

# **RICO** *for Criminal Investigators*

## **Investigative Strategy Training Seminar Overview**

This seminar will benefit anyone in law enforcement who has considered using RICO to address violent street gangs. Attendees will learn the law and principles of RICO as well as gain invaluable perspective to proven investigative strategy. From proving elements, to interviewing, to organizing case information, attendees will learn the full breadth of RICO and how to most effectively investigate RICO violations to assure success. The seminar is applicable to those looking to investigate violations of their state RICO statutes as well.

### **Who Should Attend:**

- Criminal Investigators
- Investigative Analysts
- Detectives
- Prosecutors

### **DATES:**

**October 9 - 11, 2024**

**From: 9 to 4 PM**

### **LOCATION:**

**ATF National CGI Center of  
Excellence**

**4610 East 18th Street, N.  
Wichita, KS 67208**

**Executive Meeting Room**

## **About Your Speaker: Michael Eberhardt**

Michael Eberhardt is a retired special agent of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, ATF. He spent over a decade working RICO cases and developed innovative investigative techniques and strategy that guarantees success. Michael has worked and applied this RICO strategy in cities across the country and has worked closely with investigators and prosecutors to assist in perfecting their RICO cases. Mr. Eberhardt has instructed in RICO and investigative strategy ranging from national conferences to complex investigations trainings for more than twenty years and continues to teach investigations and other related topics at Wichita State University.



## Description

The federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations, RICO, statute is a powerful law enforcement tool. No longer relegated to only highly organized criminal groups such as the Mafia, RICO is applicable to localized violent street gangs who terrorize communities and perpetuate "street wars" that claim the lives of thousands of people every year. Many of whom are innocent bystanders. Often these gangs violate RICO and related statutes, thereby, exposed to the serious penalties provided by RICO which is subject to group prosecution effectively dismantling the gang.

Investigating RICO violations requires expert-level understanding of the complex case laws that has established proof elements and defined RICO's terms. RICO is unique and the criminal investigator embarking on a RICO investigation must know its language, strengths, and limitations. This seminar is a comprehensive examination of RICO that will provide attendees the requisite understanding needed to effectively and efficiently perfect a RICO case for prosecution. As importantly, a proven-successful strategy for RICO investigation will be detailed that assures criminal convictions for charged RICO defendants.

## Objectives:

1. Describe the structure of the federal RICO and federal VCAR statutes and define their relevant terms.
2. Describe the essential proof elements for substantive RICO, RICO conspiracy, and VCAR violations.
3. Recognize the characteristics of RICO and VCAR violations by criminal street gangs.
4. Develop investigative strategy for application of RICO and VCAR to violent street gangs.
5. Apply strategic principles to investigate RICO and VCAR violations that assures criminal convictions.

## REGISTRATION FORM

### RICO and Investigative Strategy Training Seminar

ATF Center of Excellence, Executive Room || 10/09 - 10/11/2024 || 9 - 4pm CST

NAME: (Last)			(First)			(M.I.)					
TITLE/ RANK				AGENCY/ ORG:			BADGE #				
PHONE:						FAX					
EMAIL:						MAILING ADDRESS:					

This training event cost **\$50.00** - Make checks payable to Midwest Criminal Justice Institute (MCJI). Participants will be responsible for their own meals, travel, and lodging.

**Registration:** Please use link below to register, this is the preferred method of registration. If you cannot register electronically, please complete this form and either email, fax, or mail back your registration. Payment may be brought to training or paid through the [MCJI Registration Link](#).

**Lodging:** RICO Seminar Training group rate at the [WSU Hyatt Place Hotel Link](#).

**The deadline for booking a reservation with the guaranteed rate is September 27th, 2024.**

**Send completed application form to:**

**Midwest Criminal Justice Institute**

**1845 Fairmount**

**Attn: Kristin Brewer**

**Wichita, KS 67260-0301**

**Fax: (316) 978-3626**

**E-mail: [kristin.brewer@wichita.edu](mailto:kristin.brewer@wichita.edu)**



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**Questions regarding the application process should be directed to (316) 978-5897 or (316) 669-1140.**