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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**\*NEWS RELEASE\***

**DA ROD PACHECO ANNOUNCES MASSIVE TAKEDOWN  
OF TWO VIOLENT RIVERSIDE STREET GANGS**

RIVERSIDE – Today, Jan. 27, 2010, an operation which began in November 2008 culminated with 650 law enforcement officers from 34 agencies targeting residences of more than 100 members of two of Riverside's most violent criminal street gangs, East Side Riva and the 1200 Blocc Crips.

These two gangs have been entangled in an often-deadly race war for many years during which not only rival gang members have become victims, but so have innocent people who were caught in the middle.

"Gang violence has tormented the good people of East Riverside for decades," said Riverside County District Attorney Rod Pacheco. "Our efforts didn't begin today, nor will they end today.

"This unprecedented operation is part of my ongoing promise to bring hope and restoration to the people of Riverside," Pacheco added.

Today's significant crackdown on East Side Riva and the 1200 Blocc Crips was called "Operation Promise."

The following arrests and seizures of evidence were made today by federal, state and local law enforcement officers:

- 50 arrests
- 10 handguns and 18 rifles
- Three knives
- Armor-piercing ammunition
- One bullet-proof vest
- One Orange County Sheriff's Department badge which had been reported as lost

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**4075 Main Street - Riverside CA, 92501**  
**[www.RivCoDA.org](http://www.RivCoDA.org)**

- Two rattlesnakes which are illegal to possess

Members of East Side Riva and the 1200 Blocc Crips were targeted today not only in the city of Riverside but also in Perris, Moreno Valley, Mead Valley, Rubidoux, Nuevo, Beaumont and in the San Bernardino County communities of Colton and Bloomington.

About 14 months ago, DA Pacheco asked then-U.S. Attorney Thomas O'Brien to have his agency join with the Riverside County District Attorney's Office and the Riverside Police Department in an undercover operation targeting these two violent gangs. The FBI, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Drug Enforcement Administration, state parole, and Riverside County Probation Office also joined in the effort.

East Side Riva (ESR), a predominately Hispanic criminal street gang, has terrorized Riverside and its residents for many years committing crimes of all types including numerous murders. In 2007, DA Pacheco sought and a judge granted Riverside County's first-ever gang injunction which targets East Side Riva. Since then, ESR gang members have been charged with violating terms of that injunction more than 30 times.

Gang experts estimate there are more than 800 known members of ESR. Through the hard work of law enforcement and aggressive prosecutions, many of those gang members have been taken off the streets, many being sent to prison for life.

Since September 2008, there have been seven criminal cases in which members of ESR have received life sentences for their crimes. Three of those life cases were murders and four were attempted murders. Over that same time period, 29 ESR gang members have been sentenced to a total of 217 years in prison in non-life term cases. Those crimes include five cases of assault with a deadly weapon, two kidnaps for rape or robbery, one kidnapping, four carjackings and five for witness intimidation.

The 1200 Blocc Crips is an African-American criminal street gang and experts estimate membership to be nearly 200 in Riverside County.

Like East Side Riva, crimes committed by the 1200 Blocc Crips range from weapons possession to attempted murder and murder.

Since 2002, members of the 1200 Blocc Crips have been convicted of two murders and three attempted murders. In 2008, a member of the 1200 Blocc Crips was convicted of murder and attempted murder for a 2004 shooting. That murderer was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Other convictions in various crimes charged against 1200 Blocc Crips members since 2002 total more than 100 years in state prison.

This violent gang war between ESR and the 1200 Blocc Crips has been underway for decades. During that time, the Mexican Mafia prison gang ordered East Side Riva gang members to attack and kill African Americans.

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