



# SALT LAKE AREA GANG PROJECT

METRO GANG UNIT | CHOOSE GANG FREE | RESIDENTS AGAINST GRAFFITI

Lieutenant Nate Hutchinson Project Director



SALT LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
SHERIFF ROSIE RIVERA

*CELEBRATING 175 YEARS OF SERVICE 1849 - 2024*

# METRO GANG UNIT

## Participating Agencies

### Local:

Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office  
West Jordan City Police Department  
Sandy City Police Department  
West Valley City Police Department  
Herriman City Police Department  
Taylorsville City Police Department  
Salt Lake City Police Department  
Murray City Police Department  
South Salt Lake City Police Department  
Saratoga Springs Police Department  
Bluffdale City Police Department  
Granite School District Police Department  
Salt Lake County District Attorney's Office  
Unified Police

### State:

Utah Department of Public Safety  
State - Bureau of Investigations  
Utah Department of Public Safety  
State - Statewide Information & Analysis Center (SIAC)  
Utah Department of Corrections - Adult Probation and Parole  
Utah Department of Corrections - Law Enforcement Bureau

### Federal:

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF)  
Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)  
Homeland Security (HSI)  
United States Marshals Service  
Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)  
US Attorney's Office

The Salt Lake Area Gang Project provides investigation, documentation, and suppression of criminal gang activity; prevention and intervention strategies for youth and young adults; and education to all community members of Salt Lake County and the surrounding regions. This is a task force-style unit operating under the direction of the elected Sheriff and a governing board.



Participating agencies provide a full- or part-time person to the unit



# Gang Unit Mission



- *Suppression of gang activity*
- *Follow-up work on gang-related cases*
- *Collecting intelligence through contacts with gang members*
- *Assisting local agencies with on-going investigations*
- *Statewide training of law enforcement, educators, legal representatives during annual conference*
- *Answering law enforcement inquiries about gang members*
- *Providing presentations to community groups*
- *Publishing a weekly, law enforcement only, newsletter*
- *Coordinating community programs to prevent gang involvement*
- *Working with at risk youth to prevent gang involvement and assistance in leaving gang activity*
- *Graffiti removal*
- *Working with governing bodies to develop legislation to combat gang violence*



# MGU ACTIVITY (Jan - Sept 2024)



## Types of Investigations:

- Title 3 (in partnership with DEA, ATF)
- Homicides
- Shootings
- Stabbings
- Agency Assists
- Long term specialized firearm and drug trafficking
- Aggravated assaults
- School threats
- Undercover investigations

## 2024 (JAN – SEPT) MGU ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Investigations Conducted	424
Agency assists	650
Arrests	267
Cases Screened - Federal	48
Cases Screened - SLCo DA	86
Field Cards	333
Narcotics seized (pounds)	93
Fentanyl doses	12,759

## Seized

- 12,759 doses of fentanyl
- 46.7 grams of bath salts/synthetics
- 43.1 lbs. of meth
- 11.3 lbs. of heroin
- 6.7 lbs. of cocaine
- 384 prescription pills



# January 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024

- 102 gang prevention presentations
- 7 stolen vehicles recovered
- 650 agency assists
- 228 search warrant served
- \$53,301 in illegal assets seized
- 93 firearms seized





# Agencies assisted



	2024												
Cities	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Tot
Bluffdale													
Copperton													
Cottonwood Heights								1					1
Draper							2						2
Glendale													
Granite													
Herriman						2							2
Holladay													
Kearns	1	2	1	1	2	1			3				11
Magna		1	1	1	6		2		1				12
Midvale	1	1		1	3	1	2	2	3				14
Millcreek		1	1	1		1	3	2	1				10
Murray	4	2		2	3	1	2						14
Outside/Other	1	1				2			1				5
Riverton													
Salt Lake City	9	3	6	6	4	6	2	4	7				47
Salt Lake County	3	10	9	1	1	1		1	5				31
Sandy		1	1		1	1	2	3	2				11
South Jordan	1					1		1					3
South Salt Lake			3	2	1	3		1	2				12
Taylorsville			4	1	4	4	1	2	5				21
West Jordan	1	2	2		1	1	5	4	1				17
West Valley City	7	3	1	2	7	9	6	4	5				44
White City													
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>257</b>

## AGENCIES ASSISTED (TOP 6)

Salt Lake City	
West Valley City	
Salt Lake County	
Taylorsville	
West Jordan	
Murray	

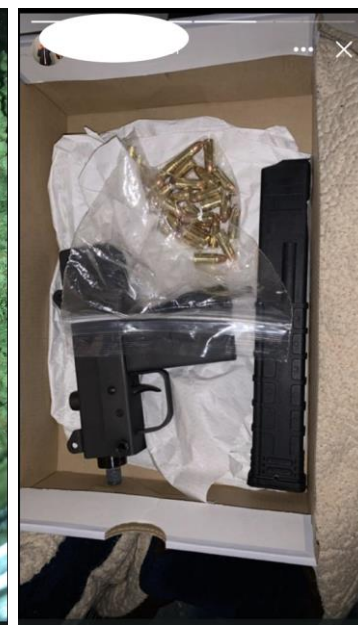
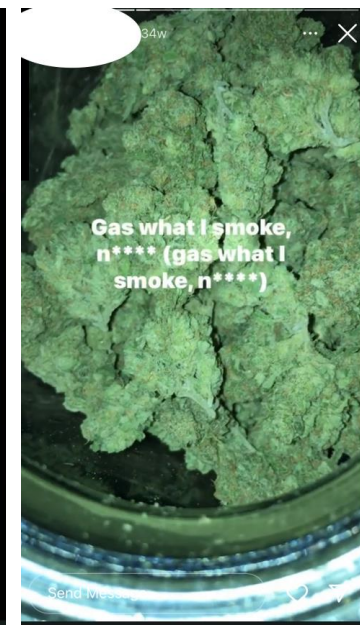
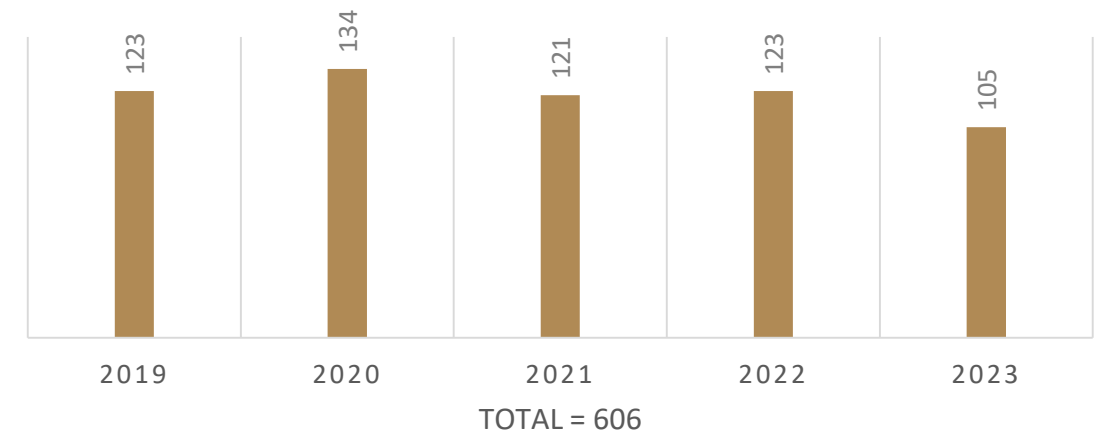




# DRUG & GUN SEIZURE DATA (2019-2023)

- 35,022 fentanyl pills in 2023 alone
- 58,752 prescription pills
- 339 pounds of methamphetamine
- 19 pounds of cocaine
- 23 pounds of heroin
- 177 pounds of marijuana
- 606 firearms

## FIREARMS SEIZED



# TRENDS IN JUVENILE GANG VIOLENCE: Violent members getting younger

- There have been multiple gang-related homicides in Salt Lake County recently. While those investigations are ongoing, they show the trends we have been seeing. Most individuals involved in each of these cases are juveniles.
- To help address the problem we are working on legislation that we hope the Council will support when the time comes.

## Additional trends

- Street activity being ordered by leaders within the prison
- Organizations increasing complexity with the digital age



### Sheriff continues battle against gang crime in Salt Lake area

After spending years as an investigator with the Metro Gang Unit, it's no secret that Salt Lake County Sheriff Rosie Rivera has zero tolerance for gang...



### Two suspected gang members arrested in death of 18-year-old on Mt. Olympus trailhead

Two suspected gang members arrested in death of 18-year-old on Mt. Olympus trailhead ... SOUTH SALT LAKE (ABC4) — Two suspects have been arrested in connection to...



### 7, including teen's mother, face charges in gang-related killing of 14-year-old boy

Seven people are facing criminal charges in the gang-related killing of a 14-year-old boy who was gunned down in a Millcreek apartment complex on Aug. 25.

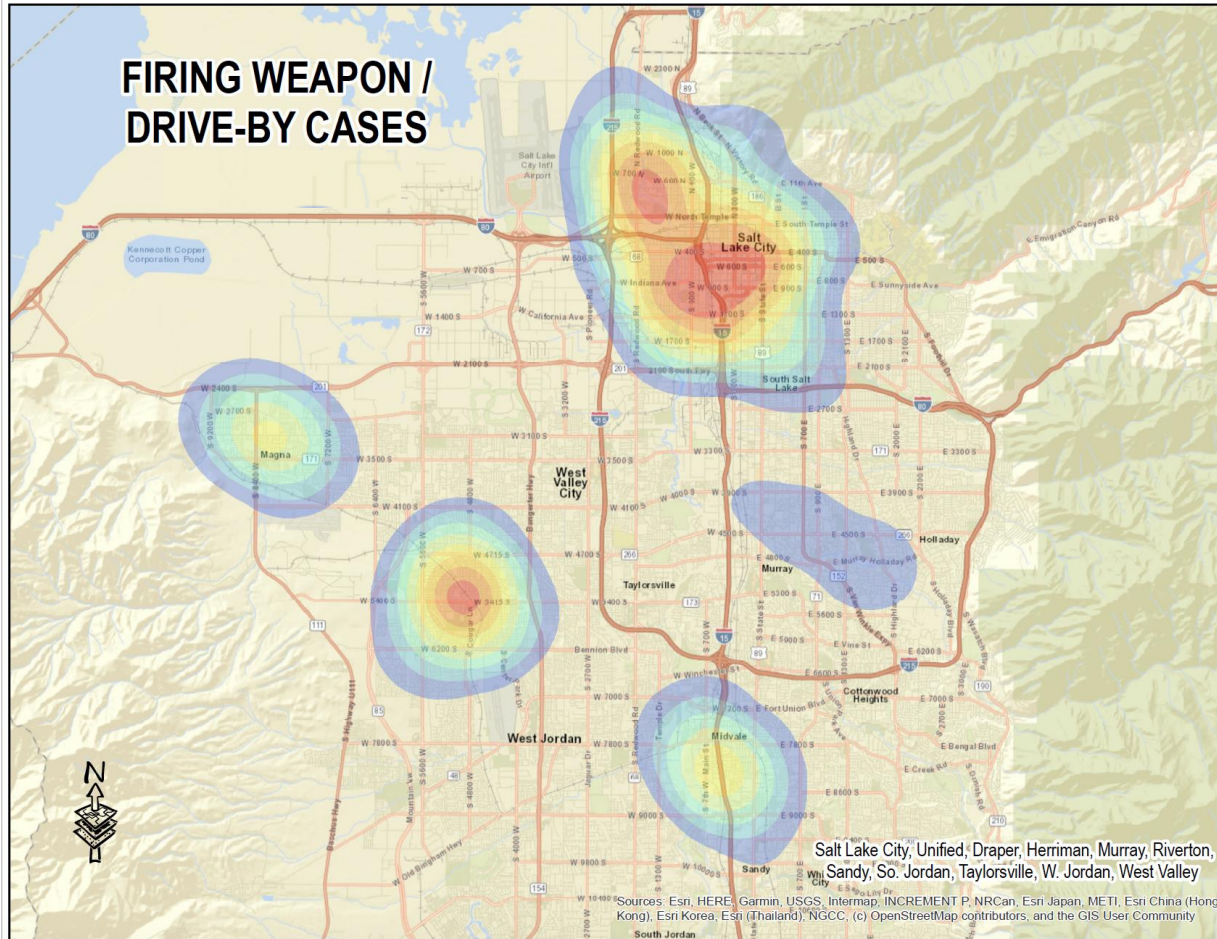




# NIBIN & CGIC - DPS STATEWIDE

## PARTNER

NIBIN: NATIONAL INTEGRATED BALLISTIC INFORMATION NETWORK, CGIC: CRIME GUN INFORMATION CENTER



- MGU operates the CGIC in partnership with DPS
  - Found substantial overlap in gun investigations with gangs
- NIBIN is an investigative tool that catalogues shell casing
  - Every firearm leaves a “fingerprint” on a shell casing
  - When casings are recovered from a crime, (i.e., drive-by) they are run through NIBIN
  - This helps investigators connect cases and solve crimes



# CHOOSE GANG FREE - PREVENTION & INTERVENTION

- 5<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum in high demand
  - Reviewing 2<sup>nd</sup> grade curriculum
- Canyons & Granite Districts currently use curriculum
  - Jordan & Ogden Districts will add the curriculum 24/25 school year
- Strong partnership with JJYS working with gang-involved youth in-custody
- New partnership with Utah Department of Corrections
- 68 Educational presentations (YTD)
- Trunk or treat, night out against crime and other youth activities

1 Program Manager (SLCo funded)  
2 Program Coordinators - JJYS (SLCo funded)  
5 Advocates (Canyons School District funded)  
2 Advocates (Magna Grant funded )



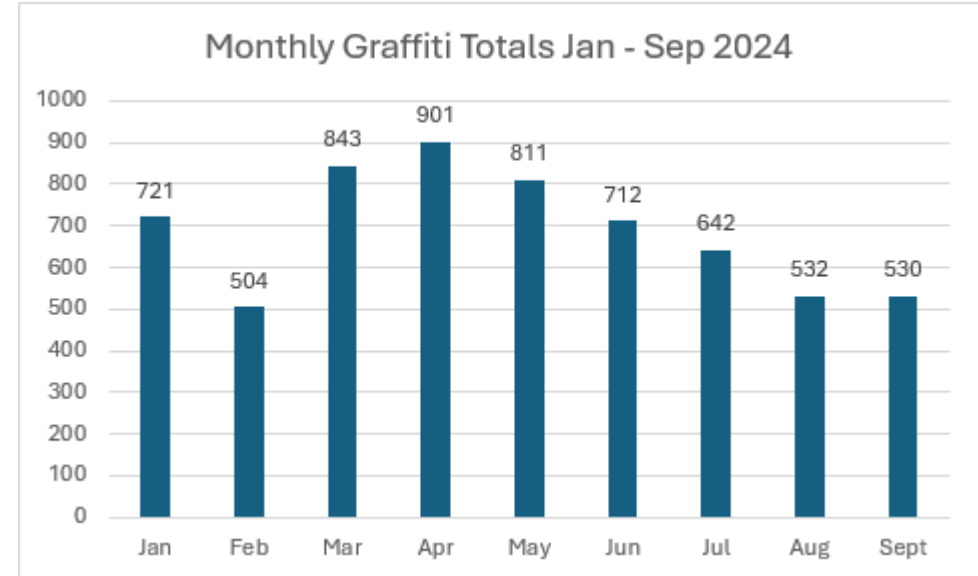


# RESIDENTS AGAINST GRAFFITI

- 1 Program Manager (SLCo funded)
- 2 Graffiti Removal Specialists (SLCo funded)



- Removes graffiti across the county



## TATTOO REMOVAL

Gang tattoos are a barrier for individuals seeking to leave the gang lifestyle

- Partnership with U of U
- 11 applications submitted this year
- Helped DOC get a laser at the prison





The Salt Lake Area Gang Project continues to be the premier gang investigation and prevention unit in Utah.

Thank you for your continued support



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