

## Arrests made in N.Y. anti-gang operation

*by UPI*

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. -- Nearly 300 police officers and federal agents began working together Thursday to take down a major drug gang in Niagara Falls, N.Y., authorities said.

Niagara Falls narcotics detective Christopher Clark said nearly 28 people were arrested as a result of the cooperative law enforcement effort aimed at limiting illegal operations of a gang known as the Bloods, The Buffalo (N.Y.) News said.

"We hope this will greatly impact drug trafficking, firearms trafficking and violent crime in Niagara Falls," Clark said. "Some of these defendants have been involved in shootings, home invasions and robberies."

Authorities are not sure whether the Niagara Falls gang is affiliated with a violent nationwide street gang also known as the Bloods. Police said most of those arrested Thursday have claimed to be affiliated with the national group that began in Los Angeles.

In addition to local police, the law enforcement operation in Niagara Falls involved the U.S. Attorney's office, along with the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

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