

Gang Awareness



VACAVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

660 Merchant Street
VACAVILLE, CA 95688
(707)449.5200
TTY (707)449.5162
Relay Service - 711

<http://www.cityofvacaville.com/departments/police/forms.php>

You can download a copy of this brochure on the City's website.



Gang Awareness:

Awareness is the first step that our community needs to take in order to deal with our growing gang problem. The purpose of this packet is to assist you in identifying our local street gangs.

A gang is...

Per California Penal Code section 186.22(f), a criminal street gang is defined by the following criteria **(all apply)**:

- A group of three or more people (male, female, adult, or juvenile)
- In association with each other (on a full-time or part-time basis)
- With a common identifier or symbol
- Who collectively engage in a pattern of criminal activity

A gang member is...

Per California Penal Code section 186.22(a), a criminal street gang member is defined by the following criteria **(all apply)**:

- Any person who participates (full-time or part-time basis) in a criminal street gang
- With the knowledge that its members engage or have engaged in a pattern of criminal conduct
- And one who willfully promotes, furthers, or assists in any felonious criminal conduct

Why do people join gangs?

- Respect
- Security and physical protection
- Lack of positive activities
- Excitement of the gang lifestyle
- Financial gain
- Peer pressure from family and friends
- Family ties—generational

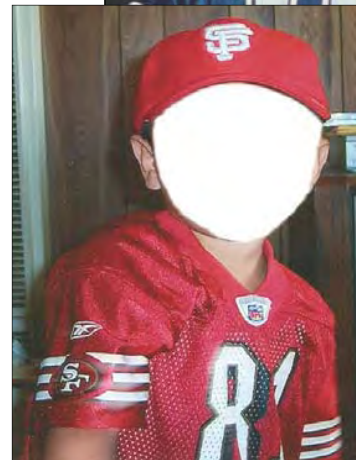
How do people join a gang?

Methods used for both males and females:

- Jumped in (fight other members)
- Walked in (another member vouches for them)
- Given an assignment for the benefit of the gang

Additional methods used for females:

- Sexed in - varies, here are two examples:
 - Trained in –By having sexual intercourse with multiple gang members at one time
 - Diced in— Dice are rolled. Whatever number that comes up—the female has to have sexual intercourse with that number of gang members



GANG MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Emulation Stage:

- Wannabes, Peewees, or Baby Gangsters
- Generally 8-13 years-old
- Wear gang attire
- May get their knowledge about gangs from parents, siblings, friends, or the news media
- Have little understanding of what the gang stands for or its activities
- Talk and brag about the gang
- They act, walk, and talk like actual gang members
- They claim to be a member of a gang
- Do not participate in gang activities, but may be involved in minor juvenile-delinquent acts
- Doodle gang insignias and logos
- Commit acts of graffiti vandalism
- May have gang-affiliated tattoos
- Speak in slang, use gang terminology and display gang hand signs
- Very few females are in this stage



Apprentice Stage:



- Associates
- Generally 12 years-old and older
- May wear gang colors out of respect, but will not wear specific indicators
- Spend time with one or more actual gang members
- Have some knowledge of gang activities
- Believe in loyalty and unity in the gang, but will leave loyalty behind when self-preservation becomes an issue
- Less likely to participate in acts of violence and more often they will assist after the fact, such as hiding a wanted person or holding onto weapons
- Do not participate in gang activities, but may be involved in juvenile-delinquent acts
- Doodle gang insignias and may commit acts of graffiti vandalism
- May have gang-affiliated tattoos
- Speak in slang, use gang terminology, and display gang hand signs
- They have made no formal commitment to the gang
- May carry concealed weapons for protection
- Most females involved in gang activity are classified in this stage

Regular Member:



- Referred to as "Gangster, Soldier, Baller (drug dealer), High Roller or Homeboy"
- Generally 14-25 years-old
- Wear gang attire
- Spend most of their available time with other gang members
- Have knowledge of gang activities
- Believe in loyalty to the gang
- Participate in gang activities, but also may attend school or have a job
- Doodle gang insignias and may commit acts of graffiti vandalism
- May have gang tattoos
- Speak in slang, use gang terminology and display hand signs
- They have made a formal commitment to the gang; usually by an established ritual such as being "jumped in"
- Will carry concealed weapons for protection
- Some females are classified as full members

High-Ranking Member:

- Referred to as "Boss, Veterano, Original Gangster, King, Price, Prime Minister, General, Don, Chief or Shot Caller"
- Generally 17-25 years-old
- Wear gang attire
- Spend the majority of their time with other gang members
- Have full knowledge of gang activities and provide leadership to the group
- Believe in gang loyalty which constitutes their total identity and therefore is what they most value in life



- Instigate violent confrontations
- May have gang tattoos
- Rarely involved in acts of graffiti vandalism
- Speak in slang, use gang terminology and display gang hand signs
- They are a veteran of gang life and committed to the gang lifestyle
- Will carry concealed weapons for protection
- Rarely employed and sometimes involved in drug sales
- They will usually have spent time in juvenile hall, jail, or prison
- Comprise about 5-10% of the gang
- Very few females are high-ranking members



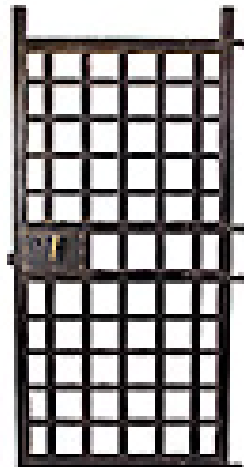
What Are Gang-Related Crimes*?

As defined in Penal Code section 186.22(e) the following are considered to be gang related crimes:

- Assault with a deadly weapon
- Robbery
- Unlawful homicide
- The sale, possession for sale, manufacturing or transportation of illegal narcotics
- Shooting at inhabited dwelling or an occupied motor vehicle
- Shooting from a vehicle
- Money laundering
- Aggravated mayhem
- Felony extortion
- Felony vandalism
- The sale, delivery or transfer of a firearm
- Possession of a pistol, revolver or firearm capable of being concealed upon the person
- Threats to commit crimes resulting in death or great bodily injury
- Theft or unlawful taking of a motor vehicle
- Grand theft of a firearm, vehicle or trailer
- Arson
- Witness intimidation
- Grand theft
- Torture
- Burglary
- Rape
- Looting
- Kidnapping
- Carjacking



*** Partial list—The CA State legislature revises the list on occasion by adding more crimes.**



Gangs in Our Community:

Norteños:

- Norteño (Spanish for Northerner)
- "N" or "ENE" (Spanish for "N") are common letters used
- Common symbols include XIV, X4, and 14
- (14th letter of the alphabet is "N")
- Red is the predominant color



Norteño subsets that have been contacted in the Vacaville area:

- BSL (Brown Street Locos)
- RHP (Rocky Hill Players/Posse)
- VWZ (Varrío War Zone) *
- VCF (Varrío Centro Fairfield) *

In prison, Norteños align themselves with the "Nuestra Familia" (NF, La ENE)

* Fairfield-based gang



Sureños:

- Sureño (Spanish for southerner)
- "S", "M", or "EME" (Spanish for "M") are common letters used
- Common symbols include XIII, X3, and 13
- (13th letter of the alphabet is "M")
- Blue is the predominant color

Sureño subsets that have been contacted in the Vacaville area:

- BHS (Bennett Hill Sureños)
- BSS (Brown Street Sureños/Soldiers)
- CSM (Calle San Marco) *
- BPS (Brown Pride Sureños)

In prison, Sureños align themselves with "The Mexican Mafia" (MM, La EME)

* Fairfield-based gang

Brown Priders:

- Brown Priders show their support for the Hispanic culture and the traditional way of life (La Raza) (The Race)
- Non-territorial, Brown Priders will sometimes show their affiliation with other known Hispanic gangs
- Common symbols include BP, 12, etc.
- Common colors used are brown and black



White Gangs:

- White—European descent
- Common symbols include WP, SWP, SS, swastikas, lightning bolts
- No predominant colors worn, affiliation is often shown through tattoos
- White gangs often align themselves with the Aryan Brotherhood, Nazi Low Riders, and the Peckerwoods

White gang subsets that have been contacted in the Vacaville area:

- Peckerwoods
- Featherwoods
- Nazi Low Riders

Black Gangs:

Crips –

- Originated in Los Angeles in the late 1960's
- In the early 1970's Crip gangs attempted to align themselves with other black gangs
- Blue is the predominant color
- Crip gangs can be found throughout the United States
- May refer to each other as "Cuzz"

Bloods –

- Originated from the streets of Compton in the early 1970's
- Originally known as the "Piru" gang
- Formed in protection from Crip gangs
- Of the two gangs, Bloods are thought to be more violent and organized than the Crips
- Red is the predominant color
- May refer to each other as "Blood"



Black gang subsets that have been contacted in Vacaville area:

- SSGC (South Side Gangsta' Crips)
- Kumi 415
- TGC (Tiny Gangsta' Crips/Crew) *Not gang validated yet
- Officials
- Squad/Squad up
- The Jets/FYMM (from Vallejo, but have members in Vacaville)

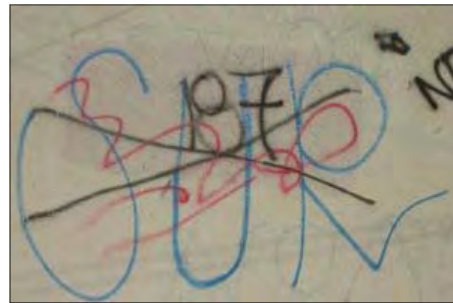
Gang Graffiti:

Its Purpose:

- It identifies the gang (subset) and its territory
- Show of strength and dominance within its territory
- Serves as a warning or a challenge to rival gangs
- Glorifies the gang and its lifestyle
- Points out which gangs are fighting and which ones are getting along
- Immortalizes deceased gang members
- Graffiti serves as an underground newspaper for the streets
- Graffiti has a negative impact on residential and commercial properties

Graffiti Removal:

- Removal of graffiti by a property owner is accepted
- Removal or defacement of graffiti by a rival gang is an act of aggression



RESOURCES

Vacaville Police Department

Emergency (Police, Fire, Paramedics) 911
Emergency from a cell phone 449.5200
Non-Emergency Police 449.5200



CRIME STOPPERS- Help solve a crime. You may be eligible for a reward up to \$1000.00. Remain anonymous, too! 707.644.**STOP**

Gang Related Websites:

www.safestate.org/shop/files/Gangs_Comm.resp.pdf
www.gangsorus.com
www.safeyouth.org/scripts/teens/gangs.asp
www.angelfire.com/biz4/stopvarriowar/gps.html
www.Knowgangs.com

Vacaville Police Reference Numbers:

Gang Hotline	449.5249
Drug Tip Hotline	449.5243
Domestic Violence and/or Child Abuse	469.6600
Crime Prevention	449.5432
Graffiti Removal	449.5693

School Reference Numbers:

Buckingham Charter School	453.6144
Country High School	453.6215
Vaca Pena Jr. High School	453.7156
Vacaville High School	453.6065
Will C. Wood High School	453.6901
Willis Jepson Jr. High School	453.6282
Vaca Prep	453.7305

Other Resources:

Aids Foundation

1.800.FOR.AIDS
Anonymous HIV Testing
And Information

Alateen

446.2244
24-Hour Hotline for Teens

Alpha Pregnancy Resource Center

449.8991
Counseling and Clothing
For Pregnant Women

California Youth Crisis Line

1.800.843.5200
Toll Free 24 hour confidential crisis
line for youth and families in crisis

Solano County Mental Health Crisis Line

428.1131
24-Hour Crisis Line

Family Health Centers Of Planned Parenthood

448.7197
Family Medicine
Pediatrics/Immunizations
HIV/AIDS & Pregnancy Testing, Birth Control

Sexual Assault Hotline

422.7273 (English)
644.7273 (Spanish)

Teen Rescue Inc.

1.800.494.2200
Referral Service for Families with Teens in Crisis

Youth and Family Services Counseling

427.6640
Counseling for Families in Need

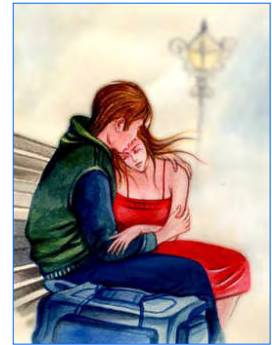
Vacaville Police Department Youth Services Section

The Youth Services Section (YSS) is dedicated to serving youth and families. Our staff has extensive training and expertise in dealing with youth and family issues. YSS is comprised of Community Service Officers, Family Support Workers, Interns, Master Social Workers, Police Officers and Support Staff. **YSS staff offices are at High Schools and Junior High Schools.** We welcome the opportunity to provide service to your family. Services are also provided to Spanish speaking families.

SERVICES OFFERED:

Runaway Investigation Program

Investigate and locate runaways, referrals to community resources, participates in the School & Attendance Review Board (SARB)



“ADAPT” - Alcohol and Drug Awareness Prevention Training

Alcohol/Drug Education, Coroner’s Office Tour, Parolee/Victim Presentation, Simulated DUI; Parent Involvement is Mandatory.



Counseling Services

Clinical Services

Professional Counseling – Youth and/or families, offering community-based referrals, crisis counseling. Walk-ins always welcome, no fee.

Youth Diversion Program

Diverts offenders from formal criminal justice system, utilizing community work programs while building character & personal accountability.



Parent Project/Parent Project Spanish/Parent Project Junior

Parenting classes for parents of strong-willed or out-of-control children

“POP” - Prison Outreach Program

Educates youth to the realities of prison, emphasizes the pitfalls/disadvantages of prison life & provides juveniles an opportunity to see themselves from the inmate’s perspective.



Gang Prevention/Intervention

Provides education & support services to at-risk youth and their families who have been identified as gang affiliated or associates. Home visits, community based referrals, school visits/monitoring

Additional Groups/Programs

- Insight Group
(Pre-treatment group for teens with substance-abuse issues)
- Tobacco Education & Cessation Groups
- Bicycle Education Class
- Curfew Education Class
- Theft Diversion Classes
- Anger Management Group

Youth Services Section:

Vacaville High School	449.1820
Will C. Wood High School	449.6086

