

## **United Blood Nation (East Coast)**

**Also known as:** Bloods, East Coast Bloods

**History:** The United Blood Nation (UBN) gang was founded by two African-American males (Omar Portee and Leonard Mackenzie) while inmates at Rikers Island Prison, New York in 1993. The gang was initially formed to protect African-American inmates from the threat posed by Netas and Latin Kings gangs who dominated the prison.

**Membership:** The UBN has a predominant membership consisting of African-American males with some sets composed of Asian, Hispanic and Caucasian males. Female members are allowed in the gang but their status differs from set to set. Since 1993, UBN membership has increased significantly. According to NAGIA's 2005 National Gang Threat Assessment, UBN membership is estimated at 5,000 in New York City and 7,000 nationwide.

**Location:** According to NDIC reporting, the UBN is heavily concentrated throughout New York City and their presence has expanded to other locations along the East Coast, Mid Atlantic, and Southeast regions.

**Criminal Activity:** UBN's principal source of revenue is largely derived from the sale and distribution of illicit drugs. UBN's criminal activities also include robbery, auto theft, homicide, intimidation, extortion, identity theft, credit card fraud, weapons distribution, arson, carjacking and prostitution.

**Gang Identifiers:** Blood graffiti may contain words with the letter "C" crossed out or the letters CK (Crip Killer) as a showing of disrespect to the Crips. Blood identifiers may also include the word "DAMU" (Swahili for Blood). Individual Blood sets may be represented through graffiti. As it pertains to graffiti, words may be unintentionally misspelled. According to the Federal Gang Task Force in Long Island, New York, East Coast Blood identifiers may include graffiti such as "031" (I have love for you Blood). The letter "S" may be crossed out because it represents Slobs (an offensive expression for Bloods). Tattoos may include the acronym M.O.B. (Member of Blood / Money Over Bitches), a dog paw mark (represented by three dots), a bulldog, and/or the letter B (Blood).