 2019, the Gang Unit handled 400 calls for service, with 179 of those calls resulting in a written report.
- During the same time frame, the Gang Unit made 499 arrests, including 104 felonies, 378 misdemeanors, and 17 traffic infractions.
- The Gang Unit provided 34 community presentations in 2019

Gang Unit 2020

- So far in 2020, the Gang Unit has made 664 arrests: 137 felonies, 480 misdemeanors, and 47 infractions
- The Gang Unit has seized over \$212,256 in property (guns, drugs, vehicles, etc.)
- The Gang Unit has seized 49 guns
- The Gang Unit has responded to 712 calls for service that have resulted in 397 reports written

Location of Gang Members

Gang Member Residence



Spray Paint Sales Operation

- “Sec. 38-15.1. Injuring, or destroying public property; graffiti declared public nuisance; removal of graffiti from public and private property.; **sale of spray paint to minors and possession of spray paint by minors**
- The Gang Unit utilizes WSPD Explorers in an undercover capacity
 - Explorers (under 18) attempt to purchase spray paint from local stores
 - If successful, stores are cited for violating the city ordinance
 - The goal is to educate stores on the ordinance banning the sale of spray paint to minors
 - This will hopefully make it difficult for juveniles to obtain spray paint, and a result there will be fewer graffiti incidents
 - DA’s Office is consulted about charges/prosecution
 - Operation is for education of the vendors

NCGIA Gang Conference

- Winston-Salem has hosted the NC Gang Investigators Association Professional Conference since 2017
- The Conference is held each year in August and will return to our city in 2021
- Hundreds of law enforcement professionals from all over the world attend the conference to learn about gangs and gang trends



QUESTIONS?



Contact Information

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