

## **BSCC / Byrne JAG**

### **High Impact Investigation Team (HIIT) - Fresno**

The High Impact Investigation Team (HIIT) is a California Department of Justice (DOJ) multi-agency task force consisting of sworn and professional staff members from local, state and federal agencies in the Central Valley. In 2018, the Task Force was renamed HIIT and was formerly known as the Fresno Methamphetamine Task Force (FMTF). The HIIT task force is a Central Valley High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) initiative that operates within an annual federal budget, as well as maintains state and federal asset forfeiture accounts from adjudicated cases. The task force is led by the CA DOJ and is overseen by a Special Agent Supervisor assigned to DOJ, who serves as the task force commander. The task force is located within the DOJ, Fresno Regional Office.

The agencies currently participating in the HIIT task force are as follows:

- California Department of Justice
- California Highway Patrol
- California National Guard
- Central Valley HIDTA
- Homeland Security Investigations
- Fresno Police Department
- Fresno County Sheriff's Department
- Tulare County Sheriff's Department
- Kings County Sheriff's Department
- The team consists of sworn task force investigators, and professional staff analysts and support staff.

In an effort to address the specific issues in the Central Valley and the needs of the participating agencies, the task force Executive Board, in conjunction with the HIDTA Director's approval, revised the task force's mission in January 2018. The new mission included investigative efforts towards violent and gang related crime, while still meeting HIDTA requirements by also conducting investigations with a drug nexus and continuing to serve as the lab response team to numerous counties. The revised mission is in full effect and is clearly stated in the current mission statement listed below.

#### **HIIT Mission**

The mission of the HIIT is a collaborative effort to work in conjunction with one another, the Member Agencies will endeavor to effectively enforce the laws of the State of California including Penal Code, Health and Safety Code, and applicable federal laws related to the manufacturing, smuggling, and distribution of all illicit narcotics and

dangerous drugs; and relating to violent crime, to include street terrorism and gang related crimes. Use of the task force concept is intended to ensure well rounded and coordinated narcotic, gang investigation and violent crime enforcement regionally and increase the flow of the information between participating agencies as well as law enforcement agencies on the periphery of the counties Fresno, Kings and Tulare. All participating agencies share the same purpose of reducing organized drug trafficking, violent crime and street gang activity in our area of responsibility by providing a highly trained and mobile specialized enforcement team. The current task force mission is compatible with the Executive Board's overall goals.

As a result of the improved mission, the task force has assisted with numerous violent crime and gang related investigations. Investigative services have included but are not limited to: electronic-aerial-mobile surveillances, conducting and overseeing wiretap investigations, authoring and obtaining complex search warrants, taking the lead on locating and arresting identified homicide suspects, conducting forensic download/data extraction of cellular phones and vehicles as well as providing expertise and resources in a variety of areas of crime and investigations.

The law enforcement agencies department heads' and command staff in this region have indicated they believe there is a reduction in crime and crimes are solved quicker with suspects in custody, as a result of the task force's efforts. This task force is extremely instrumental in this region as these services are needed to assist smaller agencies in rural areas as well as those lacking specialized expertise and resources.

#### HIIT Statistics

| <u>FMTF / HIIT</u>             | <u>2017</u>         | <u>2018 (Jan 1 – Jun 30)</u> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>Opened Cases</u>            | <u>54</u>           | <u>84</u>                    |
| <u>Arrests</u>                 | <u>52</u>           | <u>39</u>                    |
| <u>Search Warrants</u>         | <u>36</u>           | <u>31</u>                    |
| <u>Firearms Seized</u>         | <u>20</u>           | <u>2</u>                     |
| <u>U.S. Currency</u>           | <u>\$119,175.00</u> | <u>\$650,700.00</u>          |
| <u>THC Extraction Labs (g)</u> | <u>7</u>            | <u>9</u>                     |
| <u>Heroin (lb.)</u>            | <u>33.88</u>        | <u>4.4</u>                   |
| <u>Methamphetamine (lb.)</u>   | <u>266.4</u>        | <u>106.73</u>                |

|  |                       |                        |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|
| <b><u>Methamphetamine<br/>Dissolved in solution (ml)</u></b> | <b><u>4,731.8</u></b> | <b><u>13,248.9</u></b> |
| <b><u>Cocaine (lb.)</u></b>                                  | <b><u>.46</u></b>     | <b><u>252.1</u></b>    |
| <b><u>Marijuana (lb.)</u></b>                                | <b><u>151.4</u></b>   | <b><u>271.5</u></b>    |
| <b><u>Minors referred to CPS</u></b>                         | <b><u>12</u></b>      | <b><u>5</u></b>        |

### **North State Major Investigation Team (NSMIT) – San Francisco**

The North State Major Investigation Team (NSMIT), is a DOJ Task Force that is partially funded by the Central Valley California HIDTA Executive Committee. The NSMIT is a collaboration that works in conjunction with one another, the Participating Agencies will endeavor to effectively enforce the laws of the State of California including Penal Code, Vehicle Code, Health and Safety Code, and applicable federal laws related to manufacture, trafficking, and distribution of all illicit narcotics and dangerous drugs; and relating to violent crime, street terrorism and related crimes. Use of the task force concept is intended to ensure well rounded and coordinated criminal enforcement regionally and increase the flow of information between participating agencies as well as law enforcement agencies on the periphery of the counties where NSMIT will operate. The formation of NSMIT will allow agencies in the north state to call upon the task force to assist with criminal investigations and to respond quickly to illegal trends in drug trafficking or other crimes related to criminal organizations. All participating agencies share the same purpose of initiating a task force which will work in a cooperative effort in combating criminal activity deemed a priority in the area of responsibility for NSMIT. In 2018, NSMIT Task Force changed its name from North State Marijuana Investigation Team to North State Major Investigation Team.

The agencies currently participating in the NSMIT task force are as follows:

- California Department of Justice
- California Highway Patrol
- Shasta County Sheriff's Department
- Siskiyou County Sheriff's Department
- United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
- California National Guard Counterdrug Operations

#### **NSMIT Mission**

The mission of the NSMIT will be to significantly diminish the availability and use of illegal drugs; reduce and prevent violent crimes, in the NSMIT's area of responsibility, in the State of California, and apprehend the responsible offenders, thereby increasing public safety.

## NSMIT Statistics

| <u>NSMIT</u>                      | <u>2017</u>         | <u>2018 (Jan 1 – Jun 30)</u> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>Opened Cases</u>               | <u>78</u>           | <u>17</u>                    |
| <u>Arrests</u>                    | <u>67</u>           | <u>NA</u>                    |
| <u>Firearms Seized</u>            | <u>15</u>           | <u>15</u>                    |
| <u>U.S. Currency</u>              | <u>\$127,939.00</u> | <u>NA</u>                    |
| <u>THC Extraction Labs (g)</u>    | <u>192</u>          | <u>495.64</u>                |
| <u>Heroin (g.)</u>                | <u>5.33</u>         | <u>NA</u>                    |
| <u>Methamphetamine (g.)</u>       | <u>2</u>            | <u>NA</u>                    |
| <u>Cocaine (lb.)</u>              | <u>3</u>            | <u>NA</u>                    |
| <u>Marijuana plants</u>           | <u>312,289</u>      | <u>1,287</u>                 |
| <u>Marijuana High Grade (lb.)</u> | <u>10,814.63</u>    | <u>NA</u>                    |
| <u>Other / Unknown Pills</u>      | <u>NA</u>           | <u>88</u>                    |

## Placer County Special Investigation Unit (Placer SIU) – Sacramento

The Placer County Special Investigation Unit (Placer SIU) is a DOJ multi-agency task force consisting of sworn and professional staff members from local and state agencies in Placer County. The Placer SIU task force is led by the DOJ and is overseen by a Special Agent Supervisor, who serves as the task force commander.

The agencies currently participating in the Placer SIU task force are as follows:

- Auburn Police Department
- California Department of Justice
- California National Guard
- Placer County District Attorney's Office
- Placer County Sheriff's Department
- Placer County Probation Department
- Rocklin Police Department
- Roseville Police Department

**Placer SIU Mission**

The mission of the Placer SIU is to significantly reduce violent criminal activity, the availability and use of illegal drugs, and drug-related crimes in Placer County and apprehend the responsible offenders, as well as assist in the supervision and monitoring of Post Release Community Supervision and high-risk probation offender population, thereby, increasing public safety.

**Placer SIU Statistics**

| <b><u>Placer SIU</u></b>                    | <b><u>2017</u></b>            | <b><u>2018 (Jan 1 – Jun 30)</u></b> |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Opened Cases</u></b>                  | <b><u>181</u></b>             | <b><u>63</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Closed Cases</u></b>                  | <b><u>145</u></b>             | <b><u>68</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Arrests</u></b>                       | <b><u>117</u></b>             | <b><u>87</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Arrestees w/prior convictions</u></b> | <b><u>84</u></b>              | <b><u>52</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Search Warrants</u></b>               | <b><u>35</u></b>              | <b><u>28</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Prob/PRCS/Parole searches</u></b>     | <b><u>210</u></b>             | <b><u>206</u></b>                   |
| <b><u>Firearms Seized</u></b>               | <b><u>23</u></b>              | <b><u>25</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>U.S. Currency</u></b>                 | <b><u>\$121,279.43</u></b>    | <b><u>\$41,165.95</u></b>           |
| <b><u>Clandestine Labs</u></b>              | <b><u>2</u></b>               | <b><u>1</u></b>                     |
| <b><u>Heroin</u></b>                        | <b><u>1,772.7 grams</u></b>   | <b><u>189.1 grams</u></b>           |
| <b><u>Methamphetamine</u></b>               | <b><u>2,743.8 grams</u></b>   | <b><u>266.2 grams</u></b>           |
| <b><u>Cocaine</u></b>                       | <b><u>469.1 grams</u></b>     | <b><u>94.2 grams</u></b>            |
| <b><u>Marijuana</u></b>                     | <b><u>85,798.40 grams</u></b> | <b><u>22,538.2 grams</u></b>        |
| <b><u>Minors referred to CPS</u></b>        | <b><u>4</u></b>               | <b><u>2</u></b>                     |

**Tulare County Agencies Regional Gang Enforcement Team (TARGET) – Fresno**

The Tulare County Agencies Regional Gang Enforcement Team (TARGET) is a DOJ multi-agency task force consisting of sworn and professional staff members from local and state agencies in Tulare County. The TARGET task force is led by the DOJ and is overseen by a Special Agent Supervisor, who serves as the task force commander.

The agencies currently participating in the task force are as follows:

- California Department of Justice
- California Highway Patrol
- California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
- Visalia Police Department
- Tulare County Sheriff's Department

#### **TARGET Mission**

The mission of the TARGET is to allocate resources from all Tulare County cities and other allied law enforcement agencies, for the purpose of securing the homeland by promoting safe, secure neighborhoods free of violent crime and gang violence. The current task force mission is compatible with the Executive Board's overall goals.

#### **TARGET Statistics**

| <b><u>TARGET</u></b>                    | <b><u>2017</u></b>        | <b><u>2018 (Jan 1 – Jun 30)</u></b> |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Opened Cases</u></b>              | <b><u>51</u></b>          | <b><u>25</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Closed Cases</u></b>              | <b><u>49</u></b>          | <b><u>23</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Arrests</u></b>                   | <b><u>56</u></b>          | <b><u>20</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Search Warrants</u></b>           | <b><u>34</u></b>          | <b><u>15</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Prob/PRCS/Parole searches</u></b> | <b><u>80 / 26 / 0</u></b> | <b><u>31 / 8 / 21</u></b>           |
| <b><u>Firearms Seized</u></b>           | <b><u>20</u></b>          | <b><u>6</u></b>                     |
| <b><u>U.S. Currency</u></b>             | <b><u>\$2,600.00</u></b>  | <b><u>\$2,874.00</u></b>            |
| <b><u>Homicide</u></b>                  | <b><u>6</u></b>           | <b><u>NA</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Heroin (g)</u></b>                | <b><u>11.0</u></b>        | <b><u>NA</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Methamphetamine (g)</u></b>       | <b><u>282.0</u></b>       | <b><u>169.0</u></b>                 |
| <b><u>Cocaine (g)</u></b>               | <b><u>46.0</u></b>        | <b><u>1.0</u></b>                   |
| <b><u>Marijuana (lb)</u></b>            | <b><u>180</u></b>         | <b><u>NA</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Marijuana Eradicated</u></b>      | <b><u>286</u></b>         | <b><u>NA</u></b>                    |

**Unified Narcotic Enforcement Team (UNET) – San Francisco**

The United Narcotic Enforcement Team (UNET) is a DOJ multi-agency task force consisting of sworn and professional staff members from local and state agencies in Tulare County. In 2017, the federal HIDTA recognized San Benito County as a new designated area – and the only California County to receive this recent designation. The UNET is one of the counties overseen by the Northern-California HIDTA. The UNET task force is led by the DOJ and is overseen by a Special Agent Supervisor, who serves as the task force commander.

The agencies currently participating in the task force are as follows:

- California Department of Justice
- California Highway Patrol
- San Benito County Sheriff's Department
- San Benito County Probation Department
- Hollister Police Department

**UNET Mission**

The Mission of the Unified Narcotic Enforcement Team (UNET) is to significantly reduce and prevent the impact of criminal organizations and individuals which commit serious and violent crimes; including serious major narcotic offenses, gang related criminal activity, human trafficking, and firearm trafficking and related offenses. UNET will apprehend the responsible offenders and bring them to justice. UNET strives to accomplish this work by combining the resources of City, County, State and Federal agencies to carry out prevention, intervention and suppression.”

This UNET Mission Statement was revised around 2014 to reflect changing priorities. Besides citizen and law enforcement professionals seeing that narcotic sales and abuse being of major importance in San Benito County, they also recognize that gang violence, gun violence and human trafficking as a rising and threatening concern. UNET works with local law enforcement agencies, surrounding law enforcement jurisdictions, local Child Protective Services, as well as our state and federal partners.

UNET is in regular contact with other members of the DOJ organization – including other task forces. UNET is also partners with 37 other task forces, not part of the CA DOJ program.

Besides the regular tips and self-initiated activities associated with narcotic trafficking and abuse, San Benito County has the same problems as other areas of California. There is the street gang presence, along with the violence that they bring. Hollister and San Benito County have the Norte and Sureño criminal street gang element within the community. A lot of this activity is due to

transitory gang members coming in to the community for confrontations and gatherings. Below are some examples:

Hollister/San Benito County also has a strong outlaw motorcycle gang population, since Hollister is believed to be the “birthplace of the American biker.” UNET recently arrested a member of the Hell’s Angel (HA) organization who was operating a clandestine butane hash oil (BHO) laboratory. Both the HA’s and the Mongols claim Hollister/San Benito County as theirs.

Besides the contacts with suspects, victims and families during investigations, UNET works well with law enforcement and other agencies. UNET has contact, when needed, with the San Benito County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) – Child Protective Services.

New Memorandum of Understanding language could include that although members are assigned to the task force, they also have collateral duties at their parent agencies. This includes maintaining probation caseloads; California Highway Patrol auto theft and investigation follow-ups; being assigned cases from their parent agency detective bureaus and requests to follow-up with citizen tips given to their patrol units and tip lines. With these collateral duties, the task force program assists the member with these tasks.

The local Task Force program is often a force multiplier. Besides assisting on search warrant services, it also is an additional source for surveillances, confidential informant coverages, intelligence and protection for undercover operations.

For the task force’s most recent BSCC grant, the task force was the major funding component (through the grant award) and organizer for the county’s Strengthening Families Program. The task force funded two eight-week programs, its materials, the course program, funded training the trainers and the meals provided.

Recommended Task Force name change to: Unified Major Enforcement Team or Unified Major Investigation Team.

#### **UNET Statistics**

| <b><u>UNET</u></b>                      | <b><u>2017</u></b> | <b><u>2018 (Jan 1 – Jun 30)</u></b> |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Opened Cases</u></b>              | <b><u>61</u></b>   | <b><u>34</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Arrests</u></b>                   | <b><u>37</u></b>   | <b><u>7</u></b>                     |
| <b><u>Search Warrants</u></b>           | <b><u>14</u></b>   | <b><u>12</u></b>                    |
| <b><u>Prob/PRCS/Parole searches</u></b> | <b><u>12</u></b>   | <b><u>22</u></b>                    |



|  |                           |                    |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Firearms Seized</u>                       | <u>7</u>                  | <u>2</u>           |
| <u>U.S. Currency</u>                         | <u>\$672,163.00</u>       | <u>\$17,000.00</u> |
| <u>Clandestine Labs BHO</u>                  | <u>473.05 (g) / 1 lab</u> | <u>2 Labs</u>      |
| <u>Heroin</u>                                | <u>NA</u>                 | <u>1,049.35</u>    |
| <u>Methamphetamine (g)</u>                   | <u>107.93</u>             | <u>89.91</u>       |
| <u>Cocaine</u>                               | <u>3.59</u>               | <u>NA</u>          |
| <u>Marijuana (Processed)</u>                 | <u>458.72</u>             | <u>13,000.67</u>   |
| <u>Marijuana (Plants)</u>                    | <u>13,420</u>             | <u>517</u>         |
| <u>Ecstasy (Pills) / LSD / Various pills</u> | <u>57 / 0 / 0</u>         | <u>0 / 4 / 35</u>  |