

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Oakland Police Hold Press Conference Regarding Violent Gang Arrests**



City of  
**OAKLAND**  
California

Media Contacts:

Sgt. Chris Bolton  
Oakland Police  
Department  
510-238-3131

Officer Johnna Watson  
Public Information  
Officer  
510-238-7230

*Oakland, CA* - Today, Oakland Police Chief Howard A. Jordan was joined by California Attorney General Kamala Harris, U.S. Attorney Melinda Haag, Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O’Malley, Mayor Jean Quan, and City Administrator Deanna Santana to discuss an extensive 30-day Oakland Police Department (OPD) investigation of Oakland gangs and groups thought responsible for many recent shootings and homicides. The investigation culminated with pre-dawn warrant services this morning. Also present were Dr. George Cummings, Reverend Damita Davis-Howard, Katherine Jolly representing Congresswoman Barbara Lee’s office, Deputy Chief Eric Breshears, and Lt. Tony Jones along with Neighborhood Services community members, and representatives of federal, state, and local partnering law enforcement agencies.

In total, 24 search and arrest warrants were simultaneously served this morning by 14 separate tactical teams comprised of OPD, local, state, and federal officers. Twenty warrants were served in Oakland, two warrants were served in Antioch, and one each in Brentwood and Pacifica, CA. More than 18 arrests were safely made and 11 firearms safely recovered from this morning’s operation. The gangs and groups were identified through the City’s central violence reduction strategy, Operation Ceasefire.

Operation Ceasefire is an evidence-based strategy designed to significantly reduce gang and group related homicides and non-fatal shootings in Oakland. The goals of Ceasefire are to realize declines in violence through ways which reduce recidivism and incarceration rates while strengthening police and community relationships. Last October, the Oakland Ceasefire partnership met with members of actively violent groups in East Oakland. Community members and law enforcement told them that their lives matter and stressed that the violence must stop. “Call-in” participants were informed that future violence will bring heightened law enforcement attention to entire groups for all crimes they are committing, and they were offered specially tailored help through Measure Y and other resources.

The investigation leading to today’s events was conducted by a specially designated team of officers, investigators, and agents who worked collaboratively with Operation Ceasefire law enforcement and community partners when evidence clearly indicated that two identified groups – Case Gang and Money Team – made choices to continue violence within, and upon, our community.

Prior to this morning, the investigation had already netted over 40 related arrests with over 25 firearms safely recovered. During the course of the investigation, law enforcement partners gathered evidence related to offenses such as homicide, attempted homicide, shootings, robbery, pimping, burglary, fraud, conspiracy, and

other offenses associated to group or gang activity.

In a letter written with community collaboration, Chief Jordan said, “All who reside in Oakland deserve to live in peace and safety. For far too long, too many in this city have been shot or killed. Along with our community partners, we view these victims as members of our community who we want to see alive and free. All of us who value the City of Oakland believe that stopping gun violence must be the top priority of law enforcement... this is how we will be working from now on.” A copy of the full letter was delivered to each warrant location and shared on the Department’s Nixle community messaging platform and the Department’s Twitter account, @oaklandpoliceca.

Attorney General Kamala D. Harris stated, “The people of Oakland deserve a safe place to live, work and worship, and to be free of the gun and gang violence that has been plaguing the City. That’s why, for more than four months, the Department of Justice has worked shoulder to shoulder with the Oakland Police Department to reduce violent crime in Oakland and address the city’s gang epidemic. I am especially proud of the fine work of the DOJ special agents who played a vital role in today’s arrests by lending their skills and expertise to this operation.”

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O’Malley said, “The show of force that you see here today is a testament to the strength and resolve of law enforcement at all levels and the determination of the community as a whole.” She continued, “We are bringing our resources to the ongoing efforts to stem the tide of violence.”

Mayor Jean Quan said, “This operation demonstrates an unprecedented level of generous collaboration and cooperation from our community and law enforcement partners. I want to thank Congresswoman Barbara Lee, U.S. Attorney Melinda Haag, Governor Jerry Brown, Attorney General Kamala Harris, and District Attorney Nancy O’Malley for their partnership and their commitment to making a real difference in Oakland.

“We’re also seeing a new level of coordination between our police and our communities,” Quan added. “I thank our community organizers, like Dr. George Cummings and Damita Davis-Howard, for stepping up and rallying our neighborhoods around this vital cause.

“And I thank and congratulate Chief Jordan, and all our hardworking, brave police officers, for their excellent work in this operation. Under great pressure and scrutiny, they take on real sacrifices and risks every day to keep the people of our city safe, and they should be applauded.”

Oakland Police Lieutenant Tony Jones recounted incidents which connected these criminal groups to related firearm offenses such as robbery. Investigators released video of one such robbery having occurred on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 near the 2000 block of East 17<sup>th</sup> Street at approximately 8:20pm. Oakland Police believe there may be additional robbery victims who may not have reported offenses to police. We ask that anyone with information related to potentially related offenses contact investigators at (510) 238-3321, or by submitting an anonymous tip.

The Oakland Police Department sincerely thanks the following agencies and their personnel for their tremendous support and collaboration: The California Highway Patrol, Alameda County Sheriff's Department, Alameda County Probation, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Homeland Security Investigations, Internal Revenue Service, United States Marshalls Service, Oakland Housing Authority, Alameda Police Department, Antioch Police Department, Berkeley PD, Brentwood PD, San Leandro PD, Contra Costa Sheriff's Office, Fremont PD, Hayward PD, Daly City PD, San Francisco PD, San Mateo Sheriff's Office, Union City PD, and Newark PD.

The robbery video may be viewed here:

[http://oakland.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish\\_id=71983073-d96e-1030-a72d-f86303e77ec0](http://oakland.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=71983073-d96e-1030-a72d-f86303e77ec0)

Police Department provided footage of warrant services may be viewed here:

[http://oakland.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish\\_id=fa89c28b-d984-1030-a72d-f86303e77ec0](http://oakland.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=fa89c28b-d984-1030-a72d-f86303e77ec0)

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