



ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Nashville Field Division

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**METRO NASHVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT PASSES
'100 HIT' BENCHMARK WITH ATF'S BALLISTIC TECHNOLOGY**
Computerized Ballistic Imaging System Helps Link Firearms-Related Crimes

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -- Special Agent in Charge James Cavanaugh of the Nashville Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) announced today that Chief Ronal Serpas and the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department (MNP) have been recognized for exceeding 100 "hits" in their use of ATF's computerized ballistic imaging system.

ATF's National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) is a computerized ballistic imaging system that uses the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS) technology to allow firearms technicians and examiners to acquire, digitize and compare unique markings made by a firearm on bullets and cartridge casings recovered from crime scenes.

The IBIS system in Nashville is operated by the police department's Technical Investigative Section, Forensics and Firearms Unit. The unit's recent work with IBIS has led to solving two homicides in Nashville, the Feb. 12 murder of Tevin Upkins on 23rd Avenue North and the June 6 murder of Michael Adams on Nix Drive.

"The MNP) has worked hard using IBIS to its fullest potential day in and day out," Cavanaugh said. "IBIS is a valuable tool in fighting violent gun crime. The program helps law enforcement identify shooting suspects, apprehend criminals at large and ultimately begin the court process."

Serpas added, "Time and again, the IBIS system has proven to be a vitally important tool in getting dangerous, gun carrying criminals out of Nashville's neighborhoods and behind bars. I am very proud of the partnership the Metropolitan Police Department shares with ATF. Nashvillians are safer because of it."

ATF deploys IBIS technology at 235 federal, state and local law enforcement agencies and forensic laboratories nationwide, four of them in Tennessee.

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