



South Bay Model United Nations 2024



Atlantic City Crime Conference

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<https://www.southbaymun.com/committees/atlantic>

Co-Chairs: Sebastien Freitag and Ganesh Batchu
Crisis Staff: Anthony MacDonald and Pranav Gupta

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Welcome Message

Co-Chair: Ganesh Batchu

Hi delegates! I'm Ganesh Batchu, a junior at Monta Vista High School, and I'm your chair for the Atlantic City Crime Conference! I've been doing MUN since middle school, but this is my second time chairing a committee! Apart from MUN, some other things I enjoy are engineering for clubs like Science Olympiad, volunteering, and playing sports with my friends (some of my favorites include football, basketball, and tennis). However, I'm sure you're wondering why we've chosen this topic for SBMUN VII, and for me, it's honestly just nostalgia. As a child, my parents always loved the classics, and often tried to share their love for classics to my brother and I. From the Goodfellas to Heat, I've always loved portrayals of crime in the media, including how riveting storylines get, and how engrossing the setting can be. I hope that through this committee, I can share that sense of immersion with all of you, and hopefully craft the most memorable experiences you'll have in your time at Model UN! I can't wait to start the committee, and wish to see you all there!

Co-Chair: Sebastien Freitag

Hello delegates! My name is Sebastien Freitag and I'm your other co-chair for the Atlantic City Crime Conference. I'm a junior at Homestead High School. I've been doing MUN since my freshman year, but this is my first time as a chair. I'm really looking forward to this conference since the world of organized crime is a topic that makes a juicy debate! Outside of MUN, I do martial arts and drive for the robotics team. In my free time, I hang out with my friends and watch football with my family. I'm excited to see you all this April at SBMUN!

Crisis Staff: Pranav Gupta

Hey delegates! My name is Pranav Gupta, and I'll be the crisis staff for the Atlantic City Crime Conference this year here at SBMUN. I am a sophomore at Monta Vista High School. I am part of Monta Vista's MUN club, and this is my third year of doing Model UN as a delegate. This is my first year as a crisis staff. I have always been pretty interested in debate and MUN gave me a way to express that. Other than Model UN, I like bouldering, playing soccer, and meeting new people. If you have any questions about the Atlantic City Crime Conference, feel free to let me know. I look forward to seeing all of you at this year's conference!

Crisis Staff: Anthony MacDonald

Hi delegates! I'm Anthony MacDonald, and I'll be the other crisis staff for the Atlantic City Crime Conference. I'm a junior at Homestead High School and have been doing MUN for all 3 of my High School Years. You may remember me as a chair for DISEC from last year, but this will be my first year as a Crisis Staff. Other than participating in MUN, I spend lots of time volunteering at philanthropies, my

Catholic Church, and meeting new people. I hope to get to know all of you and your characters during this conference.

Position Papers

You will not be eligible for any award if you do not submit a position statement.

In order to show your research into your topics, we request that each delegate submit a 2–5 page, typed, and double-spaced position paper, to be emailed as a PDF to crimeconference.sbmunviii@gmail.com by **March 31 at 11:59** for research awards, or by **April 5 at 11:59** for any committee award. Google Drive links will not be accepted. In this research paper, we request that you write three sections: one on an overview of your topic, one on your country or individual's policies as extrapolated from the sources you evaluate, and one on the solution(s) you propose in your topic. We would also like for you to cite your sources in this paper to show that you have performed research.

For the crisis committees, you will be expected to put forward a plan for the success of the organization in your solutions section.

The heading should look like this (please do not include your name OR your school name in the heading!):

Country Name Committee Name SBMUN VIII
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If you have any specific questions about position papers, please feel free to email crimeconference.sbmunviii@gmail.com!

Committee Functions

In Crisis Committees, we feel that setting guidelines before the conference allows for a seamless committee to proceed, so we ask for you to read this section to understand how SBMUN's crisis will work.

For starters, we've decided on emulating National Model United Nation's NAIMUN Crisis Procedure, which can be viewed here: <https://naimun.modelun.org/crisis-procedures>. We'll be using this as the core of our committee functions, so this is extremely important to read and understand before the committee starts.

For crisis notes, we've decided to manage the committee through our email - crimeconference.sbmunviii@gmail.com. When writing a private directive, please start an email chain

with the subject line containing “[Crisis-Notes]” and your character name. This will filter the email in a certain inbox for our crisis staff to view.

For joint crisis directives, please write an individual email for every directive containing a pdf to your directive, and send it to our email, with the subject line containing “[Joint-Directive]” along with the speakers you are sending to read out the directive.

These forms of communication matter a lot, so we ask for proper grammar, detailed instructions, and, frankly, common sense when making these directives. The more factual and information driven your directives are, the higher likelihood we will have to answer and accept your directives more often.

Here are the characters that we’ll be having in committee:

Chicago Outfit:

1. **Alphonse Capone:** Also known as Al Capone or “Scarface”, he was a notorious gangster and crime boss during the Prohibition era who was known for his control over the Chicago Outfit. Not only was he the most powerful criminal in Chicago, he was also considered to be the most powerful man in Chicago, controlling even pockets of the police force.
2. **Frank Nitti:** Al Capone’s lieutenant, overseeing various criminal activities such as bootlegging, racketeering, and illegal gambling. He led the Outfit to control certain labor unions and, in turn, the extortion of businesses. With several hostile encounters with political officials, Nitti lived life on the edge, and survived 3 shots to the back and neck, after an encounter with Harry Lang.
3. **Silvestro Carollo:** A high ranking member of the New Orleans Black Hand. After the retirement of Charles Mantranga, he became street boss of the gang, taking over Mantranga’s minor bootlegging operations. He gained political power as his prestige in the Black Hand grew, and conspired with the likes of the Luciano Crime family and Senator Huey Long to bring illegal slot machines into New Orleans.
4. **Jake Guzik:** Al Capone’s advisor, financial manager, and strategist, Jake “Greasy Thumb” Guzik’s expertise in finance and intricate knowledge of legal and illegal business dealings led him to become essential to Capone’s empire. He was most well known for his labor union manipulation, which led the Outfit to extort several businesses.
5. **Johnny “The Fox” Torrio:** The mentor and guide to Al Capone, “The Fox” was the head of the Chicago Outfit after the death of his mentor, “Big Jim” Colosimo. He preferred negotiation over brawls, and built a city-wide cartel between Chicago’s bootlegging gangs.
6. **Frank Erickson:** An American mobster and bookmaking mogul, he was known for his close ties with Arnold Rothstein, a businessman, gambler, and racketeer. In addition, many of his bookmaking empire’s profits went to charities.

New York Mafia:

1. Genovese Family

- a. **Lucky Luciano:** One of the most influential figures, he played a pivotal role in reorganizing and modernizing the American Mafia. In 1930, he established the “Commission” which attempted to establish a governing body each of the mafia families could use to resolve disputes.
 - b. **Meyer Lansky/Maier Suchowljansky:** He worked with Lucky Luciano in developing the National Crime Syndicate. Lansky developed a gambling empire that circled the world, which included percentages in Las Vegas, Cuba, the Bahamas, and London.
 - c. **Frank Costello:** Known not only for taking over the Luciano family after Lucky’s death, he was also renowned for his diplomatic skills, Costello was known as the “Prime Minister of the Underworld” where he would resolve disputes amongst families, and maintained peaceful relationships between them.
 - d. **Abner Zwillman:** An acquaintance of Meyer Lansky, Zwillman was known for labor racketeering in the trucking industry, and the control over other influential labor unions, which enabled him to exert control over transportation and distribution networks.
 - e. **Arthur Simon Flegenheimer/Dutch Schultz:** Known for his ruthless tactics and violent approach with dealing with rivals, Schultz controlled lucrative rackets and influenced some illegal lotteries. Due to his flamboyant and unpredictable character, he earned a reputation for his erratic and flashy lifestyle.
2. Bonanno Family
 - a. **Joseph Charles Bonanno:** He became the boss of the Bonanno Crime Family and led its engagement in racketeering, labor union control, and illegal gambling. He was also known for his diplomatic skills and strategic thinking. He also played a part in the formation of the Commission.
 3. Gambino Family
 - a. **Albert Anastasia:** Infamous for his fearlessness and brutality, earning him the nickname “The Mad Hatter.” As a top enforcer and later a leader within the New York Mafia, his reputation for violence and strategic ruthlessness made him a formidable figure in the criminal underworld.

Philadelphia:

1. **Owney Madden:** known for his savvy business sense and ability to navigate the criminal and political landscapes of Manhattan and Philadelphia. His charm and intelligence, coupled with a violent streak, made him a respected and feared leader in organized crime.

Detroit:

1. **Joseph Anthony Doto:** Renowned for his good looks and charm, which masked his cunning criminal mind. As a key figure in the Detroit underworld, he wielded considerable power and influence, with a knack for making strategic alliances.

Atlantic City:

1. **Enoch "Nucky" Johnson:** Combined political acumen with a criminal mind, effectively running Atlantic City. His charismatic personality and ability to manage both politicians and gangsters alike made him an indispensable figure in the criminal world of the era.
2. **Moses Annenberg:** A shrewd businessman with a keen interest in expanding his criminal enterprise. His involvement in racketeering and gambling showcased his ability to capitalize on the underground economy, making him a significant figure in the criminal landscape.

Independent:

1. **Max "Boo Boo" Hoff:** Known for his entrepreneurial spirit, he was one of the most successful bootleggers in the northeast. His ability to navigate the criminal underworld with a mix of charm and business acumen made him a key player in the era's criminal activities.
2. **Charles Solomon:** A major figure in Boston's underworld, known for his ruthless approach to business. His control over gambling and bootlegging in Boston showcased his ability to maintain power and influence in a competitive criminal environment.
2. **Jacob Shapiro:** Known for his imposing presence and no-nonsense attitude, was a key player in the New York criminal scene. His partnership with Louis "Lepke" Buchalter in controlling the garment industry underscored his strategic thinking and ability to dominate in the criminal world.
3. **Benjamin Siegel:** Charismatic and ambitious with a vision that extended far beyond the criminal activities of his time. His involvement in developing Las Vegas later in his career showcased his foresight and ability to see and seize new opportunities in the evolving landscape of organized crime.

Topic Overview



In American History, the economic gains and social freedoms of the “roaring 20s” are contrasted by the restrictions brought by Prohibition, the era in which alcoholic beverages were banned nationwide. Though the policy was meant to solve problems such as alcoholism and family violence, it instead gave great power and wealth to organized crime bosses. Before Prohibition, criminal gangs were mostly city-based performing small crimes in neighborhoods dominated by ethnic minorities. However, Prohibition provided the opportunity for criminals to expand their empires off the lucrative business of bootlegging: illegally producing, transporting, and selling alcohol.

Throughout the 20s, the business potential of bootlegging expanded rapidly, as did the pockets of crime bosses across the nation as they expanded their operations from their native city through interstate lines and in some cases, across international borders. Violence also took a drastic uptick because of the steep competition and the homicidal nature of the criminals involved. In particular, cities became hotspots for this conflict since multiple gangs could be present. Though they often adopted a “live and let live” attitude towards each other and their respective turf, not all of the fighting could be avoided. Many people-gangsters and civilians alike-lost their lives due to violence caused by Prohibition policies.

Chicago stands out from other cities as being the most notorious for its brutality. Though the city was home to several crime bosses, it gained its reputation when a gangster named Al Capone gained power as he took over from his former boss in 1925. After his ascent to criminal leadership, Capone made many efforts to increase his control over Chicago, but it ended up escalating into a turf war in which

homicides and gang-related violations spiked. Continuous violence already had a greatly negative effect on the activities of organized crime, but the straw that broke the camel's back came on February 14, 1929: The St. Valentine's Day Massacre.

One of Capone's primary methods during this period of expansion for his gang was to murder prominent gangsters of his rivals to undermine their influence. On St. Valentine's Day, men dressed as police officers entered the garage at 2122 North Clark Street, a place where one of Capone's enemies, George "Bugs" Moran, ran his bootlegging operation. The men apprehended seven gangsters involved with the operation, lined them up with their face to the wall, and gunned them down. As police arrived, they found 70 rounds of ammunition fired and only one gangster who was barely alive, although he wouldn't talk in the moments before his death. Moran blamed Capone for the incident, but Capone was in Florida and the case has remained unsolved. Still, the brutality of the massacre further exposed the horrors of gang warfare to a national audience and made Capone "Public Enemy No. 1" as dubbed by the newspaper. It also showed gangsters around the country that the savagery between different gangs had to stop to maintain the business that had made them their fortunes in the first place.

In May 1929, powerful gangsters around the US met at Atlantic City, New Jersey, for the first crime conference. The location was chosen by Meyer Lansky since the resort town was a good place to host both the conference and his honeymoon. The accommodations were provided by Enoch "Nucky" Johnson, a gangster who also had considerable influence in the Atlantic City government. Here, at the President Hotel, the fate of organized crime will be decided as the criminal underworld, stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, was to be united in one building at last.



Key Issues

1. Identifying the best methods to relieve tensions between Al Capone's and Bugs Moran.
2. Disputes between who controls crime over certain areas.
3. Determining how to maximize profits and ensure efficiency.
4. Cooperation between different crime syndicates.
5. Connecting drug and alcohol production to international extents.
6. Continuation of crime under law enforcement.

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