Butane Hash Oil 101
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The contributing agencies and authors are responsible for the validity and accuracy of the information submitted for publication. Points of view in this publication are those of the author and may differ from those of the RMIN Executive Policy Board of Directors.
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Police Officer Cody Brotherson

Agency: West Valley City Police Department, Utah
End of Watch: Sunday, November 6, 2016

Police Officer Cody Brotherson was intentionally struck and killed by a vehicle that was being pursued by other officers.

An officer from the West Valley City Police Department observed three people walking from a stolen vehicle to a nearby apartment complex in the 4100 block of South Redwood Road. The officer then witnessed the suspect steal a vehicle from the parking lot of the complex. When officers attempted to stop the stolen vehicle, it fled with officers in pursuit. Officers, including Officer Brotherson, attempted to deploy spike strips near 4100 South and Redwood Road. As they deployed the spike strips, the subject vehicle veered toward the officers and struck Officer Brotherson, killing him.

The subject vehicle continued to flee after striking Officer Brotherson. It was involved in a collision several blocks away and three subjects were taken into custody.

Officer Brotherson served with the West Valley City Police Department for three years. He is survived by his parents, two brothers, and fiancee.

Source: http://www.odmp.org
Currently there are 25 states that have legalized marijuana for medicinal purposes. Of those states four allow recreational use of marijuana. In the RMIN region, states that do not allow the use of marijuana for any reason are still bordered by states that have legalized it for medicinal and/or recreational use.

Other than the usual problems of interstate trafficking, driving under the influence or overdose comes a new safety hazard to those of you who work in the public safety sector. It’s known as the BHO method. In some areas it’s referred to as Butane Hash Oil, or Butane Honey Oil method. The process involves the highly flammable gas butane to extract as much THC from the marijuana as possible. Current estimates have the process extracting THC in the 60 to 90 percent range vs. commercial or illegal street marijuana varying anywhere from a 5 to 20 percent range.

According to Chris Gibson, Director of the Oregon-Idaho HIDTA, Oregon has begun seeing fires and explosions caused by the BHO process. The process is illegal, even in states where marijuana use is legal for medicinal or recreational purposes. Director Gibson feels the method, due to its ability to increase THC content, will spread even to states where marijuana is still illegal for any use.

BHO is the new meth lab of the 21st century. Due to the use of butane in the extraction process it can pose explosive potential not only to the user but to first responders. It is incumbent on law enforcement and fire and medical responders to understand what they are dealing with when responding to a location of a fire or explosion and what to look for in terms of evidence.

Special thanks to the Oregon/Idaho Investigative Support Center, Portland Police Bureau Arson Investigator Joseph A. Luiz, Portland Fire Bureau Fire and Arson Investigator Rick McGraw and to the Oregon-Idaho HIDTA for contributing these articles.

“Increased production and demand for marijuana products has led to a greater incidence of explosions in several western states”.

Click here for Hash Oil Lab Recognition and Response.
With the legalization of marijuana coming to the region, there has been a marked increase in marijuana growers. In recent years our office has also noticed an increase in users consuming a marijuana extract known as “Honey Oil,” or “Hash Oil.”

One of the methods used to produce this drug is by the use of butane gas to strip the trichomes from the marijuana plant creating a product called Butane Hash/Honey Oil or “BHO.”

One of the major dangers of using this method is the presence of residual butane gas as the product is being manufactured. If those gasses come into contact with an ignition source, a flash fire or violent explosion will occur.

**BHO 101**

Manufacturing BHO using the Open Blasting method requires only a few items:

**Marijuana**
Any part of the marijuana plant may be used in order to make BHO. Although the bud contains the highest concentration of THC, it appears to be less cost effective than using the waste products of the plant. The marijuana is ground in order to be placed in the extraction tube.

**Extraction tube**
The extraction tube can be made from a variety of items, including PVC, ABS, metal or glass pipe of almost any size. Extraction tubes have end caps on both ends or there may only be one end capped and the other will be covered with a filter.

It is important to note that an assembled extraction tube looks almost identical to a pipe bomb and extreme caution should be used when examining it.

**Filter**
A filter is placed on one end of the extraction tube to reduce the amount of plant material trapped in the finished product.
Butane
It is common to use compressed butane gas canisters. Processors frequently use more than one canister per extraction in order to get as much of the THC from the plant material as possible.

Butane is used because of its ultra-low boiling point and rapid rate of evaporation. Butane is heavier than air and will sink and pool, potentially finding an ignition source such as a wall outlet or even static electricity. This is the reason that it presents such a danger. If the area where the BHO is being manufactured is not well ventilated and contained, a violent explosion and flash fire can occur.

Collection vessel
As the butane/oil combination is extracted from the tube, it is collected in a dish or bowl to allow the liquid to evaporate. The collection vessel can be anything with a smooth surface that allows the finished product to be easily scraped off.

In order to make BHO, the marijuana product is ground and placed in the extraction tube and the end cap and filter are put in place. The compressed butane gas is forced through the top of the extraction tube while the tube is positioned over the collection vessel. The collection vessel is frequently set in a dish of hot water in order to speed the evaporation of the butane. When the liquid butane is dissipated, a usable amount of BHO remains to be smoked, vaped or used in edible marijuana products.

As a first responder arriving on a fire or explosion scene where you suspect you might have a BHO lab, you should look for the remains of the items of manufacturing (i.e. burnt/spent butane canisters, a marijuana grow operation, the remains of an extraction tube or collection vessel). Also, there may be other unspent cans of butane in the area, which may present a hazard to first responders.
Matt McCarthy Joins RMIN Executive Policy Board

Matt McCarthy, Deputy Chief of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, has been appointed to the RMIN Executive Policy Board of Directors. Deputy Chief McCarthy joins James Wright, Director, Nevada Department of Public Safety, in representing Nevada on the RMIN board of directors.

“RMIN, and in turn, RISS, will benefit from Deputy Chief McCarthy’s experience and perspective,” said RMIN Executive Director John Vinson, “and we are pleased to have him join the board.”

McCarthy was born in Niagara Falls, New York. In 1975, his father was reassigned to Nellis Air Force Base, bringing the family to Las Vegas. Although military travels brought Matt to various cities throughout his youth, he returned to Las Vegas in 1987 and has remained since.

In 1992, McCarthy graduated from the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department’s Police Academy. “From that day onward, I have been blessed to serve the Las Vegas community,” McCarthy said.

From 1993 to 1997, he was assigned to Patrol Services where he served as a patrol officer and field training officer. In 1997, he was reassigned to Investigative Services where he was a detective in the Sexual Assault and Robbery units. In 2001, he was promoted to sergeant and reassigned to patrol. He later held assignments in Quality Assurance, Internal Affairs and the Detective Bureau.

In 2004, McCarthy stood up the Violent Crimes Bureau, an important step to realigning organizational resources, personnel and affecting change in 2006, he was promoted to lieutenant. After a two-year stint in patrol, he was assigned to the Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center. His responsibilities included overseeing the police department’s crime analysis component and the Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center’s Watch Desk. Both of these areas of responsibility had a direct nexus to preventing, reducing, and disrupting crime and terrorism by maintaining an all-hazards and all-crimes situational awareness posture throughout the Las Vegas valley.

In 2009, McCarthy was reassigned to the Internal Affairs Bureau as the North Valley commander and in 2010, he was promoted to captain, becoming the third commanding officer of the Enterprise Area Command. In the fall of 2013, he became the third commanding officer for the Office of Internal Oversight with the main function to reduce deadly force incidents. In February 2016, he was transferred to the Communications Bureau where he assumed command.

In October 2016, he was appointed to the rank of Deputy Chief and assumed command of the Investigative Services Division.

Throughout his law enforcement career, McCarthy has received a number of awards to include the Unit Citation Award, the Community Service Award, the Medal of Valor and the Purple Heart. He is the holder of the “40 Under 40” Award which recognizes 40 leaders under the age of 40 who have made a contribution to their community. He is a graduate of the National FBI Academy, Class 251, serves as an advisory board member to The Smith Center in Las Vegas, is a board trustee for the Nevada School of the Arts and holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas.
Did You Gather All Available Video Evidence?

By Roger Cain and Roy Dunkelbarger, Certified Forensic Video Analysts

Have you ever been caught wondering if you gathered all the evidence you could or are you just missing that one thing to wrap up your case?

Have you searched for all the digital media you can? It may prove to be pivotal.

Taking extra time and effort to canvas neighboring or adjacent businesses or residences for recorded video could prove to be a gold mine for your investigation. Time is of the essence and most DVRs will overwrite video evidence within weeks or sometimes even days. Hunting for video evidence should be a priority.

Don’t limit yourself to just finding video that shows only the crime. Many times you can gain a more detailed look into the chain of events leading up to a crime and those immediately following the incident. You may also be able to see suspects coming and going with different individuals and/or vehicles or see suspects changing clothes or even dumping items. This is something investigators did by merely conducting interviews in years past, but with the continued increase of recording devices, video offers a valuable resource that is often overlooked.

Depending on the type of case, you may not have the ability to invest the time needed to review hours of video evidence. Searching for and then gathering digital evidence can be a daunting task in itself and viewing it can be even more time-consuming. The amount of digital media collected may make it nearly impossible to complete this task and catch everything the first time around.

Here’s how RMIN can help. We have the tools and resources to view and analyze large amounts of data in a short amount of time. We can provide you with smaller video clips and will coordinate with you to help determine if any of it provides you with the evidence you need.

Trust those with the training and expertise to assist and don’t discount the sometimes vast amount of digital media available for review. A trained forensic video analyst can help clarify and identify many details that may otherwise be missed. They may also be able to aid with conducting comparative analysis to possibly identify specific items such as articles of clothing, tattoos, vehicles and other items of interest.

If you have any questions or need technical video assistance, analysis or enhancement the RMIN Audio/Video Forensics Lab is here as a resource for you. Call us at 800.821.0640, ext. 230.

About the authors…
Roger Cain and Roy Dunkelbarger are Certified Forensic Video Analysts with RMIN. Their combined experience includes 55 years in law enforcement and almost two decades of forensic video analysis.

N-DEx INFORMATION SHARING

The National Data Exchange (N-DEx) System is the FBI’s national solution for information sharing. All states in the RMIN region have access to the N-DEx System. WebEx Workshops are available to introduce new users to the N-DEx System. Click here for workshop information.

N-DEx strives to provide agencies with relevant investigative information. N-DEx now contains more than 600 million records from 5,800+ agencies with new records submitted daily.

Interested in sharing your data with N-DEx? Start the conversation today. Contact us at ndex@leo.gov or 304.625.0555.
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Arizona  Targeting Police Officers: New Black Panther Movement Member

In September 2016, Marc Laquon Payne, also known as Ntare Kalid Ali El-Shabazz, a self-described member of the New Black Panther Movement, attempted to kill three Phoenix police officers at 2 a.m. while the officers were meeting in a Quick Trip (QT) parking lot after a tactical operation. The entire incident was captured on a surveillance camera and it appears Payne randomly seized the opportunity to run-over the three police officers who were standing near their squad car in front of the establishment. At this time, it does not appear that Payne received any assistance or direction from anyone else. It appears Payne was influenced by a general angst against police officers, publicly expressed by groups such as the New Black Panther Movement.

Terrorism: Homegrown Violent Extremist

The Federal Bureau of Investigation arrested 18-year-old Mahin Atif Khan in Tucson in July on suspicion of two terrorism-related counts: conspiracy to commit terrorism and inciting or inducing terrorism. According to the Phoenix Division of the FBI, Khan intended to conduct an attack against an Air Force recruitment center, a Jewish community center and Arizona’s Motor Vehicle Division. In his correspondence, Khan pledged his support for the Islamic State and The Pakistani Taliban in what he described as “a lone wolf operation.” Within the past month, Khan pled guilty to all charges and is facing a possible 14-year sentence.

Hybrid Gangs

Officers from Aurora, Colorado Springs and Denver police departments have seen an emergence of Hybrid Gangs. Colorado Springs defines a hybrid gang as a local, homegrown gang that is loosely organized; can sometimes consist of the offspring of several other gangs that are associating with each other (sometimes with or without the approval of their parents’ traditional gangs); using a combination of colors, signs, graffiti, etc., and merging together to form a new “hybrid” group. Examples include Set Trip Gangsters, the 500’s and the 900’s.
Hybrid gangs consist of people from different racial/ethnic groups and individuals participating in multiple gangs. Such gangs have unclear codes of conduct and symbolic association with more than one gang. Hybrid gangs modify traditional gang culture with their personal interpretations and agendas. Hybrid gangs have become a significant criminal and societal problem to the communities where the gangs congregate.

Gang members want to impress others and show that they have money. They follow the clothing trends by wearing skinny jeans and high-end clothing versus the traditional gang “colors.” They abuse drugs in the form of marijuana, prescription pills and Ecstasy. They crash house parties, hang out at hookah lounges and “under 21” night clubs. They may have alternative motives for attending or appearing at these locations.

Some investigations have revealed that members are using house parties to commit property crimes. They use large groups to intimidate others and will become confrontational, which may be a diversion.

Auto Theft Trend
The Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority (CATPA) Metro Auto Theft Team has reported the Ford F-series trucks being targeted for theft are mid-90s to mid- to late-2000s. These vehicles are being targeted largely because they are easy to steal. Directions on how to steal them can be found on the Internet and, if done correctly, the vehicles can be stolen in less than a minute.

Since 2012, there has been a rapid increase in the theft of these Ford F-250 and F-350 trucks, with the exception of 2014, and has spiked to an all-time high in 2016 with 471 thefts. This is a 91-percent increase as of 09/30/2016. The source of this information is the Auto Theft Coordination Center.

Explosive Device Found Outside Police Station
On October 11, 2016, at approximately 8 a.m., a Nederland police officer found a backpack outside the Nederland Police Department (NPD). Upon inspection of the backpack, the officer observed suspicious articles inside. The police department and a nearby shopping center were evacuated as a precaution.

The Boulder County Combined SWAT team, in coordination with the FBI, responded to the scene. The device was eventually dismantled and the evidence sent to a forensics lab. The device was later determined to be a bomb.

The latest information from the Police Department is that the device was active at the time the backpack was opened but it did not detonate. The FBI has taken over the investigation and is working with the NPD and the Boulder County Sheriff’s Office.

The FBI arrested David Michael Ansberry, 64, of San Rafael, California, in Chicago. Ansberry has been charged with attempted destruction of a building or property by means of fire or explosive.

Click here to view the Nederland, Colorado, Recovery Quick Look Report from the National Explosives Task Force.
Idaho

Clown Threats on Social Media
What started in the southeast finally made its way to Idaho. On September 26th, Phoenix Police distributed an intelligence flyer detailing social media threats involving clowns and directed at 11 schools. The social media threats lead to a significant number of students not attending school. Four days later, the first school, Summit Elementary in Jerome, received the first clown threat via social media, which lead to a lockdown when a suspicious subject was noticed near the school. Shortly after, school students and schools throughout the state received similar threats. The Meridian Police Department asked parents to have their children discontinue use of social media for a brief time.

IRS Scams
The Boise area is continuing to be the focus of multiple phone calls related to an IRS scam. The scammers will threaten arrests/prosecution/etc., unless the person immediately pays the amount owed or a fine. The most recent preferred method of payment has been iTunes cards.

Credit Card/Identity Suspects
Two eastern Idaho stores were targeted by credit card/identity thieves. The subjects appear to be moving across the U.S., starting in the east and moving through the mid-West to the west. Click here for full details.

RMIN Tip: Remember I’m housed at the Idaho FUSION center. I can help you with distributing bulletins through the RISS network, which is nationwide, as well as statewide through the FUSION center. I can be contacted at 208.573.1160 or by email to jbasterrechea@rmin.riss.net

Montana

Pipeline Issues
In mid-October, an oil pipe line that carries Alberta Oil Sands crude south through Montana was targeted by activists. Subjects entered the valve site and closed valves that had the potential to generate possible eco problems along the pipeline. This act may have been in support for the Dakota Access pipeline protest. A web site of interest is www.shutitdown.today Any agency with information regarding activity of this type is encouraged to contact MATIC at dojinel@mt.gov

Missing/Butchered Cattle and Bison
Reports are being received by North Dakota law enforcement agencies and the state’s Stockman’s Association of missing and butchered cattle and bison. It has not been determined if these reports are in conjunction with the protest of the Dakota Access pipeline but all have occurred within close proximity to the protest camp. To

~continued~
date there has not been a Montana nexus but it is known that several groups have traveled from Montana to North Dakota in support of the protest.

**Northern Border**

“While the Southern border with Mexico, about 2,000 miles, attracts much more attention, the 5,500-mile Northern border with Canada offers more opportunity for illegal crossings.” [Click here](#) for the full article entitled “As U.S. Watches Mexico, Traffickers Slip In From Canada,” from the October 16 edition of *The New York Times*.

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**Nevada**

By Russ Shoemaker, RMIN Law Enforcement Information Coordinator, Nevada | rshoemaker@rmin.riss.net | 702.239.6276

**Eye-in-the-Sky Drones**

The Nevada Department of Public Safety, Highway Patrol Division, became the first Nevada law enforcement agency to formally announce its use of drones or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. The Nevada Highway Patrol is fielding three drones to assist troopers during accident investigations. The drones will be used to map and photograph the scene of a crash. NHP plans to station the drones in Reno, Elko and Las Vegas. The NHP says the drones should save money, as an expensive-to-operate police helicopter would no longer be required for aerial crash scene photographs.

**Truck Plows Through Protestors**

A pickup truck containing two men plowed through a crowd of about 40 protestors blocking an intersection in downtown Reno on Columbus Day. The protest was being conducted to support Native American rights. A witness said the occupants of the truck had been yelling obscenities at the protestors earlier in the day and had returned just before the incident. A video shows the truck was revving its engine next to the protestors when several protestors confronted the occupants immediately before the truck drove through the crowd. Three people were injured. The driver of the truck drove a short distance away from the protestors and called Reno police. No arrests were made that day; misdemeanor warrants were later issued for the arrest of the 18-year-old driver of the truck for provoking an assault and two of the protestors for fighting with the driver.

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**New Mexico**

By Pete Conticelli, RMIN Law Enforcement Information Coordinator, New Mexico | pconticelli@rmin.riss.net | 505.967.7289

**APD Officer’s Trial: Hung Jury**

The first murder trial involving an on-duty Albuquerque Police Officer in at least 50 years ended in a mistrial. The jury deadlocked at 9-3 (9 voting for acquittal and 3 voting for a conviction). Special prosecutor Randi McGinn was appointed by the current district attorney to prosecute this case. In April of 2015, the district attorney was disqualified from prosecuting the case due to an alleged conflict of interest. Due to local court rules, the prosecution has 30 days from the date of the mistrial to notify the court if another trial should be scheduled. Incoming District Attorney Raul Torrez takes office on January 1st. At this point, it is unclear who will make the decision whether or not to retry the officer.
Overdose Deaths
The New Mexico Department of Health and the New Mexico Office of the Medical Investigator are investigating 20 drug overdose deaths in New Mexico in 2016 likely caused by illicitly manufactured fentanyl. Of these 20 deaths, 11 also had methamphetamine present in toxicology results. Their ages ranged from 17 to 63 years. Eighty-five percent were male. The counties of residence included the following: Bernalillo (5), Chaves (2), Lea (2), Lincoln (2), Colfax, Eddy, Guadalupe, Otero, Sandoval, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Valencia, and one unknown.

The New Mexico Department of Health is warning law enforcement, medical professionals and citizens to consider using repeat doses of naloxone (Narcan) as needed in the event of a potential overdose.

Utah Drug Interdiction Efforts
Utah Highway Patrol troopers made what is believed to be the biggest methamphetamine bust in state history on August 10th. Troopers seized more than 230 pounds of meth after a traffic stop in Utah County with an estimated wholesale value of $1.5 million and a street value of as much as 10 times that much.

Investigators received a tip about a Ford F-150 that was possibly traveling through the area, said State Bureau of Investigations Capt. Tyler Kotter. A trooper spotted the vehicle and pulled it over when the driver made a signal violation while changing lanes, he said. There were three people inside the vehicle. “The trooper observed them to be very nervous and had inconsistent stories,” Kotter said.

A police K-9 was called to the scene and searched the truck. In the bed of the pickup, investigators found boxes and suitcases filled with meth, in addition to steroids and $66,000 in cash.

This stop comes on the heels of a drug bust in August by the Unified Police Department, which at the time was believed to be the largest in state history. Detectives pulled over a Nissan Altima on I-15 near 8500 South and seized 68 pounds of methamphetamine in a suitcase in the trunk, with an estimated street value of at least $2 million.

Clown Threats
Ogden metro has experienced a surge in clown threats via social media over the past two weeks. These threats have been in tune with the national trend. All threats have originated over Facebook posts from various accounts of clowns and involved attacks on local schools and children. No specific sightings have been reported to date.

The Ogden Police Department Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) has received emails from concerned citizens of such social media postings but is not aware of any credible threats at this time.

Crimes Associated with UTA Lines
The Utah Transit Authority (UTA) Police Department and the Provo City Police Department are reporting significant issues with bicycle thefts and auto burglaries taking place near UTA station stops on the Front Runner routes and Trax lines. Crimes appear to be associated with the downtown Salt Lake City transient and homeless population, who often utilize the UTA travel routes between Salt Lake County and Utah County.
Locks on bicycles are being cut or defeated in various manners and tires are also being removed from frames. Unsecured vehicles are being targeted. Suspects are looking for loose change, wallets, purses, credit cards, etc. Property stolen from the Provo and Utah County area is often taken to pawn shops in Salt Lake County.

Wyoming

By Lin Bashford, RMIN Law Enforcement Information Coordinator, Wyoming | lbashford@rmin.riss.net | 307.217.0017

Tagger Alert/Officer Safety
A suspect has been identified in more than 90 graffiti/destruction of private property cases within the City of Cheyenne. According to an alert dated October 21, Marc Peter Meadowcroft has a nationwide extradition felony warrant, is known to carry firearms and has a documented history of assaulting police. Click here to view the alert.

Operation Cross Country
Four adult prostitutes were arrested in Casper along with three massage parlor workers and one john, and four adult prostitutes were arrested along with six johns in Cheyenne during Operation Cross Country, the FBI’s annual law enforcement action. A total of 82 sexually exploited juveniles were recovered and 239 pimps and other individuals were arrested during the three-day operation that ended October 16.

Wyoming DCI: Drug Tracker
Wyoming Department of Criminal Investigations continues to track the impact in Wyoming of the legalization of marijuana in Colorado and other states. In a collaborative effort, DCI is requesting the input of Wyoming law enforcement agencies as they encounter marijuana, THC derivatives and other drugs and narcotics in their calls, contacts, investigations, etc. The Drug Tracker can be found on the main DCI webpage (http://wyomingdci.wyo.gov/) under the "Tracker Form" link. The information contributed will help to document the magnitude of the impact of marijuana and other drugs, while enabling a statewide oversight of controlled substances. For questions and Tracker access, please contact Analyst Yara Kling at yara.kling@wyo.gov or 307.777.5433 or 7181.

WCIC Resources
Resources offered by the Wyoming Criminal Intelligence Center to law enforcement agencies are available by clicking here.
According to statistics collected by the FBI, 86 law enforcement officers were killed in line-of-duty incidents in 2015. Of these, 41 law enforcement officers died as a result of felonious acts, and 45 officers died in accidents. In addition, 50,212 officers were victims of line-of-duty assaults. The number of officers killed as a result of criminal acts in 2015 decreased by 10 when compared with the 51 officers who were feloniously killed in 2014. The five- and 10-year comparisons show a decrease of 31 felonious deaths compared with the 2011 figure (72 officers) and a decrease of seven deaths compared with 2006 data (48 officers). Forty-five law enforcement officers were killed accidentally while performing their duties in 2015. The majority (29 officers) were killed in automobile accidents. The number of accidental line-of-duty deaths remained the same as the 2014 total (45 officers). In 2015, of the 50,212 officers assaulted while performing their duties, 28.4 percent were injured. The largest percentage of victim officers (32.4 percent) were assaulted while responding to disturbance calls. Assailants used personal weapons (hands, fists, feet, etc.) in 79.0 percent of the incidents, firearms in 4.0 percent of incidents, and knives or other cutting instruments in 1.8 percent of the incidents. Other types of dangerous weapons were used in 15.1 percent of assaults.
PROTECT YOURSELF, PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

Target
Criminals may search for specific law enforcement personnel.

Identity
Criminals then search other sites for the same name, photo, and personal data.

Family and Friends
Having located you on another site, criminals search for family details, images, and other information.

Associates
Criminals also make contact with your connections in order to gain trust or to gather further information.

Location
If you have location services turned on, criminals might find your geotagged tweets, images, or posts.

Timing
Based on your posts and geolocation data, criminals can guess when you are likely to be at certain locations.

Social Engineering
Criminals also might attempt to trick you into revealing sensitive information by befriending you online.

Doxing
Publicly releasing a person's identifying information, including full name, date of birth, address, phone numbers, and pictures typically retrieved from social networking site profiles.

—Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

With advancements in technology, coupled with the oversharing of personal information, law enforcement needs to be aware of the digital footprint they can be leaving behind. Understanding Digital Footprints provides material to assist law enforcement personnel in protecting themselves and their families from becoming cyber targets: protecting personal information, cyber do's and don'ts and links to further cyber training and resources. The guide is available from the Toolbox on page 17.
Coin Key Chain

Offenders may attempt to use this weapon against law enforcement officers. The metal coin appears to be a normal silver dollar key chain, but houses a knife, which may vary in style and type of blade.


Exploding Targets (ET) are commercially available binary high explosives used for firearms practice, which detonate when shot by a firearm bullet. ETs can also be used in an IED and detonated with a detonator.

ETs are commercially sold as one container holding two separate packages (generally ammonium nitrate and aluminum powder), and can be purchased in Canada without any restrictions.

ETs have been used to conduct terrorist attacks. The September 2016 New York and New Jersey bombings consisted of IEDs made with ETs.

The ammonium nitrate in the ETs will alarm on Explosives Trace Detection but it may not be detectable if thoroughly washed. When ETD is used, it must be considered as part of the overall picture.

Always err on the side of caution: If you think an item could be an explosive follow SOPs and initiate emergency procedures.

Source: CATSA ACSTA, Security Information Notice, October 2016
Click on the links below to open your toolbox

- Police-Mental Health Collaboration Toolkit
- Suspicious Package Investigations
- Understanding Digital Footprints
- Definitive Guide to an Effective Grant Funding Strategy
- Staffing: How Many Police Officers Does a City Need?
- 2015 RISS Services and Activities
ANALYTICAL

Lyon County Sheriff’s Office (Nevada)

Homicide: The Lyon County Sheriff’s Office requested RMIN’s Analytical assistance in a homicide investigation. The suspect was being charged with first degree murder with a deadly weapon for the murder of his girlfriend. Two RMIN analysts worked on the case providing cell phone record analysis of the suspect, victim and two other individuals involved in the case. According to the Lyon County District Attorney’s Office, the RMIN analysts’ testimonies provided an excellent depiction of the activities of the individuals involved, showing the defendant and victim together during relevant times, which corroborated the other testimony and evidence in the case. The suspect was found guilty and sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH

Department of Economic Security (Arizona)

Fraud: The Arizona Department of Economic Security, Office of Inspector General, requested RMIN’s Intelligence Research assistance in a fraud investigation. A warrant had been issued in relation to a direct complaint filed in 2012, alleging the suspect was unlawfully obtaining Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits to which he was not entitled. The information provided by RMIN aided in the arrest of the suspect.

Avondale Police Department (Arizona)

Embezzlement/Theft: The Avondale Police Department requested RMIN’s Intelligence Research assistance in locating cash transactions for a person of interest in an embezzlement/theft investigation. The information provided assisted in the arrest of the individual who was charged with embezzling $100,000 over a two-year period from the Pat Tillman Memorial VFW Post.

Law Enforcement Information Coordinator (LEIC)

Coconino County Sheriff’s Office (Arizona)

Information Sharing: The Coconino County Sheriff’s Office sent out a Request for Information (RFI) to Arizona law enforcement agencies for possible assistance in identifying an unknown individual killed after being run over by a train in Williams, Arizona. The victim had some distinguishing tattoos on his body. Photos of the tattoos were included in the RFI. RMIN sent the RFI to all RMIN LEICs, and the LEIC in Colorado forwarded the RFI to agencies and HIDTA contacts she knew in several states. Within hours, one of her contacts working for a HIDTA Task Force in Nebraska responded with a positive hit on the victim’s tattoos, which they had in a database. The deceased victim was positively identified, and the information was passed back directly to the Coconino County Sheriff’s Office that same day. The RFI went from Arizona to Colorado to Nebraska and back to Arizona with a positive ID resolution within hours because of the LEIC’s initiative and contacts. The RFI was cancelled that same afternoon.

RISSafe

United States Marshals Office (Arizona)

Narcotics/Weapons: The United States Marshals Office in Phoenix, Arizona, requested the assistance of the RMIN Watch Center to enter 85 locations into RISSafe for “Operation Summer Burn.” The operation focused on local areas with a reported history of gang activity. In this two-month investigation, the Marshals Office received assistance from Phoenix, Chandler, Glendale and Surprise police departments, Arizona Department of Public Safety, Maricopa County Attorney’s Office and the Arizona Department of Corrections. As a result of the operation, 195 fugitives were arrested; 22 firearms, 24 ounces of marijuana, 15 grams of cocaine, 66 grams of heroin and 14 grams of methamphetamine were recovered and more than $13,000 in cash was seized.