

Using GunStat with Crime Gun Intelligence Centers

Many jurisdictions are currently implementing Crime Gun Intelligence Centers (CGICs), a highly effective program developed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and supported by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). CGICs work to identify perpetrators of gun crime by establishing ballistic links between violent incidents using the National Integrated Ballistic Network (NIBIN). The information generated through the CGIC process also gives criminal justice stakeholders a better understanding of how illegal guns are used and distributed within social networks.³

Important elements of a successful CGIC include collaboration and information sharing between criminal justice partners. The CGIC process involves establishing a 7-step workflow that helps prioritize and share intelligence and evidence generated through ballistic comparisons. As displayed in Figure 7, the fifth step of the workflow includes collaborating with criminal justice stakeholders. Within this fifth step, the GunStat model can be used as the venue and process to help support the development and implementation of a CGIC. Additionally, while CGICs often focus specifically on ballistic links and leads, GunStat offers the opportunity to have broader conversations on trends related to gun cases and gun offenders.

In Wilmington, an ATF-appointed NIBIN coordinator helps manage and facilitate the GunStat process. NIBIN correlations and intelligence information generated in the CGIC process are tracked in GunStat data benchmarks and are included as discussion points during GunStat meetings.

Figure 7: CGIC Workflow

