

Nine Years of Operation



## **Gulf Coast HIDTA Mission Statement**

The mission of the Gulf Coast HIDTA is to reduce illicit drug availability and its harmful consequences within its designated areas by supporting intelligence-driven task forces and supporting infrastructure designed to target, disrupt and eliminate drug trafficking organizations impacting our region and

beyond.



# 2005 ANNUAL REPORT

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#### **Gulf Coast HIDTA 2005 Annual Report**

#### I. Executive Summary

#### A. Introduction

This 2005 annual report is presented to show the statistical accomplishments of the 25 program-funded initiatives comprising the Gulf Coast HIDTA. It is also intended to give an overview of our program to include our drug threat, strategy and descriptions of the various initiatives which carry out our mission. For reference, data reported herein is compared against CY2004 accomplishments.

Calendar year 2005 was unlike any other experienced in the Gulf Coast HIDTA's nine year history. The catastrophic events caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in late August and early September tore through the very heart of the Gulf Coast HIDTA region carving a row of death and destruction affecting most of our initiatives.

Fifteen (15) GC HIDTA initiatives were directly impacted by the hurricanes. Of those, nine sustained extensive damage requiring the relocation of operations for several months. Four initiatives have yet to move back into their previous offices.

During the immediate aftermath of the storms, most HIDTA-assigned investigators and personnel were called back by their agencies to assist in rescue, relief and recovery efforts. Within two months, most were reassigned back to the HIDTA. The performance of these men and women during such tumultuous and unprecedented events was nothing less than heroic. Putting aside their personal losses, some losing homes and family members, they went about their assigned duties with stoic resolve. Not one Gulf Coast HIDTA-assigned investigator or employee abandoned their posts or shirked their duties. Despite these setbacks and obstacles, Gulf Coast HIDTA initiatives still managed to compile impressive accomplishments. Numerous initiatives received recognition for outstanding investigative efforts by the United States Attorney's Office Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force Program (OCDETF). Similarly, some also garnered awards from several local crime-watch organizations.

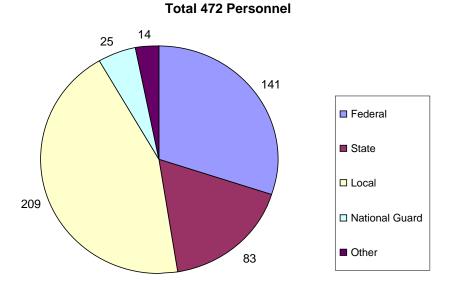
#### **B. Background**

The Gulf Coast HIDTA (GC HIDTA) consists of twenty-one (21) designated counties/parishes in the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. Our area borders the Gulf of Mexico and provides strategic maritime access to significant portions of the country. They contain six deep-water ports capable of servicing the largest of seagoing vessels. The major drug producing countries of Central and South America significantly impact the GC HIDTA because of their proximity and trade relationships. The vast waterways and coastlines, which are not heavily patrolled, provide unlimited opportunities for smuggling; thereby making the GC HIDTA's geographical location attractive to drug traffickers. Interstate highways remain the most significant threat with I-10 and I-20 traversing the three states. They also intersect with four north-south interstates and countless subordinate highways. The area's central location makes it accessible to traffickers from both coasts and the Southwest Border. Additionally, international airports located in strategic positions throughout the GC HIDTA, as well as rural and isolated air strips, provide advantageous surroundings for air smuggling opportunities.

The GC HIDTA presently has 25 initiatives operating in the three-state area of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. The initiatives are aligned in the following manner:

- 17- Major Investigation/Interdiction
- 4- Violent Crime/Safe Streets
- 1- Training
- 1- Management & Coordination
- 2- Intelligence/Coordination





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## Performance Highlights 2005

- Almost \$44 million in illicit drugs were confiscated from drug trafficking organizations.
- An additional \$33 million of drugrelated assets were seized.
- Combined Return-on-Investment (ROI) of \$12 for every \$1 of GC HIDTA funds invested.
- 45 Drug Trafficking Organizations were identified with 43 of them targeted by GC HIDTA task forces.
- During 2005, GC HIDTA disrupted 80 DTOs and dismantled another 35.
- Gulf Coast HIDTA initiatives destroyed 245 clandestine labs identified in 2005.
- Gulf Coast HIDTA initiatives were responsible for 3,687 arrests.
- Gulf Coast HIDTA initiatives seized 573 weapons and 231 vehicles.

- GC HIDTA initiatives initiated more complex cases involving larger DTOs.
- GC HIDTA initiatives initiated four OCDETF cases of which two were multi-state DTOs.
- GC HIDTA initiatives identified and targeted three money laundering DTOs. One of which was disrupted.
- Gulf Coast HIDTA Watch Center reports \$18 million in currency seized while transiting highway systems within Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi.
- The Gulf Coast HIDTA Training Program provided drug enforcement related training to 1,237 students in 2005.
- The GC HIDTA Wire Intercept Center supported 42 wiretaps for Gulf Coast HIDTA initiatives.
- Gulf Coast HIDTA initiatives entered 1,704 SAFETNet events/targets.

#### II. Introduction

The primary function of the Gulf Coast HIDTA is to identify, disrupt and dismantle significant drug trafficking organizations operating in its area and beyond. In addition, effort is placed on the identification and seizure of drug-related assets accumulated by these organizations. The program also acts as a coordination mechanism for federal, state and local drug law enforcement resources arrayed in the region. The program's success is measured through periodic evaluation of funded initiatives to ensure their focus and effectiveness is consistent with the Gulf Coast HIDTA strategy. This is accomplished by regular site visits of initiative offices by Gulf Coast HIDTA evaluation teams to determine programmatic and fiscal compliance of National HIDTA program guidelines and Gulf Coast HIDTA Executive Board direction.

#### **Mission Statements**

#### **National HIDTA Program Mission Statement**

The mission of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program is to disrupt the market for illegal drugs in the United States by assisting federal, state, and local law enforcement entities participating in the HIDTA program to dismantle and disrupt drug trafficking organizations, with particular emphasis on drug trafficking regions that have harmful effects on other parts of the United States.

During the previous calendar year, the Gulf Coast HIDTA Directors and Executive Boards worked closely with law enforcement and local GC HIDTA staff to develop a vision of the future. This vision, which clearly reflects what outcomes GC HIDTA initiatives seek to achieve.

#### **Gulf Coast HIDTA Vision Statement**

The vision of the Gulf Coast HIDTA is to significantly reduce drug availability in its three-state area through the collaborative and cooperative efforts of its participating law enforcement agencies.

Gulf Coast HIDTA success is measured by its ability to facilitate greater efficiencies, effectiveness, and collaboration between participating state, local and federal agencies whose efforts have resulted in the measurable results reflected in this report. Their accomplishments clearly demonstrate their collaborative efforts.

#### **Gulf Coast HIDTA Intelligence**

The collection, dissemination and production of intelligence resources are an integral component of the Gulf Coast HIDTA strategy. Servicing the intelligence-related needs of Gulf Coast HIDTA enforcement initiatives is the mission of the Intelligence Coordination Network (ICN) Initiative.

The ICN is comprised of the following components: the Network Coordination Group (NCG), Training Coordinator, Investigative Support Teams (IST), the BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center, the Technical Support Team, (TST), the GC HIDTA Wire Intercept Support Center, and Wide Area Network (WAN).

The NCG's function is to coordinate the various intelligence components and produce strategic intelligence products, such as the Threat Assessment. The ISTs are located in or near the State Intelligence Centers and are comprised of GC HIDTA-dedicated analysts who work in concert with State Police analysts assigned to these centers for both strategic and operational support. The centers also provide case deconfliction, organizational analyses on request and are available to assist in trial preparations.

The Intelligence Coordination Network establishes the mechanisms, procedures,

requirements, and common methodologies through which the various initiatives coordinate activities. In 2005, one of our organizational priorities was to continue to improve information sharing. To that end, the ICN began the deployment of the GC HIDTA Internet-based Information System (HIBIS). HIBIS is a web-based case management system which provides analysts with the ability to compartmentalize investigative information and share the data internally as well as with other HIDTAs. The system facilitates the tracking and control of information and data collection activities across the GC HIDTA. In 2005, over 1,600 HIBIS records were entered in the system.

An Intelligence Coordinator provides programmatic oversight of GC HIDTA intelligence components. The coordinator ensures that the ICN promotes the efficient and effective collection of intelligence data, the dissemination of intelligence products, and monitors progress toward meeting its outputs.

In Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, Federal, state and local agencies combined intelligence resources to produce the Gulf Coast HIDTA Threat Assessment. Their participation and cooperation have become an institutionalized part of this annual process. The **BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center** provides tactical interdiction intelligence to field agents and highway interdiction officers on a 24/7 basis. Currently, 687 law enforcement agencies and 3,380 law enforcement officers are actively using GC HIDTA Watch Center

resources. The Gulf Coast HIDTA Watch Center coverage now spans from the Louisiana/Texas state line to the Atlantic Coastline, recently expanding their service to include North and South Carolina.

#### 2005 Gulf Coast HIDTA Watch Center Intelligence Queries:

- ✓ 11,332 (increase of 35 percent) requests for intelligence assistance from Cross-Designated officers performing narcotics/money interdictions.
- ✓ 145,018 (increase of 32 percent) queries of general, state and local indices performed by intelligence analysts.
- ✓ An average of 810 (increase of 16 percent) intelligence assistance request calls per month.

The Watch Center **Post Seizure Analysis Team** produced daily intelligence summaries. These summaries were widely distributed to law enforcement agencies and HIDTAs throughout the United States. As part of these summaries, the team described various methods used in concealing contraband in vehicles and on persons. In addition, the GC HIDTA Watch Center also issues officer safety bulletins and intelligence on new concealment methods.

The **Technical Support Team (TST)** provided technical support for intelligence and operational components. The team



Technical Officer in the Technical Equipment Room.

also gave technical support to the GC HIDTA Wire Intercept Center. The team maintained an inventory of GC HIDTA supplied equipment and evaluated and coordinated equipment requests. The inventory list was published on the GC HIDTA intra-web page. This allowed GC HIDTA task force members to share equipment regardless of its location across the three state area. A request form is filled out for the needed equipment and processed by Technical Support Team personnel.

The Wire Intercept Center is a state-ofthe-art system that digitizes analog wire intercepts and saves them on magnetooptical disks. Video conferencing is available across the GC HIDTA Wide Area Network (WAN) which provides a cost effective and convenient method for prosecutor meetings such as minimization of monitors. In addition, it provides full Internet and pager intercept/clone capabilities; secure remote video capability using microwave and telephone lines; and monitor/translator services in numerous foreign languages. In 2005, the Wire Intercept Center supported 42 Title IIIs.

During 2005, the ICN continued the successful development and deployment of its revolutionary event and target deconfliction system know as SAFETNet. SAFETNet is an acronym for Secure Automated Fast Event Tracking Network. The system was initially developed by Gulf Coast HIDTA Management and Intelligence staff along with key personnel from other HIDTAs and is currently overseen by a user group consisting of representatives from participating HIDTAs. To date, 17 HIDTAs have completed deployment of the system in their respective areas of responsibility. The current geographic coverage of the SAFETNet system includes 37 states.

In 2003, SAFETNet was selected as a major component for the newly developed National Virtual Pointer System (NVPS). In 2005, NVPS became fully operational and represents a giant leap forward in establishing information sharing capability between Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies.



Monitors in T2S2 Facility

#### **Gulf Coast HIDTA/funded Initiatives**

#### Gulf Coast HIDTA Wide Initiatives

Initiative	Location	Mission				
BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center	Gulfport, Mississippi	Tactical Intelligence				
Intelligence Coordination Network	Metairie, Louisiana	Strategic/Tactical Intelligence				
Management and Coordination	Metairie, Louisiana	Administrative				
Training	Pearl, Mississippi	Training				

#### Alabama Initiatives

Initiative	Location	Task Force	
Alabama Operations Center/Major Investigations & Mobile Deployment Team	Montgomery, Alabama	Investigative/Interdiction	
Jefferson County Drug Task Force	Birmingham, Alabama	Investigative/Interdiction	
Madison/Morgan Counties Drug Task Force	Huntsville, Alabama	Investigative/Interdiction	
Mobile/Baldwin Enforcement Group	Mobile, Alabama	Investigative/Interdiction	

#### Louisiana Initiatives

Initiative	Location	Task Force				
Caddo/Bossier Drug Task Force	Shreveport, Louisiana	Investigative/Interdiction				
Calcasieu Parish combined Anti-Drug Team	Lake Charles, Louisiana	Investigative/Interdiction FY2006				
Financial Investigations Team	Metairie, Louisiana	Financial Investigations				
Major Investigations Team I (LA OPS)	Metairie, Louisiana	Investigative				
Major Investigations Team II (LA OPS)	Metairie, Louisiana	Investigative				
Mobile Deployment Team (LA OPS)	Metairie, Louisiana	Investigative/Interdiction				
Multi-Agency Safe Neighborhood	Metairie, Louisiana	Investigative/Violent Crimes				
Middle Louisiana- Major Investigations Group/Transportation Interdiction Group	Baton Rouge, Louisiana	Investigative/Interdiction				
Monroe Metro Drug Task Force	Monroe, Louisiana	Investigative/Interdiction				
New Orleans Gang Task Force	New Orleans, Louisiana	Investigative				
Northwest Louisiana Violent Crime Task Force	Shreveport, Louisiana	Investigative/Violent Crimes				
Project Star	Harvey, Louisiana	Community Policing/Interdiction				
Southwestern Louisiana Major Investigations/Financial Investigations Team	Lafayette, Louisiana	Investigative/Interdiction				

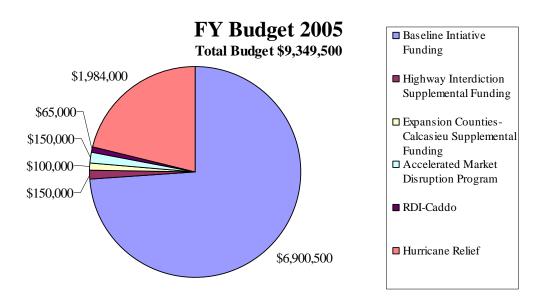
#### Mississippi Initiatives

Initiative	Location	Task Force
Jackson County Mississippi Major Investigations Team	Pascagoula, Mississippi	Investigative/Violent Crimes
Major Investigations Team (MS OPS)	Pearl, Mississippi	Investigative
Mobile Deployment Interdiction Team	Pearl, Mississippi	Investigative/Interdiction
North Mississippi Methamphetamine Enforcement Team	Oxford, Mississippi	Investigative
Tri-County Major Investigations Team	Gulfport, Mississippi	Investigative/Interdiction

## **Prosecution Subsystem**

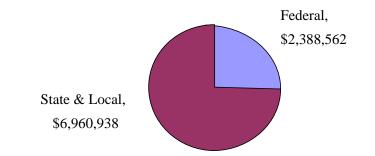
There are eight federal judicial districts within the GC HIDTA. Each U.S. attorney holds a seat on a State Board; a U.S. Attorney from each state serves on the Executive Board. Prosecutions are balanced between state and Federal courts. Currently, there are no prosecutorial initiatives; however, GC HIDTA is allied closely with the U.S. Attorney-led Project Safe Neighborhood Task Forces. Virtually, all affected initiatives have reported an increased response and participation from members of the prosecutorial system.

## Budget



Data Reflected Covers the Period of January to December 2005.

#### BUDGET COMPARISON FEDERAL-STATE/LOCAL Total Budget \$9,349,500



Budget Baseline	<u>\$6,900,500.</u>
Highway Interdiction Supplemental Funding	\$150,000.
Expansion Counties-Calcasieu Supplemental Funding	\$100,000.
Accelerated Market	\$150,000.
RDI-Caddo	\$65,000.
Hurricane Relief	\$1,984,000.
Total	\$9,349,500



Certain parishes in Louisiana and counties in Mississippi and Alabama were designated as part of the Gulf Coast HIDTA in December 1996. In 2001 Gulf Coast HIDTA obtained approval from ONDCP to expand into eight new counties/parishes within the three states.

Geographic Area of Responsibility: 21 Parishes/Counties in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

<u>Louisiana</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>	Alabama
Bossier Parish	Hancock County	Baldwin County
Calcasieu Parish	Harrison County	Jefferson County
Caddo Parish	Hinds County	Mobile County
East Baton Rouge Parish	Jackson County	Morgan County
Jefferson Parish	Lafayette County	Madison County
Lafayette Parish	Madison County	Montgomery County
Orleans Parish	Rankin County	2 million Star
Ouachita Parish		Contraction of the second

## III. Program Goals

## National HIDTA Goals

The National High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program has adopted two specific goals. These national goals are addressed in the Gulf Coast HIDTAs strategy and implemented through initiatives.

National Program HIDTA Goals

Goal 1: Disrupt the market for illegal drugs by dismantling or disrupting drug trafficking organizations.
 Goal 2: Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of HIDTA initiatives.

**Gulf Coast HIDTA Priorities** 

- ✓ Initiate intelligence based investigations on major drug trafficking organizations (DTO);
- ✓ Develop a comprehensive strategy to combat the threat;
- ✓ Develop effective and efficient initiatives to execute the strategy;
- Provide coordination for local, state and federal law enforcement efforts in our area of responsibility;
- ✓ Focus on Performance Measurement Outputs and Outcomes.

#### Summary of Threat Assessment for Budget Year 2005

The Gulf Coast HIDTA includes the three states of Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. Within these three states, there are 21 HIDTAdesignated counties/parishes. There are eight in Louisiana; seven in Mississippi; and six in Alabama. Of the 21, seven are located on the Gulf Coast. The three states serve as a gateway for drugs entering the United States as well as a transit and staging area for drug distribution. The combinations of these elements influence drugrelated crimes and social problems within the GC HIDTA region and other areas of the three states. Other contributing factors include the industrial, cultural and economic diversity of the area. The drug threat to the GC HIDTA covers the full spectrum of drug types, trafficking modalities and types of criminal organizations.

GC HIDTA area agencies continue to report the demand and availability of cocaine, especially its base derivative crack as the greatest threat. Cocaine (future mentions include crack) remains the predominant drug threat to the GC HIDTA region as reported by 58 percent of survey participants with methamphetamine (35 percent) as the second greatest threat. However, when surveying each state, 62 percent of the law enforcement agencies in Alabama have reported methamphetamine as the greatest threat. This is the first time in the GC HIDTA that methamphetamine has definitively emerged, at the state level, as the greatest threat and signals the overall regional threat posed by the drug. Across the region, cocaine was identified by more survey respondents as the main contributor to violent (73 percent) and property (76 percent) crimes.

The abuse of other dangerous drugs, including hallucinogens, inhalants, and anabolic steroids remain steady. In most areas, the use of these drugs remains moderate to low. The popularity and demand for "club drugs" however, is on the rise and reaching epidemic rates in some areas. Club dugs such as MDMA, LSD, GHB, and Ketamine are readily available in college towns where there is an abundance of bars and parties. Twenty-four percent of survey participants ranked MDMA availability as high.

The recent dramatic increase in 'ice' methamphetamine has continued to cause a commensurate increase in treatment admissions. This will likely result in an increase in the collateral damage to families and children as well as significant damage to the environment with the spread of methamphetamine across the area.

In January of 2005, a new opiate painkiller, Palladone, was approved by the FDA and released on the market. It is intended for longterm chronic pain, and will only be prescribed to opiate tolerant patients. There is great concern by law enforcement officials that Palladone will be illegally diverted, resulting in the overdose deaths of both opiate tolerant users and nonopiate tolerant users alike. The high cost of the drug may likely curb its availability, at least during its initial distribution.

Organized drug smuggling and transportation across the Interstate Highway System poses a significant threat to the country. Since the 9/11 terrorist attacks, there has been a dramatic increase in highway seizures across the Gulf Coast HIDTA area of operations. Interstates 10 & 20, traversing the three states, pose the greatest threat. The east/east route intersects with four north-south interstates, and countless other principal highways. The areas central location makes it attractive to traffickers from both coast and the Southwest Border. In CY-2005, the Gulf Coast HIDTA has seen a significant increase in Methamphetamine and currency seizures through highway interdiction operations.

#### IV. HIDTA Strategy Summary

In order to accomplish our mission, the GC HIDTA strategy is to stand and support intelligence-driven drug task forces focused on the most significant drug threat elements in their designated areas. HIDTA-funded initiatives are encouraged to develop cases toward Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) designation. Virtually every initiative has federal, state, and local agency participation. Agencies are encouraged to submit initiative proposals or changes throughout the yearly planning cycle enabling us to reallocate resources and change strategies more fluidly. Training remains an important part of our approach. Our training program designs and schedules courses that provide assigned agents with the knowledge and expertise necessary to perform their duties. The GC HIDTA continues to act as the primary coordination mechanism for federal, state, and local drug law enforcement efforts. This is accomplished through a systematic approach facilitating cooperative, collaborative law enforcement efforts.

In 2005, we listed three primary organizational priorities. The first priority was to develop intelligence-driven investigations aimed at the highest-level drug trafficking organizations operating within our region. In an effort to address this priority, the GC HIDTA placed significant resources in its intelligence subsystem to assist funded task forces in targeting and dismantling the most prolific DTOs known to operate in our region. HIDTA funding in conjunction with agency-assigned intelligence analysts in our Intel centers and in the field provided valuable case support and access to local, national and international intelligence. The Wire Intercept Center provided support to over 42 HIDTA court ordered wiretaps.

Our second priority was to enhance and facilitate information sharing among law enforcement agencies in our area and beyond. Toward that end, in the later part of 2005, we implemented the target component to our event/target deconfliction solution known as SAFETNet. This enhancement now allows participating agencies to enter and deconflict target information such as subject names, business names, addresses, phone numbers, weapons, internet websites and e-mail addresses. To date, SAFETNet and its new target component has been adopted by 17 HIDTAs. An additional added enhancement to SAFETNet included its new ability to connect agencies' databases to the system providing multiple search capabilities through a single entry into the system. GC HIDTA management staff continues to aggressively market SAFETNet among area law enforcement agencies with the ultimate goal of 100% participation.

The third priority was to continue in our efforts to act as the principle coordination mechanism for Federal, state and local drug enforcement assets in our region. The GC HIDTA enjoys widespread participation from the most significant Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies operating in our region. GC HIDTA State Boards and its Executive Board are comprised of representatives of these agencies. Through their participation in these boards, coordination of HIDTA and their agencies' resources is accomplished.

#### V. HIDTA Performance Measures

This Annual Report section is dedicated to reporting FY-2005 baseline performance measurements. Our effectiveness is measured against our FY-2004 base line figures.

A. Performance Measures for Goal 1

Table 1 – Percentage of DTOs Disrupted or Dismantled, 2005.

Percentage of DTOs and MLOs Disrupted or Dismantled for Year 2005 at Gulf Coast HIDTA							
	DTOs Identified	# Targeted	# Disrupted	% of Targeted Disrupted	# Dismantled	% of Targeted Dismantled	
Begin 05	163	128	68	53%	25	20%	
During 05	45	43	12	28%	10	23%	
Total 2005	208	171	80	47%	35	20%	

Table 2 – Percentage of DTOs Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope, 2005

Percentag	Percentage of DTOs and MLOs Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope for Year 2005, at Gulf Coast HIDTA [All DTOs; MLOs included]							
Scope     # Identified     # Targeted     # Disrupted     % of     % of     Disrupted     Disrupted       Scope     # Identified     # Targeted     # Disrupted     Targeted     # Dismantled     Targeted     Or     Or							Total % Disrupted or Dismantled	
International	10	10	4	40%	3	30%	7	70%
Multi-state	45	41	13	32%	9	22%	22	54%
Local	153	120	63	52%	23	19%	86	72%
Total	208	171	80	47%	35	20%	115	67%

Table 3 – Percentage of Money Laundering Organizations Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope, 2005

Percentage of Money Laundering Organizations Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope for Year 2005								
Scope								Total % Disrupted or Dismantled
International	1	1	0		1	100%	1	100%
Multi-state	1	1	0		0	0%	0	
Local	1	1	1	100%	0	0%	1	100%
Total	3	3	1	33%	1	33%	2	67%

Operationa	Operational Scope of All DTO and MLO Cases Initiated for Year 2005, at Gulf Coast HIDTA								
	# CPOT Cases# RPOT Cases# OCDETF Cases% OCDETF of Total 								
International	onal 0 0 0								
Multi-state	state 0 0 2 5%								
Local	0	0	2	2%					
Total	0	0	4	2%					

#### Table 4 – Operational Scope of All OCDETF Cases Initiated, 2005

Table 5 – Drugs Removed from the Marketplace, 2005

Gulf Coast HIDTA Drugs Removed from Marketplace						
Drug Seized (kg or D.U.)	Amount Seized (kg/D.U.)	Wholesale Value	Total Value			
heroin kg	17.57	\$80,000	\$1,405,600			
cocaine HCL kg*	1393.32	\$20,893	\$29,110,665			
crack cocaine kg	24.39	\$19,923	\$485,920			
marijuana commercial grade kg	4318.73	\$1,855	\$8,012,275			
marijuana hydroponic kg						
methamphetamine kg	130.18	\$21,203	\$2,760,169			
methamphetamine ice kg						
ecstasy (MDMA) (D.U.s)						
other: marijuana plants	2461	\$100	\$246,100			
other: prescription drugs	229,620	\$10	\$2,296,200			
other:						
Total Wholesale V	alue		\$44,316,929			

Table 6 – Return on Investment (ROI) for Drugs Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives, 2005

	Gulf Coast HIDTA Return on Investment (ROI) for Drugs Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives for 2005								
Year	Budget	Baseline Drug Wholesale Value	Targeted Drug ROI	Drug Wholesale Value Removed From Market	Actual Drug ROI				
2004	\$7,350,500	\$51,082,792	\$7	\$51,082,792	\$7				
2005	\$6,295,928	\$51,082,792	\$7	\$44,316,929	\$7				
2006									
2007									

Table 7 – Return on Investment (ROI) for Assets Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives, 2005

Gulf Coast HIDTA ROI for Assets Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives for Year								
Year	Year Budget Baseline Value of Drug Assets			Value of Drug Assets Removed From Market	Actual Asset ROI			
2004	\$7,350,500	\$23,446,976	\$3	\$23,446,976	\$3			
2005	\$6,295,928	\$23,446,976	\$3	\$32,791,256	\$5			
2006								
2007								

Table 8 – Total Return on Investment (ROI) for Drugs and Assets Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiative, 2005

	Gulf Coast HIDTA Total ROI for Drugs and Assets Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives for Year								
Year	Budget Drugs and Assets Baseline Targeted Total ROI Brugs and Assets Removed From Market								
2004	\$7,350,500	\$74,529,768	\$10	\$74,529,768	\$10				
2005	\$6,295,928	\$74,529,768	\$10	\$77,108,186	\$12				
2006									
2007									

Table 9 – Prosecution Initiative Cost per Table of Organization for the HIDTA

Pr	Prosecution Outputs and Outcomes by Year for Gulf Coast HIDTA										
Year	Budget Investigations Baseline Investigations Projected Investigations Handled Cost/ Handled Investigation										
2004											
2005											
2006											
2007											
		*Gulf Coast HID	ΓA has no pros	ecution initiati	ves.						

Value of Clandestine Methamphetamine Laboratories Dismantled by Size for 2005 a <u>t Gulf Coast</u> HIDTA							
	Meth Cost Per Ounce	\$1,000					
Lab Size	ID/Targeted	Dismantled	Value of Labs Dismantled				
A. Less 2 Oz	0	245	\$490,000				
B. 2 - 8 Oz	0	0	\$				
C. 9 Oz - 1 Lb	0	0	\$				
D. 2 - 9 Lbs	0	0	\$				
E. 10 - 20 Lbs	0	0	\$0				
F. Over 20 Lb	0	0	\$0				
Total	0	245	\$490,000				

Table 10 - Value of Clandestine Methamphetamine Labs Dismantled in 2005 by Size

Table 11- Clandestine Laboratory Activities, 2005

HIDTA Clandestine Laboratory Activities for 2005 at Gulf Coast HIDTA							
	Baseline	# Targeted	# Identified	% Identified	Actual Change from Baseline		
Laboratory Dump Sites Seized					0		
Chemical/Glassware Equipment Seizures			188		0		
Children Affected					0		

\*This data was not collected in CY 2004. First year for collection was 2005

#### B. Performance Measures for Goal 2

Gulf Coast HIDTA Training Efficiency by Type of Training for 2005											
Type of Training	# Students Ex for Traini		Act	# Students Actually Trained		# Training Hours Actually Provided		Total Training Cost		Training Cost per Hour	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	% Change 2004- 2005
Analytical/ Computer	250	250	214	153	44	52	\$5,200	\$1,320	\$118.18	\$25.38	-79%
Investigative/ Interdiction	700	700	904	1,023	568	474	\$101,238	\$60,444	\$178.24	\$127.52	-28%
Management/ Administrative	50	50	179	61	72	96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%
Total	1,000	1,000	1,297	1,237	684	622	\$106,438	\$61,764	\$155.61	\$99.29	-36%

#### Table 12 – GC HIDTA Training Efficiency by Year and Type of Training

Table 13 - Percentage of HIDTA Initiatives Using Event and Case Deconfliction Services, 2005

	Percentage of Gulf Coast HIDTA Initiatives Using Event and Case Deconfliction Services for Year							
Year	Total HIDTA Initiatives	# Initiatives Targeted to Use Services	# Initiatives Using	% Initiatives Using				
2004	20	20	16	80%				
2005	21	21	21	100%				
2006								
2007								

]	Percentage of Event and Case Deconflictions Submitted for Year at Gulf Coast HIDTA									
Year	Baseline # Deconflictions Submitted	# Deconfliction Submissions Targeted	# Event Deconflictions Submitted	# Case/Subject Deconflictions Submitted	Total Deconflictions Submitted	% Deconflictions Submitted				
2004	2052	1109	943	1109	2052	100%				
2005	2052	2100	760	944	1704	81%				
2006										
2007										

Table 15 - Percentage of Investigations Provided Analytical Support, 2005

Percentage of Cases Provided Analytical Support for Year at Gulf Coast HIDTA								
Year	Baseline # Investigations Receiving Analytical Support	# Investigations Targeted for Analytical Support	# Investigations Provided Analytical Support	% Targeted Investigations Supported				
2004	103	103	103	100%				
2005	103	103	484	469%				
2006								
2007								

Table 16 – Percentage of HIDTA Initiative Investigations Referred to Other HIDTAs and Other Agencies, 2005

]	Percentage of HIDTA Initiative Cases Referred to Other HIDTAs and Other Agencies for Year at Gulf Coast HIDTA									
Year	Total HIDTA Initiative Investigations	# Initiative Investigations Targeted for Referral	# HIDTA Initiative Investigations Referred to Other HIDTAs	# HIDTA Initiative Investigations Referred to Other Agencies	Total Initiative Investigations Referred	% Targeted Initiative Investigations Referred				
2004	1905	178	141	154	295	166%				
2005	1170	50	15	11	26	52%				
2006										
2007										

## VI. Conclusion

In, 2005, the Gulf Coast HIDTA scored major successes in the area of interoperability, communications, and intelligence sharing. Enhancements to SAFETNet, which included connectivity to the National Virtual Pointer System (NVPS), more efficient mapping capabilities, target entry refinements and additional HIDTAs implementation of the program are but a few examples. Agreements were reached with agencies in all three states to provide direct connectivity to agencies' databases allowing instantaneous access of multiple databases through a single SAFETNet entry.

The Gulf Coast HIDTA provided essential support to local law enforcement agencies participating in the program. In addition, local departments outside of the GC HIDTA designated counties and parishes were provided investigative expertise and intelligence to support their own drug interdiction efforts.

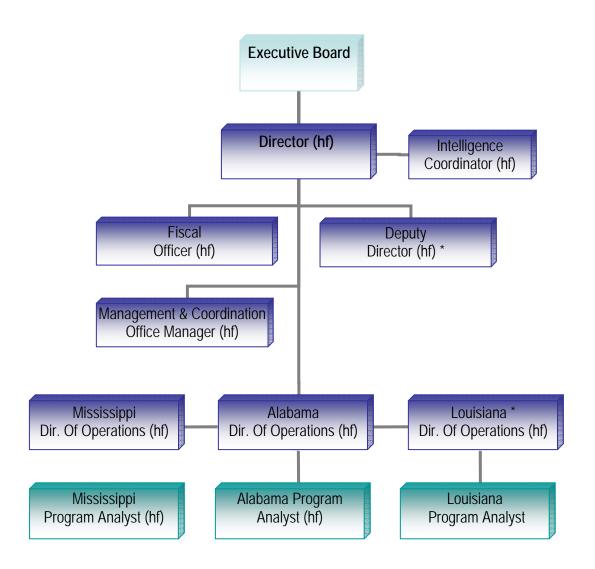
The Gulf Coast HIDTA has gained a reputation within its three-state area and beyond as an effective drug law enforcement program. Based on an articulated strategy implemented by strictly defined and regimented initiatives, the Gulf Coast HIDTA has been able to promote an effective regional drug enforcement response to an everchanging drug threat.

#### VII. Appendices

#### Appendix A. Table of Organization for the HIDTA

Below is HIDTA's organizational structure to provide you with an overview of the Gulf Coast HIDTA governing mechanisms.

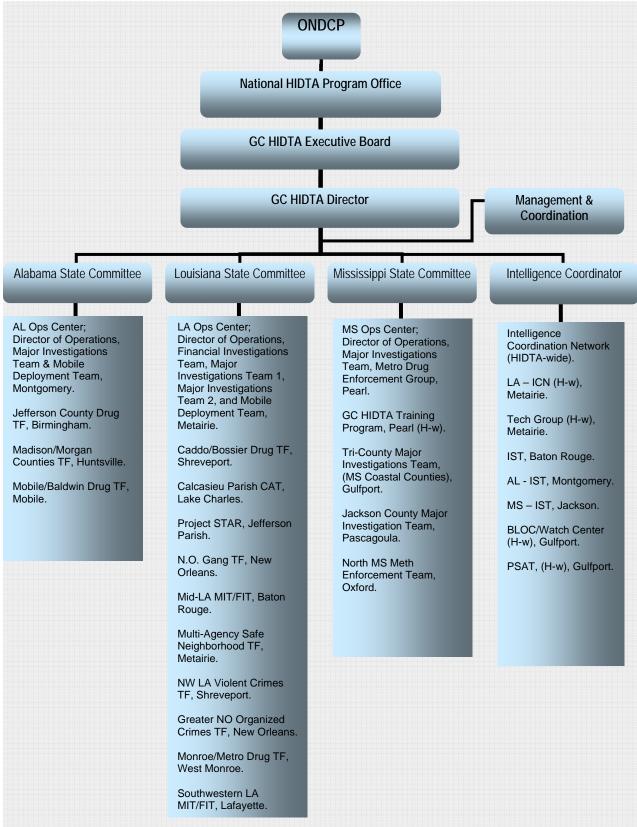
### **Gulf Coast HIDTA Management Staff**



(hf) HIDTA-Funded \*Deputy Director acts as Louisiana Director of Operations.

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Gulf Coast HIDTA Executive Board								
December 2005								
State Agency	Executive Board Member	Second						
Alabama Department of Public Safety	Ken Hallford							
Alabama Attorney General's Office	Jack Brennan	John Mulligan						
Harrison Co. Sheriff's Office, MS	George Payne	John Munigun						
Mississippi Department of Public Safety	George Phillips (Chair)							
Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics	Marshall Fisher							
Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, LA	Newell Normand	John Thevenot						
Louisiana State Police	Henry Whitehorn	Geoffrey Bordelon						
New Orleans Police Department	Warren Riley							
		David Wilhelm						
Mobile Police Department	Sam Cochran	David Wilhelm						
	Sam Cochran           Executive Board Member	David Wilhelm Second						
Mobile Police Department Federal Agency	Executive Board Member	Second						
Mobile Police Department Federal Agency Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms	Executive Board Member Mark Chait (Vice Chair)	Second Robert Browning						
Mobile Police Department Federal Agency Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Drug Enforcement Administration	Executive Board Member         Mark Chait (Vice Chair)         William Renton	Second						
Mobile Police Department Federal Agency Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Drug Enforcement Administration Federal Bureau of Investigation	Executive Board Member Mark Chait (Vice Chair) William Renton Carmen Adams	Second Robert Browning						
Mobile Police Department Federal Agency Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Drug Enforcement Administration Federal Bureau of Investigation Internal Revenue Service	Executive Board Member Mark Chait (Vice Chair) William Renton Carmen Adams Mike Nelson	Second Robert Browning Patrick Warner						
Mobile Police Department Federal Agency Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Drug Enforcement Administration Federal Bureau of Investigation Internal Revenue Service U.S. Attorney's Office, AL	Executive Board Member Mark Chait (Vice Chair) William Renton Carmen Adams Mike Nelson Leura G. Canary	Second Robert Browning						
Mobile Police Department Federal Agency Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Drug Enforcement Administration Federal Bureau of Investigation Internal Revenue Service U.S. Attorney's Office, AL U.S. Attorney's Office, LA	Executive Board Member Mark Chait (Vice Chair) William Renton Carmen Adams Mike Nelson Leura G. Canary David R. Dugas	Second Robert Browning Patrick Warner						
Mobile Police Department Federal Agency Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Drug Enforcement Administration Federal Bureau of Investigation Internal Revenue Service U.S. Attorney's Office, AL U.S. Attorney's Office, LA U.S. Attorney's Office, MS	Executive Board Member Mark Chait (Vice Chair) William Renton Carmen Adams Mike Nelson Leura G. Canary David R. Dugas Dunn Lampton	Second Robert Browning Patrick Warner John Cloud						
Mobile Police Department Federal Agency Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Drug Enforcement Administration Federal Bureau of Investigation Internal Revenue Service U.S. Attorney's Office, AL U.S. Attorney's Office, LA	Executive Board Member Mark Chait (Vice Chair) William Renton Carmen Adams Mike Nelson Leura G. Canary David R. Dugas	Second Robert Browning Patrick Warner						
Mobile Police Department Federal Agency Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Drug Enforcement Administration Federal Bureau of Investigation Internal Revenue Service U.S. Attorney's Office, AL U.S. Attorney's Office, LA U.S. Attorney's Office, MS	Executive Board Member Mark Chait (Vice Chair) William Renton Carmen Adams Mike Nelson Leura G. Canary David R. Dugas Dunn Lampton	Second Robert Browning Patrick Warner John Cloud						

#### Appendix B – Gulf Coast HIDTA Executive Board

#### **Appendix C – Participating Agencies**

#### Federal

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Drug Enforcement Administration Federal Bureau of Investigation Internal Revenue Service United States Coast Guard Immigration & Customs Enforcement

#### Alabama

Alabama Air National Guard Alabama Army National Guard Alabama Attorney General's Office Alabama Bureau of Investigation Alabama Department of Public Safety Baldwin County Sheriff's Office **Bessemer Police Department Birmingham Police Department Decatur Police Department** Fairfield Police Department Fairhope Police Department Homewood Police Department Huntsville Police Department Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Madison County District Attorney's Office Millbrook Police Department Mobile Police Department Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Montgomery Police Department Morgan County Sheriff's Office Univ. of South Alabama Police Department

#### Louisiana

Louisiana Attorney General's Office Acadia Parish Sheriff's Department Ascension District Attorney's Office Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office Baton Rouge Police Department Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office Bossier Police Department Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office Crowley Police Department East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office Gonzales Police Department Iberia Parish Sheriff's Office Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office Kenner Police Department Lafayette Police Department Louisiana Air National Guard Louisiana Army National Guard Louisiana Attorney General's Office Louisiana Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control Louisiana State Police Monroe Police Department New Orleans Police Department **Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office** Port Allen Police Department Shreveport Police Department St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Office St. Mary Parish Sheriff's Office Webster Parish Sheriff's Office West Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office West Monroe Police Department

#### Mississippi

Bay St. Louis Police Department **Biloxi** Police Department Flowood Police Department Gautier Police Department **Gulfport Police Department** Harrison County Sheriff's Office Hinds County Sheriff's Office Jackson County Sheriff's Office Jackson Police Department Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics Mississippi Highway Patrol Mississippi National Guard Moss Point Police Department **Ocean Springs Police Department Oxford Police Department** Panola County Sheriff's Office Pascagoula Police Department Pearl Police Department Rankin County Sheriff's Office Southaven Police Department **Tupelo Police Department** 

#### Appendix D – Counties/Parishes Participating in Gulf Coast HIDTA

Geographic Area of Responsibility: 21 Parishes/Counties in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

#### <u>Louisiana</u>

Bossier Parish Calcasieu Parish Caddo Parish East Baton Rouge Parish Jefferson Parish Lafayette Parish Orleans Parish Ouachita Parish

#### Mississippi Hancock County Harrison County Hinds County Jackson County Lafayette County

Madison County

Rankin County

#### Alabama Baldwin County Jefferson County Mobile County Morgan County Madison County Montgomery Count

#### Appendix E – BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center Annual Report

The BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center provides tactical interdiction intelligence to field agents and highway interdiction officers on a 24/7 basis through cellular toll-free (#HIDTA) or (800-USA-BLOC) telephone numbers and direct connect through Southern Linc and NexTel. The BLOC HIDTA is also active in providing post seizure analysis to Federal, State and Local agents and officers. In the aftermath of the September 11th terrorist attacks, Watch Center personnel recorded an increase in the number of queries from enforcement agencies. The value of merging several agencies into Immigration and Customs Enforcement has greatly enhanced the information and intelligence available to the BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center. This was critical in light of the new challenges posed by terrorist threats. Currently, 687 state law enforcement offices and 3,380 officers are actively accessing BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center data systems. The BLOC/ HIDTA Watch Center coverage now spans from the Louisiana/Texas state line to the Atlantic Coastline.

In 2005, the BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center received 11,332 requests for intelligence assistance from cross-designated law enforcement officers performing narcotics/currency highway interdictions.

#### **BLOC/HIDTA Certified State &** Local Law Enforcement Officers

State	# Officers
Alabama	785
Arkansas	230
Georgia	117
Louisiana	799
Mississippi	854
North Carolina	111
Tennessee	484
<b>Total Officers</b>	3,380

The requests resulted in 145,018 queries of general, state and local indices performed by intelligence analysts. There was an average of 944 intelligence assistance request calls per month, an increase of 13% over last year. In addition, the Watch Center Post Seizure Analysis Team produces daily intelligence summaries. These summaries are widely distributed to law enforcement agencies throughout the United States. As part of these summaries, the team describes various methods used in concealing contraband in vehicles and on persons. The **BLOC/HIDTA** Watch Center also issues officer safety bulletins and intelligence on new concealment methods.

#### **BLOC/HIDTA 2005 Interdiction Stats**

Drugs removed from the marketplace in 2005 by law enforcement officers in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi as reported to the BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center.

Drugs Seized (kg or du.)	Amount Seized (kg/ du.)
heroin kg	6
cocaine HCL kg	1,363
marijuana commercial grade kg	6,266
methamphetamine kg	142
ecstasy (MDMA) (D.U.s)	22,605 d.u.
other: Dilaudid	630 d.u.
other: Xanax	5,361 d.u.
other: Lortab	1,000 d.u.

Note: Weights are in Pounds	HEROIN	COCAINE	MARIJ	METH
Alabama	0	361	1,138	117
Arkansas	0	61	4,922	11
Georgia	8.8	1,036	2,870	44
Louisiana	11	695	7,714	54
Mississippi	2.2	1,943	4,933	141
North Carolina	0	121	0	0
South Carolina	.1	0	0	.2
Tennessee	22.4	581	4,844	234
Totals	44.5	4,798	26,421	601.2

	CURRENCY	ARRESTS	VEHICLES	WEAPONS
Alabama	\$5,783,807.	144	47	24
Arkansas	\$3,626,838.	118	29	8
Georgia	\$9,562,557.	133	61	20
Louisiana	\$3,877,680.	337	63	33
Mississippi	\$8,830,861.	228	97	16
North Carolina	\$153,080.	5	1	0
South Carolina	\$68,520.	5	0	3
Tennessee	\$9,783,429.	300	130	32
TOTALS	\$41,686,772.	1270	428	136

#### **Appendix F – Crime Stats**

The GC HIDTA encompasses a three-state-area that includes: Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. Crime statistics are addressed on a state-by-state basis. The following section discusses the 2005, FBI Uniform Crime Report (UCR) statistics for the three-state-area followed by the Index of Crimes from the Preliminary 2005UCR.

The GC HIDTA reviews the drug related crime rates for each state including the violent crimes of homicide, robbery, aggravated assault and rape; and burglary. Overall, violent crimes in the GC HIDTA have decreased per capita in 2005 when compared with data from 2004.

The following information was derived from FBI Preliminary 2005 Uniform Crime Report.

Areas: HIDTA Region or	Violent Crimes Tatal	Homicides	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated	Burglary
Targeted Areas	Crimes Total				Assault	
Area 1: Baton Rouge, LA						
Total # of each crime in 2005	1,323	25	37	485	776	1,977
Total # of each crime in 2004	1,147	20	50	398	679	1,874
Percent up or down	+15.3	+25.0	-26.0	+21.9	+14.3	+5.5
Crime rate based on population $\blacktriangle$ $\checkmark$			V			
Area 2: Birmingham, AL						
Total # of each crime in 2005	1,598	38	125	616	819	2,238
Total # of each crime in 2004	1,492	24	138	557	773	2.362
Percent up or down	+7.1	+58.3	-9.4	+10.6	+5.9	-5.3
Crime rate based on population $\blacktriangle \nabla$			▼			▼
Area 3: Jackson, MS						
Total # of each crime in 2005	625	15	84	305	221	1,499
Total # of each crime in 2004	655	25	68	357	205	1,582
% up or down	-4.6	-40.0	+25.4	-14.6	+7.8	-5.3
Crime rate based on population $\blacktriangle \nabla$	▼	▼		▼		▼
Area 4: Mobile, AL						
Total # of each crime in 2005	565	13	39	294	219	1,957
Total # of each crime in 2004	627	16	64	373	174	1,852
Percent up or down	-9.9	-18.8	-39.1	-21.2	+28.9	+5.7
Crime rate based on population $\blacktriangle \lor$	▼	▼	▼	▼	<b>A</b>	
Area 5: Montgomery, AL		ſ				
Total # of each crime in 2005	720	13	49	352	304	1,564
Total # of each crime in 2004	623	12	49	265	297	1,710
Percent up or down	+15.6	+25.0	0.0	+32.8	+2.4	-8.5
Crime rate based on population $\blacktriangle \lor$			=			▼
Area 6: New Orleans, LA						
Total # of each crime in 2005	2,086	134	89	756	1,107	2,277
Total # of each crime in 2004	2,127	125	101	837	1,064	2,622
Percent up or down	-1.9	+7.2	-11.9	-9.7	+4.0	-13.2
Crime rate based on population $\blacktriangle$	▼		▼	▼		▼
Area 7: Shreveport, LA						
Total # of each crime in 2005	1,103	21	80	279	723	1,409
Total # of each crime in 2004	1,058	15	63	354	626	1,557
Percent up or down	+4.3	+40.0	+27.0	-21.2	+15.5	-9.5
Crime rate based on population $\blacktriangle \nabla$				•		▼

#### **Appendix G – Statistical Summary**

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY GULF COAST HIDTA

1 Arrest Data								
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	+/- % ('04-'05)
Total Arrests	1644	1601	1570	2868	5,723	6,723	5,362	-20.24%

2 Drug Seizures								
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	+/- % ('04-'05)
Cocaine (In	2594	6138	1148.98	529.6	1486.06	1537.02	1393.32	
Kilos)								-9.35%
Heroin (In Kilos)	2	1.98	19.1503	11.17	29.92	13.64	17.57	28.81%
Marijuana (In	929.2	1169.2	3658.41	4325.58	6181.13	8112.79	4318.73	
Kilos)								-46.77%
Meth (In Kilos)	65	39.6	393.535	35.9	56.61	102.79	130.18	26.65%
Club Drugs *			30.6073	529.4	2,077,532	19,098	2,443	-87.21%
Prescription			3734.62	45.88	26,667	64,046	223,203	
Drugs *								248.50%
Schedule IV *			123.996	14.76	5464	8844	5649	-36.13%
Other *			1828.32	71.07	435,055	19,462	10,202	-47.58%
* Effective 2003 m	* Effective 2003 measured in D.U. Dosage Units							

3 Asset Seizures								
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	+/- % ('04-'05)
U.S. Currency ( Millions)	In \$6.40	\$4.94	\$5.19	\$9.52	\$14.24	\$16.59	\$23.40	41.05%
Other: Property (In Millions)	\$4.00	\$7.40	\$5.78	\$15.14	\$3.18	\$6.85	\$9.59	40.00%
Other: Weapon	5		101	305	434	610	573	-6.07%
Other: Vehicles			50	135	225	365	231	-36.71%
Total Value Seized Assets:	\$10.40	\$12.34	\$10.97	\$24.66	\$17.42	\$23.44	\$32.99	40.74%

#### **Appendix H – Newspaper Articles**



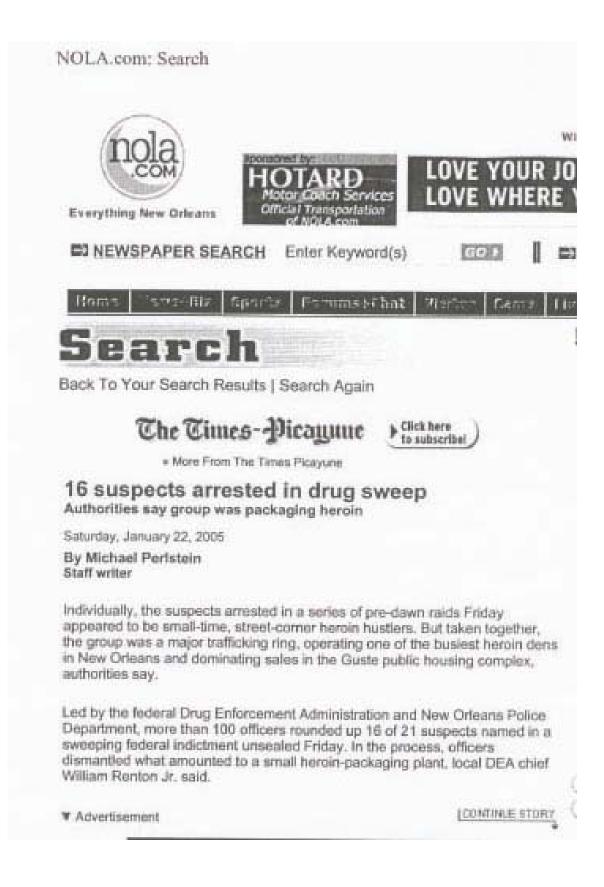
On Tuesday, February 1", 2004, the Madison-Morgan County HIDTA/STAC Team, assisted by the Huntsville PD SWAT team, Huntsville PD K-9 units, Huntsville PD traffic task force, Marshall County Drug Enforcement Unit, Internal Revenue Service agents, DEA, and ABI, arrested three key individuals in a major multi-state drug trafficking organization importing large unounts of Cocaine into the Termetsee Valley. The arrests were the result of a two-year investigation of the organization conducted by the STAC Team.

At approximately 8:50 PM, agents took down Virian Mathews (24yrs old, of 5216 Mastin Lake Rd) on Cora Hill Drive near Pulaski Pike in Huntsville. He was found to be in possession of approximately 4 ½ pounds of Cocaine. As Mathews was being taken down, drug agents and officers of the HPD SWAT Team, members of the HPD K-9 unit, IRS, and Marshall County DEU executed search warrants on several locations, simultaneously. Among the locations searched was the residence of James Larry Pinchon II, (25 yrs old), also known as "Junior" Pinchon, at 4707 Whitehall Drive in Huntsville. After securing the house on Whitehall, agents arrested Junior Pinchon and Gregory Caudle, (38yrs old, of 2811 Cora Hill Dr), and seized approximately 36 ½ pounds of Cocaine and over \$205,000 in cash. Wholesale value of the Cocaine seized in this operation is approximately \$412,000. Street value of the drugs (the amount the drugs would ultimately produce once sold on the street) is \$1,7 million. Agents also seized a 2002 Cadillac Seville and assorted jewelry including Rolex watches.

Upon the establishment of the new HIDTA/STAC Team on January 1, 2003, the STAC Team identified this major drug trafficking organization as a priority target. Over the past two years, agents have conducted surveillance, gathered intelligence, and conducted undersover operations which led to yearenday's arrests. It is believed that Greg Caudie has been transporting large amounts of cocaine from the Atlanta Georgia area to our area overy month for several years. Mathews and Pinchon were each distributing several kilos of Cocaine in the Malison and Morgan County areas every month. Other members of the organization have also been identified and further federal indicarents will follow.

One of the two primary missions of the STAC team is to identify, target, and ultimately dismantle major drug trafficking organizations and drug struggling operations operating within, or importing drugs to the Tennessee Valley. The objective is to significantly stem the flow of large amounts of drugs into the Madison and Morgan County areas. The STAC team will focus on any major drug trafficking organization responsible for transporting drugs into our area regardless of the city or state they use as a base of operations.

The STAC Team consists of agents from the Madison County DA's office, Madison County Sheriff's office, Drug Enforcement Administration, Alabama Bureau of Investigations, Madison Police Department, and Decatur Police Department, with the lead agency being the Huntsville Police Department.



#### NOLA.com: Search

Renton said the raid of a suspected drug house in the Saint Peter Claver Apartments, 3003 Toledano St., led to the seizure of "cutting materials, adulterants, grinding machines, packaging material and gas masks used by people who were cutting the (drugs) in order to protect themselves."

Between the apartment and other arrest sites stretching from Jefferson and St. Bernard parishes to Patterson, agents found three guns, several ounces of heroin and cocaine and \$20,000.

"This is a major arrest," Renton said.

The indictment, resulting from a two-year investigation called Operation Avenue Sweep, accuses the group of selling more than 100 grams of heroin, usually packaged in small amounts. At a news conference Friday, acting U.S. Attorney Jim Letten said the retail nature of the drug operation shouldn't diminish the importance of the bust.

"This signifies something greater than the sum of its parts," Letten said. "It signifies what we believe is an emerging urban strategy. Instead of a couple of people laden with large amounts of heroin or cocaine or whatever, we're seeing more individuals covering more areas, selling relatively small quantities at each time."

Despite the front-pocket drug quantities listed in the 37-count indictment, convictions could pack quite a wallop because of enhanced penalties for selling narcotics within 1,000 feet of a school or public housing. Most of the heroin sales took place within 1,000 feet of Hoffman, Harney and Guste elementary schools, as well as the Guste housing complex, authorities say.

As a result, the suspects face up to 40 years in prison if convicted, double the usual 20-year maximum sentence for heroin dealing. The maximum sentences typically apply to defendants with prior felony convictions.

Lemuel \*Lembo\* Dorthey, 39, is listed in each of the 37 counts of the indictment and Is portrayed in it as the ringleader. Each of the other defendants is listed in four counts or fewer.

The other suspects arrested Friday are Joni Mince, 28; Dana Williams, 20; Rodney Love, 35; Michael Forman, 38; Sean Whalen, 24; Myetta "Mighty Duck" Hawkins, 30; Andre Washington, 24; Karen Dawn Droulia, 43; Shawn Hilliard, 32; Robert "Motor Bike Man" Allen, 29; Kerrie Williamson, 35; David Tyrone Madison, 33; Gregory 'Bow Leg Tank" Frith, 24; Calvin "Cheeky Black" Virgil, 33; and Ronnie "Patience" Myles, 37.

Authorities were still looking for five suspects: Dahlia Troublefield, 35; Kamron "K-Ron" Porter, 28; Tykesha "Kiki" Gooden, 29; Christopher "Wick" Milton, 24; and Carnell Veal, 24.

New Orleans Police Superintendent Eddie Compass said the sweep should make a dent in violent crime. He said patrols were on heightened alert to snuff out the turf battles that are sometimen sparked when a major drug ring is taken off the street.

"Drugs fuel violence in our community," Compass said. "When you can take individuals off the street who are supplying drugs, violence will go down."

#### \*\*\*\*\*

Michael Pertstein can be reached at mpertstein@timespicayune.com.

Drug ring suspect behind bars

Page 1 of 1

#### SUNHERALD-com

Posted on Fri, Jul. 29, 2005

#### Drug ring suspect behind bars

BY MARGARET BAKER

OCEAN SPRINGS - After a month on the run, a suspected member of a large-scale drug trafficking organization is behind bars pending a detention hearing Monday in Gulfport federal court.

Agents with the FBI Safe Streets Task Force arrested Cornelius M. Clausell, aka "KiKi," 30, of Kimberly Drive in Moss Point, on Wednesday in Purvis. He appeared in federal court in Hattiesburg Thursday, where a judge ordered that he be held in the Harrison County jall pending a detention hearing at 12:30 p.m. Monday in Gulfport federal court.

A federal grand jury indicted Clausell on four counts of possession with the intent to distribute the controlled substance cocaine. He also was indicted on a federal forfeiture charge, which allow officials to seize any drug-related assets.

Clausell is accused of selling the drugs in Moss Point and Pascagoula, though his organization allegedly operated throughout South Mississippi. If convicted, he could go to prison for life and pay fines of up to \$4 million.

Clausell's five-count indictment was the result of the FBI Safe Streets Task Force's 17-month investigation into organized drug trafficking in South Mississippi.

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