

## Identifiers and Background Information

### I. **Name: Cártel de Sinaloa**

AKA: Sinaloa Cartel

AKA: Mexican Federation

AKA: Guadalajara Cartel

**Background:** The Sinaloa Cartel is a violent transnational organization based in Sinaloa, Mexico. It is one of the most powerful drug cartels in the world and one of the largest producers and traffickers of fentanyl and other illicit drugs to the United States. The Sinaloa Cartel has used violence to murder, kidnap, and intimidate civilians, government officials, and journalists.

### II. **Name: Cártel de Jalisco Nueva Generación**

AKA: CJNG

AKA: New Generation Cartel of Jalisco

AKA: Jalisco New Generation Cartel

**Background:** CJNG is violent transnational organization with a presence in nearly every part of Mexico except Sinaloa and Mexico's Golden Triangle region. In addition to fentanyl trafficking, the group engages in extortion, migrant smuggling, oil and mineral theft, and weapons trade. CJNG has contacts across the Americas, as well as in Australia, China, and Southeast Asia. CJNG has conducted extreme and intimidating violence, including attacks on Mexican police and military with military grade weaponry, the use of drones to drop explosives on Mexican law enforcement, and assassinations or attempted assassinations of Mexican officials.

### III. **Name: Cártel del Noreste**

AKA: CDN

AKA: Northeast Cartel

AKA: Los Zetas

**Background:** CDN, formerly known as Los Zetas, is a violent transnational organization based in northeastern Mexico involved in drug trafficking, kidnapping, extortion, human smuggling, and other illicit activities. CDN uses extreme violence to exert its criminal control, including attacks against government officials in Mexico.

**IV. Name: La Nueva Familia Michoacana**

AKA: LNFM

**Background:** LNFM, the successor of La Familia Michoacana, is a violent transnational organization based in the Pacific coast state of Michoacan with operations in the Mexican states Guerrero, Morelos, and Mexico. In addition to drug trafficking, kidnapping, and extortion, LNFM attacks government officials and uses extreme violence, including drone attacks and explosives, to exert its criminal control and terrorize communities.

**V. Name: Cártel del Golfo**

AKA: CDG

AKA: Gulf Cartel

AKA: Osiel Cardenas-Guillen Organization

**Background:** CDG is a violent transnational organization based in northeast Mexico involved in drug trafficking, kidnapping, extortion, human smuggling, and other illicit activities. CDG employs extreme violence, including assassinations of civilians and government officials to intimidate the public and control territory.

**VI. Name: Cáteles Unidos**

AKA: United Cartel  
AKA: Tepalcatepac Cartel  
AKA: Cártel de Tepalcatepec  
AKA: The Grandfather Cartel  
AKA: Cártel del Abuelo  
AKA: Cártel de Los Reyes

**Background:** Cárteles Unidos is a violent transnational organization that formed from an alliance of multiple cartels and other organizations in Michoacán, Mexico. Since its formation, Cárteles Unidos has engaged in terrorist activities which have resulted in numerous civilian, military, and law enforcement casualties.

**VII. Name: Tren de Aragua**

AKA: Aragua Train

**Background:** Tren de Aragua (TdA) a violent transnational organization that originated in Venezuela with cells in Colombia, Peru, and Chile, with further reports of sporadic presence in Ecuador, Bolivia, and Brazil. TdA has conducted kidnappings, extorted businesses, bribed public officials, authorized its members to attack and kill U.S. law enforcement, and assassinated a Venezuelan opposition figure.

**VIII. Name: Mara Salvatrucha**

AKA: MS-13

**Background:** MS-13 is a violent transnational organization that originated in Los Angeles but shifted to Central America as individuals were deported there from the United States. MS-13 is active in several countries, primarily in Central America and North America, including El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, and the United States. MS-13 has conducted numerous violent attacks, including assassination and

the use of IEDs and drones, against El Salvador government officials and facilities. Additionally, MS-13 uses public displays of violence to intimidate civilian populations to obtain and control territory and manipulate the electoral process in El Salvador.