

U.S. Marshals Catch Nearly 11,000 Fugitives in 24-State Operation

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Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Over 1,600 sex offenders were rounded up in what the government says is the largest number ever captured in a single law enforcement effort during a 24-state sweep that netted a total of nearly 11,000 fugitives, the Justice Department announced Thursday. Those nabbed also included gang members and others wanted on a variety of charges from kidnapping to weapons offenses, officials said.



Among the fugitives caught were 1,659 sex offenders — including 971 who failed to register with authorities as required by law. Dubbed Operation Falcon III an acronym for Federal and Local Cops Organized Nationally the sweep "has made our nation's neighborhoods and children safer by taking off the streets some of the worst sex offenders, violent felons and gang members," Attorney General Alberto Gonzales said.

Deputy US marshals teamed up with their state, local, and federal colleagues in the largest fugitive sweep to ever primarily focus on violent sex offenders. FALCON III resulted in the arrest of 10,773 fugitives and the clearance of 13,333 warrants. Of those fugitives arrested, 1,659 were wanted for sexual offenses, 971 for not registering as sex offenders. In addition, 364 documented gang members were arrested, 3,609 narcotics organized crime drug enforcement task force warrants were cleared, thousands of others sought on kidnapping, robbery, burglary, carjacking, and weapons charges and 232 firearms were seized.

Teamwork ensured success of this seven-day initiative. A total of 1,063 different agencies participated - 30 federal, 103 state, 430 county sheriffs / departments, 482 police departments, and 18 foreign agencies. Within the Marshals Service, 48 districts participated, including the Districts of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In all, each day more than 3,000 law enforcement officers worked together tirelessly during this record setting operation.

This third operation was centered on the eastern portion of the United States, with the Mississippi River serving as a rough line of demarcation. The operation opened at midnight on Oct. 22 and shut down at midnight Oct. 28. Approximately 3,000 federal and local officers were involved in the sweep, with many of the local officials having been temporarily deputized at U.S. Marshals.

The most recent dragnet was boosted by the 2006 Adam Walsh Act, approved by Congress last summer, which created stricter requirements for sex offenders to register with communities. Six-year-old Adam Walsh was abducted from a Florida shopping mall and murdered in 1981.

1. Approximately what percentage of the fugitives nabbed were sex offenders? What percentage of those offenders previously registered with authorities as required by law?
2. Of the fugitives apprehended via Operation Falcon III, what charges were least and most prevalent? Explain.
3. What are the measures of central tendency i.e. mean, median, mode, range, and if applicable, outlier, in different categories of fugitives arrested over the duration of FALCON III (sex offender, gangs, etc.)?
4. In the passage above, in paragraph form, explain at least five ways using the red "Four-Step Reading" poster simplifies understanding of the material. Be specific.
5. About how many fugitives were arrested weekly? Wednesday and Friday? Hourly? Per officer?
6. As a ratio in simplest form, decimal, and percent, what is the probability that of the law enforcement agencies involved, the arresting officer is *not* employed by the state police department? How would the answer differ if expressed in experimental and theoretical probability? Explain.
7. Geographically, what region of the nation was specifically targeted by FALCON III? This information coupled with the educational results in Volume 2, Edition 5, may lead an individual to what stereotypes about the area.
8. Using contextual clues only, explain the meaning of the words: dubbed, acronym, abducted, deputized, demarcation, fugitives, warrants, and narcotics.
9. In paragraph form, explain at least five legitimate and educational purposes behind The Daughtry Times.
10. What is it about The Daughtry Times that brings so much joy and happiness into children's lives? Explain.

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Operation FALCON III
10,773 Arrested in One Week

