ASSET PROTECTION
FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

FOOD MARKETING INSTITUTE
Gangs and the Food Industry

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Carl D. Gutierrez
Master Sergeant, Illinois State Police (ISP)

- Federal Bureau of Investigation
  - Chicago Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF)
    - Statewide Supervisor
- Division of Internal Investigations (ISP)
- Executive Protection Detail Supervisor (ISP)
- Diplomatic Security Service, U.S. State Department
- Liaison to Illinois Department of Agriculture (ISP)
Supermarket Americana

“We take our supermarkets so much for granted. But go to virtually any other country in the world, and outside of maybe the largest cities, good luck finding one. America developed the idea, and offers more of – well, everything – than you’ll find anywhere else in the world.”

- Great American Things Website
U.S. Food Market Industry

- Value driven shoppers
- Mergers/Acquisitions
- Stable (flat) prices
- Intense competition
- Vulnerable to threats
Vulnerabilities

- Internal Theft
- Financial Fraud
- Violence/Organized Criminal Activities
Internal Theft Vulnerability

- Conventional internal theft by employees.
- Coordinated theft by employee with external support.
- Potential gang involvement with personal associate. (boyfriend/girlfriend, relative of employee)
Facebook/Social Media
Financial Fraud Vulnerability

- Increased Technology Utilization
- Online Coupons
- Digital/Mobile Telephone Apps Marketing
- RFID Theft of Personal Data
- Potential For Employee Involvement
Violence/Organized Criminal Activities

- Organized Criminal groups.
- Traditional gang violence in and around retail property.
- “Flash Mob” events.
- Public events which attract “lone wolf” actor.
Organized Criminal Groups

Pose most significant threat for financial fraud.

- Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs
- Eastern European criminal groups
Traditional Street Gangs

Most significant threat for:

- Disturbances
- Public Disorder
- Dispute related violence
Gangster Disciples

- Six-pointed star (Star of David) in remembrance of its co-founder 'King' David Barksdale

- A three-pointed pitchfork (pointed upward like the letter psi, to display it upside-down is an insult), and a love heart with wings, horns, and a tail

- Colors are black and blue.
Vice Lords

- A Five-pointed star.

- Rabbit wearing a bow tie; Martini glass; a glove; a top hat, and cane.

- Pitchfork pointing down. The pitchfork is a symbol of the Gangster Disciples; the inversion is a sign of disrespect.

- Colors are black and red.
Likely Gang Related Event

27 February 2011 TAMPA, FLORIDA —

Open source reporting indicates that Hillsborough County Sheriff's Deputies are searching for the people responsible for the Saturday night shooting death of a young man at the supermarket located at 4501 W Hamilton Ave. at 7:37 p.m.

Witnesses said two dark gray vehicles pulled up in the parking lot near the corner of the store and words were exchanged before the gunfire began. After the shooting stopped, both cars sped away, and a man in his 20s (likely a passenger) was left behind.
“Flash Mob” Events

Organized via:

- Social Networking Sites
- SMS (Short Messaging Service) Text messages
- Mobile Phones

Alleged purposes can range from entertainment to social protests.

High potential for disorder and public disturbances.
Flash Mob Outside Toronto Shopping Center
“Flash Mob”

- On 31 January 2009, in an Austin, Texas grocery store a group of people assembled into what is now referred to as a flash mob.

- Hundreds of people appeared and then “froze” at a specific moment.


- YouTube poster states: “It’s amazing that a fight didn’t break out.”
“Lone Wolf” Actor

Supermarket properties may attract “Lone Wolf” actors

- Specific public or semi public events hosted by store.

- May target these events due to concentration of people, theme, or for “Americana” symbolism previously discussed.

- Alternatively simply be a “target of opportunity” chosen at random.
Lone Wolf Event

4 February 2011  TUCSON, ARIZONA –

Jared L. Loughner will not face state murder charges in the Tuscon shooting spree that left 6 dead and 13 injured until after the federal government finishes its trial against him.

Mr. Loughner was tackled by spectators after the shooting outside a supermarket on 8 January 2011.

He faces three charges of attempted murder in the wounding of Representative Gabrielle Giffords and two of her aides. Additional federal charges are expected. He has pleaded not guilty.
Significant Media Coverage of Lone Wolf Attack
Useful Gang Violence Reference Websites

• Arizona Gang Investigators Association
  http://www.arizonagia.com

• Rocky Mountain Information Network
  http://rmin.rissinfo.com/

• California Gang Investigators Association page
  http://www.cgiaonline.org

• Midwest Gang Investigators Association page. Midwestern STG and Street Gang information
  http://www.mgia.org

• Florida Gang Investigators Association page. Good source for East Coast Gang information page
  http://www.fgia.com

• Texas Gang Investigators Association page. Good information on Southwest STG’s and Street gangs in Texas area
  http://www.tgia.net
• http://www.gangsorusrus.com/workplace_gangs.htm
Questions?

Carl D. Gutierrez

(312) 829-8039

gutierc@isp.state.il.us