

HISTORY: The term Sureño (meaning southerner) originated in the 1960's in the California prison system. Throughout the 1990's until present day, as the Hispanic population grew, the Sureños have significantly increased their numbers in North Carolina and is one of the largest gangs in the state.

ALSO KNOWN AS: Sur, Sureño, Sur Trece, Sur 13

MEMBERSHIP/HIERARCHY: Sureños have no national or statewide structure or hierarchy; each Sureño gang is an independent entity most often led by a "shotcaller" who delegates responsibilities, organizes criminal activities, oversees meetings and is the person in direct communication with La Eme. Sureños who prove their worth as soldiers may eventually be recruited and inducted into the elite organization of La Eme.

LOCATION: Sureños is one of the largest Hispanic based gangs in North Carolina and can be found extensively throughout the state. Due largely to their ties to Mexican Drug Trafficking Organizations (MDTOs) and to the illegal status held by many, Sureños are known to have presence south of the border.

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY: Sureños are involved in a host of criminal activities that include but are not limited to: drugs, weapons, and human trafficking, murder, theft, assault, vandalism, carjacking; extortion, theft, document fraud, illegal gaming, prostitution, home invasions and robbery.

GANG IDENTIFIERS: Mainly blue, but may also be seen wearing gray, black, white, and brown colors.

- 13, X3, XIII; the Mayan symbol for 13; and trece, the Spanish word for 13.
- 3 dots for mi vida loca, Spanish for my crazy life; the cholo; laugh now/cry later theater faces.



SUREÑOS

A.K.A SUR13