

UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE

# 2010 TATTOO HANDBOOK



# CALIFORNIA HISPANIC GANGS



**National Gang Intelligence Center**

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***This product was created by the National Gang Intelligence Center (NGIC) in cooperation with the state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies referenced on page 74.***

***The information contained in this book represents a compilation of the information available to the NGIC and is strictly for intelligence purposes.***

***For more information on the tattoos and gangs referenced in this book, please contact the NGIC by telephone at 703-414-8600 or by email at [NGIC@leo.gov](mailto:NGIC@leo.gov).***

***April 2010***



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**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
**NUESTRA FAMILIA**  
**NORTEÑOS**



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### **NUESTRA FAMILIA**

*La Nuestra Familia (NF) formed in the 1960's by a group of Hispanic inmates who were tired of suffering abuse at the hands of the California Mexican Mafia. NF has a written constitution and an organized hierarchy that oversees Norteño gangs in the state of California. A large and structured criminal organization, NF is heavily active in drug sales, murder, and a host of other illicit activities.*

*The parent organization of Norteños, NF recruits its members largely from Norteño gangs; for this reason, NF members may display Norteño tattoos, specifically, the words North or Norte; the word "ene" (Spanish for N), and variations of the number 14. NF tattoos also include the letters NF for Nuestra Familia; the Huegla Bird to symbolize the United Farm Workers Association; Aztec themes; and a sombrero paired with a machete.*



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**NUESTRA FAMILIA**



**MACHETE with SOMBRERO**



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### NUESTRA FAMILIA



NF for NUESTRA FAMILIA; NORTH STAR



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**NUESTRA FAMILIA**



ENE (Spanish for N); BROWN MAGIC; NORTH STAR





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### **NORTEÑOS**

*Norteño is an umbrella term that means Northerner or Northsider in English and references a gangster style specific to those who either follow or show loyalty to La Nuestra Familia (NF).*

*The identifier most commonly associated with Norteño gangs is the number 14, which functions as numeric representation of the letter N, or “ene” in Spanish, the 14th letter in the alphabet and an abbreviation for either NF or Norteño.*

*Norteños use variations of the number 14 to pay homage to the NF. The most common variations include: X4; XIV; and the Mayan symbol for 14.*

*Other common Norteño identifiers include but are not limited to: Norte; the North Star; the Huegla Bird, which is the symbol of the United Farm Workers Association; area codes; gang set names; 4 dots; and Aztec themes.*



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## NORTEÑOS



HUEGLA BIRD; NORTE; 14



HUEGLA BIRD; NORTEÑO PRIDE



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## NORTEÑOS



HUEGLA BIRD



X4 for 14; N for NORTE or NORTEÑO



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## NORTEÑOS



MAYAN SYMBOL for 14  
MAYAN NUMEROLOGY:

1 BAR = 5

1 DOT = 1



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## NORTEÑOS



N for NORTE; 14; MAYAN SYMBOL for 14



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**NORTEÑOS**



HUEGLA BIRD; 14; XIV



NORTE



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**NORTEÑOS**



**HUEGLA BIRD; NORTE**



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## NORTEÑOS



XIV; NORTEÑO; BROWN PRIDE; 14; 114% BUSTER



4 DOTS



14





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## NORTEÑOS



XIV



1 DOT and 4 DOTS for 14



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**NORTEÑOS**



**NORTEÑO WARRIOR**



**NORTHSIDE**



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## NORTEÑOS



114% NORTEÑO



NS for NORTHSIDE



14



# CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

## FRESNO BULLDOGS



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### **FRESNO BULLDOGS**

*The Fresno Bulldogs formed in Fresno, California, in the 1960's. The Bulldogs are one of only a few Hispanic gangs in California that do not claim either Sureño or Norteño. The Bulldogs originated from the F14's, also known as the F14 Bulldogs, a prison gang also independent of Sureños and Norteños.*

*The Bulldogs named themselves after the athletic teams of California State University at Fresno (CSUF). Like CSUF, the Bulldogs use the color red, and their primary identifier is CSFU's mascot, the Bulldog. The Bulldogs, like Norteños, use the number 14; however, Bulldogs attach 14 to the letter F, resulting in F14, an abbreviation for Fresno 14. Other Bulldog identifiers include but are not limited to: BDS for Bulldogs; FBD for Fresno Bulldogs; a dog paw with 4 toes; 559, the Fresno area code; and Fresno.*



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**FRESNO BULLDOGS**



**BULLDOG**



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### FRESNO BULLDOGS



**BULLDOG EATING the WORD "NORTE"**

***Note: This symbol is a sign of disrespect to Norteño gangs***



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**FRESNO BULLDOGS**



**FRESNO; BULLDOG**



**4-TOE DOG PAW**





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**FRESNO BULLDOGS**



**BULLDOG**



**F for FRESNO; 14**



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**FRESNO BULLDOGS**



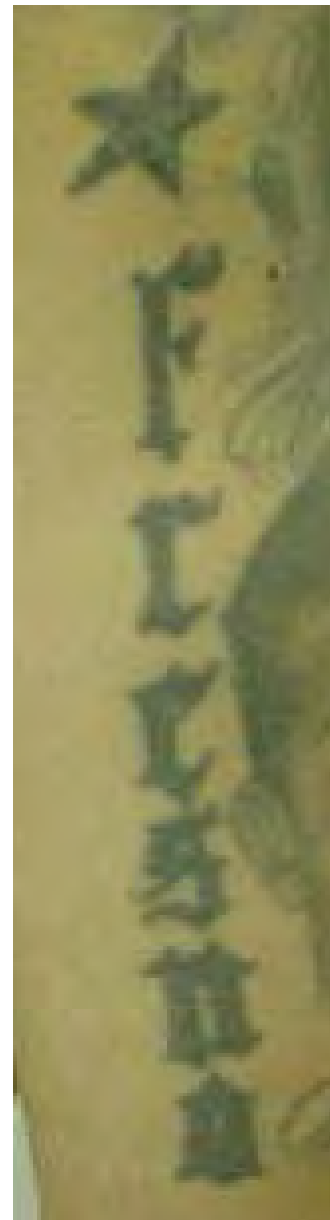
559 AREA CODE;  
FRESNO; STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA;  
4 TOE DOG PAW



BDS for BULLDOGS



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**FRESNO BULLDOGS**



RIP for REST in PEACE and 4 TOE DOG PAW; BULLDOG and 14; FRESNO



# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

## MEXICAN MAFIA

### SUREÑOS



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### **MEXICAN MAFIA**

*The California Mexican Mafia (La EME) formed in the 1950's by a group of Hispanic inmates and has since evolved into an international criminal enterprise that controls hundreds of Sureño gangs in California and across the nation.*

*The EME recruits many of its members from Sureño gangs; for this reason, EME members may wear traditional Sureño tattoos, specifically, the words SUR and Sureño, and variations of the number 13. Other EME tattoos include the letters MM for Mexican Mafia; EME, the Spanish word for M; and Emero.*

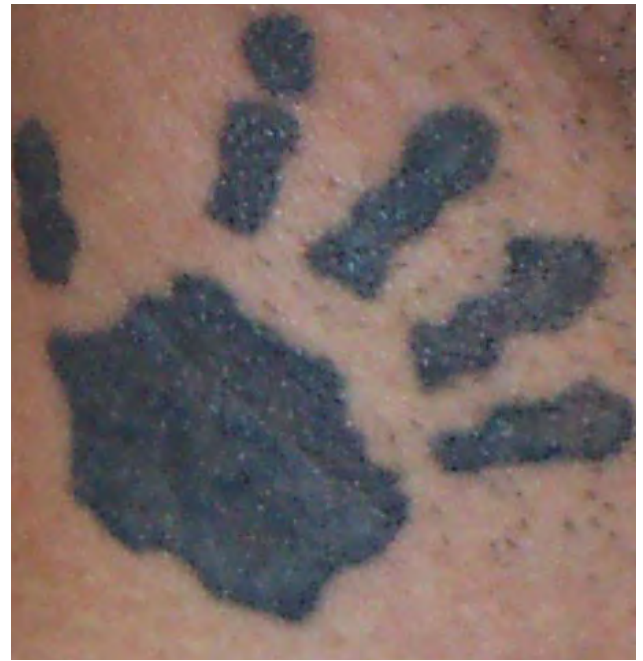
*The tattoo most widely associated with the EME is the Black Hand. The Black Hand is a privilege earned only after one is inducted into the elite ranks of the EME. A symbol synonymous with power, influence, and brutality, the Black Hand represents the exclusive membership of the EME, the most revered prison gang in the United States.*



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## MEXICAN MAFIA



BLACK HAND



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## MEXICAN MAFIA



**BLACK HAND**



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## MEXICAN MAFIA



BLACK HAND





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### MEXICAN MAFIA



### BLACK HAND

***Note: This variation of the Black Hand with the letter O encircling the letter M is called "Mano Negra de Oklas" and specifically represents the Oklahoma Mexican Mafia.***



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**MEXICAN MAFIA**



EME



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## MEXICAN MAFIA



EME



MM for MEXICAN MAFIA



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## MEXICAN MAFIA



EMERO



MM for MEXICAN MAFIA



EMERO



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## MEXICAN MAFIA



MAFIA MEXICANA



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### **SUREÑOS**

*Sureño is an umbrella term that means Southerner or Southsider in English and references a gangster style specific to those who either follow or show loyalty to the California Mexican Mafia (La EME).*

*The identifier most commonly associated with Sureño gangs is the number 13, which functions as numeric representation of the letter M, or “eme” in Spanish, the 13th letter in the alphabet and the abbreviation for the California Mexican Mafia.*

*Sureños use variations of the number 13 to pay homage to La EME. The most common variations include: X3; XIII; the Mayan symbol for 13; and “trece” the Spanish word for 13. Other common Sureño identifiers include but are not limited to: area codes; gang set names; 3 dots for *mi vida loca*, Spanish for “my crazy life”; and such Aztec symbols as the Aztec Warshield and Huitzilpochtli, the Aztec War God.*



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**SUREÑOS**



SUR3ECE



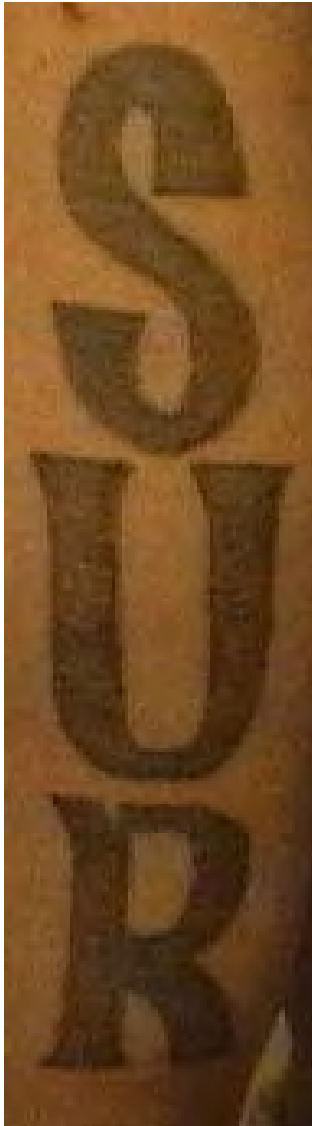
SUR 13



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## SUREÑOS



SUR (Spanish for South)

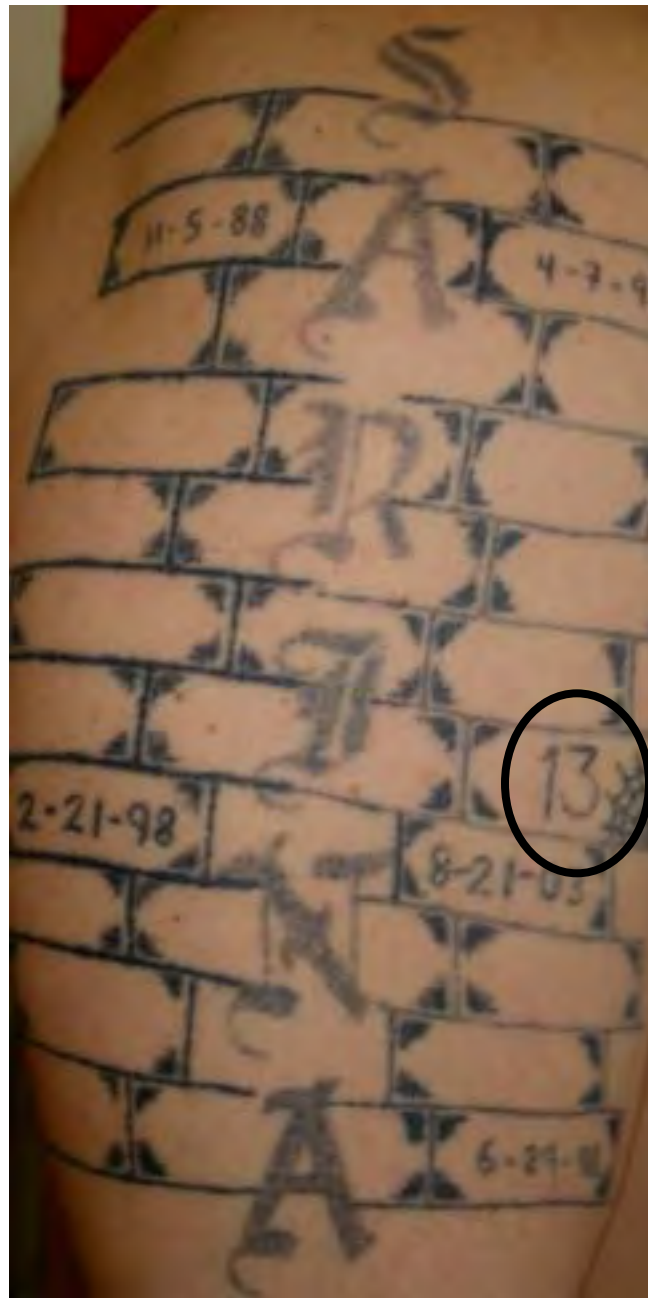




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## SUREÑOS



13



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## SUREÑOS



13



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### SUREÑOS



SS for SOUTHSIDE



SOUTHSIDE; 13



3 DOTS

*Note: 3 DOTS are not exclusively Sureño tattoos and can signify either: jail, hospital and cemetery; or mi vida loca.*



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### SUREÑOS



SOUTHSIDER; X3; LA for LOS ANGELES; 213 AREA CODE



SOUTH SIDE; SUREÑO; X3;



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## SUREÑOS



SUR 13; SUR X3



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**SUREÑOS**



SUREÑO



SUREÑA



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**SUREÑOS**



SUREÑO; LA for LOS ANGELES; 13



SOUTHSIDE



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**SUREÑOS**



**SOUTHSIDE; 213 AREA CODE**





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**SUREÑOS**



LA for LOS ANGELES; CALIFAS for CALIFORNIA



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### SUREÑOS



MAYAN SYMBOL for 13  
MAYAN NUMEROLOGY:

1 BAR = 5

1 DOT = 1



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## SUREÑOS



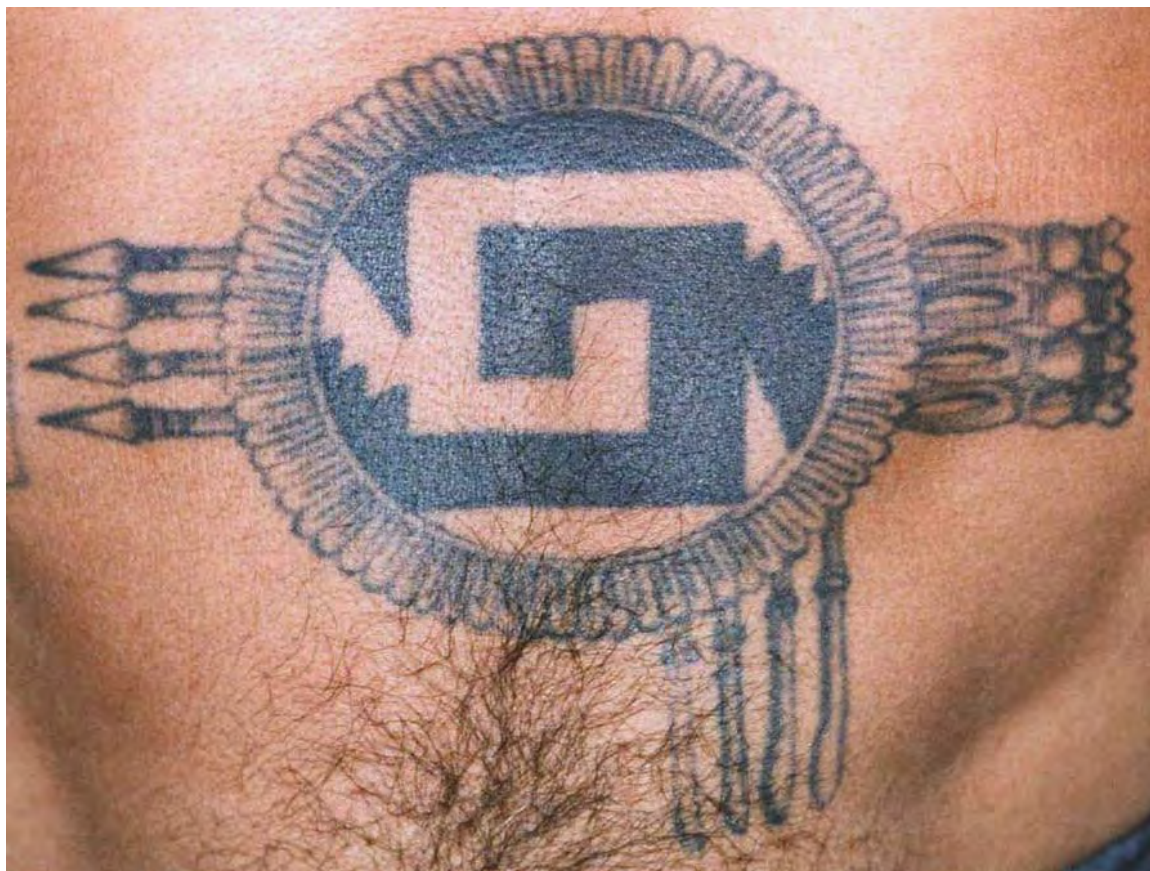
MAYAN SYMBOL for 13



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## SUREÑOS



### AZTEC WAR SHIELD

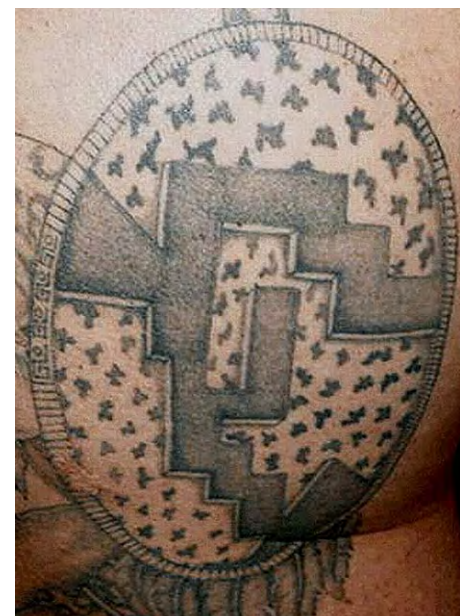
*Note: Though commonly used by Sureños and the Mexican Mafia, the Aztec War Shield is not exclusive to these groups.*



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## SUREÑOS



### AZTEC WAR SHIELD

*NOTE: Kanpol is Nahuatl for Southerner*



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### SUREÑOS



LA for LOS ANGELES; AZTEC WAR SHIELD;  
AZTEC WARRIOR; MAYAN SYMBOL for 13;



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**SUREÑOS**



LOS ANGELES; 213 AREACODE



LA for LOS ANGELES; 213 AREACODE



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**SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS**

# **GANGS and CLICAS**



**PLAYBOY SYMBOL; MAYAN SYMBOL for 13;  
SS for SOUTHSIDE; LA for LOS ANGELES;  
"IT'S A RABBIT THING"**



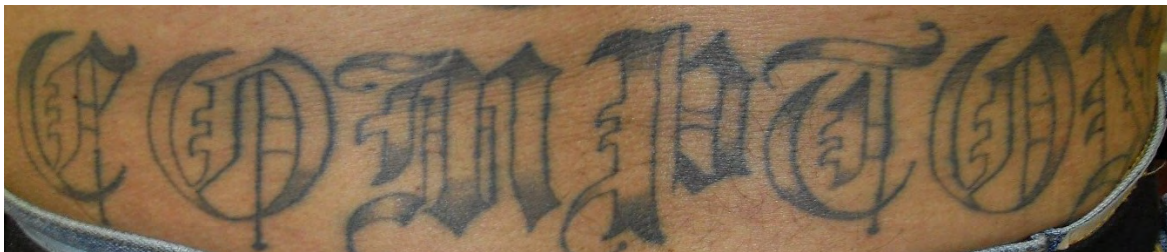


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**SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS**



**SHELLTOWN 38<sup>TH</sup> ST**



**COMPTON**



**MARAVILLA**



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**BLYTHE ST; 818 AREA CODE**



**LOGAN for LOGAN HEIGHTS**



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**SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS**



**INGLEWOOD; MAYAN SYMBOL for 13**



**BIG BASSETT**



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**SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS**



WHITE FENCE; HHS for HEADHUNTER SUREÑOS



WATTS; PF for PRIMERA FLATS



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**SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS**



WS for WESTSIDE; ARMENIAN POWER; 13



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**SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS**



**SOUTHSIDE; LA for LOS ANGELES; 70<sup>TH</sup> ST; COMPTON**



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**SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS**



F13 for FLORENCIA 13; LA for LOS ANGELES;  
SOUTHSIDE; HAND SIGN for FLORENCIA 13



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### **SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS**



**C for CLANTON; 14**

*Note: Clanton Street is a Sureño gang that uses the number 14.*





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### SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS



MAYAN SYMBOL for 18

MAYAN NUMEROLOGY:

1 BAR = 5

1 DOT = 1



666 to EQUAL 18



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**SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS**



EIGHTEEN



BEST for BARRIO EIGHTEENTH STREET; 18



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### SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS



SUREÑO; DIESIOCHO (Spanish for Eighteen)



XV3; PURO DIESIOCHO (Spanish for Pure Eighteen)



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**SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS**



XVIII



XVIII



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### SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS



LA for LOS ANGELES; 18 ST





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**SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS**



XVIII; 213 AREA CODE



XV3



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**SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS**



**SUR 13; 18**



**SUR; MS for MARA  
SALVATRUCHA; X3; WS for  
WEST SIDE**

*Note: MS-13 and 18<sup>th</sup> St. are Sureño gangs. Their members may therefore affix the tags 13 and SUR in their tattoos, graffiti, and artwork.*



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**SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS**



MS for MARA SALVATRUCHA; FUCK da POLICE; 13



MARA SALVATRUCHA



MS for MARA SALVATRUCHA; XIII





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### SUREÑOS: SUREÑO GANGS and CLICAS



EME ESE (Spanish for M and S); DEVIL'S PITCHFORK



MS for MARA SALVATRUCHA; DEVIL'S PITCHFORK; 13



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*California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR):  
Pelican Bay State Prison (PBSP)*

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*Colorado Department of Corrections (CDOC)*

*Customs and Border Protection (CBP)*

*Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP): ADX Florence; FCC Lompoc;  
FCC Pollock FCC Victorville; MDC San Diego; USP Canaan;  
USP Lewisburg*

*Florida Department of Corrections (FDOC)*

*Idaho Department of Corrections (IDOC)*

*Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE): San Diego Office*

*MS-13/18<sup>th</sup> Street National Gang Task Force (NGTF)*

*Northfork Correctional Facility (NCF)*

*Long Beach Police Department (LBPD)*

*Oklahoma Department of Corrections (ODOC)*

*Washington Police Department (WPD)*