

# GULF COAST HIDTA

2006 ANNUAL REPORT



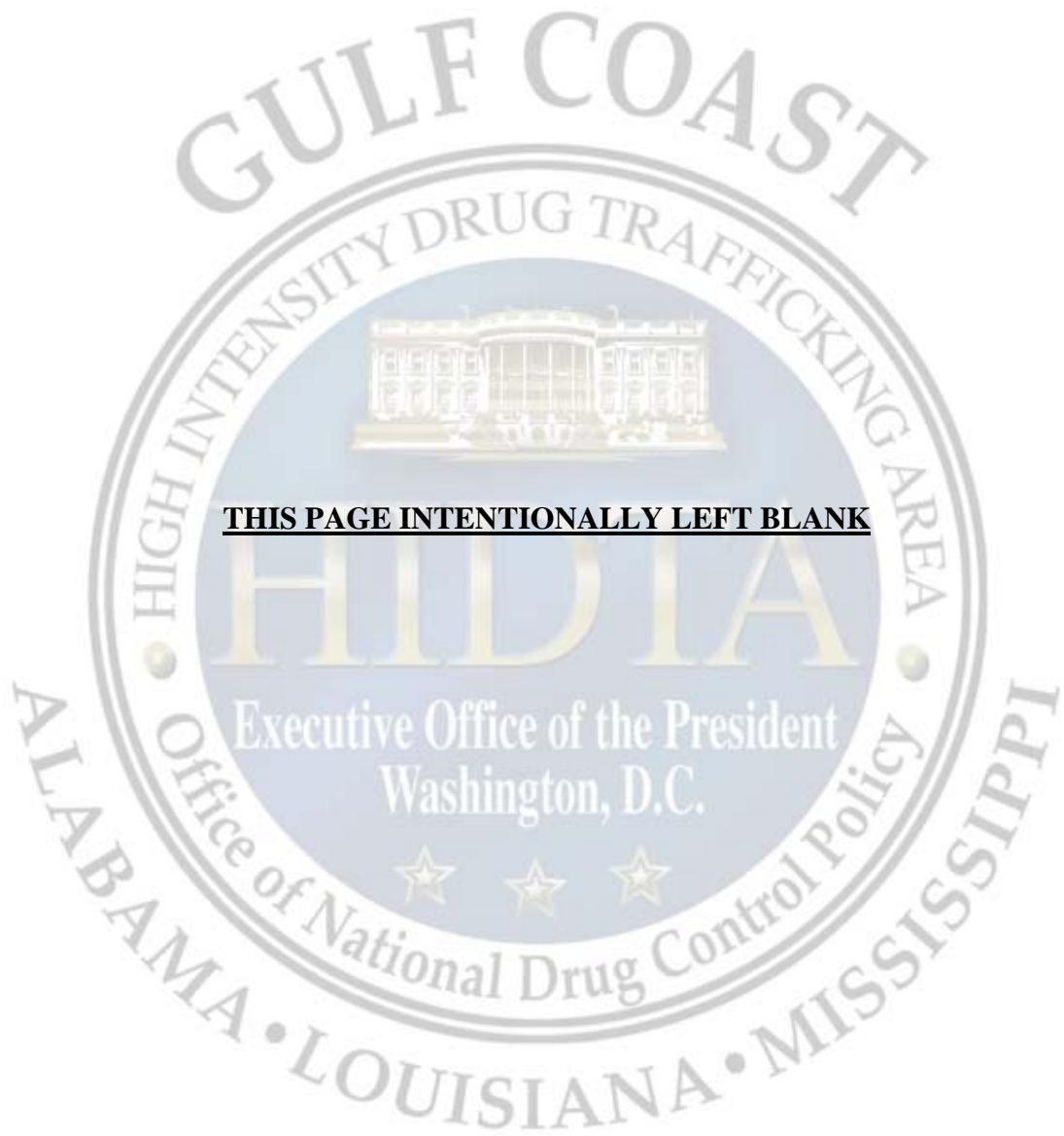
**Chairman**

William Renton  
Special Agent in Charge  
Drug Enforcement Administration

**Vice-Chairman**

Marshall Fisher  
Director, Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics

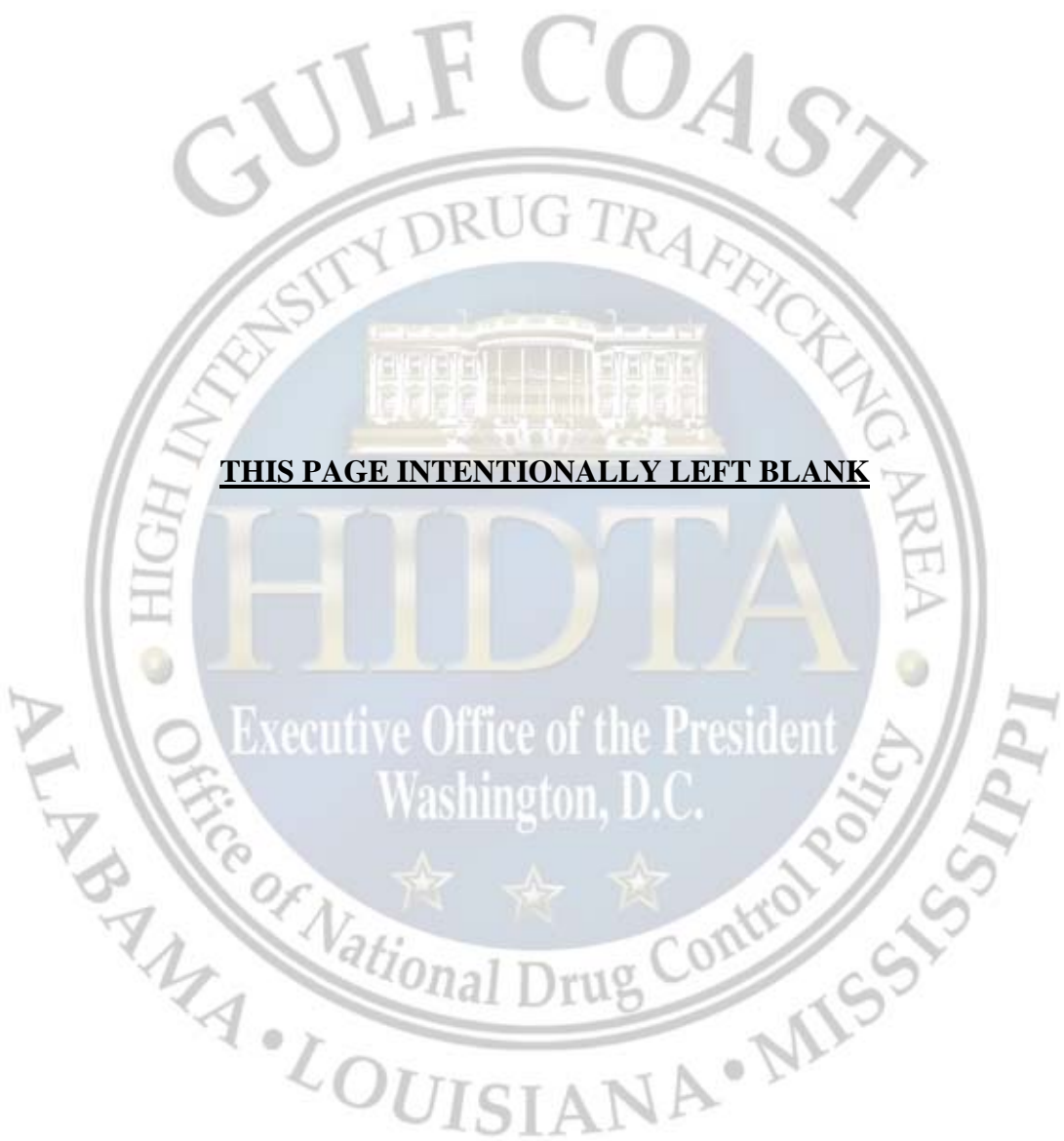
*Ten Years of Operation*



**THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

## ***Gulf Coast HIDTA Mission Statement***

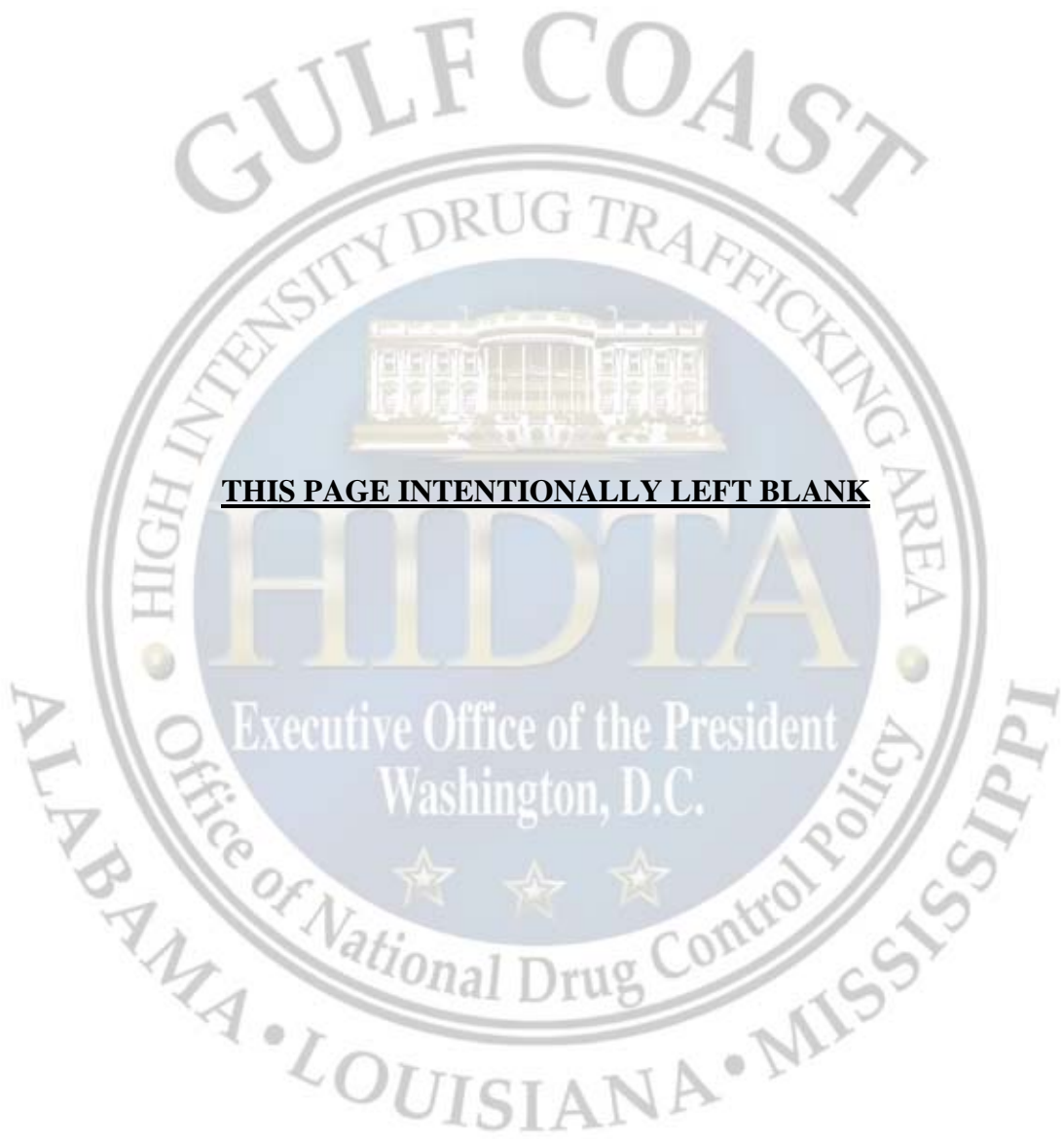
***The mission of the Gulf Coast HIDTA is to reduce illicit drug availability and its harmful consequences within its designated areas by supporting intelligence-driven task forces and supporting infrastructure designed to target, disrupt and eliminate drug trafficking organizations impacting our region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



# CONTENTS

## 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

<i>I. Executive Summary.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>II. Introduction.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>III. Program Goals.....</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>IV. Summary of Threat Assessment for Budget Year 2006.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>V. HIDTA Strategy Summary.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>VI. HIDTA Performance Measures.....</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>VII. Conclusion.....</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>VIII. Appendices.....</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>Appendix A. Table of Organization for the HIDTA.....</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>Appendix B Gulf Coast HIDTA Executive Board.....</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>Appendix C Participating Agencies.....</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>Appendix D. Counties/Parishes Participating in Gulf Coast HIDTA.....</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>Appendix E. BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center Annual Report.....</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>Appendix F - Crime Stats.....</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>Appendix G. Statistical Summary.....</i>	<i>32</i>
<i>Appendix H. Newspaper Articles.....</i>	<i>33</i>
<i>Appendix I OCDETF Group Award.....</i>	<i>43</i>
<i>IX. List Of Tables And Charts.....</i>	<i>45</i>



## **Gulf Coast HIDTA 2006 Annual Report**

### **I. Executive Summary**

#### **A. Introduction**

The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program was created by the United States Congress in 1989. The program's mission is to disrupt the market for illegal drugs in the United States by facilitating federal, state and local law enforcement efforts to dismantle and disrupt drug trafficking organizations, with particular emphasis on drug trafficking regions that have harmful effects on other parts of the country. The program is administered by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) through a National HIDTA Director.

In December 1996, counties and parishes within the states of Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi were designated as the Gulf Coast (GC) HIDTA. The GC HIDTA now includes 21 counties/parishes within the three-state area. The HIDTA program requires individual HIDTAs to produce an annual report summarizing the outputs and accomplishments of the previous year. This is the 2006 GC HIDTA Annual Report.

Calendar year (CY) 2006 proved to be a challenging and rewarding period for the GC HIDTA. Still reeling from the devastation wrought by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the twenty-five (25) GC HIDTA-funded initiatives undertook the task of providing assistance to law enforcement agencies most affected by the storms while also rebuilding and replacing damaged facilities and supporting infrastructure.

By the end of CY 2006, all but two enforcement initiatives returned to permanent office facilities. In the New Orleans area, GC HIDTA initiatives provided critical operational and tactical support to the seriously depleted New Orleans Police Department. GC HIDTA initiatives aided the City of New Orleans by assigning manpower to its various police districts to bolster drug-related

street enforcement. This support continued throughout the year.

During CY 2006, the GC HIDTA joined other HIDTAs in implementing the Domestic Highway Enforcement (DHE) program sponsored by ONDCP. The program is aimed at coordinating and enhancing highway enforcement activities among state and local law enforcement agencies. The GC HIDTA director served as the DHE Coordinator for the southeast region of the United States which includes 11 states. The GC HIDTA intelligence subsystem served as the central collection point for statistical data generated by participating agencies within the region.

A highlight of the year was our Intelligence Coordination Network receiving the award for Outstanding Investigative Support Center for CY 2006. The award was presented by ONDCP Director John Walters at the National HIDTA Conference held in New Orleans, LA in March 2007.

Overall, CY 2006 can best be summarized as period of successfully overcoming challenges, lending needed support to our friends, and positioning our program to reach new heights in 2007.

#### **B. Background**

The Gulf Coast HIDTA consists of twenty-one (21) designated counties/parishes in the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. This 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

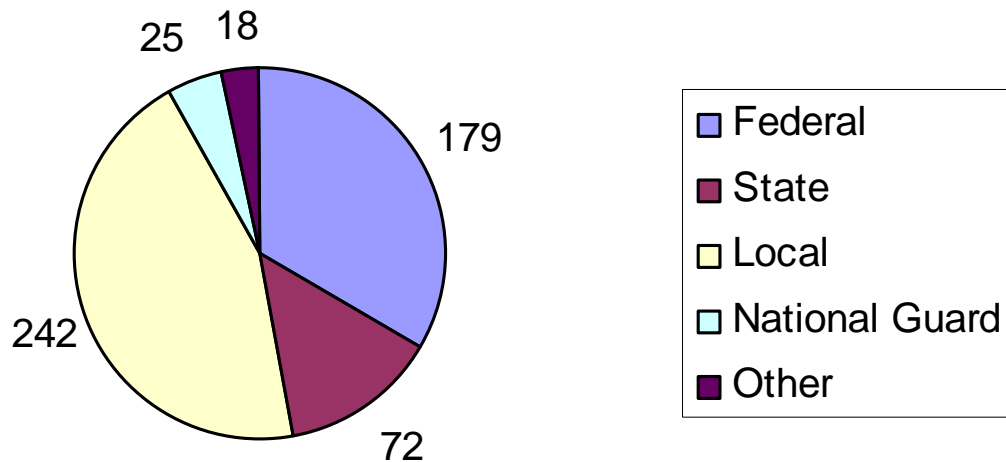
subordinate highways. The area's central location makes it accessible to traffickers from both coasts and the Southwest Border. Additionally, international airports located in strategic positions throughout the GC HIDTA, as well as rural and isolated air strips provide advantageous surroundings for air 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

## Federal/State/Local Participation 2006

Total 536 Personnel







## Performance Highlights 2006

- Almost \$50 million in illicit drugs were confiscated from drug trafficking organizations.
- An additional \$20 million of drug-related assets were seized.
- Combined Return-on-Investment (ROI) of \$12 for every \$1 of GC HIDTA funds invested.
- One hundred fifty-nine (159) Drug Trafficking Organizations were identified. One hundred thirty-seven (137) of those were targeted by GC HIDTA task forces.
- During 2006, GC HIDTA disrupted 99 DTOs and dismantled another 36.
- Gulf Coast HIDTA initiatives destroyed 117 clandestine labs identified in 2006.
- Gulf Coast HIDTA initiatives were responsible for 4,874 arrests.
- Gulf Coast HIDTA initiatives seized 493 weapons and 222 vehicles.
- In 2006, Gulf Coast HIDTA initiatives increased law enforcement participation from 472 assigned personnel to 536. An increase of 11 percent.
- GC HIDTA initiatives initiated more complex cases involving larger DTOs.
- GC HIDTA initiatives initiated seven OCDETF cases of which six were multi-state DTOs.
- GC HIDTA initiatives identified seven Money Laundering Organizations, two of which were disrupted.
- Gulf Coast HIDTA/BLOC Watch Center reported \$49 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 1,298 students in 2006.
- The GC HIDTA Wire Intercept Center supported 26 wiretaps for Gulf Coast HIDTA initiatives.
- Gulf Coast HIDTA initiatives entered 2,662 SAFETNet events/targets.
- Gulf Coast HIDTA initiatives seized 1,422 kilos of cocaine.

## 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 to 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 Director and Executive Board worked closely with participating law enforcement agencies and GC HIDTA staff to develop a vision for the future.

#### **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 the successes achieved through their collaborative efforts.

## **Gulf Coast HIDTA Intelligence**

The collection, dissemination and production of intelligence resources are integral components of the Gulf Coast HIDTA strategy. Servicing the intelligence-related needs of Gulf Coast HIDTA enforcement initiatives is the mission of the Investigative Support Network (ISN) Initiative.

The ISN 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), and the GC HIDTA Wire Intercept Support Center.

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 ISN establishes the mechanisms, procedures, requirements, and common methodologies through which the various initiatives coordinate activities. In 2006, one of our organizational priorities was to continue to improve information sharing. To that end, the ISN began the deployment of the

During 2006, the ISN continued the successful development and deployment of its revolutionary event and target deconfliction system known as SAFETNet.

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 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 2006, over 3,000 HIBIS records were entered in the system. Further, the ICN operates the Gulf Coast HIDTA Wide Area Network (WAN). The WAN is a proprietary network connecting GC HIDTA initiatives and provides for the sharing of information in a secure environment.

The Intelligence Coordinator provides programmatic oversight of GC HIDTA intelligence components. The coordinator ensures that the ISN 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. In recognition of its continuing leadership role in the national HIDTA Intelligence Program, the GC HIDTA ISN had bestowed upon it the coveted Outstanding HIDTA Intelligence Center Award for 2006.

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, 16 HIDTAs have completed deployment of the system in their respective areas of responsibility. The current geographic coverage of the SAFETNet system includes 38 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.

The GC HIDTA ISN, through its Director and Intelligence Coordinator, serves as the coordinator for the National SAFETNet Users Group. The members meet at least semi-annually to oversee the future development of the deconfliction application. Further, the GC HIDTA Director and Intelligence Coordinator are members of the NVPS Steering Committee along with representatives from DEA, NLETS, RISS projects, Michigan State Police and Missouri State Police.



**Monitors in T2S2 Facility**

The GC HIDTA Director serves as the chairman of the National HIDTA Intelligence Committee. Members review current intelligence policies and practices of the national HIDTA Intelligence program and in conjunction with ONDCP staff, and others, develop enhancements and new initiatives designed to ensure the program remains in a leadership role among national intelligence components. In 2006, the committee implemented the Domestic Highway Enforcement Program (DHEP).

The HIDTA Domestic Highway Enforcement Program's mission is to disrupt the market for illegal drugs in the United States by assisting federal, state and local law enforcement entities by conducting coordinated enforcement operations on our interstate highways.

The Regional DHEP strategy is a valuable drug interdiction concept for the HIDTA Program and is a nationwide strategy. This strategy focuses on highway interdiction through the use of HIDTA baseline and supplemental funding to enhance the coordination/sharing of information between federal, state and local agencies. The HIDTA DHEP strategy includes regional operational planning meetings followed by surge periods with continuous data collection and analysis.

The DHEP Strategy has been implemented within nine (9) designated DHEP regions. The Gulf Coast HIDTA is part of Region IX which encompasses eleven states in the Southeast U.S. The GC HIDTA Director serves as the Region IX coordinator.

Reflected below is statistical information of Domestic Highway Enforcement operations taking place in calendar year 2006.

<b>DRUGS WEIGHT MEASURED IN KILOS</b>	<b>HEROIN</b>	<b>COCAINE</b>	<b>MARIJ</b>	<b>METH</b>	<b>CURRENCY</b>	<b>ARRESTS</b>	<b>VEH.</b>	<b>WEAPONS</b>
<b>ALABAMA</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$155,705.00</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>LOUISIANA</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$9,600.00</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>101.1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$328,998.00</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>57.6</b>	<b>990.70</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$494,303.00</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>

The GC HIDTA ISN, through the BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center, provides critical support to the program by ensuring the timely and accurate collection, collation, analysis and dissemination of data.

**The BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center** provides tactical interdiction intelligence to field agents and highway interdiction

officers on a 24/7 basis. Currently, 797 law enforcement agencies and 3,501 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

### **2006 Gulf Coast HIDTA Watch Center Intelligence Queries:**

- ✓ 13,256 requests for intelligence assistance from Cross-Designated officers performing narcotics/money interdictions.
- ✓ 171,538 queries of general, state and local indices performed by intelligence analysts.
- ✓ An average of 1,104 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 Wire Intercept Center** is a state-of-the-art system that digitizes analog wire

intercepts and saves them on magneto-optical 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. The Wire Intercept Center supported 26 Title IIIs in 2006.

The Technical Support Team (TST) provided technical support for intelligence and operational components. The team also provided 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 completed for the needed equipment and processed by Technical Support Team personnel.



**Technical Officer in the Technical Equipment**

**Gulf Coast HIDTA Initiatives**

<b>Gulf Coast HIDTA Wide Initiatives</b>		
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Mission</b>
BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center	Gulfport, Mississippi	Tactical Intelligence
Investigative Support Network	Metairie, Louisiana	Strategic/Tactical Intelligence
Management and Coordination	Metairie, Louisiana	Administrative
Training	Pearl, Mississippi	Training
<b>Alabama Initiatives</b>		
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Task Force</b>
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
<b>Louisiana Initiatives</b>		
<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Task Force</b>
Caddo/Bossier Drug Task Force	Shreveport, Louisiana	Investigative/Interdiction
Calcasieu Parish Combined Anti-Drug Team	Lake Charles, Louisiana	Investigative/Interdiction
Financial Investigations Team (Dismantled 12/06)	Metairie, Louisiana	Financial Investigations
Metro New Orleans Major Investigations Team	Metairie, Louisiana	Investigative
City of New Orleans Major Investigations Team	Metairie, Louisiana	Investigative
Metro New Orleans Mobile Deployment Team	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/Violent Crimes
Northwest Louisiana Violent Crime Task Force	Shreveport, Louisiana	Investigative/Violent Crimes
Project Star	Harvey, Louisiana	Investigative/Community Policing/Interdiction
Southwestern Louisiana Major Investigations/Financial Investigations Team	Lafayette, Louisiana	Investigative/Interdiction

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

### **Prosecution Subsystem**

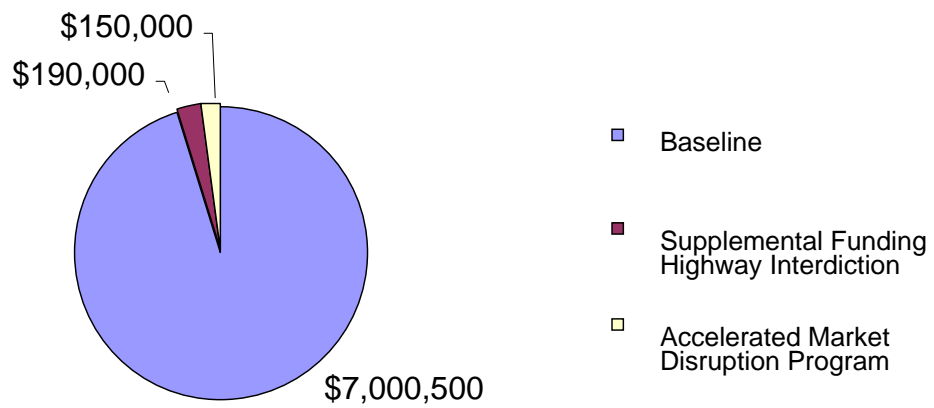
There are eight federal judicial districts within the GC HIDTA. Each U.S. Attorney holds a seat on a State Board and a U.S. Attorney from each state serves on the Executive Board. Prosecutions are balanced between State and Federal courts. Currently, there are no prosecutorial initiatives; however, the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



## Budget

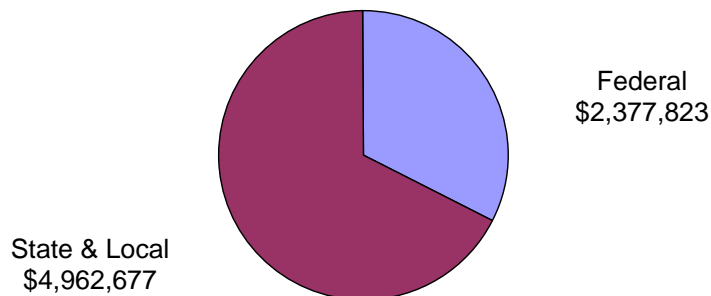
Data Reflected Covers the Period of January to December 2006.

### FY 2006 BUDGET Total Budget \$7,340,500



Budget Baseline	<u>\$7,000,500.</u>
Highway Interdiction Supplemental Funding	\$190,000.
Accelerated Market	<u>\$150,000.</u>
Total	\$7,340,500.

### BUDGET COMPARISON FEDERAL-STATE/LOCAL Total Budget \$7,340,500



Certain Louisiana Parishes and Mississippi and Alabama Counties 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>	<u>Alabama</u>
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	
Ouachita Parish		

### **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

#### **IV. Summary of Threat Assessment for Budget Year 2006**

The Gulf Coast HIDTA consists of 21 HIDTA designated counties/parishes of Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. There are eight Parishes in Louisiana; seven counties in Mississippi; and six counties 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 drug related 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 (55 percent). However, 48 percent of the law enforcement agencies in Alabama have reported methamphetamine as the greatest threat. Across the region, cocaine was identified by more survey respondents as the main contributor to violent (77 percent) and property (77 percent) crimes. There has been a significant decrease in the number of methamphetamine laboratories seized in the GC HIDTA due largely in part to the precursor laws. Law enforcement officials report that Atlanta has continued to emerge as a distribution hub for illegal narcotics.

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

In 2006, fentanyl, a painkiller, caused a rash of overdose deaths after the drug was mixed with heroin. The overdose deaths occurred mainly in the north and northeastern United States. There were no previous reports of fentanyl related overdose deaths reported to ONDCP by the GC HIDTA.

Organized drug smuggling and transportation across the interstate highway system poses a significant threat to the GC HIDTA. Interstates 10 & 20 traversing the three states pose the greatest threat. The east/west route intersects with four north-south interstates, and countless other principal highways. The central location makes it attractive to traffickers from both coasts and the southwest border. In CY- 2006, the GC HIDTA has seen a significant decrease in methamphetamine seizures, but a significant increase in currency seizures through highway interdiction operations.

## **V. HIDTA Strategy Summary**

In December 1996, the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) declared designated counties and parishes in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi as the Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (GC HIDTA). In July of 2002, ONDCP granted a request from the GC HIDTA Executive Board to add additional counties and parishes as a result of a changing drug threat.

The GC HIDTA-designated counties/parishes are interspersed across a three-state area but share many drug threat-related commonalities. Regionally, the area's highways are used as transit for drug shipments entering the country across the southwest border. These shipments primarily flow from west-to-east via our interstate highway system. According to FBI Uniform Crime Reports, the three states continue to rank among the highest in crime and violence on a consistent basis. Drug abuse is a major problem. Significant drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) have taken advantage of these circumstances by providing a constant supply of drugs to neighborhood gangs and local distributors.

Although the aforementioned threat elements are regional in nature, there remain several other threats that are unique to particular areas. Methamphetamine has proven to be a greater rural threat to some GC HIDTA counties and parishes than others. Alabama considers methamphetamine as its primary drug threat. Heroin is a significant threat in the New Orleans area. Gang-related drug activity and its associated violence are more prevalent in some places.

In order to effectively address these varied threat elements from a law enforcement perspective, the Gulf Coast HIDTA Executive Board has developed an all-encompassing

strategy which coordinates federal, state, and local law enforcement regionally to marshal resources for the task at hand. The strategy, described better as a holistic approach, includes attacking the primary threat elements through the funding of initiatives comprised of multiple agency participants who are tasked to focus on specific threat elements affecting defined areas of responsibility. These task forces, strategically situated across our three-state area, are required to share intelligence and pertinent case information with affected law enforcement agencies, other GC HIDTA initiatives, and other HIDTAs around the country, as appropriate.

Investigations are primarily intelligence-driven. Initiatives are required to target the highest level drug trafficking organizations known to operate within their vicinities. This does not preclude them from occasionally working targets of opportunity as they arise, provided their primary focus on major DTOs remains their paramount priority.

The Gulf Coast HIDTA has earned a reputation as a well administered program focusing needed resources on the most crucial drug threats within our region. Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies throughout our three states combine their resources with those of the HIDTA program to present a unified effort against drug trafficking elements operating within our region.

The strategy for the Gulf Coast HIDTA is the master plan of the Gulf Coast HIDTA Executive Board which addresses the identified drug threat as documented in the Annual Threat Assessment. The strategy provides specific direction on how to attack the threat and where resources will be deployed. The strategy is implemented through the funding of initiatives,

sometimes referred to as task forces. Individual initiatives are supported with HIDTA resources to the extent they address key elements of the threat.

The Executive Board divides resources commensurate to the threat. The degree to which initiatives receive HIDTA funding in this submission is an integral component of the overall strategy. Those areas requiring greater resources due to a greater or higher threat must also show a willingness to provide additional support to the cause in the form of manpower, equipment, and inter-agency cooperation. These are all components of a successful strategy.

**First Priority: Dismantle and Disrupt Drug Trafficking Organizations**

We will continue to support intelligence-driven investigations aimed at the highest-level of drug trafficking organizations operating in our region. In addition, we will continue to support the needs of the New Orleans Metropolitan Area in their efforts to reduce the number of

homicides related to narcotics and drug trafficking.

**Second Priority: Improve the Efficiency and Effectiveness of HIDTA Initiatives**

The Gulf Coast HIDTA supports initiatives which contribute to programmatic oversight and administrative support to all HIDTA-funded initiatives in our three-state area. The initiatives are an integral component of our efforts. Our responsibility is to provide guidance and direction to ensure selected threat elements are addressed and the strategy implemented.

**Third Priority: Act as a focal point for coordination of law enforcement agencies in our area of operations.**

We will continue in our efforts to act as the principle coordination mechanism for Federal, state and local drug enforcement assets in our region. Finally, perhaps the most important goal we have is to continue to rebuild our initiatives that were adversely impacted by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita.

## VI. HIDTA Performance Measures

This Annual Report section is dedicated to reporting FY-2006 performance measurements. Our effectiveness is measured against our FY-2004 base line figures.

### Performance Measures for Goal

Table 1: Percentage of Expected DTOs and MLOs Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope for Year 2006, at Gulf Coast HIDTA (All DTOs and MLOs included)								
Scope	#DTOs and MLOs Identified	#DTOs & MLOs to be Disrupted or Dismantled	# DTOs & MLOs Disrupted	% Disrupted	# DTOs & MLOs Dismantled	% Dismantled	Total Disrupted or Dismantled	Total % Disrupted or Dismantled
International	22	29	8	28%	1	3%	9	31%
Multi-State	167	52	56	108%	21	40%	77	148%
Local	127	124	35	28%	14	11%	49	40%
Total	316	205	99	48%	36	18%	135	66%

Table 2: Percentage of Under Investigation DTOs and MLOs Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope for Year 2006, at Gulf Coast HIDTA (All DTOs; MLOs Included)								
Scope	#DTOs & MLOs Identified	#DTOs & MLOs Under Investigation	#DTOs & MLOs Disrupted	% Disrupted	#DTOs & MLOs Dismantled	% Dismantled	Total Disrupted or Dismantled	Total% Disrupted or Dismantled
International	22	22	8	36%	1	5%	9	41%
Multi-State	167	151	56	37%	21	14%	77	51%
Local	127	112	35	31%	14	12%	49	44%
Total	316	285	99	35%	36	13%	135	47%

Table 3: Percentage of Expected Money Laundering Organizations Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope for Year 2006, at Gulf Coast HIDTA								
Scope	#MLOs Identified	#MLOs to be Disrupted or Dismantled	#MLOs Disrupted	% Disrupted	#MLOs Dismantled	% Dismantled	Total Disrupted or Dismantled	Total % Disrupted or Dismantled
International	5	13	1	8%	0	0%	1	8%
Multi-State	1	0	1	0%	0	0%	1	0%
Local	1	0	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	7	13	2	15%	0	0%	2	15%

Table 3a: Percentage of Under Investigation Money Laundering Organizations Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope for Year 2006, at Gulf Coast HIDTA

Scope	#MLOs Identified	#MLOs Under Investigation	#MLOs Disrupted	% Disrupted	#MLOs Dismantled	% Dismantled	Total Disrupted or Dismantled	Total % Disrupted or Dismantled
International	5	5	1	20%	0	0%	1	20%
Multi-State	1	1	1	100%	0	0%	1	100%
Local	1	1	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	7	7	2	29%	0	0%	2	29%

Table 4: CPOT, RPOT, and OCDETF Cases (by Operational Scope) Initiated in 2006, at GCH

Scope	#CPOT Cases	#RPOT Cases	#OCDETF Cases
International	0	1	2
Multi-State	1	4	7
Local	1	0	1
Total	2	5	10

Table 4a: All Active CPOT, RPOT and OCDETF Cases (by Operational Scope) in 2006, at Gulf Coast HIDTA

Scope	#CPOT Cases	#RPOT Cases	#OCDETF Cases
International	3	1	5
Multi-State	3	12	26
Local	3	7	22
Total	9	20	53

Table 5: Drugs Removed from the Marketplace for Year 2006, at GC HIDTA

Drugs Seized	Amount Seized (kg or D.U.)	Wholesale Value
Heroin	7.941	\$714,690
Cocaine HCL	1422.233	\$29,554,358
Crack Cocaine	34.558	\$844,994
Marijuana	10302.168	\$16,875,554
Marijuana Plants and Grows	120.19	\$12,019
Methamphetamine	25.785	\$799,881
Methamphetamine Ice kg	0	\$0
Ecstasy (MDMA) D.U.	192365	\$4,809,125
Other	54479.092	\$544,790
Prescription Drugs	107482	\$1,074,820
Total Wholesale Value		\$55,230,234



Table 6: Return on Investment (ROI) for Drugs Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives by Year					
Year	Budget	Baseline Drug Wholesale Value	Expected Drug ROI	Drug Wholesale Value Removed from Market	Actual Drug ROI
2004	\$7,350,500	\$51,082,792	\$7.00	\$51,082,792	\$6.94
2005	\$6,295,928	\$51,082,792	\$7.00	\$44,316,929	\$7.03
2006	\$6,337,216	\$51,082,792	\$7.25	\$55,230,234	\$8.71

Table 7: Return on Investment (ROI) for Assets Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives by Year							
Year	Budget	Baseline Value of Drug Assets	Expected Asset ROI	Value of Drug Assets Removed from Market			Actual Asset ROI
				Cash	Other Assets	Total	
2004	\$7,350,500	\$23,446,976	\$3.00	\$0	\$23,446,976	\$23,446,976	\$3.18
2005	\$6,295,928	\$23,446,976	\$3.00	\$23,201,971	\$9,589,285	\$32,791,256	\$5.20
2006	\$6,337,216	\$23,446,976	\$3.00	\$16,007,257	\$4,095,811	\$20,103,068	\$3.17

Table 8: Total Return on Investment (ROI) for Drugs and Assets Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives by Year					
Year	Budget	Drugs and Assets Baseline	Expected Total ROI	Drugs and Assets Removed from Market	Actual Total ROI
2004	\$7,350,500	\$74,529,768	\$10.00	\$74,529,768	\$10.13
2005	\$6,295,928	\$74,529,768	\$10.00	\$77,108,186	\$12.24
2006	\$6,337,216	\$74,529,768	\$10.00	\$75,333,302	\$11.88

Table 9: Value of Clandestine Methamphetamine Laboratories Dismantled by Size for Year 2006, at Gulf Coast HIDTA			
Meth Cost per Ounce		\$865.00	
Lab Size	ID/Targeted	Dismantled	Value of Labs Dismantled
A. Less than 2 oz.	48	145	\$250,850.00
B. 2 – 8 oz.	0	5	\$21,625.00
C. 9 -31 oz.	0		\$0.00
D. 32 – 159 oz.	0		\$0.00
E. 10 – 20 lbs.	0		\$0.00
F. Over 20 lbs.	0		\$0.00
Total	48	150	\$272,475.00

Table 10: HIDTA Clandestine Laboratory Activities for Year Gulf Coast HIDTA in 2006				
	Baseline	# Projected	# Identified	% Identified
Laboratory Dump Sites Seized	140	18	17	94%
Chemical/Glassware Equipment Seizures	139	38	108	284%
Children Affected	0	0	4	0%

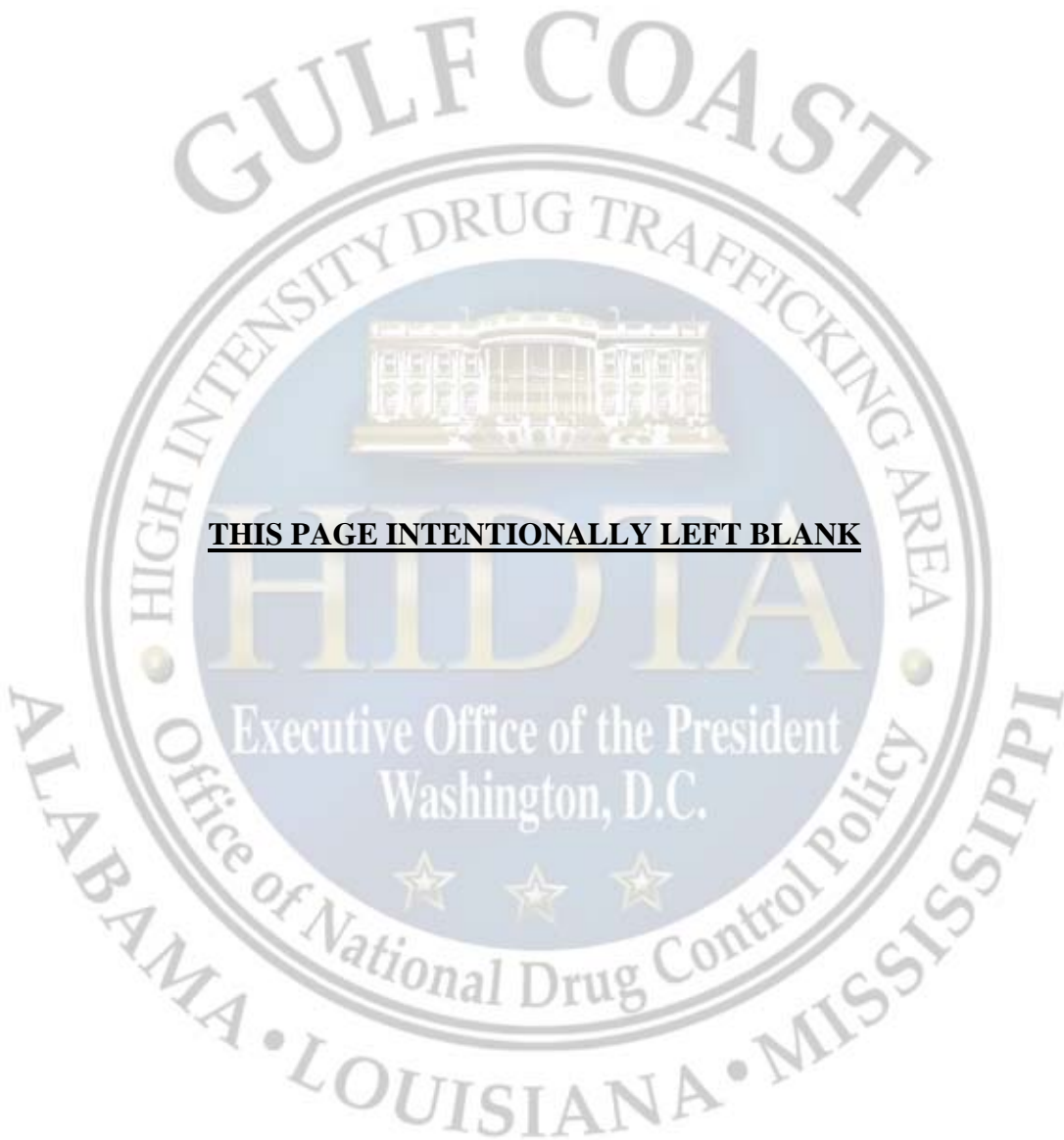
Table 11: HIDTA Training Efficiency by Type of Training for Year 2006, at Gulf Coast HIDTA											
Type of Training	# Students Expected for Training		# Students Actually Trained		# Training Hours Actually Provided		Total Training Cost		Training Cost per Hour		
	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	% Change '04-'06
Analytical/Computer	250	300	214	60	44	76	5,200	3,000	118.18	39.47	-67%
Investigative/Interdiction	700	590	904	1,205	568	576	101,238	75,200	178.24	130.56	-275
Management/Administrative	50	110	179	33	72	29	0	0	0.00	0.00	0%
Basic Clandestine Lab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0
Total	1,000	1,000	1,297	1,298	684	681	106,438	78,200	155.61	114.83	-26%

**Performance Measures for Goal 2**

Table 12: Percentage of Event and Case Deconflictions Submitted for Year at Gulf Coast HIDTA						
Year	Baseline # Deconflictions Submitted	# Deconfliction Submissions Expected	# Event Deconflictions Submitted	# Case/Subject Deconflictions Submitted	Total Deconflictions Submitted	% Deconflictions Submitted
2004	2,052	0	943	1,109	2,052	0
2005	2,052	2,100	760	944	1,704	81%
2006	2,052	2,100	854	1,808	2,662	127%

Table 13: Percentage of Cases Provided Analytical Support for Year at Gulf Coast HIDTA				
Year	Baseline # Cases Receiving Analytical Support	# Cases Expected for Analytical Support	# Cases Provided Analytical Support	% Expected Cases Supported
2004	103	103	103	100%
2005	103	103	484	469%
2006	103	175	244	139%

Table 14: Percentage of HIDTA Initiative Cases Referred to Other HIDTAs and Other Agencies for Year at Gulf Coast HIDTA						
Year	Total HIDTA Initiative Cases	# Initiative Cases Expected for Referral	# HIDTA Initiative Cases Referred to Other HIDTAs	# HIDTA Initiative Cases Referred to Other Agencies	Total Initiative Cases Referred	% Expected Initiative Cases Referred
2004	1,905	0	141	154	295	0%
2005	1,170	66	15	11	26	39%
2006	1,382	50	38	27	65	130%



## **VII. Conclusion**

**The Gulf Coast HIDTA continues to score 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 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.**

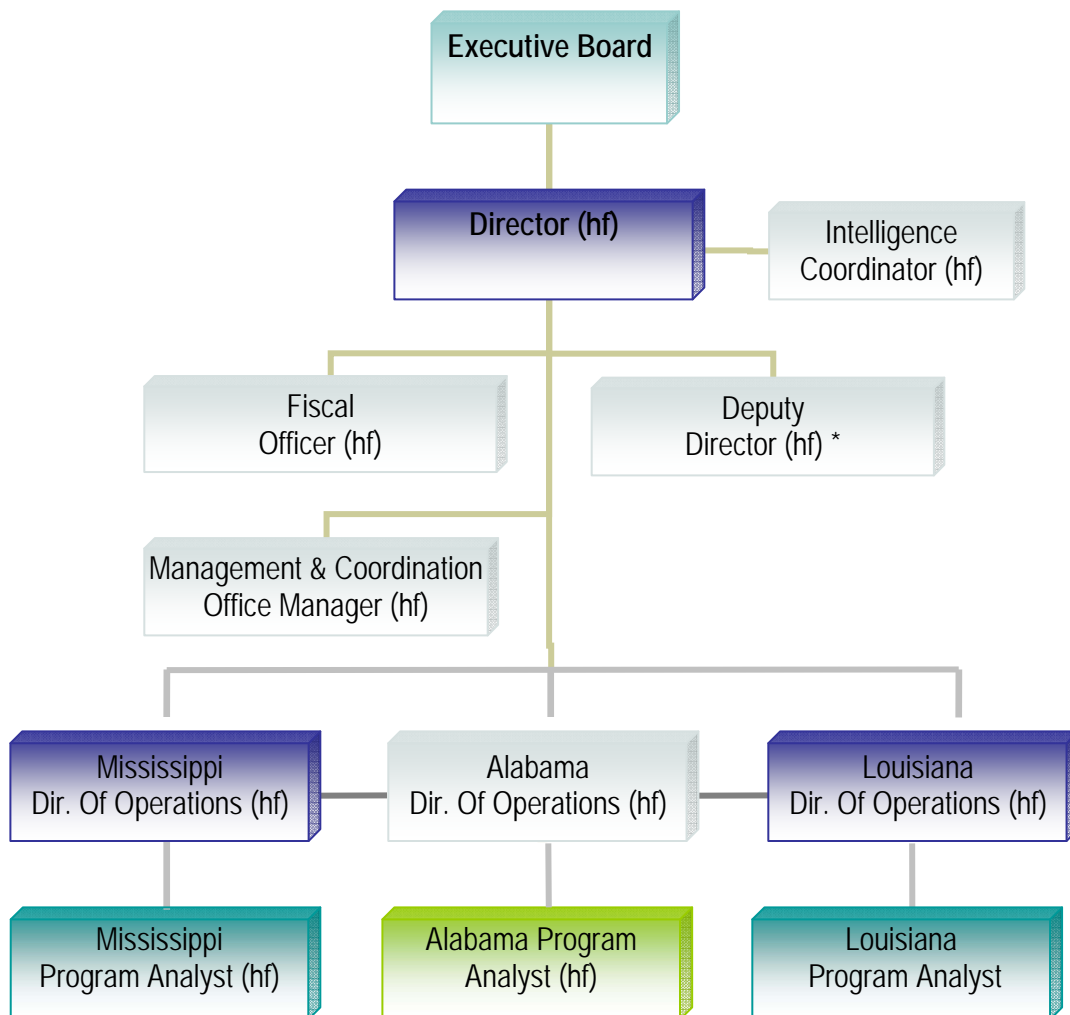
**The Gulf Coast HIDTA has gained a reputation within its three-state area and beyond as an effective drug law enforcement program. Based on an articulated strategy implemented by strictly defined and regimented initiatives, the Gulf Coast HIDTA has been able to promote an effective regional drug enforcement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

## VIII. Appendices

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

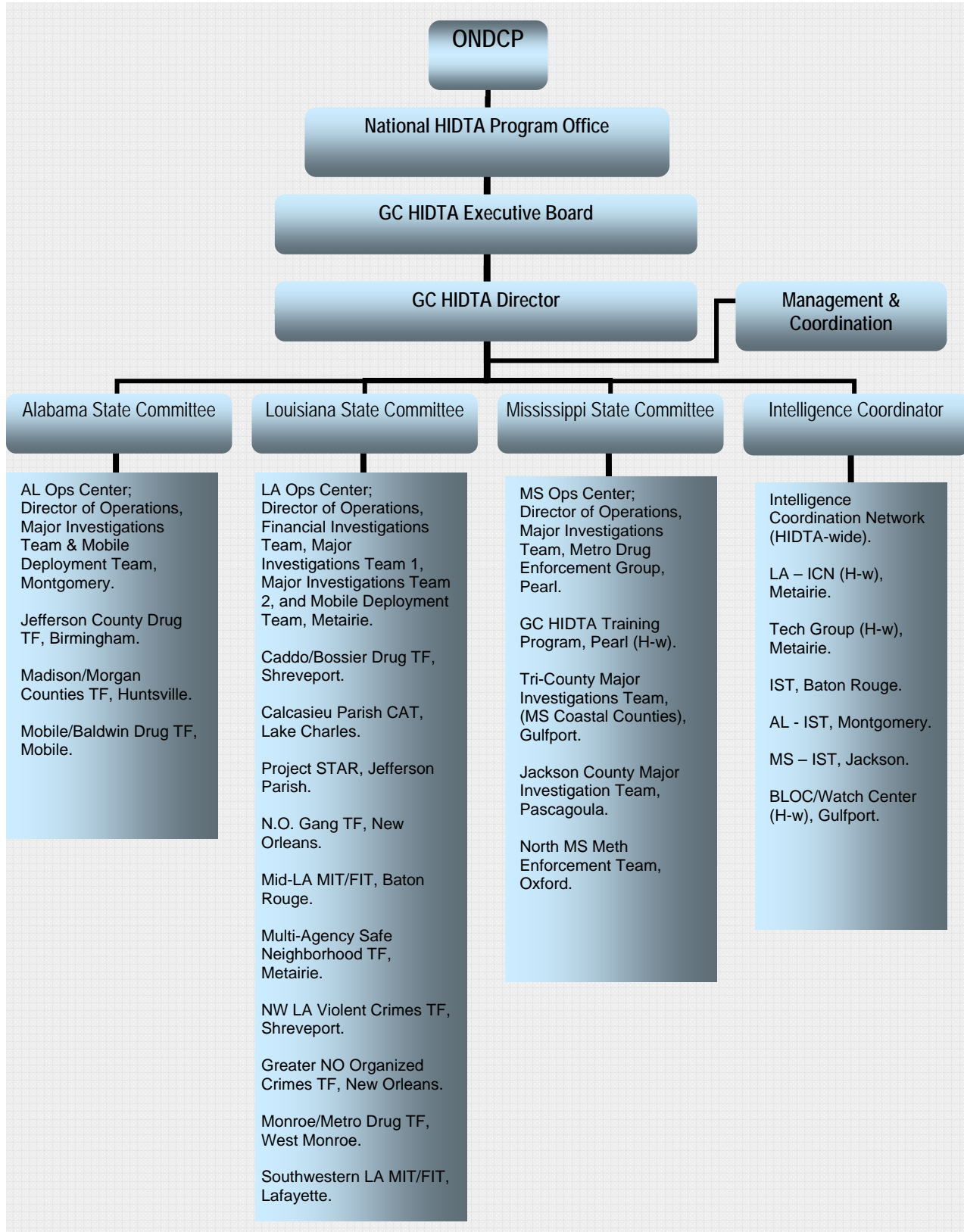
Below is the HIDTA organizational structure which provides an overview of the Gulf Coast HIDTAs governing mechanisms.

### Gulf Coast HIDTA Management Staff



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

## GULF COAST HIDTA EXECUTIVE BOARD OVERSIGHT



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

Gulf Coast HIDTA Executive Board		
December 2006		
State Agency	Executive Board Member	Second
Alabama Department of Public Safety	Chris Murphy	Pat Manning
Alabama Attorney General's Office	Chris Browning	
Harrison Co. Sheriff's Office, MS	George Payne	
Mississippi Department of Public Safety	George Phillips	
Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics	Marshall Fisher (Vice Chair)	
Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, LA	Newell Normand	John Thevenot
Louisiana State Police	Henry Whitehorn	Murphy Paul
New Orleans Police Department	Warren Riley	James Scott
Mobile Police Department	Phillip Garrett	
Federal Agency	Executive Board Member	Second
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms	David Harper	Robert Browning
Drug Enforcement Administration	William Renton (Chair)	Patrick Warner
Federal Bureau of Investigation	John Bernazzani	Mark Gant
Internal Revenue Service	Rodney Clarke	
U.S. Attorney's Office, AL	Deborah Rhodes	Charles McNichol
U.S. Attorney's Office, LA	David R. Dugas	
U.S. Attorney's Office, MS	Dunn Lampton	
U.S. Coast Guard	Kurt VanHorn	
U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement	Mike Holt	



## 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>	<u>Mississippi</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
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 Count
Orleans Parish	Rankin County	
Ouachita Parish		

## 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 Watch Center is active in providing post seizure analysis to Federal, State and Local agents and officers. 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. In 2006, 3,501 officers from 797 state law enforcement agencies accessed 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 2006, the BLOC/HIDTA Watch Center received 13,256 requests for intelligence assistance from cross-designated law enforcement officers performing narcotics/currency highway interdictions. The requests resulted in 171,538 queries of general, state and local indices performed by intelligence analysts. In addition the Watch Center Post

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

<u>State</u>	<u># Officers</u>
<b>Alabama</b>	<b>809</b>
<b>Arkansas</b>	<b>250</b>
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>Louisiana</b>	<b>811</b>
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>869</b>
<b>North Carolina</b>	<b>131</b>
<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>506</b>
<b>Total Officers</b>	<b>3,501</b>

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 concealment methods.

**BLOC/HIDTA 2005 Interdiction Stats**

Drugs removed from the marketplace in 2006 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	17.4
cocaine HCL kg	1,832
marijuana commercial grade kg	19,335.4
methamphetamine kg	41.3
ecstasy (MDMA) (D.U.s)	340,704 d.u.
other: Lidocaine	44.2 d.u.
other: Xanax	11,226 d.u.
other: Lortab	7,226 d.u.

Note: Weights are in Kg.	HEROIN	COCAINE	MARIJ	METH
Alabama	0	50.8	1,825.2	.4
Arkansas	0	176.9	3,932.6	2.2
Georgia	0	144.6	1,087.2	14.5
Louisiana	4	517.1	6,525.9	.3
Mississippi	0	640.9	2,363.6	7.7
North Carolina	2.4	103.8	28.5	3.9
South Carolina	0	0	0	0
Tennessee	10.8	197.7	3,572	12.2
Totals	17.2	1,831.8	19,335	41.2
	CURRENCY	ARRESTS	VEHICLES	WEAPONS
Alabama	\$6,631,209.	119	37	26
Arkansas	\$1,186,172.	145	40	9
Georgia	\$13,035,835.	153	73	14
Louisiana	\$6,284,646.	361	68	19
Mississippi	\$10,361,185.	219	91	16
North Carolina	\$2,467,479.	66	33	4
South Carolina	\$68,520.	5	0	3
Tennessee	\$9,076,026.	337	141	56
TOTALS	\$49,111,172.	1405	483	147

## 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 table compares the preliminary 2005 FBI Uniform Crime Report (UCR) statistics for certain cities within the three-state area with the 2006 FBI Uniform Crime Report (UCR) statistics. The preliminary 2006 UCR statistics do not take population changes into consideration but assume the population remained the same from 2005; therefore GC HIDTA staff refigured the crime statistics based on a per capita rate for certain areas where the population significantly changed due to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The GC HIDTA reviews the drug related crime rates for each state including the violent crimes of homicide, robbery, aggravated assault, rape and burglary. Overall, violent crimes in the GC HIDTA have increased per capita in 2006 when compared with data from 2005.

Areas: HIDTA Region or Targeted Areas	Est. Population	Violent Crime Total	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary
<b>Area 1: Baton Rouge, LA</b>							
Total # of each crime in 2005	396,735	1,323	25	37	485	776	1,977
Crime rate per capita 2005		300	15,869	10,723	818	511	201
Total # of each crime in 2006	413,700	1,477	21	52	497	907	1,980
Crime rate per capita 2006		280	19,700	7,956	832	456	209
% up or down per capita		+7	-19	+26	-2	+11	-4
<b>Area 2: Birmingham, AL</b>							
Total # of each crime in 2005	234,571	1,598	38	125	616	819	2,238
Crime rate per capita 2005		147	6,173	1,877	381	286	105
Total # of each crime in 2006	234,571	1,586	55	122	704	705	2,242
Crime rate per capita 2006		148	4,265	1,923	333	333	105
% up or down		-1	+31	-2	+13	-14	no change
<b>Area 3: Jackson, MS</b>							
Total # of each crime in 2005	134,249	625	15	84	305	221	1,499
Crime rate per capita 2005		215	8,950	1,598	440	607	90
Total # of each crime in 2006	126,311	787	20	69	433	265	1,838
Crime rate per capita 2006		161	6,316	1,831	292	477	69
% up or down		+25	+29	-13	+34	+21	+23
<b>Area 4: Mobile, AL</b>							
Total # of each crime in 2005	393,585	565	13	39	294	219	1,957

Areas: HIDTA Region or Targeted Areas	Est. Population	Violent Crime Total	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary
Crime rate per capita 2005		697	30,276	10,092	1,339	1,797	201
Total # of each crime in 2006	391,251	581	15	26	337	203	1,833
Crime rate per capita 2006		673	26,083	15,048	1,161	1,927	213
% up or down		+3	+14	-33	+13	-7	-6
<b>Area 5: Montgomery, AL</b>							
Total # of each crime in 2005	202,209	720	15	49	352	304	1,564
Crime rate per capita 2005		281	13,481	4,127	575	665	129
Total # of each crime in 2006	202,209	559	14	40	309	196	1,576
Crime rate per capita 2006		362	14,444	5,055	654	1,032	128
% up or down		-22	-7	-18	-14	-36	+1
<b>Area 6: New Orleans, LA</b>							
Total # of each crime in 2005	437,186	2,086	134	89	756	1,107	2,277
Crime rate per capita 2005		210	3,263	4,912	578	395	192
Total # of each crime in 2006	158,353	955	56	49	276	574	1,897
Crime rate per capita 2006		166	2,828	3,232	574	276	84
% up or down		+21	+13	+34	+1	+30	+56
<b>Area 7: Shreveport, LA</b>							
Total # of each crime in 2005	199,021	1,103	21	80	279	723	1,409
Crime rate per capita 2005		180	9,477	2,488	713	275	141
Total # of each crime in 2006	199,021	1,123	15	72	259	777	1,301
Crime rate per capita 2006		177	13,268	2,764	768	256	153
% up or down		+2	-29	-11	-7	+7	-8

Appendix G – Statistical Summary

STATISTICAL SUMMARY GULF COAST HIDTA					
<b>1 Arrest Data</b>					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	+/- % ('05-'06)
Total Arrests	5,723	6,723	3,687	4,874	32%
<b>2 Drug Seizures</b>					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	+/- % ('05-'06)
Cocaine (In Kilos)	1,486.06	1,537.02	1,393.32	1,422.2	27%
Heroin (In Kilos)	29.92	13.64	17.57	7.94	-55%
Marijuana (In Kilos)	6,181.13	8,112.79	4,318.73	10,301.07	139%
Meth (In Kilos)	56.61	102.79	130.18	24.72	-81%
Club Drugs *	2,077,532	19,098	2,443	31,244	1,179%
Prescription Drugs *	26,667	64,046	223,203	107,482	-52%
Schedule IV *	5464	8844	5649	5481	-3%
Other *	435,055	19,462	10,202	48,905	379%
* Effective 2003 measured in D.U. Dosage Units					
<b>3 Asset Seizures</b>					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	+/- % ('05-'06)
U.S. Currency (In Millions)	\$14.24	\$16.59	\$23.40	\$16.01	-31%
Other: Property (In Millions)	\$3.18	\$6.85	\$9.59	\$4.09	-57%
Other: Weapons	434	610	573	493	-14%
Other: Vehicles	225	365	231	222	-4%
Total Value Seized Assets:	\$17.42	\$23.44	\$32.99	\$20.10	-39%
<b>5 Deconfliction Entries</b>					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	+/- % ('05-'06)
Event/Subject Deconfliction Inquiries	204	2,052	1,704	2,662	56%

Appendix H – Newspaper Articles News Articles Generated by Initiatives funded by Gulf  
Coast HIDTA



UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

*United States Attorney Donald W. Washington  
Western District of Louisiana*

---

United States Courthouse • 300 Fannin Street, Suite 3201 • Shreveport, Louisiana 71101-3068 • (318) 676-3600  
United States Courthouse • 800 Lafayette Street, Suite 2200 • Lafayette, Louisiana 70501-7206 • (337) 262-6618

---

**For Immediate Release**  
**December 19, 2006**  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/law](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/law)

**Contact: Donald W. Washington (337-262-6618)**  
**William J. Flanagan (318-676-3600)**

**LAKE CHARLES MAN SENTENCED TO 99 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR  
DRUG TRAFFICKING AND USING A FIREARM**

*20-year old to spend best years of his life in federal prison*

*Project Safe Neighborhoods Still Combating Gun Violence*

Lake Charles, Louisiana . . . United States Attorney Donald W. Washington and ATF Special Agent in Charge David G. Harper announced that JUSTIN STERLING, age 20, from Lake Charles, Louisiana was sentenced last week to **99 years federal imprisonment to be followed by 5 years supervised release** by United States District Judge Patricia Minaldi for possession with distribution of cocaine base, intent to distribute cocaine base, and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. A three-day jury trial in January 2006 ended with STERLING being convicted of all counts.

STERLING was indicted in April 2005 following an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the Westlake Police Department, and the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office. Officers with the Westlake Police Department responded to a complaint of attempted robbery in

January 2005 to find that STERLING and another person had a dispute over a drug exchange. During the dispute, STERLING discharged a firearm and wounded the other person. STERLING fled the scene. In March 2005, deputies with the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office responded to a complaint of a possible drug transaction. Arriving at the scene, they found STERLING in possession of a Lorcin semiautomatic pistol and ammunition. Later that month, deputies with the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office went to STERLING'S home to execute an arrest warrant and found the defendant asleep on the couch. Under STERLING was a semiautomatic pistol.

Later, during a video tape recorded statement, STERLING claimed he bought the firearms to protect himself during illegal drug trafficking.

This case was prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office as part of Project Safe Neighborhoods. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a nationwide program begun in 2001, and designed to reduce violence in our communities by aggressively using existing federal firearms laws. United States Attorneys, District Attorneys, Sheriffs, Police Chiefs, and state officials have created partnerships to address crimes involving firearms. Generally, any arrest involving a firearm is reviewed immediately by local, state and federal authorities to decide whether the case is best suited for prosecution under state or federal law, or a combination of both. Project Safe Neighborhoods is expected to lead to longer prison terms for violent criminals, and a significant reduction in violent crime. To date, federal prosecutions under Project Safe Neighborhoods in the Western District of Louisiana have led to the incarceration of criminals responsible for violent crimes such as homicides, aggravated assaults, robbery, car jacking, burglary, and drug trafficking.

Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.



This is a printer friendly version of an article from **thenewsstar.com**  
To print this article open the file menu and choose Print.

[Back](#)

Article published Jan 13, 2006

Police seize kilo of cocaine in bust

By Stacy Temple

stemple@monroe.gannett.com

A Monroe man accused of multiple drug charges is being held without bond at Ouachita Correctional Center.

Stephen A. Collins, 29, whose addresses include 50-D Colonial Drive, 206 Wilson St., and 2829 W. Deborah Drive, all in Monroe, was arrested by Metro Narcotics Unit agents Wednesday on charges of possession of cocaine of more than 400 grams (14.1 ounces), possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, possession of a firearm with an obliterated serial number and possession of stolen things.

Cpl. Dean Baugh with Monroe Police's Specialized Neighborhood Action Program (S.N.A.P.) team initially stopped Collins while he was traveling in the 1700 block of South Fifth Street for a traffic violation, then discovered he had drugs in his possession.

"When I stopped him, I thought he had no tags, but it turns out that he had temporary tags but I couldn't tell because his (window) tint was so dark," Baugh said. "He appeared nervous and told conflicting stories about where he was going and where he was coming from, and he gave me consent to search his vehicle."

Baugh found Collins to be in possession of five ounces of cocaine and contacted Metro Narcotics Unit for assistance. Cocaine was located on Collins' person and in four bags in his vehicle, Baugh said.

Agents with Metro obtained a search warrant for two of Collins' residences and located more narcotics and evidence, Hank Smith, task force commander, said.

At 2829 West Deborah Drive, agents located one kilo (35 ounces) of cocaine with a street-level value of \$28,000 and two stolen and illegal handguns. Baugh said this is by far the biggest drug seizure he's assisted with during his seven years with Monroe police.

One gun, a Springfield Armory 45-caliber pistol, was reported stolen to Monroe police and the other gun, a 9mm pistol, had its serial number scratched off, reports stated.

Agents also seized more than \$50,000 in cash and

\$50,000 in electronics and vehicles.

Suspected cocaine and financial documents were taken from Collins' residence at 50-D Colonial Drive.

Smith said the investigation is ongoing into Collins' financial history and that they expect him to be indicted by a federal grand jury at the end of the month.

<http://www.thenewsstar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060113/NEWS01/601130317&...> 1/20/2006

Baugh said Collins claimed to be employed at a local barbershop, which is how he paid for his home in an affluent neighborhood.

Collins was convicted in 1993 for possession of schedule II narcotics with intent to distribute, according to affidavits.

The reports stated he had been arrested 12 times and convicted four times on other charges.

According to reports, Collins was on probation with Louisiana Probation and Parole until 2008 because of a 1999 arrest in Texas for the manufacturing and delivering of controlled dangerous substances.

---

This is a printer friendly version of an article from **thenewsstar.com**  
To print this article open the file menu and choose Print.

[Back](#)

---

Article published Jan 11, 2006

Metro agent free after being held during buy-bust

By Stacy Temple

stemple@monroe.gannett.com

A female undercover agent with Metro Narcotics Unit was held against her will while purchasing narcotics from a suspected drug dealer Tuesday afternoon.

Hank Smith, task force commander, said his agents were conducting an undercover investigation and that the female agent, whom he did not identify, made contact with the suspect and successfully purchased drugs from him.

When she tried to leave, he refused to let her. Other agents were near the area and helped the victim before the situation got serious, Smith said. She was only held for a brief time and was not injured.

"He had no idea she was an agent," Smith said. "Before she had to defend herself toward him, other agents intervened and arrested him."

Danny R. Taylor, 37, of 506 Gulpha Drive, West Monroe was arrested at his residence at 4:10 p.m.

He was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, distribution of Lortab, distribution of Oxycontin, distribution of Oxycodone, possession of meth with intent to distribute, possession of Oxycodone with intent to distribute, false imprisonment, simple battery and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Smith said Taylor was the only suspected dealer involved in the transaction.

"We have been watching this guy for a while," Smith said. "He is not just your street-level dealer."

Taylor was booked into Ouachita Correctional Center and no bond had been set Tuesday night.

---

# 4 held in cocaine cases

## Drugs, guns reportedly seized

By **ROBIN FITZGERALD**  
rfitzgerald@sunherald.com

**GULFPORT** — The FBI on Wednesday arrested a Pascagoula man and three Moss Point men in separate cases involving allegations of cocaine distribution.

Authorities said agents arresting Willie James "Boo Boo" Burns Jr., 27, of Pascagoula, seized a kilo of cocaine and a semiautomatic pistol. He is charged with possession with intent to distribute cocaine.

If convicted, Burns faces five to 40 years in a federal penitentiary and a fine of up to \$2 million, said John C. Raucci, special agent in charge of the FBI in Mississippi.

Agents arresting the Moss Point men said they seized three assault rifles, four pistols and about seven ounces of cocaine. Raucci identified the

men as Darius Marchaun "Skinny Pimp" Price, 30, Bryan Herbert "Ceaser Leo" Rogers, 24, and Ernest Andrew Marshall, 24.

Price, Rogers and Marshall were arrested on charges of conspiring to distribute cocaine and knowingly carrying a

firearm in commission of a drug crime. Possible penalties on those charges weren't provided.

The men were taken before U.S. Magistrate Judge John M. Roper in Gulfport and ordered held for the U.S. Marshals Service at the Harrison County jail.

Raucci said the FBI Safe Streets Task Force and the Narcotics Task Force of Jackson County investigated both cases

for about two years.

The Safe Streets Task Force, part of the Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area initiative, receives funding from the Office of National Drug Control Policy in Washington, D.C.

Safe Streets members include agents with the FBI and Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics and police and sheriff's deputies from Jackson County.

Sun Herald  
August 3, 2006  
Gulfport, MS

KLFY TV 10 - Acadiana's Local News, Weather and Sports Leader | Task force arrests four on drug char

<<Back



### Task force arrests four on drug charges

NEW ORLEANS Two separate drug busts in New Orleans have led to the arrest of four men and seizure of more than 50-thousand tablets of the drug Ecstasy, 230-thousand dollars in cash, a luxury vehicle and an 18-wheeler.

The F-B-I New Orleans Gang Task Force made the arrests late Friday and early Saturday. The task force includes members of the F-B-I, the Drug Enforcement Administration, Louisiana State Police, the New Orleans Police Department, and the sheriff's offices in Jefferson Parish, St. Bernard Parish and Plaquemines parishes.

The F-B-I says they received information that the driver of an 18-wheeler on Friday would deliver 100 pounds of marijuana to a location in eastern New Orleans. Police say they were told the driver would be met by people who would give him 230-thousand dollars in exchange for the drugs. The truck's driver, Prit P. Dhillon, of Brantton in Ontario, Canada, was arrested. Officers then impounded the truck and seized the money.

Additional surveillance resulted in the arrest of Tuan Quoc Nguyen, of New Orleans, and David Nguyen, no relation, of Jersey City, New Jersey, who are believed to have met Dhillon. They were taken into custody in Terrytown, in Jefferson Parish, where authorities say they seized two large suitcases filled with Ecstasy and about 100 pounds of marijuana. A late model Lexus automobile was also seized.

Police later arrested a fourth man, Rajbir Grewal of Mississauga in Ontario, Canada. The F-B-I says Grewal was stopped on Interstate 59 with more than 250 pounds of marijuana in a rental truck.

*Copyright 2006 Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed.*



All content © Copyright 2000 - 2006 WorldNow and KLFY.  
All Rights Reserved.

For more information on this site, please read our  
Privacy Policy and Terms of Service.



## 20 indicted on drug charges

More arrests may come after nearly two years of investigation.

June 30, 2006

By Loresha Wilson

ljwilson@gannett.com

Federal indictments have been issued for 20 people, charged with drug conspiracy and distribution, stemming from nearly two years of investigation by federal, state and local agencies. As many as two dozen other people may also face similar charges in coming days and weeks.

U.S. Attorney Donald Washington said Thursday that "Operation King Ron," named after alleged drug kingpin Ronald King, cracked a major drug trafficking and distribution operation in Shreveport's Lakeside area.

It's the takedown of a major ring that had a propensity toward violence, officials said.

"Drug trafficking and drugs go hand in hand with violent crimes and both plague a community," Washington said.

Two indictments were returned in January and May of this year, charging King, 38, and Darius Johnson, 28, both of Texas, along with 28-year-old Shreveport resident Cedric Henderson, with conspiracy to distribute cocaine and crack cocaine, Washington said. One defendant was charged with one count of possession with the intent to distribute.

King, formerly of Shreveport, was arrested in Dallas and returned to Shreveport. Authorities believe he has trafficked drugs for almost two decades and has supplied Shreveport with more than 50 percent of its cocaine.

"Testimony provided at King's detention hearing identified large homes, luxury vehicles and hundreds of thousands of dollars going through several bank accounts," Washington said.

Another seven separate indictments were returned by the federal grand jury on Thursday, charging the remaining 16 defendants with conspiracy to possess and distribute cocaine and crack cocaine, possession with the intent to distribute cocaine, and criminal forfeiture.

Of the 20 people so far indicted, four are listed as fugitives and two have been released on bond. The others remain in custody, Washington said.

The offices of the Caddo Parish district attorney and the U.S. attorney will work together to prosecute additional defendants charged in connection with the ongoing investigation.

"Sometimes these types of cases take time," Mike Kinder, FBI's resident agent in charge, said. "We don't just want to get them, we want to get them and keep them. It's very important to consider the citizens of this area. And this shows that we are clearing out the drugs and making sure that all of us will be safe."

Those indicted, all from Shreveport, include Shelby King, 29; Kenyoun Gilyard, 26; Lamale R. Gilyard, 27; Isaac Caldwell, 31; Ravion Shelley, 28; Demetrick Smith, 30; Jermelra Freeman, 29; Levon Howard, 24; Michael Sims, 31; Tiffany McCain, 24; Jerome Maxie, 30; Antwan Wilson, 29; Antonio Ware, 28; Cortez Maxie, 29; Kevin Lee Johnson, 25; Clinton Kinsey, 26; and Timothy Flakes, 28.

<http://www.shreveporttimes.com/apps/mbcs.dll/article?Date=20060630&Category=NEWS03&Article=606200274&C>

THE SHREVEPORT TIMES

Members of the drug distribution ring are believed to be rivals of a ring that was busted last year. That operation was headed by Chevell Hamilton, whose nickname "Big Mook" was dubbed as the title of the nearly 1½-year operation. Seven men were arrested and later convicted.

Police believe an ongoing rivalry between Hamilton and an at least one individual named in Thursday's indictments led to a February 2004 shootout on Hearne Avenue that left a Caddo school bus riddled with bullets. No children were on the bus, but one bullet barely missed the driver's head.

However, in June 2004, an ongoing feud between Hamilton and Rocky Gilyard -- a relative of Kenyoun and Lamale Gilyard -- turned deadly.

Rocky reportedly shot into a Cadillac in which Hamilton was riding, hitting Hamilton once. He returned fire, killing Rocky Gilyard. No charges were filed against Hamilton because the Caddo district attorney's office ruled it a justifiable homicide.

When asked if the sting operations were related, Washington said, "They are two separate operations. We are not willing to say they are related. It's the same trade, the same character. But the two of them are responsible for the majority of drug trafficking in this area."

The recent arrest is part of a continuing effort of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force, made up of members of the Shreveport Police Department, the Caddo Parish sheriff's office, FBI, U.S. Marshal's Service and Drug Enforcement Administration.

"We will be relentless in our unified effort to stop the people who continue to bring the poison in our community," Shreveport Police Chief Mike Campbell said.

Caddo Sheriff Steve Prator and Bossier City Police Chief Mike Halphen also attended Thursday's news conference.

Drug trafficking in an amount greater than five kilos of powder cocaine or 50 grams of crack cocaine carries a minimum mandatory sentence of 10 years to life in federal prison, a \$250,000 fine or both.

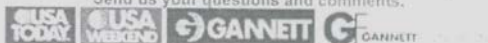
#### Article Comments

This article does not have any comments associated with it

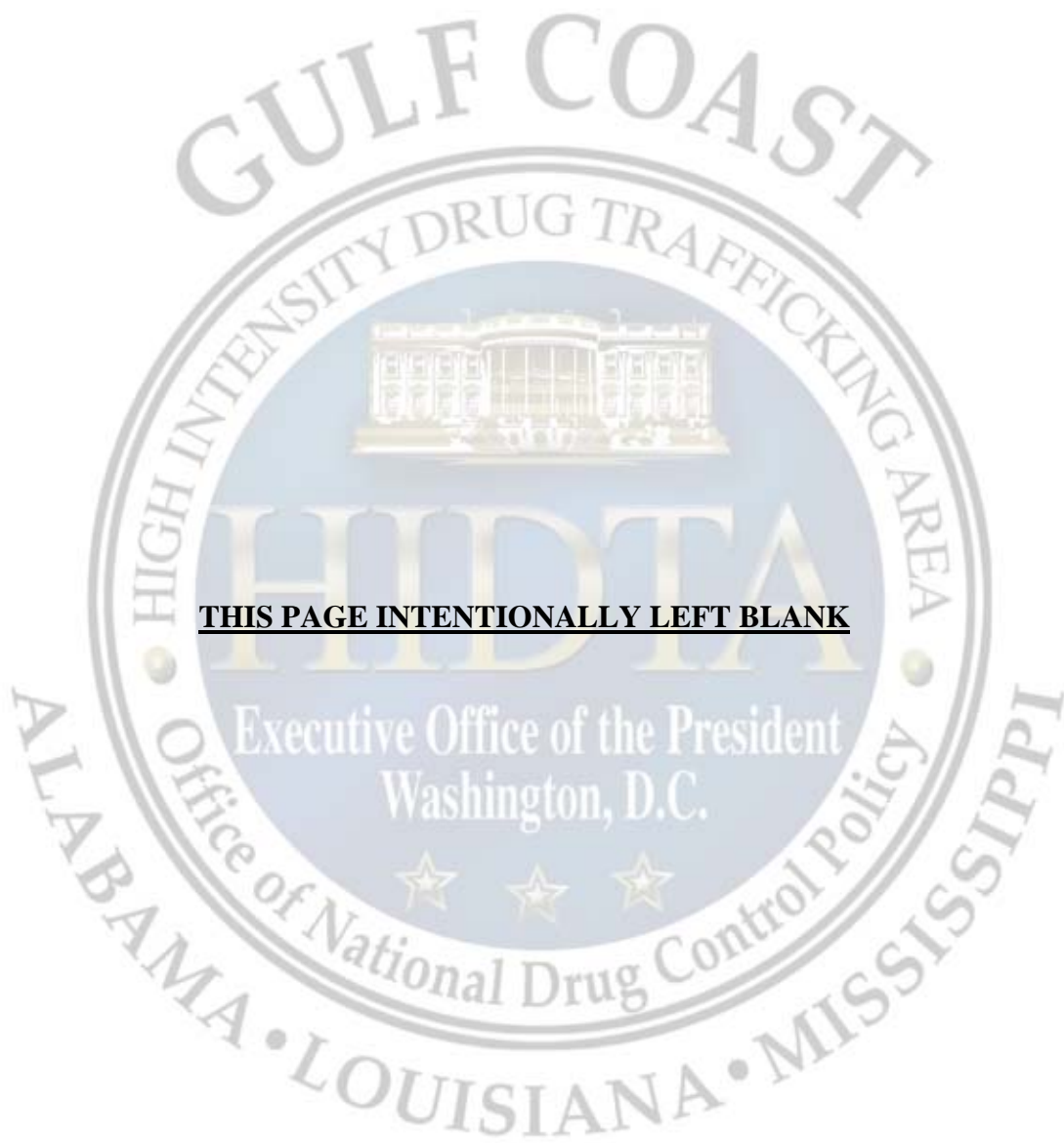
[Add Comment](#)

©The Times  
June 30, 2006

Partners: Jobs: CareerBuilder.com • Cars: Cars.com • Apartments: Apartments.com • Shopping: ShopLocal.com  
The Daily Advertiser | The Town Talk | The News Star | The Daily World  
Copyright 2005© The Times. Principles of Ethical Conduct for The Times  
Use of this site signifies your agreement to the Terms of Service and Privacy Policy (Updated 2005).  
Send us your questions and comments.



[http://www.shreveporttimes.com/anns/nbes\\_dtl/article?Date=20060630&Category=NEWS02&Article=606200224&Seo](http://www.shreveporttimes.com/anns/nbes_dtl/article?Date=20060630&Category=NEWS02&Article=606200224&Seo)





## Appendix I OCDETF Group Award

### EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA OCDETF GROUP AWARD

The Gulf Coast HIDTA, Metro New Orleans Major Investigations Group received an OCDETF Group award for Operation “Packman Playa,” an investigation into the a cocaine marijuana Drug Trafficking Organization. According to the award submission:

The Brown drug trafficking and money laundering organization was responsible for distributing 10-30 kilograms of cocaine and quantities of marijuana each month in the New Orleans metropolitan area. The organization’s illegal activities spanned at least seven years with Lloyd Brown as its leader. The sources of supply in Texas and Mexico utilized a trucking company and personal vehicles to transport the controlled substances to New Orleans, Atlanta and Milwaukee. The conspiracy also involved associates in California, Texas and Florida who assisted in the laundering of money for the organization.

This was a joint investigation of the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Internal Revenue Service and the New Orleans Police Department. They were assisted locally by Louisiana State Police Narcotics, St. Tammany parish Sheriff’s Office, Jefferson Parish Sheriff’s Office and Kenner Police Department. Information was shared and assistance was also provided by law enforcement in California, Texas and Florida. This case was linked to cases in Baton Rouge, Atlanta, Milwaukee and Houston. Accordingly, the dismantlement of this organization had a multi-regional impact.

Due to the length of the conspiracy, the investigation was largely historical and financial. However, it included two Title III wiretaps, consensually monitored telephone calls, controlled purchases, and lengthy surveillance which crossed state lines and search warrants. The case also required a year-long grand jury conducted financial investigation. This aspect was very challenging because Brown had never been arrested, had a legitimate wholesale jewelry and real estate businesses, invested in nightclubs and bars and filed taxes. After analyzing voluminous bank records and financial documents and interviewing numerous witnesses, the investigation revealed that the large amounts of cash and assets acquired by the organization were primarily from drug dealing and that the businesses were used a “fronts” to lauder drug money.

Members of the Brown organization were ultimately charged with and pled guilty to drug trafficking, money laundering and gun charges. Additionally, they forfeited more than three million dollars worth of assets, including real estate, cash, annuities, jewelry, luxury vehicles, art and firearms.

#### **Group Awardees:**

William Cambre	Drug Enforcement Administration
Catherine Beckett	New Orleans Police Department
Reinaldo Suarez	Kenner Police Department
Mark Nicholson	Drug Enforcement Administration
David Gauthreaux	Drug Enforcement Administration
Clyde McLaughlin	Drug Enforcement Administration

Anthony Synigal  
Ronald Woods  
Kenneth Strausbaugh  
James Dorsey  
Tracy Knight  
Mimi Nguyen  
Jody Randle

Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office  
Drug Enforcement Administration  
Drug Enforcement Administration  
Internal Revenue Service  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
U.S. Attorney's Office

## **IX. List of Tables And Charts**

- Table 1 – Cost per DTO Disrupted or Dismantled, 2006.
- Table 2 – Percentage of DTOs Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope, 2006
- Table 3 – Percentage of Money Laundering Organizations Disrupted or Dismantled by Scope, 2006
- Table 4 – Operational Scope of All DTO Cases Initiated, 2006
- Table 5 – Drugs Removed from the Marketplace, 2006
- Table 6 – Return on Investment (ROI) for Drugs Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives, 2006
- Table 7 – Return on Investment (ROI) for Assets Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiatives, 2006
- Table 8 – Total Return on Investment (ROI) for Drugs and Assets Removed from the Marketplace by Law Enforcement Initiative, 2006
- Table 9 – Prosecution Initiative Cost Per Table of Organization for the HIDTA
- Table 10 – Value of Clandestine Methamphetamine Labs Dismantled in 2006 by Size
- Table 11 – Clandestine Laboratory Activities, 2006
- Table 12 – GC HIDTA Training Efficiency by Year and Type of Training
- Table 13 – Percentage of HIDTA Initiatives Using Event and Case Deconfliction Services, 2006
- Table 14 – Percentage of Event and Case Deconfliction Submitted, 2006
- Table 15 – Percentage of Investigations Provided Analytical Support, 2006
- Table 16 – Percentage of HIDTA Initiative Investigations Referred to Other HIDTAs and Other Agencies, 2006

