

U.S. Congressman

Mark Steven Kirk

Proudly serving the people of the 10th District of Illinois

February 9, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Kirk, Curran and ATF Announce Lake County's "Top 10
Most Wanted Gang Members"**

17 gang members captured since first "Top 10" list unveiled last year

Media reports and tips led to 3 arrests in the first week of the program

*Most wanted include leaders of: Vice Lords, Gangster Disciples, Latin Kings,
Latin Lovers, Black P Stone Nation and Spanish Lords*

CHICAGO – To raise awareness of the increasing threat drug gangs pose to Lake County, U.S. Rep. Mark Kirk, Lake County Sheriff Mark Curran and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Special Agent-in-Charge Andy Traver announced the second annual Top 10 Most Wanted Gang Members of Lake County today at the ATF's Chicago field office.

The Top 10 list was created last March to enlist the help of the public to identify gang members with outstanding criminal warrants. After newspapers, radio and television publicized the wanted criminals, tips flooded in to law enforcement agencies, resulting in the arrest of three gang leaders within four days. A total of 17 gang members have been apprehended following their addition to the Top 10 list.

"Illinois leads the nation in per capita gang members, fueled in part by the growth of suburban street gangs," Congressman Kirk said. "As violent gangs are pushed out of Chicago, they are relocating to the northern suburbs. There are now more gang members in Lake County than law enforcement personnel – which means we need the help of the public. The Top 10 Most Wanted Gang Members List has a proven track record of identifying fugitive criminals and bringing them to justice. If you see one of these men – call the Sheriff's office or your local

police department immediately. Lake County is fortunate to have such dedicated law enforcement and leaders like Sheriff Mark Curran and Special Agent-in-Charge Andy Traver, and I am honored to partner with them to help keep our communities safe.”

“Nothing can combat gangs like the cooperation and sharing of information between law enforcement agencies at the local, county, state and federal levels,” said Sheriff Mark Curran.

"We will continue to coordinate and expand our focused efforts with our Lake County law enforcement partners in order to counter the growing surge of gang crime and concurrent firearms violence that is spilling across the border," Special Agent-in-Charge Andy Traver said. "We will bring to bear our full arsenal of sophisticated investigative techniques and gang-fighting experience to effectively combat this burgeoning menace, meeting force on force."

According to the 2009 National Gang Intelligence Center National Gang Threat Assessment, Lake County has the third-most gang members in Illinois, behind Cook and Will counties. Estimates place the total number of gang members living north of Lake Cook Road as high as 3,500. **Nationwide, Illinois ranks number one in the nation for gang members per capita at 8 to 11 gang members per 1,000 residents.**

The most wanted gang member in Lake County is Mr. Jose Pedro Delgado. Delgado is a leader of the “Latin Lovers” gang in Waukegan and is wanted for the murder of Jesus Montes-DeOca, 18, of Waukegan. Montes-DeOca was gunned down on his way to the gym on Oct. 19, 2003. Police believe Delgado was aiming for an individual walking next to Montes-DeOca. Delgado is an original member of the first Top 10 list along with Edward Perez, Arturo Hernandez and Alejandro Ramirez – all of the Latin Kings street gang. All four remain at large.

The Top 10 Gang Member List is available at <http://www.lakecountyil.gov/Sheriff/communitysafety/wanted/GangMembers.htm>. New gang members are added once criminals are apprehended.

The Top 10 List is just one example of the many partnerships created between Congressman Kirk and Sheriff Curran’s office with federal and local law enforcement agencies. Last year, Congressman Kirk announced an \$846,000 U.S. Department of Justice grant that he secured for a new Northern Illinois Gang Taskforce to coordinate federal and local law enforcement agencies to combat violent drug gangs operating out of Waukegan. The new taskforce allows local law enforcement to pursue federal prosecution and longer sentencing. Facing 20 years in federal prison (no parole) instead of less than five in state prison, low-level gang members are now more likely to turn against their gangs, helping the Taskforce.

Two years ago, ATF, the Lake County State’s Attorney Office and the Waukegan Police Department announced the conclusion of Operation “*Smack That*,” targeting the heroin drug ring of the Black P-Stones operating in Waukegan, North Chicago and Zion. The Black P-Stones operated a sophisticated drug operation, including selling drugs near Waukegan public schools and churches. The work of the ATF and Waukegan’s Neighborhood Enforcement Team (NET) resulted in nine indictments and the seizure of \$19,000 worth of heroin, firearms and body armor.

The 10 Most Wanted Gang Members and those captured are below.

10 MOST WANTED GANG MEMBERS

1. Jose Delgado



DOB: 05/14/1978

Height: 5' 6"

Weight: 135

Hair/Eye Color: Black/Brown

Last known Address: 1505 Hickory, Waukegan IL

Gang Affiliation: Latin Lovers

1st Degree Murder

Bond: \$5,000,000.00

2. Edward Perez



DOB: 11/30/1987

Height: 5' 10"

Weight: 145

Hair/Eye Color: Black/Brown

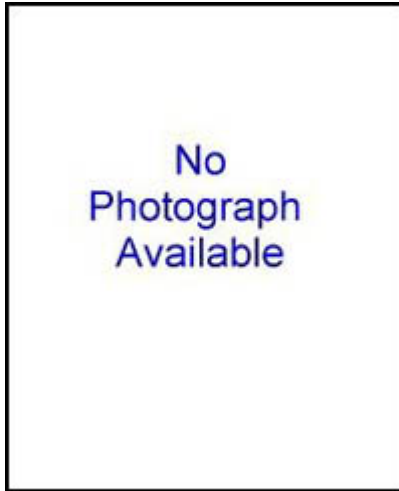
Last Known Address: 17865 Elsbury Ct. Gurnee IL

Gang Affiliation: Latin Kings

First Degree Murder

Bond: \$5,000,000.00

3. Arturo Hernandez



DOB: 03/05/1984

Height: 5' 8"

Weight: 140

Hair/Eye Color: Black/Brown

Last Known Address: 1213 Wadsworth, North Chicago IL

Gang Affiliation: Latin Kings

Weapons Offense

Bond: \$5,000,000.00

4. Alejandro Ramirez



DOB: 03/10/1980

Height: 5' 9"

Weight: 150

Hair/Eye Color: Black/Brown

Last Known Address: 413 Bonniebrook, Mundelein IL

Gang Affiliation: Latin Kings

Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm

Bond: \$500,000.00

5. Jerald Spivey



DOB: 12/15/1981

Height: 6' 3"

Weight: 175

Hair/Eye Color: Black/Brown

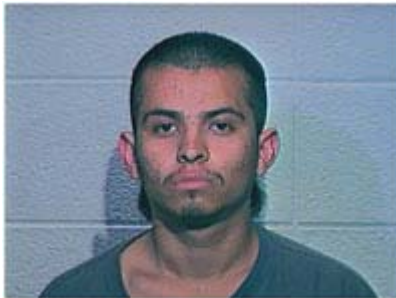
Last Known Address: 816 14th North Chicago IL

Gang Affiliation: Black P Stone Nation

Possession of Narcotics

Bond: \$500,000.00

6. Javier Maldonado



DOB: 03/23/1980

Height: 5' 5"

Weight: 140

Hair/Eye Color: Black/Brown

Last Known Address: 720 Adams, Waukegan IL

Gang Affiliation: Latin Kings

Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm

Bond: \$300,000.00

7. Keany Parks



DOB: 12/29/1978

Height: 5' 7"

Weight: 135

Hair/Eye Color: Black/Brown

Last Known Address: 2837 Galilee Ave, Zion IL

Gang Affiliation: Gangster Disciples

Criminal Sexual Abuse

Bond: \$250,000.00

8. Alex Coleman



DOB: 12/23/1971

Height: 6' 1"

Weight: 185

Hair/Eye Color: Black/Brown

Last Known Address: 3309 15th St. Kenosha, WI

Gang Affiliation: Gangster Disciples

Violation of Sex Offender Registration Act

Bond: \$100,000.00

9. Osvaldo Wence



DOB: 03/05/1981

Height: 5' 9"

Weight: 193

Hair/Eye Color: Black/Brown

Last Known Address: 1206 Tobin Ct. Waukegan IL

Gang Affiliation: Spanish Lords

Unlawful Use of Weapon

Bond: \$100,000.00

10. Germaine Bess



DOB: 04/22/1981

Height: 5' 6"

Weight: 200

Hair/Eye Color: Black/Brown

Last Known Address: 503 N Genesee St. Waukegan IL

Gang Affiliation: Vice Lords

Failure to Register as a Sex Offender

Bond: \$70,000.00

Captured Gang Members Since March 2008

Gang Member	Charge	Added to List	Removed from List	Status
Gist, William	Aggravated Battery	3/24/2008	3/27/2008	Captured
Handy, Cordale	Vehicle Highjacking	3/24/2008	3/27/2008	Self Surrendered
Gordon, Derek	Unauthorized Possession of a Controlled Substance	3/24/2008	3/28/2008	Captured
Edwards, Dion	Manufacture/Delivery of Cocaine Near a School or Park, Contempt	4/7/2008	4/8/2008	Self Surrendered
Dawson, Brendon Jr.	Felony Possession/Use of a Firearm	4/10/2008	4/21/2008	Captured
Melendez, Fabian	Aggravated Unauthorized Use of a Weapon	3/24/2008	5/6/2008	In Custody in WI
Mitchell, Christopher	Burglary, Drug Offense	5/7/2008	6/6/2008	Captured
Castillo, Roberto	Residential Burglary, Theft, Revoked Drivers License	5/6/2008	6/10/2008	Captured
Rivera, Adrian	Aggravated Battery	4/7/2008	6/29/2008	Captured
Mitchell, Darryl	Aggravated Battery	4/8/2008	7/22/2008	Self Surrendered
Marquez, Orlando	Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm	10/24/2008	11/3/2008	Captured
Garcia, Hector Jake	Aggravated Domestic Battery	10/24/2008	11/6/2008	Self Surrendered
Craig, Lavell	Fail to Register as a Sex Offender, Revoked Drivers License, Failure to Report Change of Address	11/6/2008	11/11/2008	In Custody in WI
Vargas, Fabian	Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm	3/24/2008	1/2/2009	Captured
Brown, Jamelle	Resisting Arrest, Battery	12/1/2008	1/20/2009	Served
Bryant, Sharif	Aggravated Assault - Gun	3/24/2008	1/22/2009	Captured
Mota, Alonzo	Domestic Battery	1/26/2009	2/2/2009	Captured

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