

**Recording Industry Association of America  
Nationwide Anti-Piracy Enforcement Bulletin**

A Monthly Newsletter – Informing, Communicating, and Educating – November 2005



**The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA)** is the trade group that represents the U.S. recording industry. Its mission is to foster a business and legal climate that supports and promotes our members' creative and financial vitality. Its members are the record companies that comprise the most vibrant national music industry in the world. RIAA members create, manufacture and/or distribute approximately 90% of all legitimate sound recordings produced and sold in the United States.

The Anti-Piracy Department of the RIAA investigates the illegal production and distribution of sound recordings, which costs the music industry hundreds of millions of dollars a year domestically.

Consumers, retailers, and replicators can report suspected music piracy to the RIAA by calling a toll-free hotline, 1-800-BAD-BEAT, or sending e-mail to [badbeat@riaa.com](mailto:badbeat@riaa.com) or [cdreward@riaa.com](mailto:cdreward@riaa.com).

**REPORT MUSIC PIRACY**

When reporting incidents of music piracy, please include the following information whenever possible:

- The location with street address and/or name of business
- Day and time the illegal recordings are being sold
- The genre and the amount of illegal recordings available
- The price of each item

**WHAT IS SOUND RECORDING PIRACY?**

"Piracy" generally refers to the illegal duplication and distribution of sound recordings. There are four specific categories of music piracy:

**Counterfeit Recordings** are unauthorized recordings of the prerecorded sound as well as the unauthorized duplication of original artwork, label, trademark and packaging.

**Pirate Recordings** are the unauthorized duplication of only the sound of legitimate recordings, as opposed to all the packaging, i.e. the original art, label, title, sequencing, combination of titles etc. This includes mixed tapes and compilation CDs featuring one or more artists. They are sometimes referred to as DJ or dance mixes.

**Bootleg Recordings** (underground recordings) are the unauthorized recordings of live concerts, or musical broadcasts on radio or television. They are sometimes referred to as imports.

**Online Piracy** is the unauthorized reproduction, distribution and/or performance of a copyrighted sound recording in a

**PIRACY HURTS EVERYONE**

Many do not understand the significant negative impact of music piracy. Though it would appear piracy only affects record companies, this impression is a mere fallacy.

**Consumers** lose because the shortcut savings enjoyed by pirates drive up the costs of legitimate product for everyone. Plus, good luck returning a pirated tape or CD when the quality is inferior or the product is defective, as it often is.

**Retailers and distributors** lose sales to pirates because they can't compete with the low prices charged for the cheaply produced illegal copies. Pirates such as street vendors can take away as much as 40% of a legitimate retailer's sales, often forcing them out of business.

**Artists, musicians, songwriters** and other creative talent don't get the royalties and fees they've earned. The majority of artists depend on these fees to make a living. This can lessen the incentive to create music.

**Record companies** rely on income from the successful recordings to cover the costs of developing new artists and subsidize less profitable types of music. It is solely the profitable recordings that pirates copy.

**Governments** use the tax revenues generated from legitimate record sales to help pay for many public services such as education and health care.

For additional copies of the Enforcement Bulletin, or to add members to the mailing list, please contact Aj Jones at 202-775-0101 or [ajjones@riaa.com](mailto:ajjones@riaa.com)

## **Nationwide Enforcement Activity**

*This is a highlight of some of the enforcement activity conducted by various law enforcement agencies across the country. During the month of November, multiple enforcement agencies from twelve different states conducted enforcement action to help reduce music piracy committed across the country.*

### **Arkansas**

On November 2, 2005, a Little Rock defendant was sentenced in the U.S. District Court to seven months in Federal prison, seven months of community incarceration, three years probation and ordered to pay \$26,469 in restitution to the RIAA. This was the result of an August 2004 arrest and seizure of 4,000 counterfeit CD-Rs and eight CD-R burners.

On November 5, 2005, RIAA investigators obtained a voluntary surrender of 2,386 counterfeit CD-Rs and 509 piratical DVDs from a vendor at the annual University of Arkansas Pine Bluff Homecoming game. The vendor initially claimed to be from Tennessee but a subsequent interview revealed that he is from the Atlanta area. The originating source of his product is a group of Asian vendors distributing counterfeit CD-Rs out of New York. The CDs were purchased at the Smiley Flea Market in Macon, Georgia and brought to Arkansas for sale.

### **California**

During the month of November, law enforcement officials in the state of California assisted by RIAA, arrested and charged 56 offenders in connection with the seizure of 47,945 counterfeit and piratical CDs and CD-Rs.

### **Florida**

On November 12, 2005, RIAA investigators assisted members of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office in a joint enforcement operation at the

Wagon Wheel Flea Market in Pinellas Park. All three suspects at the scene were arrested with various charges and 6,659 piratical CD-Rs were seized.

On November 17, 2005, a Jacksonville man previously arrested with 4,000 piratical CD-Rs at the Norwood Flea Market in July of 2005, was sentenced to four years probation and ordered to pay \$11,500 in restitution to the RIAA.

### **Georgia**

During the month of November, the Atlanta office of the RIAA commenced with a training program for MARTA (Metro Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority). The program will run over a three week period. The goal of the program is to train all of the 1,400 sworn officers in the transit authority in time to coincide with the RIAA Holiday Blitz Program, which in part, will be aimed at the identification and interdiction of the rapid transit vendors who work the transit stops and even ride the train selling unauthorized product.

On November 9, 2005, based on intelligence developed by the Dekalb Police and confirmed with RIAA investigators, a search warrant was executed in Clarkson and two suspects were arrested. In total, 1,865 counterfeit CD-Rs and 449 counterfeit movie DVDs were seized.

On November 15, 2005, the Atlanta Police Department assisted by the RIAA executed a plain view seizure at a distribution location on Cascade Road and arrested two suspects located on the premises. A total of 4,425 counterfeit CD-Rs and 2,201 counterfeit movie DVDs were seized.

On November 17, 2005, the Atlanta Police Department made a covert purchase of illicit sound recordings at a suspected distribution location identified by members of the RIAA Anti-Piracy Unit. The buy/bust, which occurred on Campbellton Road, resulted in the seizure of 23 CD-R burners, 21,018 counterfeit CD-Rs, 7,835 counterfeit movie DVD, five commercial grade copiers and approximately 40,000 insert cards. Also seized as a result of this action were eight pounds of marijuana and one illegal handgun. Two suspects were arrested on the scene and transported to central booking for further processing.

On November 17, 2005, members of the Atlanta Police Department received reports that drug activity was taking place on Martin Luther King Boulevard. Officers responded to the scene and upon arrival they observed three individuals exit a black Ford Explorer and enter an unnamed store. The Officer approached the store to make contact with the individuals and observed in plain view, suspected counterfeit compact discs, DVDs and raw materials used to manufacture illegal compact discs. Members of the RIAA Anti-Piracy Unit were notified and responded to the scene to identify the suspected illicit material and assist in processing. Seized from the store were 18 CD-R burners, 1,076 counterfeit compact discs, 1,454 counterfeit DVDs, 656 CD-R cases, 10,000 counterfeit labels, 1,200 blank CD-R, 200 blank DVD-R, 440 trays. All of the offenders were arrested and charged.

### Illinois

On November 19, 2005, RIAA investigators conducted voluntary surrender agreements on several street vendors on the 2700 block of Cermak Avenue in Chicago. Seized from the vendors were 1,476 counterfeit and piratical CD-Rs.

On November 26, 2005, multiple voluntary surrender agreements were served in a Chicago area known for the sale of illegal CD-Rs.

Several street vendors surrendered a total of 1,112 counterfeit and piratical CD-Rs.

### Kentucky

On November 20, 2005, following a complaint regarding the Hazard Village Flea Market, RIAA investigators discovered a vendor selling counterfeit CD-Rs. The vendor was presented a voluntary surrender and 738 counterfeit CD-Rs and six DVDs were confiscated. An investigation is continuing as it is suspected that the suspect is burning the CD-Rs at his home.

### Michigan

On November 1, 2005, a Michigan CD/DVD manufacturer was arrested for a second time following a tip that lead police to a second store owned by the manufacturer in Kalamazoo. The suspect's trial was about to begin for his first arrest but was put on hold so law enforcement could conduct a search warrant on his 2nd business. US Customs and Immigration enforcement agents confiscated 4,480 counterfeit and piratical CD-Rs, 658 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs and 28 CD-R burners from the business. The suspect was first arrested in May of 2005 where US Customs agents confiscated 4,772 counterfeit CD-Rs, 4,899 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs and 29 CD-R burners.

On November 11, 2005, a Muskegon man was arrested during a traffic stop after police observed several illegal CDs and DVDs inside his vehicle. Muskegon police requested that RIAA investigators report to the station to verify the evidence. Accompanied by an MPAA representative, investigators reported to the Muskegon police station and confirmed the illegality of 1,180 counterfeit and piratical CD-Rs and 1,146 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs. The suspect was charged accordingly.

On October 18, 2005, a recidivist was arrested after Detroit police observed him with illegal CD-Rs. Officers confiscated 229 counterfeit

CD-Rs from the suspect and secured a search warrant for the suspect's home. Following his release, officers arrived at the suspect's home to serve the warrant and witnessed the suspect moving manufacturing equipment from his home to his vehicle. The warrant was served and the officers recovered 10 CD/DVD-R burners, 300 blank CD-Rs, 292 blank DVD-Rs and 41 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs.

On November 21, 2005, while investigating a report for breaking and entering at a retail store in Saginaw, police officers discovered illegal CDs and DVDs and other manufacturing material inside the store. The officers contacted local FBI agents who responded to the scene and observed what appeared to be thousands of counterfeit CD-Rs and DVD-Rs in the store. The suspect inside the store admitted to manufacturing, selling and distributing counterfeit music and movies and claims he did so on his own and was aware he was violating the law by doing so. The offender also stated that he has been at the location for over two years and sells the CDs for \$2.00 and the movie DVDs for \$2.50 at which point he was arrested and all of the materials were confiscated. The FBI contacted RIAA investigators and requested that they report to the Bay City FBI Office and confirm the counterfeit nature of the CD-Rs confiscated. Over a two-day period, RIAA investigators counted and confirmed the illegality of 9,480 counterfeit CD-Rs, 111 CD/DVD burners, 10,000 blank CD-Rs and DVD-Rs and 1,380 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs. RIAA investigators first received information regarding this business selling illegal CD-Rs through an anonymous tip and made an undercover buy at the location prior to informing police of the illegal activity.

### Mississippi

On November 8, 2005, a street vendor observed trying to sell counterfeit CDs was apprehended at the corner of MS Hwy16 and 39 in Dekalb. Police seized 484 counterfeit CD-Rs and 77

counterfeit movie DVDs. Subsequent to this seizure, another search was conducted at the suspect's motel room and three CD-R burners and 750 assorted music and movie labels were seized.

### Missouri

On November 15, 2005, a Kansas City man was sentenced to five years in prison without parole for the sale and distribution of piratical product in Kansas City. The conviction against the defendant was the result of a concerted long term investigation involving the RIAA, ICE and the Jackson County Narcotic Task Force. The sentence was an upward departure from the sentencing guidelines and he was also required to pay \$8,110 in restitution as the result of an arrest in May of 2004. Seized at the time of his arrest were 344 counterfeit CD-Rs and 73 counterfeit movie DVDs.

### New York

On November 22, 2005, multiple enforcement actions were taken on Broadway in New York City by the New York Police Department's Organized Crimes Investigations Division, with assistance by RIAA investigators. No suspects were arrested at the scene, however, 14,680 piratical CD-Rs, 4,420 counterfeit CD-Rs and 8,412 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs were seized.

On November 15, 2005, the New York State Police assisted by RIAA and MPAA investigators, executed a search warrant at a burner lab located in Rochester. As a result, 153 CD-R burners, 3,761 counterfeit CD-Rs, 3,761 piratical CD-Rs, 40,000 pieces of raw materials and \$16,000 in US currency were seized. Also seized from this location were five handguns, 6,260 counterfeit movie DVDs and the discovery of a human skull. The suspect at the location was placed under arrest and the charges have yet to be determined.

## North Carolina

On November 2, 2005 the Charlotte - Mecklenburg Police Department seized 1,038 piratical CD-Rs and 32 counterfeit movie DVDs from a retail cigar shop located in Charlotte. The owner of the store was charged in this matter. On November 5, 2005, RIAA investigators assisted the North Carolina Secretary of State's Office and the North Carolina Alcohol Law Enforcement Division with an enforcement operation at Smiley's Flea Market located in Henderson County. The market has been the subject of numerous complaints regarding the selling of unauthorized sound recordings. Seized during the raid were 7,832 counterfeit CD-Rs and six suspects were arrested.

## Texas

On November 20, 2005, the Austin Police Department, assisted by the RIAA, conducted plain view seizures from one distributor and eight vendors operating at the El Gran Mercado Flea Market. Seized from this enforcement action were a total of 19,974 piratical CD-Rs, 140 piratical music DVDs and 358 counterfeit movie DVDs. Charges will be filed at a later date for violation of the Texas True Name and Address Statute against the distributor and selected vendors. This incident was in response to complaints from local legitimate music retailers about the growing music piracy problem in Austin.

On the same date, members of the Dallas Police Department, assisted by RIAA and MPAA investigators seized 1,100 piratical CD-Rs and 1,500 counterfeit movie DVDs, and four CD-R burners from six vendors at the Kleberg Flea Market. Charges are pending for violation of the Texas True Name and Address Statute.

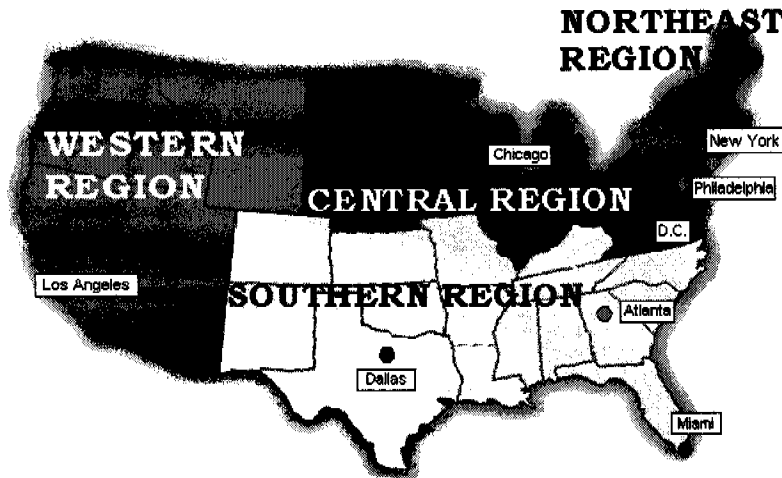
On November 21, 2005, two days after receiving anti-piracy training, patrol officers with the Mansfield Texas Police Department discovered links to a piracy operation during a traffic stop. Immediately thereafter, RIAA investigators

assisted the detectives with a search warrant at a burner lab operating out of a rural residence and offsite storage unit. Seized from the suspects residence were 5,300 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs, 577 counterfeit CD-Rs and 19 CD-R Burners. An investigation into the suspect's raw material supplier is underway and charges for violation of the state true name and address statute and possession of illegal weapons are expected.

November 29, 2005, RIAA and MPAA investigators assisted the Fort Worth Police Department with the execution of a search warrant on Normandy Road. Officers seized approximately 1,000 counterfeit movie DVDs, 300 piratical CD-Rs and twelve CD-R burners from the residence. Charges are pending against the suspect.

Also on this date, RIAA investigators assisted Fort Worth Police with execution of a search warrant at a retail location inside the Lancaster Bazaar. Officers seized 2,044 piratical and counterfeit CD-Rs from the owner/operator. The owner was not arrested but charges are pending for violation of the Texas True Name and Address Statute.

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## **Nationwide Enforcement Activity**

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### **Alabama**

On December 10, 2005, the Collinsville Police Department seized 1,849 counterfeit CD-Rs from two vendors at the Collinsville Flea Market. The two suspects were arrested and one voluntary surrender agreement was issued to a third vendor on the premises.

On December 14, 2005, RIAA investigators assisted ICE Agents and Officers with the Dale County Sheriffs Department in the execution of a federal search warrant at a retail store in Ozark. As a result of this warrant, 5,744 counterfeit and piratical CDs and 91 counterfeit movie DVDs were seized. Also seized were six CD-R Burners, one Casio printer / label maker, blank labels and approximately three hundred blank CDs. The owner of the store was present during the search warrant but was not arrested. It is anticipated that this investigation will be presented to a Federal Grand Jury in Montgomery and indictments will be forthcoming.

### **Arkansas**

On December 6, 2005, the Circuit Court of Jefferson County convicted and sentenced an Indianapolis, IN defendant to 12 months probation, a \$175 fine, \$150 in court costs, a \$50 Sheriff's fee and \$4,400 in restitution to the RIAA as the result of an arrest made in October 2004 for selling counterfeit CD-Rs at the University of Arkansas. A total of 1,300 CD-Rs were seized at the time of his arrest.

### **California**

On December 9, 2005, RIAA investigators participated in a joint task force with the Los Angeles Police Department's Foothill Vice Division. During the operation, one suspect was identified as selling pirated merchandise and arrested. In the course of the investigation, the Officers discovered that a residence belonging to a relative of the suspect was being used

in the manufacture of the counterfeit items. A warrant was issued and seized as evidence were eight CD-R Burners.

On December 17, 2005, RIAA investigators conducted several voluntary surrenders throughout Los Angeles resulting in the abandonment or seizure of 2,829 piratical CD-Rs, 2,828 piratical CDs and 5,279 counterfeit movie DVDs from sixteen vendors found to be participating in the sale of the illicit items. None of the vendors were arrested or charged with the illegal activity.

On December 22, 2005, RIAA investigators conducted several voluntary surrenders throughout Los Angeles resulting in the abandonment or seizure of 3,135 piratical CD-Rs / CDs and 4,267 counterfeit movie DVDs from thirteen vendors found to be participating in the sale of the illicit items. None of the vendors were arrested or charged with the illegal activity.

### **Connecticut**

On December 30, 2005, RIAA investigators assisted the Hamden Connecticut Police Department, in the execution of a search warrant at a retail store on Dixwell Avenue in Hamden resulting in one arrest and the seizure of 4,100 piratical CD-Rs, a Gateway 2000 Monitor, one Compaq computer tower, an Epson inkjet printer, one Epson scanner, one Compaq keyboard and numerous blank CD-Rs.

### **Georgia**

On December 2, 2005, the Atlanta Police raided the Headland Discount Mall Flea Market and arrested 18 suspects. Seized from the flea market were 73,109 counterfeit and piratical CD-Rs and 34,204 counterfeit movie DVDs.

On December 7, 2005, the Atlanta Police obtained a search warrant for a warehouse located on Sampler

Way in East Point in connection with the homicide of the owner who was under investigation at a second warehouse location on Metropolitan Parkway, also in Atlanta. Upon entering the location, the police discovered pirated music and movies and a large inventory of raw material and manufacturing equipment. It is believed that the deceased was a main supplier of raw material and burning equipment to locations manufacturing pirated music and movies. Seized from the warehouse were 433 Piratical CD-Rs, 1,400 piratical movie DVD-Rs, 3,000 blank CD-Rs, 1,200 blank DVD-Rs, 133 CD / DVD Burners, 13 Tower cases with power supply but no burners, 336,700 DVD cases, 155,600 CD trays, 31,600 CD cases, 60 VHS cases, 500 blank audiocassettes and 900 cassette cases.

On December 24, 2005, after a brief investigation, members of the Atlanta Police Department, assisted by the RIAA, executed a search and seizure warrant at a known distribution location investigated by RIAA investigators on Sylvan Road. During the operation a total of 14,935 counterfeit CD-Rs and 2,430 counterfeit music DVDs were seized. The owner of the location was arrested on the scene and transported to central booking for further processing. This case is still under investigation.

### Illinois

On December 2, 2005, RIAA and MPAA investigators accompanied the 11th District police with an execution of a search warrant on a retail business located in Chicago. A total of 1,893 counterfeit and piratical CD-Rs, 1,694 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs, 11 CD/DVD burners, 350 blank CD-Rs and 500 blank DVD-Rs were recovered. Two individuals were arrested and charged with felonies.

On December 12, 2005, an Evanston manufacturer / distributor was arrested after local police observed several illegal CD-Rs and DVD-Rs inside his home. Officers were originally at the home responding to a domestic violence call. Once inside the home police observed the illegal CDs/DVDs and other duplicating equipment. Recovered from the home were five CD-R Burners, 3,402 counterfeit CD-Rs, and 2,379 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs. Felony charges were approved.

On December 13, 2005, a victim of an armed robbery was arrested after Indianapolis Police Department detectives investigating the robbery found a large

illegal music piracy lab operation from the rear of the victim's business. Detectives contacted RIAA investigators and a search warrant was obtained at which point the police assisted by the RIAA confiscated 1,100 counterfeit CD-Rs, four CD-R Burners, two computers and \$1,800 in cash.

On December 17, 2005, RIAA and MPAA investigators, assisted by the Chicago Police Financial Crimes Unit, Fugitive Unit, the 9th District Task Team and the US Postal Inspection Service, conducted undercover purchases and arrests on several different booths inside the Swap O Rama Flea Market in Chicago. 9 individuals were arrested and a total of 14,438 counterfeit and piratical CD-Rs and 1,754 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs were seized. All vendors were charged with felonies.

### Maryland

On December 9, 2005, RIAA investigators assisted Baltimore City Police (Southeastern District) with a plain view seizure at a local business. The day before the seizure, a plainclothes officer observed a man with tables set up inside the business selling illegal CDs and DVDs. The officer contacted RIAA investigators to assist with the seizure and a total of 2,068 counterfeit and piratical CD-Rs and 271 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs were seized. The suspect was arrested and charged accordingly.

### Michigan

On December 6, 2005, while investigating a breaking and entering report at a retail store in Saginaw officers of the Saginaw Police Department discovered illegal CDs and DVDs and other manufacturing material inside the store. Officers then contacted local FBI agents who observed what appeared to be thousands of counterfeit CD-Rs and DVD-Rs in the store. The suspect inside the store admitted to manufacturing, selling and distributing counterfeit music and movies and agreed to a search of the store and claims he operated on his own with the awareness that he was violating the law by doing so. The suspect further stated that he has been at the location for over 2.5 years and sells the CDs for \$2.00 and the movie DVDs for \$2.50 at which point the offender was arrested and all material was confiscated. RIAA investigators were requested to report to the Bay City FBI office and confirm the counterfeit nature of the CD-Rs confiscated and also

with an MPAA representative, proceeded to confirm the illegality of 9,480 counterfeit CD-Rs, 111 CD / DVD Burners and 10,000 blank CD-Rs and DVD-Rs as well as 1,380 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs.

On December 6, 2005, a Michigan man was convicted and ordered to pay \$1,500 in restitution to the RIAA and \$1,000 restitution to the MPAA following an arrest made in September of 2005 after the Detroit Police observed him selling illegal CD-Rs. Officers confiscated 374 counterfeit CD-Rs and 195 movie DVD-Rs at the time of his arrest.

On December 8, 2005, a Michigan man was sentenced to 24 months probation and ordered to pay \$1,500 in restitution to the RIAA and \$1,200.00 to the MPAA following an arrest made by the Detroit police in October of 2005. Confiscated at the time of the suspects arrest were 106 counterfeit CD-Rs and 582 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs.

On December 19, 2005, a Detroit defendant was sentenced to 36 months probation and ordered to pay \$1,500 in restitution to the RIAA and \$1,691 in restitution to the MPAA. The defendant was arrested by police in October of 2005 during a traffic stop that revealed 196 counterfeit CD-Rs and 89 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs.

### New York

On December 6, 2005, RIAA investigators assisted the Brooklyn District Attorneys Squad in the execution of a search warrant of a distributor in the basement of phone card store, located on Fulton Street in Brooklyn. This warrant resulted in two arrests and the seizure of 22,800 counterfeit and piratical CD-Rs.

On December 8, 2005, members of the New York City Police Department, United States Secret Service, along with Investigators from the MPAA and RIAA served four search warrants on Broadway in New York City. In total, nine suspects were arrested and 46,400 counterfeit / piratical CD-Rs, 68,740 counterfeit movie DVD-Rs, 1,470 counterfeit hand bags, 42 counterfeit Rolex watches and \$2,125 in cash were seized.

### North Carolina

On December 3, 2005, the Richmond County Sheriff's Office working with RIAA Investigators raided the Rockingham Flea Market located in Richmond County. A total of four vendors were arrested and 3,849 counterfeit CD-Rs were seized.

On December 6, 2005, the RIAA conducted training for 65 officers at the Charlotte Motor Speedway in North Carolina.

On December 10, 2005, a sweep was conducted of the Lumberton Flea Market located in eastern North Carolina. RIAA Investigators assisted the North Carolina Secretary of State's Office in the arrest of five suspects and the seizure of 2,158 counterfeit CD-Rs regarding the raid.

On December 11, 2005 RIAA Investigators and Agents with the NC Secretary of State's Office began enforcement efforts at the Vintage Village Flea Market in Yadkinville. A total of seven vendors were arrested with a total seizure of 4,016 illicit articles seized.

### South Carolina

On December 3, 2005, RIAA Investigators conducted a sweep of the White Horse Flea Market in Greenville. Greenville County Authorities were alerted to the activity and one suspect was arrested. Seized from the flea market were a total of 3,305 counterfeit and piratical CD-Rs.

### Texas

On December 14, 2005, RIAA Investigators assisted ICE Agents and Officers with the Dale County Sheriffs Department in the execution of a federal search warrant at a retail store. As a result of this warrant, 5,744 counterfeit CDs and 91 counterfeit movie DVDs were seized. Also seized were two CD-R burners, one (six tower) CD-R Burner, a Casio printer/label maker, blank labels and approximately three hundred blank CDs. The owner of was present during the warrant but was not arrested. It is anticipated that this investigation will be presented to a Federal Grand Jury in Montgomery and indictments will be forthcoming.

On December 15, 2005, members of the Dallas Police Department, assisted by the RIAA and MPAA, conducted a buy / bust at a booth in the Plaza Now bazaar on East Ledbetter. A clerk at the booth was arrested and 1,389 pirate CD-Rs and 1,000 counterfeit movie DVDs were seized. True Name and Address charges will be filed against the suspect at a later date.

On December 20, 2004, members of the East Point Police Department executed a search and seizure warrant on Headland Road after receiving information from RIAA investigators that the owners of the location were engaged in the sale of counterfeit compact discs and movies. Arrested on scene were two individuals who were transported to central booking for further processing. Recovered in the action were 8,517 counterfeit CD-Rs and 5,642 counterfeit movie DVDs.

On December 23, 2005, members of the Austin Police Department seized 3,636 piratical CD-Rs from a vendor on the sidewalk beside the El Grande Mercado in Austin. The vendor was a juvenile and was not arrested at the scene.

During the month of December, the RIAA conducted piracy training initiatives for 206 various members of law enforcement throughout the state. The courses are designed to create awareness of the nature of physical piracy, deterrents and cover areas specifically concerning investigations, patrol and prosecution.

**INTERESTING STATS CONCERNING  
COMMERCIAL MUSIC PIRACY IFPI REPORT  
2005: KEY FIGURES**

Music disc piracy rose 2% to 1.2 billion discs in 2004, the lowest level of growth in five years but nearly twice the number of pirated discs in 2000

Anti-piracy enforcement efforts helped in the de-commissioning of 87 CD production lines (up from 68 in 2003) and the seizure of 28,350 CD burners, double the level of 2003

Sales of all pirate recordings fell slightly to 1.5 billion units, as cassette piracy fell by 28% to 390 million units in 2004

Pirate sales outnumber legitimate sales in 31 countries

Pirate operations are getting smaller but more numerous as disc piracy shifts increasingly to smaller-scale high-speed CD-R burning labs.

## RIAA ANTI-PIRACY CONTACTS



### **Northeast Region**

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### **Central Region**

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### **Western Region**

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