



ATF News

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‘NOGUNS’ FOUNDER ARRESTED ON STATE FIREARMS VIOLATIONS

LOS ANGELES – Special Agent in Charge John A. Torres of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), along with the California Department of Corrections, Special Services Unit and the Los Angeles Police Department announced today the arrest of three people following a nine-month undercover investigation into alleged firearms and conspiracy violations.

The arrests followed an undercover investigation conducted under the ATF-led Violent Crime Impact Team (VCIT) initiative. VCIT teams seek to identify, disrupt, arrest and prosecute the “worst of the worst” criminals in 29 U.S. cities, including Los Angeles. During the investigation, an undercover agent was able to facilitate the purchase of one machine gun, three assault rifles, one handgun and two silencers from the founder (a documented gang member) of “NOGUNS – Networks Organized for Gang Unity and Neighborhood Safety,” an alleged gang intervention program.

“ATF is reinforcing the message that we will not tolerate armed gang violence,” Torres said. “We are warning street gang members, no matter who they are, that if they don’t stop terrorizing our neighborhoods and cities, they will be arrested, held accountable for their actions and brought to justice.”

Arrested today for alleged state violations were:

- Hector Marroquin Sr., 51, of Downey, Calif., for the illegal transfer/possession of a machine gun, illegal transfer/possession of an assault weapon, possession of silencers, and conspiracy.
- Sylvia Arellano, 25, of Cudahy, Calif., for firearms violations and conspiracy.
- A parolee-at-large, who was found in possession of a firearm. His name is being withheld pending confirmation of his identity.

Four state search warrants were executed at two residences and two businesses frequented and operated by Marroquin. No additional firearms were recovered from any of the locations. Numerous items of gang member paraphernalia and photographs were also taken into custody.

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