

# THE MOB MUSEUM

National Museum of Organized Crime & Law Enforcement™

## INSIDE THE MOB MUSEUM

*Themes and exhibits reveal full story of organized crime and law enforcement*

**LAS VEGAS (Jan. 2012)** -- With stories so intriguing they need no embellishment, The Mob Museum uncovers the real life battle between organized crime and law enforcement. This fascinating topic is the focus of this world-class destination and the most comprehensive museum dedicated to the subject. An exciting cultural destination and new focal point for downtown Las Vegas, The Mob Museum, the National Museum of Organized Crime and Law Enforcement, presents an exciting and authentic view of the Mob's impact on Las Vegas and its unique imprint on the world. It opened on February 14, 2012.

Located in the heart of the city synonymous with Mob and law enforcement history, The Mob Museum features interactive, multi-media exhibits that describe the origins, operations and legacy of organized crime in America and its relationship with Las Vegas. Gallery rooms present intriguing themes such as *American Underworld, A Tough Little Town, Open City, The Game Continues, We Only Kill Each Other, Bringing Down the Mob, and The Myth of the Mob.*

Issues are presented through multiple perspectives and exhibits, with both high-tech audio and video installations, as well as recreated environments, allowing the visitor to explore and absorb related civic, political and social impacts of organized crime. Environments provide immersive experiences, such as the "speakeasy" atmosphere of the area dedicated to the discussion of Prohibition. Exhibits pertaining to well-known colorful characters and intriguing stories engage visitors into the underworld, but with significant historic content about the origins and development of organized crime and law enforcement in America.

The development of the interpretive story line is integral to the success of the experience of the new Mob Museum. Exhibit content was led by Dr. Dennis Barrie of Westlake Reed Leskosky with Kathleen Coakley Barrie of Barrie Projects and Patrick Gallagher of Gallagher & Associates. The team was comprised of a number of experts in museum programming and planning and popular culture, and conducted extensive research, interviews and documentation of the history of organized crime and law enforcement in the country. The design team drew upon historical consultants, technical advisors, and leading authorities on crime and law enforcement.

"The story of the Mob is a story of America," said curator Kathleen Barrie. "Through the interpretive program of The Mob Museum, visitors will understand where the connections are, how organized crime, Mob activity, and law enforcement ran parallel and then collided at certain points. It is a fascinating story that plays out through the Museum experience."

Rather than starting on ground level, the visitor begins on the third floor and flows down to the lower floors. Recreating a police department environment of the 1950s, the elevator ride to the third floor is designed as part of the experience, setting the stage and engrossing the visitor in the excitement to follow. The story line then proceeds in linear sequence through history, the rise of the Mob, its arrival and development in Las Vegas, its influence in cities across the country, and the law enforcement efforts to counter crime.

On the second floor, the story continues in the historic courtroom of the Kefauver committee hearings and the exposure of the mob nationally. Exhibits on the first floor deal with law enforcement, and how federal officials confronted organized crime. Actual wire-tapping and surveillance systems give visitors a hands-on demonstration

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of the various methods used to fight crime. Interviews and documentary videos of Mob family members present multiple perspectives and invite thought-provoking debate and dialogue. Visitors can even record their own “Mob” stories in a participatory activity.

The Mob Museum is a modern-day museum – highly experiential and interactive. Fascinating stories are brought to life through one-of-a-kind artifacts, interactive touch screens and unique ways to engage with law enforcement and organized crime materials. For example, visitors can “shoot” a simulated tommy gun, listen to real FBI surveillance tapes on wiretapping equipment and take part in FBI weapons training.

In the wiretapping interactive, visitors hear actual incriminating evidentiary wiretaps; then, they learn the significance of what is being said or decoded. They are in the seats of FBI analysts, in the same role of a law enforcement officer listening in.

Based on the Fire Arms Training Simulator (FATS) system used by law enforcement agencies at every level, the weapons simulator interactive allows visitors to view different real life scenarios and challenge their own perceptions and skills. Visitors will better understand the difficulties and dangers confronted by law enforcement officers.

Some of the subjects explored within The Mob Museum include:

### **The Legacy of the Mob**

The Mob’s persistence today despite high profile victories.

### **Bringing down The Mob**

How the battle against the Mob was fought with focus on important historic and law enforcement victories, including hearings, raids, arrests, and indictments for such illicit activities as money laundering, human trafficking, drug cartels, kidnappings, wiretappings, murder and more.

### **Notable Names in Mob History**

Al Capone, Anthony Spilotro, Sam Giancana, Carlo Gambino, Bugsy Siegel, Joseph Bonanno, Moe Dalitz, John Gotti, Whitey Bulger, Frank “Lefty” Rosenthal and others.

### **Mob Busters**

J. Edgar Hoover, Estes Kefauver, Eliot Ness, Joe Pistone, Harry Anslinger, Eunice Carter, The Honorable Donna Fitzsimmons, Rudolph “Rudy” Giuliani and others.

### **Organized Crime Around the World**

A look at current local and global Mob activities and discussion on its future.

### **Memories of The Mob**

A look at “old” mobsters when they retire, go into exile, enter the witness protection program or die.

### **Myth of The Mob**

How the Mob has been portrayed in movies, books and pop culture and discussion on its accuracy.

### **Sin City**

An in-depth look at Las Vegas as the ultimate “open city” that attracted mobsters following the Kefauver Hearings; a tough little town that became haven and playground for American organized crime in the 1950s.

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### **The Game Continues**

Las Vegas from the 1950s to the present with focus on the Black Book, scamming and skimming, Gaming Control Board activities and Howard Hughes.

### **Web of Deceit**

A fascinating look at Mob violence, corruption, conspiracy and murder.

### **The Mob Through History**

A timeline that includes the birth of the Mob, its geographic “families” around the globe, the impact of prohibition, drugs and prostitution on the Mob’s bottom line; how organized crime is evolving.

### **America Fights Back**

A re-creation of the very courtroom where the proceedings of the Kefauver Committee hearings occurred. The hearings, led by U.S. Senator Estes Kefauver, were held in 14 cities, including Las Vegas, in 1950-51 and sought to expose organized crime.

The Mob Museum includes 17,000 square feet of exhibition space on three floors in addition to a specialty retail store, special event areas, educational areas and office space. Admission is \$18 for adults ages 18 and over; \$12 for children ages 5 to 17 and students ages 18 to 23 with ID; \$14 for seniors, military, law enforcement and teachers; and \$10 for Nevada residents of all ages. Museum hours will be Sundays through Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Fridays and Saturdays 10 a.m. until 8 p.m.

### **About The Mob Museum**

The Mob Museum is a world-class destination in downtown Las Vegas dedicated to the thrilling story of organized crime and law enforcement. It presents an exciting and authentic view of the Mob’s impact on Las Vegas history and its unique imprint on the world. With tales so intriguing they need no embellishment, The Museum reveals an insider’s look at the events and people on both sides of this continuing battle. True stories of Mob history are brought to life in a bold and contemporary style via engaging exhibits and multi-sensory experiences. The Mob Museum puts the visitor in the middle of the action through high-tech theater presentations, iconic one-of-a-kind artifacts and interactive, themed environments. For more information, call 702-229-2734 or visit [www.themobmuseum.org](http://www.themobmuseum.org). Connect with us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/themobmuseum](http://www.facebook.com/themobmuseum) and on Twitter: @TheMobMuseum.

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