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Juggalos: Emerging Gang Trends and Criminal Activity

Intelligence Report

15 February 2011

NATIONAL GANG INTELLIGENCE CENTER

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SUBJECT: (U) Juggalos: Emerging Gang Trends and Criminal Activity

SUMMARY:

(U//FOUO) Increasing criminal activity among Juggalos is of concern due to the ease with which these transitory and loosely affiliated criminal sub-sets are able to form and break off of the well established Juggalo sub-culture of over one million followers. Their crimes are characterized by acts of violence and destruction directed against law enforcement, members of the community, public/private property, and other members of their group. Juggalos are classified as a gang in the states of Arizona, California, Pennsylvania and Utah. Despite this narrow classification, Juggalo-related crime has been documented in at least 20 other states according to law enforcement and open-source reporting.

Key Findings:

- (U) Juggalo criminal groups generally engage in assault, robbery, theft, drug possession/sales, vandalism, and to a lesser extent murder. On average, these criminal groups consist of Caucasian males ages 16 to 26. There is little to no structure within the group, and there is no formalized leadership. Due to this lack of structure and absence of leadership, most crimes are not committed on behalf of the group; rather they are more sporadic and individualistic in nature.
- (U) The Juggalo criminal element has been well documented in the states of Arizona, California, Pennsylvania, and Utah. However, law enforcement reporting suggests that criminal activity in Juggalo groups has grown over the past six years and has spread to several other states in which Juggalo-related crime is becoming a mounting concern in the community and among law enforcement.
- (U) Juggalo sub-sets are beginning to evolve and take on more of a gang-like resemblance. Establishment and organization within these sub-sets is discernable and set apart from the loosely affiliated Juggalo groups. This evolution may be attributed to a sub-sets affiliation with an already established local/national street gang or gang members that have infiltrated the Juggalo criminal group.

BACKGROUND:

(U//LES) Juggalos exist nationwide and exhibit many of the same characteristics as a traditional gang such as throwing hand signs, wearing matching tattoos, and dressing in similar clothing.¹ Over the years, two sides to the Juggalo sub-culture have emerged. According to an admitted Juggalo gang member, there are two active but very different factions of the Juggalos: the music fans and the criminal street gang.²

- (U//LES) The nationwide Juggalo membership, believed to be over one million fans/followers, vehemently reject the gang label they have received in recent years. The majority of the Juggalo sub-culture following, which constitutes the non-criminal element, likens themselves to a “family”.³
- (U//LES) The sub-set groups constituting the criminal element have broken off of the mainstream Juggalo sub-culture. These individuals have been identified as a younger generation taking the sub-culture to a different level, evolving the group into gangs or cliques.⁴ Most criminally-active Juggalos claim that their identity as a member of the Juggalo community is a lifestyle society has placed upon them.

(U) Juggalos are what fans of the musical group, Insane Clown Posse (ICP), call themselves. ICP formed in the early 1990’s, and have been producing music and entertaining their fans (Juggalos) for nearly 20 years. Developed by the members of ICP, this music was the first of its kind, and is best known as ‘horrorcore’ rap. The lyrics and messages found in the music can best be described as violent, graphic, and misogynistic. Both the members of ICP and the Juggalo fan base declare that they are the outcasts of society, an identity in which they take great pride and fully embrace. This identity has evolved into a sub-culture and a life-style for many fans. While the majority of fans exercise their lifestyles in a peaceful manner, a small portion of this group have added a criminal element that has slowly been taking hold in certain states.

DETAILS:

(U//LES) Juggalo criminal activity presents a threat to law enforcement, schools, and the community. Juggalo criminal groups operate in multiple states, not just the ones that classify them as a gang. According to law enforcement reporting, police departments in at least 13 states have identified established, criminal Juggalo sub-sets. These states include: Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Kansas, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, and Washington. Although many of these states do not officially recognize the Juggalos as a gang, police departments in all of these states have documented criminal activity with the respective Juggalo groups operating in their area.

(U//FOUO) According to law enforcement reporting, assaults, drug use/sales, theft, and vandalism were the most common crimes among the documented Juggalo members. Over 70 percent of the 27 reporting agencies within those states cited assaults among the other crimes committed by Juggalo criminal groups in their respective areas. Over 60 percent of those same agencies reported theft, vandalism, and drug use/sales.

- (U) An 18 year-old male claiming past Juggalo affiliation assaulted a couple, both of which he shot and wounded on Maple Valley trail in King County Washington on 3 January 2011. The perpetrator had several Juggalo tattoos, and a wallet featuring the ICP logo.⁵

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- (U) Five individuals claiming to be members of the Juggalos assaulted and attempted to rob a University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, student on 2 November 2010.⁶
- (U) A new gang called the “Juggalo Killers” allegedly assaulted a 19 year-old female by knocking her unconscious and carving the initials JK into her chest in Ogden, Utah, on 9 October 2010.⁷
- (U) Two males classified as Juggalos were arrested by the Corvallis Police Department for three violent attacks on homeless individuals in Corvallis, Oregon, in October 2009 and again in January 2010.⁸

(U//FOUO) Transient, criminal Juggalo groups pose a threat to communities due to the potential for violence, drug use/sales, and their destructive nature. Many of the sub-sets among the criminal Juggalo groups have been reported to be composed of transient or homeless individuals. These groups may be more dangerous than established Juggalo groups, because of their ability to move from place to place, often undetected, to new areas where community members and law enforcement are not familiar with their presence and potential for violence. Due to the widespread Juggalo membership and “family” mentality; these individuals have access to a support system no matter where they go, giving them sanctuary from law enforcement.⁹

- (U//LES) According to the Lynnwood Police Department reporting in Lynwood, Washington, Juggalos are very transient in Snohomish County and tend to travel frequently. They mostly frequent bus shelters and parks, utilizing lookouts to scan for police.¹⁰
- (U//LES) The Oregon Terrorism Intelligence and Threat Assessment Network (TITAN) Fusion Center reports that Juggalos in Corvallis often extort other homeless or homosexual individuals that live on the streets with the threat of beatings.¹¹
 - (U) Two Corvallis teenagers associated with the Juggalo gang were charged with second-degree robbery in connection with the 4 January 2010 beating and robbery of a 55 year-old homeless man. They were also charged with third-degree assault in the beating of a 60 year-old homeless man in October 2009.¹²
- (U//LES) Members of the “420 Goon-Squad”, a Juggalo gang in Washington, claim to drift from area to area in groups and squat where they can.¹³

(U) Individuals with prior gang affiliations that come into the sub-set may help the group evolve into a gang by passing on gang-culture or may bring outside gang problems into the un-evolved sub-set.¹⁴ With the exception of Florida and Oregon, all of the agencies reporting criminal Juggalo sub-sets also reported some kind of affiliation (rivalry or alliance) with an already established gang (Appendix 1).

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- (U//LES) The Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) reported that groups of homeless juveniles have come together under the Juggalo affiliation, and have been organized by two members with previous membership in the Bloods gang.¹⁵
- (U//LES) The Lackawanna County Prison of Pennsylvania reported that the Bloods and Crips dominated the local criminal Juggalo groups and used them for recruitment.¹⁶
- (U//LES) The Unified Police Department of Greater Salt Lake City, Utah, reported Juggalo alignment with Kearns Town Bloods because they wear the same color (red).¹⁷
- (U//LES) The Garfield County Sheriffs Office of Colorado reports that criminally active Juggalo members in their area are also members of the West Side Crips gang.¹⁸
- (U//LES) Reporting from the Arizona DPS indicates that most Juggalos on the Indian Reservations align with the Bloods gang and have been involved in a number of drive-by shootings as a result.¹⁹
 - (U//LES) Juggalo sets such as Eastside Juggalos have been in contact with several Blood sets and some have accompanied Bloods during or have been present when crimes have been committed.²⁰
 - (U//LES) In Tempe, Arizona, last year several Juggalos were determined to be part of a Blood set called Southwest Bloods. On the Navajo Nation, the Eastside Juggalos are a Blood set as well. Its unclear as to why they align themselves with Blood sets.²¹
- (U//LES) Sedgwick County Kansas law enforcement reports indicate the alignment of criminal Juggalo groups with Folk Nation through positive identification of graffiti.²²
- (U//LES) The Texas Attorney General's Office cites reports from Orange County Texas that claim Juggalo groups in that county have become associated with 3-11 Mafia, claiming Ku Klux Klan affiliation. Additionally, Juggalos in Northeast and West Texas have been reported to affiliate in the county jails with dominant White Prison Gangs such as the Aryan Circle and the Aryan Brotherhood.²³

(U) Juggalo affiliation and criminal activity is becoming an increasing problem in schools in certain states.

- (U//FOUO) According to the Tennessee Knox County Sheriffs Office, as of 2010, Juggalo groups in the school system have become more active. There have been documented assaults against school police officers, an assault with a deadly weapon on a school bus by a 5th grader, and threats against a teacher. Juggalos have been a growing problem in this school system for the last five years.²⁴

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- (U) Colorado Cañon City Police Department has documented a significant Juggalo presence in their respective middle and high schools. These individuals have been described as becoming more involved in criminal activity such as homicide, drugs and theft from vehicles. These same students are reportedly creating an atmosphere of fear by intimidating other students.²⁵
- (U) Nine Show Low High School, Arizona, students claiming Juggalo gang affiliation were arrested for criminal trespassing at a foreclosed home during the school lunch hour.²⁶ Since June 2010, Show Low Police have reported 10 incidents involving students, between the ages of 14 and 17, claiming Juggalo affiliation. These include aggravated assault against a police officer, drug possession, underage consumption, theft, and disorderly conduct.²⁷

(U) OUTLOOK

(U) Criminal activity among Juggalo groups poses an immediate threat to the community and law enforcement. The nature of their criminal activity (assaults, thefts, drug use/sales, and vandalism) directly impacts members of the community and the community itself. The sizeable Juggalo community will allow these groups to continue to expand outside of their local areas due to the wide-spread Juggalo family mentality, and their ability to claim “family” affiliation rather than a gang. The formation of rivalries or alliances to gangs outside of their group will allow the Juggalos to evolve into a more sophisticated criminal entity through associations with hardened, experienced gang members.

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Appendix 1

STATE	CITY/CO	JUGGALO GANG SUB-SETS	OUTSIDE GANG INFLUENCES
AZ	Navajo Co		
AZ	Tucson		Bloods
AZ	Chino Valley		
AZ	Phoenix	Juggalo Ryder Bitch (JRB), East Side Juggalos Red Hatchet Representing	Bloods
CA	Solano Co	45z's	
CA	Stockton	Homies for Life, Lotis Pod Family	
CA	El Dorado Co Colorado	Hangtown Klownz	
CO	Springs		
CO	Aurora	A-Town Voodoo Clowns	
CO	Garfield Co	Juggalo Rydas	West Side Crips
CO	Pueblo	Pueblo Clown Posse, Pueblo Town Juggalos	West Side Crips
CO	Westminster		
FL	Lake Co	Kotton Mouth Kings	
FL	Lee Co		
IA	Dubuque		Gangster Disciples
IL	Jo Daviess Co		
KS	Sedgwick Co	West Syde Clown Ryders, JRB, Juggalo Street Crew (JRC), Juggalo \$treet Mafia (J\$M)	Folk Nation
KS	Wichita	J\$M, Kotton Mouth Klick, Northend Villains, JRB	
KS	DOC	Juggalo Ryda East Coast	White Supremacist
MA	Ludlow		
MI	West Olive		
NC	Statesville	Juggalos of Statesville	SUR 13
NM	Acoma		
OK	Tulsa	Juggalo Ryders, 3 Ring Clique, Juggalo Gang	Piru Blood White Supremacist, 5-2 Hoover Crips
OK	Oklahoma City		
OK	Norman	JRB	
OR	Corvallis Lackawanna		
PA	Co	JRB	Bloods/Crips
TN	Knoxville	Three Star Ninjas	
TN	Sumner Co Attorney	Juggalo Rydas	
TX	General	Juggalo Rydas, 3-11 Mafia	KKK, Aryan Circle, Aryan Brotherhood
UT	Salt Lake Co	DownTown Clowns, East Side Juggalo Crew	
UT	Kearns	Kearns Town Juggalo Crew, Juggalo Killers	Kearns Town Bloods
UT	Magna	Magna Town Wicked Clowns, Juggalo Killers	
WA	Lynnwood		
WA	DOC	Tac Town Klowns, JRB, 420 Goon Squad	White Supremacist
WA	Lakewood	253 Wicked Klowns, Tak Town Klowns, Juggalo Empire, Psychopathic Juggalos	Piru Bloods

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(U) Endnotes

¹ (U) FBI IIR 4 214 2081 08; 10 December 2007; January 2008; “(U//FOUO) Identification of members of suicidal killas (SK) in Denver, Colorado”; The source is an officer of another law enforcement agency.

² (U) Intelligence Bulletin; Sacramento Police Department; (U//FOUO) Update on the Juggalos; 28 May 2009; An established source with reliable information.

³ (U) Oregon TITAN Fusion Center Intelligence Bulletin; (U//LES) Juggalos; January 2010; An established source with reliable information.

⁴ (U) Santa Clara County Sheriffs Office email correspondence; Interview of a Juggalo member; 29 November 2010; Information obtained from another law enforcement agency; A source with excellent access.

⁵ (U) Online News Article; *The Seattle Times*; “Man charged with shooting couple on Maple Valley Trail”; 3 January 2011; accessed on 4 January 2011 at

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/theblotter/2013837934_man_charged_with_xx_in_connect.html

⁶ (U) Online News Article; *The News Journal*; “Police seek fifth suspect in attempted robbery”; 2 November 2010; accessed on 2 November 2010 at <http://www.delawareonline.com/fdcp/?1288700025777>

⁷ (U) Online News Article; *Standard-Examiner*; “Juggalo Killers, a new breed of gang”; 9 October 2010, accessed on 14 October 2010 at <http://www.standard.net/topics/gangs/2010/10/09/juggalo-killers-new-breed-gang>

⁸ (U) Online News Article; *KVAL News*; “Police: Corvallis street gang suspects paint their faces, carry hatchets”; 11 January 2010; accessed on 14 October 2010 at http://www.streetgangs.com/news/011110_oregonicp

⁹ (U) Stockton Police Department email correspondence; 11 December 2010; A collaborative source with good access.

¹⁰ (U) Lynnwood Police Department email correspondence; 23 November 2010; A collaborative source with good access.

¹¹ (U) Oregon TITAN Fusion Center email correspondence; 16 November 2010; A collaborative source with good access.

¹² (U) Online News Article; *Gazette-Times*; “Teen gets probation in attacks on homeless” 22 January 2010; accessed on 29 September 2010 at http://www.gazettetime.com/news/local/article_3b43539a-07ab-11df-b6ae-001cc4c03286.html

¹³ (U) King County Regional Intelligence Group Criminal Intelligence Report ;“420 Goon Squad”; 8 April 2009

¹⁴ (U) Arizona DPS GIITEM email correspondence; 23 November 2010; A collaborative source with good access.

¹⁵ (U) Arizona DPS GIITEM email correspondence, 23 November 2010; A collaborative source with good access.

¹⁶ (U) Lackawanna County Prison email correspondence, 4 November 2010; A collaborative source with good access.

¹⁷ (U) Unified Police Department of Greater Salt Lake email correspondence; 24 November 2010; A collaborative source with good access.

¹⁸ (U) Garfield County Sheriffs Office email correspondence; 29 November 2010; A collaborative source with good access.

¹⁹ (U) Arizona Department of Public Safety email correspondence; 16 November 2010; A collaborative source with good access.

²⁰ (U) Arizona Department of Public Safety email correspondence; 10 January 2011; A collaborative source with good access.

²¹ (U) Arizona Department of Public Safety email correspondence; 10 January 2011; A collaborative source with good access.

²² (U) Sedgwick County Kansas email correspondence; 10 November 2010; A collaborative source with good access.

²³ (U) Texas Attorney General’s Office email correspondence; 22 November 2010; A collaborative source with good access.

²⁴ (U) Knox County Sheriffs Office email correspondence; 8 November 2010; A collaborative source with good access.

²⁵ (U) Online News Article; *The Daily Record*; “Officials Raise Gang Awareness”; 17 November 2010; accessed on 23 November 2010 at <http://www.canoncitydailyrecord.com/Top-Story.asp?ID=15254>

²⁶ (U) Online News Article; *Town News*; “Teens Arrested for Trespassing at Foreclosed Home”; 24 October 2010; accessed on 28 October 2010 at http://www.wmicentral.com/new/show_low/article_854a4d5a-dd5b-11df-82bd-001cc4c

²⁷ (U) Online News Article; *Town News*; “Police, Schools Watching ‘Juggalos’-Classified as Gang”; 22 November 2010; accessed on 23 November 2010.



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