

HSI

HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS

is the principal investigative arm of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, responsible for investigating transnational crime and threats, specifically those criminal organizations that exploit the global infrastructure through which international trade, travel, and finance move.



Countering Transnational Organized Crime / Operation Boiling Point

In 2021, the Retail Industry Leaders Association, in conjunction with the Buy Safe America Coalition, published a study of Organized Retail Crime (ORC), which revealed nearly \$70 billion in merchandise was stolen from retailers in 2019. The items stolen range from infant formula and over-the-counter medications to clothing, sports equipment, electronics and alcohol. The Organized Theft Groups (OTGs) profiting from these crimes have grown larger, become more violent and continue to have an adverse and destructive effect on society. OTGs involved in this criminal activity can be involved in theft and/or fraud within retail stores, cargo theft, and even cyber-related crimes. Separate from ORC, other OTGs profit from systematic theft of items such as catalytic converters, wheels, and other lucrative items that are stolen and sold for gain. Due to the rise of these domestic and transnational criminal organizations threatening public safety and affecting commerce, HSI launched *Operation Boiling Point*. This important operation is HSI's response to OTGs profiting from ORC, cargo theft, and theft-related crimes threatening the U.S. supply chain.

Fiscal Year 2021 Statistics



61

CRIMINAL
ARRESTS



55

INDICTMENTS



59

CASES
INITIATED



\$9,287,757
IN ASSETS
SEIZED



Operation Boiling Point is a major step forward to link federal, state, local law enforcement and prosecutors, as well as the financial, retail, freight transportation, and other industries to provide a multi-faceted approach to disrupt and dismantle OTGs.

HSI, in collaboration with the Association for Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS), recently released a [comprehensive educational guide](#) for law enforcement and financial crime investigators for OTG/ORC investigations.



To report criminal activity related to OTGs, please contact:
(866) 347-2423 or HSI.OTG@hsi.dhs.gov

HONOR | SERVICE | INTEGRITY



OPERATION BOILING POINT GOALS

- Establish, foster and maintain public/private sector partnerships
- Obtain, develop and provide investigative and intelligence leads to field offices
- Disrupt and dismantle OTGs
- Launch and advance a robust public awareness campaign

Cargo Theft

is the theft or fraudulent acquisition of goods that are part of an interstate or international shipment. Cargo theft can take place at any point along the supply chain. OTGs target freight shipments through fraud at distribution centers, e.g., fictitious pick-ups and similar schemes, or in-transit, e.g., when a driver stops for a mandated break.

ORC

is the association of two or more persons engaged in illegally obtaining retail merchandise in substantial quantities through both theft and fraud as part of a criminal enterprise.

Other OTG Activity

is the theft of valuable items outside the regular supply chain, e.g., catalytic converters, wheels, etc. This is of major concern to HSI due to public safety and the criminal proceeds related to and furthering other crimes.

Operation Boiling Point

targeting OTGs utilizing theft, and in some cases fraud, as a means to profit from criminal activity.