

Operation “Gig ‘em” – RICO indictment defendants

JORGE GREY, aka “Bouncer,” 38, of Elysian Valley (aka Frogtown), allegedly served as the shotcaller of the enterprise, uniting the historic rival gangs of Frogtown, Toonerville and the Rascals, and overseeing their criminal activities, including drug trafficking, coordinating and enforcing the collection of “taxes” received from drug dealers. Revenues generated by “taxes” were used to purchase large quantities of narcotics and to generate profits for Arnold Gonzales. Grey also allegedly issued and ensured the enforcement of orders regarding the amassing and storage of firearms, the disciplining and assaulting of members and associates of the enterprise – or others who were deemed to have interfered with the enterprise’s authority or criminal activities. Grey is currently being sought by authorities.

SANTOS ZEPEDA, aka “Slim,” 31, of Glendale, a senior Frogtown member, who allegedly served as Grey’s top lieutenant, provided narcotics to the racketeering enterprise and coordinated the collection of “taxes.”

JONATHAN ZEPEDA, aka “Japs” “Chino,” 26, of Elysian Valley, a Frogtown member and the brother of Santos Zepeda, allegedly assisted the business of the enterprise, including by providing narcotics, collecting “taxes,” and remitting “taxes” into Arnold Gonzales’ prison account, and maintaining an arsenal of firearms for the enterprise’s use.

MANUEL VALLEJO, aka “Boxer,” 43, of Glendale, a senior Toonerville member and shotcaller, who allegedly shot defendant Ronal Garcia eight times for challenging his position in the newly-formed coalition, and worked with defendant Ryan Laube to expand the enterprise’s reach, including its drug trafficking and extortionate activities, into the Antelope Valley.

GIOVANNI OLVERA, aka “Suspect,” 26, of Atwater Village, a senior Toonerville member, who allegedly provided narcotics to the enterprise and collected “taxes.”

JULIO BOSQUE, aka “Big Cuba,” 33, of Hacienda Heights, a Frogtown associate, who allegedly supplied narcotics to the enterprise and helped to manage the enterprise’s politics by brokering a protection deal with the neighboring El Sereno gang through defendant Robert Amado on behalf of a Highland Park member.

JAVIER BOSQUE, aka “Lil’ Cuba,” 31, of Cypress Park, a Frogtown associate and brother of Julio Bosque, who allegedly aided and abetted his brother in narcotics trafficking, sold firearms to enterprise members and associates, and helped to manage

politics by brokering a protection deal with the neighboring El Sereno gang through defendant Robert Amado on behalf of a Highland Park member.

YADIRA VALENCIA, 33, of Alhambra, a Frogtown associate, who allegedly assisted Santos Zepeda in narcotics trafficking.

FREDERICK HAM, aka "Sinner," 31, of City Terrace, a Frogtown member, who allegedly assisted Grey in collecting unpaid "taxes" and whom Grey asked to be an "enforcer" for the enterprise.

FRUTOSO MENDOZA, aka "Toti" and "Drowsy," 31, of Elysian Valley, a Toonerville member, who allegedly engaged in the enterprise's business, including by serving as part of a "tag team" which was created to "push" up against individuals who needed discipline/assault, and by obtaining firearms for the enterprise's use. Mendoza is currently being sought by federal authorities.

RYAN LAUBE, aka "Psycho," 34, of Lancaster, a Toonerville associate, who allegedly purchased narcotics from the Zepeda brothers and worked to expanding the reach of the enterprise, including with respect to its drug trafficking and "taxing" activities, into the Antelope Valley.

KELLY LEYDEL, aka "Giant," 39, of Palmdale, a Toonerville member, allegedly acted as a liaison between Grey and Laube, purchased narcotics from the enterprise, and allegedly received a firearm from Grey at Homeboy Industries for the purpose of transporting and storing the firearm for the enterprise's use.

GERARDO ORTIZ, aka "Tank," 37, of Atwater Village, a Rascals member, allegedly escorted Vallejo into Rascals territory and advised rank-and-file Rascals members of the inter-gang truce and the fact that Vallejo would be entering Rascals territory to collect "taxes" on a weekly basis.

ERIC ALDRETTE, aka "Bad Boy," 32, a Rascals member, allegedly was a drug dealer who was paying "taxes" to the enterprise.

RONAL GARCIA, aka "Grinch," 24, of Hacienda Heights, a Toonerville member who was the shooting victim of Vallejo and who allegedly helped to amass and maintain firearms, and provide them to the enterprise for its use.

THOMAS GONZALES, 56, of Elysian Valley, is associated with both Frogtown and the Mexican Mafia, and who is the blood brother of Arnold Gonzales, allegedly acted a

conduit of information between Arnold Gonzalez and Grey through prison visits and who deposited “taxes” into Arnold Gonzales’ prison account.

GLORIA VALERIO, 62, of Elysian Valley, who is associated with both Frogtown and the Mexican Mafia, who also acted as a conduit between Arnold Gonzalez and Grey and who deposited over \$133,000 into Arnold Gonzales’ prison account.

GLORIA ORTEGA, 37, of Glendale, a Toonerville associate, who allegedly helped Vallejo to communicate with members of the enterprise while he was incarcerated and helped to coordinate the collection of “taxes” on his behalf.

ROBERT AMADO, aka “Listo,” 39, of Temple City, a member of the El Sereno gang, who allegedly provided narcotics to the enterprise and helped to broker a protection deal between the enterprise and his gang in neighboring East Los Angeles. Amado is currently being sought by federal authorities.

JUAN MURILLO, aka “Nacho,” 26, of Atwater Village, a Frogtown member, who allegedly obtained narcotics from defendant Giovanni Olvera for redistribution in the enterprise territory.

JOSE BARRETO, aka “Joey,” 49, of Newhall, a Toonerville associate, who allegedly obtained narcotics from defendant Giovanni Olvera for redistribution in the enterprise territory.

CHARLES GOTHARD, 60, of Atwater Village, a Toonerville associate, who allegedly obtained narcotics from defendant Giovanni Olvera for redistribution in the enterprise territory.

The RICO indictment contains 27 counts:

- Count One: RICO conspiracy (all 22 defendants)
- Count Two: violent crime in aid of racketeering (VICAR) against Vallejo
- Count Three: VICAR against GREY
- Count Four: VICAR against GREY
- Count Five: conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute controlled substances, specifically methamphetamine, heroin and cocaine (defendants Grey, S. Zepeda, J. Zepeda, Vallejo, Olvera, Julio Bosque, Javier Bosque, Valencia, Ham, Laube, Aldrette, Amado, Murillo, Barreto and Gothard)
- Count Six: possession with intent to distribute heroin (Olvera)
- Count Seven: possession with intent to distribute heroin (Murillo)

- Count Eight: possession with intent to distribute meth (the Zepeda brothers)
- Count Nine: possession with intent to distribute meth (Laube)
- Count Ten: possession with intent to distribute meth (J. Zepeda and the Bosque brothers)
- Count Eleven: possession with intent to distribute meth (J. Bosque)
- Count Twelve: distribution of meth near a Aragon Avenue Elementary School (J. Bosque)
- Count Thirteen: possession with intent to distribute meth (Olvera)
- Count Fourteen: possession with intent to distribute heroin (Barreto)
- Count Fifteen: possession with intent to distribute meth (J. Bosque)
- Count Sixteen: possession with intent to distribute meth (J. Zepeda)
- Count Seventeen: possession with intent to distribute meth (J. Zepeda)
- Count Eighteen: possession with intent to distribute meth (J. Zepeda)
- Count Nineteen: using a firearm in relation to a crime of violence (Vallejo)
- Count Twenty: using a firearm in relation to a crime of violence (J. Zepeda)
- Count Twenty-One: domestic violence misdemeanor in possession of a firearm (J. Bosque)
- Count Twenty-Two: felon in possession of firearms and ammunition (Olvera)
- Count Twenty-Three: domestic violence misdemeanor in possession of a firearm and ammunition
- Count Twenty-Four: felon in possession of firearms and ammunition (J. Zepeda)
- Count Twenty-Five: felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition (Leydel)
- County Twenty-Six: domestic violence misdemeanor in possession of a firearm
- Count Twenty-Seven: possession of unregistered machine gun (J. Zepeda)

Penalties associated with charges in the indictment:

- RICO conspiracy: 20 years (or in some cases, life) statutory maximum
- VICAR: up to life, depending on circumstances of the offense
- Conspiracy to distribute narcotics: up to life, mandatory minimum sentences of either five or 10 years, depending on circumstances of the offense
- Brandishing, discharging, carrying, using a firearm in relation to a crime of violence or a drug-trafficking crime: mandatory minimum sentence of 7/10 years.
- felon in possession of a firearm/possession of firearm after domestic violence conviction: statutory maximum sentence of 10 years