

News from: Oakland Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Oakland Police Announce Names and Charges Connected to Recent Gang Enforcement Sweep

Oakland, CA, March 13, 2013 - Today, the Oakland Police Department announces names and charges resulting from warrants served last Friday in connection with the Ceasefire Initiative, Oakland's central violence reduction strategy.

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 recent charges was conducted by a specially designated team of officers, investigators, and agents who worked collaboratively with 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.

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.

"Many may have viewed last Friday's extensive and collaborated warrant service and these resulting arrests and charges as a complete success," said Chief Howard Jordan. "But it was not.

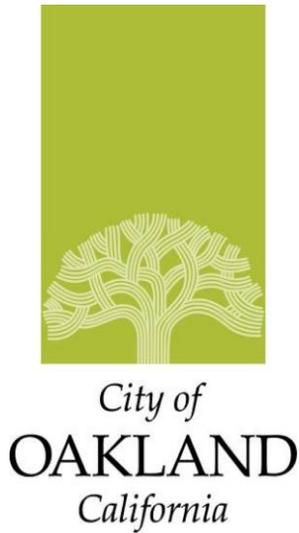
"Ceasefire, and the community support and partnership it requires, is truly successful when it achieves results without requiring this level of focused enforcement. The truth is that lives are lost at both ends of a gun; for the person pulling the trigger, their lives may be effectively ended. For too many at the other end, the loss of life is literal. Ceasefire is a way out before that choice, and the enforcement that follows, becomes imminent."

Names and charges are detailed below:

Zayonta Casmire, age 21, was charged with assault on another with a firearm; causing a concealed firearm to be carried in a vehicle; and conspiracy to commit a crime.

Daniel Cortez, age 23, was charged with shooting at an occupied house; possession of firearm while having prior felony convictions; possession of an assault rifle; and conspiracy to commit crime.

Devonte Hudson, age 19, was charged with carrying a loaded firearm; carrying a concealed



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firearm in a vehicle under his control; and possession of an assault rifle.

Bertrand E. Keeton, age 25, was charged with shooting at an occupied house; possession of firearm while having prior felony convictions; and conspiracy to commit a crime.

Terrance King, age 19, was charged with three conspiracies to commit a crime; possession of an assault rifle; and possession of a firearm while having prior felony convictions; human trafficking for persuading a minor to engage in prostitution; pimping a minor; and pandering (procuring another person for prostitution).

Laquan Lubin, age 18, was arrested and charged with two assaults with a deadly weapon on a peace officer; fleeing from a peace officer while disregarding safety of persons or property; carrying a loaded firearm; carrying a concealed firearm in a vehicle under his control; and conspiracy to commit a crime.

Darren Morris, age 22, was arrested and charged with three conspiracies to commit a crime; possession of an assault rifle; possession of a firearm while having prior felony convictions; shooting at an occupied house; and conspiracy to commit a crime.

Cleveland Pratt, age 20, was charged with shooting at an occupied house and conspiracy to commit a crime.

Deyonne Anthony White, age 23, was charged with assault on another with a firearm; possession of firearm while having prior felony convictions; and conspiracy to commit a crime.

Emmanuel Booker Williams, age 21, was charged with possession of an assault rifle.

Lequitta Anderson (age 25), Javon Donrey Dupree (age 19), Eldridge Persons (age 29), Armond Richardson (AKA Lorenzo Richardson – age 31), Nicole Denise Snowden (age 23), Lorenzo Whitfield (age 32), and Craig Williams (age 19) were each charged with conspiracy to commit a crime.

Where applicable, significant enhancements exist. Most notable enhancements were due to the investigation leading to a belief that offenses were committed for the benefit of, at the direction of, and in association with a criminal street gang with the specific intent to promote, further, and assist in criminal conduct by gang members.

The March 8, 2013 Press Conference with Chief Howard A. Jordan, Mayor Jean Quan, District Attorney Nancy O'Malley, U.S. Attorney Melinda Haag, and California Attorney General Kamala Harris, and key community leaders may be viewed in its entirety here: <http://ow.ly/iTXOI>

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