LP FIELD INTELLIGENCE

WEEKLY FIELD BRIEF

ISSUE 03 / OCT 05, 2026

ORGANIZED RETAIL CRIME / CASE LINKAGE

An alleged four-state series, not eleven isolated reports

A Georgia indictment provides a concrete case-linkage lesson; its claims remain allegations.

11	4	10
PEOPLE INDICTED	STATES NAMED	STORES NAMED



Illustrative shelves, not the Georgia case. Alexander Zbitnev / Commons, CC BY 4.0; scaled.

What changed. Georgia's attorney general announced Sept. 18 that a Chatham County grand jury indicted 11 people in an alleged organized-retail-theft scheme spanning ten stores in Georgia, Florida, South Carolina and Virginia. Prosecutors estimate more than $200,000 in losses. An indictment is not proof of guilt.

Why it matters. The announcement credits retailer asset-protection teams among investigative partners. Lawfully linked store reports can help test a wider pattern; resemblance alone does not establish one.

ON THE FLOOR

Record precise times, item identifiers and values, transaction and report numbers, and direct observations. Preserve native evidence; route possible links to investigators with authority to compare them.

Uncertainty. Public case files and an independent audit of the loss estimate were not available.

SOURCE DESK / SEP 18 ANNOUNCEMENT

Georgia attorney general | Indictment/release index

SCAN FOR THE LIVE BRIEF

Informational industry briefing only. Not legal advice or employer policy.

BEYOND THE STORE / MULTIAGENCY WORK

The limits and value of a national retail-crime operation



Illustrative 2018 retail response in Florida; not the 2026 operation. PCHS-NJROTC / Commons, CC BY-SA 4.0.

What changed. The National Retail Federation reported Sept. 17 on an Aug. 1–9 operation involving 84 law-enforcement agencies, 32 states and more than 40 brands. Organizers reported more than 1,900 apprehensions and arrests; these are not prevalence or conviction figures.

Why it matters. A retail incident may connect to a wider investigation, but broad totals cannot link a specific person or event. Organizers describe a trafficking victim receiving medical care after an apprehension; officers should not diagnose trafficking from a theft event.

ON THE FLOOR

Document observed conduct and immediate safety concerns. Follow established response and referral channels; confirm authority before sharing personal or case information.

SOURCE DESK / AUG 1–9 OPERATION / SEP 17 REPORT

NRF organizer report | California Highway Patrol ORC releases. National totals and the individual account are attributed to organizers.

KC METRO & MISSOURI WATCH

No new local law is claimed this week

This issue carries no newly verified Missouri or Kansas retail-crime statute or Kansas City policy change. The regional baseline in Issue 01 is background, not a new enactment. The National District Attorneys Association lists an Oct. 20–21 retail-crime conference on prosecutor/retailer collaboration; a conference program is not law or operational authority.

On the floor. For cross-border incidents, keep location, time, report number and custodian of each source clear. Use approved channels for any multi-jurisdiction referral.

SOURCE DESK / OCT 20–21 UPCOMING EVENT

NDAA conference program | Issue 01 regional baseline

Informational industry briefing only. Not legal advice or employer policy.

TECHNOLOGY & EVIDENCE

More data does not equal a better case file



Illustrative retail CCTV; not a surveyed site. Raysonho / Commons, CC0; scaled.

A vendor-sponsored retail-security survey published Aug. 18 reports respondents prioritizing existing-system use (54%), AI capabilities (51%) and evaluation of new systems (48%). These are survey responses, not proof of product effectiveness or universal trends.

Why it matters. A useful alert needs a traceable source. Record what a system captured, what an operator added, what a model inferred and whether a human verified a match. Retain originals under approved rules.

ON THE FLOOR

Label machine-generated associations as leads. Test them against transaction and video records; preserve original exports and an audit trail of annotations and handoffs.

SOURCE DESK / AUG 18 VENDOR SURVEY

Genetec release and methodology

TOOLS OF THE TRADE / FIELD CHECK

A usable incident-linkage worksheet

The tool this week is a simple, approved comparison log—not a new software purchase. Give each incident its own row: case number; store and jurisdiction; event time and time-zone or clock offset; observed item and transaction identifiers; evidence filename and custodian; and the reason a possible link was proposed.

Test it. Pick two already authorized reports. Can another investigator find the original sources and tell which similarities were observed versus inferred? If not, repair the record before escalating a pattern. Do not copy restricted evidence into an unapproved spreadsheet or shared account.

Limit. This is editorial workflow guidance, not a product review, forensic standard or employer policy. NIST and SWGDE guidance supports careful preservation of video and associated data; local rules govern access and retention.

SOURCE DESK / STANDING GUIDANCE / CHECKED OCT 4

NIST video exchange | SWGDE DVR acquisition

Informational industry briefing only. Not legal advice or employer policy.

OFFICER'S BRIEFING

Five actions worth carrying into the week

1. Link related reports with case numbers, exact times and observed identifiers.
2. Separate direct observation from assumptions about identity, coordination or automated matches.
3. Preserve original evidence and source information before making working copies.
4. Confirm sharing authority and the recipient before distributing case material.
5. Escalate meaningful patterns and safety concerns through approved channels.

EDITORIAL DESK

Send corrections, leads or a photograph you are authorized to share to editor@lpfieldintel.com. Include photographer, original source and usage permission. Do not send restricted records or original case evidence without confirmed authority.

VERIFICATION NOTE

The Source Desk dates each development and links the records used. Consequential claims are checked against multiple credible sources where reasonably possible; organizer, prosecution and vendor claims are attributed. Photo captions identify the source and distinguish documentary from illustrative imagery.

This publication is informational industry reporting, not legal advice or employer policy.

LOCAL CONNECTIONS | LP/AP & RETAIL CRIME

Public contacts checked October 4, 2026; phone/email delivery not tested.

Missouri Organized Retail Crime Association | Missouri

Retail/law-enforcement ORC collaboration. Membership is reviewed; use a business or government email.

Email: missouriretailassociationorca@gmail.com
missouriorca.com/contact

ASIS - Greater Kansas City Chapter | MO/KS

Local security networking, education and professional development.

Email: info@kcasis.org
kcasis.org

RILA-NDAA Vibrant Communities Initiative | KC metro

Retailer, prosecutor, police and community collaboration. Ask RILA about local participation.

Phone: (202) 869-0200 (headquarters)
rila.org/about-rila/contact-us

CLEAR | National

Retail/law-enforcement training and networking.

Phone: (954) 410-8760
Media email: media@clearusa.org
clearusa.org

Historical lead: Kansas City Organized Retail Crime Coalition. Current activity and contacts remain unconfirmed. KMBC historical report (automated access restricted).

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