

# National Gang Intelligence Center

*Joshua Rock*

*Director*

*Criminal Investigative Division*

*Federal Bureau of Investigation*

The National Gang Intelligence Center (NGIC) is a multi-agency fusion center responsible for the gathering and sharing of timely information to federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement and correctional agencies regarding the growth, migration, criminal networks, patterns, trends, and associations of gangs whose violent criminal activities pose a significant threat to communities throughout the nation. The NGIC is comprised of intelligence professionals from the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF); the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP); the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA); the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI); the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS); and the Department of Defense (DoD). These agencies integrate their resources in order to provide the most accurate, all-inclusive view of the gang situation in the United States.

The NGIC provides many resources to educate the law enforcement community on all matters gang-related:

- NGIC Online is a web-based system for researching and sharing gang-related intelligence with federal, state, and local partners. It includes a Gang Encyclopedia; Signs, Symbols, and Tattoo Database; General Intelligence Library; Officer Safety Alerts; and a mechanism to submit Requests for Information. NGIC Online is free and accessible through the Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal (LEEP). To apply for a LEEP account, see [www.cjis.gov](http://www.cjis.gov).
- The National Gang Report is a comprehensive assessment of the violent criminal activities and trends of national gangs around the country. The NGIC bases the report on survey responses from federal, state, and local law enforcement and correctional agencies nationwide regarding gang activities in their cities and states. Published every two years, the report is available in hardcopy and can be accessed digitally through some law enforcement databases and at [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov).
- NGIC products include the following: strategic and tactical intelligence products intended to promote gang awareness and assist in law enforcement investigations by documenting current gang activity and trends; timely targeted threat assessments to inform law enforcement working in endangered communities on a regional or national basis; and officer safety bulletins to warn against possible gang threats directed at law enforcement.
- The NGIC provides gang training presentations and case support and also assists in case coordination meetings.

The NGIC works in conjunction with other law enforcement groups and organizations, including the following:

- The National Alliance of Gang Investigators' Associations (NAGIA) is an organization representing twenty-two state, regional, and provincial gang investigators' associations around the country. Its 20,000 members work together to provide a coordinated response to the violence, drugs, and gang-related crime that threaten the safety of the nation's communities. NAGIA assists in developing strategies to prevent and control gang criminal activity; administers professional training; establishes uniform gang definitions; advises policymakers; and assists law enforcement, criminal justice professionals, and the public in identifying and tracking gangs and gang members. For more information, see [www.nagia.org](http://www.nagia.org).

- The Correctional Intelligence Task Force (CITF), headquartered in California, consists of gang specialists and analysts from the BOP, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), and the FBI. The CITF acts as a central repository for correctional intelligence, which it disseminates to federal, state, and local law enforcement, as well as correctional personnel to enhance their investigations and prosecutions. Through the analysis of prison criminal activity, CITF assists in the identification of gang networks and relationships, street connections, and potential sources and targets. For more information, email [citfcentralintake@cdcr.ca.gov](mailto:citfcentralintake@cdcr.ca.gov).
- Joint Intelligence Sharing Initiative is a partnership between the NGIC and the BOP in which personnel develop and share BOP correctional intelligence with the law enforcement community to assist it in identifying and targeting criminal elements for investigations and prosecutions. Information given in monthly reports pertains to inmates entering or projected to enter BOP custody if those inmates are affiliated with a BOP Security Threat Group.
- The FBI's Safe Streets and Gang Unit provides program management oversight and support for the FBI's 170 Violent Gang Safe Streets Task Forces located throughout the country. The mission of these Task Forces is to identify and target the most violent gangs in their regions, disrupt the gangs' criminal activities, and reduce gang-related violence.
- The FBI's Cryptanalysis & Records Racketeering Unit examines encrypted documents and records of illegal activities that law enforcement intercept from street and prison gang members. It also provides forensic assistance in support of federal, state, and local law enforcement investigations, and imparts expert testimony for prosecutions. For further information, email [codebreakers@ic.fbi.gov](mailto:codebreakers@ic.fbi.gov).
- Regional Information Sharing Systems is a program used by law enforcement officers and criminal justice professionals in the United States, Canada, England, and New Zealand. It offers secure information sharing, critical analysis and investigative support services, and event deconfliction to ensure officer safety. It also supports efforts against all types of violent criminal and gang activities. For additional information, see [www.riss.net](http://www.riss.net).

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

□ **Joshua Rock** is the Director at the National Gang Intelligence Center in the Criminal Investigative Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.