

## STREET GANG LEADER ADMITS TO VIOLENCE POSSE CHIEF FACES POSSIBLE LIFE PRISON TERM

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A Detroit man admitted Tuesday that he was the president of a southwest Detroit street gang, provided guns for his gang members to use in shootings and learned of slayings they allegedly committed after the fact.

Jerry Waucaush, 26, made the statements in federal court in Detroit as he pleaded guilty to conspiracy to violate racketeering laws, which could bring him a life prison sentence.

Waucaush, who is awaiting sentencing on additional charges in federal and state courts, told U.S. District Judge Nancy Edmunds he was one of 12 founding members of the Cash Flow Posse. The gang formed in the late 1980s when two national gangs, the **Latin Counts** and the Cobras, came to Detroit seeking recruits, according to a grand jury indictment. He said the posse has more than 50 members.

Waucaush and six other alleged posse members were indicted in July under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations law. It was the first time federal prosecutors in Detroit used the law against a pure street gang. A loose-knit group of armed thieves known as the Home Invaders was charged under the RICO statute in 1994.

The indictment cited five slayings as part of the racketeering activity including the July 17, 1994, shooting deaths of Annie Johnson, 15, and her cousin James Goings, 35, in a house in the 6700 block of Rutland. Waucaush said gang members told him about the slaying the night it happened. He was going to get police pressure, they told him, because he had a fight with someone who lived in the home.

On two occasions, Waucaush said, he supplied guns for shootings. He says he told posse members to shoot rival gang members gathered at a street corner in November 1991. Instead they wounded an innocent retiree. Waucaush said he provided a gun used to shoot into the bedroom window of a suspected police informant in 1996.

Several posse members visited him in Mexico in late 1996, he said, to discuss the double-slaying probe.

Two other alleged posse members -- Waucaush's brother, Robert, and Efraim Garcia, who is charged in all five slayings -- await trial. Four others have pleaded guilty. Three are awaiting sentencing, and one was sentenced to 10 years and five months in prison.

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