

City of Modesto Police Department

Criminal Street Gang Update and Violence Prevention Strategies

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Chief of Police

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Gangs In Modesto

- There are 54 documented criminal street gangs in the greater Modesto area.
- There are 5,037 documented gang members and associates (4,396 members and 641 associates).
- Investigators estimate there to be approx 8,000-10,000 gang members and associates.



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Gang Crime Statistics

2008 (January – December)

- Gang Related Homicides: **6**
- Gang Related Aggravated Assaults w/Firearm: **34**
- Gang Related Aggravated Assaults w/Knife: **18**
- Gang Related Drive-By Shootings: **35**

2009 (January – September)

- Gang Related Homicides: **9**
- Gang Related Aggravated Assaults w/Firearm: **31**
- Gang Related Aggravated Assaults w/Knife: **18**
- Gang Related Drive-By Shootings: **41**



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Gang Members

FEMALES



CHILDREN



MALES

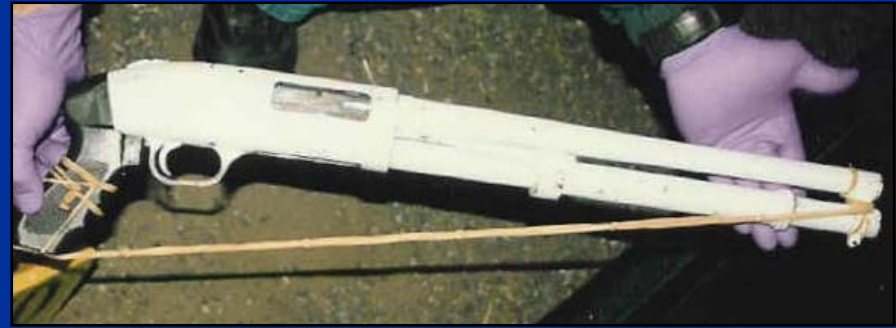


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Gang Clothing / Hand Signs

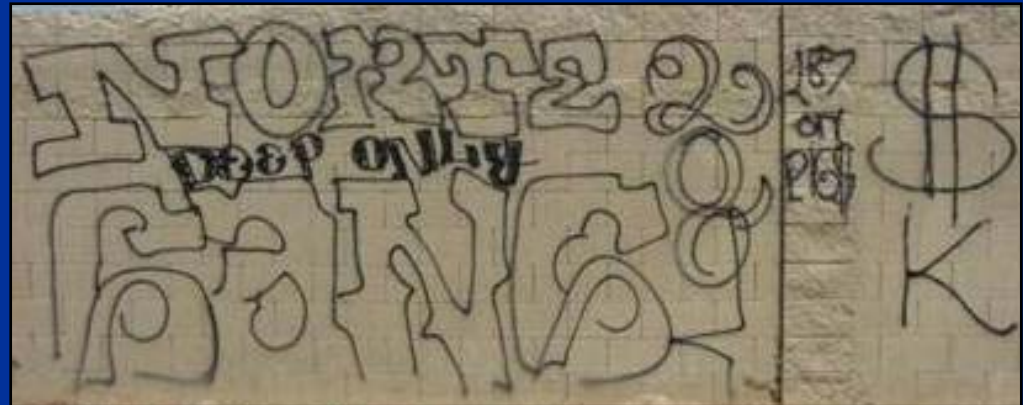
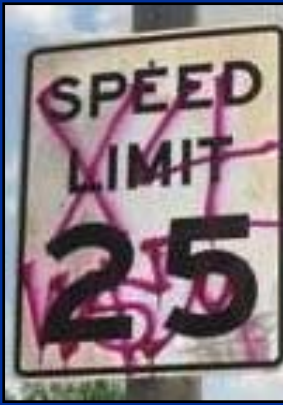


Weapons / Paraphernalia



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Graffiti



Gang Prevention Strategies

- Project SAFE
- Wake-Up
- Juvenile Diversion
- Junior Cadets
- Community Gang Awareness Presentations



Project SAFE

(Striving for Accountability and Future Employment)

Goals

- Reduce gun related gang violence
- Strengthen the employment prospects of young people at high risk of violence
- Help these young people avoid further involvement in the criminal justice system



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Project SAFE

Strategies

- Assemble a Working Group
- Mandate high risk offenders to attend meetings referred to as call-ins or forums
- A violence prevention message is given to the offenders from select members of the working group
- Partnering service agencies are at the meeting and ready to help with employment, education, and related support services
- Focused law enforcement efforts to the groups who ignore the community's violence prevention message



Wake-Up and Diversion

Wake-Up Program

- A voluntary nine week program for high risk youth and their parents. The focus is on the consequences of making poor choices.
- Coordinated by the Modesto Police Youth Services Unit.
- Five sessions per year with an average of 30 juveniles per session.

Juvenile Diversion

- A first time offender program for juveniles.
- Purpose is to impose real and measurable consequences and prevent further offenses.
- Offenders are given specific directives to complete the program, including community service, jail tours, writing apology letters, etc.



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Junior Cadets Program

The Modesto Police Junior Cadets program is primarily for 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade students and is designed to teach students about law enforcement and safety in a “police academy style” environment.

Goals

- Mentoring of at-risk youth
- Peer pressure strategies
- Gang and Drug prevention
- Safety skills
- Physical training and marching
- Teamwork and leadership
- Field trips



Community Gang Awareness Presentations

In 2009 the Gang Unit conducted over 40 gang awareness presentations within the community.

One of the goals of these presentations is to educate parents, students, educators and service providers about the indicators of gang involvement, so intervention can occur as soon as possible.

To schedule a Community Gang Presentation - Contact the Modesto Police Department at (209) 342-9162



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Civil Gang Injunction

- A Civil Abatement Injunction against the Norteno gang Deep South Side Modesto (DSSM) declaring the gang's activity as a public nuisance
- Declares a "Safety Zone" and certain prohibited acts
- Gang injunctions have proven to be very effective.



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Gang Hotline

(209) 524-7491

- Many people are afraid to report gang activity out of fear.
- Allows citizens to report gang activity anonymously.
- Hotline information will be addressed by the Gang Unit.



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Modesto Police Department Re-Organization

Creation of the Gang Investigations Unit

- (3) Investigators, (1) Police Tech and (1) Crime Analyst
- (1) Investigator vacancy

Re-focus of the Street Gang Unit on gang suppression (Formerly the Street Crimes Unit)

- Two teams of (6) Officers and (1) Sergeant per team
- (1) Officer vacancy per team



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Modesto Police Department Re-organization

Modesto Narcotics Enforcement Team

- (7) Investigators and (1) Sergeant

Crime Reduction Team

- (6) Officers and (1) Sergeant
- (2) Officer vacancies
- Nuisance abatement and quality of life

Central Valley Gang Impact Task Force (An FBI Safe Streets Task Force)

- (2) Investigators assigned to the multi-agency task force



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Summary

Questions?



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