



REGIONAL FUGITIVE TASK FORCES

CATCH OF THE WEEK

Week of September 6th, 2004

Taking the Worst of the Worst Off the Streets

Number of warrants closed this calendar year by the Regional Fugitive Task Forces: **13,067**

Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force

On September 10, 2004, members of the Los Angeles Police Department with assistance from the Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force (PSW RFTF) arrested Jose Saul Jara Ramos, who was wanted for the Attempted Murder of a female victim. Ramos, who knew the victim, allegedly accosted her into his vehicle and then took her to a location and brutally assaulted her. He then tossed her body out of his moving vehicle where she sustained life threatening injuries. The West Valley Division of the Los Angeles Police Department contacted the PSW RFTF for assistance within 12 hours of the attempted homicide. Task Force Investigators, with assistance of the U.S. Marshals Technical Operations Group, identified a residence in North Hollywood, California where the suspect was believed to be hiding. PSW RFTF Investigators and LAPD Detectives established surveillance at the location. As Ramos exited the residence and approached a vehicle, he was immediately taken into custody. The victim of the assault is currently on life support.



Jose Saul Jara Ramos

Wanted for Attempted Murder


Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force


In May 2004, Detectives from the D.C. Metropolitan Police Violent Crimes Squad responded to a shooting that took place in Southeast Washington, DC. Upon their arrival, Detectives discovered one victim, killed by a gunshot to the head, and a pregnant female, who had also been shot in the attack. Detectives identified Stephen Crawford as the suspect and on May 20, 2004, a warrant was issued out of DC Superior Court, charging Crawford with first degree murder. On September 8, 2004, the case was turned over to the Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force for apprehension. Investigators worked around the clock and on September 10, 2004, arrested Crawford, without incident, at a motel in Charles County, Maryland. Crawford is currently being held, without bond, at DC Jail.




Stephen Crawford

Wanted for Murder

<p>New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force</p>	 <p>Erhuayi Omoregie Wanted for Murder</p>
<p>On August, 4, 2004, Suffolk County New York Police Homicide Squad requested the assistance of the NY/NJ Regional Fugitive Task Force to locate and arrest Erhuayi Omoregie, aka Yosa Omoregie. Omoregie had an outstanding indictment warrant for 2nd degree murder issued on March 25, 2004, stemming from a shooting incident which occurred in Suffolk County, New York. Task Force Investigators, with assistance of the U.S. Marshals Technical Operations Group, conducted extensive investigation and learned of alleged ties that Omoregie had to an address in Powder Springs, Georgia. A collateral lead was forwarded to the Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force (SERFTF) for further investigation. On September 2, 2004, members of the SERFTF were able to successfully locate and arrest Omoregie at the target address. Omoregie was lodged at Cobb County jail awaiting extradition proceedings back to New York.</p>	

<p>Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force</p>	 <p>Glenn Merritt Wanted for Murder</p>
<p>On September 9, 2004, investigators from the Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force (SERFTF) and the Georgia Board of Pardons and Parole arrested Glenn Cornelious Merritt, who, in addition to being in violation of state parole stemming from a drug conviction, was wanted for a murder that occurred during an August 8, 2004, armed robbery in Dekalb County, Georgia. SERFTF investigators developed information that Merritt was at an apartment in Marietta, Georgia and through surveillance were able to confirm Merritt's presence inside the apartment. Merritt, considered to be armed and dangerous, was believed to have both a shotgun and a pistol in the apartment. During the execution of the raid plan, the door was breached and ballistic shields and OC spray were used to repel an attacking pit bull. The subject was arrested without further incident. Merritt has an extensive criminal history including arrests for drugs, weapons, and obstruction of police.</p>	

<p>Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force</p>	 <p>David Chest Wanted for Murder</p>
<p>On September 9, 2004, investigators from the Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force arrested David Chest, who was wanted for 1st Degree Murder. On December 31st, 2003, Chest, with assistance of three other individuals, is accused of boxing in the victim's vehicle, then walking up to the driver's side window and firing three shots, killing the victim. During the investigation, information was developed as to the identity of subject's girlfriend. A subsequent surveillance of the girlfriend's residence revealed a person, matching Chest's description, exit the residence and get into a car. A traffic stop several blocks away confirmed subject's identity and he was taken into custody.</p>	