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Frank Costello
Boss, Genovese Family

THE MOB ²

Frank "The Prime Minister" Costello (b. **Francesco Castiglia**, 1891-1973) was one of the wealthiest mob Bosses in history, known for his influence with politicians at Tamany Hall and association with **Lucky Luciano**. Costello was the Boss of the **Genovese Family**. His nickname was "Prime Minister of the Underworld." Costello was the inspiration for Don Corleone in the 1972 film, *The Godfather*. Costello got his start in crime at age 13, becoming a member of an East Harlem gang. He was in and out of jail before joining the **Morello Family** with Lucky Luciano. The two became rich bootleggers, backed by Arnold Rothstein. In the **Castellammarese War**, Costello sided with Luciano. In 1931, When Luciano became Boss of the Genovese Family, Costello became his Consigliere. In 1946 when Luciano was deported to Italy, Costello became a peaceful Boss. In 1950-1951, Costello testified in front of the **Kefauver Committee**, revealing that he had NY politicians on his payroll. In 1957, Costello survived an assassination attempt by **Vincent Gigante** but decided to retire and give **Vito Genovese** control of the organization.

