

## Organization Data Sheet – Shower Posse

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<b>A. When the organization was formed + brief history</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Under the leadership of Lester Lloyd Coke, the Shower Posse – named for its reputation of “raining” bullets on rival gangs – originated from the ghettos of Kingston, Jamaica in the late 1970s to early 1980s.<sup>1</sup></li><li>• At one point the FBI referred to the group as “the most violent and notorious criminal organization ever in America.”<sup>2</sup></li><li>• The posse was one of several posses utilized by Jamaica’s political system as tools to extort votes and provide intimidation.<sup>3</sup></li><li>• During the 1980s, the group expanded its activities to include the drug trade (ganga and crack cocaine), sending shipments of ganga to secret air strips throughout the Florida Keys.<sup>4</sup></li><li>• Still, the group was not feared in the United States until its involvement in the trafficking of cocaine. Using Jamaica as a transportation stop – moving the drugs from South America to the U.S. – the group’s operations stretched from Miami to New York (and included drug bases in more than 20 US cities, Canada, and the United Kingdom.<sup>5</sup></li></ul>
<b>B. Types of illegal activities engaged in,</b>
a. In general
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Drug trafficking, arms trafficking, and protection rackets</li></ul>
b. <i>Specific detail: types of illicit trafficking activities engaged in</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Drug trafficking: marijuana and cocaine</li></ul>
<b>C. Scope and Size</b>
a. Estimated size of network and membership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information not found.</li></ul>
b. Countries / regions group is known to have operated in. (i.e. the group’s operating area)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Many of the group’s members originated from Tivoli Gardens and other garrisons controlled by the JLP – such as the Southside.<sup>6</sup></li><li>• United States – several major cities (Miami, New York City, Seattle, etc.)</li><li>• Canada – greatest base of operation in Toronto (more than 20 years)</li><li>• UK – a splinter group known as the “President Click” operated in parts of Brixton<sup>7</sup></li></ul>
<b>D. Leader Characteristics</b>
a. Who is/are the leader(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Formerly Christopher “Dudus” Coke – son of Lester Lloyd Coke – who was captured in June 2010.<sup>8</sup></li></ul>
b. Leadership timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vivian Blake – former top leader of the Shower Posse, died in March 2010.<sup>9</sup></li><li>• Lester Lloyd Coke – established the Shower Posse in the late 1970s, died in his prison cell in 1992 while awaiting extradition to the United States.<sup>10</sup></li></ul>
c. Leadership style (autocratic, diffuse, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Like most Jamaican gangs, the leadership style is autocratic. Once a leader is killed or apprehended there is often tremendous conflict within the gang in order to settle on the next leader.</li></ul>

Information derived from several sources and searchable databases.

All research conducted according to the project manual.

<b>E. Organizational Structure</b>	
a.	Topology (cellular, hierarchical, etc.)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hierarchal</li> </ul>
b.	Membership – is there formal or informal membership in the organization or network? What role do informal or nonmembers play in trafficking and other criminal activities?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal membership – at no point has the Shower Posse or other Jamaican gangs relied on nonmembers for services. Jamaican gangs stay true to the boundaries of their communities or garrisons, and remain in constant conflict with bordering gangs.</li> </ul>
c.	Command and Control (decentralized or centralized)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Centralized</li> </ul>
<b>F. Resources</b>	
a.	Financial
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul>
b.	Human
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul>
c.	Logistical
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Forgery, safe-houses, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>ii. Key routes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
d.	Transportation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>ii. Sea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>iii. Air <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>iv. Intermodal container <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>G. Trafficking Methods and Modalities</b>	
a.	Corruption
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Particularly within the Jamaican political system – including the Prime Minister.<sup>11</sup></li> </ul>
b.	Concealment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group has been known to use women to hide drugs on their bodies during flights to the United States.<sup>12</sup></li> </ul>
c.	Deception
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul>
d.	Circumvention (avoiding border entry points)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul>
<b>H. Prior / Existing Relationships</b>	
a.	Other criminal organizations (cooperative and conflictual)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conflictual relationship with the Spangler Posse</li> <li>• Cooperative: Falstaff Crips and the Five Point Generals<sup>13</sup></li> </ul>
b.	Corrupt politicians, law enforcement, political parties and other state entities, etc.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jamaica Labour Party</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questionable ties with Prime Minister Bruce Golding<sup>14</sup></li> </ul>
<p>c. <i>Specific detail: Any alliances / past dealings with terrorist groups.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul>
<p><b>I. Ideological / Ethnic / Familial Orientation (if any)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul>
<p><b>J. Technical Sophistication</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul>
<p><b>K. Penchant for Innovation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul>
<p><b>L. Activities in United States</b></p> <p>a. Includes both criminal and non-criminal activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> <p>b. <i>Specific detail: trafficking activities; logistical activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> <p>c. Linkages with US groups</p> <p>i. Market/transaction links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> <p>ii. Stable supplier</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> <p>iii. Franchise arrangement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> <p>iv. HQ and Branch office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul>
<p><b>M. Evaluations</b></p> <p>a. Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul> <p>b. Weaknesses and vulnerabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul> <p>c. Additional insights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Out of all the groups that derive from Jamaica, the Shower Posse has demonstrated the strongest presence internationally – both in terms of organization and capacity. Although the group has lost its leader, Christopher Coke, it continues to operate in Toronto, Canada, with additional reports surfacing of its presence in Miami.<sup>15</sup></li> </ul>
<p><b>Other Notes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Murphy, Dan. "Jamaica attacks: a legacy of ties between politicians and gangs," *The Christian Science Monitor*, May 25, 2010. <http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Americas/2010/0525/Jamaica-attacks-a-legacy-of-ties-between-politicians-and-gangs>.

<sup>2</sup> Shell, Ross. "Jamaica violence sees scores killed in hunt for Christopher 'Dudus' Coke," *The Guardian*, May 26, 2010. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/may/26/jamaica-violence-scores-killed-coke>.

<sup>3</sup> "Christopher Coke," *The New York Times*, March 28, 2011. [http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/people/c/christopher\\_coke/index.html](http://topics.nytimes.com/top/reference/timestopics/people/c/christopher_coke/index.html).

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- <sup>4</sup> "American Gangster: The Shower Posse," March 24, 2009.
- <sup>5</sup> "Former Shower Posse boss Vivian Blake dies," *The Jamaica Observer*, March 22, 2010. [http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/vivian-blake-dies\\_7498774](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/vivian-blake-dies_7498774).
- <sup>6</sup> Silverman, Jon. "Jamaica violence 'linked to US drug market,'" *BBC*, May 27, 2010. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/mobile/10173302>.
- <sup>7</sup> Shell, "Jamaica violence sees scores killed."
- <sup>8</sup> Esposito, Richard. "Dudus: Christopher Coke Captured in Jamaica," *ABC News*, June 22, 2010. <http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/dudus-christopher-coke-captured-jamaica/story?id=10765424>.
- <sup>9</sup> Robbins, Liz. "Vivian Blake, 54, Founder of Jamaica Drug Gang, Dies," *The New York Times*, March 25, 2010. <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/26/world/americas/26blake.html>.
- <sup>10</sup> Spaulding, Gary. "The Rise And Fall Of The Coke Empire," *The Gleaner*, June 25, 2010. <http://jamaica-gleaner.com/gleaner/20100625/lead/lead4.html>.
- <sup>11</sup> Murphy, Dan. "Jamaica's Bruce Golding denies link to drug lord Dudus Coke," *The Christian Science Monitor*, May 26, 2010. <http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Americas/2010/0526/Jamaica-s-Bruce-Golding-denies-link-to-drug-lord-Dudus-Coke>.
- <sup>12</sup> McFadden, David. "Jamaican Troops Attack Wanted Drug Lord's Slum Stronghold," *The Huffington Post*, May 25, 2010. [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/05/25/jamaican-troops-attack-wanted-drug-lord-dudus-coke\\_n\\_588429.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/05/25/jamaican-troops-attack-wanted-drug-lord-dudus-coke_n_588429.html).
- <sup>13</sup> Wallace, Kenyon. "Police raids reveal links to powerful Jamaican Shower Posse gang," *The National Post*, May 5, 2010. <http://news.nationalpost.com/2010/05/05/police-raids-reveal-links-to-powerful-jamaican-shower-posse-gang/>.
- <sup>14</sup> Whittell, Giles. "Jamaican leader denies link to Shower Posse gangsters," *The Times*, May 27, 2010. [http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/us\\_and\\_americas/article7137686.ece](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/us_and_americas/article7137686.ece).
- <sup>15</sup> Wallace, "Police raids reveal links."