

Bristol County District Attorney's Office
C. Samuel Sutter
District Attorney

Press Release

August 25, 2010

District Attorney Sam Sutter announced today that the former leader and founder of Fall River's Mafioso Street Gang, along with two of its high ranking members, were all indicted in connection to a previously unsolved 2005 Fall River double shooting case.

Michael Peralta, 28; Nigel Vaughn, 25; and Jared Robinson, 28, all formerly of Fall River, have been indicted by a Bristol County Grand Jury, and charged with two counts of armed assault with intent to murder, two counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, four counts of assault with a dangerous weapon and one count each of carrying an illegal firearm and illegal possession of ammunition.

On March 27, 2005, at approximately 2 a.m. Fall River Police were called to the scene of a shooting outside the former Regatta Night Club on Davol Street. Upon arrival, police located two gunshot victims, a 23-year-old male from Quincy and a 24-year-old male from Brockton. Both men were rushed to local hospitals and eventually recovered from their wounds.

Because the case is only at the arraignment stage, no further details regarding the lengthy investigation into this previously unsolved double shooting can be released at this time. More details regarding the investigation and subsequent indictments will be discussed during each defendant's respective arraignment in Superior Court next month.

Mr. Peralta, the alleged leader and founder of the Mafioso Street Gang, is currently serving a 15 year federal prison sentence after being convicted in 2007 of state and federal gun and drug charges.

Nigel Vaughn is currently serving an 18-20 year state prison sentence after being convicted in 2007 for the April, 2005 shooting of three people inside the former Larry's Sports Pub on Morgan Street in Fall River.

Mr. Peralta and Mr. Vaughn will be arraigned on this new indictment in Fall River Superior Court on September 10th. Mr. Robinson will be arraigned on September 23rd.

Major Violators Unit Chief, Assistant District Attorney Steven Gagne, will be prosecuting the cases on behalf of District Attorney Sutter's office. Mr. Gagne worked closely with Fall River Police Detective Lawrence Ferreira to bring this investigation to a close and obtain the indictments.

- ⇒ "This incident exemplifies the tenacity of the Fall River Police Department and the District Attorney's Office relative to gangs and gun violence. The Major Crimes Division, in particular Detective Lawrence Ferreira, never lost sight of the seriousness and significance of this shooting. Gun violence is not only an assault on the injured, but an assault on the entire community," **Fall River Police Chief Daniel Racine said.** "We are pleased to finally provide some measure of justice and closure to the two men that were shot and seriously wounded. I applaud and commend Detective Ferreira and Assistant District Attorney Steve Gagne for their determination, dedication and persistence."
- ⇒ "I agree wholeheartedly with Chief Racine about the tenacity that was displayed here by the Fall River Police Department and our office," **said District Attorney Sutter.** "I also agree with him wholeheartedly about the ramifying impact of gun violence. It starts with the damage---generally life changing---it does to the person who is shot. But it ramifies to damage the lives of the family of the victim, the lives of those living in the neighborhood where the shooting occurred and the flow of business and commerce in the community. That is why we have been so aggressive and resolute about this critical issue since I became District Attorney."