The Insane Chicago Way is the untold story of a daring plan by Chicago gangs in the 1990s to create a Spanish Mafia—and why it failed. John Hagedorn of the University of Illinois at Chicago traces how Chicago Latino gang leaders, following in Al Capone’s footsteps, built a sophisticated organization dedicated to organizing crime, reducing internecine violence, and maximizing profits from illegal activities.

Gangland Chicago tells the story of how gangs and organized criminality began in Chicago and recounts the era of parlor gambling, commercial vice districts, bootleg wars, and failed reform movements. Richard Lindberg, a noted Chicago historian, takes the reader on a journey to uncover the beginnings of gangs in Chicago and how both organized and disorganized gangs have affected the city.

Organized Crime in Chicago looks beyond the Mafia paradigm. Robert Lombardo, of Loyola University, argues that the development of organized crime in Chicago and other cities from nineteenth-century vice syndicates to the modern-day Outfit, was rooted in the social structure of American society. He ties organized crime to the emergence of machine politics in America’s urban centers.