



Crime Gun Intelligence Centers

Interagency collaboration to identify shooters, disrupt criminal activity, and prevent future violence—Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Crime Gun Intelligence Centers (CGICs) are an interagency collaboration among the ATF, the local police department, crime laboratory, the U.S. Attorney's Office, local district attorneys, crime analysts, probation and parole, community groups, and academic organizations to fight gun crime through the use of forensic leads.¹ The National Resource and Technical Assistance Center for Improving

Law Enforcement Investigations' (NRTAC) National Crime Gun Intelligence Center Initiative supports local law enforcement in developing business processes and implementing comprehensive models to reduce violent crime and illegal firearms within their jurisdictions by assisting them in integrating with their local ATF CGICs.

Utilizing tools such as eTrace and NIBIN, CGICs focus on the immediate collection, management, and analysis of crime gun evidence in real time to identify armed violent offenders for investigation and prosecution. CGICs' outcomes include the identification of crime gun sources, efficient resource allocation, increasing case closure rates, and the prevention of future violent crimes committed with firearms. Many of the PSP sites have participated in peer exchanges with CGICs, and all PSP Operations sites are encouraged to include a CGIC in their violence reduction strategic plan.

eTrace

is an Internet-based system that allows participating law enforcement agencies to submit firearm traces to the ATF National Tracing Center.

NIBIN

The National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) Program automates ballistics evaluations and provides actionable investigative leads in a timely manner.

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Below is a sample peer exchange guide using the topic of CGICs as an example, including suggested agenda topics, objectives, potential outcomes, and additional resources.

Agenda Items

- Meet with the ATF Regional Field Office personnel to discuss the CGIC concept and how CGICs have changed law enforcement's practices.
- Learn about forensic-led policing.
- Conduct an on-site visit to map existing processes and provide recommendations.
- Explore different facets of NIBIN and eTrace.
- Discuss the importance of tracking outcomes and understand the role of prosecutors.

Objectives

- Understand challenges involved in forming a CGIC.
- Explore resources required to create a CGIC.
- Ensure that police departments are utilizing NIBIN to its fullest potential.
- Increase exposure to the most current technology and forensic methods.

Potential Outcomes

- Quickly turn ballistic evidence into actionable leads to further investigations and prevent future violence.
- Improve working relationship with ATF regarding NIBIN information.
- Improve workflow and institute best practices.
- Use CGIC analyses to influence deployment and overall crime-fighting strategies.
- Establish site's own CGIC.

For More Information

Additional information on the CGIC is available via:

- **NIBIN:** <https://www.atf.gov/firearms/national-integrated-ballistic-information-network-nibin>
- **eTrace: Internet-Based Firearms Tracing and Analysis Fact Sheet:** <https://www.atf.gov/resource-center/fact-sheet/fact-sheet-etrace-internet-based-firearms-tracing-and-analysis>
- **CGIC Concept:** <http://cgici.wpengine.com/cgic-concept/>
- **CGIC PSP Clearinghouse Toolkit:** <https://www.nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org/Clearinghouse/Toolkit/99e64>
- **ATF Regional Field Offices:** <https://www.atf.gov/contact/atf-field-divisions>



Endnote

¹ <https://crimegunintelcenters.org/>