

MAGLOCLLEN

Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes
Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network



ASIAN ORGANIZED CRIME ASSESSMENT

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Introduction

When traditional organized crime was introduced to American and Canadian societies, law enforcement was forced to alter existing investigation methods in order to successfully challenge the presence of a structured criminal group. Through the years, policing styles and theories have been developed based on organized crime, and specialized units have been created to concentrate on this criminal activity. The passing of the Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act in 1970 greatly impacted organized crime and accounts for the depletion of some of the major groups formerly operating in the United States. Federally-funded programs, such as the Regional Information Sharing System (RISS) Centers, including the Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network (MAGLOCLEN), were established to gain control of criminal groups, and keep abreast of current intelligence involving the many facets of organized criminal activity.

With the fundamental issues of organized crime deeply integrated in present-day law enforcement, investigators are better equipped for emerging and unfamiliar types of organized crime, more specifically, Asian organized crime. The investigation into Asian criminal groups is similar to that of other organized groups. Basic investigative techniques of organized crime are applicable to Asian crime groups; however, the degree of cultural variance among people of Asian decent and Americans makes the investigation of Asian criminal groups, by American law enforcement, a challenging task.

Due to this disparity, one of the most important aspects in an effective investigation of Asian organized criminal groups is to build a strong working knowledge of the Asian people, as well as the Asian culture. Any comprehensive organized crime investigation is designed, in part, to uncover all aspects of a designated group of individuals, and their actions. This concept is better known to law enforcement as due diligence. In the case of an investigation into Asian criminal activity, the due diligence encompasses an understanding of the mindset of Asian individuals.

Many immigrants from Asia have a predisposed distrust of law enforcement based on the atrocities they have experienced or witnessed in their native countries. Here in North America, Asian immigrants are, at best, skeptical of American law enforcement. This mindset hinders vital communication between law enforcement and the victims of Asian organized crime. For law enforcement to overcome this hurdle, it will take time and involve exceeding the scope of typical policing.

Another phenomenon of Asian organized criminals is their ability to mobilize criminal activities and elude authorities. This notion has challenged law enforcement like never before. In many cases, a multi-agency approach is not only beneficial, but essential to perform any effective type of investigation of an Asian criminal group. Extensive traveling, even internationally, is a primary characteristic of such groups. Furthermore, their ability to network with criminal associates from other regions enhances the intricacy and stability of their operation. The same type of networking must be developed by law enforcement in order to compete with Asian criminal groups and make an impact on the extent of their criminal activities.

This assessment will familiarize American and Canadian law enforcement personnel with the particulars of Asian organized crime and will raise the consciousness of investigators to the existence of this criminal group. This knowledge will not only

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benefit your agency, but will make you a valuable asset to other law enforcement agencies. In an era of dwindling resources and shrinking budgets, cooperation among law enforcement agencies in general, and investigators specifically, is an effective method for combating criminal activity.

Population demographics claim Asian-Americans are the fastest growing ethnic group in America. Early in the next century, this particular group is forecasted to reach approximately 20 million. In Canada as well, the Asian population has become considerably large. Toronto, Ontario, reportedly has the largest Asian population outside of Asia. Therefore, large communities of Asian people are becoming more prominent throughout the MAGLOCLEN region. The presence of an Asian community, which consists of families not engaged in criminal activity, should not be overlooked or discounted. This group of people is a primary target for Asian criminal groups who seek vulnerable victims on which to prey. Possessing a strong working knowledge of the intricacies of Asian criminal groups will permit law enforcement to gain control of a current situation which has potential to become staggering if not handled appropriately during a critical stage in their development.

Background Information

The history of Asia is extensive and involves wars, dynasties, occupations, and eras that date back thousands of years. The Asian culture is fascinating in several ways, and the majority of Asian people revere their way of life with great pride. Some of the events throughout history that have formed the Asian culture are also very tragic and the people of Asia have suffered through various conflicts throughout their existence. Due to these events, the people of Asia have developed a different mindset from westerners. One example of this disparity is the devotion and loyalty to family shown by Asian people, which may be due, in part, to the struggles suffered throughout Asian existence.

For the purposes of law enforcement, and effective policing aimed at Asian organized criminal groups in the United States, familiarization with an overview of Asian culture and its people is critical and will benefit investigations involving Asian individuals.

General Overview

Asia is the largest of the seven continents, consisting of several diverse countries. References to Asian organized crime are in fact directed at the countries in the southeastern and eastern regions of Asia. East Asia includes China, North and South Korea, Japan, and Mongolia. Countries in Southeast Asia are Myanmar, (formerly Burma), Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore, Borneo, and the Philippines. On the following page is a map to show these countries in relation to one another.

The cultural beliefs and the people residing in each of the countries of Asia are extremely diverse from one another, and are collectively different from Americans. Most of the countries in Asia are population dense. In many cases, the population density of a particular area is more than 1,500 people per square mile. In China, for example, 90 percent of the total population resides in one third of the country, on the eastern or pacific side.

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Regional Breakdown

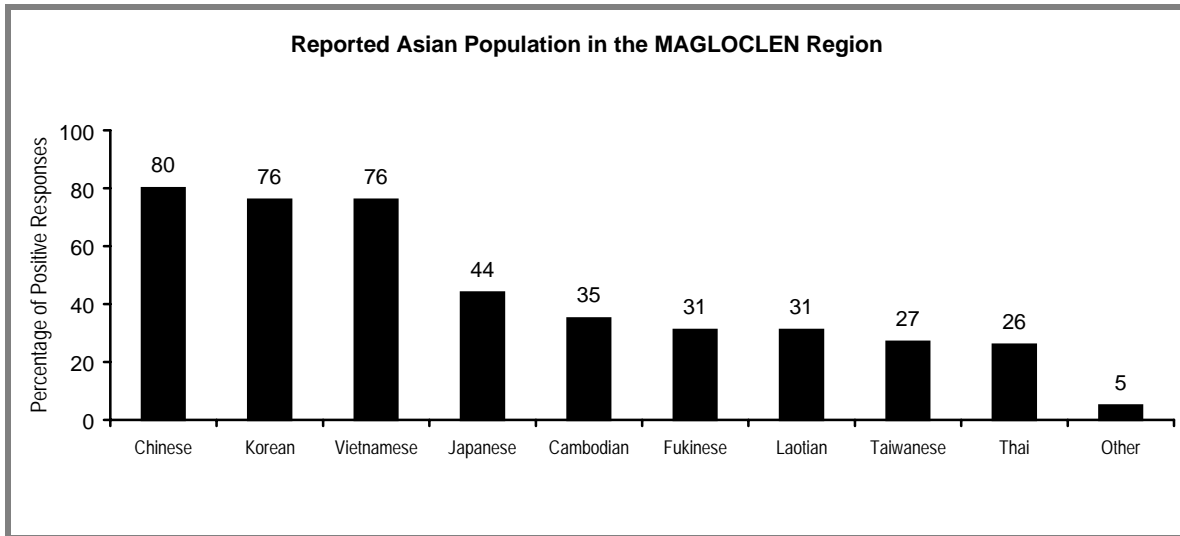
The regions of Asia differ from each other in some ways, while sharing many fundamental beliefs. For example, a central theme throughout many of the cultures of Asia is the strong observance of the family structure, which often encompasses several generations. The countries of Asia have many interesting customs and mannerisms depending on the history of their country. For example, countries that have consistently suffered the atrocities of war may have learned not to trust anyone outside their family; thus, the strong ties to parents, siblings, and other generations.

In some cases, the struggle for freedom forced people to flee from their country and seek relief in other countries where they would be afforded opportunities, such as the United States and Canada. For this reason, the Asian population in the MAGLOCLN region is extremely diverse, and law enforcement officers challenged with the task of investigating Asian organized crime will be confronted with such differences.

In order to gain perspective on the extent of Asian organized crime within the region, as well as the dynamics of the Asian population, a survey was conducted in October 1998. MAGLOCLN member agencies provided information on the trends they have been observing in their respective jurisdictions and shared some of the intelligence they have gathered on Asian organized crime.

Of all survey respondents who reported having Asian organized crime in their jurisdiction, 80 percent said that people of Chinese descent were most prominent in their community. Other significant groups include Korean and Vietnamese, which 76 percent of positively responding agencies reported as being present in their community. Furthermore, the nationalities of Japanese, Cambodian, Fukinese, and Laotian were reported as being ethnicities of the Asian culture present in the MAGLOCLN region. The following graph depicts this population distribution.

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This section analyzes the significant Asian cultures that are most often encountered by law enforcement in our region. Each one is apart from the other to show the similarities and differences that exist. However, people of the Fujian, or Fukien, province in southeast China, known as Fukinese, will not be discussed exclusively since their culture will be addressed in the segment on Chinese. They were separated on the survey and in the following table because there are some Chinese organized criminal groups who are ethnically Fukinese, such as the **Fukinese Flying Dragons** and the **Fuk Ching**.

Chinese

People of Chinese descent are one of the largest immigrant populations in America today. The first people of this populous were drawn to this country during the gold rush in the mid-1800s, in search of wealth and prosperity. Subsequently, these Chinese immigrants settled throughout the West Coast, particularly California, and also expanded to other areas of the country as time passed.

There are several different minorities and spoken languages and dialects present in China, which are all distinct from one another. A comprehensive list of Asian minorities appears in APPENDIX C-CHINESE ETHNIC GROUPS of this assessment. For the most part, the two primary Chinese languages are Mandarin and Cantonese, even if this is not an individual's first language, chances are he/she is familiar with one or both of these dialects. Although there are several different dialects present in China, there is only one written language among them.

The concept of family is an integral part of the Chinese culture; however, Chinese-Americans may not observe such strict positions as their ancestors. It is important to keep in mind that since many Chinese people in the United States today are descendants of those who migrated in the 1800s, they are very "Americanized," and may not be as observant of their culture as some other nationalities.

One significant aspect of Chinese life in America are the Chinatowns found in most major cities. In some cities, such as New York, Chinatown is quite large and has

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become a well-known area. In many ways, life in Chinatown is reminiscent of the culture in China; for this reason, immigrants are drawn to such areas for a sense of familiarity.

Chinatowns were formed by newly arriving immigrants who congregated with members of the same nationality that were also adjusting to American life. In these areas, restaurants, stores, and other ethnic businesses emerged that were geared toward Chinese culture.

Since many immigrants left China to escape oppression or political strife, Chinatowns became a way for immigrants to benefit from opportunities in other countries, without abandoning the satisfying aspects of their culture. People spoke familiar languages, and could eat familiar foods, but were not oppressed or otherwise exploited as in their native country.

Unfortunately, these areas also became a prime target for street crime and organized criminal groups. Later in this assessment, the history of how Chinese Triads and Tongs began in Chinatowns will be discussed, as well as the impact their inception had on the Chinese population of North America.

Korean

Several aspects of Korean culture resemble Chinese culture, as their history was intertwined from the earliest centuries of civilization. Throughout the ages, Korea has consistently surrendered control of their country and suffered severe conflict as a result of each event. The most recent conflict erupted after World War II, when Korea was divided into the north and south along the 38th parallel.

Even with the introduction of several other civilizations into the Korean culture, this country, both north and south, remains one of the most ethnically uniform countries in the world. Aside from a small resident foreign population, consisting primarily of Chinese individuals, Korea has very few minority populations.

The Korean culture is similar to other Asian cultures in terms of familial concerns. Korean family members are very respectful of their elderly and observe a strong relationship with one another. Women are respected in the culture and in general, willingly assume a submissive role in Korean society.

One particular aspect of Korean culture that remains strong among many members is religion. Buddhist and Confucian values are popular among Koreans, and Christianity is also widely accepted. Korean-Americans, as well as Korean immigrants, who have adapted western values, are more prone to Christianity since this religion is popular in western culture. Christian churches are a primary source of congregation for Korean immigrants and helps them adapt to an unfamiliar culture and aid in their adjustment to American life.

Vietnamese

The Vietnamese culture is one of ancient origins dating back over 2,000 years. In many ways, there is a strong Chinese influence throughout the history of Vietnam, which also appears in some aspects of Vietnamese life today. Vietnamese is the official language and there are several dialects throughout the country that are distinctly different from region to region.

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As with most Asian cultures, a great deal of importance is placed on the familial structure. In each family, the elder male of the household is treated with much respect and generally has authority over family members, deciding what is in their best interest. Vietnamese families are often extended and it is common for three generations of a family to reside in one household.

For law enforcement, there are specific guidelines that will show respect for the people, and keep the lines of communication open when confronted with Asian criminal activity. Cultural sensitivity issues will be discussed later in the report and will apply to Asian cultures as a whole. For the most part, these principles apply when speaking with victims of crime, which is in most cases the result of Asian organized criminal activity. These cultural issues will also apply to dealing with suspects of criminal groups.

Japanese

As opposed to the large immigrant populations of Asia, who fled their native countries due to political discord and poor living conditions, the majority of Japanese people residing in the United States and Canada are American or Canadian-born, or recent immigrants. One of the major reasons for Japanese migration is employment opportunities since Japanese corporations in the United States are prominent and their roles in areas of finance and investment are significant. Another reason, particularly for states in the mid-west, is the availability of universities specializing in technology. Due to these factors, many Japanese-Americans may not even know their native languages and are most likely very familiar with our culture and society.

In fact, many of their characteristics are more similar to that of Americans, and therefore, more familiar. For example, although the family is an important aspect of Japanese life, it is most likely not extended to several generations, as with Vietnamese or Laotian. Instead, they are more observant of the nuclear family, consisting primarily of a married couple and their children, often excluding other relatives as a significant part of their family unit.

Since Japan is located in East Asia, some aspects of their culture have been influenced by China throughout history. One of these aspects is religion. Many Japanese people practice Buddhism, which has ancient origins in Chinese culture. The Japanese language, although inherently different from Chinese, does share some characteristics. Japanese is sometimes written with Chinese script and some portions of the Japanese vocabulary has been influenced by their Chinese counterparts as well.

Cambodian

The country of Cambodia is also known as Kampuchea. Cambodian culture, like many other countries in Asia, is entrenched in the religion of Buddhism. The general premise of Buddhism is accepting one's fate in the world, represented by what is known as the Four Noble Truths: life is suffering; suffering is caused by ignorance of the nature of reality and the craving, attachment, and grasping that result from such ignorance; suffering can be ended by overcoming ignorance and attachment; the path to the suppression of suffering is the Noble Eightfold Path (similar to the Ten Commandments in Christianity). Followers of Buddhism are devout in their religion and strictly adhere to the basic tenets of their faith—morality, wisdom, and concentration.

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The official language of Cambodia is Khmer, however, some Cambodian individuals may be familiar with the French language due to a French colonization period in their extensive history.

Similar to many other Asian cultures, Cambodian people have a great deal of respect for family, which is extended to include multiple generations, not only immediate family members. In this culture, women are held with high regard, as well as elders of the family and community.

Laotian

The country of Laos is one of the three countries that comprise the Golden Triangle located in Southeast Asia. From this area, made up of Laos, Thailand, and Myanmar (formerly known as Burma), it is estimated that 60 percent of the world's heroin supply originates there. This fact shows the strong association many Asian gangs, particularly those with ties to Southeast Asia, have with the international drug trade.

Laos is a conglomerate of many nationalities, some of which have traveled from other countries throughout Southeast and East Asia. This fact accounts for the diversity of the Laotian culture. Laotian communities exemplify stability and place a strong emphasis on family, including neighboring families, in their culture.

Laotian people are very spiritual, and a great many individuals practice Buddhism. Various rituals and religious practices are engaged in for many aspects of Laotian life.

One particular group of people in Laos, Hmong, pronounced "*mung*," remain exclusive from the Laotian culture. Originating in Northern Laos, many Hmong have left this country and fled to neighboring areas seeking refuge from Communist takeover. Hmong individuals encountered in the United States may affiliate themselves with another country or nationality.

Asian Organized Criminal Groups

Asian criminal groups vary in terms of sophistication, ranging from extremely organized and established organizations, to less organized and fleeting groups. Some Asian criminal groups have an extensive history, dating far back into their culture and have evolved from their dynamic past into the criminal enterprises operating today. These groups often have meaningful names and a definitive set of rules in which all members must abide. Some of the more sophisticated organizations are stringently set in their culture and place a great deal of importance on respect and honor.

In contrast, there are less established groups that tend to be more random in nature and not as rigidly established as their predecessors. These groups are very dynamic and constantly change members, structure, appearance, location, and names—if they choose a name at all. As with most criminal enterprises, their scope of criminal activity includes anything that will generate monetary gain. Cooperation with other groups is common, if such an affiliation will generate increased profits.

Indeed, it is quite common for Asian street gangs to work closely with a more sophisticated group. For example, Chinese criminal groups in New York City such as the **On Leong Association** have known associations with the **Ghost Shadows**, a local Asian street gang. Other such relationships do exist; however, this is only one example. In

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such relationships, it is common for the lower-level groups to perform the brunt of the criminal activities and protect turf for the higher groups. In many cases, profits will be shared among the different groups.

The need to understand sophisticated Asian groups may not seem apparent to investigators who are primarily confronted with the less organized, smaller groups of Asians committing crimes. However, to better understand all aspects of the less significant groups, it is essential to have some knowledge of the more established organizations. In many cases, younger Asians who are involved in criminal activity look to older criminal organization members as role models and tend to incorporate some of this behavior into their group dynamics. For the criminal element, being an older, distinguished member of the crime world carries prestige and authority. This image is often emulated by younger, less organized groups of Asian criminals who strive to become such praiseworthy individuals among their peers.

Also important is the extent of association that exists between the two groups. Being associated, whether on an equal level or, as in this case, one group working for the other, increases the extent of their criminal activity. Each group has something to offer their associate, and their range of criminal activity is broadened with each affiliation. For example, the power and control offered by the higher organization gives the lower group more vigor in their criminal activities. In turn, the lower groups have the street-knowledge to commit crimes without detection by law enforcement, on behalf of the higher organizations. Separately, the groups are capable of thriving and have a distinct presence in the criminal underworld. Combined, both groups are intensified and their magnitude as an alliance has an enormous impact on criminal activities and subsequent law enforcement efforts.

To better understand the immediate problem at hand, it is necessary to go beyond the surface and delve into the core of the issue. By becoming familiar with the more sophisticated Asian criminal enterprises, the lesser-organized groups will be further understood. Following is a brief overview of the more sophisticated groups encountered by American law enforcement.

Chinese Triads and Tongs

The Chinese criminal groups known as *triads* have an interesting history dating back to the 17th Century. They began as secret societies, which formed during a time when two Chinese dynasties were vying for control over the country. The more appropriate name in China for such groups is *hung mun*, which actually translates as secret society or dark society. This name is what members of the group are more likely to call themselves, or how victims of their criminal activity are more likely to refer to them. The term triad is the interpretation of a symbol associated with the group that is composed of three characters, each representing the primary forces of the universe—heaven, earth, and man.

Over 300 years ago, the Ming Dynasty, in control of the country at the time, was eventually overthrown by their nemesis, the Ching Dynasty. During the struggle, a spiritual group of people known as the Shaolin monks faithfully defended their leaders. Eventually the Ching Dynasty won control of China and proceeded to execute all but five of the devoted Shaolin monks.

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The five survivors secluded themselves from the mainstream and formed the secret societies in the name of patriotism. Their population began to grow as new members were accepted into the group, only after a sponsorship from an existing member. Events to follow were to demand their unswerving obedience and loyalty to the secret society.

A code of 36 oaths was devised forming a stringent set of rules for the group, which were to be strictly adhered to by all members. In the event someone failed to abide by the oaths, they were swiftly punished with death. The role of symbolism is an integral part of the secret societies and remains as such in triads operating today. For example, a punishment for violating one of the 36 oaths is death by "five thunderbolts;" symbolic of the five monks spared in the mass murder of the dynasty transition.

The triads that are familiar to American law enforcement today share this intriguing history, even if they do not engage in all of the traditional ceremonies and rites. Traditional secret society members partook in blood rituals and in some cases actually drank each others blood during such practices. However, members in Hong Kong today have abandoned this rite due to the introduction of such fatal diseases as the HIV virus, but may use red wine or something similar in observance of the symbolism of their ancestors.

As the secret societies evolved through the centuries, their focus became one of criminal activity. Modern-day societies are deeply entrenched in the criminal underworld and engage in a wide range of crimes designed to enhance their already enormous fortunes. The best example of modern triad activity that associates with the history of secret societies is extortion practices in Chinatowns throughout the United States and Canada. Business owners in these areas have fallen victim to extortion as a form of protection money for many years. If a triad member approaches an Asian grocery store owner and requests an extortion amount of \$36, \$108, or some variation on those numbers, the owner will immediately know the extortionist is a member of the secret society. The significance of the numbers makes reference to the 36 oaths taken by secret society members. Non-compliance with his request would have devastating effects; therefore, the amount is paid. Since most people of Chinese decent are familiar with the history and reputation of the secret societies, the criminal's triad affiliation is understood without a direct mention of such association.

Aside from the triads, another group has evolved from the Chinese culture. This other group is known as the *tong* associations. It is important to note not all tongs are organized criminal groups, and may not be associated with crime whatsoever. However, past investigations have revealed that some of the tong associations in big cities throughout the United States have been associated with criminal activity.

During the gold rush in the mid-1800s, millions of immigrants from China migrated to the United States for the potential opportunities. Once in this country, unfamiliar to American culture and the English language, many of the newly arrived immigrants congregated to better adjust to their new environment. In these organizations, newcomers were assisted in the transition and strong intra-ethnic bonds were formed.

Similar to the secret societies, some tong associations eventually became involved in organized criminal activity. Currently, tongs have taken on a fraternal association role in the Chinese community. Tong members gather for meetings and discuss issues within their community. These meetings of camaraderie are usually harmless; however, some of

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the tongs engage in organized criminal activity for monetary gain and have become another aspect of Asian organized crime.

Tongs engage in various types of crimes and are known to use the street gangs in the area to execute some of their criminal dealings. By doing so, tongs have been able to remain out of the spotlight of law enforcement. Although their threat is not as immediate as other Asian crime groups, tongs do play a role in the scheme of Asian organized criminal activity.

Japanese Yakuza

The Japanese Yakuza are a notorious criminal group who have a rich heritage dating back to the 16th Century. Throughout their existence, they have acquired many names that are symbolic of their lifestyle and have significance to their conduct and culture. For example, the word *yakuza* is a term representing the equivalent of a losing hand in a Japanese card game known as *Hanafuda*. Three flower cards are dealt to the players of the game and the last digit of the overall total determines the players score. Therefore, any total ending in zero would be a losing hand. Among the losing combinations is 8-9-3, or in Japanese, *ya-ku-sa*. The term *ya-ku-sa* was eventually used in Japanese vernacular to describe something as useless, and eventually was reserved as a moniker for gamblers and other individuals who were frowned upon by society. As time passed, the term became more encompassing and is currently used to describe this large and unique group of criminal organizations.

One of the other names used to describe the Yakuza is *boryokudan*, which translates to English as “violent ones.” The Yakuza are known to exercise extreme violence in their rituals and in the execution of their crimes. For this reason, law enforcement in Japan has designated *boryokudan* to refer to these violent criminal groups. However, members of the Yakuza try to improve their image and prefer to be known as *chi-no-shudan*, which literally means, “gather together the intelligent ones.” No matter which term is used to describe them, these criminal groups are an ominous threat to society and law enforcement around the world.

The earliest Yakuza were formed after civil wars occurred in the 16th Century in a struggle to obtain power over Japan and its territories. As the battling Lords began to dwindle, many faithful samurai warriors were now without a master and became known as *ronin*. The ronin had to choose between pledging loyalty to another Lord, or abandoning that way of life altogether.

Eventually the ronin gathered with other former samurais and became involved in gambling and other unsavory activities. This is the period where the term *ya-ku-sa*, from the flower card game previously mentioned, was established. Larger groups began to form as other deviant members of Japanese society joined forces with the ronin.

Among the common classes of Japanese people, the Yakuza offered them protection and were viewed as their guardians. Eventually, the groups turned to a life of crime and have since become sophisticated criminal organizations that extend their criminal acts across the globe.

The criminal descendants of the Yakuza engage in various rituals and ceremonies and have developed a strict code to be adhered to by all members of the criminal group. Among the most shocking is the practice of *yubitsume* and the extensive tattooing of Yakuza members. *Yubitsume* literally means “finger cutting.” During this ritual, a group

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member's pinky finger, in most cases, will be severed at the first or second joint, depending on if the finger is intact or if one joint is already missing. The maiming is done in the event an order by the leader is not followed, or other serious wrongdoing has been done. Recent members of the Yakuza do not engage in yubitsume as it has become strongly associated with being a criminal and may attract unwanted attention from law enforcement.

Elaborate tattooing has also become an integral part of the Yakuza way of life. Before tattoos became popular, they were reserved for criminals to distinguish them from the general population. A criminal was marked for life with a tattooed black band around each arm for each crime committed. However, as this tradition faded, tattooing became more popular particularly among the Yakuza. In essence, tattooing became a rejection of traditional life and an acceptance of their new life for the Yakuza. Currently in Japan, 80 percent of the people donning tattoos belong to an organized criminal group.

In many cases, a Yakuza tattoo can cover a large portion of the body extending from the neck to the knees, on the front and back. The subject of tattoos can range from heroes and gods of Japanese culture to animals and flowers familiar to the country. Not only do the tattoos themselves have symbolic meaning, the tattooing process is meaningful as well. Traditionally, full-body tattoos were created by using a piece of sharpened bamboo, which was more painful, but was meant to exemplify their fierceness and prove they were callous to everything and everyone.

Another tradition of the Yakuza include the creation of an insignia for the group. The prominent Yakuza syndicates devise a symbol for their group to show affiliation, commonly using symbols such as gods and flowers. Before Japanese law enforcement began cracking down on organized crime, Yakuza groups had these symbols displayed on business cards, tattoos, pins, and even Internet web pages. However, this open display of criminal affiliation caused much confrontation with law enforcement and is not as widely used as before.

One of the most significant traits of the Yakuza is the relationship between the top members of the group and the people beneath them, also known as the *oyabun*, meaning "parent"/*kobun*, meaning "child" relationship. This relationship is one of loyalty, respect, and devotion, and is an integral part of the close-knit structure of the Yakuza. The *oyabun* offers to his *kobun* protection, wisdom, and assistance in his development. In return, the *kobun* must obey his *oyabun* and be willing to do anything for his fraternal figure. Although the organization of a Yakuza syndicate is arranged like a family, their allegiance to the group and their *oyabun* is even stronger than that of a traditional family.

As of the 1970s, American law enforcement began noticing Yakuza activity in states such as Hawaii and California, where there is a large Japanese population. During this time, American associates were developed among Yakuza and their criminal organizations took on a global disposition. Criminal activities engaged in by Yakuza syndicates in America include narcotics and weapons trafficking, pornography and prostitution, white collar crime, extortion, and loan sharking. Japanese criminals are also interested in profits generated from real estate, and are experienced in the area of finance and banking.

The three largest groups, who allegedly account for 65 percent of the estimated 86,000 total membership, are the **Yamaguchi-gumi**, **Sumiyoshi-kai**, and **Inagawa-kai**.

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These syndicates have been detected in the United States and are strongly entrenched in the criminal underworld.

The levels of Asian organized crime vary in terms of affiliation, extent of criminal activity, and history, but remain a factor amongst the criminal element. Each group has knowledge of their counterparts, regardless of their relationship to one another. Their existence in the United States has permanently changed organized crime from a law enforcement perspective and in turn demands more of officers in their pursuit. Being familiar with the aspects of the aforementioned groups will allow law enforcement to understand the intricacies of the Asian criminal groups they may experience.

Survey Results

During the month of October 1998, MAGLOCLN member agencies, then totaling 581, were surveyed to determine the extent of Asian organized criminal activity in their respective jurisdictions. Gaining this perspective will permit agencies to remain cognizant of the Asian criminal groups in neighboring areas, and will familiarize agencies with the situation at hand. The extensive mobilization of Asian criminal groups brings them into areas that are unaware of their presence. Even if a jurisdiction has never experienced Asian organized crime, as some agencies did indicate in the survey results, it is still essential to be familiar with the Asian organized crime situation in the region. Any area near a large city or a highly traveled route has the potential to be confronted with Asian criminal groups.

The information contained in this assessment is the result of positive survey responses, as well as other intelligence, which were primarily from law enforcement sources. *Positive survey responses refers to reports from agencies that indicated they have experienced Asian organized crime at some level.* Of the 581 surveys distributed to MAGLOCLN member agencies, 456 were returned, resulting in a 78 percent return for statistical evaluation. A comprehensive list of those agencies that responded is provided in APPENDIX A-RESPONDING AGENCY LIST.

The Current Status of Asian Organized Crime

Among the returned surveys, 159 agencies, or 35 percent of all surveys distributed, indicated they had experienced Asian organized crime at some level within their jurisdiction. In fact, 40 percent of those agencies reporting Asian criminal activity stated they have experienced an increase in the frequency of such organized activity.

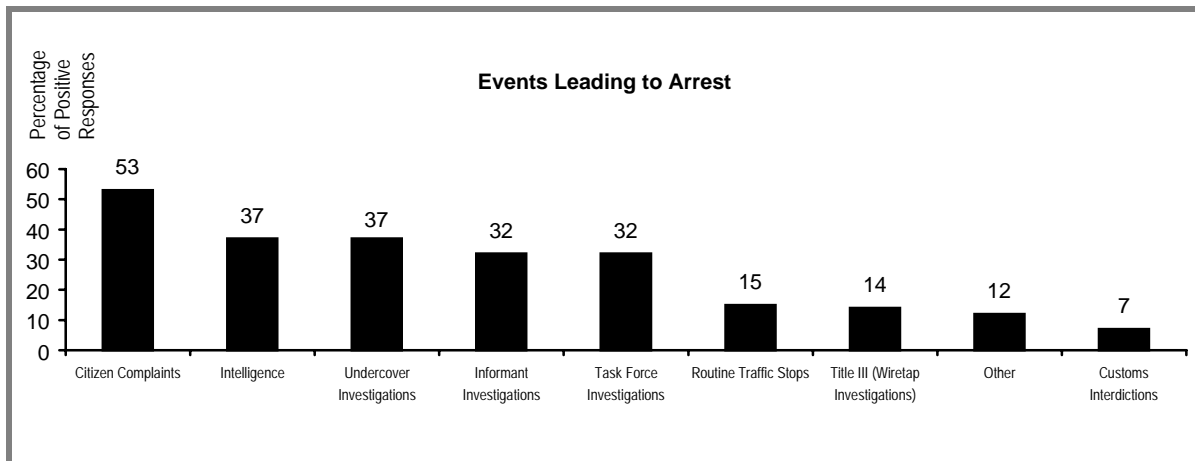
This increase of Asian organized crime experienced throughout the MAGLOCLN region could be due, in part, to the influx of Asian individuals reported by survey respondents. According to 61 percent of agencies reporting Asian organized crime, an increase in the overall Asian population in their jurisdiction has recently occurred. Even if this population is not associated with organized crime, it does have some significance to current trends in Asian organized crime groups. For example, the rise in the Asian population provides a large victim base for Asian criminal groups to prey upon and exploit.

Not only is the population increase significant to areas with extensive Asian criminal activity, but also to areas that have not yet experienced such action. This is because Asian criminal groups will rarely commit crimes near their residence. Instead, they will travel to other Asian communities to carry out their criminal activities.

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Arrests among the criminal element in Asian communities is also on the rise as law enforcement becomes more familiar with this type of organized crime. Of the agencies who reported some level of Asian organized crime in their jurisdiction, 60 percent stated they have made arrests of Asian criminal group members or associates since 1995.

Events leading to these arrests included a number of factors, the most frequent of which were citizen complaints, according to 53 percent of respondents. The following graph is a breakdown of the events listed by survey responses leading to the arrests of Asian criminal group members or associates.



Trends in Asian Criminal Group Activity

Respondents to the survey who reported some level of Asian organized crime indicated there is a slight rise in the sophistication of Asian groups who currently pose the greatest threat to their agencies. In fact, 21 percent of these agencies stated the Asian criminal groups they have experienced are more complex than previous Asian groups. This shows that despite law enforcement efforts, Asian criminal groups have evolved into a more industrious, and in turn more dangerous, criminal element.

Counter Surveillance

One particular area that has recently become more of an issue with Asian organized criminal groups is counter surveillance. Although not as popular as some criminal groups, such as outlaw motorcycle gangs, Asian criminal groups have been known to engage in counter surveillance techniques to discourage law enforcement.

The majority of the reported instances were in the form of observation where Asian suspects would be fixed around the area of the group to look for law enforcement activities. Once discovered, the group would immediately disperse and regroup elsewhere. Interestingly, more than half, 57 percent, of the Canadian agencies reporting Asian criminal activity, did experience counter surveillance during their investigations of such groups. The agencies in Canada indicated Asian criminal groups in their jurisdictions were extremely surveillance conscious and were very concerned with protecting their group, whether it was from law enforcement or other criminal entities.

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Only two agencies reported the use of electronic devices during counter surveillance operations. However, given the industrious nature of Asian criminal groups and their existing consciousness of surveillance, this is one area that has potential to expand.

Recruitment

Asian criminal gangs are actively recruiting to increase manpower and status. A relatively small number of agencies, 14 percent, reported the Asian criminal groups in their area were actively recruiting at the time the survey was completed. However, 81 percent were undecided as to this activity and said they were becoming increasingly interested in this particular aspect of Asian gangs.

Many survey respondents who observed active-recruiting practices by Asian gangs stated schools were the most likely place for such activity. Gang members were reportedly seen prowling junior high and high school grounds for prospective members.

The average recruit is male, and does not have to be of Asian descent. In fact, one reporting agency from New York observed Asian gang members recruiting both Asian and non-Asian individuals for gang membership. This is a significant element for the future of Asian gangs. Broadening their membership to include other races could grant them the opportunity to align themselves with other major street gangs, thereby becoming more powerful and dangerous.

Asian Criminal Group Affiliations

The primary force driving Asian gangs to commit crimes is greed. They are consumed with generating large amounts of cash and remain flexible to accommodate this objective. Asian criminal groups will act on most opportunities regardless of the circumstances, given such a prospect would afford profit for the organization. This oftentimes means cooperating with Asian and non-Asian criminal groups in high-earning criminal activities.

Of the agencies reporting some level of Asian organized crime, 20 percent indicated they have experienced Asian criminal groups working or associated with other types of crime syndicates. Nearly half, 48 percent, stated street gangs most frequently cooperated with Asian gangs. The table on the following page shows the criminal groups cited as being associated with Asian criminal groups. The "other" category of responses in the table included Canadian organized crime groups and North American Indians.

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CRIMINAL GROUP	PERCENTAGE OF AGENCIES* REPORTING ASSOCIATION
Street Gangs	48
Traditional Organized Crime Groups	42
Dominican Organized Crime Groups	32
Pacific Northwest Asian Crime Groups	29
Other	13
Russian Organized Crime Groups	10
Colombian Organized Crime Groups	10
Jamaican Posses	7

**Agencies that reported some level of Asian organized crime.*

The nature of these criminal associations involves combining forces to form a more powerful assemblage, which will in turn produce a large profit. Whether the crime is drug trafficking, prostitution, or money laundering, the fundamental reason for a multi-criminal group affiliation is to make more money than would be possible on their own. This is a significant issue when dealing with Asian organized crime since it exemplifies their willingness to expand and become a more influential criminal group. In many cases this willingness was acted upon by Asian gangs and proved to be a success.

This is also an illustration of how investigating Asian criminal groups can involve various disciplines within law enforcement. An international drug trafficking organization may consist of Asian suspects and members of a traditional organized crime family. This would involve narcotics investigators, as well as officials familiar with organized crime. In addition, law enforcement may have to cooperate with agencies in other countries around the world.

Any investigation into Asian organized crime has the potential to become a multi-agency and multi-discipline task. Their alignment with additional criminal groups in various locations broadens the scope of their activity and will pose many problems for law enforcement. This extension of power among Asian organized crime is a primary reason for law enforcement to expand its efforts in order to effectively curtail the growth of Asian criminal groups.

Characteristics of Asian Criminal Activity

Asian criminal groups engage in a wide range of illegal activities, most of which are associated with organized crime. Those crimes include assault, auto theft, burglary, counterfeiting, credit card fraud, drug trafficking, extortion, firearms trafficking, gambling, homicide/attempted homicide, intimidation, loan sharking, money laundering, prostitution/massage parlors, robbery, and theft.

However, circumstances that separate Asian criminal groups from other organized crime syndicates also account for some variations in their criminal activities. For example, the crime of alien smuggling is more accessible to Asian gangs than some of their non-Asian counterparts. This is primarily due to the large victim population created by the extremely poor living conditions in many countries throughout Asia. Such circumstance provide alien smugglers in Asia a large group of victims on which to prey.

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Therefore, the people willing to pay money to come to the United States and Canada are more accessible to Asian criminal groups.

There are other criminal activities, such as home invasion robberies, that are not exclusive to Asian organized crime, but are commonly associated with them. In such robberies, Asian gangs are known to systematically target Asian individuals to victimize. By doing so, the criminal groups are almost guaranteed success because they are preying on a population whose customs and beliefs are similar to their own.

This section compares and contrasts the characteristics of Asian organized crime as they pertain to the criminal underworld. The introduction of Asian criminal groups to the existing criminal landscape changes some of the previously identified attributes of traditional organized crime. In order to effectively grasp the growing problem of Asian organized crime and understand the mechanics of their criminal activity, law enforcement must be aware of these variations.

Violence

Crimes committed by Asian criminal gangs are often accompanied by extreme violence, and tend to be well calculated to ensure their success. Firearms and other weapons are common during many crimes perpetrated by Asian gangs. Harsh physical abuse, and even torture, are also employed to force victims into compliance.

This is one aspect of Asian organized crime that is relevant to understanding the Asian culture. Numerous Asian cultures have endured violence and brutality throughout their existence and suffered at the hands of military or police authorities. The Tian'an Men (Tiananmen) Square Protest in Beijing, China, is an example of such blatant brutality. On April 15, 1989, a series of peaceful, student-led demonstrations began. These protests were in favor of democracy and the removal of Communist officials from the government. The students moved through various cities despite demands by the government to cease action immediately. Eventually the protests brought scores of students to Tian'an Men Square. On June 3 and 4, 1989, the People's Liberation Army, in an attempt to end the demonstrations, brutally murdered hundreds of students. Thousands more were injured, and those remaining after the violence, were arrested.

Incidents such as this have helped to form a culture of violence familiar to many Asian people. Observing such deliberate brutality, and in some cases being directly victimized by the violence, can desensitize individuals to many forms of cruelty. As it pertains to Asian organized crime, violence was a way of life before group members turned to a life of crime; once engaged in criminal activity, violence serves as a means to an end.

Mobility

Another characteristic of Asian criminal groups that has contributed to their elusiveness is mobility. By moving their criminal activities from one venue to another, Asian gangs are continually successful in committing crimes without interference by law enforcement. As soon as any police presence is detected by Asian gangs, they immediately flee the area. They may return, if they feel they can operate clandestinely, but move to yet another location soon after.

During their trek to another city, Asian gangs have been known to stay at "crash pads," or areas that they consider safe. Crash pads can be established in hotels, motels,

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garages, rented rooms, or any other location that can accommodate a number of gang members. While staying at the crash pad, gang members will most likely continue to commit criminal activity in nearby areas, being cognizant not to attract police attention. The crash pad also serves as a center of operations where criminal ventures are planned and discussed.

Police intelligence in the MAGLOCLAN region indicates that crash pads may be located in Asian businesses as well, particularly nail salons or massage parlors. Such establishments often have a back room or addition available for criminal associates and provides shelter during times of suspected police scrutiny. According to survey results, 31 percent of agencies that reported some level of Asian organized crime admitted that criminal group members had a tendency to congregate at Asian businesses in their jurisdiction. The use of crash pads helps Asian criminal groups to travel extensively and avoid attention from law enforcement.

Such a predisposition for mobility is a primary incentive for the widespread networking among law enforcement confronted with Asian organized crime. Since criminal activity by Asian gangs habitually involves multiple law enforcement jurisdictions, investigators need to have a strong networking system with surrounding agencies that will promote the exchange of intelligence. Asian gangs are aware of the challenges police face when trying to communicate information and use this shortcoming to their advantage.

Home Invasion Robbery

Home invasion robbery is one of the more notorious crimes of Asian criminal gangs. Excessive violence often accompanies home invasions in the form of beatings, rapes, threats, and homicides. Fueling the crime, and enticing Asian gang members, is the potential monetary gain of home invasion robberies. Furthermore, apprehension is highly unlikely, prompting some gangs to commit multiple home invasions due to the low risk of capture.

Home invasion robberies present law enforcement with a number of challenges and often lead to tedious investigations with little or no success. Assuming the crime is reported, which in many cases is doubtful, cultural and language barriers immediately become obstacles that can prove detrimental to an investigation. Furthermore, the extensive mobility of Asian criminal groups contributes to the difficulties facing law enforcement when handling home invasion investigations.

The typical home invasion will begin with the perpetrators carefully planning their strategy to gain entry into the home of the victim. Victims of home invasions share similar characteristics that make them extremely vulnerable to Asian criminal activity. They are carefully chosen to ensure a generous profit and a safe escape. Once inside, the family members are immediately incapacitated and/or beaten. The suspects demand to know where money and valuables are hidden and are relentless in their demands, often abusing and threatening the victims with violence. Once the money and any other valuables are uncovered, the suspects ensure their safe escape. The victims are threatened that if they report the crime to authorities, the suspects will return to further hurt, or kill them, or inflict violence on family members.

Asian families that own a business are particularly vulnerable to becoming victims of home invasion robbery. Areas that have a sizeable Asian community will have

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business establishments owned/operated by Asian individuals. The majority of these people are legitimate entrepreneurs, working hard to earn a living; unfortunately, this makes them primary targets for home invasions. Asian gang members prey on business owners since they are most likely to have a large amount of money in their home, as a result of receipts from their business, at any given time. Many Asian business owners do not trust the American banking system, and subsequently keep large sums of cash in their home.

All members of the Asian community are primary targets for Asian criminal groups since the perpetrators know their victims will be reluctant to report the crime to police. The intra-ethnic aspect of home invasion robberies has permitted the crime to continue throughout the Asian community. However, recent intelligence in the MAGLOCLEN region indicates a willingness on the part of Asian gangs to victimize outside the Asian community. According to the survey results, 26 percent of positively responding agencies reported Asian criminal groups in their jurisdiction victimizing outside the Asian community. This trend is particularly important because it demonstrates that Asian gangs are beginning to extend their criminal activities beyond the Asian community. A broader victim base creates more opportunities for Asian gangs and may contribute to their growth.

This is one aspect that should concern all law enforcement agencies throughout the MAGLOCLEN region, regardless of the presence of Asian criminal groups in their jurisdiction. Even if there is no known Asian organized crime in a particular area, law enforcement agencies can still be confronted with the consequences of Asian criminal activity. The mobility issue discussed in the previous section shows that Asian criminal groups are willing to travel outside their area to commit crimes. Asian communities attract the attention of Asian criminal groups from surrounding areas. This exemplifies the need for law enforcement to be aware of the ethnic dynamics of their community. If an area has an influx of Chinese restaurants or other businesses owned by Asian individuals, Asian criminal groups will recognize the opportunities for victimization.

Victim Population of Home Invasion Robberies

One phenomenon of criminal activities perpetrated by Asian criminal groups is the tendency towards victimizing members of their own race or ethnic background. This holds true in the majority of home invasion robberies. Several reasons contribute to such intra-ethnic victimization; the most important of which is an almost definite success. Beliefs and misconceptions held by the victims also increase their vulnerability, and contribute to their selection for victimization by Asian criminal groups.

As previously stated, various Asian cultures are unique in their history and cultural mindset. Recent Asian immigrants in this country are continually adjusting to their new life and during this time are skeptical of many of our common practices. The following factors are some of the greatest contributors for the victimization of Asian communities:

- ✓ *Distrust of financial institutions.* The lack of trust in the American banking system forces many Asian people to keep their cash in their home. In cases where the victims are business owners, available cash-on-hand could be quite exorbitant.
- ✓ *Threats to the family, which may include members in other countries.* As previously stated, the familial unit is of utmost importance to the Asian culture. Threatening

family members, whether they are in the same home or in a country in Asia, is taken very seriously. This is one reason why victims of home invasions fail to report such violent crimes—for fear of retaliation.

- ✓ *Misconceptions of American law enforcement.* This is another reason for underreporting. Many Asian people come from a country where law enforcement is corrupt and cannot be trusted. Not only is their perception of authority tainted, they are not familiar with our policing system or offices of government. Therefore, they would rather not leave themselves to the mercy of American or Canadian police. This area is where cultural sensitivity will play a crucial role. Gaining the trust of home invasion victims will be essential to any investigation.

Identifying Marks and Their Significance

Asian gangs have shown their ability to conform to the gang subculture by adopting many of the same styles of dress, initiations, and other gang-related behaviors as their North American counterparts. A major part of the Asian gang culture are tattoos and other markings that show their gang affiliation. Some common themes among the tattoos and markings may assist law enforcement in identifying Asian gangs and gang members.

Burn marks and other scarification practices are common among Asian gangs. Their significance can vary from gang to gang, and are generally not an exclusive sign of one group. However, their purpose is to prove their strength and willingness to endure pain. Some examples of burn marks are shown in the photographs on the following page.

Other tattoos are directly related to gang affiliation and defiantly state the name of the gang on various parts of the body. In some instances, symbols are used in place of the name, but still have significant meaning to members of the group. Asian characters and phrases are sometimes used as well, and generally state their rejection of tradition, and acceptance of an illicit life. On the following page are some examples of such tattoos.

Animals such as panthers, tigers, eagles, and especially dragons are very common among Asian gang tattoos and markings. Their origins may not indicate Asian gang affiliation, but more in the belief that a person can acquire the characteristics of an animal tattooed on their body. Many of the following tattoos are of dragons, which is often revered as a symbol of luck, power, and the highest spiritual essence. Dragons are also believed to embody wisdom, strength, and the divine power of transformation. In some cases, the gang name incorporates an animal in their title, such as the **Flying Dragons** or **White Tigers**.

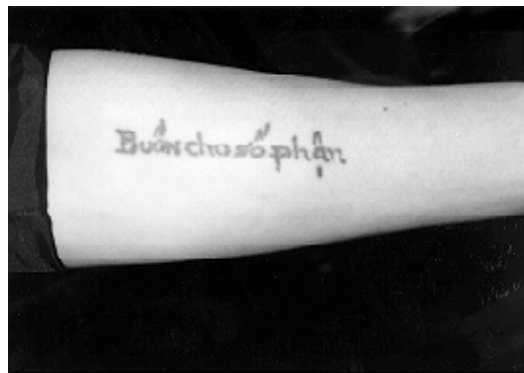
Photographing the tattoos is also very important since recognizable markings are extremely helpful when trying to identify an Asian suspect. For example, Asian names have a tendency to be confusing and difficult to understand since they are of unfamiliar origins. Furthermore, they are not only challenging, they are easily interchangeable, so that the first and last names are indistinguishable from one another and can be reversed to conceal a person's identity. These factors make identifying Asian gang members complex. By photographing Asian suspects, law enforcement will be better able to identify suspects and recognize gang affiliation.

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BURN MARKS



SIGNIFICANT PHRASES



SYMBOLS AND WORDS



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DRAGONS



Prostitution

Law enforcement is confronted with a variety of crimes, some of a violent nature, others against property. Changes in society also contribute to the types of crimes presented to law enforcement. Technological advancements are the most recent example of how crimes change according to society's evolution. However, the crime of prostitution has endured throughout the ages and will continue to be an omnipresent concern to police.

Prostitution investigations are often a nuisance to law enforcement where hard work rarely produces a great deal of results. Enforcing laws against prostitution is seemingly futile since the perpetrator will most likely continue to solicit money for sex. Since prostitution is primarily a victimless crime, the greatest issue for law enforcement is to maintain the quality of life in their community.

The introduction of organized crime made prostitution more of a structured racket that generated large profits for crime syndicates. Organized crime groups are heavily involved in the sex trade, which includes adult entertainment clubs, escort services, and pornography. In some cases, prostitution-related businesses are used as fronts for laundering money, drug sales, and other criminal activities.

Asian organized crime groups are also among the criminal populace that profits from the crime of prostitution. Health spas and massage parlors are the most familiar

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types of businesses associated with Asian organized crime. These establishments are found in many cities and neighboring areas, and their popularity continues to grow.

The businesses are seemingly legitimate, and feature "Swedish massages" or "oriental acupuncture" in their advertisements. However, their legitimacy is questionable at best, and further inquiry often reveals a euphemistically named brothel operating under the guises of a spa or massage parlor. Investigations into such establishments generally warrant an undercover operation, involving numerous officers and long hours. Once prostitution is confirmed by the detectives, the business will be temporarily closed, and the prostitutes will be charged accordingly. Unfortunately, this does not solve the problem of prostitution, but only displaces it to another area.

For this reason, businesses promoting prostitution continue to appear in various areas throughout the MAGLOCLLEN region, and take on various fronts to conceal their criminal activity. Since such establishments yield large profits for organized crime groups, and involve a small amount of risk, they are an attractive venture to Asian criminal groups. According to 25 percent of member agencies reporting Asian organized criminal activity in their jurisdictions, prostitution is the primary source of income for Asian organized crime groups.

Recent intelligence provided by MAGLOCLLEN member agencies suggests Asian criminal groups have found a way to elevate prostitution to a new and alarming level. The use of illegal aliens to work as prostitutes in brothels against their will is now becoming a primary concern to law enforcement. Many times, prostitutes are drawn to their work for the lucrative money that can be made in the sex trade. However, further investigation of the women working in massage parlors reveals their illegal immigration status and the details of their migratory voyage.

Alien smuggling is also a crime typical of Asian criminal groups and will be further discussed in the following section. The newest wave of aliens smuggled into North America arrive under false pretenses and are often forced to work as prostitutes to pay their debt to the smugglers. For example, young girls throughout Asia are being deceived by smugglers, known as *snakeheads*, who offer a job in America as a dancer, model, waitress, or some other well regarded job. The women, with high expectations, agree to the exorbitant amount for the voyage, which sometimes exceeds \$40,000 USC.

Upon arrival from their voyage, the women are brought to an apartment or brothel where they are informed they must work as a prostitute to repay their debt. They may receive little or no percentage of their earnings, which is paid to their captors. The women are held against their will until the debt is paid and they are threatened not to speak to anyone about the arrangement. Furthermore, their illegal immigration documents, provided by the smugglers for the international passage, are taken. While working as prostitutes, they are subjected to violence, exploitation, and abuse. Since they are not familiar with the language, they have no means of escaping their life of indentured servitude.

The international sex trade is thriving throughout the world. Asian criminal groups have discovered a method to amass large amounts of cash by trafficking in human beings and victimizing naïve women. Prostitution has always been more of a nuisance than a violent crime. Unfortunately, Asian gangs have transformed the sex trade with the introduction of illegal aliens and their forced prostitution.

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Prostitution investigations involving Asian organized crime demand a multi-jurisdictional approach. Since illegal immigration is an integral part of many such cases, the most effective investigations will involve a combination of law enforcement specialties. Cooperation among varying levels of law enforcement, often times from different countries, can make a difference between a local prostitution case and an international sex-slavery investigation.

Alien Smuggling

Illegal immigration is a worldwide problem that forces countries to steadfastly patrol their borders to interdict aliens entering their country. The crime of human trafficking can involve dozens of different countries and thousands of people. Therefore, investigating alien smuggling operations can be very tedious and frustrating due to the international scope of the problem.

The primary factor that fuels the crime of alien smuggling is the impoverished living conditions in countries throughout the world. In Asia, there are many countries where the economic situation and general living conditions are so dreadful that people are willing to do nearly anything to escape the famine, disease, and atrocities with which they currently live. For this reason, alien smugglers in Asia, or *snakeheads* as they are referred to, have a large populace on which to prey and exploit.

The promise of a better life is made so attractive that the consequences of accepting such an offer are never considered. Desperation drives the victims of human trafficking to abandon their freedoms to snakeheads who will profit from their exploitation. The alien smugglers will charge an excessive amount of money, sometimes exceeding \$40,000 USC, for a voyage to another country.

Asian organized crime plays an enormous role in the problem of global human trafficking. The extent of their immigration crimes is not isolated to one particular area, but has an international reach, bringing people from far away countries to towns and cities throughout the United States and Canada, including the MAGLOCLLEN region.

One example of the extent of Asian organized crime involved in alien smuggling recently came to a close in September 1998, with a four-year prison sentence handed down to the leader of the group. "Operation Sea Dragon" was a joint investigation by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service in California, and the San Francisco, California, U.S. Attorney's Office that commenced in 1993. The probe was initiated to investigate alien smuggling activities conducted by Asian gangs in California and New York.

On June 2, 1993, two ships carrying more than 280 Chinese nationals docked in California. Some of the illegal aliens were sent off to New York, where an associate Asian gang was receiving their share of the smuggled immigrants. To exemplify the monetary gain generated by the crime of alien smuggling, passengers were charged approximately \$30,000 USC for their voyage. Even though much of the money will not be paid in a lump sum, the illegal immigrants are indebted to their smugglers for that amount and are exploited while under their control. Employment in restaurants, brothels, and other Asian owned/operated businesses, will be used to pay off the outrageous debt.

Since this incident, there have been several other occurrences of Asian organized crime and alien smuggling, some of which took place in the MAGLOCLLEN region. On May 30, 1998, a 28-foot powerboat ran aground on the shore of Bay Head, New Jersey.

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The sailing vessel, designed to carry six to eight people, had been carrying 23 Fukinese males aboard when they washed ashore. Intelligence from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service reported the final destination for these illegal aliens was New York City. In this incident, the international voyage cost the immigrants approximately \$35,000 USC each.

The crime of alien smuggling continues to be a primary concern to law enforcement in the MAGLOCLAN region. As poor living conditions endure throughout many Asian countries, law enforcement will consistently be confronted with illegal immigration issues. Despite many counter efforts that have depleted large smuggling rings, the snakeheads have found other means of committing their crimes without detection.

The most recent innovation in human trafficking occurred on the American-Canadian border and involved cooperation by members of an American Indian tribe in New York. On December 6, 1998, an alien smuggling ring responsible for migrating 3,600 immigrants, 100-150 per month, was discovered bringing Asian aliens from Canada into the United States through the St. Regis Mohawk Indian Reservation in upstate New York.

For two years, the smugglers brought Chinese nationals from the Fujian Province to Hong Kong or Taipei. From there, the aliens were flown to Toronto, Ontario, or Vancouver, British Columbia, with fraudulent documentation. Once the immigrants were cleared through Customs, they would be taken to the Canadian border city of Cornwall, Ontario, and shipped across the St. Lawrence River by boat to the Indian reservation located in upstate New York. This smuggling ring charged approximately \$47,000 USC per person, totaling nearly \$170 million USC over their two-year operation.

A joint investigation by the Toronto (Canada) Metro Police, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, New York State Police, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation resulted in the dismantling of this smuggling operation. However, as of February 1999, three suspects remained at large. The multi-jurisdictional approach in this investigation proved to be an enormous success and helped to suppress this substantial smuggling operation.

The magnitude of this case is crucial to the future of alien smuggling. The waters along the Indian reservation lacked supervision by authorities, which permitted the smugglers to execute their criminal smuggling. Due to the enormous profits generated by alien smuggling, snakeheads will continue to seek out points of entry that are not well supervised and will persist in their criminal activity. Continued law enforcement efforts with a multitude of agencies will be a crucial facet of detecting and depleting international smuggling operations.

Gambling

Gambling is an activity common among organized criminal groups of all kinds, and Asian groups are certainly no exception. In areas with a large gambling district, such as Atlantic City, New Jersey, law enforcement has observed an influx of Asian individuals, some of which are associated with organized crime.

In Atlantic City, the most prominent group of Asian criminals operating in the city are Korean and account for a great deal of the money gambled in the casinos. There

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is also an increase in Asian restaurants and businesses as well as Asian-influenced games such as Sic Bo and Baccarat.

The legitimacy of gambling is a cover up for many crimes and breeds a variety of criminal activities. For example, money laundering is successfully perpetrated through casinos. By exchanging money through the casino, large amounts of cash, which was gained through criminal activity, is made "clean" and appears to be winnings from gambling. Therefore, the monetary proceeds gained from home invasions, drug trafficking, or any other criminal activity can be laundered in the casinos with minimal risk.

In addition, there are criminal activities generated out of the high-finance setting of an area such as Atlantic City. The growing Asian population in the gambling district of Atlantic City, which includes many business owners and entrepreneurs, invites extortion and intimidation, for example. Officials in New Jersey have observed Asian organized crime groups, particularly Korean groups, conducting loan sharking operations that prey on unsuspecting Asian gamblers in the casinos.

In this type of activity, a gambler on the floor, who is almost always Asian, is surveilled to determine when his funds are diminishing. The gambler is approached by a member of the criminal group and offered more money to continue playing in hopes of recouping his losses. Enticed by such an offer, the victim agrees to go to a high-roller suite where the money is provided, sometimes up to \$40,000 USC, and the conditions for repayment are established.

The typical rules of loan sharking apply, and the interest on a loan from a Korean criminal group can exceed 20 percent of the total amount, which is accrued daily, weekly, or monthly, depending on the lender. In the event the loan is not repaid, the debtor is sought, found, and will suffer serious consequences at the hands of the criminal group. Violence is typically used to regain the money, which has usually doubled or tripled since the lending. Some home invasions reported to law enforcement agencies in other states have been the result of a loan sharking deal that began in Atlantic City.

The crime of loan sharking is not an isolated event, and the victim will be tracked down regardless of where they may reside. The high transient population in Atlantic City draws gamblers from a large area. Some of the victims of Korean loan sharking schemes are from New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington D.C. Even jurisdictions outside the Atlantic City area that do not have a large casino and gambling district could be confronted with Asian criminal activity as a result of the situation in southern New Jersey. When the loanshark and his associates seek repayment for their loan, they will travel to other states to attain their money.

Once again, the concept of a multi-jurisdictional approach to contend with Asian organized crime is the most effective method. It is extremely important to consider the possibility that a home invasion in New York could be related to a loan sharking deal from six months earlier in Atlantic City. The development of law enforcement contacts in the area of Atlantic City would prove to be valuable when attempting to identify and locate suspects.

Other gambling districts throughout the country are also significant to the MAGLOCLEN region for the same reason surrounding states are effected by the Asian criminal groups in Atlantic City. As the casino industry continues to thrive, it will

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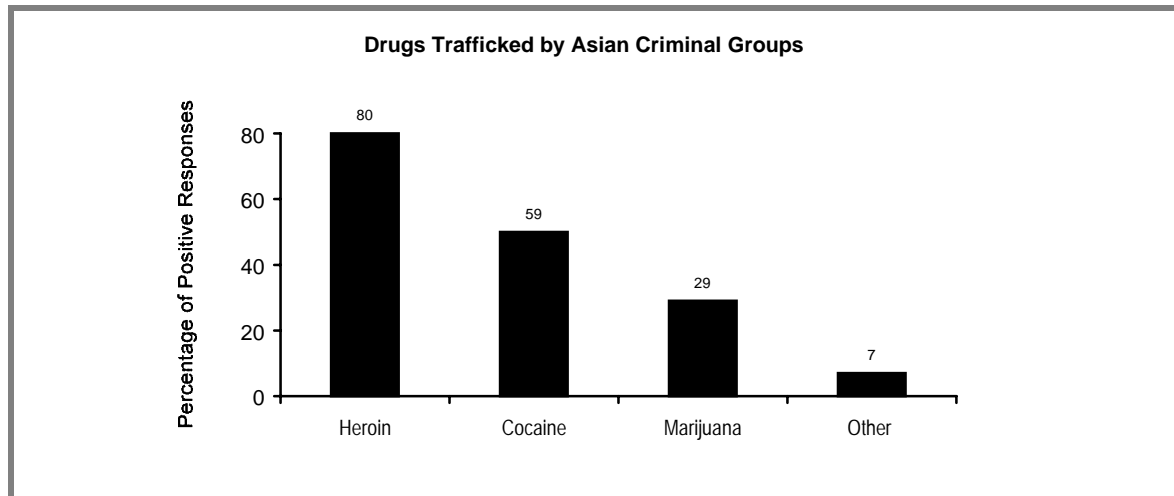
provide a safe haven for Asian organized crime to execute their criminal activities and target potential victims.

Drug Trafficking

The crime of drug trafficking operates on a global scale and continually challenges law enforcement. New drugs are being introduced, along with innovative means of selling and transporting. Asian gangs have become a permanent fixture in drug trafficking and have excelled in such criminal activities.

When prompted on the involvement of Asian gangs in the drug trade throughout the MAGLOCLEN region, 39 percent of agencies reported Asian organized crime involvement in the drug trade at some level. Whether the groups were heavily involved, or only dabbling, agencies were aware of Asian gangs profiting from drug trafficking.

Heroin was the drug reported by most agencies, 80 percent, as most frequently trafficked by Asian gangs. The following graph shows all the drugs listed by respondents that reported Asian organized crime activity. The "other" category in this graph includes derivations of amphetamines.



Asian criminal groups are polydrug trafficking organizations and will not limit themselves to a particular market. They are willing to cooperate with other groups, such as Jamaican posses and outlaw motorcycle gangs, in drug ventures to increase profits. A primary characteristic contributing to the stronghold Asian criminal groups have on the drug market is their intense greed. This greed makes them extremely flexible and unpredictable, as they will work with anyone and deal in any drug.

Although the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reports a decline in the availability of Southeast Asian heroin since the late 1980s and early 1990s, a substantial problem remains. Significant law enforcement efforts have led to the current decrease, but has also contributed to the development of innovative trafficking methods. The DEA has labeled Chinese criminal groups as the most sophisticated traffickers faced by law enforcement today.

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Trafficking Methods

According to survey respondents reporting Asian organized crime, more than half, 55 percent, cited smuggling as a role in which Asian criminal groups play in the drug trade. One of the biggest transshipment points for Asian gangs dealing in drugs is Canada, particularly Vancouver, British Columbia, in the Pacific Northwest. Even for groups in the MAGLOCLLEN region, Asian gangs in Vancouver provide large amounts of drugs to be sold throughout the area.

Since law enforcement has identified such trends, Asian criminal groups have developed successful trafficking methods to avoid detection. Drug trafficking thrives along the United States-Canadian border and throughout both countries as well. Innovative means of transporting drugs from one location to another are constantly being devised, and since much of the activity involves both the United States and Canada, international trafficking is a common occurrence.

Survey respondents reportedly encountered numerous means of drug transportation methods. The most significant incidents involve interstate highway travel, although means of transportation for drug traffickers between locations was observed on trains, buses, and personal cars. An agency from New Jersey reported such activity was experienced on the Garden State Parkway, which runs from north to south through the state. This roadway is especially significant since both Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and New York City are easily accessible from there.

One particular highway notorious for Asian drug traffickers is Interstate 5 in the Pacific Northwest. This roadway runs from Vancouver, British Columbia, along the West Coast through Washington, Oregon, and California. Since Vancouver is one of the major suppliers to the drug trade on the East Coast, this is oftentimes the beginning of the journey for drugs entering the MAGLOCLLEN region.

An important aspect of Interstate 5 that contributes to the high drug trafficking activity is the proximity of the ports of Seattle and Tacoma, Washington, which are both located along the highway. Intelligence from the DEA indicates these two ports are areas of major drug activity, particularly heroin originating in Southeast Asia. Aside from the drug shipments traveling along the West Coast, there are large amounts brought through Canada. Arriving in Seattle or Tacoma, the drugs are transported through Toronto, Ontario, and Montreal, Quebec, where it crosses the United States-Canadian border in the Great Lakes and East Coast regions.

The proportions of such activity are also significant to agencies who did *not* report Asian gangs in their jurisdiction being involved in the drug trade. While the drugs are in transit from Canada through the Pacific Northwest, or through Canada over the border eastward into the MAGLOCLLEN region, various states and provinces are traveled through. This is the type of mobility that has made Asian criminal groups so difficult to investigate.

During their drug runs, Asian criminal groups have been known to victimize communities along the way. With their journey spanning thousands of miles, the victim population is enormous and soon after a home invasion or other crime is committed, the group is back on the road to another location. Here again is an example of the dire need for cooperation among law enforcement. Not only by neighboring agencies, but also in other states and provinces. This extensive network will permit the steady flow of intelligence needed to detect and deplete Asian criminal groups.

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The Golden Triangle

Any discussion of Asian drug trafficking would not be complete without some mention of the Golden Triangle. Even for those jurisdictions in the MAGLOCLEN region who rarely experience Asian criminal groups dealing in drugs, having a fundamental understanding of the international drug trade is useful. For example, Asian street gangs selling drugs in areas throughout the region may have no ties with the Golden Triangle; however, the drugs they are dealing could have originated in Southeast Asia.

Estimates claim 60 percent of the *world's* heroin supply originates in the Golden Triangle. Locally speaking, this can be broken down to approximately 30 percent of the heroin in the United States, and 10 percent in the MAGLOCLEN region, which has been imported from Southeast Asia.

The Golden Triangle is comprised of Laos, Thailand, and Myanmar (formerly known as Burma), which form a triangle-shaped landmass in Southeast Asia. The Golden Triangle is notorious for drug trafficking and has been the source of violence and other illicit activities associated with the trade.

For law enforcement agencies, there are benefits to be gained by being familiar with the area of the Golden Triangle and the activity that takes place there. Since international ties and associations among Asian criminal groups are common, there is a possibility that investigations into an Asian drug organization could lead directly to Southeast Asia.

A Case Example of Asian Drug Trafficking in the MAGLOCLEN Region

A nine-month investigation of an Asian heroin smuggling and money laundering operation in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, concluded on September 17, 1998, with the arrest of at least 30 people involved in the criminal conspiracy. There were 16 individuals named in the formal indictment, all of which were found in violation of money laundering conspiracy, conspiracy to avoid reporting requirements, conspiracy to distribute and to possess heroin, conspiracy to import heroin, money laundering forfeiture, and drug forfeiture.

The investigation began on January 12, 1998, when an important member of the drug organization sold approximately 700 grams of heroin worth \$62,000 USC to an undercover officer in New York. The group was led by an infamous heroin kingpin who resided in Hong Kong. The remainder of the group consisted of several Asian individuals between 22 and 35-years-old who resided in Philadelphia, Delaware, and Bucks Counties in Pennsylvania.

A Title III Wiretap was granted to monitor telephone conversations among the suspects in this investigation. Conversations disclosed the nature of their extensive criminal activity that included money laundering, along with the large-scale heroin sales. Also during their discussions, members disclosed where to easily bring in shipments of heroin into the United States, how to successfully smuggle the drugs through Canada Customs, and how to avoid federal reporting guidelines for cash amounts exceeding \$10,000 USC.

Throughout the investigation, authorities observed international travel to Hong Kong, additional undercover drug buys, and several wire-transfers of large sums of money to Hong Kong. Some of the money was laundered by using "smurfs" who

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traveled to Atlantic City, New Jersey, with knapsacks full of cash in small denominations. Once in Atlantic City, the money was brought to Trump Taj Mahal Casino, where it was exchanged for larger bills. The large denomination bills were then brought to a bank in Philadelphia and wired to Hong Kong.

Finally, on September 17, 1998, four members of the criminal organization bound for Hong Kong were located in Philadelphia International Airport and arrested before boarding their flight. A subsequent search of the individuals revealed \$30,000 USC. Aside from the airport arrests, raids in Philadelphia and New York yielded another \$20,000 USC, as well as semiautomatic weapons and ammunition. Although no heroin was recovered, the arrests assisted in preventing future shipments of the drug traveling to the United States.

This case exemplifies the tedious nature of investigations in Asian organized criminal groups. A seemingly isolated undercover drug buy was actually a small part of an intricate Asian criminal conspiracy that was operating on an international level. The investigation demanded the coordination of law enforcement agencies from varying countries, states, and levels within the criminal justice system in order to dismantle this criminal organization.

The success of this case is due to the diligence exercised by all law enforcement officials and the exchange of intelligence among all agencies involved. Without the cooperation and willingness to assist by all agencies, the outcome may not have been as triumphant. This is not the only case where several agencies successfully combined their resources to deplete a criminal conspiracy, but it is an example of how such a concerted effort can produce winning results.

Law Enforcement Initiatives

Through its evolution, law enforcement has successfully adapted to the changing ways of society. The present state of our culture dictates the duties and challenges of law enforcement. Asian criminal groups and their increasing presence in cities and towns throughout the MAGLOCLLEN region is one such example. In response to their growth, law enforcement must develop strategies and means in which to manage the problem successfully.

As previously mentioned, organized crime and associated criminal activities have been a focus of law enforcement for centuries. Entire units and agencies have been developed to focus solely on organized criminal activity. Even legislation has been amended to properly address the issue of criminal conspiracies. The next challenge is to adjust to the population dynamics in our country that have contributed to the creation of ethnic criminal groups, more specifically, Asian organized crime.

Reasons for Change

According to U.S. Census data in 1997, Asian-Americans are the fastest growing ethnic group in the United States. In fact, experts anticipate this population will double to 20 million in the beginning stages of the next century. This same population growth has been experienced in Canada as well, where Toronto, Ontario, has an estimated Asian population higher than any other area, outside of Asia. This enormous influx of Asian individuals has greatly contributed to the expansion of Asian organized crime in the MAGLOCLLEN region.

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Even though the masses of Asian people who have fled their respective countries are primarily seeking legitimate opportunities in other countries, the overall migration has an impact on Asian organized crime. Since the majority of Asian organized criminal activity is against people of the same ethnicity, an increase in population will result in an increase in potential victims.

It may seem ineffectual to study issues well outside Asian organized crime, such as population; however, this is a primary factor in following such activity. An increase in the overall Asian population in an area will in turn make that area a target for Asian organized crime. This aspect of Asian criminal groups is where law enforcement needs to modify traditional policing methods to incorporate various disciplines. By noticing population changes and being aware of the Asian community, law enforcement can grasp the scope of the problem and prepare for future incidents.

Established policing methods pertaining to organized crime have proven to be effective. The depletion of many organized crime syndicates have provided an example to be followed for years to come. However, the creation of such policing techniques were not tailored for specific events, but laid the general foundation for investigating criminal conspiracies. Now that law enforcement is confronted with newly formed criminal groups, such as Asian criminal enterprises, the techniques previously implemented for organized crime investigations need to be modified to suit the situation.

Creating a Network

The basic premise of MAGLOCLEN is to promote the liberal exchange of information among member agencies. This task is accomplished with communication, cooperation, and coordination among all levels and jurisdictions of law enforcement. By doing so, agencies experience the benefits of being informed and obtaining the information they need to gain success. This success, while being viewed as an individual accomplishment, is also the culmination of widespread intelligence exchange among numerous agencies in the law enforcement community.

Establishing a working network consisting of points of contact is not only an asset to an agency, but is necessary to address issues such as Asian organized crime. The mobility exercised by Asian criminal groups discussed in the previous section is one of the most significant reasons for such an approach.

Asian drug traffickers travel through several jurisdictions before eventually arriving at their intended destination. Intelligence exchange will most likely take place among the law enforcement agencies involved in the trafficking investigation, such as jurisdictions near the source and destination locations, but the network needs to be extended even further. Several other agencies may be involved through crimes committed during the interstate routes made by the drug traffickers. Unfortunately, the incidents are rarely associated since many crimes are treated as isolated incidents.

When dealing with Asian organized crime, seemingly isolated incidents have potential to be part of something much bigger, as with the case example discussed in the previous section. In that particular investigation, the law enforcement network extended globally and played a crucial role in the eventual arrest of those involved. By sharing information on an incident that appears to be an average drug buy, robbery, or other crime, law enforcement can piece together the many facets of Asian criminal groups.

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According to survey respondents who reported experiencing Asian organized crime, 55 percent had been involved in joint investigations to combat such activity. For many agencies, a coordinated approach to investigations may seem complicated and generally undesirable. However, the benefits to be gained by all agencies involved should outweigh any doubt in such an approach.

Historically, cooperation among differing agencies has not been well received; however, law enforcement needs to adapt to this concept for the benefit of society. The nature of criminal relationships today is not restricted by jurisdictional boundaries. People of varying ethnicities, ages, genders, and social situations join together in criminal conspiracies. Such an alignment has been extremely successful and accounts for many of the organized criminal groups operating throughout the region.

This same type of unrestrained interaction needs to be exercised by law enforcement so that forces against the spread of organized crime can be aligned. Such an approach would significantly impact Asian organized crime by keeping agencies informed of current intelligence on individuals and groups. Even for agencies that reported not having a great deal of Asian organized crime as of yet, there is a need to develop a functional network for when the need arises. The gathering of information is commonly exercised by law enforcement; however, the value of such intelligence depends on the scope of its dissemination.

The Task Force Approach

The development of a task force is a common way to approach a particular problem with distinct focus and attention. As it pertains to Asian organized crime, developing a multi-agency task force is an effective method in which to convey information and solicit assistance on groups or individuals operating in the area. This is how the concept of networking is acted upon and taken to a different level. Forming a network is only part of the solution—making the network functional and active completes the equation.

In the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania area, a multi-agency task force consisting of local, state, and federal agencies in New Jersey and Pennsylvania meets on a regular basis to promote the exchange of intelligence regarding Asian organized crime. This task force is an informal group that has helped to create a network in the area for points of contact and additional information. The combination of different agencies, from various areas, helps to extend networking beyond the immediate area.

Attendees have the opportunity to gain a great deal of information from various sources. This information can be applied to current investigations, or kept on file for reference at a further time or to another agency. Every piece of intelligence brought to the meeting, regardless of relevance, is received with attention by attendees. On more than one occasion, a seemingly isolated situation had meaning to another agency. Once recognized as a possible association, the matter was further pursued by all agencies involved.

Some agencies have a particular focus that can complement the efforts of other agencies. For example, the Casino Unit and the Division of Gaming Enforcement of the New Jersey State Police concentrate on Asian organized criminal activity as it pertains to gambling. Their duties permit them to observe interaction between Asian gang members while in the casinos of Atlantic City. Officials from such agencies can monitor their

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interaction and collect a great deal of intelligence on the organization. This information is extremely useful to agencies throughout the region that may be looking for a home invasion suspect or have an inquiry on a particular gang.

This is only one example of how a task force approach to Asian organized crime can bring together agencies that can provide information with those who will benefit from such intelligence. There are many other such groups that meet to share intelligence regarding Asian organized crime in the MAGLOCLLEN region. Indeed, 42 percent of survey respondents reported they have participated in regular intelligence meetings regarding Asian criminal activity with other agencies. Of this total, 70 percent stated the meetings were effective, and 29 percent found them *very* effective.

Taking the initiative to merge law enforcement intelligence against Asian organized crime has obviously been a tremendous success to many agencies, and will encourage such information exchange in other areas as well. The effort to overcome previous notions in law enforcement that hindered the fluent exchange of intelligence is extraordinary and will prove to be the primary factor in diminishing Asian organized crime.

Guidelines for Law Enforcement

Once an agency is confronted with Asian organized crime, whether it be an extremely organized enterprise or a loose-knit group of individuals, their approach must be well coordinated in order to be effective. When initiating an investigation of Asian criminal activity, knowledge of Asian cultures and customs will prove to be valuable assets to an investigator. Typical law enforcement duties are much more difficult when applied to Asian organized crime. For example, the difficulty in translating names can seriously hinder an investigation. This is a primary reason for gathering all pertinent information to better identify an Asian individual. Since names may be reversed in order, misspelled, or misunderstood, the intelligence from tattoos, markings, or other identifying features will aid law enforcement officers in subject identification.

Even more challenging in the investigation of Asian organized crime is the language barrier that exists. This problem arises when dealing with Asian suspects, as well as victims, and can obstruct a successful investigation into criminal activity. Subtle cultural differences between Asian criminal groups and non-Asian law enforcement is another variance that can hinder investigations. Knowledge of the Asian culture, and sensitivity to their customs, is an important way to enhance investigative techniques.

Indeed, all of these aspects will also assist in dealing with the victims of Asian organized crime. This is one instance where agencies not experiencing Asian criminal activity will benefit from understanding the nature of Asian organized crime. The following section will assist law enforcement professionals in their duties when cultural differences and language issues become major factors in dealing with Asian criminal groups, and their victims.

Languages

Neighboring regions in Asia, and sometimes within the same country, have several different languages that are spoken by the people of that region. Unlike the United States where regional dialects differ from one another, but are essentially variations of the same language, Asian languages can be completely unique from one

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another. In China, several languages are spoken depending on the region. Mandarin is the most common language of the country and also has an influence on other dialects throughout the region. Another Chinese dialect that may be familiar is Cantonese, also known as the Yue dialect. These two languages are distinctly different from one another, but exist within the same country.

The following table shows the various dialects spoken in China alone, excluding the other countries in southeastern and eastern Asia. Furthermore, APPENDIX B-ASIAN LANGUAGES, compares and contrasts many of the major languages spoken throughout Asia and points out the severe differences that exist among them.

DIALECTS SPOKEN IN CHINA

DIALECT	PERCENTAGE OF SPEAKERS	REGIONS IN WHICH SPOKEN
Mandarin	71	North of the Yangtze and southwestern China
Wu	9	Shanghai, Suzhou, Hangzhou
Xiang	5	Hunan
Yue (Cantonese)	5	Guangxi, Guangdong
Min	4	Fujian, Taiwan, Hainan
Kejia	4	Hakka communities in southeastern China
Gan	2	Jiangxi

Source: Microsoft Encarta, 1997.

Law enforcement officers are at a severe disadvantage in situations involving Asian criminal activity due to the language barrier. For example, if a home invasion of an Asian business owner occurs, the investigator responding to this crime will be faced with language issues immediately. When arriving at the scene of the crime, the victims may not speak English, or sometimes, the only English-speaking family members may be children. This fact can alter the entire investigation since the non-English speaking family members may have been the only people to see the suspects. If they are unable to relay the suspects appearance, how many suspects there were, the vehicle they were driving, or what was said during the commission of the crime, the investigator has very little information to work with, and successful apprehension seems impossible.

In the event an interpreter is available, or the family members speak fluent English, problems still remain and the investigation will prove to be a difficult task. Even though they may be able to explain the incident, they may not be willing to cooperate out of fear and misunderstanding. Furthermore, if they do cooperate, there is also a possibility the suspects were speaking a different Asian language than the one spoken by the victims and none of the conversation was understood.

In cases where an Asian interpreter is a necessity, the use of interpreters from other police agencies will be beneficial to investigators. This is a prime example of the importance of multi-agency policing and networking among the law enforcement community on the topic of Asian organized crime. Although Asian-speaking personnel among law enforcement is limited, successful cooperation among agencies compensates for the lack thereof.

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Even though training in Asian languages may not be an option due to cost and time constraints, it is important to have knowledge of other law enforcement personnel who speak such languages. Their assistance in matters involving foreign-speaking victims and suspects can be invaluable and will assist throughout the investigation.

Various types of interpretation services are being developed in and out of the field of law enforcement. For example, a program developed by AT&T, called Language Lines Services, provides interpreting assistance in over 140 languages. This service is offered for a cost and is not specifically geared toward law enforcement, but does have some advantages should the need arise.

The U.S. Department of Defense also offers an interpreting service, and provides training to law enforcement on various foreign languages. Besides offering language training, the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center has created the Translation Interpretation Service to provide assistance to law enforcement who are confronted with criminals and victims who speak a different language. This agency can be very useful in Asian organized crime cases, and has the ability to increase the success rate of investigations.

In addition, various types of computer software are available to law enforcement on the topic of translation. One particular program, by Point Talk Translators, is extremely useful in all areas of law enforcement and has various translating capabilities. In fact, 41 languages are included in the package and can be a tremendous tool in the investigation of Asian organized crime.

In addition to these examples, there are other options when attempting to overcome the language barrier with Asian criminals and victims. Trying to convey ideas without the use of words is extremely challenging and individuals engaged in this situation are often forced to resort to alternate means of communication to understand each other. This is the primary reason for depending on many forms of perception, such as cultural sensitivity, to better understand Asian individuals.

Cultural Sensitivity

In addition to language, cultural sensitivity is also an important area for law enforcement professionals to be knowledgeable in to improve their understanding of Asian suspects and victims. Traditional policing techniques are applicable to organized crime investigations and have assisted in the defeat of many crime groups. However, when confronted with Asian individuals who are part of criminal groups, the basics of interviewing and interrogating need to be adjusted to compensate for the disparities in culture, and the lack of familiarity.

Cultural sensitivity is important because the knowledge of Asian culture may increase cooperation among suspects and victims. For example, misconceptions of law enforcement often held by members of the Asian community may account for their lack of cooperation during an investigation. It is very important to gain their trust so they will feel comfortable relaying the information they have to the investigator.

One important way to accomplish this task is by having some sense of Asian customs and behaviors. In another example, storeowners in a local city may be suffering from extortion by local Asian gangs. However, they are reluctant to report to authorities due to the threats placed on them by the extortionists. Here is one area where community

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policing is very important. Building a strong rapport with local Asian business owners may foster communication, leading to more reporting of Asian organized crime.

By showing you understand, and are familiar with Asian customs and culture, you will be exemplifying your efforts to better comprehend the Asian community. This is one way to build a good relationship, and prove that you are willing to assist them and can be trusted. The following section will describe some of the main points that could make a difference in the perception of law enforcement among the Asian community.

It is important to note, however, that not all aspects will be applicable to all Asian individuals. Just as not all Americans observe all of our cultural mores, the same applies to Asian individuals living in our country. Many Asians were born in the United States and Canada and have subsequently incorporated many Western traditions in their daily lives. However, they will most likely appreciate your effort at understanding some level of their heritage and your knowledge will prove useful to investigations.

Points to Remember

The following points are provided to emphasize some of the cultural differences that have been outlined in this assessment. Although not applicable to every case, being sensitive to the cultural disparities between us as Americans, and people of Asian descent will heighten the success of the investigation. This will also assist in building a strong rapport with members of the Asian community. Gaining trust from this group will enable law enforcement to effectively manage the Asian organized criminal groups in the MAGLOCLAN region.

- ✓ Initial contact with Asian families should occur with the elder male member of the household, even if he does not speak English, nor is the person with whom you wish to speak. If another person in the home speaks English, they will be summoned by the head of the household. State your business with him before seeking your target.
- ✓ Do not initiate a handshake, and only engage in this greeting if they do first. As a general rule, men and women are not to have physical contact. Another sign of respect for older members of the family is the quarter bow.
- ✓ Hand signals familiar to Americans may be misinterpreted by some Asian people. For example, if we were summoning a person to come near us, we would sometimes motion to them with our finger, palm facing up in a closed fist. This is inappropriate to some Asians and may seem rude. Instead, they use a palm-down gesture, with fingers waving back and forth.
- ✓ Other typical behavior in which we are familiar may be viewed as disrespectful by Asian people. For example, finger snapping, back slapping, and head patting (primarily of children) are often considered inappropriate by Asian individuals.
- ✓ Avoid finger pointing, as this may be taken as offensive to some Asian individuals.
- ✓ In the event you enter a home where all family members have removed their shoes, or you notice shoes placed at the entrance, it may be wise to remove yours to show respect.
- ✓ Asian individuals may feel more comfortable if you sit beside them, rather than across from them. Avoid excessive direct eye contact and shouting to appear less intimidating. Keep in mind, even if Asian individuals avoid eye contact, they are not trying to be evasive, it is more likely a cultural trait they practice.

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- ✓ Eliciting responses may be difficult, due to the Asian belief in the “politeness of yes.” This means they believe they are being polite by using the word “yes,” and are avoiding a negative confrontation by saying “no.” An Asian individual may not say “no,” as a refusal, immediately. In many cases, questions are answered with a “yes,” as in “yes, I understand.”
- ✓ Smiling and laughing may be a sign of an emotion other than ridicule. In some cases, this is not meant to mock and should not be misinterpreted as such.
- ✓ If Asian people sometimes seem like they are not cooperating, and refuse to talk about themselves or their involvement, it can be a display of humbleness. They may prefer to talk about you and not themselves.
- ✓ The crime of rape is always a difficult crime to investigate, and victims often experience difficulty in recalling the episode. However, the shame associated with rape, and the sensitivity of the topic of sex in general, is intensified in the Asian culture and information will be even more difficult to obtain in the event of a rape case. Although not very common, perpetrators of home invasions have reportedly raped female family members during the commission of the crime.
- ✓ In most cases, general politeness and respectfulness should be exercised when confronting victims of Asian organized crime, or members of criminal groups themselves.

Once again, these are suggestions for dealing with Asian individuals from a law enforcement perspective. Many Asian families in this country are “Americanized,” but are familiar with traditional displays of respect and will appreciate your efforts. It is still important to implement general interview and interrogation techniques, while keeping these examples in mind for specific cases.

Asian Names

The topic of Asian names is also very difficult to understand, and much ambiguity surrounds the issue as well. Besides pronouncing Asian names, the order of names also causes confusion for law enforcement. For the most part, and this may not apply to all Asian ethnic groups, names are stated in reverse order, or last name first, first name last. However, some Asian-Americans will have a common American name and an Asian last name, or switch their Asian names to reflect western names, first name first, then last.

Also contributing to the uncertainty is the fact that there is no standard way for names to be written or translated. During immigration from other countries, variations on Asian names were developed. Also, some first and middle names in Chinese can be joined together making one name, or separated to create two names. For example, the Chinese name ZheGong could also be listed as Gong (first name) and Zhe (middle name.)

This is a great source of confusion when trying to identify members of Asian criminal groups. For this reason, having the individual write their name, or using tattoos and other markings to identify individuals is very important and should be used with name recognition. For many agencies, photographing has been a successful way to assist in the identification of individuals.

The following table shows some of the more common names for the ethnic Asian groups mentioned throughout this assessment. The information herein may assist in recognizing Asian names, and identifying Asian individuals in the future. Keep in mind

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these are just examples, and may be interchangeable for some ethnicities. If the names in an investigation are questionable, or further information is needed, it would be wise to consult an Asian speaking person who would be able to clarify any ambiguities.

SELECTED ASIAN NAMES OFTEN ENCOUNTERED

ETHNICITY	SURNAMES	FIRST NAMES	MIDDLE NAMES	
Chinese	Chang/Zhang	Gong	Zhe	
	Chen	Ning	She	
	Chiang	BaoTse		
	Lee/Li	Mai		
	Luk	Hwa		
	Song			
	Sun			
	Tang			
	Wong/Wang/Huang			
	Yang/Young			
	Vietnamese	Do	Thanh	Van
		Ho	Minh	Thi
		Hong	Tram	Ngoc
Le		Tran	Dang	
Ngo		Dung		
Nguyen (pronounced "na-win")		Ve		
Pham		Trinh		
Tran		Phong		
Vu		Hai		
		Long		
Laotian		Bouphasiri	Bounmy	
	Khamphoukeo	Fasanahm		
Cambodian	San	Ly		
	Touch	Sambath		
	Chep	Para		
Korean	Ahn			
	Choi			
	Chun			
	Han/Hahn			
	Kim			
	Lee/Rhee			
	Moon/Mum			
	Oh			
	Paek			
	Pak			
	Park			

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Japanese	Suzuki
	Yamada
	Seki
	Hashimoto
	Kono

Final Summary

This assessment is the result of responses provided by member agencies throughout the MAGLOCLAN region, as well as intelligence gleaned from additional resources. Member agencies were surveyed to gain perspective on the extent of Asian organized crime within the region to better understand the immediate problem. The general trend was that larger cities experienced a great deal more of Asian organized crime than did rural areas. Jurisdictions located in close proximity to a large city also reported Asian organized crime to some degree.

Among the responding agencies who indicated they have experienced Asian organized crime, there were reports of large Asian communities that consisted of typical, law-abiding citizens. Several survey respondents also stated they have noticed an increase in the overall Asian population in their respective areas. However, there was a certain level of reluctance on the part of the agencies to suspect any organized criminal activity among the Asian population, and for the most part, this is a valid notion.

The significance of these findings lies within the tendency for Asian organized crime groups to victimize the Asian community. For this reason, most law enforcement in the near future, whether they have an Asian organized crime problem or not, should expect to be effected by their crimes. Asian organized crime may not evolve from an average Asian-American community, but their criminal activities will most likely bring them into such neighborhoods. For many areas, it may only be a matter of time before they are, in some way or another, confronted with Asian organized crime or the victims of their illicit activities. Having some knowledge of Asian criminal enterprises permits law enforcement to be prepared for such an event.

Another advantage of being informed is in the ability to provide assistance to other agencies that may need support in such investigations. The mobility of Asian organized criminals demands a multi-jurisdictional approach by law enforcement. Therefore, even if Asian criminal groups are not in your jurisdiction, and their presence is not expected, another agency may need to solicit assistance from you in *their* endeavors with Asian organized crime. In order to extend support to fellow agencies, general knowledge of Asian criminal enterprises will make your agency an asset in a multi-agency investigation.

Expanding on the mobility of Asian criminal groups, law enforcement must realize they are susceptible to experiencing the intensity of these groups regardless of population, location, or any other factors. Incidents of Asian organized crime are not isolated and may span several jurisdictions during their criminal activities. Unlike other types of crime or criminal organizations, Asian criminal enterprises thrive on their extensive network of associates. This network needs to be emulated by law enforcement to suppress organized criminal activity and broaden the scope of investigations.

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The most essential ways to successfully detect, investigate, and prosecute Asian criminal groups are by having a strong understanding of the Asian mindset, and building a network of contacts in the law enforcement community. Population forecasts for upcoming years indicates an enormous increase in the Asian population in the United States. With this increase in the Asian population, law enforcement can expect to be confronted with the issue of Asian organized crime, if that has not occurred already. Some areas that are currently experiencing such criminal groups may even experience an increase in their activities.

The anticipated expansion of Asian criminal groups requires law enforcement to concentrate on *knowledge* and *networking*. These two factors carry a great deal of importance and will make the difference when agencies are confronted with Asian organized crime. Knowledge is a fundamental issue of all policing; however, the significance of that knowledge diminishes when it is not shared among all law enforcement.

This assessment was designed to familiarize law enforcement not only with Asian organized crime in the MAGLOCLAN region, but with the traditions and customs of the Asian culture. By doing so, law enforcement will be better equipped to effectively contend with Asian organized crime. Whether an agency is currently aware of an extensive Asian organized crime problem in their jurisdiction, or there has been no such activity, the need to understand all aspects of the issue is imperative.

Law enforcement has met the challenges of traditional organized crime, and has made immense progress in the area of investigating criminal groups. However, the establishment of unique Asian organized crime groups has placed even greater demands on the criminal justice system. The dynamic Asian criminal enterprises operating today have forced law enforcement to amend typical policing styles and broaden their scope of investigations. In order for law enforcement to be effective, it is critical to adapt to the challenging demands that Asian organized crime presents.



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Appendix A-Responding Agency List

MAGLOCLN would like to extend our gratitude to the following member agencies for their participation in the survey and their assistance in the preparation of this assessment. Survey responses were obtained from the following 456 MAGLOCLN member agencies.

Canada

Durham Regional Police Service
Halton Regional Police Service
Niagara Regional Police Service
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Peel Regional Police
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Toronto Police Service
U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (Toronto)
Surete Du Quebec
York Regional Police

Delaware

Delaware Department of Corrections
Delaware Department of Justice-Office of Attorney General
Delaware River and Bay Authority Police
Delaware State Police
Dover Police Department
New Castle County Police Department
Newark Police Department
Wilmington Police Department

Indiana

Allen County Sheriff's Department
Bloomington Police Department
Boone County Sheriff's Department
Carmel Police Department
Clarksville Police Department
Dubois County Sheriff's Department
Elkhart Police Department
Evansville Police Department
Fishers Police Department
Greenwood Police Department
Hamilton County Sheriff's Department
Hendricks County Sheriff's Department
Indiana Department of Corrections

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Indiana, continued

Indiana Department of Revenue
Indiana State Police
Indianapolis Police Department
Jeffersonville Police Department
Kokomo Police Department
LaPorte City Police Department
LaPorte County Police Department
Madison County Police Department
Northwest HIDTA
Richmond Police Department
Shelbyville Police Department
South Bend Police Department
U.S. Department of the Army, Fort Benjamin
Zionsville Police Department

Kentucky

Jefferson County Police Department

Maryland

Aberdeen Police Department
Annapolis Police Department
Anne Arundel County Police Department
Baltimore City Police Department
Baltimore County Police Department
Berlin Police Department
Charles County Sheriff's Office
Frederick County Sheriff's Office
Frederick Police Department
Greenbelt City Police Department
Harford County Sheriff's Office
Howard County Police Department
Internal Revenue Service-Security Division
Laurel Police Department
Maryland Division of Corrections
Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office
Maryland National Park Police
Maryland State Police
Montgomery County Police Department
National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Office of Inspector General
Ocean City Police Department
Prince George's County Police Department
U.S. Customs Service, Baltimore
U.S. Department of Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Baltimore
U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, Baltimore

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Maryland, continued

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Inspector General, Beltsville

Michigan

Ann Arbor Police Department
Birmingham Police Department
Brownstown Police Department
Canton Police Department
Dearborn Police Department
Jackson Police Department
Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department
Lansing Police Department
Michigan Gaming Control Board
Michigan State Police
Oakland County Prosecutor's Office
Southfield Police Department
West Bloomfield Police Department

New Jersey

Aberdeen Police Department
Atlantic County Department of Public Safety
Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office
Belmar Police Department
Bordentown City Police Department
Brick Township Police Department
Burlington County Prosecutor's Office
Burlington Township Police Department
Camden County Prosecutor's Office
Camden Police Department
Cape May County Prosecutor's Office
Cherry Hill Police Department
Clinton Township Police Department
Cumberland County Prosecutor's Office
Deptford Township Police Department
East Brunswick Police Department
East Greenwich Police Department
East Windsor Township Police Department
Edison Police Department
Ewing Township Police Department
Franklin Township Police Department
Freehold Township Police Department
Glassboro Police Department
Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office

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New Jersey, continued

Gloucester Township Police Department
Greenwich Township Police Department
Holmdel Township Police Department
Hudson County Prosecutor's Office
Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office
Jackson Township Police Department
Lacey Township Police Department
Lakewood Police Department
Lawrence Township Police Department
Linden Police Department
Little Egg Harbor Police Department
Long Branch Police Department
Lumberton Township Police Department
Mantua Township Police Department
Medford Township Police Department
Mercer County Prosecutor's Office
Middlesex County Department of Corrections
Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office
Middletown Township Police Department
Millville Police Department
Monmouth County Sheriff's Office
Monroe Township Police Department
Morris County Prosecutor's Office
Mount Olive Township Police Department
Neptune Township Police Department
New Jersey Department of Corrections
New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice
New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement
New Jersey State Commission of Investigation
New Jersey State Police
New Jersey Division of Taxation-Office of Criminal Investigations
North Brunswick Police Department
Oaklyn Police Department
Ocean County Prosecutor's Office
Ocean County Sheriff's Department
Passaic County Prosecutor's Office
Pennsauken Police Department
Pennsville Police Department
Piscataway Police Department
Pitman Police Department
Point Pleasant Beach Police Department
Point Pleasant Borough Police Department
Princeton Borough Police Department

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New Jersey, continued

Princeton Township Police Department
Randolph Township Police Department
Ship Bottom Police Department
Somerset County Prosecutor's Office
Sparta Police Department
Stafford Township Police Department
Sussex County Prosecutor's Office
Tinton Falls Police Department
Trenton Police Division
Union County Prosecutor's Office
U.S. Naval Criminal Investigative Service
Wall Township Police Department
Warren County Prosecutor's Office
Washington Township Police Department
Washington Township Police Department-Robbinsville
West Deptford Police Department
West Windsor Township Police Department
Westville Police Department
Willingboro Township Police Department

New York

Amherst Police Department
Amityville Police Department
Amsterdam Police Department
Auburn Police Department
Binghamton Police Department
Buffalo Police Department
Cayuga County Sheriff's Department
Cheektowaga Police Department
Chemung County Sheriff's Office
City of Poughkeepsie Police Department
Clarkstown Police Department
Cohoes Police Department
Colonie Police Department
Depew Village Police Department
East Aurora Police Department
Elmira Police Department
Endicott Police Department
Erie County District Attorney's Office
Erie County Sheriff's Office
Freeport Police Department
Gates Police Department
Glenville Police Department

MAGLOCLAN ASIAN ORGANIZED CRIME ASSESSMENT
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New York, continued

Greece Police Department
Hempstead Police Department
Ironduquoit Police Department
Ithaca Police Department
Jamestown Police Department
Lackawanna Police Department
Lancaster Village Police Department
Lynbrook Police Department
Massena Police Department
Monroe County Sheriff's Office
New Windsor Police Department
New York City Department of Finance
New York City Police Department
New York State Commission of Investigation
New York State Organized Crime Task Force
New York State Police
New York/New Jersey HIDTA
Niskayuna Department of Police
Office of Special Narcotics
Ogdensburg Police Department
Oneida Indian Nation Police Department
Oneonta Police Department
Onondaga County Sheriff's Office
Ontario County Sheriff's Office
Orchard Park Police Department
Oswego County District Attorney's Office
Plattsburgh Police Department
Port Authority Police Department
Port Washington Police Department
Putnam County Sheriff's Department
Queens County District Attorney's Office
Rochester Police Department
Rockville Center Police Department
Rotterdam Police Department
Saratoga Springs Police Department
Schenectady Police Department
Schoharie County Sheriff's Office
Scotia Police Department
Suffolk County Police Department
Syracuse Police Department
Town of Dewitt Police Department
Town of Hamburg Police Department
Town of Lancaster Police Department

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New York, continued

Town of Ogden Police Department
Town of Poughkeepsie Police Department
Town of Tonawanda Police Department
Troy Police Department
U.S. Border Patrol
U.S. Customs Service, New York City
U.S. Department of Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms
U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, Buffalo
U.S. Probation Department, Eastern Division of New York
U.S. Secret Service, New York City
U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Racketeering
Wappingers Falls Village Police Department
Waterfront Commission of New York Harbor
Watertown Police Department
West Seneca Police Department
Westchester County District Attorney's Office
Yonkers Police Department

Ohio

Akron Police Department
Allen County Sheriff's Office
Ashland County Sheriff's Office
Ashland Police Department
Athens County Prosecutor's Office
Athens County Sheriff's Office
Athens Police Department
Belmont County Sheriff's Office
Bellevue Police Department
Blue Ash Police Department
Brunswick Police Department
Butler County Sheriff's Office
Centerville Police Department
Chillicothe Police Department
Cincinnati Police Division
City of Hamilton Police Department
City of Miamisburg Police Department
Clearcreek Township Police Department
Cleveland Police Department
Clinton County Sheriff's Office
Clyde Police Department
Columbus Airport Authority Police
Columbus Police Department
Cuyahoga Falls Police Department

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Ohio, continued

Dayton Police Department
Delaware Police Department
Dublin Police Department
Evendale Police Department
Fairborn Police Department
Fairfield County Prosecutor's Office
Fairlawn Police Department
Fayette County Sheriff's Office
Franklin County Sheriff's Office
Fremont Police Department
Gahanna Police Department
Galion Police Department
Gallia County Sheriff's Office
Gallia County Prosecutor's Office
Gallipolis Police Department
Geauga County Sheriff's Office
Greene County Sheriff's Office
Grove City Police Department
Hamilton County Adult Probation Department
Hamilton County Sheriff's Office
Hancock County Sheriff's Office
Harrison Police Department
Heath Police Department
Highland County Sheriff's Office
Hillsboro Police Department
Hinckley Police Department
Huron County Sheriff's Office
Kettering Police Department
Lakewood Police Department
Lancaster Police Department
Lebanon Police Department
Licking County Sheriff's Office
Lima Police Department
London Police Department
Lucas County Sheriff's Office
Madison Township Police Department
Mansfield Police Department
Marietta Police Department
Marion County Sheriff's Office
Marion Police Department
Marysville Police Department
Mason Police Department
Medina City Police Department

MAGLOCLAN ASIAN ORGANIZED CRIME ASSESSMENT
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Ohio, continued

Medina County Sheriff's Office
Middletown Police Department
Milford Police Department
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office
Montpelier Police Department
Morgan County Sheriff's Office
Muskingum County Sheriff's Office
Newark Police Department
Northwood Police Department
Norwalk Police Department
Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
Ohio Office of Attorney General-Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation
Ohio Organized Crime Investigation Commission
Ohio State Highway Patrol
Orrville Police Department
Perrysburg Police Department
Perrysburg Township Police Department
Pickaway County Sheriff's Office
Piqua Police Department
Portsmouth Police Department
Reynoldsburg Police Department
Richland County Sheriff's Office
Scioto County Sheriff's Office
Seneca County Sheriff's Office
Sharonville Police Department
Sidney Police Department
Springdale Police Department
Stark County Sheriff's Office
Summit County Sheriff's Office
Toledo Police Department
Union County Sheriff's Office
Union Township Police Department
Union Township Police Department (Clermont County)
Upper Arlington Police Department
Urbana Police Department
U.S. Coast Guard Investigative Service, Cleveland
U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, Cleveland
U.S. Marshals Service, Toledo
Van Wert Police Department
Warren County Sheriff's Office
Wayne County Sheriff's Office
Westerville Police Department
Whitehall Police Department

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Ohio, continued

Williams County Sheriff's Department
Wilmington Police Department
Wood County Sheriff's Office
Worthington Police Department
Youngstown Police Department
Zanesville Police Department

Pennsylvania

Abington Police Department
Allegheny County Police Department
Allentown Police Department
Altoona Police Department
Bensalem Township Police Department
Bucks County District Attorney's Office
Chester County District Attorney's Office
Cumberland County District Attorney's Office
Dauphin County District Attorney's Office
Doylestown Borough Police Department
Doylestown Township Police Department
East Cocalico Township Police Department
East Hempfield Police Department
East Lampeter Township Police Department
East Whiteland Police Department
Edwardsville Police Department
Ephrata Borough Police Department
Ephrata Township Police Department
Erie Bureau of Police Department
Federal Bureau of Investigation, Philadelphia
Ferguson Township Police Department
Greensburg Police Department
Harrisburg Bureau of Police Department
Haverford Township Police Department
Horsham Township Police Department
Lackawanna County District Attorney's Office
Lancaster County District Attorney's Office
Lancaster County Prison
Lower Paxton Township Police Department
Lower Southampton Township Police Department
Luzerne County District Attorney's Office
Manor Township Police Department
Middletown Township Police Department
Montgomery County District Attorney's Office
New Britain Township Police Department

MAGLOCLAN ASIAN ORGANIZED CRIME ASSESSMENT
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Pennsylvania, continued

Newtown Township Police Department
Northampton County Sheriff's Department
Northampton Township Police Department
Northeastern Regional Police Department
Northern York County Regional Police Department
Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General
Pennsylvania State Police
Philadelphia District Attorney's Office
Philadelphia Housing Police
Philadelphia Police Department
Philadelphia/Camden HIDTA
Pittsburgh Bureau of Police
Reading Police Department
Scranton Police Department
Springettsbury Township Police Department
Springfield Township Police Department
Tinicum Township Police Department
University of Pennsylvania Police Department
Upper Allen Township Police Department
Upper Chichester Police Department
Upper Dublin Police Department
Upper Makefield Township Police Department
Upper Moreland Township Police Department
Upper Southampton Police Department
U.S. Customs Service, Philadelphia
U.S. Department of Defense-Criminal Investigative Service, Lester
U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Racketeering, Philadelphia
U.S. Department of Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Philadelphia
U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, Philadelphia
U.S. Secret Service, Philadelphia
Warminster Township Police Department
Warrington Township Police Department
Warwick Township Police Department
West Hempfield Township Police Department
West Lampeter Township Police Department
West Manchester Township Police Department
Westtown-East Goshen Police Department
Wilkes-Barre Police Department
Wright Township Police Department
York City Police Department
York County District Attorney's Office
York Township Police Department

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Virginia

U.S. Coast Guard-Atlantic Area

Washington D.C.

Amtrak Office of Inspector General

Federal Bureau of Investigation-Headquarters

Federal Bureau of Investigation-Counter Terrorism Division

U.S. Department of Labor

U.S. Department of State, Diplomatic Security Service

U.S. Department of Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

U.S. Secret Service

Washington D.C. Metropolitan Police Department

Appendix B-Asian Languages

The following table depicts the differences and similarities of some Asian languages. Unlike American dialects, which differ from one region to the next but remain understandable, Asian dialects are essentially different languages. Even in one country, several distinct dialects may be spoken.

The great disparity among Asian languages is one of many challenges with which law enforcement is confronted when faced with Asian organized criminal groups.

LANGUAGE	DESCRIPTION
Burmese	The official language of Burma. The Burmese alphabet has 42 letters, which are composed of circles, parts of circles, or combinations of circles.
Cantonese	A dialect of Chinese spoken in southern China. It is a tonal language—that is, different intonations are used to distinguish words with the same pronunciation. Cantonese uses from three to six distinct tones.
Japanese	The official language of Japan. It also is spoken in parts of Brazil and the United States. Japanese characters, also called ideographs, indicate syllables. Traditional Japanese is written in vertical columns from right to left.
Korean	The official language of North and South Korea. Each letter in the Korean alphabet represents a single consonant or vowel. Korean words are written in clusters on the page, rather than in columns or rows.
Mandarin	The main Chinese dialect, spoken in northern, central, and western China. It is a tonal language—that is, different intonations are used to distinguish words with the same pronunciation. Mandarin has four main tones.
Filipino	Formerly called Tagalog, is the official language of the Philippines. Filipino includes hundreds of Spanish words, introduced when Spain ruled the Philippines beginning in the mid-1500s.
Thai	The national language of Thailand. It also is spoken in China, Laos, and Vietnam. Thai is a tonal language—that is, different intonations are used to distinguish words with the same pronunciation.
Vietnamese	The official language of Vietnam, and is spoken in parts of Cambodia and Laos. It is a tonal language—that is, different intonations are used to distinguish words with the same pronunciation.

Appendix C-Chinese Ethnic Groups

Following is a list of the ethnic groups recognized by the Chinese government. The names of the groups are given in their transcription from Chinese characters. When ethnic groups have another name used in the West, it is mentioned, as in Weiwuer (Uighur).

NATIONALITY	DEMOGRAPHICS
Achang	18,000 members, mostly in Yunnan province (south)
Bai	1 million members, in Yunnan province (south)
Baoan	7,000 in Gansu province (central)
Benglong	10,000 in Yunnan province (south)
Bulang	52,000 in Yunnan province (south)
Buyi	1.7 million in Guizhou province (south-central)
Chaoxian (Korean)	2 million in Jilin province (northeast), Heilongjiang province (northeast)
Dai	0.8 million in Yunnan province (south)
Dong	1.2 million in Guizhou province (south-central), Guangxi province (southeast), Hunan
Dongxiang	200,000 in Gansu (central)
Dulong	5,000 in Yunnan province (south)
Eluosi (Russian)	1,000 in Xinjiang province (northwest)
Gaoshan	In Fujian province (southeast) and Taiwan (southeast island)
Gelao	25,000 in Guizhou province (south-central), Guangxi province (southeast)
Hani	1 million in Yunnan province (south)
Hasake (Kazakh)	800,000 in Xinjiang province (northwest)
Hezhe	800 in Heilongjiang province (northeast)
Hui	6.5 million all over China
Jinuo	10,000 in Yunnan province (south)
Jing	(Vietnamese) 6,000 in Guangxi province (southeast)
Jingpo	83,000 in Yunnan province (south)
Lahu	270,000 in Yunnan province (south)
Li	680,000 in Hainan Island (south)
Lisu	470,000 in Yunnan province (south)
Luboa	3,000 in Tibet (northwest)
Man (Manchu)	2.8 million in northern China
Maonan	31,000 in Guangxi province (south)
Menba	4,000 in Tibet (northwest)
Meng (Mongolian)	2.6 million in Inner Mongolia (north)

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Miao (Hmong)	4 million in southern China
Mulao	73,000 in Guangxi province (south)
Naxi	230,000 in Yunnan province (south)
Nu	20,000 in Yunnan province (south)
Olunchnun	3,200 in Heilongjiang province (northeast)
Owenke (Ewenki)	13,000 in Heilongjiang province (northeast)
Pumi	22,000 in Yunnan province (south)
Qiang	85,000 in Sichuan province (central)
Sala	56,000 in Qinghai province (northwest-central), Gansu province (central)
She	330,000 in Fujian province (east), Zhejiang province (southeast)
Shui	230,000 in Guizhou province (south-central)
Tahur	80,000 in Heilongjiang province (northeast)
Tajige (Tajik)	22,000 in Xinjiang province (northwest)
Tataer (Tatar)	3,000 in Xinjiang province (northwest)
Tu	130,000 in Qinghai province (northwest-central)
Tujia	780,000 in Hunan province (south)
Wuzibieke (Uzbek)	8,000 in Xinjiang province (northwest)
Wa	260,000 in Yunnan province (south)
Weiwuer (Uighur)	5.5 million in Xinjiang province (northwest)
Haergehe (Khalkh)	100,000 in Xinjiang (northwest)
Xibo	47,000 in Xinjiang province (northwest)
Yao	1.3 million in Guangxi province (south), Hunan province (south), Yunnan province (south), Guangdong province (southeast), Guizhou province (southwest)
Yi	4.8 million in Sichuan province (central), Yunnan province (south), Guizhou province (southwest), Guangxi province (southwest)
Yugu	9,000 in Gansu province (central)
Zang (Tibetan)	3.4 million in Tibet (northwest)
Zhuang	12 million in Guangxi province (southeast)

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Appendix D-Reported Asian Gangs

The following matrix is a listing of all Asian organized criminal groups reported by MAGLOCLEN member agencies that responded to the survey:

GANG NAME	CN	DC	MD	MI	NJ	NY	OH	PA
18 BUDDHA	X							
ALL BROTHERS TOGETHER						X		
ASIAN BOYS								X
ASIAN FOOT CLAN								X
ASIAN KICK ASS								X
ASIAN LORDS								X
BIG CIRCLE BOYS	X	X			X	X		
BLACK DRAGONS								X
BLOODS								X
BLUE DRAGON			X					
BORN TO KILL					X	X		X
CAMBODIAN CRIP POSSE					X			
CAMBODIAN JUNIOR GANG							X	
CANAL STREET BOYS/BORN TO KILL						X		X
COLD BLOODED CAMBODIANS							X	
CRIPS								X
CRIPS WITH ATTITUDES				X				
DRAGON FAMILY		X						
DRAGON FLY			X					
FLYING DRAGONS					X	X		X
FUK CHING					X			X
FUKINESE FLYING DRAGONS		X			X	X		
GHETTO BOYS	X							
GHOST SHADOWS		X			X	X		X
GREEN DRAGONS					X			
HIP SING ASSOCIATION		X						X
INSANE ASIAN BOYS			X					
INSANE VIET BOYS							X	
KAMBODIAN KRIPS POSSE					X			
KIMTYETTE							X	
KOREAN POWER		X			X	X		
KUNG LOK	X							
LAOTIAN BLOODS							X	
LAOTIAN BOYS							X	
LAOZ BOYZ	X							
MARYLAND BOYS STREET GANG					X			
MO MING PI						X		
ON LEONG ASSOCIATION								X
ORIENTAL BLOOD BROTHERS	X							
ORIENTALS UNITED TOGETHER					X			
PARK ROAD POWER		X						
REDS				X				
SUN YEE ON	X							
TAIWANESE BOYS						X		
TINY RASCAL GANG		X	X	X				X
TRI PHAN GANG					X			

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GANG NAME	CN	DC	MD	MI	NJ	NY	OH	PA
TUNG ON		X				X		
UNITED ASIAN MOB		X						
UNSTOPPABLE CRIMINALS V.C.			X	X				
WAH CHING	X							
WHITE SHADOWS						X		
WHITE TIGERS					X			