

Winston-Salem Police Department

GANG UNIT



Public Safety Committee Update (March 2019)

WSPD Gang Unit

- Formed in 2006 under the Leadership of Mayor Pro Tempore Burke
- Allocated 1 Sergeant, 2 Corporals, and 7 Officers (10 total)
- FBI/Safe Streets Task Force Officer
- Gang Graffiti Coordinator

- Awarded the NCGIA Gang Unit of the year for 2011 and 2016

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 and 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 Committee is lead by the Winston-Salem Police Department's Community Relations Specialist:

Pamela Peoples-Joyner, M.Ed.

(336) 773-7962

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?

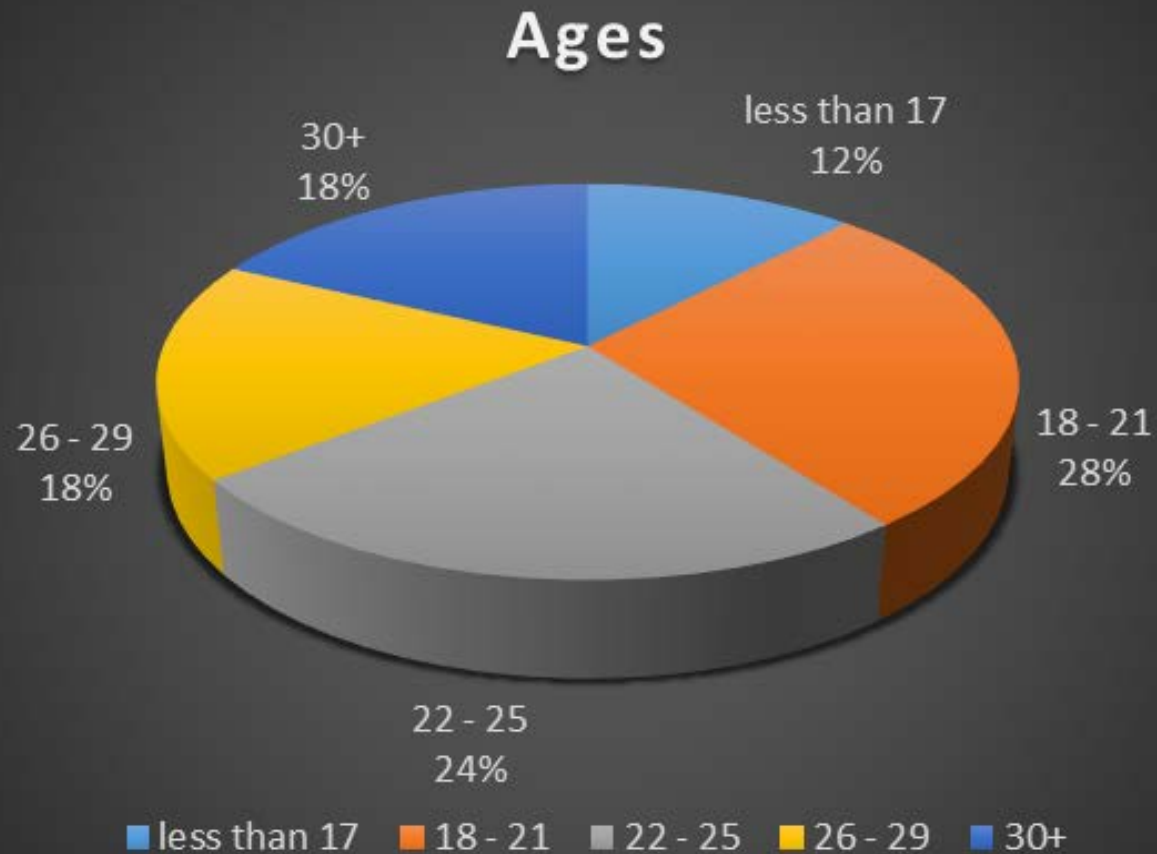
1. THREE OR MORE PERSONS
2. COMMIT FELONIES OR VIOLENT MISDEMEANORS
3. COMMON NAME, SIGN, SYMBOL or COLORS

WSPD Gang Statistics (2018)

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|-----------|
| Validated Gang Members | | 681 |
| Gang Subjects of Interest | | 721 |
| Arrests | | 748 |
| Property Seized | | \$107,370 |

- **Once validated, gang members have an “alert” placed in the system that lasts for 5 years**
- **Gang alert is purged after 5 years if member has no other gang contacts**

AGES OF VALIDATED GANG MEMBERS



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

WSPD Graffiti Incidents

| | JAN | FEB | MA | APR | MA | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC | Total |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|--------------|
| 2010 | 14 | 8 | 8 | 13 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 10 | 6 | 10 | 4 | 6 | 103 |
| 2011 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 21 | 19 | 13 | 10 | 10 | 14 | 13 | 35 | 21 | 181 |
| 2012 | 10 | 12 | 13 | 5 | 16 | 18 | 18 | 11 | 6 | 16 | 9 | 20 | 154 |
| 2013 | 13 | 15 | 12 | 11 | 22 | 14 | 21 | 13 | 12 | 7 | 7 | 2 | 149 |
| 2014 | 13 | 12 | 21 | 10 | 16 | 10 | 11 | 7 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 20 | 149 |
| 2015 | 17 | 13 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 14 | 21 | 8 | 12 | 18 | 15 | 14 | 177 |
| 2016 | 7 | 11 | 11 | 9 | 14 | 12 | 19 | 20 | 9 | 5 | 12 | 8 | 137 |
| 2017 | 8 | 5 | 10 | 8 | 11 | 11 | 13 | 15 | 12 | 5 | 11 | 12 | 121 |
| 2018 | 12 | 16 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 17 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 12 | 6 | 113 |
| 2019 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Total | 109 | 102 | 104 | 98 | 129 | 116 | 129 | 99 | 87 | 92 | 115 | 109 | 1,289 |

NCGIA Gang Conference

- The NC Gang Investigator's Association has partnered with the Twin City Quarter to host the NCGIA Professional Conference again in 2019
- The Conference has been held each year in August of 2017 and 2018, and under the current contract will be in our city in August 2019 and 2020
- Hundreds of law enforcement professionals from all over the world attend the conference to learn about gangs, gang trends, enforcement and educational tactics/techniques



QUESTIONS?



Contact Information

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