Law and Order unit III gang unit

**Black Mail:** the crime of threatening to tell secret information about someone unless the person being threatened gives you money or does what you want

**Blood in/ Blood out:** The ritual of entering and leaving a street gang by allowing members to beat them

**Capo:** considered a captain in the mafia, he directs a group of men

**Consigliore:** an adviser or counselor to the [boss](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crime_boss), with the additional responsibility of representing the boss in important meetings both within the boss's crime family and with other crime families. Associated with the mafia

**Costa Nostra:** a secret organization allegedly engaged in organized crime in the U.S. and modeled after and affiliated with the Mafia

**Drug Cartel:** an illicit organization formed to control the production and distribution of narcotic drugs; "drug cartels sometimes finance terrorist organizations"

**Extortion:** the act of securing money, favors, etc. by intimidation or violence

**Gang:** A group of criminals or hoodlums who band together for mutual protection and profit

**Gang unit:** A special arm of law enforcement that focuses strictly on street gangs

**Made Men:**  a fully initiated member of the Mafia, traditionally they had to be of Italian descent

**Mafia:** is a criminal organization originating in Sicily

**Money Laundering:** the process of concealing the source of large amounts of money that have been gained through illegitimate means

**Omerta:** The code of silence in the mafia, the code is sworn to when made men go through the induction ceremony. The price for talking is death.

**Organized Crime:** a group of terms which categorise transnational, national, or local groupings of highly centralized enterprises run by [criminals](http://encyclopedia.thefreedictionary.com/Crime), who intend to engage in illegal activity, most commonly for [monetary](http://encyclopedia.thefreedictionary.com/Money) profit.

**Prohibition:**  is the legal act of prohibiting the manufacture, transportation and sale of [alcohol](http://encyclopedia.thefreedictionary.com/Alcohol) and [alcoholic beverages](http://encyclopedia.thefreedictionary.com/Alcoholic+beverage). Enacted with the 18th amendment to the constitution

**Racketeering:**  a service that is fraudulently offered to solve a problem, (that could be created by the person offering the service) such as for a problem that does not actually exist, will not be affected, or would not otherwise exist

**RICO:**  enacted in 1970, **R**acketeer **I**nfluenced and **C**orrupt **O**rganizations Act allowed law enforcement to charge a person or group of people with racketeering, defined as committing multiple violations of certain varieties within a ten-year period. The purpose of the RICO Act was stated as "the elimination of the infiltration of organized crime and racketeering into legitimate organizations operating in interstate commerce".

Shakedown

Smuggling

Stop & Frisk

Volstead Act

Wickersham report