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Cops in N.J. and Pa. just took down a gun ring. They'll team up on more gun crime probes.

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New Jersey and Pennsylvania officials pledged Monday to collaborate more closely on gun crime, after announcing that police had taken down a gun trafficking ring that sold weapons from Philadelphia to Camden.

Thirty-six guns and more than 20 ounces of methamphetamine were recovered, according to authorities, including a rifle used to kill a 2-year-old girl in Philadelphia last year.

“Each gun that’s taken off our streets, and taken out of the hands of criminals, is a life saved,” state Attorney General Gurbir Grewal said at a Camden press conference, flanked by federal and state officials. Grewal blamed lax gun laws in other states, particularly Pennsylvania, for some of the gun violence across the Delaware River.

Philadelphia Attorney General Josh Shapiro, a Democrat, slammed his state’s Republican lawmakers for not passing stricter gun laws. Thirty-five people in Philadelphia have been shot and killed since New Year’s Day, he said, a sharp increase from last year.

The two attorneys general said the way agencies shared information during the gun trafficking investigation would continue, dubbing their collaboration as the “PA/NJ Gun Trafficking Initiative.”

The investigation focused on two men: Robert Crosley III, 32, and Matthew Zoba, 38, both of Philadelphia. (Crosley was also known as “Zombie,” and the takedown was called “Operation Zombie.”) They are accused of masterminding the operation.

Two other people acted as “straw purchasers,” police said, buying guns for people banned from owning firearms. Five people in total were charged.

Many of the guns seized were sold in Camden, and at least one was sold to an undercover officer, officials said. An assault rifle was priced as high as \$2,200 by the group, officials said. An Uzi and a sawed-off shotgun were also recovered.

All five people face charges for second-degree transporting firearms into the state for illegal sale or transfer, second-degree conspiracy in connection with the gun trafficking and fourth-degree unlawful disposition of a handgun.

Each also faces a litany of other charges, according to a press release. Those with first-degree charges face at least a decade in prison.

Crosley was arrested in Camden Jan. 22 and is in jail. His attorney did not immediately return a request for comment.

Zoba was arrested Jan. 23 and is in jail. It was not immediately clear if he has an attorney.

Also arrested were:

* Victoria Zipf, 33, of Philadelphia, who was dating Zoba, police said, and worked as a straw purchaser. She was arrested Jan. 23 and later released on bail in Pennsylvania. She did not immediately return a request for comment.

* Michael Snyder, 44, of Philadelphia, who worked as a straw purchaser, officials said. He has not yet been arrested. A message left for a number listed under Snyder's name was not immediately returned.

* Yuri Lyubinskiy, 39, of Philadelphia, who helped sell guns, police said. He has not yet been arrested, and did immediately respond to a request for comment.