Methods Used to Combat Organized Crime and Racketeering: United States, United Kingdom, Italy and Canada

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This paper is the result of research regarding methods used to combat organized crime. There may be additional information not included in this paper. Furthermore, the views expressed in this paper are those of the author, and do not represent the opinions of the Ministry of Public Security of Israel.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

UNITED STATES

Legislation – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – Page 03
Law Enforcement Agencies – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – Page 05
Prosecution – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – Page 07
Efficiencies of Law Enforcement Agencies – – – – – – Page 07
Community Initiatives – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – Page 09
Combatting Witness Intimidation – – – – – – – – – – – – Page 11
State-Level Witness Protection Programs – – – – – – – – Page 14

ITALY

Legislation – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – Page 15
Law Enforcement and Prosecution – – – – – – – – – – – – – Page 15
Community Initiatives – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – Page 15

CANADA

Legislation – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – Page 17
Law Enforcement and Prosecution – – – – – – – – – – – – – Page 18

UNITED KINGDOM

Legislation – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – Page 19
Law Enforcement and Prosecution – – – – – – – – – – – – – Page 20

WORKS CITED – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – Page 21
UNITED STATES

Legislation

The United States works to combat organized crime with federal and state legislation in addition to its law enforcement agencies both at the federal and local levels. In 1951, Congress passed the Hobbs Act, which prohibited robbery, attempted robbery, and extortion that affected interstate or foreign commerce. Although the law was intended to combat racketeering in labor disputes, it has been more commonly used to combat corruption, especially when labor unions are involved. The law gave the FBI jurisdiction over investigation of possible crimes violating the new law (2). Although the Hobbs Act was already in place, it wasn't until 1968 that the federal government took on a greater role from the states and localities to combat organized crime.

In 1968 Congress passed the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act. In this piece of legislation, organized crime was defined as, “the unlawful activities of the members of a highly organized, disciplined association engaged in supplying illegal goods and services, including but not limited to gambling, prostitution, loan sharkering, narcotics, labor racketeering, and other unlawful activities of members of such organizations.” This definition focused on activities rather than defining what constitutes an illegal organization. The law directly targeted organized crime, providing grant money via the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) to state law enforcement agencies to combat organized crime. It also permitted federal law enforcement agencies to wiretap suspected criminals. The definition for organized crime stated in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act was repealed in the Justice System Improvement Act of 1979.
In 1970 the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act or RICO Act was passed by Congress. This act defined organized crime in terms of an "enterprise" and a pattern of "racketeering activity," once again failing to define an "illegal enterprise." This act focused on racketeering and allowed for leaders of syndicates to be tried for orders that they give out to others to commit crimes such as murder. This piece of legislation was initially used to prosecute the Mafia and was later expanded to fight a broader range of organized crime (5). The 1984 Comprehensive Crime Control Act expanded previous provisions in the RICO Act regarding asset forfeiture and money laundering. The 1984 Act made proceeds obtained through racketeering, either directly or indirectly, subject to forfeiture. This act also created the Department of Justice's Asset Forfeiture Fund in the Treasury Department. The Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform Act of 2000 revised the civil forfeiture proceedings, making it easier to prosecute organized crime cases. Money Laundering was established as a criminal offense in the Money Laundering Control Act of 1986. This act created procedures for forfeiting the illegal funds while also creating civil penalties for money laundering (5).

States have correlating RICO laws to augment legislation on the national level and give local law enforcement agencies jurisdiction in localities. New York's 1986 Organized Crime Act was passed to combat "diversified illegal conduct engaged in by organized crime." This included infiltration and corruption of legitimate enterprises by criminal organizations. Enterprise corruption consists of people in or associated with criminal organizations conducting criminal activity within an enterprise or investing proceeds from criminal acts into an enterprise. Enterprise corruption is a class B felony, punishable by a sentence of up to twenty five years in prison and a fine (4).
Law Enforcement Agencies

Law enforcement is carried out with cooperation between different federal and local agencies. The U.S. Attorney General's Organized Crime Council (AGOCC) within the Department of Justice (DOJ) creates policy regarding organized crime. The council is chaired by the Deputy Attorney General and has representatives from many different agencies including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Agency, and the Department of Labor (11). The Department of Justice also recently combined different crime fighting sections to create the Organized Crime and Gang Section (OCGS) to improve prosecution of criminal organizations. The OCGS is guided by policy established by the AGOCC. (8). The FBI's Transnational Criminal Enterprise Section of the Criminal Investigative Division is responsible for investigating crime. The crime section is separated into three units investigating La Cosa Nostra (Italian Organized Crime), Eurasian/Middle Eastern organized crime, and Asian/African criminal enterprises (7).

The FBI also works with local law enforcement agencies like the New York Police Department (NYPD) by utilizing FBI task forces in major cities (6). They also work with the Department of Labor, Department of Transportation, and the Internal Revenue Service. The FBI uses the Enterprise Theory of Investigation (ETI) that involves two steps: 1) identifying a criminal organization and the criminal activities of this organization and 2) identifying financial assets of the criminal organization for possible forfeiture (7). The United States Marshals Service (USMS) within the Department Of Justice has a Gang Enforcement model used as an approach to target violent fugitives with gang affiliations. The model uses the United States Marshall Service fugitive task force network in coordination with other federal and local law enforcement agencies to investigate and capture violent gang members. The United States Marshall Service is also a key part of the Department Of Justice's Safe
Neighborhoods Project in its Anti-Gang Training Program (22). In addition, their involvement in this area helps to limit racketeering and violent gang-related activities in communities around the United States.

The Department of Labor has also taken a role to combat racketeering and organized crime. From the middle of the 20th Century on, criminal organizations have infiltrated labor unions, which have often led to controlled pricing in an industry, work slowdowns, and mob orchestrated strikes. Because of this, the Department of Labor has created the Office of Inspector General's Labor Racketeering Program, which conducts criminal investigations to combat labor racketeering. The program has uncovered high level officials committing embezzlement, extortion, and falsifying records. Recent convicted officials include former Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich, the former International Longshoremen's Association Local 1604 president, and the former administrator for the Laborers' International Union of North America Local 147 (16).

On a local level, agencies like the NYPD have specific bureaus dedicated to fighting organized crime. NYPD's Organized Crime Control Bureau leads the fight against organized crime in New York and works closely with the FBI through its Joint Organized Crime Task Force (6). The Waterfront Commission of New York Harbor (WCNYH) is another important tool in the fight against organized crime. The WCNYH has a police force that works with federal and local law enforcement agencies and often the Department of Labor to fight criminal organizations that use the harbor to smuggle goods and infiltrate different groups including the Longshoreman's Association and contractors working in the harbor (19).
Prosecution

The Department of Justice, Organized Crime and Gang Section (OCGS) supervises and assists in the investigation and prosecution of members of organized crime in United States District Attorney's Offices (8). The OCGS is well versed in the RICO Act and often gives advice to prosecutors about using the statute. They also lead coordination of active organized crime cases throughout Attorney's offices and Criminal Divisions around the United States. Depending on the specific crime committed, different prosecutors will have jurisdiction over a case involving organized crime. Local jurisdiction belongs to District Attorneys while State Attorney Generals lead state level prosecution. The United States Attorney General and the Justice Department organizations like the OCGS lead national prosecution while assisting local and state prosecutors (8).

Efficiencies of Law Enforcement Agencies

In January of 2011, in New York and New Jersey, federal and local authorities conducted the largest sweep of organized crime families in FBI history and that of New York and New Jersey, culminating in over 120 arrests and sixteen separate indictments. Some of the crimes date back 30 years and the targeted crime families included household names such as the Gambino, Colombo, Genovese, and Luchese families along with others such as the Decavalcante, Patriarca, and Bonanno families. Individual crimes included racketeering, extortion, drug trafficking and murder. Several indicted criminals had infiltrated the International Longshoreman's Association (ILA) including former ILA Local 1235 president Thomas Leonardis, who was charged with extortion. Other arrests included those of the entire leadership of the Colombo family along with middle echelon members (27). While the arrests were both historic and significant, authorities noted that the mob families involved
had shown resiliency in the past in replacing leadership and continuing illegal operations despite arrests of mob leadership.

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters is one of the largest labor unions in the world. It has a large national and local organizational structure in the United States and has been plagued by corruption since its creation in 1903 (26). The United States Federal Government attempted to curb corruption within the teamsters in 1962 by indicting Jimmy Hoffa, then Teamster president. However, this only led to more corruption and a higher involvement of organized crime within the labor union. Then, in 1986, prosecutors were able to use RICO to take down Tony Provenzano, the head of a corrupt Genovese organized-crime family that controlled the Teamsters Local 560. The family also had close ties to Jimmy Hoffa. For twelve years, the courts controlled Teamsters Local 560 at a trusteeship, and oversaw elections of Local presidents.

In 1998, an anti-corruption candidate, Pete Brown, was elected president. At this point, the federal government began to implement a new strategy to combat racketeering. Rather than arresting individual members of organized-crime families involved in racketeering, the government, using the RICO statues, establishes the existence of a criminal enterprise when members of an organization commit three predicate acts. Once they establish an organization to be a criminal enterprise, the courts put the enterprise in trusteeship. The courts then take control of its operations, expel criminal members, and seize assets. This allows the government to change the criminal enterprise from within and make substantive and longer lasting changes to it (25).

The IRS's Criminal Investigation Division has been prosecuting members of criminal organizations since the time of prohibition. The division consists of 2,900 Special Agents who are tasked with the job of investigating tax, currency money
laundering and Bank Secrecy Act law violation. The Illegal Source Tax Crimes program and the Narcotics Related Financial Crimes program investigates illegally obtained money by criminals. These programs involve federal agencies like the DEA, FBI and U.S. Customs. The Criminal Investigation Division uses tax laws and financial investigations to prosecute high ranking members of criminal organizations including Al Capone in 1931, who was convicted of tax evasion (20).

The Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) Division of Enforcement assists law enforcement agencies in investigations of criminal activity on Wall Street. The Division's enforcement staff conducts investigations into possible violations of the federal securities laws and prosecutes civil suits in the federal courts. Criminal organizations have been involved in Securities Fraud, stock manipulation and racketeering. In the 1990's the SEC assisted the FBI in investigations on individuals associated with organized crime, which led to dozens of convictions including four indictments of racketeering in 1997 when crime families infiltrated a brokerage firm with the purpose of manipulating stock prices (21).

**Community Initiatives**

The Department of Justice's Safe Neighborhoods Program funds and oversees local programs in places like Syracuse, NY. The Syracuse program will provide $300,000 to fund "Syracuse Truce", the name of the program, which combines efforts of law enforcement officials and community organizations. Different strategies used include increased street patrols, enhanced enforcement, and community outreach programs for victims of gang related crime. Gun crimes committed by a gang member will result in more scrutiny of the entire gang. There will be forty street saturation patrols and parole visits to offenders in gang areas. Convictions for gang-related crimes will be featured on public billboards and bus signs. Neighborhood
organizations and clergy will also be encouraged to deliver a message of anti-violence to the community (17).

Another local initiative within the Department Of Justice's Safe Neighborhoods Program in the Arizona Corridor (the area around Arizona where violent smuggling is rampant) involves the Illegal Immigration Prevention and Apprehension Co-op Team (IMPACT Arizona), run under Arizona's Department of Public Safety's (DPS) Gang and Immigration Intelligence Team Enforcement Mission. This multi-agency project uses the Department of Public Safety, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the Phoenix Police Department (18). These agencies target smugglers and criminals who travel through Arizona committing various felonies including kidnapping, assault, and extortion. The main focus of this program is to target smugglers and criminals using the Arizona Corridor to travel to other parts of the United States and although racketeering isn't a main focus of these criminals, extortion is prevalent and this local initiative, in coordination with the Department Of Justice and other federal agencies and others like it, works with communities to limit crimes including extortion and racketeering (18).

Each of the FBI field offices contains a Community Relations Unit with a community outreach program. In New York, the program works with the community and the businesses within it, to educate the public and work with them to limit the effects that organized crime has on the community. Every year, the New York office holds a Citizens' Academy where different business and community leaders are brought together to learn about FBI operations and programs that take place around New York. In addition to educating the community on what the FBI is currently doing, the academy also opens new channels of cooperation between the community and the FBI. The FBI also participates in the annual National Night Out Against Crime. This event brings together citizens from all fifty states, Canadian cities, and
military bases from around the world. The night is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness while building support and participation in local anticrime programs (23).

**Combatting Witness Intimidation**

There are several types of witness intimidation used to discourage people from testifying against criminals or from coming forward to law enforcement officials. Overt intimidation involves a direct threat or action usually associated with a single case to discourage a witness. This may include a direct threat on a witnesses’ life from a relative or associate of a defendant or an instance where gang members slash the tires or break a window of a potential witness. Implicit intimidation exists when there is a real but unexpressed threat, usually from a history and reputation of gang violence in a community or neighborhood. This implicit intimidation may be community wide where even though criminal acts may be committed in plain view, people will not come forward out of fear or community ties to the criminals. Distrust in the criminal justice system also discourages some from coming forward or testifying in a criminal court case (29).

Efforts to combat intimidation include requesting high bail for defendants, prosecuting intimidators vigorously, managing witnesses, and enhancing witness security programs. In several localities including Philadelphia, the District Attorney Offices use legislation like Pennsylvania's felony intimidation statute to prosecute intimidators. In Washington D.C. the penalty for obstruction of justice was increased and the statute has been used to prosecute intimidators (29). The Federal Witness Security Program was created in 1970 and revised in 1984 under the Witness Security Reform Act to increase the jurisdiction of the program to cover more cases including cases involving federal organized crime and racketeering, federal drug trafficking, and
other federal felony cases where the witness gives information that may lead to retaliation by violence or threats of violence, along with similar state offenses and certain civil and administrative proceedings where the witness's testimony may lead to retaliation against him/her. The Department of Justice's Criminal Division's Office for Enforcement Operations oversees the Witness Security Program while the U.S. Marshals Service provides security for the witnesses (29). Once in the program, witnesses and their families receive new identities, authentic documents, and are moved to a safe location while receiving housing, health, and sometimes vocational training. When in danger, witnesses receive 24-hour protection (28).

Law enforcement agencies also work to decrease community-wide intimidation. They do this through several different efforts including community policing, community education, and increased cooperation between communities and law enforcement. Community policing often involves community prosecutors who work cases within a specific neighborhood, making themselves visible in the community. This allows prosecutors and police to build long lasting relationships with members of the community so they develop a greater trust in the criminal justice system. Community-based investigators and prosecutors are also more attuned to the needs of victims and witnesses and can work with them easier than outsiders. Other strategies include the establishment of storefront precincts in neighborhoods where gang-related crime is prevalent. If this is not a realistic option, mobile precincts may be deployed to these areas to increase police visibility and response capabilities (28).

Community empowerment also helps reduce intimidation. Prosecutors and police provide legal and clerical assistance to community groups already present in the community in order to bring down local gangs. Police also assist tenant groups in creating gate checks at public housing developments to keep out outside gangs and criminals. A police inspector in San Francisco helped organize an ad hoc
neighborhood support group that assisted witnesses and victims of criminal activity. These groups appeared in court to give support and combat intimidation (29). Positive public relations are critical in order to combat community-wide intimidation. Prosecutors and police seek out meetings and speaking engagements with Parent Teacher Association's, teachers' groups, community groups, high risk groups, and minority groups in order to raise the communities' awareness of the criminal justice process.

Some victim services programs distribute literature describing the prosecutor's programs regarding witnesses, rights of victims and witnesses, and support groups available to members of the community. These community outreach programs are vital for reducing community-wide intimidation. In areas with minority populations like Las Vegas' Asian neighborhood where Asian gangs have acted with impunity, government officials work to translate material and recruit law enforcement officers fluent in the languages of the community to improve community outreach in those areas. In Philadelphia, a victim services program hired a Vietnamese staff member to conduct outreach in the Vietnamese community there. The staff member visited schools and community centers and talked about emergency services and how to call 911 and speak to someone who knows Vietnamese. He also translated certain literature regarding victim programs into Vietnamese and distributed it throughout the community. These efforts led to an increase in crimes reported in the Vietnamese neighborhood as well as an increase of witnesses in gang-related crimes in the area (29).

Other efforts of law enforcement in the community include arrests and the prosecution of leading gang figures leading to significant jail time. The arrests and subsequent absence of criminal leaders is both a concrete and symbolic victory for law enforcement, which leads to more respect and a greater willingness to come
forward for members of the community. In Polk County, the arrest of an Asian gang leader on the Friday of Thanksgiving Day and his stay in jail for the entire weekend helped convince some in the Asian community that the specific gang involved in this instance was not as all-powerful as people had assumed. This in turn led to more witnesses coming forward and subsequent arrests in related cases (29). Another strategy emphasized in New York City by former chief of Manhattan District Attorney's Homicide Investigation Unit is arresting as many gang members as possible during investigation of a homicide case. This tends to reduce anger from the community resulting from a homicide while also bolstering the image of law enforcement. Arresting large amounts of suspects also increases the police's chance of producing cooperative witnesses from the pool of co-defendants, so that the prosecution does not have to rely on innocent neighborhood residents to testify (29).

**State-Level Witness Protection Programs**

A few states in the United States have their own witness protection programs for crimes not covered by the federal program. The California Witness Relocation and Assistance Program (CALWRAP) is the California state program that reimburses law enforcement and prosecution agencies for witness relocation and protection. From 2009 to 2010, CalWRAP provided funds for the relocation of 418 witnesses, most of them were involved in gang-related cases. In addition to the relocation program, several state laws exist to combat witness intimidation (42).

Dissuading a witness criminalizes intimidation and can be either a misdemeanor or a felony. The Three Strikes Law allows courts to hand out double sentences for second-time felony offenders of the witness dissuading statute. Third-time offenders will be sentenced 25 years-life in prison. The Criminal Street Gang
Enhancement allows courts to hand out harsher sentences for crimes committed for the benefit of a street gang (42).

ITALY

Legislation

The first Italian legislation targeting organized crime was the Rognoni-La Torre Law passed in 1982. Article 416 of the Italian Penal Code defines simple organized crime on the basis of three components: the associative bond, the organized structure, and the criminal program. The new law created the crime of mafia conspiracy, and distinguished mafia organizations and related crime from simple organized crime. A mafia type organization was defined as an organization that uses intimidation, subjection, and silence, to commit crimes directly or indirectly controlling the management of a business, public contracts, public services, or authorizations. The law gave the courts the ability to confiscate goods of mafia participants and their relatives or cohabitants who played a cover-up role for the mafia (31). This law made it illegal to be a member of a mafia organization and gave the government extensive powers of investigation (31).

Law Enforcement and Prosecution

In addition, several government agencies were created to increase the government's ability to combat organized crime. The Direzione Investigativa Antimafia (DIA) the Direzione Nazionale Antimafia (DNA), and the expanded definition of mafia crimes to include those that interfere with the ability to vote, all contributed to the government's increased efficiency in regards to combating organized crime. The DIA, which was established in 1991 within the Department of
Public Safety, is in charge of mafia investigations all over Italy. The DIA has a central service and a peripheral service with twelve centers around Italy. They work with local police and are headed by a director who is rotated from a group of managers of the State Police and General Officers of the Carabinieri and the Guardia di Finanza, who have specific experience in the field of organized crime (32). The DNA heads the prosecution effort and is armed with 20 trained mafia focused prosecutors who work with the DIA by sharing information and facilities. The DNA also works with the District Anti-Mafia Directorate (DDA), which is the governing body of the prosecution in the courts. The 26 DDA are coordinated by the DNA. The DNA brings together judges and district attorneys in order to resolve differences between different actors and consolidate data. (33). The DNA may also seek the assistance of the special operations group of the Carabinieri (ROS) police force, and the Guardia di Finanza, which serves as the law enforcement agency under the Ministry of Economy and Finance. The Guardia di Finanza deals with financial crime and smuggling.

The Government Extraordinary Commissioner coordinates the initiatives to protect victims of extortion racketeering in Italy. The commissioner is responsible for proposing new legislation concerning extortion racketeering. The commissioner chairs the Solidarity Committee, which is dedicated to providing assistance to extortion racketeering victims. Victims will be compensated for damaged real-estate, profits lost, and movable personal estate damaged. In 2008, the Solidarity Committee received 829 requests for compensation and approved 116, giving out 16,593,879 Euros (30).

**Community Initiatives**

Several anti-racketeering associations also exist to support victims of racketeering. The Federazione Antiracket Antiusura Italiana (FAI) is the federation
that brings Anti-racket associations of Italy together. The Anti-racket business tutor was a program started in 2007 with the aim of providing businesses with the best condition to invest and expand their economic activities. Addiopizzo is a civil organization started in 2004 to fight extortion. They spread stickers and banners with anti-racketeering phrases like, "A people who rebel against the mafia and refuse to pay the pizzo is a free people" (30). They also create publications listing shopkeepers and entrepreneurs who state that they wish to resist the racket. Addiopizzo also holds programs at schools to promote a "culture of legality". Recently, the Addiopizzo Travel initiative has promoted a racket-free tourism industry by promoting operators who do not pay extortion money by using the "extortion-free shopkeepers map", which has been translated into German (30).

CANADA

Legislation

In Canada, the Criminal Code (Section 467.1) defines organized crime as a crime committed by any group of at least three people that has as one of its main purposes or activities, the facilitation or commission of one or more serious offences where the primary motive is profit. The Organized Crime and Law Enforcement Act simplifies the definition of organized crime, making it an offence to "impede the administration of justice through intimidation". Amendments to the law make it a serious offence if you: keep a common gaming or betting house, conduct betting, pool-selling and bookmaking, commit offences in relation to lotteries and games of chance, cheating while playing a game or in betting, or keeping a common bawdy-house. In 2009, Anti-Gang legislation made murders connected to organized crime activity automatically first-degree. It also made the penalties heavier for drive-by and
other reckless shooting offences. It also created two new offences of aggravated assault against a peace public officer and assault with a weapon on a peace or public figure (41).

**Law Enforcement and Prosecution**

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) has moved its strategy to combat organized crime, moving from a focus on the commodity areas involved in crime, to targeting the criminal organizations. The RCMP's Organized Crime Branch consists of the Undercover Operations Units and Source Witness Protection Unit and Organized Crime Program Development Unit (34).

The Criminal Intelligence Service Canada (CISC) was established in 1970 based in Ottawa. The CISC is a leader in the development in approaches to combat organized crime in Canada. The CISC consists of around 400 law enforcement agencies. Its provincial bureaus operate independently at a provincial level, but the intelligence gathered by each bureau is instrumental in the creation of the national intelligence products delivered by the Central Bureau (39). The Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – British Columbia is an integrated joint forces operation that uses highly specialized officers from federal, provincial, and municipal agencies in order to combat organized crime. This approach encourages intelligence sharing, coordination, and strategic development against organized crime (35).

The National Coordinating Committee (NCC) on Organized Crime is charged with creating a link between law enforcement agencies and public policy makers to combat organized crime. The NCC creates a forum for issues raised by law enforcement officers to be brought to the attention of policy makers (36).

The Canadian Integrated Response to Organized Crime (CIROC) was created in 2007 as part of a joint initiative of the Organized Crime Committee of the Canadian
Association of Chiefs of Police and Criminal intelligence Service Canada. CIROC coordinates organized crime priorities and strengthens the links between intelligence and operations (39). The Integrated Proceeds of Crime (IPOC) is an inter-department initiative with the aim of dismantling organized crime groups. The RCMP is responsible for the daily operations of the IPOC units while federal organizations like the Canada Border Services Agency, Department of Justice, and Canada Revenue Agency participate in the initiative (37).

Integrated Border Enforcement Teams (IBET's) also work to fight organized crime by cutting off cross border routes of illegal goods and individuals. These teams work with Canadian and American agencies like the US Coast Guard, US Customs and Border Protection and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (38). Until 1995, witness protection programs were run by different police forces including the RCMP. Finally a bill established a national program in 1995. The RCMP's program costs over $3 million and protects around 80-100 witnesses at a time. Only half of these witnesses have testified in OC cases (48).

UNITED KINGDOM

Legislation

Several pieces of legislation have been enacted in the last several decades to improve the U.K.'s law enforcement's ability to combat organized crime. The Proceeds of Crime Act of 2002 established the Assets Recovery Agency to confiscate property obtained illegally. It also gave the police powers to seize cash that they believe was obtained through illegal activity. In addition, the act made it easier to convict defendants of money laundering by removing the requirement to prove what the crime was (44). The Serious Organized Crime and Police Act of 2005 established
the Serious Organized Crime Agency in the U.K. It also created provisions regarding parental compensation for crimes committed by children under the age of 10. In addition it restricted the right to demonstrate in the area close to Parliament Square, and made all offences punishable (43).

**Law Enforcement and Prosecution**

The National Crime Agency (NCA) is a new body of law enforcement officials that is set to be operational by the end of 2013. The NCA will focus on combatting organized crime, protecting the borders and fighting cybercrime and fraud. The NCA is being created in order to consolidate law enforcement efforts relating to organized crime, developing better relationships between police forces and national agencies. The NCA will also build on efforts of the Serious Organized Crime Agency (45). The Serious Organized Crime Agency (SOCA) was created in 2006 and has worked since then to eliminate organized crime in the U.K. SOCA officers use powers of police, customs, and immigration officers and have a wide range of tools including recent legislation to target serious criminals. SOCA works with international agencies like INTERPOL in addition to local law enforcement around the U.K. (46). The Crown Prosecution Service is the national prosecution service within the United Kingdom. The Organized Crime Division is a section of the Crown Prosecution Service that focuses on organized crime. They work with SOCA and other law enforcement agencies to compile cases against members of organized criminal enterprises (47). The Proceeds of Crime Unit is in charge with obtaining confiscation orders and carrying out the orders. It also carries out restraint orders to prevent criminals from hiding or destroying assets before they can be confiscated (47).


