

IBIS LINK LEADS TO CONVICTION – A CONNECTICUT STORY



In 2002, Hartford police investigated a series of shootings.

Over a seven-month period, 11 victims, two of which died, were linked together to a common gun through the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN).

The victims would say little and finding witnesses willing to talk proved difficult at best.

This time however, the story waiting to be told was contained in the internal ballistics of the auto-loading pistol being used. Each time the gun was fired the story was "re-printed" on the components of discharged cartridges.



The investigators and the forensic experts joined forces and were able to listen to the story that the evidence and the crime gun were telling through the use of IBIS technology and the NIBIN Program.

The story that emerged from the Crime Lab was that the same gun was used in all the crimes. This allowed detectives to "pool" the information that they had gathered from each case and see such things as patterns of gang activity to help establish motives. Importantly it kept police focused on finding "the gun" – pointing them in the right direction.

Today "the gun," a Glock 9mm pistol, sits in a cardboard box in Superior Court. It was Exhibit "A" in the murder trial of Rondell Bonner who was convicted of killing Scott Houle as he tried to "score" a bag of crack from Bonner and his uncle Calvin King. King is awaiting trial and so is Exhibit "A".

The Hartford Police were able to successfully use IBIS and ATF's NIBIN Program to help link firearm crimes and remove violent offenders from our streets.