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EVALUATING THE LOS ANGELES CRIME GUN INTELLIGENCE CENTER

BY: CRAIG D. UCHIDA, PH.D., ALLISON QUIGLEY, M.S., & KYLE ANDERSON, M.S.
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Table of Contents

Introduction.....	1
The CGIC Concept.....	1
The Study Site: Los Angeles.....	2
Operation South Bureau Divisions.....	3
Research Design and Research Questions.....	4
Process Evaluation.....	4
Impact Evaluation	5
Process Evaluation Results: Implementing the Crime Gun Intelligence Center.....	7
The LA CGIC Process.....	7
Agencies and Personnel Involved in the LA CGIC.....	8
LA CGIC Activity and Operations.....	13
LA CGIC Intelligence Packages.....	14
The South Bureau LA CGIC Expansion.....	15
Firearm Possession Arrests.....	15
LA CGIC Prosecutorial Activity.....	17
Activities of the Forensic Science Division.....	18
Collaboration.....	20
Summary of Process Evaluation.....	21
Impact Evaluation.....	21
The CGIC Treatment Period in 77th Street Division.....	21
The CGIC Treatment Period in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions.....	22
Analyzing the Effects of CGIC in 77th Division and the Rest of South Bureau.....	23
77th Street Division Results.....	23
77th Street Division: Impact Evaluation Summary.....	30
Results: Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions.....	30
HBR, SOE, SOW Divisions: Impact Evaluation Summary.....	38

Limitations..... 38
 Crime Data for 2019 in 77th Street Division..... 38
 South Bureau CGIC Implementation and Evaluation.....38
Findings and Implications..... 39
 Discussion..... 40
Recommendations..... 42
Summary..... 43
Conclusion..... 43



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Evaluating the Los Angeles Crime Gun Intelligence Center

Introduction

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD or Department) received a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) to establish the Los Angeles Crime Gun Intelligence Center (LA CGIC). The Center is a collaboration that focuses on the collection, management, and analysis of crime gun data and seeks to reduce gun-related crime. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) developed the concept of the Crime Gun Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Justice Assistance provided funding for planning and implementation purposes.

In Los Angeles, ATF, the LAPD, and all of the partners implemented a CGIC in 77th Street Division, one of 21 patrol stations in the Department. In January 2018, LA CGIC became fully operational and began to use ‘actionable intelligence’ based on National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) leads and hits. In October 2018, LA CGIC was expanded to include three other South Bureau divisions: Harbor (HBR), Southeast (SOE), and Southwest (SOW).

This report provides background information about the formation of the LA CGIC and evaluates the program using data and information gathered through interviews and observations of meetings and activities of the LA CGIC partners.

The CGIC Concept

Through BJA grants and technical assistance from ATF, 25 local jurisdictions have established Crime Gun Intelligence Centers (CGICs) over the past several years. CGICs require collaboration among several different agencies with the same multi-pronged goals: real-time collection, processing, and analysis of crime guns and cartridge casings; identification of active shooters; disruption of crime; and violence prevention.

The LA CGIC is based on best practices established by ATF and BJA. While the LA CGIC was initially based on the Denver and Philadelphia models, it has continued to evolve.

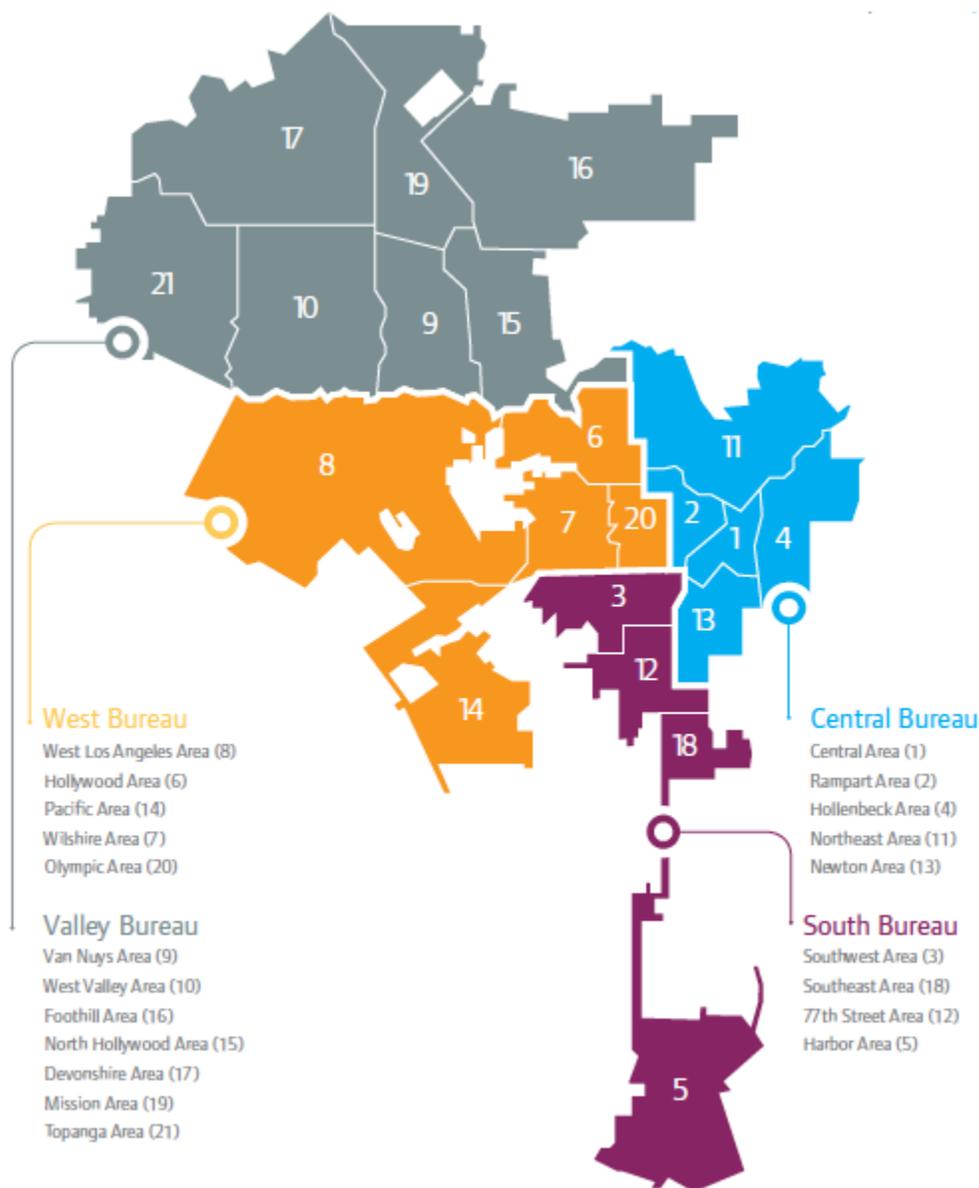
The primary intent of CGICs is to disrupt the shooting cycle by using forensic science and data analysis to identify, investigate, and prosecute shooters and their sources of crime guns. CGICs leverage several resources to disrupt gun violence, including NIBIN. NIBIN is a vital component of CGICs and involves the use of a nationwide collection of digital images of fired cartridge casings, often taken from crime scenes and recovered crime guns. NIBIN assists investigators by linking casings to different incidents. Investigators are then able to follow up and conduct additional investigations of people, places, and evidence to identify a shooter or person involved in the crime. The NIBIN National Correlation and Training Center (NNCTC) in Huntsville, Alabama receives these digital images and identifies links between casings. If the NNCTC determines that two or more

recovered/test-fired casings from different crime scenes match, NNCTC distributes a NIBIN hit to the respective agencies or jurisdictions involved.

Successful CGIC operations require comprehensive, continuous collaboration among all partners and stakeholders, including ATF; law enforcement agencies; crime labs; probation and parole departments; gang task force officers and gang units; federal, local, and state prosecutors' offices; crime and intelligence analysts; the community; and research partners.*

The Study Site: Los Angeles

Los Angeles, CA is the second largest city in the U.S. with a population of more than four million residents distributed over 472 square miles. The LAPD is the third largest police force in the country with nearly 10,000 sworn and 2,800 civilian employees. Chief Michael Moore oversees the Department that includes Operations, Special Operations, Administrative Services, and Constitutional Policing and Policy.



Operations South Bureau (OSB) is one of four LAPD Bureaus. OSB includes 77th Street, Southwest, Southeast, and Harbor Divisions. Each of OSB's four Divisions implemented LA CGIC during the study period, but the official LA CGIC implementation dates varied across Divisions.

77th Street Division was selected as the original study site for LA CGIC due to its high rate of violent crime compared to the other 21 LAPD Divisions (see Tables 1-3). LA CGIC implementation began in 77th Street Division in January of 2017, and it became fully operational in January of 2018. After six months, in June 2018, LAPD command staff at OSB decided to roll out LA CGIC operations to the remaining South Bureau Divisions: Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest. By October 2018 the roll out was complete and the LA CGIC officially included all of South Bureau at that time.

	2016	2017	2018	2019 YTD
Citywide	7.34	7.04	6.46	6.63
South Bureau	18.02	16.86	17.00	15.94
77th Street Division	25.15	27.38	24.59	23.95

Table 1. Homicide Rates, 2016-2019 YTD

	2016	2017	2018	2019 YTD
Citywide	257.22	269.97	256.47	238.68
South Bureau	484.54	522.62	478.00	448.88
77th Street Division	694.11	733.79	661.10	637.96

Table 2. Robbery Rates, 2016-2019 YTD

	2016	2017	2018	2019 YTD
Citywide	399.19	422.84	420.15	425.55
South Bureau	778.41	828.11	830.60	869.86
77th Street Division	1095.94	1104.32	1070.8	1135.11

Table 3. Aggravated Assault Rates, 2016-2019 YTD

Operation South Bureau Divisions

77th Street Division

77th Street Division covers 11.3 square miles with an approximate population of 178,933. 77th Street Division encompasses multiple neighborhoods, including Crenshaw District, Athens Park, Chesterfield Square, Gramercy Park, Hyde Park, Vermont Knolls, View Heights, Vermont Park, and Morningside Park. During the study period, 77th Street had about 367 officers, with about 296 assigned to patrol.

Harbor Division

Harbor Division has a population of approximately 176,604, encompasses 27 square miles, the largest area in South Bureau, and is home to four distinct communities: San Pedro, Wilmington, Harbor City, and the Harbor Gateway. The Division includes the Port of Los Angeles, the busiest port in the Western Hemisphere.

Southeast Division

Southeast Division has a population of about 141,842 people and covers 10.2 square miles. Southeast includes the Watts neighborhood, which encompasses five public housing developments: Avalon Gardens, Imperial Courts, Jordan Downs, Nickerson Gardens, and Gonzaque Village.

Southwest Division

The Southwest Area is approximately 13.1 square miles, bordered by the I-10 Freeway on the North, I-110 Freeway to the east, Vernon Avenue to the south, and La Cienega Boulevard to the West. Southwest Division serves a culturally diverse community of over 165,000 people. The Area includes the following neighborhoods and communities: Baldwin Village, Baldwin Vista, Crenshaw Community, Jefferson Park, Leimert Park, Crenshaw District, West Adams Community, and University Park.*

Research Design and Research Questions

This report includes a process evaluation and an impact evaluation. For the process evaluation, we examine the activities undertaken by LA CGIC members and provide statistics about their work. In the impact evaluation, we examine the effects of the LA CGIC program on crime and arrests in OSB: 77th Street, Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest. We compare 77th Street Division crime rates, violent crime rates, and arrest rates pre- (2014–2017) and post- (January 1, 2018–July 31, 2019) LA CGIC implementation. In addition, we compare Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest crime rates, violent crime rates, and arrest rates pre- (January 1, 2014 –September 30, 2018) and post- (October 1, 2018 – July 31, 2019) LA CGIC implementation.

Process Evaluation

Research Questions

For the process evaluation, we describe the activities of the LA CGIC team. This includes basic information regarding crime, arrests, cases filed, and casings that were entered into NIBIN. We ask a number of research questions:

1. What were the activities of the LA CGIC Team? What did the team do and how did they do it?
2. How many arrests were made, particularly gun-related arrests?
3. What were the characteristics of the arrests?
4. How many casings and guns were seized?
5. How many casings were entered into NIBIN? How many guns were test-fired?
6. How many cases were filed by prosecutors?
7. What were the perspectives of LA CGIC partners regarding the entire program?

We rely upon data from LAPD's databases for crime and arrest incidents for January 1, 2014 to July 31, 2019. Crime incident data for homicides, robberies, and aggravated assaults were compiled and analyzed. Firearm-related homicides, robberies, and aggravated assaults were isolated from the rest of the data by filtering the incidents under "Weapon Code" in LAPD's CAMS database. Any incident committed with a firearm contained a weapon code between 100 and 199, so all homicide, robbery, and aggravated assault incidents were filtered by this code.



Arrest data were also collected from CAMS for homicides, robberies, aggravated assaults, and various firearm possession charges. The Forensic Science Division provided data regarding cartridge casings and firearm intake, NIBIN acquisition, NIBIN correlations and hits, and firearms data. The NIBIN Coordinator provided data from several databases that track CGIC cases and arrests, including the gun database and the NIBIN tracker. We also extracted data from the CGIC Case Database maintained by LA CGIC investigators.

To obtain a more comprehensive understanding of the functioning of LA CGIC operations, we conducted interviews with key members of the team. Fifteen (15) interviews were conducted between July 1, 2019 and September 9, 2019. Interview questions were open ended; some were conducted in a focus group setting depending on the nature of the work of the unit or department. Three separate interview instruments were used, and each was tailored to the activities of the unit or agency being interviewed: (1) Law Enforcement Personnel (sworn and unsworn), (2) the Forensic Science Division, and (3) Attorneys.

Impact Evaluation

For the impact evaluation we analyze data to determine whether changes occurred in violent and gun-related crimes as a result of LA CGIC activities.

Research Questions

The impact evaluation seeks to answer the following questions:

1. How does 77th Street Division's violent crime rate compare before and after the implementation of LA CGIC?
2. What are the trends in firearm-related violent crime for pre- and post-CGIC in 77th Street Division?
3. What are the trends in *arrest rates* for firearm-related crime pre- and post-CGIC in 77th Street Division?
4. How do Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Division's violent crime rates compare before and after the expansion of LA CGIC?
5. What are the trends in firearm-related violent crime for pre- and post-CGIC in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions?
6. What are the trends in arrest rates for firearm-related crime pre- and post-CGIC in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions?

Intervention Periods

An important facet of the impact evaluation was the time frame for implementation. As we have described above, 77th Street Division was the focal point for the project at the outset. However, as LA CGIC became successful in terms of gun arrests, actionable intelligence, and the use of NIBIN, command staff at OSB decided to slowly expand the collection, acquisition, and reporting of gun casings to other patrol divisions and included Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions.

The following section details the level of implementation at each of the three periods for Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest.

Implementation Period 1 (January 2017): Around the LA CGIC implementation in 77th Street Division in January 2017, the Deputy Chief of OSB used the LAPD's Metropolitan Division to increase firearm possession arrests in this bureau. This general increase to firearm possession arrests in 77th Street, Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest may have had an effect on firearm-related crime in all of South Bureau.

Implementation Period 2 (January 2018): After the LA CGIC began to use operational intelligence in 77th Street Division in January 2018, Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest were allowed to submit casings to Forensic Science Division per usual protocol. As a result, 45 gun-related crimes in these three Divisions were related to LA CGIC cases through NIBIN hits. This number was relatively low compared to 77th Street Division's 154 crimes, but South Bureau was mildly involved in LA CGIC cases as early as January 2018.

Implementation Period 3 (October 2018): On October 1, 2018, the LA CGIC expanded comprehensive casing collection to Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest. These three Divisions became heavily involved in LA CGIC cases after this point: 267 crimes were related to LA CGIC cases through NIBIN hits.

The implementation periods for the LA CGIC in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest are difficult to identify with certainty. However, we believe that these three Divisions fully implemented CGIC on or about October 1, 2018. For this reason, we evaluate the effects of LA CGIC in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Division using January 1, 2014 – September 30, 2018 as the *pre-CGIC period* and October 1, 2018 – July 31, 2019 as the *post-CGIC period*.

Process Evaluation Results: Implementing the Crime Gun Intelligence Center

The LA CGIC Process

LA CGIC focuses on the disruption of gun violence by using *actionable intelligence* developed through NIBIN leads. LAPD Detectives, ATF, and LA CGIC team members actively disrupt gun violence by using these leads while also concentrating on the most violent firearm offenders. Violent offenders are identified through a data-driven and forensics-led initiative in efforts to identify, target, investigate, arrest, and ultimately prosecute firearm-related offenders.

The basic foundation of LA CGIC includes the following components shown in Figure 1. This graphic involves seven (7) steps.

- 1** LAPD patrol officers and detectives collect ballistic evidence from firearm-related crime incidents on the street.
- 2** Evidence is entered into NIBIN via LAPD's Forensic Science Division.
- 3** Forensic Science Division staff work in conjunction with the ATF's NNCTC to identify NIBIN links based on submitted casings and firearm test-fires. When a NIBIN link is established, the NNCTC contacts the Forensic Science Division and LAPD's partners at ATF (Intelligence Research Specialist [IRS]) to confirm the linked crime incidents.
- 4** The ATF IRS disseminates the NIBIN lead information to LA CGIC personnel while Forensic Science Division disseminates the information to Department contacts established for all divisions. NIBIN leads are generated based on matching ballistic evidence from two or more previous crime incidents. The LA CGIC investigative team becomes involved in a case following the dissemination of a NIBIN lead. The LA CGIC team is comprised of an ATF Resident Agent in Charge (RAC), several ATF detectives, one ATF IRS, two LAPD sergeants, and six LAPD detectives. Following the NIBIN lead dissemination, the LA CGIC team works with LAPD detectives to gain information about the previous incidents and offer investigative assistance and resources.

After assessing the evidence, LA CGIC investigators 'triage' the case to determine the next investigative steps to achieve success. To best allocate resources, the LA CGIC conducts an assessment and determines which cases to follow. When there is little or no further available evidence, the case may be closed until more information arises. For example, an LA CGIC case involving two incidents of "shots fired within the city limits" that has no witnesses and no additional leads would likely result in a short investigation. These cases are generally closed quickly, but they may be re-opened in the event of additional information becoming available.

5 LA CGIC investigators work with prosecutors during and after an arrest is made.

6 The United States Attorney's Office (USAO), Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office (LADA), and Los Angeles City Attorney's Office (LACA) participate in prosecuting the offenders. These three offices coordinate with one another to determine the proper jurisdiction for prosecuting the shooters or possessors. Proper jurisdiction can vary based on the type, circumstances, and location(s) of the crime(s) associated with the LA CGIC case.

7 LA CGIC provides feedback to all of the partners involved and officers who assisted in retrieving casings and conducting the investigations. In 2018 and 2019, monthly meetings were convened to provide feedback to the LA CGIC partners. At roll calls for 77th Street patrol officers, LA CGIC team members would provide information about the value of obtaining gun casings from shooting scenes even though no suspects or witnesses were present.

Los Angeles Crime Gun Intelligence Center Workflow



Figure 1. Los Angeles Crime Gun Intelligence Center Workflow

Source: ATF CGIC Website <https://crimegunintelcenters.org/cgic-concept/>

Agencies and Personnel Involved in the LA CGIC

Units and personnel from the LAPD, ATF, USAO, LADA, and LACA are involved in LA CGIC operations. All of the partners signed a Memorandum of Understanding at the outset of the grant. Each month the LA CGIC team met to discuss intelligence packages, follow-up investigations, prosecutions, and shootings that required special attention (e.g., gang retaliations, homicides, etc.).

Figure 2 displays the LA CGIC organizational chart that shows the agencies and units involved in the process.



Figure 2. Los Angeles Crime Gun Intelligence Center Flowchart

LAPD (Operations South Bureau, 77th Street Division, and Forensic Science Division)

LA CGIC units include OSB command staff, LA CGIC investigators, 77th Street Division detectives, 77th Street Division patrol officers, Probation and Parole, and the Forensic Science Division.

Operations South Bureau

OSB command staff is responsible for overseeing administrative-level duties related to the LA CGIC. During implementation, OSB command staff assisted in the planning and development of LA CGIC operations at 77th Street Division police station, which is co-located with OSB at 7600 Broadway.

Importantly, OSB command staff heeded the request for a separate Task Force office and for the grant-purchased NIBIN machine (Brasstrax). This meant that office space was needed to house the Task Force and a secure room was needed for Brasstrax. In both instances, office space was freed up to accommodate the project. In essence, the offices became “the Center.”

The new office space allowed for more interactions among the ATF Task Force, detectives and officers at 77th Street and with South Bureau Homicide detectives. During our interviews, an LAPD investigator observed that **“A major change the grant has provided us with is the intelligence room at 77th, and it is the hub where communication happens. When we moved to 77th, it enforced communication. Detectives will randomly come up to us and ask us for help.”**



LA CGIC Investigators

LAPD officers and detectives earned designations from ATF as Task Force Officers (TFO) to work side-by-side with ATF on the LA CGIC team. An LAPD sergeant and detective supervisor are in charge of overseeing the LA CGIC investigative team. Their responsibilities include acting as primary investigators or assisting in the investigations of firearm-related crime in 77th Street Division (and all of South Bureau after October 1, 2018). The investigators triage and assign LA CGIC cases to their detectives as needed. The third LAPD ATF TFO is designated as the NIBIN Coordinator. The NIBIN Coordinator is responsible for tracking all firearm-related arrests, LA CGIC cases, arrestees, seized firearms, and prosecution outcomes in 77th Street Division. One LAPD supervisor commented that **“the absolute most important part of a successfully operating CGIC is to have a NIBIN Coordinator. The ATF and LAPD need information, such as reports, and having a NIBIN Coordinator makes the process so much easier. I don’t think CGIC could operate without one.”**

77th Street Division and South Bureau Detectives

Some 77th Street Division detectives were assigned to LA CGIC to work on or assist in investigations of firearms-related crime in 77th Street Division (their role was expanded to all of South Bureau after October 1, 2018). 77th Street detectives not assigned to the LA CGIC (and South Bureau Homicide) retained their normal roles within their respective units (i.e., gangs, narcotics, domestic violence, etc.). Nonetheless, these detectives coordinated with LA CGIC personnel in cases where a NIBIN link is established. Detectives relay case information to the LA CGIC team and request assistance in CGIC cases when needed.

77th Street Division Patrol Officers

The request for comprehensive casing collection was relayed to patrol officers at roll calls in 77th Street Division in 2017 (and officers in the rest of South Bureau after October 1, 2018). In addition to normal duties, patrol officers were asked to collect any and all bullet casings from firearm-related crime incidents regardless of crime type or severity. Officers retrieve casings and submit them for NIBIN entry at the 77th Street Division or Forensic Science Division office location.

Department of Probation and Parole

The departments of probation and parole coordinate with the LA CGIC team for probation/parole compliance checks. Many of the suspects in LA CGIC cases are prohibited firearm possessors (see page 17), so probation/parole search conditions allow LA CGIC personnel to locate firearms used in firearm-related crimes. LA CGIC investigators coordinate with Department of Probation and Parole to conduct these searches.



LAPD's Forensic Science Division

The LAPD Forensic Science Division manages the Department's NIBIN operations and is primarily responsible for processing all firearm-related evidence throughout the Department. The LA CGIC required prioritization of 77th Street Division evidence (the other three South Bureau Divisions were prioritized after October 1, 2018). Forensic Science Division coordinates with NNCTC to identify NIBIN hits and transmit NIBIN leads to LA CGIC personnel and divisional Department contacts.

Forensic Science Division is located at a separate facility on the campus of California State University Los Angeles (CSULA), about 13 miles from 77th Street Division and a 20-40-minute drive, depending on traffic. To eliminate the travel time for detectives to and from the CSULA site, as mentioned above, a 'satellite' site was created at 77th Street Division. A Brasstrax machine (for NIBIN entry) was purchased through the grant, and a Forensic Science Division NIBIN analyst was assigned to the office. The analyst processes most of the firearm casings collected by officers in 77th Street Division. ATF arranged for a direct and secured link to the correlation center in Huntsville, which facilitated immediate transmission of casings entered into Brasstrax. The new machine and NIBIN analyst expedited the process and demonstrated to patrol officers in 77th Street and other divisions that comprehensive casing collection is invaluable to linking and solving firearms-related crime.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF)

The Los Angeles ATF includes a Resident Agent in Charge (RAC), intelligence analysts, and investigators. The LA ATF team has a designated room in OSB. LA ATF personnel also work out of their local field office in Glendale, CA. Four Intelligence Research Specialists are assigned to LA CGIC from the ATF. Two of the IRSs are responsible for the development of the NIBIN Enforcement Support System (NESS) for ATF and LAPD use. One IRS is assigned specifically to eTraces for crime guns in the LA CGIC area, and a second IRS is assigned to the LA CGIC investigative team.

ATF Resident Agent in Charge

The ATF RAC is responsible for developing and planning LA CGIC operations. The RAC oversees the activities of the LA CGIC investigators, coordinates with ATF command staff about LA CGIC activities, and coordinates with the USAO's office to charge cases federally and secure convictions.

CGIC Success Story: Example

1

On September 12, 2017, a 26-year old male was shot and killed in the Southeast Area of Los Angeles. Twelve (12) hours later a 41-year old male was shot and killed in the 77th Street Area. It was initially believed these cases involved rival gangs. Through the LA CGIC a rapid analysis was conducted of the casing from each of the crime scenes. The results of the analyses were critical to the deployment of police resources. Within two hours of delivering the evidence to Forensic Science Division it was confirmed that the casings did not match; this indicated that the initial belief that a gang feud was evolving was dispelled. Because of the information learned through the LA CGIC those police resources were placed in other areas.



ATF Intelligence Research Specialists

Two ATF Intelligence Research Specialists (IRS) were tasked with the development of a national database called NESS for LAPD and ATF use. NESS collects and stores all investigation-related information for CGIC cases across the United States. Case numbers are assigned from NESS based on the CGIC region, year of the NIBIN hit, and unique case number. While the LAPD relied on internal data collection and storage for NIBIN case tracking during the early stages of LA CGIC, the LAPD is currently using NESS in conjunction with the ATF to track their CGIC cases.

The third ATF IRS is assigned to work in 77th Street Division and assist investigators in LA CGIC cases by providing intelligence regarding social media, phone records, gang affiliations, and other related information. This specialist is also responsible for receiving NIBIN leads from the NNCTC and disseminating the information to LA CGIC personnel.

The fourth ATF IRS is responsible for conducting eTraces of firearms used in firearm-related crimes or recovered in firearm possession arrests. If a firearm is linked to another case through NIBIN, this ATF IRS tracks the gun's history to attempt to locate illegal firearm dealers. The ATF uses this information to conduct operations aimed at arresting criminal firearm dealers.

ATF Investigators

The ATF Investigators work under the ATF RAC to assist in the investigation of LA CGIC cases. These investigators also conduct the illegal firearms and narcotics purchases to locate criminal firearm dealers.

In addition to the investigative component, ATF leverages federal resources, such as eTrace, to investigate illegal firearm purchase and transfer. When a correlation is identified, the ATF IRS creates intelligence packages to disseminate to the CGIC team (see Figure 3 on page 14).

US Attorney's Office (USAO), Los Angeles County Attorney's Office (LADA), and Los Angeles City Attorney's Office (LACA)

The three attorney's offices communicate with one another to determine the best jurisdiction for filing criminal charges in LA CGIC cases and firearm possession arrests. This collaboration allows each office to strategize and prioritize CGIC cases and filings. Each office works separately to prosecute or decline their cases in the same manner as any other case brought to their office for filing.

US Attorney's Office (USAO)

The U.S. Attorney's Office is responsible for filing federal charges in CGIC cases. One U.S. Attorney is assigned to the Los Angeles CGIC. The USAO communicates with both the LADA and the LACA to decide which cases merit a federal filing.

Los Angeles District Attorney's Office (LADA)

The Los Angeles District Attorney's Office files the majority of felony cases that are not charged federally. The LADA works directly with other prosecutors and detectives on CGIC cases. If a case does not have sufficient evidence and is rejected, the LADA provides constant feedback to CGIC investigators and requests follow-up to remedy the problem.

Los Angeles City Attorney's Office (LACA)

The Los Angeles City Attorney's Office files misdemeanor CGIC cases that are not filed at the county or federal level. One LACA is assigned to LA CGIC and works in partnership with the team. The LACA, LADA, and USAO have open discussions regarding which types of filings are appropriate for each CGIC case.

Research Partner: Justice & Security Strategies, Inc.

LAPD's research partner, Justice & Security Strategies, Inc. (JSS) was directly involved in the evaluation of LA CGIC from the outset. JSS also provided technical assistance in the formation of the LA CGIC and worked in partnership with command staff to support the start of LA CGIC in 77th Street Division. JSS attended the CGIC monthly meetings throughout the grant period. JSS staff also supported the maintenance of LAPD's databases that track gun crime and arrest activity. JSS conducted both a process and an impact evaluation, both of which are reported on in this report.

LA CGIC Activity and Operations

77th Street Division

The LA CGIC began operations in 77th Street Division in January 2017. The LA CGIC team was formed, equipment was obtained, and the comprehensive casing collection mandate was communicated to 77th Street Division patrol officers. Comprehensive casing collection requires all firearm casings from any reported crime to be submitted to the LAPD's Forensic Science Division for NIBIN analysis. It was not possible to determine whether 77th Street Division achieved full comprehensive casing collection, but the substantial increase in submitted firearms and casings indicated that 77th Street Division patrol officers increased their efforts to collect firearm-related evidence from crime scenes following CGIC implementation. LAPD Divisions without this mandate were still able to submit casings to FSD, but patrol officers in these Divisions were not instructed to collect all firearm-related evidence regardless of crime type.

Comprehensive casing collection creates a higher probability that law enforcement will obtain NIBIN leads based on submitted casings. The more casings entered into NIBIN from crimes, the more likely that a pair of casings will match. Current LAPD protocol for NIBIN casing submission is "when deemed necessary." Generally speaking, officers and detectives submit NIBIN casings for serious violent crimes, but they do not submit casings for crimes like "shots fired in the city limits." The comprehensive casing collection mandate is critical for finding links between firearm-related crimes. In 345 CGIC cases from 2018 to 2019, 16 percent (n=136) of the 851 total crimes were designated as "shots fired within the city limits." Without comprehensive

casing collection, the casings from these 136 “shots fired” incidents would likely not have been submitted to NIBIN, and therefore would not have been connected to other crimes.

While comprehensive casing collection is crucial for establishing NIBIN links, the new leads generated by NIBIN links must be investigated thoroughly. The LA CGIC team began using operational intelligence in conjunction with NIBIN in January of 2018. At this point, the LA CGIC team began to use NIBIN leads to create intelligence packages, establish links between crimes, and pursue further investigative activity based on new information from NIBIN links.

LA CGIC Intelligence Packages

Following the Philadelphia CGIC model, LA CGIC uses “Intelligence Packages” created by ATF’s IRS and ATF agents. The Intelligence Packages are based on NIBIN hits identified by NNCTC and LAPD’s Forensic Sciences Division. The package consists of a two-page document that shows the linkages between the NIBIN hits and crime incidents (see Figure 3). ATF compiles and disseminates the packages to LAPD detectives who are part of the LA CGIC team. The Intelligence Packages show the incident number, the date of the incident, crime, incident location, type of evidence, purchaser, possessor, suspect, victim, and a brief description of the incident.



UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Crime Gun Intelligence Center
CRIME GUN # [REDACTED]



Agency Case #	Date of Incident	Crime	Incident Location	Type of Evidence	Purchaser	Possessor	Suspect	Victim	Event Summary
[REDACTED]	03/18/2018	Att. Homicide	[REDACTED]	.380 Casing	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	(2) Male Blacks 19-20	[REDACTED]	Susp 1 & 2 drove up next to victs veh, and fired (6) rounds, striking her veh.
[REDACTED]	02/17/2018	ADW	[REDACTED]	.380 Casing	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	(4) Male Blacks	[REDACTED]	Unk susps fired (2) shots at the vict.

Follow-Up – Investigation Closed

OSB / ATF CGIC Task Force received this investigation on March 22, 2018, and assigned it to Officer [REDACTED] for follow-up on March 27, 2018.

Upon receiving this NIBIN investigation, Officer [REDACTED] met with the I/O, 77th Division GIT Officer [REDACTED] DR No. [REDACTED]. Officer [REDACTED] advised me that he is actively investigating the case and is working in partnership with Southwest Division I/O, Officer [REDACTED] DR No. [REDACTED].

The crime scenes have been canvassed, and all surveillance video has been pulled. There are no further leads on this case at this point in time. The victim of DR No. [REDACTED] was identified as a [REDACTED] gang member. Other persons running from the area were detained, and also identified as [REDACTED] gang members. There is an active war between [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] gangs. GED officer’s from both 77th Division, and SOW Division responded to the shooting. **The below victims will be monitored by OSB/ ATF personnel.**

[REDACTED]

CII: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Out on Bail for Seal Beach 459

[REDACTED]

CII: [REDACTED]
DOB: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Last Update: 9/18/2019

UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

Page 1 of 1

Figure 3. Example of an ATF-Generated Intelligence Package

The South Bureau LA CGIC Expansion

On October 1, 2018, the LA CGIC expanded the comprehensive data collection protocol to the rest of South Bureau. The three other South Bureau Divisions did not experience any other changes to their procedures other than the comprehensive casing collection mandate. Since the LA CGIC already served all of South Bureau in some capacity, the LA CGIC's workflow and structure did not change. For example, if a Southeast officer submitted an "ADW" firearm casing in May 2018 and it matched a "shooting within city limits" in 77th Street from March 2018, then LA CGIC investigators would initiate investigative steps for this case. Since the LA CGIC was fully operational at this point, the effect of comprehensive casing collection in the rest of South Bureau would manifest after October 1, 2018.

Firearm Possession Arrests

Along with comprehensive casing collection, another key aspect of LA CGIC is a heightened focus on firearm-related crime. This focus includes investigating firearm-related crime as well as illegal firearm possession. The LA CGIC placed a high level of importance on retrieving guns from the field through traffic and pedestrian stops. Confiscating a large number of firearms in this manner may have produced two outcomes: (1) a reduction in firearm-related crime by removing firearms from the community, and (2) a reduction in firearm-related crime by arresting the individuals who illegally possess firearms. Fewer firearms and fewer individuals carrying firearms may reduce firearm-related crime in the treatment area. 77th Street Division placed this heightened focus on firearm-possession arrests, but this heightened focus may have impacted crime in the rest of South Bureau as well. Analysis of trends in firearm possession arrests is required to determine whether the rest of South Bureau participated in this firearm possession arrest activity.

Prior to the full LA CGIC implementation in January 2018, 77th Street Division made 345 firearm-related arrests and recovered 10 firearms that were either found or surrendered in 2017. Following the January 2018 implementation of the fully operational LA CGIC, 77th Street Division made 419 firearm-related arrests and recovered 45 firearms that were either found or surrendered in 2018. Five-hundred and sixty-seven (567) firearms were recovered in 2018, most of which were handguns or rifles (79.5 percent). As of August 2019, 77th Street Division has continued to increase firearm-related law enforcement activity relative to 2017 with 225 firearm-related arrests, 242 firearms recovered, and 51 firearms

CGIC Success Story: Example # 2

On June 11, 2018, LA-CGIC personnel began investigating a NIBIN hit involving a single shooting incident and a firearm recovery.

On June 1st, two police officers were flagged down by a citizen who had heard and discovered three .45 caliber casings on the street directly in front of his home. The officers completed a shots fired report and booked the casings as evidence.

Later that day, a different set of officers conducted a routine traffic stop on an individual named E.M. During the traffic stop, the officers discovered that E.M. was on parole for armed robbery and decided to conduct a compliance check at E.M.'s residence. During the compliance check, officers recovered a loaded Colt .45 caliber handgun and other accessories.

The weapons seized from E.M.'s home were test fired by the LAPD's Firearm Analysis Unit. Through the test fire, a link was established between the E.M.'s recovered firearm and the casings recovered at the shots fired incident. LA-CGIC decided to canvass the area where the shots fired incident occurred. The officers located witnesses who described E.M. as the person firing the gun in the area on the date of the incident. With this new information, officers interviewed E.M. during a pre-scheduled meeting with his parole agent.

that were either found or surrendered. Additionally, 293 firearms were recovered, 79 percent of which were handguns or rifles (see Table 4).

LAPD OSB began to collect data regarding 77th Street Division firearm-related arrests after the start of the CGIC grant in January 2017. In 2017, 97 percent of the arrestees were male, 57 percent were gang-affiliated, 48 percent were considered prohibited possessors*, 4 percent had a prior gun arrest, and 6 percent were on probation or parole at the time of arrest. Of the 419-gun arrests that occurred in 2018, 93 percent of arrestees were male, 53 percent were gang-affiliated, 63 percent were prohibited possessors, 39 percent had a prior gun arrest, and 22 percent were on probation or parole at the time of arrest. 2019 YTD recorded 225-gun arrests. Of the 225 arrestees, 96 percent were male, 54 percent were gang-affiliated, 48 percent were prohibited possessors, and just under half of arrestees (41 percent) had a prior gun arrest. Finally, 17 percent of arrestees were on probation or parole at the time of their arrest in 2019.

Overall, from 2017 to August 2019, the LAPD recovered 1,280 firearms from arrests, controlled buys, search warrants, and recoveries or property surrenders. In 77th Street Division, the number of shootings with casings recovered is estimated to have increased by 23 percent from 2018 to 2019.

Type	2017 (01/01/17- 12/31/17)	2018 (01/01/18- 12/31/18)	2019 YTD (01/01/19- 08/03/19)	Total (01/01/17- 08/03/19)
Gun Arrests	345	419	225	989
Shootings w/ Casings Recovered	179	175	127	572
77th/FSD – Walk-in Casings	198	184	122	504
NIBIN Hits	167	196	122	485
ETraces (77th Area)	365	543	378	1,286
South Bureau ETraces (All Divisions)	1,052	1,381	895	3,328
LAPD/ATF Task Force Recovered Firearms (Controlled Buy)	46	53	0	99
Total Shotguns Recovered (77th ONLY)	11	18	11	40
Total Handguns/Rifles Recovered (77th ONLY)	353	451	231	1,035
Firearms Found, 5150 (77th Only)	10	45	51	106

Table 4. LAPD CGIC Activity, Jan. 1, 2017 – Aug. 3, 2019

3 Prohibited possessors are defined as individuals who have met the California criteria for prohibition from legal firearm possession. For a complete list of prohibited possessor categories from the state of California, reference www.oag.ca.gov

LA CGIC Prosecutorial Activity

LA CGIC tracked firearm related arrests, arrestees, firearms seized, and case outcomes in a database named the *Gun Database*. Information on these arrests are pulled by an LAPD Task Force Officer for weekly reports that are disseminated to LA CGIC personnel. The following information is based on data provided in the Gun Database.

Among the LADA's Office, the USAO, and the LACA's Office, 679 cases were filed based on CGIC activity from 2017 to 2019 YTD. Federal filings comprised four percent of all CGIC filings. Most of the cases (83 percent) were filed through the DA's office (see Table 5).

In 2017, the USAO, LADA, and LACA reviewed a total of 363 cases for prosecution. Of those cases, 66.9 percent were filed, and 33.1 percent were either rejected or referred, most of which were referrals (29.2 percent). Of the 437 cases received by the LA CGIC Attorneys' offices in 2018, 69.3 percent were filed (N = 303), and 134 were rejected, half of which were due to insufficient evidence (49.3 percent). From January 1, 2019 to July 31, 2019, the three Attorneys' offices reviewed 245 cases, filed on 133 cases (54.3 percent), and rejected or referred 112 cases. In 2019, 64.3 percent of case rejections were due to insufficient evidence. In total, 53.9 percent of cases were rejected from 2017-2019 YTD, the majority (45.4 percent) of which were due to insufficient evidence.

CGIC Success Story: Example # 3

In example #3 a gun arrest and subsequent test-fire allowed officers to link suspects to previous crime incidents that did not have investigative leads.

The first incident occurred in September 2016 where two victims were shot in the torso by an unknown suspect in a parking lot. Ten 9 mm shell casings were collected from the scene. The second incident occurred in December, 2017 where two individuals were shot following a dispute outside of a marijuana dispensary. LAPD Officers recovered seven 9 mm casings. Casings from both incidents were entered into NIBIN. The third incident occurred on January 2018 where LAPD Officers responded to reports of shots fired. One of the two vehicle occupants of a dark grey Nissan Altima pulled a handgun and fired it at a victim who was unharmed.

LAPD Officers working the investigation were able to develop a suspect profile. Officers located the suspect, K.R., and found him with another individual, M.S. Both individuals were detained while officers conducted a pat down. During the pat down, a 9 mm, semi-automatic pistol was recovered from M.S's pocket. MS and K.R. were taken into custody while the 9mm pistol was booked as evidence.

The 9mm pistol was test-fired and entered into NIBIN. The firearm was linked via NIBIN to the victims shot in the upper torso in the parking lot on September 2016 and the marijuana dispensary shooting on December 2017. M.S. and K.R. were arrested Jan. 25, 2018. Smith is facing federal weapons charges. The LA CGIC is investigating the previous shootings to determine if additional charges can be filed.

Type	2017 (01/01/17- 12/31/17)	2018 (01/01/18- 12/31/18)	2019 YTD (01/01/19- 07/31/19)	Total (01/01/17- 07/31/19)
DA Filings	211	242	110	563
CA Filings	31	38	20	89
AUSA Filings	1	23	3	27
Total Filings per Year	243	303	133	679
Reject Reason – Code B (Insufficient Evidence)	28	66	72	166
Reject Reason – Code C (Inadmissible Search & Seizure)	1	22	6	29
Reject Reason – Code N (Referral to CA or other Office)	35	26	26	87
Reject Reason – Code K (Request for Further Investigation)	9	16	8	33
Reject Reason – Code M (Probation Violation)	0	4	0	4
Reject Reason – No Specification	47	0	0	47
Total Rejected Filings	120	134	112	366

Table 5. Prosecutorial Activity, Jan. 1, 2017 – Aug. 3, 2019

Activities of the Forensic Science Division

Table 6 displays the activities of the Forensic Science Division (FSD) for the city of Los Angeles in 2018 and 2019 YTD. LAPD is estimated to exceed the number of casings submitted, firearms submitted, and NIBIN entries in 2019 compared to 2018. The number of NIBIN correlations* is estimated to increase by 43 percent in 2019 relative to 2018.

4 NIBIN correlations are linkages of two or more pieces of ballistic evidence (recovered shell casings or test-fire shell casings) through the utilization of NIBIN technology that is confirmed by microscopic examination by two firearm and tool-mark examiners.

LAPD	2018	2019 YTD	2019 Estimate	% Change
# of casings submitted to lab	1,133	830	1,423	+25.6%
# of casings entered into NIBIN	1,107	804	1,378	+24.5%
# of firearms submitted to lab	4,885	2,935	5,031	+3.0%
# of firearms test fired	3,869	2,345	4,019	+3.9%
# of casings & test fires entered into NIBIN	4,976	3,149	5,397	+8.5%
Acquisition to Lead/Hit Ratio = # of Hits/# of Acquisitions; where a hit is counted ONLY if found at the time of the original acquisition	10.7%	10.6%	10.6%	-0.1%
# of NIBIN leads (high confidence correlations)	583	488	836	+43.4%

Table 6. LAPD Citywide NIBIN Activity Jan. 1, 2018 -Jul. 31, 2019

Table 7 shows the activities of Forensic Science Division isolated to 77th Street Division in 2018 and 2019 YTD. 77th Street Division is estimated to increase the number of casings submitted to the lab and entered into NIBIN by over 48 percent in 2019 relative to 2018. While the 2019 estimate of firearms submitted and test-fired are slightly lower than in 2018, the number of NIBIN correlations is estimated to exceed that of 2018 by over 68 percent.

77 th Street Division	2018	2019 YTD	2019 Estimate	% Change
# of casings submitted to lab	227	197	338	+48.9%
# of casings entered into NIBIN	223	195	334	+49.8%
# of firearms submitted to lab	588	338	579	-1.5%
# of firearms test fired	489	271	464	-5.1%
# of casings & test fires entered into NIBIN	712	466	799	+12.2%
Acquisition to Lead/Hit Ratio = # of Hits/# of Acquisitions; where a hit is counted ONLY if found at the time of the original acquisition	16.2%	17.6%	17.6%	+1.4%
# of NIBIN leads (high confidence correlations)	107	105	180	+68.2%

Table 7. 77th Street Division NIBIN Activity Jan. 1, 2018 -Jul. 31, 2019

FSD Evidence Collection and Entry

Tables 8 through 10 display the activities of the Forensic Science Division in terms of evidence collection and entry pre- and post-CGIC implementation. Forensic Science Divisions averaged 4,355 guns received and 1,233 items of evidence entered into NIBIN from 2015 to 2017. After the full implementation of LA CGIC in January of 2018, the number of firearms received increased by about 10 percent, while evidence entry dropped slightly (7.8 percent) from the 2015-2017 average. Guns and evidence are estimated to increase by 7 percent and 24 percent, respectively in 2019 (see Table 8). In addition, a greater ratio of firearms was test-fired and entered

into NIBIN (4 percent increase) in 2018 and 2019 compared to the 2015-2017 average (see Table 9). Table 10 displays the number of bullets and discharged cartridge casings entered into NIBIN over the 4 ½ year period. The number of bullets entered into NIBIN is estimated to increase 87 percent in 2019 relative to 2018, and the number of discharged cartridge casings is estimated to increase by over 21 percent in 2019.

	2015-17 Avg.	2018	2019 Estimate	2019 YTD
Guns Received	4355 (-%)	4784 (+9.9%)	5121 (+7.0%)	2988
Evidence Entered	1223 (-%)	1127 (-7.8%)	1397 (+24.0%)	815

Table 8. Evidence Collection and Entry, Jan 1. 2015 – Jul. 31, 2019

	2015-17 Avg.	2018	2019 YTD
% of Firearms Entered into NIBIN	77%	81%	81%

Table 9. Percent of Firearms Entered into NIBIN, Jan 1. 2015 – Jul. 31, 2019

	2015-17 Avg.	2018	2019 Estimate	2019 YTD
Bullets	33 (-%)	39 (+18.2%)	73 (+87.4%)	43
Discharged Cartridge Casings	857 (-%)	1088 (+27.0%)	1323 (+21.6%)	772

Table 10. Ballistic/Firearm Evidence Collected, Jan 1. 2015 – Jul. 31, 2019

Collaboration

One of the most important facets of crime gun centers is the principle that participants in the criminal justice system collaborate on crimes associated with firearms. While the idea seems logical and easy to implement, the norm across the nation is that criminal justice agencies act in isolation and in separate lanes. Through the LA CGIC, however, ATF, LAPD units and divisions, prosecutors' offices, probation and parole, and the research partner worked together and focused on gun-related crime in a cohesive way. During the course of interviews with LA CGIC team members, collaboration was discussed at length as one of the greatest benefits of CGIC. Attorneys are communicating more frequently with detectives and officers to resolve evidentiary issues, task force officers collaborate amongst themselves and with detectives during investigations, and LA CGIC meetings provide feedback and insight to all team members regarding case outcomes. LA CGIC task force officers can collaborate more efficiently with both internal and external departments due to their centralized location. LAPD task force officers, ATF agents, and ATF intelligence research specialists work within the same office, which facilitates efficient and consistent collaboration in investigations. Their office is adjacent to South Bureau Homicide, the Community Safety Operations Center, and the Gang Detective Unit. Their centralized location allows immediate and constant communication, information exchange, and investigative support. Finally, collaboration allows LA CGIC team members to see the success of their work during meetings and to pass that information along to individuals in their respective units.

An ATF agent remarked that **“working locally at South Bureau has allowed me to build relationships with all of the CGIC team members; being here reduces the time it takes to process documents and reports. We receive information through secured networks, and we now have ATF hard-wire lines at 77th Street Division, so we can access their information more quickly.”**

Summary of Process Evaluation

Results from the process evaluation indicate that firearm-related law enforcement activity increased as a result of LA CGIC implementation. Gun arrests have increased by an average of 16 percent post implementation. The firearm and ballistic activities of the Forensic Science Division increased following the full implementation of LA CGIC in 2018. The number of casings submitted and entered into NIBIN have increased citywide but most substantially in 77th Street Division. As a result, the number of NIBIN leads are estimated to increase by nearly 70 percent in 2019 in 77th Street Division. Detectives, Attorneys, TFOs, Intelligence Analysts, and Forensics Examiners documented the success of consistent communication and feedback, proximity, and increased collaboration. The ability of each department to work together produces more streamlined investigations, quicker information exchange, and ultimately supports the goals of a successful crime gun intelligence center.

Impact Evaluation

The CGIC Treatment Period in 77th Street Division

The implementation of LA CGIC in 77th Street Division occurred in January 2017. At this point, command staff from 77th Street Division emphasized two aspects of firearm-related crime: (1) comprehensive casing collection and (2) firearm possession arrests. We evaluate the effects of LA CGIC in 77th Street Division using 2014 – 2016 as the *pre-CGIC period* and January 1, 2017 – July 31, 2019 as the *post-CGIC period*. Chart 1 shows the trends over time of firearm possession arrests and indicates when the interventions began.

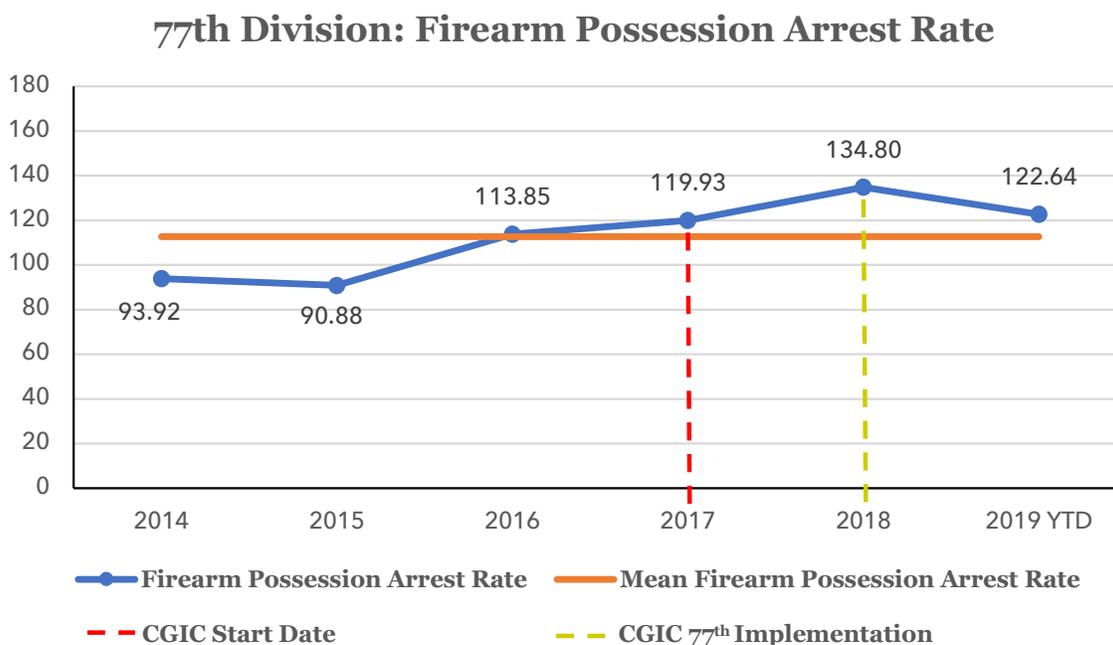


Chart 1. Firearm Possession Arrests by Year, 77th Street Division 2014 – 2019 YTD

The CGIC Treatment Period in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions

The effect of LA CGIC in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions occurred at three different LA CGIC implementation points: (1) The increased focus on firearms beginning in January 2017, (2) the use of operational intelligence by the LA CGIC team beginning in January 2018, and (3) the LA CGIC expansion to all of South Bureau on October 1, 2018.

During 77th Street Division’s CGIC implementation in January 2017, the LA CGIC placed a special importance on firearm possession arrests. The Deputy Chief of South Bureau was directly involved in the LA CGIC implementation, so the increased focus on firearms was communicated to the other three South Bureau Divisions. Arrest data in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest show a distinct increase in firearm possession arrests in 2017. These three Divisions recorded their largest number of firearm possession arrests in 2017 compared to the rest of the 5½-year period (see Chart 2). This indicates that Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest increased firearm-related crime suppression activity following the start of 77th Street’s LA CGIC implementation in January 2017.

HBR, SOE, & SOW: Firearm Possession Arrest Rate

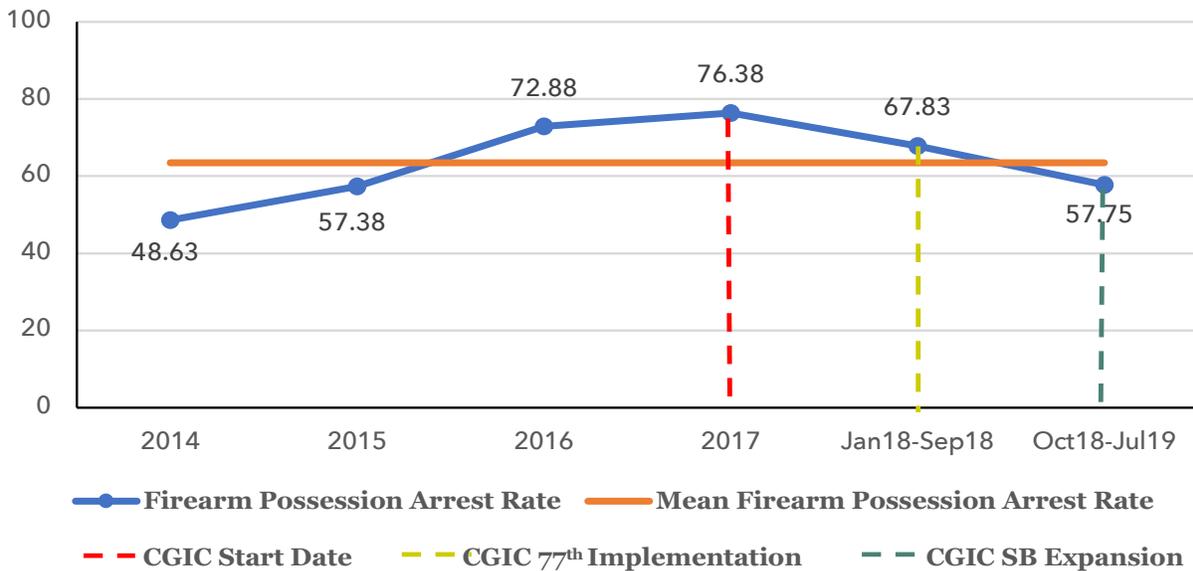


Chart 2. Firearm Possession Arrests by Year, Rest of South Bureau 2014 – 2019 YTD

While the Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions did not place an emphasis on comprehensive casing collection in January of 2017, these three Divisions were still able to submit casings and guns to NIBIN if either were recovered at a crime scene. Without a CGIC program, police departments may still submit firearms or casings to the Forensic Science Division, but these areas do not necessarily submit all of their casings and firearms to NIBIN. These casings and firearms are handled in the same manner by Forensic Science Division, and they are linked to other offenses by NNCTC. As a result, it is possible for other police departments and non-77th Street LAPD Divisions to have crimes linked to LA CGIC cases. Table 11 shows the breakdown of crime locations in CGIC cases during the LA CGIC implementation in 77th Street and the South Bureau LA CGIC expansion period.

Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest had 45 NIBIN-linked crimes in LA CGIC cases from January 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018. The LA CGIC team expanded its comprehensive casing collection efforts to all of South Bureau on October 1, 2018. From October 1, 2018 through August 20, 2019, these three Divisions had 267 crimes linked to LA CGIC cases (see Table 11).

Crime Location: Division/Area	77 th Street Only (1/1/2018 - 9/30/2018)	South Bureau Expansion (10/1/2018 - 8/20/2019)	Total (1/1/2018 - 8/20/2019)
77th Street	154 (59.7%)	182 (29.0%)	336 (37.9%)
Harbor, Southeast, & Southwest	45 (17.4%)	267 (42.5%)	312 (35.2%)
Other LAPD Division	17 (6.6%)	60 (9.5%)	77 (8.7%)
Non-LAPD Jurisdiction	42 (16.3%)	119 (18.9%)	161 (18.2%)
Total	258 (100.0%)	628 (100.0%)	886 (100.0%)
<i>Missing</i>	4	18	22

Table 11. Location of Crimes in CGIC Cases Pre and Post-South Bureau Expansion

Analyzing the Effects of CGIC in 77th Division and the Rest of South Bureau

In the present study, the best way to analyze the effect of CGIC on 77th Street Division and the rest of South Bureau is a before-and-after analysis of violent crime, firearm crime, arrests, and firearm-possession arrests in each respective area.

77th Street Division Results

Research Question 1: How does 77th Street Division's violent crime rate compare before and after the implementation of LA CGIC?

Table 12 displays the average violent crime rates for homicide, robbery, and aggravated assaults in 77th Street Division from January 1, 2014 – July 31, 2019. Table 12 shows that the average homicide rate in 77th Street Division decreased by 7.7 percent in the post-CGIC period compared to the pre-CGIC period. The average robbery rate and the average aggravated assault rate increased during the same timeframe by 11.3 percent and 18.7 percent respectively (the increase in aggravated assaults may be attributable to the change in the way LAPD classified aggravated assaults in 2016).

	Pre-CGIC	Post-CGIC	% Change
Homicide Rate	27.57	22.35	-18.9%
Robbery Rate	616.43	686.10	+11.3%
Agg. Assault Rate	924.74	1097.99	+18.7%

Table 12. 77th Street Division Crime Rates, Pre and Post-CGIC

Chart 3 displays the year-by-year breakdown of the homicide rate. 2019 YTD represents the estimated crime rate for 2019 based on the January 1 – July 31, 2019 crime data and the 2016-2018 average number of crimes in August – December.

77th Street Division recorded a homicide rate between 25.15 and 29.62 from 2014 to 2017. In both 2018 and 2019 YTD, 77th Street Division recorded a homicide rate below 25.

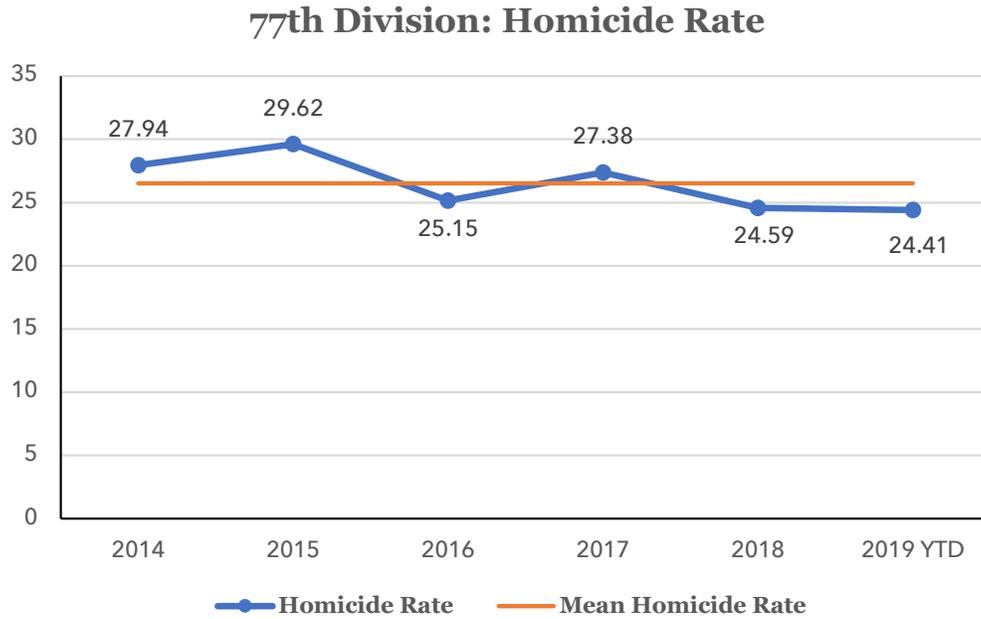


Chart 3. 77th Street Division: Homicide Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

The robbery rate increased every year in 77th Street Division from 2014 to 2017 before steeply declining in 2018. The robbery rate in 77th Street remained stable from 2018 to 2019 YTD.

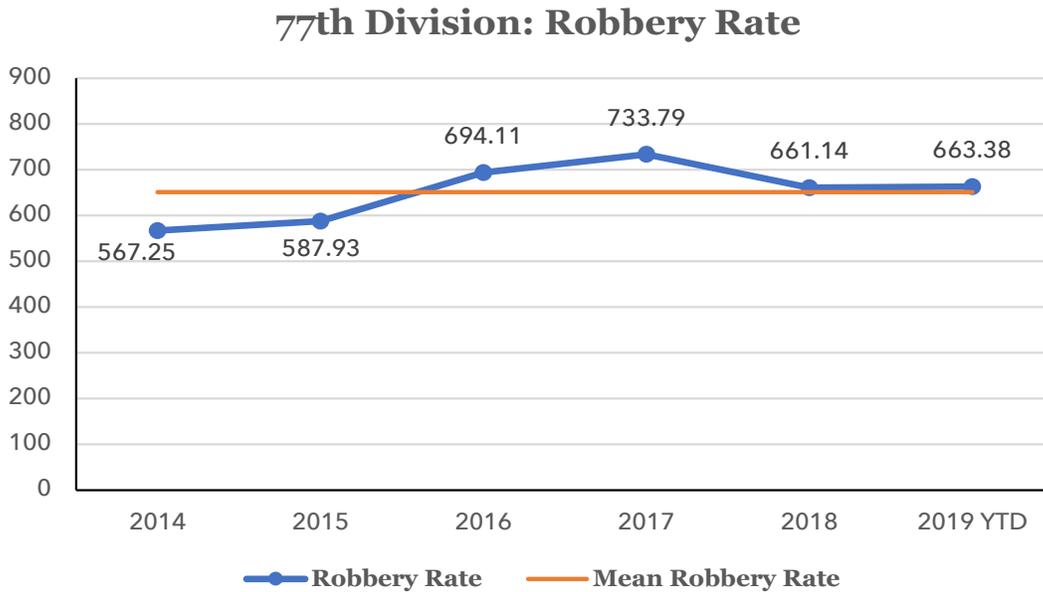


Chart 4. 77th Street Division: Robbery Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

The aggravated assault rate steadily increased in 77th Street Division from 2014 to 2017 before slightly decreasing in 2018. However, the aggravated assault rate in 77th Street increased again in 2019 YTD.

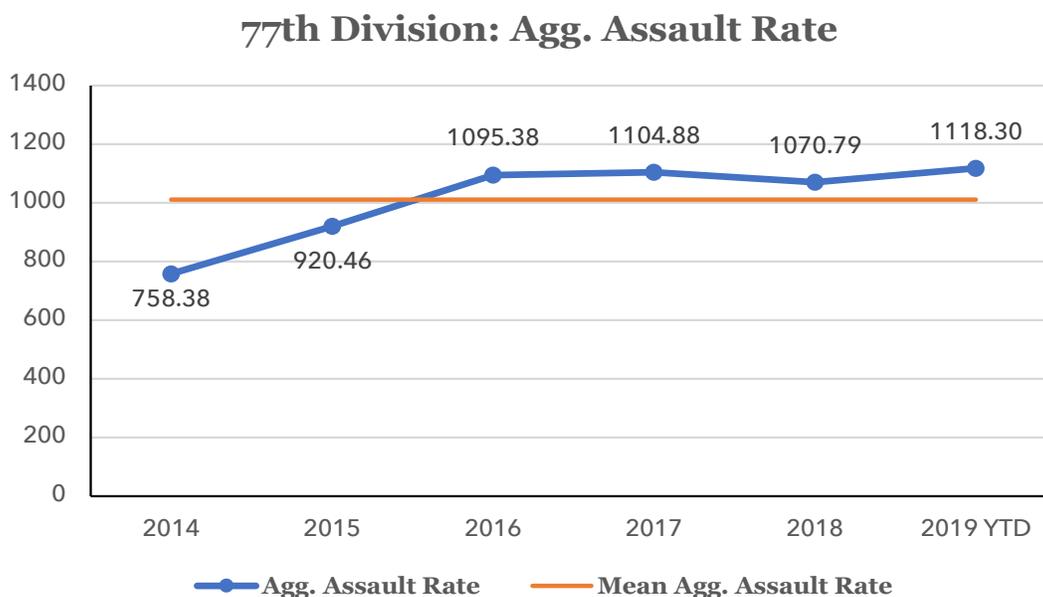


Chart 5. 77th Street Division: Aggravated Assault Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

Research Question 2: What are the trends in firearm-related violent crime for pre- and post-CGIC in 77th Street Division?

77th Street Division had the highest firearms crime rate per 100,000 residents for homicides, robberies, and aggravated assaults out of all four Divisions over the sample period. Table 13 indicates that 77th Street had 24.22-gun homicides per 100,000 in the pre-LA CGIC period compared to 22.35-gun homicides per 100,000 after LA CGIC began. **This represents a 7.7 percent decrease in the gun homicide rate from the pre-LA CGIC period to the post-CGIC period.**

For the firearm-related robbery rate, 77th Street shows a decrease of 3.1 percent from the pre to post-CGIC period. The firearm-related aggravated assault rate increased by 8.1 percent in the post-CGIC period compared to the pre-CGIC period.

	Pre-CGIC	Post-CGIC	% Change
Firearm Homicide Rate	24.22	22.35	-7.7%
Firearm Robbery Rate	194.11	188.15	-3.1%
Firearm Agg. Assault Rate	361.03	390.28	+8.1%

Table 13. 77th Street Division Firearm Crime Rates, Pre and Post-CGIC

The homicide rate in 77th Street Division increased from 21.80 to 25.71 from 2016 to 2017 before decreasing to 20.12 in 2018. The homicide rate increased slightly in 2019 YTD but remains below the 5 ½-year sample average.

77th Division: Firearm Homicide Rate

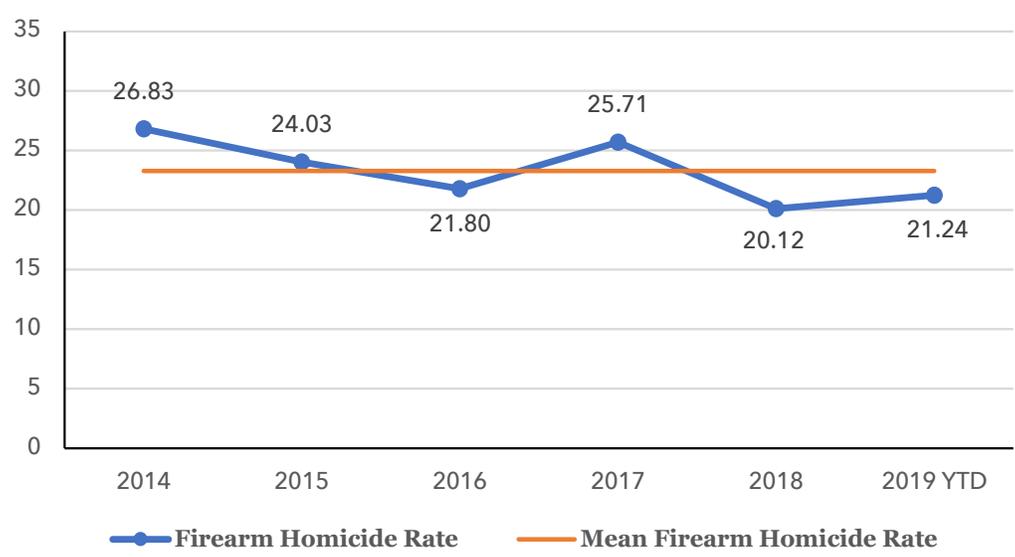


Chart 6. 77th Street Division: Firearm-Related Homicide Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

The firearm-related robbery rate increased each year from 2014 to 2017 before declining 32.1 percent from 2017 to 2018 (223.05 to 158.16). The firearm-related robbery rate increased in 2019 YTD but remained below the mean relative to the 5 ½ year sample.

77th Division: Firearm Robbery Rate

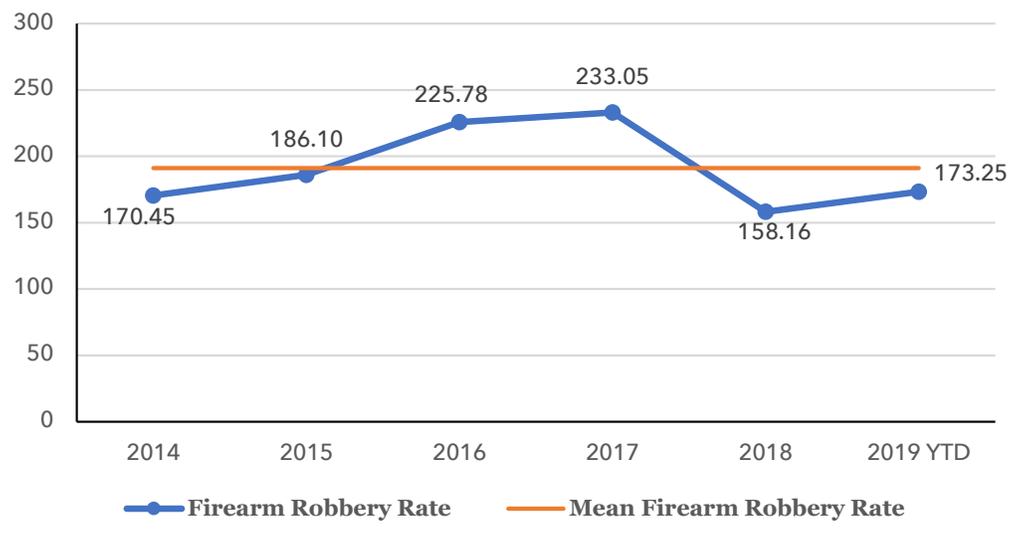


Chart 7. 77th Street Division: Firearm-Related Robbery Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

The firearm-related aggravated assault rate increased each year from 2014 – 2016 before slightly declining in 2017. From 2017 to 2018, the firearm-related aggravated assault rate decreased by 13 percent (400.15 to 348.18), but it increased to 422.50 in 2019 YTD.

77th Division: Firearm Agg. Assault Rate

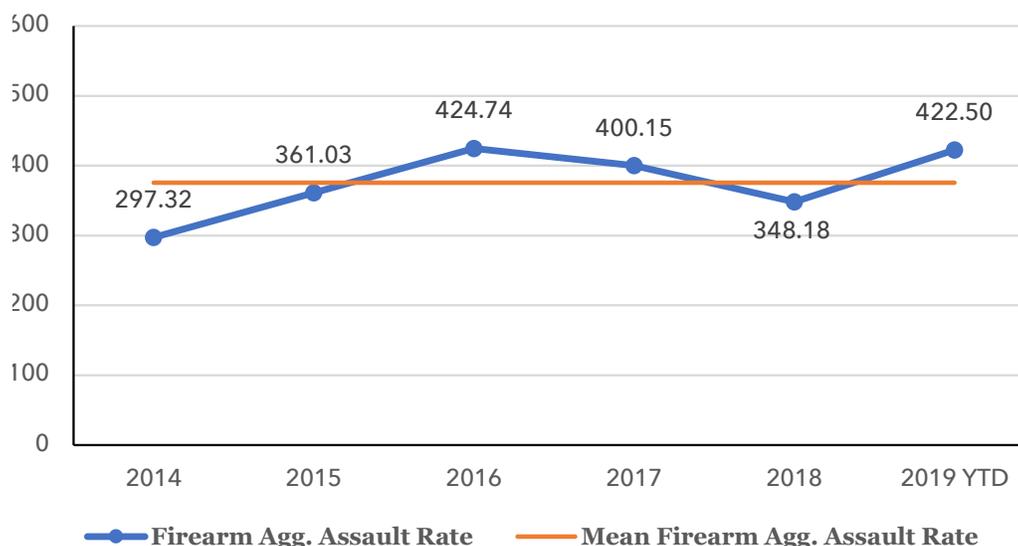


Chart 8. 77th Street Division: Firearm-Related Aggravated Assault Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

Ratio of Violent Crimes Committed with a Firearm in 77th Street Division

Increases or decreases to firearm-related crime must be compared to the overall change to crime to determine if the changes to the firearm-related crime rate are independent of crime rate changes. Since the LA CGIC specifically targeted firearm-related crime, we examined trends in firearm-related crime relative to overall crime. To examine the potential effects of the LA CGIC in 77th Street independent of overall change to crime, we calculated the ratio of homicides, robberies, and aggravated assaults committed with a firearm pre- and post-CGIC.

Table 14 displays the percentage of homicides, robberies, and aggravated assaults committed with a firearm in the pre- (2014-2016) and post-CGIC (2017-2019 YTD) periods. **The ratio of homicides, robberies, and aggravated assault committed with a firearm in 77th Street Division decreased by 0.3 percent, 4.1 percent, and 3.6 percent respectively in the post-CGIC period compared to the pre-CGIC period.**

Robberies and aggravated assaults increased by 11.3 and 18.7 percent respectively overall from the pre-CGIC period to the post-CGIC period, but a smaller ratio of these offenses were committed with a firearm.

	Pre-CGIC	Post-CGIC	% Change
% of Homicides with a Firearm	87.9%	87.6%	-0.3%
% of Robberies with a Firearm	31.4%	27.3%	-4.1%
% of Agg. Assaults with a Firearm	39.1%	35.5%	-3.6%

Table 14. 77th Street Division Gun Crime, Pre and Post-CGIC

Research Question 3: What are the trends in *arrest rates* for firearm-related crime pre- and post-CGIC in 77th Street Division?

Table 15 displays the percent change to the arrest rate for offenses in 77th Street Division. The 2014-2016 and 2017-2019 arrest rates were calculated by dividing the number of arrests in a period by the number of deployable officers in the respective Division and standardizing by a multiplying factor of 100.

77th Street Division increased arrest rates in the post-CGIC period across all categories compared to the pre-CGIC period. Notably, the firearm possession arrest rate for the post-CGIC implementation period increased by 18.8 percent in 77th Street Division relative to the pre-CGIC period.

	Pre-CGIC	Post-CGIC	% Change
Homicide Arrests	12.95	13.51	+4.3%
Robbery Arrests	87.39	95.38	+9.1%
Agg. Assault Arrests	261.04	277.59	+6.3%
Possession Arrests	117.57	139.68	+18.8%

Table 15. 77th Street Division Arrest Rates, Pre and Post-CGIC

The homicide arrest rate in 77th Street declined from 2014 to 2016 before reaching a high of 16.55 in 2017. Since 2017, the homicide arrest rate has steadily declined. This may in part be due to the drop in overall homicides across the Division.

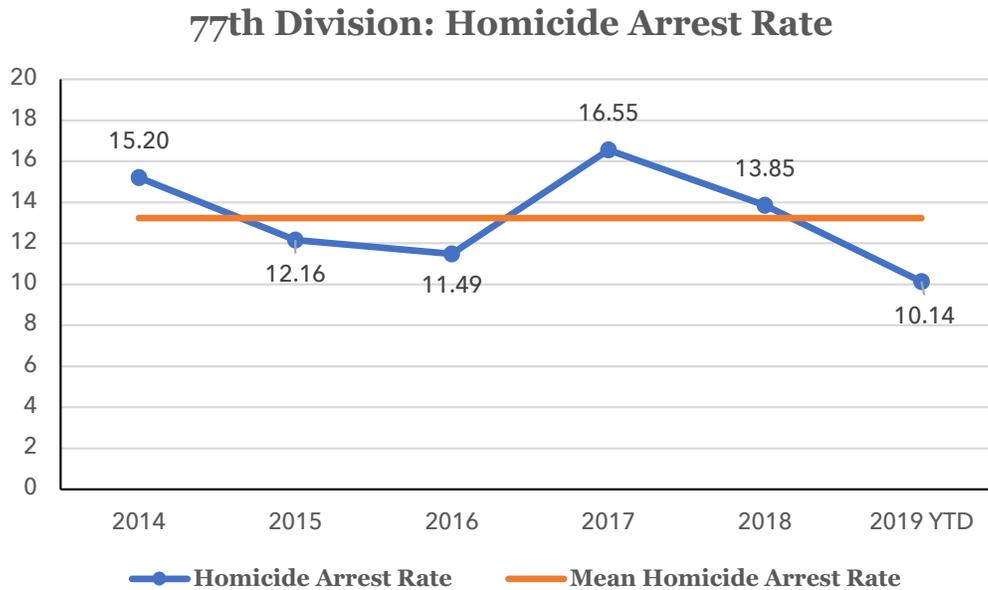


Chart 9. 77th Street Division: Homicide Arrest Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

The robbery arrest rate fluctuated from 2014 to 2016 in 77th Street Division. From 2017 to 2019 YTD, the robbery arrest rate steadily increased. 2019 YTD is estimated to have the highest robbery arrest rate across the 5 1/2-year sample.

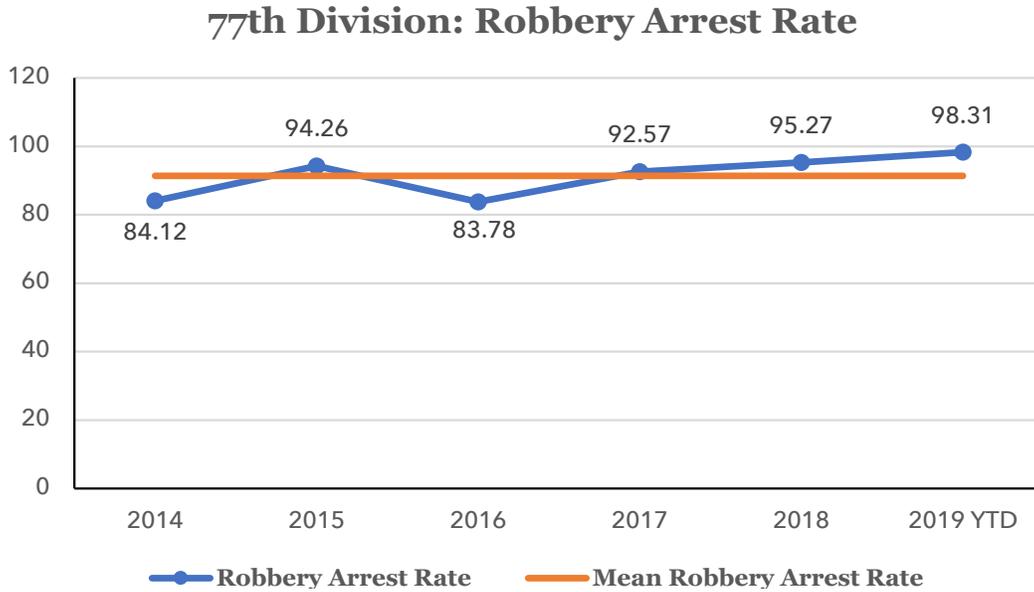


Chart 10. 77th Street Division: Robbery Arrest Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

From 2014 to 2018, the aggravated assault arrest rate steadily increased from 253.04 to 287.16. In 2019 YTD, the rate declined slightly but is still above the mean rate for the sample period.

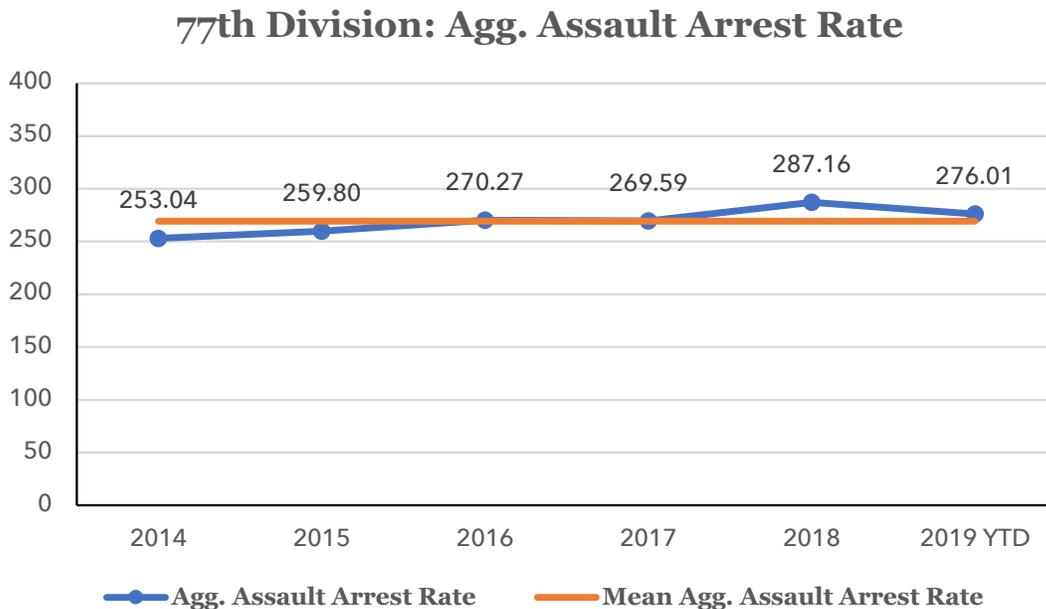


Chart 11. 77th Street Division: Aggravated Assault Arrest Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

The firearm possession arrest rate in 77th Street steadily increased over the sample period before dropping slightly in 2019 YTD. Firearm possession arrest rates reached their highest point over the 5 ½-year sample in 2018 at 138.80. The estimated 2019 YTD rate is above the mean for the 5 ½-year sample period.

77th Division: Firearm Possession Arrest Rate

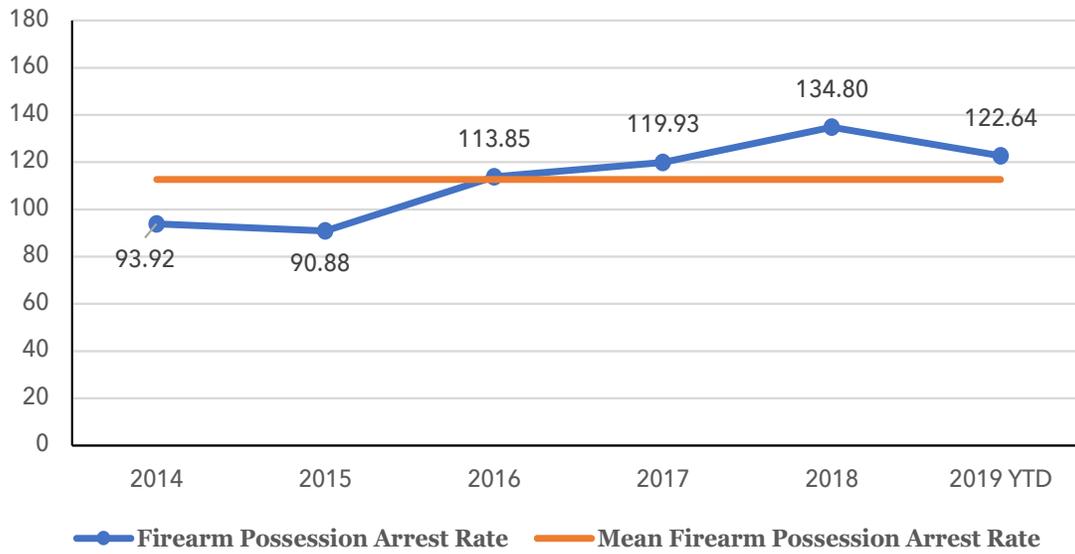


Chart 12. 77th Street Division: Firearm Possession Arrest Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

77th Street Division: Impact Evaluation Summary

The results from the impact evaluation suggest that the LA CGIC may have resulted in decreases in homicides, homicides committed with a firearm, and robberies committed with a firearm. The post-CGIC period recorded a 7.7 percent decrease in homicides and a 7.7 percent decrease in homicides committed with a firearm relative to the pre-CGIC period. While robberies and aggravated assaults increased in the post-CGIC period by 11.3 and 18.7 percent respectively, the ratio of robberies and aggravated assaults committed with a firearm declined 4.1 and 3.6 percent respectively. The arrest rates increased for homicides, robberies, aggravated assaults, and firearm possession in the post-CGIC period. Notably, firearm possession arrests increased 18.8 percent in the post-CGIC period relative to the pre-CGIC period, suggesting that the LA CGIC's focus on firearm crime may be stifling the number of violent crimes committed with a firearm in 77th Street Division.

Results: Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions

Research Question 4: How does Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Division's violent crime rate compare before and after the implementation of LA CGIC?

Table 16 displays the average violent crime rates for homicide, robbery, and aggravated assaults in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions for the pre-CGIC period (January 1, 2014 – September 30, 2018) and the post-CGIC period (October 1, 2018 – July 31, 2019). The average homicide rate, robbery rate, and average aggravated assault rate in these three Divisions increased by 5.2 percent, 6.1 percent, and 13.4 percent respectively in the post-CGIC period compared to the pre-CGIC period (the increase in aggravated assaults may be attributable to the change in the way LAPD classified aggravated assaults in 2016).



	Pre-CGIC	Post-CGIC	% Change
Homicide Rate	13.70	14.40	+5.2%
Robbery Rate	396.28	420.64	+6.1%
Agg. Assault Rate	632.64	717.16	+13.4%

Table 16. HBR, SOE, & SOW Crime Rates, Pre and Post-CGIC

The homicide rate in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest increased from 12.77 to 15.52 from 2015 to 2016 before decreasing to 13.16 and 13.09 in 2017 and January 2018 – September 2018, respectively. After the CGIC expansion into South Bureau, the homicide rate increased by 10 percent (13.09 to 14.40).

HBR, SOE, & SOW: Homicide Rate

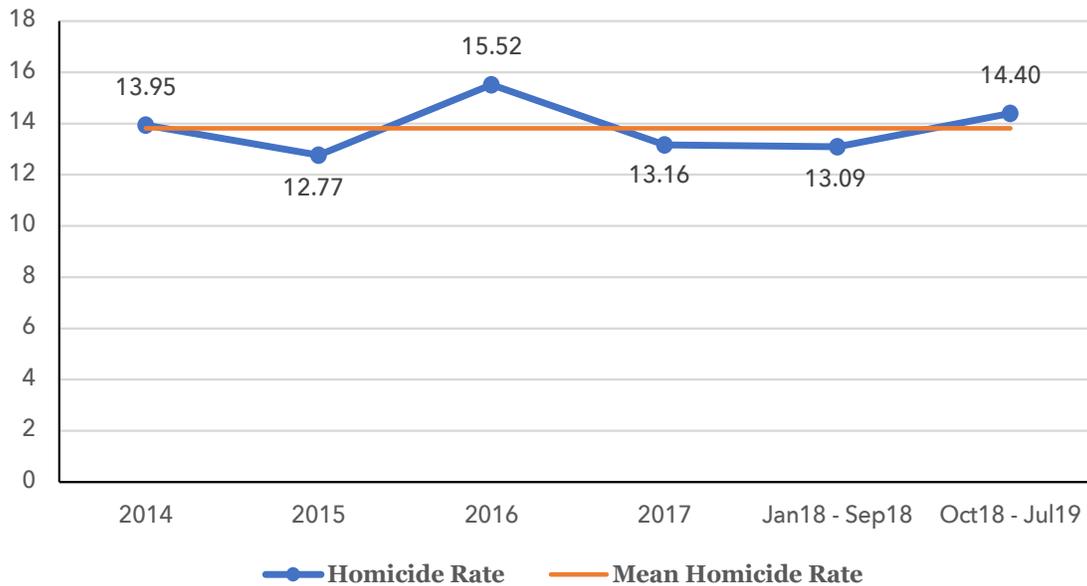


Chart 13. HBR, SOE, & SOW Divisions: Homicide Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

The robbery rate in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest increased each year from 2014 to 2017. The robbery rate decreased by 11.5 percent from 2017 to January 2018 – September 2018 (448.40 to 396.75) before increasing by 6 percent from January 2018 – September 2018 to October 2018 to July 2019 (396.75 to 420.64).

HBR, SOE, & SOW: Robbery Rate

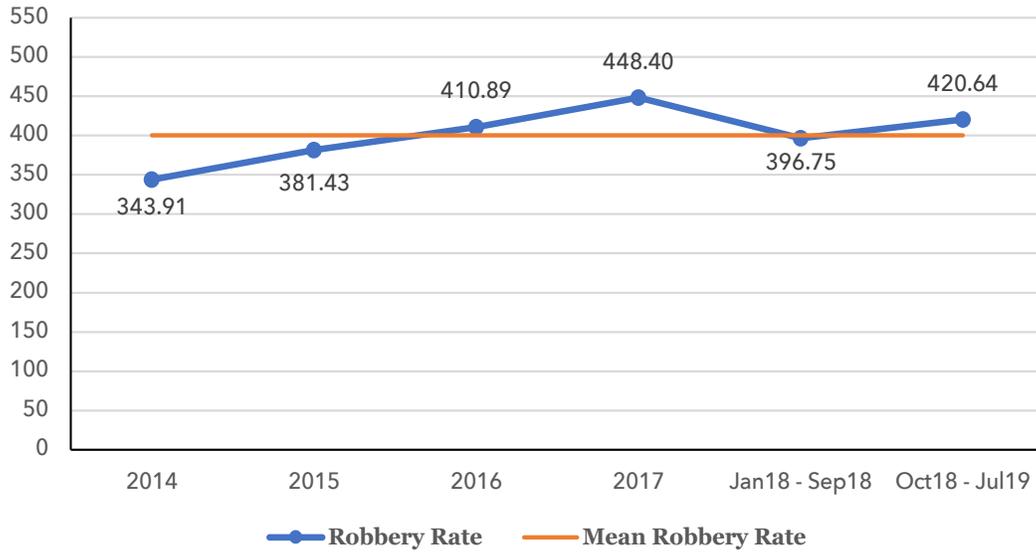


Chart 14. HBR, SOE, & SOW Divisions: Robbery Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

The aggravated assault rate in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest increased each year from 2014 to January 2018 – September 2018. The aggravated assault rate decreased by 6.6 percent from January 2018 - September 2018 to October 2018 – July 2019 (767.96 to 717.16).

HBR, SOE, & SOW: Robbery Rate

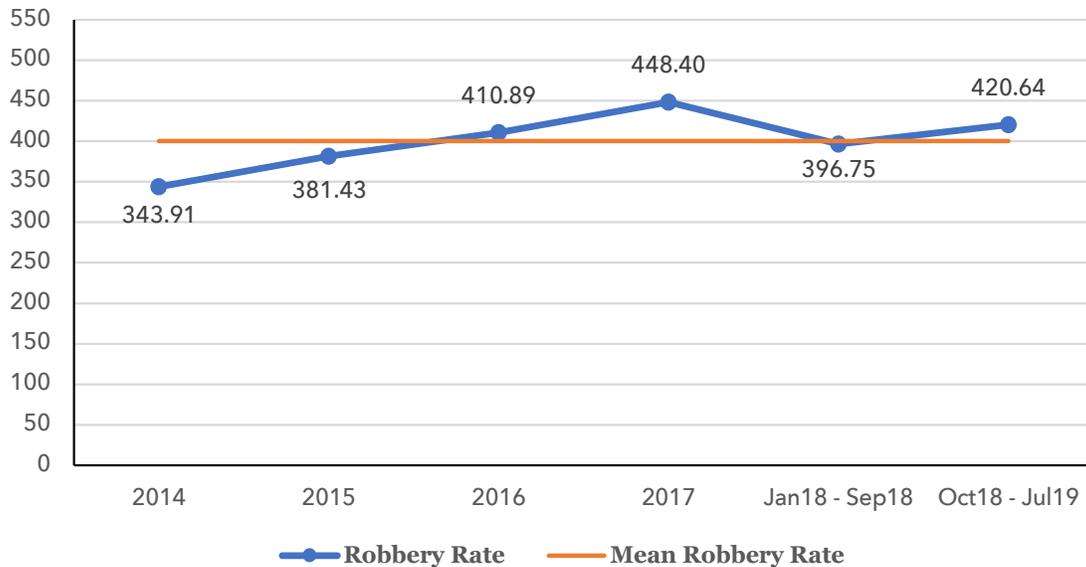


Chart 15. HBR, SOE, & SOW Divisions: Aggravated Assault Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

Research Question 5: What are the trends in firearm-related violent crime for pre- and post-CGIC in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions?

Table 17 displays the average firearm-related violent crime rates for homicide, robbery, and aggravated assaults in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions for the pre-CGIC period (January 1, 2014 – September 30, 2018) and the post-CGIC period (October 1, 2018 – July 31, 2019). The firearm-related aggravated assault and robbery rates increased slightly in the post-CGIC period compared to the pre-CGIC period, but the firearm-related homicide rate increased by 9.4 percent in the post-CGIC period compared to the pre-CGIC period.

	Pre-CGIC	Post-CGIC	% Change
Firearm Homicide Rate	10.78	11.78	+9.4%
Firearm Robbery Rate	114.47	114.51	+0.0%
Firearm Agg. Assault Rate	215.47	216.12	+0.3%

Table 17. HBR, SOE, & SOW Firearm Crime Rates, Pre and Post-CGIC

Chart 16 displays firearm-related homicide rate. The firearm-related homicide rate increased by 35.2 percent from 2015 to 2016 (10.02 to 13.55), but the firearm-related homicide rate decreased by 24.6 percent from 2016 to 2017 (13.55 to 10.21). It then increased in both January 2018 – Sep 2018 and October 2018 – July 2019.

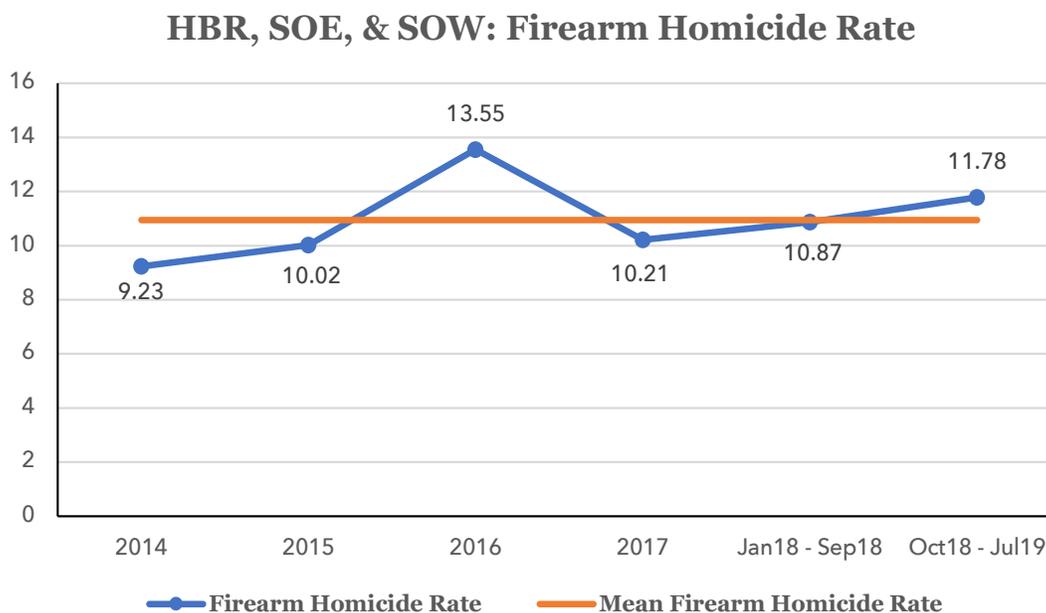


Chart 16. HBR, SOE, & SOW Divisions: Firearm-Related Homicide Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

The firearm-related robbery rate increased steadily in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest from 2014 to 2017. The firearm-related robbery rate decreased by 23.2 percent from 2017 to January 2018 – September 2018 (133.95 to 102.92) before increasing in October 2018 – July 2019.

HBR, SOE, & SOW: Firearm Robbery Rate

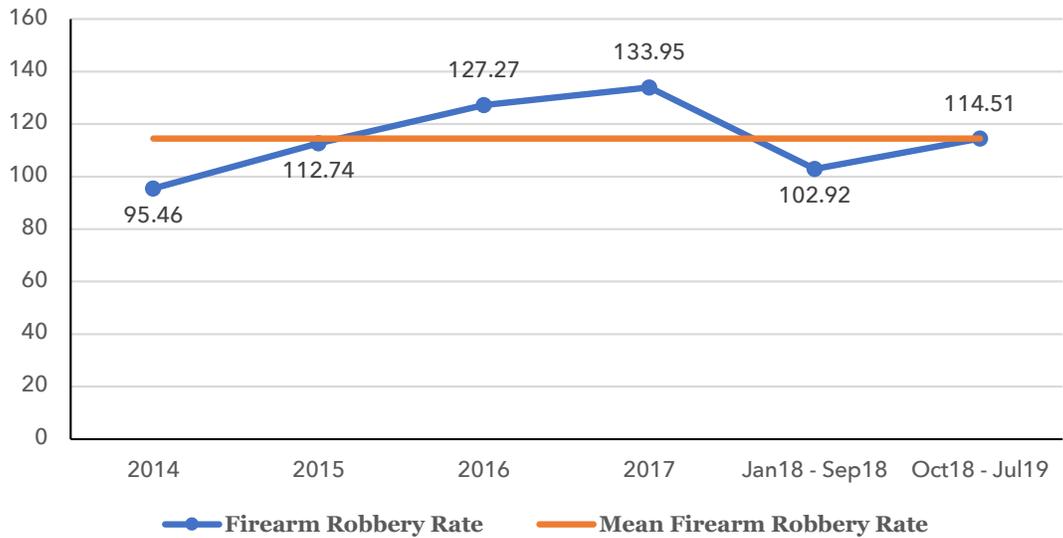


Chart 17. HBR, SOE, & SOW Divisions: Firearm-Related Robbery Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

Chart 18 displays firearm-related aggravated assault rate. The firearm-related aggravated assault rate increased substantially from 2014 to 2016. This dramatic increase is likely due to the change in the definition and categorization of aggravated assaults that occurred in 2016. Firearm-related aggravated assaults remained relatively unchanged from 2016 to January 2018 – September 2018 before declining by 9.8 percent in October 2018 – July 2019 (239.69 to 216.12).

HBR, SOE, & SOW: Firearm Agg. Assault Rate

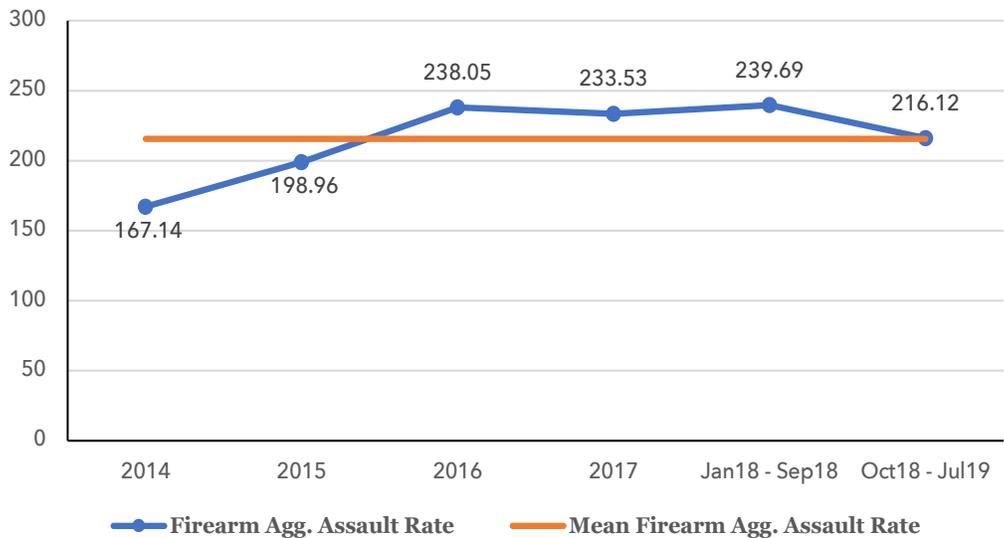


Chart 18. HBR, SOE, & SOW Divisions: Firearm-Related Aggravated Assault Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

Ratio of Violent Crimes Committed with a Firearm in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest

Since the LA CGIC specifically targeted firearm-related crime, we examined trends in firearm-related crime relative to overall crime. To examine the potential effects of the LA CGIC in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest independent of overall change to crime, we calculated the ratio of homicides, robberies, and aggravated assaults committed with a firearm pre and post-CGIC.

Table 18 displays the percentage of homicides, robberies, and aggravated assaults committed with a firearm in the pre-CGIC (January 1, 2014 – September 30, 2018) and post-CGIC (October 1, 2018 – July 31, 2019) periods. The ratio of homicides committed with a firearm increased by 3.1 percent in the post-CGIC period compared to the pre-CGIC period, but the ratio of robberies and aggravated assaults committed with a firearm decreased by 1.7 percent and 3.9 percent, respectively.

Overall, robberies and aggravated assaults increased by 6.1 and 13.4 percent respectively from the pre-CGIC period to the post-CGIC period, but a smaller ratio of these offenses were committed with a firearm.

	Pre-CGIC	Post-CGIC	% Change
% of Homicides with a Firearm	78.7%	81.8%	+3.1%
% of Robberies with a Firearm	28.9%	27.2%	-1.7%
% of Agg. Assaults with a Firearm	34.1%	30.1%	-3.9%

Table 18. HBR, SOE, SOW Gun Crime, Pre and Post-CGIC

Research Question 6: What are the trends in arrest rates for firearm-related crime pre- and post-CGIC in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions?

Table 19 displays the arrest rates in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions for the pre- and post-CGIC periods. The rest of South Bureau saw an increase in their robbery and aggravated assault arrest rates in the post-CGIC period compared to the pre-CGIC period. The firearm possession arrest rate declined in the post-CGIC period for Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest, but this likely due to a decrease in LAPD Metropolitan activity in South Bureau (see Chart 22 on page 39 for more details).

	Pre-CGIC	Post-CGIC	% Change
Homicide Arrests	6.38	6.08	-4.6%
Robbery Arrests	67.48	73.58	+9.0%
Agg. Assault Arrests	197.60	226.38	+14.6%
Possession Arrests	64.62	57.75	-10.6%

Table 19. HBR, SOE, SOW Arrest Rates, Pre and Post-CGIC

The homicide arrest rate in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest remained relatively consistent across each sample year. The October 2018 – July 2019 homicide arrest rate was slightly lower than the mean homicide arrest rate over the entire sample.

HBR, SOE, & SOW: Homicide Arrest Rate

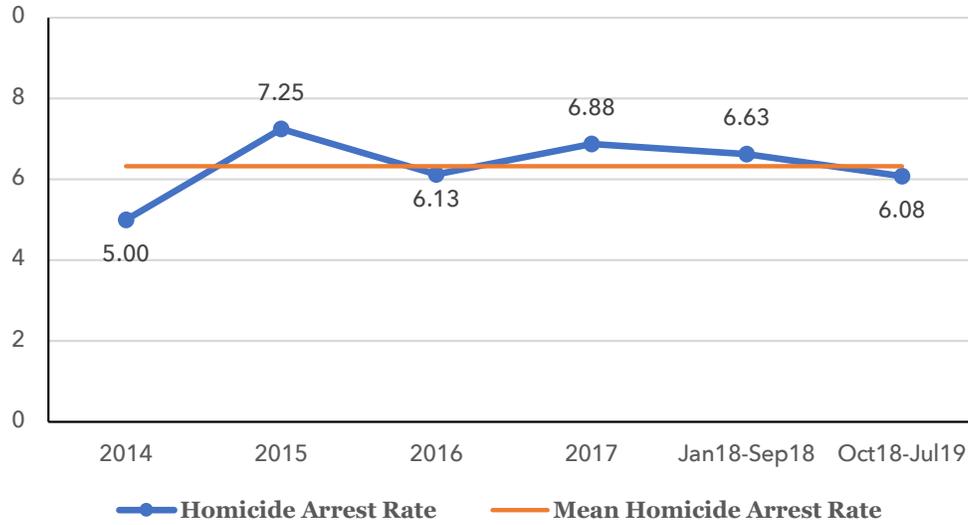


Chart 19. HBR, SOE, SOW Divisions: Homicide Arrest Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

Chart 20 displays the robbery arrest rate in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest. The robbery arrest rate in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest increased each year from 2014 to 2017. The robbery arrest rate dipped slightly in January 2018 – September 2018 before increasing slightly in October 2018 – July 2019.

HBR, SOE, & SOW: Robbery Arrest Rate

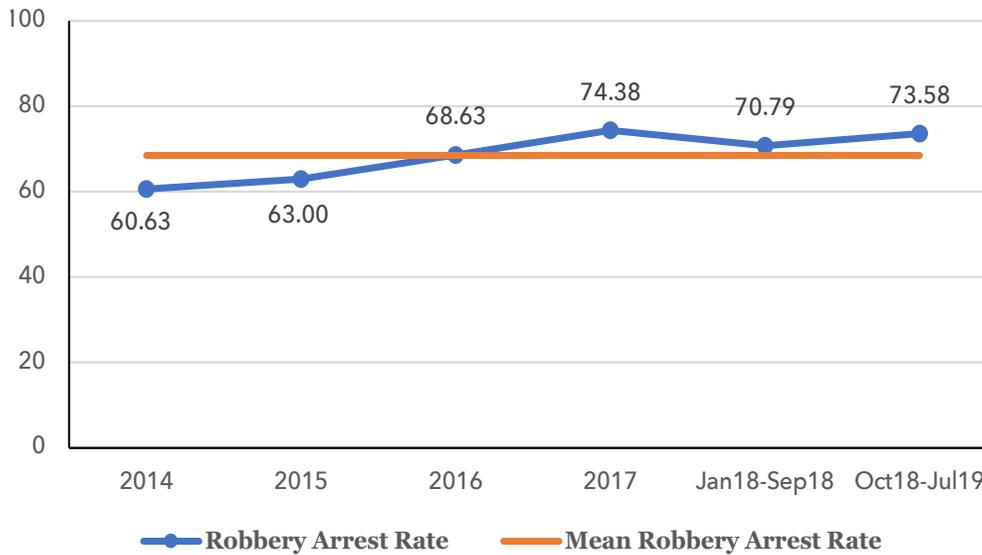


Chart 20. HBR, SOE, SOW Divisions: Robbery Arrest Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

The aggravated assault arrest rate in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest increased each year from 2014 through the October 2018 – July 2019 period. This steady increase to the aggravated assault arrest rate coincided with the steady increase to aggravated assault incidents over the same time period (see Chart 15 on page 32).

HBR, SOE, & SOW: Agg. Assault Arrest Rate

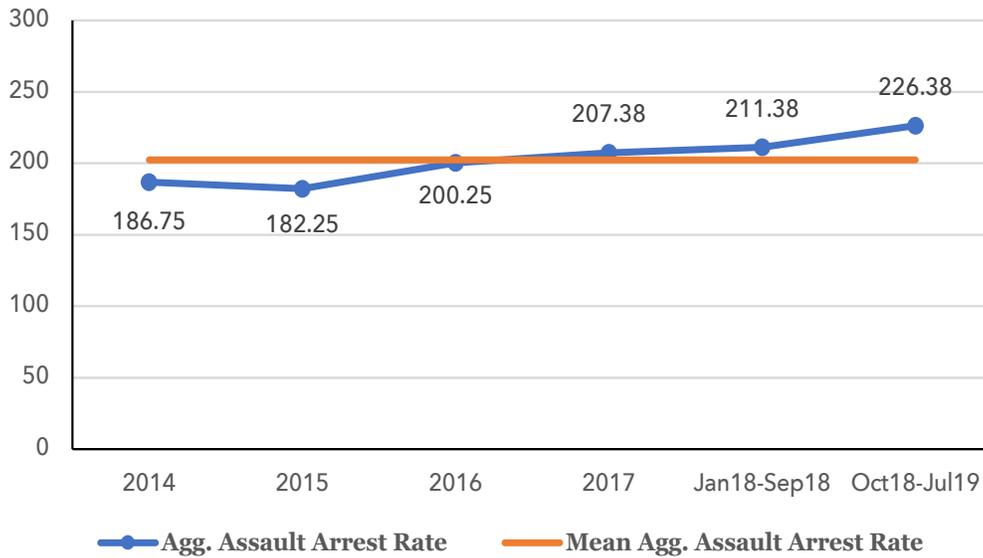


Chart 21. HBR, SOE, SOW Divisions: Aggravated Assault Arrest Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

The firearm possession arrest rate in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest peaked in 2017 before declining in both January 2018 – September 2018 and October 2018 – July 2019. Near the start of the LA CGIC in 77th Street Division, all four Divisions in South Bureau increased their firearm possession arrest rate each year from 2014 to 2017. The Deputy Chief of South Bureau increased the area’s focus on firearm possession arrests outside of typical CGIC operations. To accomplish this, the LAPD deployed LAPD Metropolitan officers.

This decrease in firearm possession arrests in October 2018 – July 2019 is likely due to the January 2019 reduction in LAPD Metropolitan officer activity in South Bureau.

HBR, SOE, & SOW: Firearm Possession Arrest Rate

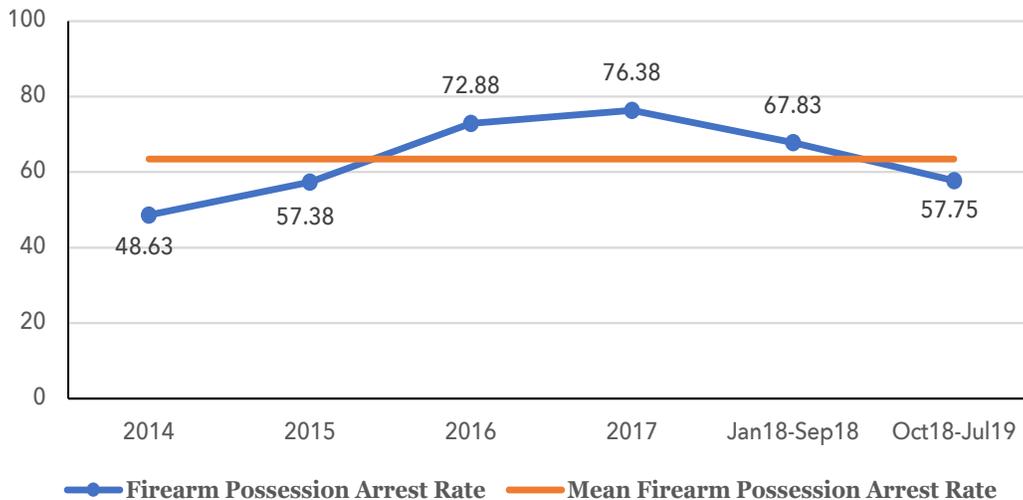


Chart 22. HBR, SOE, SOW Divisions: Firearm Possession Arrest Rate, 2014-2019 YTD

HBR, SOE, SOW Divisions: Impact Evaluation Summary

The three Divisions of Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest experienced LA CGIC implementation at three different periods. In Period 1, the three Divisions unofficially placed an emphasis on firearm arrests due to the start of LA CGIC in 77th Street Division. This emphasis on gun crime, evident in the 2017 arrest rates across the three Divisions, occurred despite the fact that they were not technically part of LA CGIC's comprehensive casing collection and entry mandate. In 2017, Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest substantially increased firearm possession arrests (17.5 percent increase). In Period 2 (January 1, 2018), LA CGIC began using operational intelligence in 77th Street Division. Due to the proximity of the other three South Bureau Divisions to 77th Street Division, the use of operational intelligence may have impacted crime and arrest rates in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions (45 NIBIN hits were linked to crimes in these three Divisions). In Period 3 (October 1, 2018), the three Divisions of Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest were officially incorporated into LA CGIC. The homicide rate decreased by 3.4 percent in the post-CGIC period relative to the pre-CGIC period, but robbery and aggravated assault rates increased. However, the ratio of robberies and aggravated assaults committed with a firearm decreased by 2.6 and 5.5 percent respectively in the post-CGIC period across the three Divisions.

Limitations

The present study identified the procedural aspect of Los Angeles' Crime Gun Intelligence Center and sought to quantify the impact of LA CGIC across several measures. There are some limitations to the study that must be noted.

Crime Data for 2019 in 77th Street Division

We only had seven months of data from 2019 (January 2019 – July 2019), so we estimated the 2019 crime rates and arrest rates through December. Rather than using the January – July "pace" to estimate the total number crimes over 12-months, we averaged the number of crimes from August to December from the previous three years (2016-2018) and added this number onto January – July 2019's total. This method allowed us to control for variations in crime based on seasonality or time of year. While this method is preferred to using January – July's "pace," it is only an estimate of crime over these three months. The number of crimes during this period could fluctuate considerably, so the reported crime rate for 2019 YTD should be viewed with caution.

South Bureau CGIC Implementation and Evaluation

Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest Divisions implemented a version of LA CGIC at three different periods from January 1, 2017 to July 31, 2019. These partial implementations of LA CGIC created issues regarding the pre- and post-CGIC dates for the South Bureau impact evaluation. We elected to use Implementation Period 3 (October 2018) as the start of the post-CGIC period in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest because CGIC was fully implemented on this date (see Methods Section for more details).



There are multiple limitations to using the October 1, 2018 LA CGIC implementation date to evaluate Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest pre- and post-CGIC. Since these three Divisions increased their focus on firearms around January 2017 and were mildly involved in LA CGIC cases as early as January 2018, the LA CGIC may have affected crime in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest prior to October 1, 2018. Additionally, the post-CGIC period only covers 10 months of crime data (October 2018 – July 2019) while the pre-CGIC period covers four years and nine months of crime data.

The 10 months of post-implementation data is likely not enough data to appropriately evaluate the effects of LA CGIC in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest. Additionally, we estimated the 12-month crime rate for the post-CGIC period by adding the average number of crimes in August and September from the previous three years to the total number of crimes in the post-CGIC period. Results of the analysis in these three Divisions should be viewed with caution.

Findings and Implications

Several insights can be gleaned from the present study. First, all components of CGIC must be implemented to achieve the intended benefits: (1) an effort towards comprehensive casing collection; (2) inter-departmental collaboration; and (3) the use of actionable intelligence. It cannot be definitively said whether 77th Street Division or South Bureau implemented comprehensive casing collection (collection of all possible casings), but these Divisions substantially increased firearm-crime evidence collection following CGIC implementation. The LA CGIC was successful in inter-departmental collaboration and the use of actionable intelligence as evidenced by the process evaluation. Information gleaned from LA CGIC case data indicate that the agencies and departments involved with the LA CGIC believe that the program is well-functioning and successful.

Results from the impact evaluation indicate that the LA CGIC may have reduced firearm-related crime in 77th Street Division. The post-CGIC period recorded an **18.9 percent decrease in homicides and a 7.7 percent decrease in firearm-related homicides** relative to the pre-CGIC period. While the robbery rate increased by 11.3 percent in the post-CGIC period compared to the pre-CGIC period, **the firearm-related robbery rate decreased by 3.1 percent.** Notably, **firearm possession arrests increased 18.8 percent in the post-CGIC period** relative to the pre-CGIC period.

The results of the impact evaluation of LA CGIC in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest are less clear, but this likely due to limitations of the CGIC implementation date and the short length of the post-CGIC period. **Homicides, robberies, and aggravated assaults each increased in Harbor, Southeast, and Southwest in the post-CGIC period compared to the pre-CGIC period, but firearm-related crime remained relatively unchanged.** As a result, a lower ratio of robberies and aggravated assaults were committed with a firearm in the post-CGIC period compared to the pre-CGIC period while crime increased overall.

The LA CGIC was implemented successfully and may have contributed to a reduction in violent crime and firearm-related crime in 77th Street Division. Efforts from the LA CGIC team resulted in a higher number of firearm possession arrests, 89 filings with the LACA, 563 filings with the LADA, and 27 filings with the USAO.

Since we evaluated the effects of LA CGIC using a before-and-after design (rather than an experimental design or a more rigorous quasi-experimental design), we cannot definitively say whether the LA CGIC was directly responsible for the decrease in violent crime or firearm-related crime in 77th Street Division. However, the LA CGIC is directly responsible for the firearm possession arrests, filings, and convictions. The LA CGIC was successful in targeting and prosecuting violent offenders in the 77th Street Division area.

Discussion

Among all LA CGIC team members, a few themes emerged as critical to the functionality and success of LA CGIC. CGIC team members discussed the benefits of increased precision resulting from targeted investigations. Prior to CGIC implementation, gun crime suppression efforts involved targeting entire gangs or chronic locations in response to fluctuations in firearm-related incidents. With NIBIN and the CGIC process, investigators focus their resources on individuals engaged in violent gun crime rather than gangs or geographic areas. As a result, enforcement is less disruptive to the overall community and more focused on violent offenders.

Expansion and Sustainability

Team members identified the need for additional resources and personnel as critical to reaping the full benefits of CGIC. CGIC team members discussed the potential benefits of expanding CGIC citywide, but those efforts would require additional resources and personnel across all departments. The following resources were identified as vital to support the expansion of CGIC department-wide: NIBIN machines, administrative personnel, data entry/database maintenance personnel, criminalists, and intelligence analysts.

To successfully expand the LA CGIC to other LAPD Bureaus, the LAPD needs funding for additional Brasstrax machines and Forensic Science Division personnel. The most vital aspect of CGIC is the timely and accurate collection of firearm-related crime evidence. Comprehensive casing collection in South Bureau created additional work for Forensic Science Division, and the same result is expected if the LA CGIC adds another LAPD Bureau. While the satellite site established at 77th Street Division was beneficial for submitting casings, Forensic Science Division personnel believe that an LA CGIC expansion should use the property courier system rather than creating more LA CGIC satellite sites.



As the number of CGIC investigations grow, the LA CGIC must work to establish a stable database and data entry methods for LA CGIC investigative purposes. The database must be able to track CGIC case information, such as suspects, evidence, crimes, crime descriptions, and investigation notes/progress. The LA CGIC currently uses a Microsoft Access database to execute these functions, but the LA CGIC must be able to share this database with other Bureaus. The LA CGIC does not have full-time personnel dedicated to data entry/maintenance, but the LA CGIC may need to create this position if it expands operations to another Bureau. The current NIBIN Coordinator was able to keep up with data entry for 77th Street Division CGIC activity, but she did not have the time to include the other three South Bureau Divisions following the South Bureau expansion. If the LA CGIC expands further, they will need to add more data entry personnel to their team.

Additional LA CGIC investigations may require more LA CGIC investigative personnel. The LA CGIC leaders believe that adding an additional intelligence analyst would be beneficial to the LA CGIC investigations. An LAPD supervisor said *“I think that our Intelligence Research Specialist is critical to the success of CGIC. The [software] programs he accesses, the maps he can generate from the cell phones and other databases are extremely useful for the CGIC process. One of the most important function of CGIC is having a good IRS”*.

While it is important to estimate the number of additional investigations when seeking to add LA CGIC investigative personnel, crime locations in LA CGIC cases are important to consider as well. If the LA CGIC expands to Valley Bureau (about 20 miles North of South Bureau), the LA CGIC will likely need to establish a second office in the Valley Bureau office or at a Valley Division Station. While West Bureau and Central Bureau are closer to South Bureau than Valley Bureau, investigators may have difficulty traveling to crime scenes in the various Divisions across these areas. Regardless of the Bureau selected for expansion, the LA CGIC should consider establishing a second LA CGIC office or improving the Property Division courier system to facilitate the transfer of evidence to Forensic Science Division.

To successfully sustain LA CGIC operations, the LAPD should maintain its focus on firearms-related crime, retain critical LA CGIC positions and procedures, and continue to have inter-departmental coordination among the LAPD, ATF, and prosecutors. Forensic Science Division needs the resources to continue to devote staff to comprehensive casing collection, and the LAPD should dedicate resources towards maintaining the current LA CGIC team. The ATF will continue to have a vested interest in the LA CGIC, so continuing to build on the relationship between the LAPD and ATF is critical to success.

Recommendations

Based on our findings from the data analysis, we make the following recommendations for implementing a CGIC:

1. At the outset of the project, establish clear lines of communication among all of the CGIC partners by implementing a Memorandum of Understanding that, at a minimum, defines the roles and responsibilities of each agency, describes data sharing and privacy concerns about the data, and outlines the goals of the project.
2. During the course of the project, convene monthly face-to-face meetings with representatives from each agency and from units within each agency, as applicable. These meetings are important for collaboration and communication across the partnership.
3. Follow the ATF workflow model as it is a useful guide for implementation purposes.
4. Emphasize the importance of the comprehensive collection of casings, entry of casings into NIBIN, and actionable intelligence for crime reduction.
5. When a lead from NIBIN is generated, relentlessly follow up with investigations by assigning the investigations to a Task Force member or the investigator of origin and track and monitor their progress routinely.
6. Establish protocols within the police agency for firearm-evidence collection, entry into NIBIN, and assessment of evidence gathered at crime scenes.
7. Provide feedback to patrol officers who collect gun casings on the street regarding the results of the NIBIN entry (especially with successful outcomes like an arrest).
8. Create a database or databases within the lead agency (police department) to track CGIC-related data separately from standard police department data collection protocols.
9. Hire data entry and database management personnel for tracking CGIC-related crime incidents, arrests, cases, and case outcome data.
10. Ensure that the research partner is involved in every phase of the CGIC process so that they can document and report on implementation and outcomes.
11. Ensure that the research partner is involved in the creation of the database(s) and the creation of reports that emanate from the data.
12. Establish an office location within the police agency where the ATF Task Force (police investigators and ATF) can work together. This arrangement also encouraged communication and collaboration from police investigators and patrol officers who were not a formal part of the Task Force.
13. Make use of BJA's training and technical assistance contractor by making site visits to other CGIC locations. LA CGIC team members visited Denver, Philadelphia, Chicago, and the National Correlation Center to learn about the overall process and the importance of NIBIN.

Summary

The work of the LA CGIC has resulted in decreases in firearm-related crime and increases in firearm possession arrests in 77th Street Division and the rest of South Bureau.

We cannot attribute all of the success to LA CGIC. LAPD has various programs and operations within each Division (such as location-based strategies to reduce violent crime), and 77th Street Division has been actively involved in these programs because of its high violent crime rate.

The direct impact of LA CGIC is difficult to disaggregate due to the presence of these other programs. However, there is a direct association between the start of LA CGIC and

- a decrease in homicides and firearm-related homicides in 77th Street Division,
- a decrease in firearm-related robberies in 77th Street Division and the rest of South Bureau,
- an increase in firearm possession arrests in 77th Street Division,
- and a decrease in the ratio of violent crimes involving a firearm in 77th Street Division and the rest of South Bureau

Conclusion

The LA CGIC has succeeded in its efforts to meet the requirements of a functioning Crime Gun Intelligence Center. The emphasis on firearm-related crime, gun casings, firearm possession arrests, and inter-departmental collaboration has produced large increases to critical LA CGIC process measures. The 2017 to 2019 increases in the number of casings submitted, the number of firearms seized, the number of firearm possession arrests, and the number of cases filed display LA CGIC improvement since the September 2016 grant was awarded. The post-CGIC firearm homicide rates and firearm-related robbery rates are lower than the pre-CGIC mean firearm-related homicide and firearm-related robbery firearm rates. The LA CGIC is meeting the goals of improving law enforcement efforts on firearm-related crime based on actionable NIBIN intelligence.