



# California Gang Investigators Association

## Monthly Training Meeting

### Mexican Cartel Use of Weaponized Drones

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

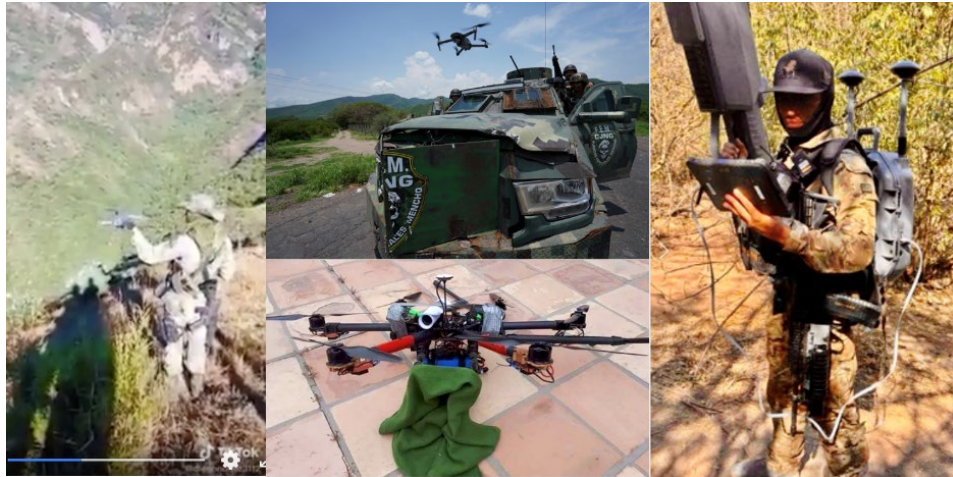
09:30 - CGIA Briefing

1000-1200 - *Mexican Cartel Use of Weaponized Drones*

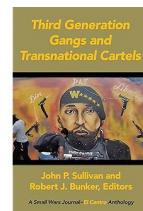
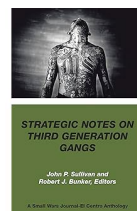
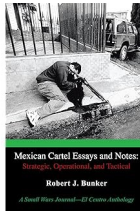
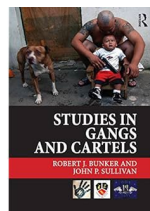
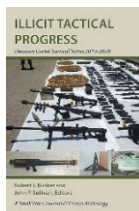
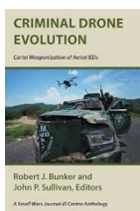
Instructor: Dr. Robert J. Bunker, C/O Futures

**LOCATION:** San Bernardino County Probation Department

9478 Etiwanda Ave., Rancho Cucamonga, Ca 91739



This special classroom training will cover the emergence and evolution of Mexican cartel weaponized drone use from late 2017 through late 2025. Use of cartel drones for narcotics trafficking, ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance, Response), propaganda, harassment/PSYOPS, C<sup>2</sup>, and their weaponization as IED platforms and aerial bombardment will be covered. Additionally, the use of drones for arson and chemical attack will be touched upon as will recent trends/projections related to C-UAS, FPV kamikaze drones, fiberoptic control, AI, and swarms. Cartel social media and videos of drone deployment is also contained in the training. All information provided is derived from OSINT, fused together by a SME who has been involved in weaponized drone analysis / field activity / red teaming – response related to this subject matter since ~2014. The instructor has produced numerous Mexican cartel / gang analysis products over the last few decades:

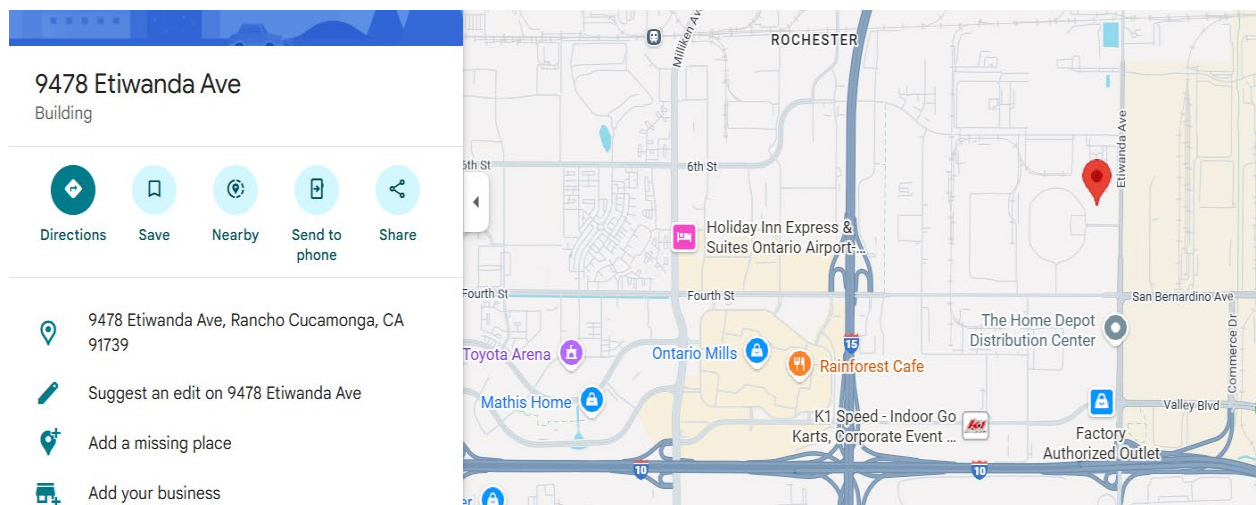


Dr. Bunker has briefed the US Joint Staff Community of Interest for Antiterrorism and US Irregular Warfare Center on this subject. This training represents a component of the more encompassing HIDTA-linked Northeast Counterdrug Training Center (NCTC)— *8-hour Weaponized Drone Threats: Extremist, Terrorist, and Cartel Overview and Response* course— provided by the instructor nationally (via a mobile training team approach) to US LE/DHS/NG/MIL personnel. Additionally, he co-authored an analysis of the Islamic State use of weaponized drones for the US Army, was the primary author of a study for the Central Intelligence Agency on threat drones, as well as additional non-public release products/activities.

### General Instructor Bio



**Dr. Robert J. Bunker** is the director of research and analysis and a managing partner of C/O Futures, LLC. An international security and counterterrorism professional, he was Futurist in Residence at the Behavioral Science Unit (BSU) at the Federal Bureau of Investigation Academy in Quantico, VA, Minerva Chair at the Strategic Studies Institute (SSI) of the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, PA, and has taught at American Military University, California State University San Bernardino, Claremont Graduate University, and the University of Southern California. Dr. Bunker holds degrees in the fields of history, anthropology-geography, social science, behavioral science, government, and political science and has trained extensively in counterterrorism and counternarcotics. He is a founding member of the Los Angeles, Inland Empire, and Orange County Terrorism Early Warning Groups (TEW Groups) which post 9/11 transitioned into the national intelligence fusion center system. He has also delivered hundreds of presentations/training sessions—including U.S. Congressional testimony on Mexican cartels—with well over 700 publications across various fields and formats. He can be reached at [docbunker@cofutures.net](mailto:docbunker@cofutures.net).



- The training session is FREE for CGIA members.
- Law Enforcement credentials will be checked prior to entrance.