

**GANGS**  
**CLASS OUTLINE FOR BASIC L.E. ACADEMY**

Rev. 01/11/99  
Rep.

**I. INTRODUCTION**

**II. MYTHS**

**III. GANG DEFINITION**

A. History

1. Local

2. National

**IV. AFFILIATE CLASSIFICATION**

A. Hardcore (10%)

B. Peripheral

C. Marginal

**V. TYPES OF GANGS**

A. Scavenger

B. Territorial

C. Corporate

**VI. GANG NATION**

A. Crips

B. Bloods

C. Folk

D. People

E. Hispanic

F. Asian

G. Skin Heads

**VII. FORMS OF COMMUNICATION**

- A. Graffiti
  - 1. Purposes
- B. Hand sings
- C. Tattoos
- D. Dress

**VIII. WHY PEOPLE JOIN GANGS**

- A. Recognition
- B. Tradition
- C. Family
- D. Protection
- E. Fear
- F. Perceived Opportunity

**IX. INITIATION**

- A. Jump In - Beat Down
  - 1. Separate from Assault
- B. Court In

**X. REASONS FOR MIGRATION**

- A. Law Enforcement
- B. Environment
- C. Opportunities
- D. Rivalry
- E. Intimidation

**XI. SUBURBAN GANG INDICATIONS**

- A. Travel Characteristics
- B. Warning Signs
- C. Graffiti

**XII. LAW ENFORCEMENT TACTICS**

- A. Graffiti
  - 1. Photographing
  - 2. Recording when placed and where
  - 3. Documenting
  - 4. Identifying
- B. Identify Gang Affiliates
  - 1. Talk to Affiliates
    - a. Questions to ask
  - 2. Use Informants
  - 3. Talk to rival gangs
  - 4. Field contact cards
- C. Identifiers
  - 1. Moniker
  - 2. Terminology
  - 3. Recruiting
  - 4. Flagging - Sagging
  - 5. Tattooing
  - 6. Cautions (Stereotyping)

### **XIII. INVESTIGATING GANG CRIMES**

#### **A. Problems**

1. No witnesses
2. Victims uncooperative
3. District Attorney won't file
4. Victim credibility

#### **B. Obligation of Police**

1. Investigate all gang members
  - a. By members
  - b. To members
  - c. Citizens
2. Overcome no victim - no crime philosophy
3. Create alternative prosecution
4. Zero Tolerance
  - a. Advantages
  - b. Disadvantages

#### **C. Interviewing**

1. Firm but Fair
2. Respect vs. Disrespect
3. Different treatment by Patrol and Gang Officers
4. Gangs often mistake kindness for weakness

D. Intelligence

1. Sources
  - a. Members
  - b. Associates
  - c. Rivals
  - d. Parents
  - e. Home Girls
  - f. School
  - g. Graffiti
  - h. Other agencies

E. Records

1. Documentation
2. Release of records
3. What and how long

F. Prosecution

1. Experienced Prosecutor
2. Expert testimony
  - a. Uses (Sentencing)
  - b. Establishes motive is gang related
3. Education of Judicial System - Our Job

**XIV. MOBILIZATION**

- A. Worst Enemy is Denial
- B. Of Law Enforcement
- C. Community
- D. Schools
- E. Parents

**XV. TRAINING LITERATURE**

- A. Deadly Consequences
- B. Do or Die
- C. Islands in the Streets
- D. Gangs in America

**XVI. OFFICER SAFETY**

- A. Vehicle Stops
- B. Pedestrian Contacts