



# BIRD MUNICIPAL

Blacksburg International Relations & Diplomacy  
Model United Nations Conference

## A CITY DIVIDED: BOSTON ORGANIZED CRIME, 1935



February 6th-9th, 2024  
Crisis Committees | Blacksburg, VA



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## DEI & Content Statement

Prejudice against anyone due to their race, gender, sexual orientation, or other identity will not be tolerated. Any delegates found to violate this policy, following thorough investigation, will be immediately disqualified from awards in their respective committee and will be subject to suspension from the conference. Any delegate found to be engaging in harmful conduct, such as violence, intimidation, harassment, discrimination, or threatening behavior will be removed and potentially banned from participation in future conferences.

Sensitive topics may arise during debate, including but not limited to:

- Violent crime, including references to murder, "hits," and physical intimidation.
- Illegal activities such as loansharking, extortion, and drug trafficking.
- Discrimination, including anti-immigrant and specifically anti-Italian sentiment prevalent during the period.

While these themes are critical to understanding the period and context, participants are encouraged to engage with sensitivity and respect toward these issues.



# Letter from the Chair

## BIRDMUNC I | Spring 2025

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to A City Divided: Boston Organized Crime, 1930 at BIRDMUNC I! My name is Colin Larkin, and I am thrilled to serve as your Head Chair. I am currently a sophomore at Virginia Tech, majoring in Biochemistry with a minor in Data Analytics. Growing up, I loved watching shows and movies like The Sopranos and Goodfellas, which sparked my fascination with organized crime, making this committee topic one that I'm genuinely passionate about. In my free time, I enjoy reading, biking, and playing video games now and then.

I joined Model UN in my freshman year of college and have since had the privilege of chairing at our high school conferences. This experience has shown me the power of collaboration, debate, and diplomacy, and at each conference I attend further reinforces my enthusiasm for MUN. I am genuinely excited to work with each of you, to hear your innovative ideas, and to see the strategies and alliances that will shape our committee discussions.

In this committee, you'll step into Boston in 1935, a city divided by criminal factions and marked by fierce power struggles. With the Irish Mobs and Italian Mafia vying for control, each delegate will face the challenge of navigating alliances, managing territorial disputes, and countering the newly intensified efforts of law enforcement. This era represents a pivotal time in organized crime, and your actions in this simulation will determine the fate of Boston's underworld.

I look forward to seeing you all in Blacksburg, and if you have any questions about the committee, please feel free to reach out!

Best,

Colin Larkin  
LarkinC@vt.edu



# Letter from the Crisis Director

BIRDMUNC I | Spring 2025

Hey Delegates,

I'm so excited for this conference and committee. I am graduating in the spring, so the first iteration of BIRDMUNC will also be my last, and I wanted to end my VT MUN career with something awesome.

I'm a Creative Technologies major in the School of Visual Art at Virginia Tech. I work on a multitude of different things, but ultimately my major is mostly design, 3D Modeling, and Animation. I work for the Virginia Tech Athletic Department as a Creative Designer in Social Media. This is my second year with VT MUN and I love it. I was so excited to hear that we were hosting a conference this year after I worked in the backroom for a committee for our high school last spring. I can't wait to see how this conference turns out.

This committee holds an extra special place in my heart because I grew up in Massachusetts. I live in a part of the metropolitan area of Boston in a city called Waltham, but I was born in a small house in "Southie" (South Boston) not far from where these gang wars took place. My great-Grandfather was an officer in the BPD at this exact point in history. This love for the city and history was passed down the generations and eventually to me. My grandfather and I used to connect and bond over the stories his dad told him as a kid, which is why this committee has become a tribute to him, so I can't wait for all of you to get after it. I really hope you all enjoy Blacksburg, VA as much as I do and have an awesome weekend.

Sincerely,

CJ Curtin  
curtincj26@vt.edu



# Committee Background

## Committee Overview

The year is 1935 in the great city of Boston, Massachusetts. The city runs rampant with crime due to the establishment of the Irish Mobs and the Italian Mafia during Prohibition. It is a few years after President Franklin Delano Roosevelt repealed the 18th Amendment (which previously banned the sale of alcohol). Boston is filled with Crime, especially with the New England Crime Family, and the fractured Irish mob currently known as the Gustin Gang. These crime families look to establish themselves in new spheres of the city like Horse race fixing, Labor racketeering, Loan Sharking, and of course crushing rival families. The sky is limit for the future of organized crime, but with the previous corrupt mayor, Mayor James Curley, out of office and young upstart Fredrick Mansfield taking his spot with a firm position to end crime in tandem with the New BPD Commissioner Eugene McSweeney, organized crime is at its weakest point in history.

## Historical Context

### Prohibition

Prohibition in the United States was a nationwide constitutional ban on the production, importation, transportation, and sale of alcoholic beverages from 1920 to 1933. Enacted through the 18th Amendment and the Volstead Act, it aimed to reduce crime, corruption, and social problems linked to alcohol consumption. However, the ban had unintended consequences, including the rise of bootlegging, illegal speakeasies, and organized crime. Enforcement was challenging, and public opposition grew over time. The social and economic costs of Prohibition eventually led to its repeal by the 21st Amendment in 1933, restoring the legal sale of alcohol.

### The Great Depression

The Great Depression was a severe global economic downturn that began in 1929 and lasted through most of the 1930s. It was triggered by the U.S. stock market crash of October 1929, which led to widespread bank failures, mass unemployment, and drastic declines in industrial production and global trade. Millions of people lost their jobs and savings, and poverty rates soared. Governments worldwide struggled to respond, with the U.S. introducing programs like President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal to provide relief, recovery, and reform. The Depression deeply impacted economies and societies worldwide and influenced policies aimed at preventing future economic collapses.



# Committee Background

## Power Struggles and Restructuring within Boston Organized Crime

### The Murder of Frank Wallace

Frank Wallace, the leader of the Gustin Gang, a powerful Irish-American criminal organization in Boston, was murdered on December 22, 1931. Wallace's gang had been involved in bootlegging and other illegal activities during Prohibition, competing with the Italian-American North End gang. His murder occurred during a meeting in Boston's North End, where Wallace was ambushed by rival gangsters. It was always said to be Frank Cucchiara who committed the murder under the orders of Joseph Lombardo, but no one ever talked. The killing marked a significant shift in power in Boston's organized crime scene, weakening the influence of the Irish mob and allowing Italian-American gangs to gain greater control over the city's criminal underworld.

### The Emergence of Filippo Buccola

Filippo "Phil" Buccola rose to power in Boston's organized crime world during the 1930s, following the murder of Frank Wallace and the weakening of Irish mob influence. Originally from Sicily, Buccola immigrated to the United States and joined Boston's growing Italian-American criminal network. He gradually consolidated power, taking control of various illegal enterprises such as bootlegging, gambling, and loan sharking, and aligning with other Italian-American gangs. Under Buccola's leadership, the Italian-American mob became the dominant force in Boston, sidelining Irish gangs. He remained influential until the 1950s when he retired to Sicily, passing control to his successor, Gennaro "Jerry" Angiulo, further solidifying Italian-American dominance in Boston's organized crime.

### The Murder of Charles "King" Solomon

Charles "King" Solomon, a prominent Boston mobster involved in bootlegging, gambling, and narcotics during Prohibition, was murdered on January 24, 1933. Known for his wealth, influence, and connections in both the criminal underworld and legitimate society, Solomon operated out of the Cotton Club in Boston. His murder occurred at the Cotton Club itself, where he was shot by unknown assailants, likely as a result of power struggles within Boston's organized crime scene as rival factions vied for control. Solomon's death marked the end of an era for one of Boston's most flamboyant crime figures and shifted power dynamics within the city's criminal underworld.



# Committee Background

## The Morelli's Merger

The Morelli's Merger refers to a significant consolidation of organized crime in New England during the 1930s. It was led by the Morelli brothers, an Italian-American crime family based in Providence, Rhode Island. The merger aimed to unify various criminal groups in New England, including those in Boston and surrounding areas, to strengthen control over lucrative illegal enterprises like bootlegging, gambling, and loan sharking. By aligning with other influential crime figures and families, the Morellis helped establish a more structured, cooperative criminal network across New England, reducing violent conflicts between rival gangs and increasing profitability. This unification laid groundwork for a more organized and powerful New England mob hierarchy.

## The Second World War Incoming Tensions Rising with Anti-Italian Sentiment with the Growing Fear of Another World War

Before World War II, anti-Italian sentiments in Boston, as in many parts of the United States, were fueled by stereotypes, immigration fears, and economic competition. Italian immigrants, many of whom arrived in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, were often seen as a threat to jobs and social norms, with many Americans viewing them as unassimilated and prone to criminal activity. The rise of organized crime, particularly by Italian-American groups like the Mafia, further fueled negative perceptions, as the public associated Italians with illicit activities. Additionally, events like the 1920s murder of Italian anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti, despite their controversial trial and execution, added to the climate of suspicion and discrimination against Italian immigrants. These sentiments led to widespread prejudice, limiting Italians' opportunities and social acceptance in Boston and beyond.

## The Contract of the New Boston Navy Yard

The Boston Navy Yard underwent significant renovations and expansions in the years leading up to World War II, particularly during the 1930s. In 1936, a major rebuilding effort began, spearheaded by the U.S. Navy to modernize the facility and prepare it for the increased demands of the upcoming war. This included updating dry docks, expanding shipbuilding facilities, and constructing new structures to support the production of warships. These efforts were part of a broader push to prepare the U.S. Navy for World War II, which involved revamping many naval yards across the country. The work at the Boston Navy Yard continued into the early years of the war and played a crucial role in the shipbuilding efforts that supported the U.S. military during the conflict.

In the context of this committee, this has yet to happen and is only a dream that will soon be actualized. Consider the question: who will lead this project? There is a lot of money and power that comes with this contract. What are you willing to do in order to get it?



# Committee Background

## Notorious Criminal Activity

### Racketeering

Racketeering refers to criminal activities conducted to generate illegal income, typically through extortion, fraud, coercion, or other organized schemes. Common forms include protection rackets (where criminals demand payment in exchange for "protection" from harm they themselves might cause), loan sharking, money laundering, and bribery. In the United States, racketeering became widely associated with organized crime groups like the Mafia.

### Loansharking

Loansharking, the Italian mafia's favorite pastime, is when you provide loans to people who are in financial situations that make it impossible to acquire legal loans at interest rates far and away higher than what federal law dictates as the loan cap. This was prevalent after Prohibition because the country is going through the Great Depression.

### Fixing Horse Races

Fixing horse races at Suffolk Downs, a popular racetrack in East Boston that just opened, involved organized crime groups manipulating races to control betting outcomes. Mobsters and corrupt insiders, such as jockeys, trainers, and even some officials, would conspire to ensure certain horses won or lost races, allowing the mob to profit from rigged bets. These schemes involved tactics like drugging horses, bribing jockeys to throw races, or strategically placing bets.

### Debt Collecting

Debt collecting is not innately illegal, but the tactics used by the Mob and Mafia surely were. Illegal debt collection tactics involve abusive, deceptive, or coercive methods to force individuals to repay debts, often used by loan sharks or criminal organizations. These tactics can include harassment, threats of violence, public humiliation, stalking, or even physical intimidation. Loan sharks, for instance, may charge exorbitant interest rates, and when borrowers can't repay, they face constant threats or physical harm.

### Looting and Hijacking

Looting and hijacking supply trucks was a staple of the Gustin Gang's rough approach to crime. They were known for hijacking shipments of alcohol from rival bootleggers and robbing cargo trucks, bank trucks, ships in the Boston Harbor, and any other vessels transporting important goods, often using violence to assert their control over the city's black market. The gang's activities included organized looting of warehouses and trucks transporting goods, making them a significant threat to both law enforcement and other criminal groups in the area.



# Committee Background

## Narcotics

Drugs were a large industry controlled almost entirely by Charles "King" Solomon. After his murder multiple small-scale operations started, but to this point nothing major in the city. The biggest drug in Boston was Opium. Opium had been used medicinally and recreationally for centuries but became increasingly controlled in the early 20th century. The Harrison Narcotics Tax Act of 1914 made it difficult to obtain legally, driving its sale into the black market. Boston, with its proximity to international shipping routes, was a hub for smuggling opium from Asia, particularly China and Southeast Asia. Cocaine, Heroin, and Morphine also were street drugs sold, but not nearly to the same extent in the City of Boston.

## Hits and Bounties

Mafia "hits" and bounties are terms used in organized crime to refer to the assassination of individuals who are considered threats or obstacles to a criminal organization's operations. A "hit" typically refers to a planned murder ordered by a mafia boss or a higher-up within the organization. The victim is usually someone who has crossed the mob, betrayed them, or is involved in a power struggle.

A "bounty" is a sum of money offered for the killing or capture of an individual, often by criminal organizations. These bounties can be placed on enemies, rival mobsters, or law enforcement officials, and are part of the mob's efforts to maintain control, silence informants, or eliminate competition. Both hits and bounties are often carried out by hitmen or enforcers who carry out the orders of the crime family.

According to local legend, Joseph Lombardo called hits frequently with his friend "The Cheeseman", although this was never confirmed because he never left witnesses.



# Current Situation & Questions to Consider

## Current Situation

It's currently the dead of winter in Boston, Massachusetts in 1935. Crime is everywhere. The Great Depression is making the city bleak. We are less than two years after the end of Prohibition and tensions are high in organized crime. The Gustin Gang wants revenge after the death of their brother. Italian mobsters are retiring and restructuring the organizations and the city has new young leadership dead-set on taking advantage of the turmoil in the criminal underground in their quest to end crime. The city is fearful of advancement in many ways, but as we get ready for spring, a new horse racing track opens up, and new ownership of the Red Sox has the funds to create a new future for the team after old ownership tanked it and parted ways with Babe Ruth.

Delegates will take the roles of every facet of the city with members from the Irish Mob, Italian Mafia, local government, and local wealthy business owners. They are highly interconnected and have a deep history with each other. Everyone knows everyone in this city, for better or for worse.

In this committee, delegates will forge a future for the city over a multi-year span. The sky's the limit and the direction of the committee will be solely up to the delegates. There is no expectation to follow historical accuracy going forward, but the backroom will be throwing in current events of the time that are relevant to the society the city is in. The delegates will have the ability to progress or regress the city in whatever way they want. Power is the goal, but it cannot be achieved alone and without sacrifice.

Committee will function as a traditional crisis committee with standard crisis parliamentary procedure and the two-pad system for backroom notes. We recommend that delegates do their own research on their individual characters and affiliations in addition to what is provided in the background guide. There is a wide range of available information depending on the characters, so to be equitable to the characters that have significantly less information available, creativity in the gaps will be judged very highly. A good researcher should get an understanding of the broad context of the city and the relationships between the characters.

## Questions to Consider

- What is your stance on crime?
- How do you want to gain power?
- What will be your legacy?
- For Criminals, where will you make the money it takes to maintain empires without the ability to sell illegal alcohol? Is it time to hang up the tommy gun or get creative? Who can you trust? The committee is too big to rely on just members of your faction, so how can you make friends with enemies?
- For Lawmakers and enforcers, how can you seize the opportunity of disunity and infighting in the criminal underground to end it all together? Who can you trust? How do you know if someone is corrupt? Are you corrupt?
- How can you make Boston into a better place for you?



## Character Dossier

### The Long Arm of the Law (5)

#### **Mayor Fredrick Mansfield- Current Mayor of Boston**

Fredrick Mansfield is the Mayor of Boston after his rival James Curley, who beat him in the previous election cycle, stepped down to start his campaign for governor. He steps into a role that is known for corruption during prohibition with a desire to change the system. He is a forward thinker whose main task as mayor is to eliminate the crime that has plagued his beloved city. He is a big proponent of the new Commissioner of the BPD, Mr.Sweeney, who has a similar goal for his tenure.

#### **Eugene M. McSweeney- Boston Police Department Commissioner**

The BPD Commissioner is a tumultuous role. The position is changing very frequently at this time because of the struggle to mitigate crime in the eyes of the public and to root out corruption. The BPD is filled with cops on the payroll of both sides of this turf war.

McSweeney is under a microscope with his new position, but has the full support of the new mayor Fredrick Mansfield. McSweeney has full control of the Boston police department. He can assign detectives to investigate whatever he wants, create manhunts, and more within his jurisdiction, but if he doesn't snuff out the corrupt cops under him then his efforts might be useless.

#### **Paul Dever- Massachusetts Attorney General**

Newly appointed Massachusetts Attorney General Paul Dever is an ambitious man. He is the face against crime in Boston and all of New England. He went to school in Boston and stood on the principle that Boston was a great city, but needed many improvements. He fears the corruption in the BPD and has chosen to keep them at a safe distance, but he has faith in McSweeney.

#### **J. Edgar Hoover- The Head of the FBI**

J. Edgar Hoover is the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), serving since 1924. Hoover plays a crucial role in transforming the FBI into a powerful law enforcement agency, emphasizing the use of modern investigative techniques like fingerprinting, surveillance, and forensic science. He is a highly controversial figure, known for his aggressive tactics in fighting organized crime, espionage, and domestic threats. Hoover also faces criticism for overstepping legal boundaries, including surveillance of political leaders, civil rights activists, and perceived enemies of the state. He answers only to the President and controls the greatest law enforcement agency in the country, but his external position towards the city is his greatest weakness. Ending organized crime in one of the most crime ridden cities would make his career and we know what he is willing to do to achieve anything.



## Character Dossier

### **George Shanton- Special Agent in Charge of the Boston Division of the FBI**

George Shanton is straight as an arrow, or maybe that's just how he wants to be seen. He stands in opposition to Hoover's tactics, but lacks the resources to snuff out crime in Boston, as he is leading a division of the FBI that includes 17 agents (which is a large amount at this point in time). His greatest strength is that he and his team don't have the constant oversight that the BPD has. This gives him the ability to work in gray areas that cops can't if he chooses to use it.

### **The Gustin Gang (The Irish Mob) (3)**

#### **Steve Wallace- Head of the Gustin Gang**

Steve Wallace was the "enforcer" of the Gustin Gang after his Olympic Boxing career under his brother, Frank Wallace's. Frank was killed by ambush by the Italians after agreeing to a sit down in 1931 to discuss territory disputes hurting both Mob and Mafia alcohol supply routes. Steve was next in line for control and that's why he is now the Head of the gang. Steve lacks the leadership that his brother commanded that kept Southie unified. When he took command, he made rash decisions out of anger and revenge that was not appreciated by much of the Southie gang, which has led to power struggles that could allow the New England Crime Family to take control over most of the city. The Irish mob is at its weakest point, but who says the Gustin Gang can't reclaim their throne over the city of Boston?

#### **Jim Wallace- "Loose Cannon"**

The youngest Wallace brother with a temper and only admiration for his older siblings, Jim Wallace is a temperamental teenager with aspirations to take over his brothers' gang once the time was right, but after Frank's death he lacked the leadership to give him the qualities he would need to unify the city like Frank could. He is a loose cannon, but looks to Steve and Billy and sees the potential for greatness.

#### **Billy Wallace- Bar Owner**

The oldest Wallace Brother and the closest Wallace to being a good law-abiding citizen, Billy Wallace was far from an angel allowing most of the Gustin Gang's operations to operate out of his speakeasy during prohibition. After the end of prohibition and the death of his dear brother Frank, he turned his speakeasy into a legal bar. He is done with organized crime. (For now?)



## Character Dossier

### The New England Crime Family (The Italian Mafia) (5)

#### **Filippo Buccola- Head of the Patriarca/New England Crime Family**

Buccola hates James Curley because he fears Curley's Irish South Boston upbringing in combination with Curley's immense power, influence, and gray moral standing. Buccola has attempted to rig multiple elections in favor of James M. Curley's opponents, but has failed every time. He has loyal control over the Italian Mafia and many friends in high places all over the country. If he wants something done, then odds are someone can get it done for him. He is far and away the most powerful figure in the city of Boston at this time, but also the number one most targeted man by all other groups.

#### **Joseph Lombardo- Filippo's right hand man**

Lombardo is the guy around town who knows how to make someone disappear. A powerful man in Boston, he is as well-connected as anyone, but is the face of a rumor saying he organized the killing of Frank Wallace. This makes him public enemy number 1 to many who loved Frank especially his three brothers Steve, Jim, and Billy. He is best friends with Frank Cucchiara and stands to gain a lot over the next decade. He is loyal to the current head of the family Filippo, but no one knows what someone with his power does in the shadows.

#### **Frank Cucchiara A.K.A. "The Cheeseman"- Best friend and partner of Joseph Lombardo**

Frank Cucchiara is a natural-born killer. "The Cheeseman" is the best friend of Joseph Lombardo and has always been willing to cross lines and do whatever it takes to get the job done. He has always had a remarkable ability to get away with things considering he is rumored to have committed a laundry list of murders, but no one really knows much about him. He has always been a ghost. Filippo Buccola is not always a fan of his lack of diplomacy, but Lombardo is a good man to have as an ally.

#### **Raymond Patriacha- The future of the Italian Mafia and organized Crime in general**

Raymond Patriacha is a young man from Worcester who had an early presence in organized crime in Providence, Rhode Island making him a target of the local government. Providence Police know he committed a murder and hope to put him away for a long time. He lacks experience and power, but has all the means to take command and unify all of New England crime. There is only one man truly ahead of him: Filippo Buccola.



## Character Dossier

### **Gaspare Messina- Retired Head of Boston Crime**

The legend of crime himself, He moved to Boston, bought a bakery, and became the head of crime within a span of seven years. He was named Capo Dei Capi or the “Boss of the Bosses” because of his power not just in Boston, but in all of the country. Gaspare sat atop the mountain that everyone else is hoping to climb, but has retired from both roles within the last three years. What does retirement mean to a mob boss? Move back to Sicily or commit more crimes?

### **Independent Characters (7)**

#### **James M. Curley- Governor of Massachusetts**

James Curley is a moral gray area of Boston history. He is an Irish Catholic who grew up in the streets of South Boston, MA. In many ways, he was a great help for Boston during the start of the Great Depression, expanding Boston's medical care and creating cheaper care for the floods of poor laborers who struggled the most, but his greed and childhood connections often got the better of him. He has an extensive and colorful history with crime while in office as the mayor of Boston and now steps into the governorship. His loyalties lie with his own interests first and then to the city that created him. He had an extensive history and hatred towards the New England Crime Family, especially Filippo Buccola, who attempted to rig elections against him on multiple occasions. Including his recent election for governor, Curley is determined to make Buccola pay.

#### **Joseph Charles Bonanno A.K.A. “Joe Bananas”- Head of the Bonanno Crime Family in Brooklyn, NY**

Joseph Bonanno is the head of NYC organized crime and has been for the past four years. The first thing he did was create the Commission, which is a governing body of gangsters and crime families that include all of New York and Chicago. Bonanno is always looking to expand his influence and Boston would be the perfect next city, but he worries about the turmoil, so he may have to use his power and influence to establish a power in Boston before expanding the commission to the city.

#### **John W. McCormack- Lawyer and U.S. Congressman**

McCormack has deep ties to the Wallace Family and is a central reason for why they still have power and influence in Boston, but this is a two-way street. McCormack was also dependent on the Gustin Gang for much of his campaign money early on in his career. This was a relationship fostered by Frank Wallace. With the death of Frank, this relationship is up in the air, but at the end of the day John W. McCormack is the magical lawyer that got the notorious Irish Mobsters acquitted of crimes over twenty times.



## Character Dossier

### Dan Carroll

Nicknamed the most knowledgeable Irishman, Dan Carroll became a very connected man because of his business partner and after Solomon's death was presented the keys to the kingdom of Solomon, but chose to retire. Narcotics and smuggling were his norm, but what will the next chapter be? He still retains all of his connections, but if he hopes to return to glory he will have to rebuild.

### Tom Yawkey- Owner of the Boston Red Sox

Tom Yawkey is an uber-rich Yale graduate who has recently bought the Boston Red Sox after his college friend and retired MLB player, Eddie Collins, suggested it. He is financially very well-equipped and intelligent, but lacks the experience in the city and connections to the trials and tribulations that could arise with the amount of crime around him. Will his polished hands be dirtied or will he be a spearhead against the current system?

### Eddie Collins- General Manager of the Boston Red Sox

Eddie Collins is a baseball genius who eats, breathes, and sleeps the MLB. He isn't in it for the money, but rather his passion for the game. He has made himself a small personal wealth from his time as a pro and with his new career as the Red Sox's GM, but nothing that is going to be able to evoke change in the city. His priorities lie with the sanctity of the game, and it would take a lot for anyone to convince him otherwise.

### Charles Adams- Partial owner of the Boston Bruins, Braves, and the new Suffolk Downs.

Charles Adams is a wealthy businessman with a love for sports and an even greater love for money. He is a minority owner of the brand-new horse racing track Suffolk Downs and stands to gain a lot from the success of it. Horse races are a staple of the mob because of the lack of a national governing body like most professional sports, and because of the number of factors that go into a race (A.K.A. the abundant number of ways to rig a race one way or another). They also attract bettors at a higher rate than most sports, especially in a state like Massachusetts with stricter gambling laws than most. Charles was a good man with an undying love for sports and did everything he could to improve his organizations and protect the integrity of them.