

Mesa Police Crime Gun Intelligence Unit



CRIME GUN INTELLIGENCE UNIT MAKEUP



- The CGIU is embedded within the Mesa Police Major Crimes Unit and comprised of the following personnel
- Three Mesa Police Detectives
- Mesa Police Sergeant
- Civilian Analyst / NIBIN Administrator
- Two ATF Agents
- Two future Civilian Technicians

CRIME GUN INTELLIGENCE UNIT MISSION

- The Mesa Police Department, in partnership with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), has created a Crime Gun Intelligence Unit housed in the Mesa Police Special Operations Building. This unit includes the establishment of a second National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) site.
- The Crime Gun Intelligence Unit is designed to rapidly process firearm-related evidence and provide actionable leads to detectives, with the goal of reducing gun violence in Mesa and the greater Phoenix area.

WHAT IS NIBIN

NIBIN stands for **National Integrated Ballistic Information Network**.

It's a system run by the **ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives)** that uses specialized imaging technology to capture and compare the unique markings left on **cartridge casings** when a gun is fired.

- Each casing has microscopic “**fingerprints**” left by the firearm.
- NIBIN allows law enforcement agencies to compare these markings against a national database.
- This helps link **shootings, firearms, and suspects** across cases, jurisdictions, and even states.

FIRED CARTRIDGE CASING



NIBIN EQUIPMENT

BrassTrax

A BrassTrax machine is a forensic tool used by law enforcement agencies to quickly acquire high-resolution digital images of fired cartridge cases. It is an automated system designed to capture ballistic markings with great detail for storage in the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) database.

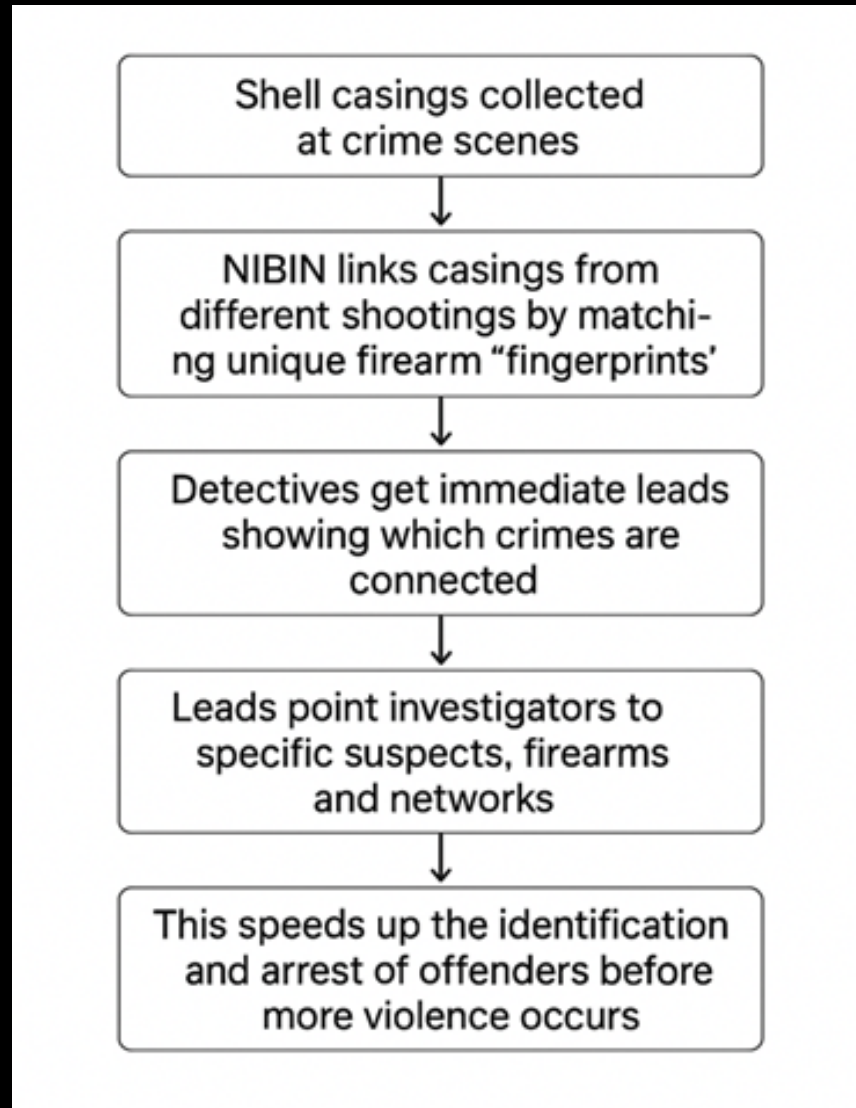


IBIS Match Point

The Integrated Ballistics Identification System MatchPoint™ computer station is a component of the Integrated Ballistic Identification System (IBIS). It is used by the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) to help law enforcement identify potential matches between ballistic evidence. It is not a standalone "machine" but rather the workstation where technicians and firearms examiners visually review digital images of ballistic evidence.



HOW NIBIN HELPS CATCH SUSPECTS



SUCCESS STORIES

Case Highlight: Walmart Shooting (Mesa PD #2024-129266)

- **06/17/24 – 857 N. Dobson Rd.:** Suspects opened fire on security guard in the Walmart Parking Lot; 25 shell casings recovered.
- **NIBIN Analysis:** Linked casings from the scene to a Phoenix shooting that led to the identification of a suspect.
- **Outcome:** Suspects confessed; strong NIBIN evidence led to charges, including one juvenile charged as an adult.

Takeaway: Rapid NIBIN processing turned evidence into actionable leads and secured charges.

SUCCESS STORIES

Case Highlight: Drive-by Shooting (Mesa PD #2024-100554)

- **05/11/24 – 936 S. Vegas:** Officers responded to shots fired. Residence and roadway struck; 5 casings recovered. No suspects on scene.
- **Initial Leads:** Ring footage showed a black Suburban and blue Toyota; shooter seen firing from the Toyota.
- **Investigation:**
 - Flock cameras helped identify the Toyota and track it to a San Tan Valley residence.
 - Search warrant executed; 9mm handgun recovered.
- **NIBIN Analysis:** Test-fired handgun matched casings from the scene.
- **Outcome:** Suspect confessed; charges filed with NIBIN results providing probable cause.

Takeaway: Integration of NIBIN with video and license plate reader technology directly identified the shooter and secured charges.

Questions

