

Town of Barnstable Police Department

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PRESS RELEASE

Joint investigation leads to the arrest of 5, including a confirmed MS-13 gang member in Hyannis.

On Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2012, at 06:00 a.m., the Barnstable Police Department and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Enforcement & Removal Operations (ERO) conducted a warrant service at 46 Fresh Holes Rd in Hyannis. The warrant service was a result of a two week joint investigation with the Barnstable Police Department and officers with ICE ERO, conducting surveillance of possible MS-13 gang members in the Fresh Holes Rd area in Hyannis.

As a result of this investigation four individuals were taken into custody by ICE ERO.

A fifth subject, Martir Lemus, 28, from El Salvador, was taken into custody by the Barnstable Police Department on an arrest warrant from Somerville District Court for Assault and Battery by Means of a Dangerous Weapon. Lemus is a confirmed gang member of MS-13, a violent world wide gang that originated in Los Angeles.

According to a FBI website MS-13 are mostly Salvadoran nationals or first generation Salvadoran-Americans, but also Hondurans, Guatemalans, Mexicans, and other Central and South American immigrants. MS-13 perpetrates violence—from assaults to homicides, using firearms, machetes, or blunt objects—to intimidate rival gangs, law enforcement, and the general public.

Martir Lemus will be arraigned today, Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2012, at Barnstable District Court on the charges from Somerville Police Department. ICE ERO will also be placing a Detainer against Lemus.

By issuing a detainer, ICE ERO requests that a law enforcement agency notify ICE before releasing an alien and maintain custody of the subject for a period not to exceed 48 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, to allow ICE ERO to assume custody. Detainers are critical to ICE ERO achieving its mission to identify and remove criminal aliens.