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COMPANY INTELLIGENCE REPORT 2021/081

MUSICAL CRIME ORGANIZATION: THE CHICAGO FUNK MAFIA'S ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES IN THE MIDWEST RELATED TO ENDEMIC CORRUPT PRACTICES IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY

Summary

- CFM operatives have been cultivating, supporting and assisting with illegal music related rackets for at least 10 years. Aim, endorsed by HAM Productions, has been to encourage illicit back channels and divide existing entertainment enterprises for greater control over creative and financial interests.
- So far CFM has accepted various sweetener music business deals offered to them in order to further HAM Production's cultivation of resources. However the inner circle has disrupted the regular flow of entertainment business practices involving HAM resulting in the deplatforming of artists and managers, venue owners and other rivals.
- Former top music talent buyer claims CFM has compromised HAM through their activities in Chicago sufficiently to be able to blackmail them. According to several knowledgable sources, HAM's conduct included perverted sexual acts which were arranged/monitered by the CFM
- A dossier of compromising material on HAM Productions has been collated by the Chicago Funk Mafia over many years and mainly comprises bugged conversations and intercepted phone calls detailing embarrassing and illegal conduct. The dossier is controlled by attorney Kurt Brna directly on CFM keyboardist Max Mauer's orders. However it has not as yet been distributed and intentions for its deployment are still unclear.

Detail

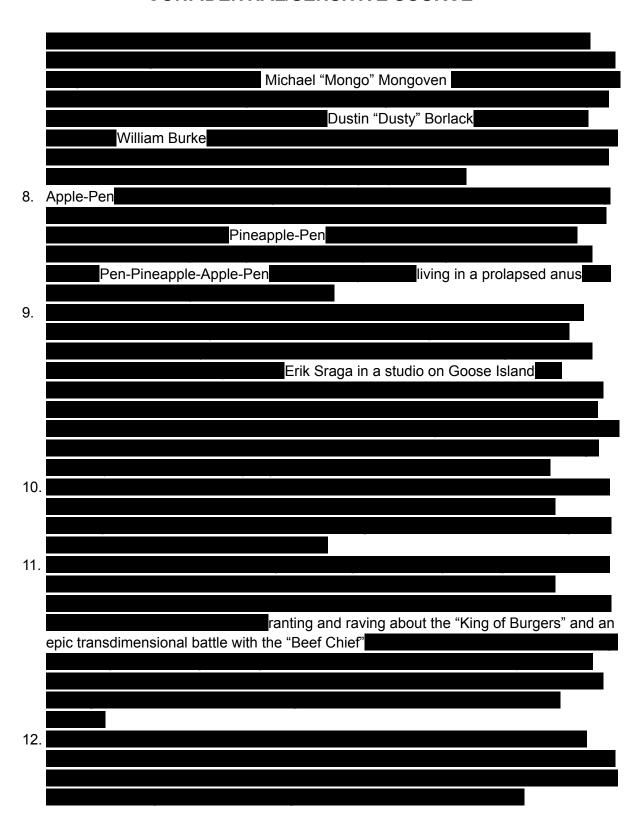
1. Speaking to a trusted compatriot in December 2020 sources A and B, a former CFM figure and a former top level talent buyer still active within the greater midwestern music scene respectively, CFM had been cultivating and supporting various deals with entertainment agency HAM productions for at least 10 years. Source B asserted HAM's operation was both supported and directed by CFM lead singer Christian "Xtian" Barnes. The aim was to funnel assets through HAM's amoebic corporate structure to launder income from performances and narcotics distribution and also to avoid paying taxes, licensing fees and royalties. Source C, a senior HAM financial official said that the CFM operation should be seen in terms of Barnes' desire to return to Twentieth Century mafia control anchored upon an entertainers ideals rather than the corporate interests and elite influence peddlers.

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- 2. In terms of specifics, Source A confided that HAM had been feeding Barnes and his comrades valuable intelligence on their opponents including the rival outfit FUNK VENDETTA for several years (see more below). This was confirmed by Source D, a close associate of bass player Jason Rollins who organized and managed illegal gatherings of more than 10 individuals during the 2020 nationwide lockdown and subsequent quarantine brought about by Covdic-19 inches. Source D reported in April 2020 that this intel had been "Very Helpful". CFM's cultivation operation on HAM also included offers on various lucrative business deals in Chicago especially in relation to the ongoing renovation of the historic Uptown Theater.
- 3. There were other aspects to HAM's engagement with the Chicago Funk Mafia. One which had borne fruit for them was to exploit HAM executives personal weaknesses, drug addictions, and sexual perversions in order to obtain compromising material on them. According to Source D where s/he had been present, perverted conduct included hiring the presidential suite of the Congress Plaza Hotel, where he knew that LIVE AMERICA (a rival music entertainment organization and primary competition for HAM) had stayed on one of their official trips to Chicago, and defiling the bed where they had slept by employing a number of prostitutes to perform a "Kentucky Klondike Bar" (frozen fecal penetration) show. The hotel was known to be under CFM control with microphones and concealed cameras in all the main rooms to record anything they wanted to.
- 4. The Congress Plaza Hotel episode involving HAM Productions executives reported above was confirmed by Source E, , who said that s/he and several of the staff were aware of it at the time and subsequently. S/he believed it had happened in January 2019. Source E provided an introduction to Source F, a female staffer at the Hotel during the event reported above who also confirmed the story. Speaking separately in January 2020, Source B (the former top level talent buyer) asserted that the unorthodox behavior at the Congress and other similar events over the years had provided CFM with enough embarrassing material to facilitate blackmail if they wished.
- 5. Asked about the reported intelligence feed to CFM over recent years and rumours about a dossier of compromising material on the FUNK VENDETTA (being circulated), Source B confirmed the file's existence. S/he confided in a trusted compatriot that it had been collated by

 and comprised mainly eavesdropped conversations of various sorts rather than details/evidence of unorthodox or embarrassing behavior. Some of the conversations were from bugged comments had made on previous trips to Chicago and focused on things s/he had said which contradicted her current position on various issues. Others were most probably from phone intercepts.
- 6. Continuing on this theme, Source G, who was responsible for compiling/handling it on the explicit instructions of Barnes himself. The dossier hover has not as yet been made available to the public, and it is unclear what Barnes' intentions are in this regard.

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