

ROCIC IMPACT IN Louisiana



The Regional Information Sharing **Systems** (RISS) mission is to assist local, state, federal, and tribal criminal justice agencies by providing adaptive solutions and services that facilitate information criminal sharing, support investigations, and promote officer safety.

The Regional OrganizedCrime Information Center(ROCIC), one of the six RISSCenters, began providingservices to its members in 1973.The ROCIC region consists of:

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Florida
- Georgia
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Mississippi
- North Carolina
- Oklahoma
- Puerto Rico
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas
- U.S. Virgin Islands
- Virginia
- West Virginia

Since 1973, the number of criminal justice agencies benefiting from ROCIC services has grown to more than 2,100 agencies. 150 Member Agencies 21,439 Sworn Personnel Served 314 Officers and Personnel Trained 21,589 Intelligence Database Inquiries 317 Requests for Information on 466 Targets 7,649 Analytical and 6 Forensic Products Delivered 57,330 Bulletins and Special Reports Disseminated 118 Pieces of Investigative Equipment Loaned

In FY2018____

Louisiana Leadership for ROCIC

In addition to federal monitoring, ROCIC is governed by a board of directors composed of an elected member and a proxy from each of the 14 states in the ROCIC region. In Louisiana, these leadership positions are held by:

Board Member:

Sheriff Jerry Philley West Carroll Parish Sheriff's Office (318) 428-2331

Board Proxy:

Sheriff William Earl Hilton Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office (318) 473-6706

Examples of Successes in Louisiana

Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office

Equipment Services

Narcotics Trafficking: The Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with the U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force and the Alexandria Police Department, requested ROCIC specialized equipment to aid in the surveillance of suspects who were wanted for drug trafficking and illegal possession of firearms stolen during several burglaries in Rapides Parish. Because of the urban nature of the surveillance area, operations could be conducted only at night. Using the night-vision goggles provided by ROCIC, drug agents located, identified, and arrested four suspects on felony warrants. Several stolen firearms and illicit drugs valued at \$2,000 were recovered.

Morehouse Parish Sheriff's Office

Intelligence Research Services

Sexual Assault: The Morehouse Parish Sheriff's Office (MPSO) investigated a case of aggravated incest and contributing to the delinquency of a minor and

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www.riss.net/impact



Examples of Successes in Louisiana

obtained arrest warrants for the suspect. Investigators subsequently learned that the suspect had absconded, his whereabouts unknown. MPSO investigators turned to ROCIC, and within hours the ROCIC intelligence research staff provided numerous possible addresses for the suspect in Louisiana and Arkansas. Through investigation and process of elimination, the MPSO investigators found the correct address and made the arrest. The defendant was eventually convicted and sentenced to 17 years in prison for his crimes. Thanks to ROCIC, there is one less sexual predator walking the streets.

Caddo Parish District Attorney's Office

Analytical Services

Manslaughter: The Caddo Parish District Attorney's Office in

Shreveport prosecuted a case in which a man was accused of shooting and killing his stepfather at their home. The accused hid the pistol and spent shell casings in his bedroom, close to the site of the shooting. The ROCIC analytical staff was contacted to produce a large crime scene diagram combined with crime scene photographs that showed the weapon's location under a mattress and the casings that were found in a plastic container full of clothing. The investigator worked closely with the ROCIC staff to quickly produce a draft version, which was approved by the prosecutor. The full-size laminated diagram was used in court, before the judge and jury, and played an important role in assisting the jury in reaching a guilty verdict and convicting the defendant of manslaughter. The ROCIC staff produced a graphics product that greatly enhanced the visual effect of the evidence found at the crime scene.

Richland Parish Sheriff's Office

Equipment Services

Drug Trafficking: The Richland Parish Sheriff's Office (RPSO) borrowed specialized surveillance equipment from ROCIC to investigate numerous complaints from a neighborhood where drug trafficking was suspected. Following the use of the equipment to maintain observation on a targeted residence, six arrests were made of suspected drug traffickers as they visited the residence. As the operation progressed, investigators obtained a search warrant for the residence and made three more arrests of drug dealers on-site. Seizures included \$2,500 worth of illegal drugs, such as marijuana and cocaine; more than \$1,000 in U.S. currency; and two stolen weapons, which the sheriff's office returned to their owners in other jurisdictions. As a rural agency with limited resources, the RPSO relies on ROCIC as the go-to resource for investigative assistance.

Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office

Equipment Services

Sexual Battery: The Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office (RPSO), in cooperation with the U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force, requested ROCIC specialized equipment to surveil a suspect wanted for aggravated sexual battery who had evaded capture. Investigators developed information about a possible safe house in a rural area where he was thought to be hiding. An extended stakeout was conducted with no success. The RPSO borrowed night-vision goggles from ROCIC and determined that the suspect was residing at the suspected location, going outside the residence only at night. The suspect was subsequently arrested.

Testimonial

"Our case has yet to be adjudicated, but we have removed a major multijurisdictional drug dealer from circulation, all because of the efforts of ROCIC's CIU to identify our suspect via a street nickname only and furnishing us with known associates and various addresses and telephone numbers used by the suspect."

> —Detective Allen Irby West Carroll Parish Sheriff's Office

Examples of Successes in Louisiana



Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office

Intelligence Research Services

Larceny: The Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office worked a complaint at a local retailer where suspects entered the store, pried open a locked drawer, and stole several hundred dollars in cash. Employees could not identify the suspects, but they did obtain the Texas license plate number on the suspect's vehicle. The investigators contacted the owner of the vehicle, who advised them of who had possession of the vehicle at the time of the theft. Upon request, ROCIC provided out-of-state driver's license photos of the suspects. The photos matched the store's video surveillance photos. The two out-of-state suspects were arrested, extradited back to Louisiana, and convicted of felony theft.

9th Judicial District Attorney's Office-Alexandria

Intelligence Research Services

Criminal Gang Activity: The 9th Judicial District Attorney's Office in Alexandria contacted ROCIC to assist in the prosecution of three members of a local street gang charged with murder, attempted murder, racketeering, illicit drug activity, and conspiracy. The case was active for six years and involved local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. Because of the length of the investigation, the District Attorney's Office lost track of suspects, witnesses, and victims. The ROCIC intelligence research staff located 8 victims and 17 witnesses previously not located. The investigator stated that without ROCIC's assistance, the District Attorney's Office could not have proceeded to trial. Two defendants received sentences of 40 years in prison, and a third defendant is awaiting trial. The investigator added that he can always depend on ROCIC as a valuable prosecutorial resource.

West Carroll Parish Sheriff's Department

Intelligence Research Services

Narcotics Trafficking: The West Carroll Parish Sheriff's Department (WCPSD) investigated a suspect who was trafficking narcotics into the parish from Mississippi. Detectives had only a street name and a phone number. The ROCIC intelligence research staff were contacted for assistance. The ROCIC staff provided the suspect's true identity, along with multiple addresses in Mississippi and Texas, and additional phone numbers. When the suspect traveled to West Carroll Parish, detectives conducted several controlled buys of narcotics from him. The drug dealer and his female companion were arrested, following a high-speed chase that led into Arkansas. Detectives confiscated four ounces of crystal methamphetamine (meth). Due in large part to the information provided by ROCIC, the WCPSD removed a major multijurisdictional drug dealer from circulation. The defendant awaits trial.

Bogalusa Police Department

Audio/Video Services

Commercial Burglary: The Bogalusa Police Department investigated the burglary of a business in which several hundred dollars' worth of equipment and tools were stolen. The surveillance video was sent to the ROCIC audio/ video staff, who edited hours of unneeded footage, zoomed in on the suspects, and improved the quality so that the images were viewable. A suspect was arrested and his identity confirmed through the videotape. Following the confession of the suspect, officers located the stolen equipment from a third party and, in the process, discovered and seized 49 grams of crystal meth, valued at \$100 an ounce. A second suspect was arrested.