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This edition of the quarterly *National Public Safety Partnership (PSP) Operations Newsletter* features site highlights focused on improving public safety and enhancement of violence reduction strategies that occurred during January – March 2018. These highlights include various training and technical assistance (TTA) activities such as:

- Participation in the Chicago and Los Angeles Crime Fighters Conferences that focus on tactical operations.
- Delivery of multiagency peer exchanges such as a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Media Training.
- Development of PSP strategic plans.
- Enhancement of crime analysis capabilities and implementation of social network analysis (SNA).
- Formalization of federal gun case review processes.
- Streamlining of National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) and Crime Gun Intelligence Center (CGIC) processes.
- Expansion of strategies to combat the national opioid epidemic.

Violence reduction strategies and TTA are customized based on each PSP site's unique challenges and needs. Each Operations site's Strategic Site Liaison works with local leadership to help identify needs in the core focus areas of federal partnerships, criminal justice collaboration, gun violence, crime analysis, investigations, community engagement, and technology. PSP brings together local, state, and federal partners to combat violence in each jurisdiction. Federal partners include the following U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) law enforcement and programmatic agencies: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF); Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA); Executive Office for United States Attorneys; FBI; Office of Community Oriented Policing Services; Office of Justice Programs (OJP); Office on Violence Against Women; U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA); U.S. Attorneys' Offices (USAOs) around the country; and U.S. Marshals Service (USMS).



2018 Crime Fighters Conferences

Chicago, Illinois

On January 17–18, 2018, the Chicago Police Department (PD) hosted the inaugural Chicago Crime Fighters Conference to share its notable progress and lessons learned in implementing the Strategic Decision Support Centers (SDSCs) in 2017 and to share other violence reduction strategies and lessons learned. The Chicago PD and the University of Chicago Crime Lab hosted PSP Operations sites Compton, California; Flint, Michigan; Little Rock, Arkansas; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Nashville, Tennessee; Newark, New Jersey; New Orleans, Louisiana; St. Louis, Missouri; and West Memphis, Arkansas, for this two-day conference.

On the first day of the conference, the participants had the opportunity to visit the Chicago PD's Districts 7 and 11, where district commanders provided insights on the establishment and implementation of the SDSCs, crime analysis capabilities, and community outreach strategies. The participants also toured the SDSCs, observed the daily commanders briefing, visited the University of Chicago Crime Lab, and attended each district's weekly shooting review. Other topics addressed included the Chicago PD's violence reduction strategy and the weekly review debriefing, a Chicago 2016–2017 case study, and the state's attorney's role in SDSCs. DOJ Associate Deputy Attorney General Steven Cook and BJA Deputy Director for Policy Kristen Mahoney also provided remarks on the national perspective on violence reduction.

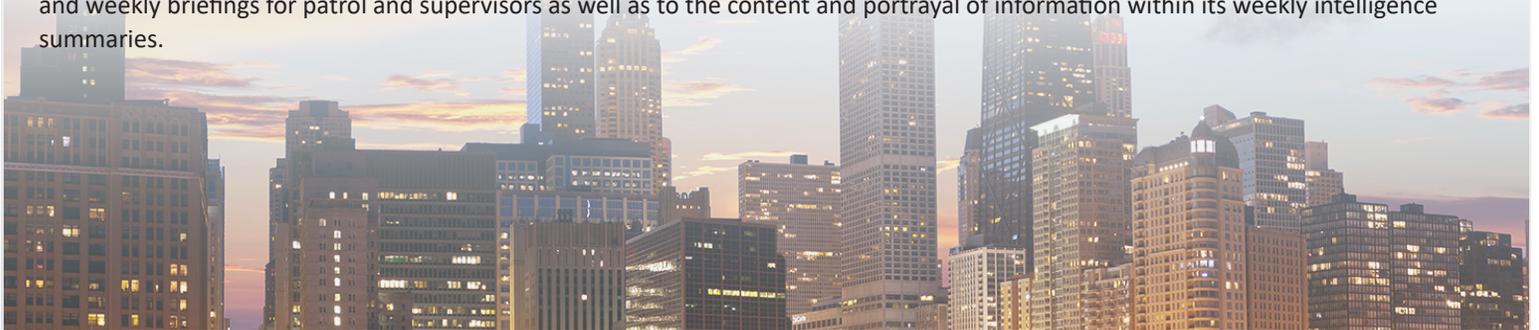
Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Chicago PD Superintendent Eddie Johnson provided opening remarks on the second day of the conference. Superintendent Johnson shared the Chicago PD's Strategic Plan and his vision for the PD. During the second day of the conference, the participants discussed a one-year review of SDSCs; community engagement; constitutional policing; federal partnerships, including an FBI Task Force and FBI Social Media Training; mission making; the future of the Chicago PD; and the introduction of new technologies, such as gunshot detection systems and predictive crime platforms.

A participant from Milwaukee noted that these peer exchanges are “valuable and create great opportunities for learning and constant innovation.” The Milwaukee attendees were particularly intrigued by the positive relationship between the University of Chicago Crime Lab and the Chicago PD, programs for tracking community satisfaction, and utilizing live Global Positioning System (GPS) data to monitor deployment of resources. The attendees from Newark were impressed with the technology-driven approaches and are coordinating with site partners to determine what takeaways from the conference can be incorporated into Newark's Real Time Crime Center. Newark is also exploring more crime analysis resources and how increased information sharing can be supported between Camden, New Jersey (a PSP alumni site) and Newark.

The Flint attendees are taking some of the operational ideas from the SDSCs back to their leadership to explore what can be implemented in the Flint PD's Intelligence Operations Center. During the conference, the St. Louis attendees were interested in the process that the Chicago PD uses to push intelligence to the district-level crime analysis units, which are seeing 30 to 40 percent crime reductions using this model. The St. Louis Metropolitan PD's crime analysts are considering instituting something similar in the districts within St. Louis and are exploring how to utilize existing technology more efficiently by emphasizing partnerships between agencies. Using lessons learned from the Chicago PD's daily intelligence briefings, the West Memphis PD made adjustments to its daily and weekly briefings for patrol and supervisors as well as to the content and portrayal of information within its weekly intelligence summaries.



Chicago PD Superintendent Eddie Johnson addressing attendees at the Chicago Crime Fighters Conference



2018 Crime Fighters Conferences

Los Angeles, California

On February 7–8, 2018, the Los Angeles PD hosted its annual Crime Fighters Conference to share its innovative use of technology in policing and other violence reduction strategies and lessons learned. PSP site participants from Birmingham, Alabama; Indianapolis, Indiana; Jackson, Mississippi; Memphis, Tennessee; and Toledo, Ohio, attended this two-day conference. DOJ Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein provided remarks on the value of partnerships between local and federal law enforcement and the importance of reducing violence in communities. OJP's then-Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Alan Hanson, was also in attendance and provided introductory remarks. During the first day of the conference, the participants discussed and learned about topics such as CompStat, the Community Safety Operations Center (CSOC) concept, policing with compassion and the Los Angeles PD's approach to homelessness, and crime analysis. The participants had the opportunity to visit two of the Los Angeles PD's police districts, its training academy, and the CSOCs. The participants also visited PSP site Compton to discuss the site's experience in PSP. Compton's local and federal PSP partners shared lessons learned with the attendees along with suggestions for maximizing PSP engagement.



Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein addressing attendees during the Los Angeles PD Crime Fighters Conference

Mayor Eric Garcetti and the Los Angeles PD's then-Chief Charlie Beck provided opening remarks on the second day of the conference. Chief Beck also shared his vision for the PD, including building trust and improving effectiveness. During the second day of the conference, the participants learned about topics such as leveraging technology in the crime fight, constitutional policing, the Los Angeles PD's Transit Operations Bureau, a Chicago PD case study on violent crime reduction, gun violence, and the Los Angeles PD's analysis of 2017 and direction for 2018.



Presentation during the Los Angeles PD Crime Fighters Conference

The attendees from the Jackson PD were most interested in the best practices to enhance the department's analytic practices and are working to gather lessons learned from the Los Angeles PD on processes and practices that they hope to implement within the department. The Toledo PD was interested in the Los Angeles PD's #GoodNightTopangalts9pm program, through which the PD sends out a tweet or text message every night to remind recipients to lock doors and roll up car windows. This initiative has contributed to a 30 percent decrease in property crime. The Toledo PD is considering a similar approach as a possible strategy to address property crime.

The attendees from Memphis were most intrigued by the Los Angeles PD's Operation LASER—Los Angeles Strategic Extraction and Restoration—Program and unique crime analysis approach. Following the conference, the Indianapolis Metropolitan PD instituted daily intelligence briefings,

similar to the Los Angeles PD's daily briefings. During these meetings, the Indianapolis Metropolitan PD examines how resources are being used, discusses crime analysis intelligence, and evaluates the activities in neighborhoods at a micro level. Based on lessons learned from the conference, the Indianapolis Metropolitan PD also started a social media campaign to promote the "9:00 p.m. lockup" routine to remove valuables and guns from cars to reduce thefts.

PSP Operations Core Focus Areas

PSP Operations' activities and TTA deliveries are organized around seven core areas driven by DOJ's priorities. These focus areas provide a framework for the PSP sites to benefit from a Community of Practice and to structure comprehensive TTA plans that address critical public safety and criminal justice issues.



Federal Partnerships

PSP promotes strategic collaboration among DOJ law enforcement and program offices to fast-track DOJ crime-fighting resources to areas that suffer from violent crime rates above the national average.



Gun Violence

PSP works with local and federal law enforcement to conduct analyses of current prevention and response practices, facilitate clearance of firearm backlogs through ATF, and serve as a mechanism to share strategies and technology to improve processes for the prevention, investigation, and prosecution of gun crimes.



Criminal Justice Collaboration

PSP partners with federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement, prosecutors, city leadership, and other criminal justice stakeholders to collectively address the systemic issues facing each city. Federally supported TTA can help these agencies to identify key violent crime issues and develop long-term solutions to assist in mitigating violence problems.



Crime Analysis

PSP shares the latest crime analysis techniques to identify violent habitual offenders and "hot spot" locations to enhance capacity and prosecution strategies and drive deployment.



Technology

PSP strongly promotes the utilization and enhancement of technology to aid in the fight against violent crime. PSP conducts extensive assessments of technology capabilities—such as data and information sharing platforms, hardware, mobile environments, and cameras—to identify gaps and help maximize the contributions that technology can make to the crime fight.



Investigations

PSP provides customized assistance, peer learning, and assessments of investigative strategies, as needed, to help reduce crime rates, increase clearance rates, and prevent violent criminals from reoffending.



Community Engagement

PSP promotes and facilitates community engagement among local and federal partners and the community to build ongoing, permanent relationships within the community to increase public trust and support.

Community of Practice: Multiagency Peer Exchanges

Peer exchanges are learning opportunities that facilitate knowledge sharing among PSP sites and other jurisdictions to promote best practices, real-world examples, practical experience, and lessons learned to assist PSP Operations agencies in advancing their public safety goals. These exchanges are conducted with other PSP sites and with host sites outside of the Partnership. In addition to individual agency peer exchanges (city to city), PSP encourages sites to participate in group peer exchanges and other on-site learning experiences together to further collaboration and the PSP Community of Practice. This quarter, the PSP sites participated in several multiagency peer exchanges across the country to learn about promising practices and strategies on a variety of violence reduction topics.

FBI Media Training

Given the widespread interest among PSP sites and positive feedback from the first FBI Media Training held last year, a second training was offered to PSP sites this quarter. Representatives from PSP Operations sites Jackson, Little Rock, Memphis, St. Louis, and West Memphis attended the second FBI Media Training in Little Rock, Arkansas, on January 31, 2018. Topics addressed at this training included how the media functions and its importance; how to ask the media for help and prepare for news conferences, interviews, and breaking news stories; social media and crisis communications; and how to foster a positive relationship with the media. The attendees also walked through practical application exercises, such as a mock news conference. The participants from the Little Rock PD shared that the information provided on social media tactics and key phrases to provide to reporters was the most beneficial aspect for their department.



*Manhattan District Attorney Cy Vance and Former New York PD Commissioner Bill Bratton at the Intelligence-Driven Prosecution Symposium
Source: Twitter @Commiss Bratton*

Manhattan District Attorney's Office Intelligence-Driven Prosecution Symposium

The Manhattan District Attorney's Office hosted its annual Intelligence-Driven Prosecution Symposium on March 12–13, 2018, which seeks to connect prosecutors and law enforcement officials from jurisdictions across the United States to focus on the future of criminal justice, share best practices, and develop modern strategies for crime reduction. Prosecutorial representatives from PSP sites Indianapolis, Little Rock, Memphis, and Milwaukee attended the symposium to learn about innovations in prosecution and police-prosecutor data collaboration, hot-spot prosecution, key intelligence resources, reentry initiatives, and the intersection of public health and the criminal justice system, including the national opioid crisis.

Innovations Suite Researcher-Practitioner Fellows Academy

On February 27 – March 2, 2018, participants from PSP sites Jackson, Little Rock, Milwaukee, Newark, and Toledo attended the Innovations Suite Researcher-Practitioner Fellows Academy in Chicago, Illinois, for local law enforcement and academia. Topics addressed included the creation of a network of researchers and practitioners actively engaged in partnerships; how to build capacity for identifying and responding to emerging and chronic crime problems; crime analysis; and evidence-based practices. The PSP sites shared that the opportunity to network in the breakout sessions with their counterparts was one of the most valuable aspects of this meeting, and the Little Rock attendees in particular took away several strategies about scaling efforts for their new PD-university research partnership.

**INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR
PUBLIC SAFETY
PRESENTS**

**INNOVATIONS SUITE
RESEARCHER-PRACTITIONER
FELLOWS ACADEMY**

An illustration of four stylized human figures in white, each holding a different colored piece of a large puzzle. The puzzle pieces are blue, green, yellow, and red. The figures are arranged around the puzzle, suggesting collaboration and problem-solving.

**FEBRUARY 27- MARCH 2, 2018
CHICAGO, IL**

Site Highlights

Birmingham

In March 2018, the Birmingham PD reported a 30 percent decrease in homicides and a 49 percent decrease in nonfatal shootings year-to-date. Over the last few months, the Honorable Jay Town, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama (NDAL), has taken the lead in working with local and federal partners to establish two task forces as part of the USAO—NDAL Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) 2018 strategic plan. The public safety and Safe Neighborhood task forces involve targeted and predictive policing strategies combined with community outreach and prevention efforts to focus on Birmingham's top violent offenders. Task forces encourage law enforcement to engage with the community in a meaningful way, leading to a restoration of safety, security, and trust.¹ The USAO—NDAL, the Birmingham PD, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office, the Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles, the Housing Authority of the Birmingham District, the Mayor's Office, ATF, the DEA, the FBI, and USMS participate in the PSN task forces. This interagency participation aligns well with the goals of Mayor Randall Woodfin's Operation Step Up plan, which aims to fight crime, put more officers on the streets of Birmingham, and stabilize neighborhoods.² The USAO—NDAL's Prosecutor-to-Prosecutor Program (P3) will be incorporated into the PSN initiative as well. P3 is a formalized process that promotes collaboration between state and federal prosecutors to determine which jurisdiction should prosecute specific criminal cases to provide the worst offenders with the greatest sanctions.³ The elevated level of collaboration among local and federal partners contributed to the successful crime reductions noted.

As part of Birmingham's PSP and PSN collaborative approach, the Birmingham PD and its local and federal partners continue to implement innovative approaches to enhancing public safety. The Birmingham PD renewed beat patrols, in which officers patrol neighborhoods on foot to build relationships with the community. The Birmingham PD and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office assigned task force officers to ATF to assist with investigations. ATF works with the Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles, the DEA, USMS, the FBI, the Birmingham PD, and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office to target street gangs driving gun violence in the city. In addition, officers from the Birmingham PD are assigned to several of the Housing Authority's public housing communities to combat the rise in juvenile crime, specifically shootings. In February 2018, officers offered free gun locks to residents in several public housing communities in an effort to prevent both accidental shootings and stolen guns.⁴

PSP provided two strategic assessments to the Birmingham site this quarter at the request of the Birmingham PD. In February 2018, subject experts conducted a nonfatal shooting/gun violence reduction assessment to support the Birmingham PD's efforts to reduce gun violence by enhancing its capacity

to conduct comprehensive nonfatal shooting investigations. As part of this assessment, the assessment team interviewed members of the Birmingham PD's command, investigative, patrol, crime lab, crime analysis, intelligence, victim/witness, and training staff. The team engaged in additional discussions with representatives from agencies whose responsibilities also intersect with gun violence investigations in the city, such as ATF and the USAO—NDAL. These discussions, along with expert reviews of the department's policies and practices, will be used for development of an assessment report to offer indicators, observations, and recommendations for future enhancement to the PD. In March, crime analysis experts Christopher Bruce and Zachary Drake conducted a crime analysis assessment for Birmingham to examine its crime analysis capacity and propose recommendations for enhancement. To supplement PSP's crime analysis assessment, BJA hosted a Building Analytical Capacity workshop for Birmingham in March. A significant takeaway from this workshop for one of the Birmingham attendees was the importance of comparing current statistics to the previous five- to seven-year averages, instead of just the previous year, to provide a more comprehensive understanding of crime trends in the city.

¹ https://www.al.com/news/birmingham/index.ssf/2018/01/were_after_the_worst_of_the_wo.html.

² https://www.al.com/news/birmingham/index.ssf/2018/03/operation_step_up_birmingham_t.html.

³ <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndal/pr/us-attorney-presents-program-streamline-decision-state-or-federal-prosecution>.

⁴ https://www.al.com/news/birmingham/index.ssf/2018/02/birmingham_police_to_give_away.html.

Site Highlights

Compton

As Compton approaches the end of its formal PSP engagement in September 2018, the Los Angeles, California, Sheriff's Department (LASD)—Compton Station is focusing on enhancing its crime analysis capacity as a sustainability measure for the progress achieved during PSP engagement. This quarter, the LASD—Compton Station hired a second crime analyst to support its ongoing intelligence efforts. The LASD Records and Identification Bureau is also developing a program that will allow deputies to view active warrants within their districts via the computers already in patrol cars.

Another focus area for Compton PSP partners is to reduce human trafficking and increase services and support for crime victims. In January, the LASD led a joint human trafficking sting with the support of 85 additional federal, state, and local agencies that covered both street investigations and internet crimes. This operation resulted in 510 arrests and 56 rescued victims.⁵ The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) Training and Technical Assistance Center conducted a human trafficking and victim services assessment in Compton in May 2017. As a result of the assessment, Compton-area partners are implementing a task force of victim service providers to support victims of violence. OVC's subject expert is working with the human trafficking task force, Compton schools, and probation on this effort. In addition, the partners plan to establish a family justice center to provide services to victims of domestic violence. The center will incorporate strategies and lessons learned from a visit to the San Diego family justice center and other PSP-sponsored technical assistance provided to Compton throughout its PSP engagement.



LASD news conference announcing results of a successful human trafficking operation

One of the focus areas in Compton's public safety strategic plan is to increase community engagement. The LASD—Compton Station recently partnered with the "Compton Initiative," a program that works to improve Compton's communities through the restoration of blighted homes, schools, and parks by working with members of the community.⁶ Restoring properties with community members provides officers the opportunity to build relationships and engage in conversation with residents.

Compton continues to demonstrate success in increasing collaboration, partnerships, and communication among local and federal partners to aid in improving public safety. For example, ATF and the LASD—Compton Station now regularly share data from NIBIN as a result of increased collaboration through PSP. ATF's NIBIN system automates ballistics evaluations and provides actionable investigative leads in a timely manner.⁷ The LASD—Compton Station and ATF are also collaborating to develop a CGIC. CGICs are an interagency collaboration among ATF, the local police department, the crime laboratory, the USAO, local district attorneys, crime analysts, probation and parole, community groups, and academic organizations to combat gun crime by identifying shooters, disrupting criminal activity, and preventing future violence through the use of forensic leads.⁸

⁵ <http://ktla.com/2018/01/30/officials-announce-510-arrests-in-statewide-human-trafficking-crackdown/>.

⁶ <https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/In-Compton-Rising-Movement-Looks-to-Propel-a-City-Forward-469142953.html>.

⁷ <https://www.nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org/clearinghouse/Resource/667>.

⁸ Ibid.



Site Highlights

Flint

Using information gleaned from their visits to the Los Angeles PD Crime Fighters Conferences and the Tampa Crime Symposium, the Flint PSP site implemented a new initiative in March to address hot spots throughout the city. The hot spots are determined by the previous week's crime statistics. For one week, the Flint PD, in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Corrections and other partners, focuses all available resources on high-priority offenders in that particular hot spot, including warrant sweeps and parole and probation compliance checks. The following week, the site performs code enforcement and blight reduction in the area with AmeriCorps. The third week involves community policing and providing services such as porch lights for those without them and water filters.



*AmeriCorps volunteer and Flint PD officer examining blight property
Source: www.abc12.com*

Gang violence reduction is a priority for Flint's PSP engagement. As a result of a comprehensive gang assessment conducted in February 2017, the Flint PD established a process to collect field interview cards regularly and now utilizes gang member information cards in the field. To supplement local enforcement efforts, the Flint PD collaborates with the FBI and ATF to target gang activity in the city. The FBI assists the Flint PD with ongoing gang investigations, and ATF collaborates with the Flint PD and the USAO—Eastern District of Michigan (EDMI) on high-priority felony firearm possession cases. The USAO—EDMI is an essential partner in combating gang activity. The ability to charge and prosecute gang cases federally, especially those involving violent narcotics and gun activity, allows for a more serious resolution.

In conjunction with gang activity, reducing gun crime in the city is a major concern for the Flint PD. The Flint PD collaborates with ATF and the Michigan State Police to process shell casings from crime scenes through NIBIN. In other efforts to improve gun crime investigations and get shooters off the streets, the Flint PD has dedicated resources to improve its property and evidence collection, storage, and investigative processes. The Flint PD disposed of 700 firearms in January 2018, in addition to 2,100 firearms disposed of in 2017. Following the Flint PD's property room assessment in April 2017, PSP subject experts recommended that the property room captain and supervisor attend the International Association of Property and Evidence's Property and Evidence class in Las Vegas, Nevada, on February 26–27, 2018. The two captains attended this event with the goals of restructuring the property room section, obtaining training for supervisors in best practices for evidence and property room management, networking with other property room professionals, and acquiring example policies and property manuals.



Indianapolis

PSP partners held a news conference this quarter to announce that increased federal collaboration will generate a new approach to addressing violent crime in Indianapolis, coordinating activities to address gang and gun violence in the city.⁹ To more efficiently address gun violence, a major focus for the site has been streamlining and expediting its NIBIN processes. In support of these efforts, the Indianapolis Metropolitan PD established a program in partnership with ATF to train officers on how to retrieve and process crime guns, submit data to NIBIN, and strengthen gun cases. In fact, Indianapolis processed almost the same amount of NIBIN hits in the first two months of 2018 as it did in the last six months of 2017. ATF led an operation in February 2018 that resulted in 14 federal indictments and 56 state or local indictments. During the course of that investigation, ATF seized 45 NIBIN-eligible firearms. The group targeted during this investigation is responsible for actively trafficking massive quantities of guns and drugs into Indianapolis.¹⁰ While conducting a search warrant with USMS, the DEA recovered a backpack with four firearms, three of which were semi-automatic handguns and one an assault rifle. Marion Superior Court Probation continues to conduct home visits in targeted areas for high-risk probationers. In February, these home checks resulted in the seizure of 5 guns. As a result of a joint operation between the Indianapolis Metropolitan PD and the FBI in January, law enforcement seized 19 guns, heroin, and methamphetamine and conducted 87 sex offender registry checks.¹¹ As of March, the USAO—Southern District of Indiana (SDIN) has federally prosecuted over 45 gun cases from the six Indianapolis Metropolitan PD districts. The USAO—SDIN is one of the 27 U.S. Attorney districts to receive an additional federal prosecutor who will focus on violent crime-related cases as part of DOJ's PSN initiative.¹²

The Indianapolis Metropolitan PD implemented several new strategies to reduce violence this quarter. The PD is piloting beat patrols to supplement its current zone patrols to allow officers to increase engagement with the community.¹³ The PD started a new social media campaign, #9PMRoutine, that aims to prevent auto theft and home burglaries by reminding citizens to remove valuables, especially guns, from vehicles and lock all doors as part of their nightly routine.¹⁴ As a result of lessons learned during the Los Angeles PD Crime Fighters Conference in February, the Indianapolis Metropolitan PD now holds daily meetings to examine crime analysis, resource deployment, and neighborhood activities at a micro level. These daily meetings are held in addition to the Indianapolis Metropolitan PD's previously established monthly CompStat meetings that evaluate activities at a macro level. The PD made technological advancements in 2018 as well, including the replacement of its records management system and Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD). The new CAD will provide analytics for in-depth analysis and predictive modeling.

In March 2018, representatives from the Indianapolis Metropolitan PD traveled to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg PD in Charlotte, North Carolina, to observe its Electronic Monitoring Program, which tracks repeat offenders; tour its Real Time Crime Center; and meet with a juvenile court judge to discuss juvenile sentencing using electronic monitoring. The Indianapolis PD plans to use lessons learned from this peer exchange to implement its own electronic monitoring program to track high-risk offenders as part of its collaborative and focused approach to apprehend prolific offenders and reduce violence. Following the peer exchange, the Indianapolis Metropolitan PD plans on meeting with the Marion County Community Corrections and judges to better coordinate enhanced monitoring.



Indianapolis Metropolitan PD Twitter post about #9PMRoutine

⁹ <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdin/pr/united-states-attorney-s-office-pledges-additional-resources-fight-against-violent>.

¹⁰ <https://www.indystar.com/story/news/crime/2018/02/27/impd-feds-announce-dismantling-drug-trafficking-group/376250002/>.

¹¹ <http://www.wishtv.com/news/crime-watch-8/impd-fbi-announce-results-of-joint-operation-in-southeast-district/1096621816>.

¹² <http://www.wishtv.com/news/local-news/southern-indiana-gets-new-prosecutor-focused-on-violence/1096637709>.

¹³ <http://www.wishtv.com/news/crime-watch-8/impd-addresses-crime-and-changes-theyre-making-in-2018/1096648066>.

¹⁴ <http://www.wishtv.com/news/local-news/impd-tackling-property-crime-with-gifs-emojis-9pmroutine-on-twitter/1096593393>.

Site Highlights

Jackson

The Jackson PD participated in a variety of trainings this quarter through PSP. Representatives from the Jackson PD attended the International Association of Property and Evidence training in Las Vegas in February to learn about topics such as how to effectively and efficiently operate and manage evidence and property; understanding the legal and ethical requirements to properly operate a professional evidence and property unit at the department; techniques to improve functionality; policies and procedures; storage management and documentation; purging of items; dispositions; and inventories. In efforts to improve investigative processes, PSP provided two trainings to Jackson in March: Interview and Interrogation training and Courtroom Testimony training. A combined total of 80 officers attended these two trainings. The Interview and Interrogation training covered fundamental topics and discussions essential in preparing for high-impact subject interviews, the theory of interrogation, and several methods of conducting interrogations that have led to positive outcomes. The Courtroom Testimony training covered key concepts to prepare law enforcement officers to effectively testify before a grand jury, in pretrial hearings, and in a criminal trial.

As part of its efforts to enhance its crime analysis capacities, the Jackson PD has been working with Jackson State University (JSU) to establish a research and embedded analyst program. JSU completed a memorandum of understanding in February that is currently under review by the university. While that is under review, the Jackson PD commander leading the embedded analyst program is working to identify the team for this endeavor.

Last quarter, RTI International conducted a site visit to Jackson to discuss the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI). As a result of that meeting, the Jackson PD is working to establish a multidisciplinary team with local partners such as the Hinds County District Attorney's Office and the Mayor's Office. The partners will establish goals for this multidisciplinary team and review policies for sexual assault investigations. In addition to their collaboration on the SAKI, the Hinds County District Attorney's Office plans to open an office inside the Jackson PD headquarters to colocate Assistant District Attorneys and officers.¹⁵ This will provide increased opportunities for collaboration and enhanced prosecutorial outcomes as the agencies work more closely on cases from beginning to end.

¹⁵ <http://www.msnewsnow.com/story/37395734/assistant-district-attorneys-moving-offices-to-jackson-police-headquarters>.



Little Rock

The Little Rock PD began 2018 with enhancements to its domestic violence services, including expanding its victim services unit from three to five individuals.¹⁶ One of the new hires will focus exclusively on domestic violence. The existing local shelter, Women and Children First, is working to raise funds to expand its efforts and resources from a domestic violence center into a family justice center that provides more comprehensive services to victims, such as legal services and counseling. Based on lessons learned in peer exchanges conducted in previous quarters, Little Rock decided to locate its domestic violence shelter on-site at the Little Rock PD to provide integrated services and reduce the amount of times and places victims have to recount events. Prior peer exchanges showed the Little Rock PD and local partners how invaluable collaboration between law enforcement and external victim services is to effectively assist victims of domestic violence. The Little Rock PD also plans to establish a sexual assault investigations team as a result of these lessons learned through peer exchanges.

The PD also created a gun crime intelligence unit this quarter with funding from its BJA Technology Innovation for Public Safety grant award. This unit will conduct link analysis to connect gun crimes and associated offenders to remove more shooters from the streets. The goals for this unit over time are to reduce violent gun crimes in the city, with a focus on historical hot spots; increase the production of timely, actionable intelligence; improve collaborative efforts among the local criminal justice agencies involved in the arrest and prosecution of violent gun crimes; utilize SNA to develop focused deterrence to prevent gun crimes; improve communication and collaboration within the Little Rock PD through expanded database access; and evaluate the effectiveness of the unit with an academic research partner. The University of Arkansas–Little Rock will evaluate the effectiveness of the unit and identify areas for improvement.¹⁷

Throughout its PSP engagement, the Little Rock PD has focused on enhancing crime analysis capacity. In January 2018, the department's crime analysts and supervisors received intensive technical assistance to implement SNA into regular crime analysis activities. Little Rock is part of the PSP SNA pilot program's second cohort of PSP cities that started this year (Flint and Milwaukee were the first). Data from Probation and Parole is now sent to patrol units to allow the strategic deployment of resources in target areas. The Little Rock PD began planning for a strategic plan similar to that of Compton's five-year public safety strategic plan. Little Rock's plan will articulate a crime reduction strategy that the site can use beyond its formal PSP engagement, which concludes in September 2018. Crime analysis and the gun crime intelligence unit will be important facets of this strategic plan.

The Little Rock PD's Violent Crime Apprehension Team (VCAT) was formed in February 2017 in response to an uptick in violence to proactively target violent criminals, allowing other officers to focus more on their main assignments. In February 2018, the Little Rock PD reported that after one year of operation, VCAT arrested 976 people; brought 1,900 felony charges; and seized cocaine, methamphetamine, and prescription pills off of those whom they arrested.¹⁸ In addition to VCAT, the GET (Gang Enforcement Task Force) Rock task force brings together the USAO—Eastern District of Arkansas (EDAR), the FBI, the DEA, ATF, USMS, the Little Rock PD, the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office, the Arkansas State Police, and Arkansas Community Corrections to target violent offenders. In February 2018, the GET Rock task force charged 49 individuals with federal gun and drug trafficking crimes; executed 11 search warrants; and seized 21 illegally possessed guns, body armor, cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, and Ecstasy.¹⁹ The GET Rock task force is part of DOJ's PSN initiative.

The USAO—EDAR announced plans to increase its capacity to federally prosecute violent crimes involving drugs and guns as part of the PSN initiative by deputizing state prosecutors as Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys to help prosecute cases in federal court. The Pulaski County Prosecutor's Office also works with the USAO—EDAR on gun referrals, and ATF has four agents assigned to PSP efforts. The USAO—EDAR is also one of the 27 districts that will receive additional federal prosecutors announced by Attorney General Jeff Sessions.²⁰ The additional Assistant U.S. Attorney will focus exclusively on violent crime to further the violence reduction goals of the PSN and PSP initiatives.

¹⁶ <https://www.thv11.com/article/news/crime/chief-buckner-says-little-rock-police-to-focus-on-domestic-violence-to-lower-crime/91-504663992>.

¹⁷ <http://ualr.edu/news/2018/02/28/doctoral-student-assist-researching-crime-little-rock/>.

¹⁸ <https://www.thv11.com/article/news/crime/violent-crime-apprehension-team-touts-success-on-anniversary/516918788>.

¹⁹ <https://www.justice.gov/usao-edar/pr/major-gang-arrests-highlight-pioneering-collaborative-state-local-and-federal-violence>.

²⁰ <http://www.kark.com/news/local-news/eastern-district-of-ar-to-receive-new-us-attorney-position-to-combat-violent-crime/902369202>.

Site Highlights

Memphis

In March 2018, Memphis reported that Part 1 crimes²¹ were down 8 percent citywide. Raines Station, Memphis's PSP focus area, led the city in these crime reductions. To bolster gun crime investigations and prevent future victimization, ATF and the Memphis PD work in conjunction to prioritize ballistics intelligence investigations and processing through NIBIN. The Memphis PD recently assigned four individuals to work full-time on NIBIN investigation coordination. In February 2018, four NIBIN-related arrests were made in Raines Station alone. The Shelby County Prosecutor's Office also receives monthly NIBIN updates to facilitate increased communication among partners and strengthen prosecutorial outcomes.

Another priority for Memphis local and federal PSP partners is to reduce gang violence. In February, the USAO—Western District of Tennessee (WDTN) announced the arrest of 24 alleged gang members for drug conspiracy and money laundering offenses as a result of a nearly two-year-long investigation involving the DEA, ATF, the FBI, the Memphis PD, the Multi-Agency Gang Unit, the Shelby County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit, the West Tennessee Drug Task Force, and the U.S. Postal Inspectors Office.²² With the arrest of these individuals, the USAO—WDTN believes that the Major Stacks Entertainment street gang has been dismantled.²³ This gang was responsible for significant drug trafficking into Memphis. To support its gang violence reduction efforts, the Memphis PSP site received an assessment of its responses to gang activity in February. As a result of the assessment, a feasibility report is in development through which the Memphis PD will receive initial recommendations related to its understanding of gang activity and the countermeasures available to law enforcement.

The USAO—WDTN recently expanded its violent crime unit with new prosecutors who focus specifically on carjackings, business robberies, and crimes involving firearms. The USAO—WDTN also established a PSN gun-crime task force involving Memphis's local and federal partners that meets weekly to review criminal cases involving firearms.²⁴ The Juvenile Probation Department plans to implement a program with the Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County in which officers may assist with home checks after hours to make sure that individuals are complying with the terms of their program to reduce recidivism.

The Shelby County District Attorney's Office began a focused deterrence "call-in" program this quarter to reduce recidivism of top violent offenders by providing resources and community support. This program involves local, state, and federal law enforcement partners and community service members. To kick off the program, law enforcement partners created a list of chronic violent offenders and chose 12 to be invited to its first focused deterrence call-in. During the call-in, the individuals were offered assistance from community programs for dealing with substance abuse, affordable housing, and job training and placement. This call-in also served as an outreach tool to notify these individuals that future criminal acts will be dealt with swiftly and severely. This program has experienced early success; 50 percent of the chronic offenders gained employment since participating in the program as of March.



News conference held at the USAO—WDTN to announce results of long-term investigation

In February, subject experts conducted a site visit to Memphis as part of a Homicide Investigations and Prosecutions Assessment for the Memphis PD and the Shelby County District Attorney's Office. Through this assessment, the parties expect to increase understanding of best practices for conducting these investigations and identify areas for growth in their processes to reduce violent crime. During this site visit, subject experts conducted small group meetings with detectives and prosecutors to gain input directly from practitioners. The subject experts will provide the Memphis PD and the Shelby County District Attorney's Office with comprehensive findings and recommendations for identifying the most effective and efficient strategies for homicide investigations and prosecutions with the resources currently available.

Memphis has experienced an unprecedented rise in motor vehicle thefts. As of mid-March, 1,020 stolen cars had already been reported in 2018 compared to 3,434 in 2017 total.²⁵ To raise public awareness surrounding this issue, the Memphis PD began writing citations for those who leave their cars running and issued public service announcements. Local and federal partners continue working together to target the problem. The Memphis PD arrested a ring of robbers, all of whom were juveniles, responsible for robberies in two police precincts and the broader Shelby County. The FBI arrested two individuals in January responsible for 9 burglaries, and the Memphis PD officers arrested five individuals in March who were responsible for 12 of the thefts.²⁶

²¹ Murder and nonnegligent homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, larceny-theft, and arson, as defined by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program at <https://crime-data-explorer.fr.cloud.gov/>.

²² <https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdtn/pr/24-individuals-arrested-drug-conspiracy-and-money-laundering-offenses>.

²³ <http://wreg.com/2018/02/08/twenty-five-indicted-in-major-stacks-entertainment-gang-bust/>.

²⁴ <https://www.commercialappeal.com/story/news/crime/2018/01/25/u-s-attorney-revs-up-gun-crime-task-force-memphis/1065662001/>.

²⁵ <http://www.wmcactionnews5.com/story/37745742/memphis-on-pace-for-more-than-4000-car-thefts-in-2018>.

²⁶ <https://www.commercialappeal.com/story/news/crime/2018/03/06/additional-arrests-made-string-robberies-carjackings-across-memphis/399167002/>.

Milwaukee

The collaboration between Milwaukee's local and federal partners has been a model for other PSP sites throughout their PSP engagement. The FBI expanded its gang task force efforts to cover the south side of the city, in addition to the PSP Center Street Corridor (CSC) hot spot, and recovered six guns during the execution of one search warrant recently. The FBI also obtained laptops and Digital Imaging and Video Recovery Team (DIVRT) software for the Milwaukee PD to aid in the development of crime commercials to support investigations. USMS continues to make significant arrests in Milwaukee citywide and in both the CSC and the Capital Drive East Corridor, making more than 25 arrests in February, including a high-value target. The Wisconsin Department of Corrections hired additional personnel to assist with PSP reporting efforts and to track those released into the CSC to ensure that individuals are provided the necessary support to reduce recidivism. In January, the Milwaukee PD established an opioid task force consisting of 16 officers based on recommendations and discussions from a PSP-facilitated working session held in December 2017. Task force officers will identify patterns and spikes in opioid use and offenses. They will also collaborate with hospitals and community organizations to reduce overdose deaths. The task force has already linked an overdose death in Milwaukee to an opioid supply chain in Texas' West Dallas area.

Combating gun crime in the city is an immediate priority for all of Milwaukee's PSP local and federal partners. ATF is collaborating with the USAO—Eastern District of Wisconsin (EDWI) to charge individuals who are prohibited from purchasing firearms but repeatedly attempt to do so. The USAO—EDWI continues to work with local and federal partners to establish a streamlined gun case referral process to determine which cases will achieve the most favorable prosecutorial outcomes in the state or federal system. In the first two months of 2018, referrals from the Milwaukee PD and federal law enforcement to the District Attorney's Office were up 52 percent compared to 2017. This includes an increase in referrals for felon-in-possession-of-a-firearm cases.

Community-oriented policing is a priority for Milwaukee's new police chief, Alfonso Morales, who plans to assign officers to smaller patrol areas to provide more opportunities for community interaction and relationship-building. A new Specialized Investigations Unit will focus on violent offenders.²⁷ The Milwaukee PD is also working to implement shooting reviews for local and federal partners to analyze violent crime information in real time and focus on the most prolific offenders. Community partners will also be part of a separate review that focuses on individuals or geographic areas that would benefit from resources beyond the PD. The Milwaukee PD plans to conduct a peer exchange to the Oakland, California, PD in the coming months to observe its shooting review process, as follow-up to its first visit to the Oakland PD in May 2017.

²⁷ <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2018/02/23/milwaukee-interim-police-chief-morales-makes-changes-moving-more-cops-districts/363979002/>.



Site Highlights

Nashville

Gang interdiction is one of Nashville's main strategic PSP focus areas. In March, subject experts conducted training on SNA for the Metropolitan Nashville PD's gang unit to enhance the unit's crime analysis capacity and facilitate the use of SNA to target high-risk offenders. PSP conducted a combined crime analysis and violence assessment in 2017 that analyzed violent crime data, including hot-spot mapping, NIBIN data, and relationships between gang members and where they reside. The results of this assessment, in conjunction with recent subject-expert-led SNA training, will enable the gang unit's analysts to more effectively leverage SNA. Nashville is also joining efforts with federal partners to prosecute eligible offenders federally, when possible.

In mid-March 2018, the Metropolitan Nashville PD reported that 546 guns had already been seized in 2018.²⁸ Many of these guns were used in violent crimes committed by juveniles, including homicides, carjackings, auto thefts, and personal robberies.²⁹ The spike in these crimes committed by juveniles prompted the Metropolitan Nashville PD to establish a youth violence task force. After only about a month in operation, the task force had seized 27 guns and recovered seven stolen or carjacked cars.³⁰

As follow-up to the community capacity assessment conducted by PSP in 2017 that sought to identify systemic problems in specific neighborhoods that drive crime rates in the Metropolitan Nashville PD's North and West Precincts, a team of subject experts conducted initial training in March 2018 to launch a collective efficacy project. Officers from both precincts participated in two trainings and facilitated walk-throughs to talk with community members.

²⁸ <http://fox17.com/news/local/nashville-police-seize-546-guns-so-far-in-2018>.

²⁹ <http://fox17.com/news/local/metro-police-create-task-force-after-spike-in-violent-crime-by-nashville-teens>.

³⁰ <https://www.newschannel5.com/news/metro-police-say-teen-task-force-is-working>.



New Orleans

New Orleans PSP engagement was established with the goals of reducing armed robberies and creating a crime analysis unit. New Orleans is currently on its third consecutive year with armed robbery reductions as a result of technical assistance, training, and collaboration from PSP and now has a well-established, nationally recognized analytics unit. New Orleans recently established PSP target zones to address violence in hot spots around the city. This collaborative, focused PSP approach is a coordinated intelligence-based effort among local, state, and federal partners to identify and target the most prolific offenders, not only through joint investigations but also aggressive prosecution. New Orleans' PSP partners hold monthly meetings to discuss their ongoing efforts to address violence. Since December 2017, New Orleans' PSP partners initially identified 61 violent offenders on whom to focus these targeted enforcement efforts, 30 of whom have been brought into custody. The new target zone went without a shooting or robbery in January 2018.

To complement targeted enforcement efforts, the New Orleans PD has enlisted 50 reserve officers to walk the PSP target zone neighborhoods to conduct community outreach with citizens who are the most impacted by violence. This outreach effort seeks to highlight both the focused strategy of identifying and

targeting the offenders driving violent crime and the value of input from the community. The Local Initiatives Support Corporation is also working with the New Orleans PD to build community involvement and develop comprehensive, sustainable problem-solving responses to address persistent crime challenges.

New Orleans' federal law enforcement partners actively coordinate with the New Orleans PD to support PSP engagement efforts. The USAO—Eastern District of Louisiana (EDLA) and the Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office continue to collaborate to determine the best prosecutorial venue for specific cases and what strategies can be used to support their short- and long-term goals. In March, USMS partnered with Probation and Parole to conduct a widespread compliance check of offenders. New Orleans' local and federal partners are also working to formalize their federal gun case review process. In coordination with ATF, New Orleans is examining a data analysis process to link NIBIN data to an SNA platform. This process would allow the New Orleans PD to provide its gun violence detectives with immediate, actionable intelligence and forensics, enabling more effective and efficient follow-up on shooting cases.



Site Highlights

Newark

In addition to technology that the Newark PD already employs, such as its Real Time Crime Center and crime reporting and statistics tracking by precinct mobile app, the Newark PD deployed mobile surveillance systems in March to hot spots throughout the city to monitor and deter crime in problematic areas. The locations of these systems are determined based on crime analysis, intelligence, and citizen input.³¹ The systems can be monitored 24 hours a day, and captured recordings assist specialized units with investigations. The Newark PD also announced in March the creation of a sixth precinct in Newark's West Ward to increase police presence, improve response times, and provide better opportunities for building relationships between the PD and the community, since officers are concentrated in a smaller geographic area. This area of the city is responsible for about nine percent of crime and violence in Newark.³²

Community engagement is a key focus for the Newark PD as part of both PSP engagement and its DOJ Consent Decree. This quarter, the Newark PD hosted "Cops With Kids," which provides officers and students the opportunity to act out different scenarios to combat negative perceptions about police officers and community interactions. In addition, an eight-week Citizen Clergy Academy began in March for citizens to learn about the basic operations of the police and fire divisions, the Office of Emergency Management, crime prevention, gang awareness, domestic violence issues, and a "day in the life" of a Newark PD police officer. The participants also observe training, operations and organization of the Newark PD, deployment decisions, operations of the dispatch center, and how calls for service are prioritized. New to the academy curriculum for the March class is a section that introduces the police-community initiative on trauma-informed responses to violence. The initiative addresses trauma using a public health lens to create the necessary space for police and community members to work together to effectively reduce violence and increase community health and well-being. The Newark PD participated in additional trainings this quarter, including VALOR's Tact, Tactics, and Trust training that improves officers' tactical and social skills in de-escalation; CPR and bleeding control training; community policing and bias-free policing training; and body-worn camera (BWC) training, as the Newark PD continues to expand its BWC program to each precinct.

This quarter, the Newark PD reported that it provided more than 50 notifications to schools as part of its Newark Cares program. Through this new program, the PD notifies schools when students have interactions with law enforcement and are exposed to trauma or violence in efforts to provide support and services to students to mitigate negative effects from exposure to trauma. Specifically, when an officer responds to an incident where a school-age child is present, the officer completes a Newark Cares notice that documents the name of the school the child attends, the date and time of the incident, and the child's information. The notice is shared with Newark Cares partners, including Newark PD school resource officers, the

commander of the Youth Aid Section, designated Newark Board of Education security personnel, and the DEA liaison. The Newark PD school resource officers coordinate with the Board of Education security to ensure that the Newark Cares notice is forwarded to the appropriate party at the child's school. As the program grows, partners will evaluate the success of these efforts and the best way to utilize this partnership.

In 2017, Essex County led New Jersey in drug overdose fatalities, the majority of which were from opioids. The Newark PD is partnering with city health services on a new "Hope One" program to provide outreach materials and information on recovery in communities heavily affected by the opioid epidemic. This program aims to provide a stigma-free environment for community members to talk with police. The Newark PD and the DEA are also in the planning stages on the 360 Strategy in Newark to address the opioid crisis. This comprehensive strategy will include aggressive enforcement, diversion, and community outreach.

Crime analysts from the Newark PD participated in intensive subject-expert assistance on SNA in January 2018. As follow-up to this SNA assistance, subject expert Chief Joseph McHale conducted an on-site operational assessment and overview of SNA for law enforcement executives in March. The Newark PD is now working to operationalize SNA into crime analysis efforts. Along with Little Rock, Newark is part of the second cohort of PSP sites for the SNA pilot program.

As follow-up to the Violent Crime Reduction Strategic Development State and Local Government Working Group Meeting that took place in August 2017, American University helped coordinate a meeting among state, local, and federal agencies and PSP team members to discuss collaborative approaches to addressing violent crime. State representatives in attendance included the New Jersey State Administering Agency, the New Jersey Attorney General's Office, and the New Jersey State Police.

³¹ <https://nextdoor.com/agency-post/nj/newark/newark-police-department/newark-police-division-deploys-mobile-surveillance-systems-throughout-city-78246118/>.

³² http://www.nj.com/essex/index.ssf/2018/03/long_overdue_newark_gets_new_police_precinct_as_re.html.

St. Louis

Carjacking has become an increasingly prevalent issue for law enforcement around St. Louis and accounts for approximately 30 percent of robberies. Police in St. Louis and St. Louis County reported more than 250 carjackings in 2017.³³ To combat this growing problem, law enforcement agencies in and around the city established a carjacking task force in January 2018 that involves the St. Louis Metropolitan PD, the St. Louis County Police, the Missouri and Illinois State Highway Patrols, the FBI, ATF, USMS, and law enforcement in the Metro East region.³⁴ This task force meets weekly and has made significant arrests related to carjackings.

The recently established nonfatal shooting teams throughout the city have been experiencing early success, already linking a few crimes together using NIBIN hits. These teams were established in 2017 as follow-up to recommendations from a PSP nonfatal shooting assessment. To provide nonfatal shooting teams with additional support, officers canvass neighborhoods as part of the Police Prosecutor Partnership Initiative to collect shell casings and offer residents police contact information following reports of shots fired. The St. Louis Circuit Attorney's Office and the St. Louis Metropolitan PD are working together to develop a list of prolific shooters. Prosecuting gun cases is a priority for the USAO—Eastern District of Missouri (EDMO). The number of federal gun prosecutions this quarter have almost doubled compared to last year. The USAO—EDMO and the St. Louis Circuit Attorney's Office communicate regularly and collaborate to determine the best prosecutorial venue for cases to achieve the most stringent outcomes.

PSP federal partners have been focusing on “Hayden’s Rectangle,” an area of the city that significantly drives crime and that the St. Louis Metropolitan PD’s Chief John Hayden, Jr., identified as a priority area for local and federal public safety enforcement efforts.³⁵ In addition to their support for the carjacking task force, the FBI, the DEA, ATF, and USMS are focusing on gang investigations and NIBIN hits in this rectangular area to target prolific offenders responsible not only for carjackings but also homicides, nonfatal shootings, robberies, and dealing narcotics. As an example, while executing a search warrant in January, the DEA seized 17 guns from one house, 6 of which were stolen. A second Violent Crime Unit was also created within the USAO—EDMO to support Hayden’s Rectangle. The USAO—EDMO’s PSN Violent Crime Unit will prioritize efforts around this identified area of the city, and the second unit will focus on the rest of St. Louis. ATF has assigned an additional agent to the USAO—EDMO’s PSN task force.

In addition to enforcement efforts in Hayden’s Rectangle, a critical component of reducing crime in this area is through community engagement. The St. Louis Metropolitan PD has instituted more beat patrols to increase opportunities to build relationships with the community members it serves.³⁶

³³ http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/carjackings-on-the-rise-st-louis-st-louis-county-saw/article_663a108d-8ce3-556a-8979-69a79b8fc662.html.

³⁴ <http://kplr11.com/2018/01/24/st-louis-police-chief-carjacking-as-a-crisis-will-soon-be-diminished/>.

³⁵ <https://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2018/01/09/new-police-chief-draws-a-crime-rectangle-on-the-map/>.

³⁶ <https://www.riverfronttimes.com/stlouis/on-chokeee-street-st-louis-police-try-an-age-old-experiment-beat-cops/Content?oid=13959819&showFullText=true>.



Site Highlights

Toledo

Reducing gun violence is a major priority for Toledo's PSP engagement. The Toledo PD reported a decrease in shootings for February 2018 compared to 2017.³⁷ The Toledo PD strategically deploys officers to shooting hot spots based on daily examination and review of every shooting by crime analysts. The goal of these strategic deployments is to increase police presence in these areas to potentially prevent future retaliatory shootings. To assist with the timely entry and analysis of ballistics evidence, the Toledo PD is working with ATF to acquire a NIBIN machine, to be located inside the PD. The Toledo PSP site plans to establish new processes and policies to support the implementation of NIBIN and to enhance gun violence investigations and analysis. Local and federal partners in Toledo participate in monthly meetings focused on case reviews of high-priority offenses and the coordination of prosecutorial strategies to address gun and other violent crime.

To support Toledo's efforts to reduce violent crime, PSP conducted a violence assessment for the Toledo PSP site. As part of the assessment, the PSP subject expert collected information on reported crimes for a ten-year period and on calls for service both before and after the November 2017 assessment site visit. An assessment report that establishes a baseline for violent crimes in the city and includes preliminary temporal and spatial trends and information related to data maturity and practices within the Toledo PD will be provided to the site next quarter.

Local and federal collaboration is a critical part of reducing violence in Toledo. ATF, the DEA, the FBI, and USMS all have resident offices in Toledo that provide increased support of criminal and violent crime task forces and facilitate coordination with local law enforcement. In February, the Metro Drug Task Force that includes the Toledo PD, the Lucas County Sheriff's Office, the FBI, and ATF recovered six firearms, two of which were stolen, during a multi-kilo heroin, methamphetamine, and cocaine seizure.³⁸ The USAO—Northern District of Ohio (NDOH) is included in the Toledo PD's weekly intelligence briefings to assist with the coordination of federal resources on active cases. The USAO—NDOH also works closely with the Lucas County Prosecutor's Office on both state and federal prosecutions.

Community engagement is another one of the Toledo PD's main priorities as part of its PSP engagement. Toledo PD Chief George Kral held several community meetings this quarter. The meetings allow residents to voice their concerns and ask questions. The Toledo PD has continued to host "virtual ride-alongs" via social media to engage with the community about daily law enforcement activities to enhance public safety. The department's gang task force and field operations teams have already participated in the campaign on Twitter, and in February, a K-9 unit pair displayed their activities.³⁹ K-9 units assist street investigations, vice narcotics, and the gang task force.



Toledo PD "virtual ride-along" Twitter post

³⁷ <http://nbc24.com/news/local/tpds-february-report-shows-a-decline-in-shootings>.

³⁸ <https://twitter.com/ToledoPolice/status/964234905050902531>.

³⁹ <http://www.13abc.com/content/news/Toledo-police-offer-inside-look-at-the-citys-K9-units-with-virtual-ride-along-473996543.html>.

West Memphis

Modeled after the Los Angeles PD's LASER Program, the West Memphis PD's Operation DETER—Data-Enhanced Targeted Enforcement and Restoration—targets repeat criminals and violent neighborhoods that cause disruptions in the community through tactical enforcement efforts and increased police presence, focusing mainly on gun and gang violence reduction in these hot spots. Operation DETER focus areas experienced a 27 percent decrease in violent crimes from February 2017 to February 2018. The flexibility and success of the DETER strategy has enabled the West Memphis PD to expand the Operation DETER approach to a second hot-spot location that will benefit from the data-driven directed patrols and community outreach.

As part of Operation DETER, the West Memphis PD works with schools to identify safety concerns and with housing developments to assist with neighborhood restoration efforts. The West Memphis PD hired a community outreach specialist in January 2018, who will liaise with business owners, the West Memphis Police Foundation, and other stakeholders to engage and build relationships in the community. The West Memphis Police Foundation, after significant planning and assessment, kicked off its efforts in early 2018. The Foundation supports the West Memphis PD by procuring private funding and donations to assist with community-engagement efforts.

In 2017, there were five overdose deaths and numerous nonfatal overdose incidents reported to the West Memphis PD in a city with approximately 25,000 residents. The West Memphis PD reported that the department has seen an uptick in the presence of opioids in the city in the last few years, specifically heroin, fentanyl, and a variety of painkillers.⁴⁰ To combat the rising opioid epidemic in the community, an outpatient treatment center opened in West Memphis in 2018 to provide heroin and opioid addiction treatment.⁴¹ In addition, the DEA and West Memphis PD narcotics detectives are partnering to address illegal drug trafficking in the city that contributes to this epidemic.

From 2016 to 2017, the number of car break-ins in West Memphis increased from 26 to 57.⁴² By early 2018, the number of car break-ins was on track to more than triple that amount. Though cash and valuables are often stolen, the aim of these burglaries is most frequently firearms. In response, in February 2018, the West Memphis PD launched a new crime-fighting strategy. The PD examined patterns such as hot spots, days of the week, and times of day during which these crimes most frequently occur and used the findings to strategically deploy officers. This targeted enforcement strategy reduced auto burglaries by 800 percent in the focus area.⁴³ Given the success of this strategy, it has been expanded to other auto burglary hot spots throughout the city.

⁴⁰ <http://wreg.com/2018/02/06/crittenden-county-offers-new-opioid-treatment-center-for-local-residents/>.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² <http://wreg.com/2018/02/06/west-memphis-pd-begin-new-protocol-to-prevent-car-break-ins/>.

⁴³ <https://www.fox13memphis.com/top-stories/auto-burglaries-plummet-after-west-memphis-pd-initiative/713266646?>



Resources

Contact Us

PSP Leadership



Kristen Mahoney
Deputy Director, BJA
(202) 616-5139
kristen.mahoney@usdoj.gov

Kristie Brackens
PSP Co-Director, BJA
(202) 305-1229
kristie.brackens@usdoj.gov

Theodore "Teddy" Miller
PSP Co-Director, FBI
(917) 295-9866
theodore.miller@ic.fbi.gov



Vivian Elliott
(703) 587-9722
elliottv@cna.org

Zoë Thorkildsen
(703) 824-2617
thorkildsenz@cna.org



Carolyn Binder
(850) 385-0600, Ext. 362
cbinder@iir.com

Nicole Alford
(850) 274-8092
nalford@iir.com

Public Safety Clearinghouse

The Public Safety Clearinghouse is an innovative new tool that will change the way you find, save, and share violence reduction resources. Designed to leverage the lessons learned and violence reduction resources available across DOJ components, the Clearinghouse has hundreds of resources—such as training, technical assistance, publications, and evidence-based strategies—all available at your fingertips. Best of all, the Clearinghouse is interactive and allows you to develop a customized toolkit of resources based on your city's unique challenges and opportunities.



How to Build a Toolkit

- » **Step 1:** Select a topic or keyword search.
- » **Step 2:** Refine search with topic-based questions.
- » **Step 3:** Browse resources.
- » **Step 4:** Add resources to toolkit.
- » **Step 5:** Save and download toolkit.

www.NationalPublicSafetyPartnership.org/Clearinghouse

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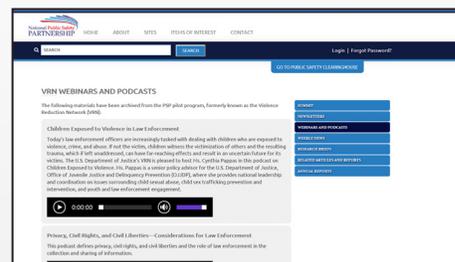


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Crime data and site activities reported in this newsletter are provided by the PSP sites throughout the quarter and have not been independently verified.

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