

Hybrid Gangs and Gang Expert Testimony Syllabus

- 1. Gang Investigation Criteria
 - Associate to Commit crime together
 - Gang Name
 - # of members
 - Signs, Symbols, Colors, Clothing, Crime.
 - Turf.
 - Command Structure.
 - Membership Requirements.
 - Recognized, Identified by others.
 - Motive, Means, and Opportunity.

- 2. Identifying local neighborhood gang culture
 - Social Media post, photos, and videos.
 - Tattoos
 - Jail/ MDOC classification
 - Probation/Parole
 - Clothing
 - Police documentation of gang activity
 - Hand Signs
 - Phone records
 - School Resource officer
 - Other law enforcement agencies
 - Evidence from Search Warrants
 - Memorabilia

- 3. Research all investigations the gang member has ever been associated with.
 - Long and short form police reports
 - Criminal history from LEIN (CCH)
 - Other police agency contact
 - Jail Book-In details

- 4. What created the boundary lines for each gang's turf?

- 5. What Graffiti & Tattoos are your Hybrid Gangs using?
 - Membership, Allegiance
 - Disrespect
 - Responsibility for acts.
 - Gang Name
 - Street / Turf
 - Symbols or Sayings

- Nicknames/ Street Name
 - Rank
 - Role in gang
- 6. What larger gang culture influences your local gang?
- 7. Gangs 101
 - Prison Gangs
 - People Nation
 - Folk Nation
 - White Power, White Supremist, Aryan Brother hood
 - Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs
 - Hispanic Gangs
 - Asian Gangs
 - Sovereign Citizens
 - Gangs in the Military
 - Drug Trafficking Organizations
 - Hybrid/Scavenger Gangs
- 8. Local, state and federal courts recognize Hybrid Gangs.
 - A spike in gang violence within the city.
 - National Gang ties break off into sub-set groups.
 - Sub-set groups will increase violence against own allies.
 - Unique Name vs. Nationally Recognized Name.
 - Adopt/Borrow culture, code, rules, philosophy.
 - Release of Prison Population creates cross training
 - Lack connection for resupply of drugs and guns
 - Purpose for Development is more for Profit, Protection, Power instead of Tradition
- 9. Have your Hybrid Gangs became more covert ?
 - Stop wearing colors, clothing, hand signs, and graffiti.
 - Speak in code through text message and social media.
 - Wait until no one is around to see them.
 - Cover up tattoos or add non-criminal meaning to existing tattoos.
- 10. Does your hybrid gang specialize in certain crimes?
- 11. Hybrid Gang Business Front
 - Music Business
 - Beauty Shops

- Auto Repair
- Law firms
- Medical Offices

- 12. Staying updated on your Hybrid Gang Culture as it changes
 - Informants
 - Rivals
 - Witnesses
 - Victims
 - Citizens
 - Probation/Parole Officers
 - Family Members
 - School Classmates, Teachers
 - Landlords, Apartment Managers
 - Gang Member admits own membership

- 13. Team Guns
 - Lack connection for supply (lots of homeowner and gun store break ins)
 - Group will share the same guns
 - Group will stash gun nearby when posted up
 - Multiple DNA profiles
 - Different brands of ammo left at crime scene.
 - Trade the hot gun to the other side of town.

- 14. Command Structure
 - Formal Command Example
 - Bulls-Eye Command Structure

- 15. How are they being influenced
 - Media
 - Family (Generational)
 - Drug and Crime Network need structure/protection
 - Correctional Facility Location
 - Migrant Workers
 - Employment at Large Factories
 - Attending events in other cities

- 16. What does your Hybrid Gang look like?

- 17. Case Examples
 - M.O.B.
 - C.M.B.
 - Boardman Boys
 - Jungle Gang

- 18. Unique Gang Culture in your city

- 19. How are you tracking your gang culture?
 - Review investigations
 - Track social media post
 - Follow up interviews with citizens
 - Follow up with other Police and Non Police personnel
 - Work events your gang members attend
 - Surveillance and Search Warrants
 - Spend a lot of time with your prosecutors/district attorneys
 - Respond to 911 calls your gang members are involved in.
 - Talk to the parents of your gang members
 - Complete intelligence reports
 - Share intel with rest of patrol
 - Records Management System/ Gang Database
 - Create and organize file folders on your hard drive
 - Store/ Save all media files of gang evidence on a hard drive.
 - CFR28

- 20. Gang Suppression Unit Keys to Success

Court Room Testimony

- 21. Gang Expert Testimony Examples

- 22. What are your State's gang charge elements?

- 23. Is it a Gang Crime?
 - What gang members were involved and why was it a gang crime.

- What motive, means and opportunity did the gang membership provide the suspect to commit the felony?
 - Do you have a witness to testify to the gang culture as it relates to the crime.
- 24. Questions to ask the non-police witness on the witness stand
- 25. What evidence do you have to show they are gang members:
- 26. Research all investigations the gang member has ever been associated with.
 - Long and short form police reports
 - Criminal history (CCH)
 - Other police agency contact
 - As an expert on the stand, do not speak of specific prior bad acts related to the defendant unless allowed under 404b.
 - However, have all of the reports summarized and ready in the event the Defense attorney asks you to recite these records on the witness stand.
- 27. What has your state supreme court said about Gang Expert Testimony?
- 28. Getting the Officer Qualified as a Gang Expert
 - What officer has the best knowledge of general gang characteristics and can present with confidence?
 - What officer has the most direct knowledge and experience with the defendant and his gang members to take the stand and present the factual evidence (social media post, police contacts, interviews)
 - You may split this testimony between two investigators.
- 29. Gang Expert Questions Between Prosecutor and Expert Witness
 - What is your occupation?
 - How long have you been a police officer?
 - What is your current bureau assignment?
 - Is the assignment a specialized gang unit?
 - What are the duties and responsibilities as gang officer/investigator?
 - What jurisdiction does your gang investigations take place in?
 - What training qualifies you to perform the duties of a gang officer/investigator?
 - As a gang officer/investigator do you keep current on gang trends, including customs, habits, rivalries, and alliances? How do you do this?

- Do you continue your education and training on gang investigations? How do you do this?
 - Have you ever qualified a gang expert in the past? How many times?
 - Were you assigned to a patrol division prior to being assigned to this specialized unit? Did you ever talk to gang members or investigate gang members while assigned to that patrol division?
 - Have you ever had casual conversations with gang members on the street while on routine patrol? How many times?
 - Is that contact always involving an arrest or similar circumstances?
 - Do you ever go to the county jail and talk to gang members to collect gang intelligence?
 - Do gang members give you information about gang life such as rivalries, alliances, crimes, membership, etc.? Are they always forthcoming with their own gang membership?
 - Do you share this information and intelligence with other law enforcement?
 - How many gang investigations have you been involved in?
 - Have you ever been involved in search warrants or arrests involving gang members?
 - Do you sometimes get valuable gang intelligence from search warrants?
 - What information and intelligence do you rely on when determining if someone is a gang member?
 - What type of system do you use to help track and document gang investigations?
- 30. What is your departments Gang Identification Policy
- 31. The Qualified Gang Expert now explains the definition of a criminal street gang.
 - 3 or more individuals that Associate together to Commit Crime the creates the most Respect out of fear.
 - Use Weapons such as Guns to create the most Fear and Respect
 - Commit Crime on Rivals and Citizens in the name of Respect for the gang
 - Develop a Gang Name
 - A Gang will develop Signs, Symbols, Tattoos, Graffiti, Clothing, and Colors to identify themselves to rivals and community.
 - Gang will claim territory or Turf
 - They will develop a Command Structure and Membership Requirements
 - A gang will then develop Patterns, Trends, and Behavior that are recognized by Rivals, Community, and the Police
 - The gang will then provide its members the Motive, Means, and Opportunity to commit crime.
- 32. Why do people join gangs
 - Media influence
 - Family (Generational)
 - Drug and Crime Network need for structure/protection

- Correctional Facility Location
 - Migrant Workers
 - Employment at Large Factories
 - In it for the violence and power, money is secondary (Compared to Mafia who is in it for the money)
- 33. How do gangs identify themselves?
 - Tattoos
 - Clothing
 - Symbols
 - Hand Signs, Greetings
 - Numbers
 - Street names "A.K.A."
 - Turf
 - Crime of Choice (What's profitable)
 - Intel from other police agencies
 - Associate with other Gang Members
 - Commit Crime with other Gang Members
- 34. What does Graffiti & Tattoos represent for a gang member?
 - Membership, Allegiance
 - Disrespect
 - Responsibility for acts.
 - Gang Name
 - Street / Turf
 - Symbols or Sayings
 - Nicknames/ Street Name
 - Rank
 - Role in gang
- 35. Are there specific requirements to be part of a gang?
 - Accepted by Leaders
 - Commitment to life of crime "No disrespect goes unanswered"
 - Commitment to each other
 - Jumped in
 - Sexed in
 - Live in the neighborhood
 - Blessed in by Automatic family membership
- 36. Once in a gang, do members normally just quit?

- Continue to live in the neighborhood
 - Loss of financial profit, protection, and respect if they leave.
 - Gangs' violence level = Level of accountability to stay
 - Instead they keep a low profile = Less attention.
 - "Blood in Blood out"
 - Rivals always assume
- 37. What is a violation? What are the consequences?
 - An act by a gang member that jeopardizes the gangs' ability gain profit and/or respect."
 - Snitching
 - Not retaliating
 - Not committing a crime
 - Not returning profit
 - Commit crime on gang member/family
 - Consequences : Eye for an Eye, Death, Garnished wages, Required Double Time
- 38. Does the concept of "Respect" play a significant role in a gang?
 - Concept, Not a moral act of obligation
 - Owed to them
 - Want Rivals and Community to Fear them
 - Violent Crime + Fear = Power
 - Violent Crime + Fear = Financial Profit
 - Power + Financial Profit = Respect
 - No disrespect goes unanswered
- 39. How do you gain respect within the gang?
 - "Put in work"
 - Make Money
 - Recognized by violence level
 - Knowledge of guns and weapons
- 40. What are some examples of disrespect a gang member would react to?
 - Non-Verbal
 - Verbal
- 41. How does a gang's concept of respect and disrespect create a rivalry or "Beef" with other gangs?
 - No disrespect goes unanswered

- 42. Why do gang members have this view of respect?
- 43. Is it harder to charge a gang member for their crimes compared to non-gang members?
 - Gang members don't take witnesses to the scene of their crimes, they only take other gang members.
 - Stop Snitching
 - Intimidation, Retaliation
 - Juveniles Justice System
 - Team Guns – DNA, Different types of ammo
 - More suspects = More evidence collection issues
- 44. The Defendant's Gang
 - Are you familiar with the "....." criminal street gang ?
 - How do you know that gang?
 - During the time period of....., did you have contact with members of this gang? Was there more than five members?
 - Can you describe those contacts?
 - What kind of criminal activity were members of MOB engaged during the time period of?
 - Did the "MOB" Criminal Street Gang have any affiliation with, or influenced by, any type of national gang culture during the time period of?
 - Did the "MOB" criminal street gang claim any "Turf" during the time period of.....?
 - Did the "MOB" criminal street gang have some type of command structure during the time period of.....?
 - What kind of Graffiti, Signs, Symbols, and Tattoos do you know the MOB criminal street gang to associate with/represent themselves by during the time period of.....?
 - What evidence do you have to support this? How did you obtain this evidence?
 - During the time period of, do you believe gang membership provide members of MOB the motive, means, and opportunity to commit crime?
- 45. Is the Hybrid Gang structure and culture common in other cities and states?
- 46. The Defendant
 - Do you know the defendant? What neighborhood do you know the defendant to live in. Can you describe those contacts and investigations (without detailing specific prior bad acts)?
 - Has the defendant ever admitted his gang membership to you? Have other people identified the defendant to you as a member of MOB criminal street gang?

- Has the defendant ever associated himself with any of these Signs Symbols and or tattoos related to MOB criminal street gang?
- 47. The victim
 - Do You Know the victim?
 - Does he belong to any gang?
 - Can you explain some details of why this crime was committed because of the rivalry between two gangs?
- 48. Closing arguments by the prosecutor can be more personalized to the defendant
 - Identified 5 or more members of “MOB” and a common name.
 - Investigations showing (defendant) and members of “MOB” associating with other members of the gang in the commission of a crime including felonies.
 - Defined Territory and Command Structure
 - Signs or symbols the gang associates themselves with.
 - (Defendant) has been recognized by other Police Officers, Victims, Witnesses, Classmates, Citizens, and Suspects as being a member of “MOB” during the time period of.....
 - Defined membership criteria of “MOB” to consist of:.....
 - The defendant had the motive, means, and opportunity to commit the crime due to his gang membership.