

## **DETROIT: OUTLAWS FACING FEDERAL CHARGES - SOME MICHIGAN MEMBERS INDICTED**

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**Federal** authorities said Wednesday that the indictment of 16 members of the **Outlaws** Motorcycle Club from Michigan and Indiana struck a major blow to the organization's criminal activity, which they said includes selling drugs and using violence.

With nicknames such as Tom the Bomb, the men, according to the 18-count indictment, sold cocaine and methamphetamine, trafficked in firearms and assaulted members of the rival Hells Angels Motorcycle Club.

The indictment - and the arrests of 11 of those charged - busts up a gang that authorities say had chapters in Detroit, Wyandotte, Bay City, Grand Rapids, Indianapolis and Ft. Wayne, Ind.

"If you're engaged in organized gang activity, we're going to come after you," said U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, who attended a news conference in Detroit to announce the indictment.

It also is the latest blow struck by law enforcement against the **Outlaws**, considered an international criminal organization by the U.S. government.

Fifteen members in Boston were arrested in July on drug and firearms **charges**. It also comes after the U.S. Attorney's Office in Detroit indicted several members of the Highway Men, another motorcycle gang, earlier this year.

Among those indicted in this latest round was Leroy Frasier, the so-called Black Region president - the label used for Michigan and Indiana - who at one time led the Bay City chapter. Authorities said each chapter had its own facility where it conducted business, but the entire region's membership generally would gather at 16815 W. Warren in Detroit, about a half-mile east of the Southfield Freeway.

Six of the men were indicted for assault with a dangerous weapon for an attack in April 2006 on several members of the Hells Angels with a cane, hammer and motorcycle parts.

Also indicted were:

Edward Gallagher, William Merfert, Norman Box Jr., David Dorris, Danny Neance, Ramon Rios, Bruce Wendel, William Elston; Robert Castillo; Michael Radke, William Guinn, Mark Guerra, Kenneth Creslaw, William Thomas McCowan and Kim Galaviz.

None could be reached for comment.

But a statement posted to the **Outlaws** ' Web site before the site became inoperable lashed out at the government for labeling it a criminal organization.

"The **Outlaws** Motorcycle Club is not a criminal organization," the statement says. "It is a motorcycle club. We have learned from the mistakes in our past."

"If you're engaged in organized gang activity, we're going to come after you." U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, who attended a news conference in Detroit to announce the indictments

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