

2 [PSP 2018 Symposium on Violent Crime](#)

3–7 2015 Sites – Three Years of Engagement
[Compton \(3\)](#)
[Flint \(4\)](#)
[Little Rock \(5\)](#)
[Newark \(6\)](#)
[West Memphis \(7\)](#)

8–16 Site Highlights: July–September 2018
[Birmingham \(8\)](#)
[Indianapolis \(9\)](#)
[Jackson \(10\)](#)
[Memphis \(11\)](#)
[Milwaukee \(12\)](#)
[Nashville \(13\)](#)
[New Orleans \(14\)](#)
[St. Louis \(15\)](#)
[Toledo \(16\)](#)

17 [Upcoming 2018 Events and Endnotes](#)

18–19 [Resources](#)

Back [Contacts](#)

PSP Welcomes Three New Operations Sites

This edition of the quarterly U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) *National Public Safety Partnership (PSP) Operations Newsletter* features the introduction of new Operations sites into the PSP program, the 2018 PSP Symposium on Violent Crime, profiles on the graduating 2015 sites, and site highlights from the 2016 and 2017 sites from July to September 2018.



In August 2018, DOJ announced the addition of three new sites into the PSP Operations program: Kansas City, Missouri; Miami, Florida; and Tulsa, Oklahoma.¹ PSP sites Compton, California; Flint, Michigan; Little Rock, Arkansas; Newark, New Jersey; and West Memphis, Arkansas, will conclude their formal PSP engagement this quarter in September. The 2018 Operations sites were introduced to PSP at the 2018 PSP Symposium on Violent Crime, where site leaders were exposed to a variety of public safety and violence reduction strategies. Next quarter, DOJ will conduct listening sessions at each site to provide site partners the opportunity to share their public safety goals and community challenges with DOJ and to provide the sites the opportunity to learn more about the assistance available through PSP.



2018 PSP Symposium on Violent Crime

The 2018 PSP Symposium on Violent Crime took place in Birmingham, Alabama, on September 24–26, 2018. The symposium convened approximately 280 representatives from the PSP Operations and Diagnostic sites, including state and local law enforcement, prosecutorial, corrections, and community partners, and representatives from the major components of DOJ, such as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF); the Executive Office for United States Attorneys; the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI); the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office); the Office of Justice Programs (OJP); the Office on Violence Against Women; the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA); and the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS).



Then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions addressing participants at the keynote speaker at the PSP Symposium

Then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions delivered the keynote address during the opening ceremony, where he highlighted DOJ's commitment to PSP and the successful work that PSP is accomplishing in the field.² During the opening ceremony of the symposium, additional distinguished speakers included the Honorable Jay Town, U.S. Attorney from the Northern District of Alabama (NDAL); Chief Patrick Smith from the Birmingham, Alabama, Police Department (PD); then-Sheriff Mike Hale from the Jefferson County, Alabama, Sheriff's Office; the Honorable Steve Marshall, Attorney General of Alabama; Mr. Jon Adler, Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA); and Mr. Matt Dummermuth, Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General from OJP.

The remainder of the 2½-day event was dedicated to a robust array of plenary and breakout sessions. The breakout sessions were customized based upon input from the PSP sites regarding their violence reduction priorities. The sites also were provided opportunities to network and learn from one another. More than 65 speakers shared strategies to address gaps and needs in public safety and operations in efforts to build capacity and improve communities.

Topics included:

- Improving Nonfatal Shooting Investigations
- Enhancing Crime Analysis Capacity
- Social Network Analysis (SNA)
- Focused Deterrence Strategies
- Police and Prosecutor Partnerships
- Managing Public Messaging
- Community Partnerships and Constitutional Policing
- The Critical Role of Victim Services in the Criminal Justice System
- Addressing the Opioid Epidemic
- Officer Safety and Wellness
- Improving Homicide Investigations and Increasing Clearance Rates
- Collaborative Policing
- Innovative Prosecution Strategies
- Establishing Crime Gun Intelligence Centers (CGICs)
- Intimidation of Victims and Witnesses



Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Matt Dummermuth providing remarks during the opening ceremony at the PSP Symposium

2015 Sites – Three Years of Engagement

This section features five sites that concluded formal engagement with PSP in September 2018: Compton, Flint, Little Rock, Newark, and West Memphis. Highlights in this section include activities, outcomes, and lessons learned throughout engagement in PSP.

Compton, California

Federal Partnerships

Through PSP engagement, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD)—Compton Station and its federal partners, including ATF, DEA, the U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO)—Central District of California (CDCA), the FBI, and USMS, have dramatically increased collaboration efforts. This increased collaboration, combined with improved investigation procedures and the development of Compton's five-year strategic plan to reduce crime and increase community collaboration and growth, has led to an increase in Compton's violent crime clearance rates. During PSP engagement, law enforcement in Compton seized more than 440 firearms, 18 pounds of fentanyl, 300 pounds of methamphetamine, and 80 pounds of explosives and made more than 1,124 felony arrests total.³ By August 2018, the number of guns seized year-to-date surpassed the number seized in all of 2017. The LASD—Compton Station's recovered firearms are now submitted through eTrace⁴ and receive priority status for National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) submissions. The FBI has provided cold-case clearing assistance. DEA adopted narcotics cases to utilize federal prosecution against violent gang members. A USMS-led multiagency warrant task force conducted arrests of more than 200 individuals, 57 of whom were documented gang members; 60 weapon seizures; and 148 parole searches over PSP's three-year engagement. The USAO—CDCA embedded an Assistant U.S. Attorney into the LASD—Compton Station, and firearm prosecutions were up 40 percent in August 2018.



PSP partners at Compton's final sustainability meeting

Criminal Justice Collaboration

Local partners, including the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office (LADAO), the Compton Unified School District Police Department (CUSDPD), and the Los Angeles County Probation Department, have played a critical role in Compton's successful PSP engagement efforts as well. The LADAO filed more than 50 PSP-related felony cases against 54 defendants throughout PSP engagement on charges such as attempted murder and weapon possession. The USAO—CDCA and the LADAO established case management protocols to ensure that the best venue (state or federal) is used to achieve the most stringent outcomes. The USAO—CDCA and the CUSDPD collaborated to establish the "Cops and Kids" program in various schools, with more schools requesting this program in the upcoming school years. The CUSDPD worked with federal partners to be visible in schools, share career opportunities, and showcase exciting technology and tools to students. The LASD—Compton Station also works with the CUSDPD and Los Angeles County Probation on human trafficking efforts. In July 2018, a human trafficking operation in Compton resulted in 36 arrests and the rescue of two victims.⁵ Compton-area partners have implemented a task force of victim service providers to support victims of violence. Los Angeles County Probation began utilizing a risk assessment tool, revised approaches for compliance checks and case processing, developed a system that flags cases and notifies the LADAO when people are noncompliant or have been rearrested, and assigned a first-ever full-time probation officer to Compton. One unique aspect of Compton's PSP engagement has been the involvement of the city manager, who has been critical in gaining executive and community support for this initiative. The LASD—Compton Station recently started working with the Los Angeles PD as well, since some of its jurisdictions overlap.

Gun and Gang Violence

Gang activity is a significant driver of gun violence in Compton. During Compton's PSP engagement, the FBI completed a gang threat assessment and the National Gang Center conducted a comprehensive gang assessment supported by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for Compton. Local and federal partners used these assessments to develop gang intervention, prevention, and suppression strategies to promote public safety and reduce victimization. Some of the recommendations from these assessments included increasing police capabilities to proactively respond to gangs; enhancing data analysis and utilization in response to gangs; and training to advance the capacity of patrol officers in the CUSDPD who most often interact with gang members. The LASD—Compton Station has since hired a second crime analyst, and ATF and USMS have both provided personnel to assist with Compton's analytic activities. ATF has also assigned a special agent and intelligence research specialist to the LASD—Compton Station to develop a comprehensive, intelligence-led firearms enforcement CGIC. The FBI embedded two agents within the LASD—Compton Station's Operations Safe Streets Bureau to coordinate gang- and firearm-related activities. ATF and DEA conducted several operations into gang member activities, tracking significant quantities of firearms and narcotics into Compton, that resulted in the indictment of 23 gang members on federal drug and firearm charges. As a result of the increased coordination and partnerships in the Compton PSP site on these initiatives, gang shootings in Compton were down 50 percent year-to-date in July 2018.

2015 Sites – Three Years of Engagement

Flint, Michigan

Flint's PSP strategy has been to focus on gang violence; domestic violence prevention, investigation, prosecution, and services; force multipliers through technology and partnerships; and property and evidence collection and storage.

Crime Analysis

The Flint PD made concentrated efforts to address gang violence and enhance its crime analysis capacity throughout its PSP engagement. PSP subject experts conducted a gang fidelity assessment in February 2017 and a comprehensive gang assessment on the scope and nature of gangs and gang issues in the city, including Flint's most prolific offenders and gang members, a map of gang territories, and a field interview form for detailed reporting. Flint also participated in the PSP SNA pilot program as one of the first two pilot sites.⁶ SNA implementation helped Flint identify prolific offenders and sequential networks, predict future victims of crime, and conduct a surge operation that resulted in 20 arrests and eight gun recoveries this quarter. To sustain its successes using SNA surge operations with limited personnel, the Flint PD developed a hybrid hot-spot operation after observing strategies used during peer exchanges to Los Angeles and Tampa, Florida. This hybrid hot-spot initiative identifies a high-crime area based on the week's previous crime statistics and focuses a one-day enforcement and service saturation in that area. Partner local, state, and federal agencies assist with these one-day operations. This hybrid approach has resulted in reductions in crime in the selected areas, and the Flint PD and its partners plan to continue this initiative beyond formal PSP engagement.

Criminal Justice Collaboration and Federal Partnerships

The Office for Victims of Crime's (OVC) Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTAC) conducted a victim services capacity assessment for the Flint PD in 2016. The Flint PD plans to use OVC TTAC's available resources to continue its work in reducing domestic violence and enhancing victim assistance. With the assistance of PSP subject experts, the Flint PD was able to identify and hire a part-time grant writer to assist in identifying and applying for federal, state, and local grants. The Flint PD hopes to receive a grant to provide additional domestic violence investigators in the future.

The Flint PD's relationships with local, state, and federal partners have improved as a result of PSP engagement and have been a critical force multiplier for the department. ATF provided ballistic processing support through NIBIN, helping to eliminate a backlog of more than 1,300 firearms for the Flint PD. The Flint PD instituted policy-change improvements related to firearm DNA testing and NIBIN submissions to enhance these processes, such as sending all crime-scene shell casings through NIBIN and tracking nonfatal shootings. USMS assists with high-value target arrests and gun recoveries. The FBI provides intelligence and analytical support, as well as investigative assistance examining robbery patterns, and assists with search warrants and gun and gang arrests. DEA also assists with the execution of arrests and search warrants, drug seizures, and narcotics initiatives. The USAO—Eastern District of Michigan tracks case outcomes and works with the Genesee County Prosecutor's Office on Flint's high-priority offender list and firearm prosecutions.

Technology

The Flint PD purchased crime-fighting software, Street Smart, that provides real-time crime mapping, allows officers to complete crime analyses from their mobile data terminals, and creates bulletins in real time and offers a system that tracks crime, offenders, and hot spots so officers are apprised in real time on issues and information citywide. Street Smart acts as a force multiplier for the department by allowing officers to conduct their own crime analyses and share information across the department. The Flint PD also is in the process of implementing a new Records Management System (RMS) and migrating the data from the old system to the new system. The new RMS will make data and case management easier and investigations more efficient.

Investigations

PSP provided an assessment of the Flint PD's property and evidence facilities, along with recommendations related to the submission, disposal, collection, and storage of evidence and training and technical assistance (TTA) to guide policy and procedure development. Because of the improvements in its property and evidence storage practices, the Flint PD disposed of more than 2,100 weapons in 2017 alone. The restructuring and organization of the property and evidence storage area will assist in future case management and successful prosecutions.



2015 Sites – Three Years of Engagement

Little Rock, Arkansas

Throughout PSP engagement, the Little Rock PD worked with PSP partners on enhancing relationships with federal and local partners, including the local university; hiring additional crime analysts; improving access to data; tracing connections between crimes; acquiring gunshot-detection technology; and strengthening community engagement. The Little Rock PD reported a 34 percent reduction in homicides and a 16 percent decrease in violent crime year-to-date through October 1, 2018, compared to 2017.

Criminal Justice Collaboration

Through PSP support, the Pulaski County Prosecutor's Office (PCPO) and the USAO—Eastern District of Arkansas (EDAR) established a formalized gun case referral process to achieve the most serious prosecutorial outcomes. This process has increased the number of federally adopted gun cases in Little Rock, resulting in greater sentences for offenders. The Little Rock PD, the PCPO, and the USAO—EDAR collaborate closely on domestic violence cases. The Little Rock PD also participates in a number of federal task forces, including the gang enforcement task force ("GET Rock") and violence reduction task forces. The violence reduction task force has served more than 520 warrants and made more than 440 arrests and 765 felony charges. The Little Rock PD participates in weekly pre-CompStat and frequent CompStat meetings with local and federal partners.

Crime Analysis and Technology

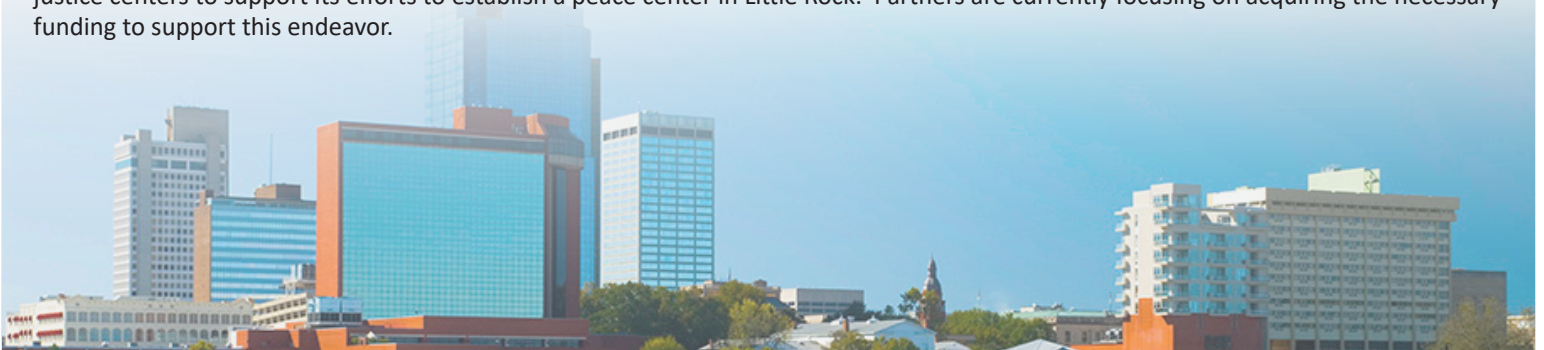
The Little Rock PD has enhanced its crime analysis capabilities during its PSP engagement. The department hired additional analysts, one of whom became certified by the International Association of Crime Analysts (IACA), with plans to certify all analysts in the near future. Based on some of the recommendations from a PSP technology assessment completed in February 2016 and a PSP crime analysis assessment conducted in March 2017, the department invested in new technology and deployment tactics, such as mapping software, Analyst Notebook to perform link analysis, a new computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system, and use of hot spots. PSP assisted the Little Rock PD in strengthening its relationship with the city information technology (IT) department, resulting in more access to crime data.

Gun Crime

The Little Rock PD now regularly uses NIBIN for recovered gun evidence and works closely with ATF on gun crime intelligence. Through Little Rock's close collaboration with ATF, a backlog of more than 1,000 firearms was cleared from the Little Rock PD, a NIBIN expert was assigned to the Little Rock PD, and the Little Rock PD developed policies and practices for firearm tracing to prevent future backlogs and resumed a four-hour processing time to improve timely management of ballistic evidence. Following assistance from PSP on grant strategy development, the Little Rock PD was awarded a Fiscal Year 2017 BJA Technology Innovation for Public Safety (TIPS) grant. The Little Rock PD is using this grant to focus on implementing a gun crimes intelligence unit and used the award to purchase ShotSpotter, a gunshot-detection system, to support this goal. The goals of the new gun crimes intelligence unit, created in March 2018, are to reduce gun crime in historical hot spots around the city, increase the production of timely and actionable gun crime intelligence, improve the collaboration between local and federal partners whose responsibilities overlap related to gun violence and the arrest and prosecution of gun crimes, utilize SNA to prevent gun crimes, improve communication and collaboration between patrol officers and detectives through expanded database access, and evaluate the effectiveness of the new unit with the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Community Engagement

The Little Rock PD has strengthened its community engagement efforts through its focus on hot spots around the city, increasing police presence in these areas and building relationships. The Little Rock PD has participated in blood drives, backpack drives, and "Pizza with Police."⁷⁷ The Little Rock PD also established a partnership with Women and Children First, a local nonprofit, in order to develop a peace center in the community that includes a shelter and incorporates criminal justice partners, staffing, and resources in-house. Throughout its PSP engagement, the Little Rock PD, along with the PCPO, has conducted numerous peer exchanges to learn about family justice centers to support its efforts to establish a peace center in Little Rock. Partners are currently focusing on acquiring the necessary funding to support this endeavor.



2015 Sites – Three Years of Engagement

Newark, New Jersey

To direct its PSP efforts, Newark identified the focus areas of violent crime, especially related to homicides, nonfatal shootings and guns, aggravated assaults and domestic violence, gangs, and drugs; police-community relations and community trust; enhanced crime analysis; increased collaboration among criminal justice partners; and training and aligning its efforts with its DOJ consent decree requirements, when possible. Comparing crime statistics prior to PSP engagement (January 1, 2015, to August 31, 2015) to the end of engagement (January 1, 2018, to August 31, 2018), homicides decreased 24 percent, robberies decreased 60 percent, carjackings were reduced by 63 percent, and the number of nonfatal shooting victims was down 12 percent.

Investigations

Throughout PSP engagement, the Newark PD participated in numerous homicide-related trainings, including the International Homicide Investigators Association (IHIA) Basic Homicide Investigator Course and Major Crime Scene Preliminary Investigations training. In June 2018, a nonfatal shooting and gun violence reduction assessment was conducted in Newark to enhance its ability to conduct comprehensive nonfatal shooting investigations. During PSP, a statewide CGIC program was launched to take full advantage of the statewide NIBIN sites, many of which provide a 24-hour turnaround on analyses. This new statewide approach further supports Newark's goals to aggressively investigate and prosecute gun crimes.

Crime Analysis and Technology

Newark participated in the PSP SNA pilot program in the second cohort of sites. The site received intensive assistance from PSP subject experts on SNA through an in-person training and overview of SNA operational principles. The Newark PD realigned its larger precincts into more manageable sectors to reduce patrol areas for commanding officers and improve the ability to analyze, track, and address crime within each jurisdiction. Newark also established a Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) in its headquarters that is led jointly by the Newark PD and the New Jersey State Police. The Essex County Prosecutor's Office (ECPO), the New York PD, and federal partners are also key participants in the RTCC. The RTCC is staffed by intelligence analysts and investigators. The Newark PD also participated in peer exchanges on Digital Imaging and Video Recovery Team (DIVRT) training to learn techniques for extracting and editing digital video from camera systems in order to distribute to the public to assist law enforcement investigations. Based on recommendations from the technology assessment conducted in 2015, during its PSP engagement, the Newark PD integrated gunshot-detection systems with closed-circuit television, enhanced its detective case management system, installed cameras and launched its Citizen Virtual Patrol program to deter crime and enable citizens to better aid law enforcement investigations, purchased a new RMS, integrated the RMS and the CAD system, and purchased software to allow officers to complete use-of-force reports in their vehicles. The Newark PD also has implemented body-worn cameras in a number of its precincts, with plans to expand to every precinct.

Criminal Justice Collaboration

Through PSP, Newark began partnering with local and federal partners on programs to combat the national opioid and heroin epidemic, on initiatives to better engage the community, and to educate community members on gun violence and interactions with law enforcement. The Newark PD strengthened its relationship with the Housing Authority as a new PSP partner. Law enforcement partners joined with city health services to begin an outreach program, Hope One, to communities heavily affected by the opioid epidemic. The ECPO also established a task force to assist other agencies in responding to the opioid epidemic. ATF launched a program for middle school students exposed to guns and gun violence. DEA launched the "Newark Cares" program in partnership with the Newark PD for youth who have interactions with the police and its "360 Strategy" program in partnership with law enforcement, the medical community, and drug prevention and treatment partners to address the heroin and opioid crisis through diversion, community outreach, and enforcement. Through increased collaboration as a result of PSP, Newark revived the Violent Crime Initiative (VCI). The VCI draws criminal justice resources across levels of government to identify, target, investigate, and prosecute prolific violent offenders. The USAO—District of New Jersey, the Newark PD, the ECPO, the Essex County Sheriff's Office, the New Jersey State Parole Board, the New Jersey Department of Corrections, ATF, the FBI, DEA, and USMS all participate in the VCI and its biweekly meetings. As a result of the VCI, between March and September 2018, 28 alleged members of a drug trafficking organization in and around Newark were charged federally with narcotic and firearm offenses. In September 2018, six alleged members of a different drug trafficking organization were prosecuted federally, and two were charged with firearm offenses, and two firearms were seized. At least 15 defendants also are being prosecuted by the ECPO.⁸

Community Engagement

The Newark PD has conducted a variety of community engagement activities throughout its PSP engagement, including the Citizen Clergy Academy, the Public Safety Youth Academy, "Coffee with a Cop," and Gang Resistance Education And Training. The Newark PD was directed to provide community policing training to all officers as part of its DOJ consent decree requirements. The PSP team assisted the Newark PD in determining the best ways and provider to fulfill this requirement, resulting in a course developed by the Virginia Regional Community Policing Institute on community policing, partnerships, organizational transformation, and problem solving. Every active officer now has been trained on the Newark PD's new community policing policy. PSP also helped Newark identify Community Policing and Bias-Free Policing training with assistance from the COPS Office and supported the development of a training curriculum for the department's revised use-of-force policy. In August 2018, use-of-force complaints were down 84 percent and contacts with the community were up 27 percent.

2015 Sites – Three Years of Engagement

West Memphis, Arkansas

During its engagement, PSP assisted West Memphis in addressing violent crime challenges by focusing on data-driven policing and engaging the community. PSP helped the West Memphis PD bolster its relationships with federal partners, develop a crime analysis capacity and data-driven crime reduction strategy, strengthen community outreach, improve officer recruitment, and establish a police foundation.

Crime Analysis and Technology

Prior to joining PSP, the West Memphis PD did not have a crime analysis capacity or designated analyst and did not use data to examine crime patterns and trends throughout the city. Through a series of assessments, TTA, and peer exchanges, West Memphis made organizational changes within the department to better support a crime analyst and, with the help of PSP subject experts, developed policies and procedures for data analysis. The West Memphis PD now has fully integrated crime analysis efforts into its policing culture and strategies and purchased case management and analytic software to expand these efforts. The West Memphis PD was the recipient of a BJA TIPS grant, which it is using to install mobile data terminals in patrol cars and increase other intelligence-gathering capabilities. PSP also helped West Memphis develop the West Memphis Police Foundation through TTA and subject-expert assistance that will assist the site in acquiring funding and support for policing needs, including technology.

Investigations

A main tenet of West Memphis's new proactive data-driven policing strategy is Operation Data-Enhanced Targeted Enforcement and Restoration (DETER). Operation DETER is modeled closely after the Los Angeles' Strategic Extraction and Restoration (LASER) program that the West Memphis PD learned about on a peer exchange to the Los Angeles PD. The Operation DETER strategy employs an emphasis on chronic offenders, violent crimes against people (e.g., murder, robbery, assault), and firearm-related crime; using data to determine crime trends, patterns, and resource deployment in a defined geographic area; and neighborhood restoration. In Operation DETER's first year, West Memphis experienced a 27 percent decrease in DETER crimes in its focus area. West Memphis's local and federal PSP partners are heavily involved in Operation DETER. Federal law enforcement partners assist with enforcement activities and direct patrols in the DETER focus area. ATF helped the West Memphis PD clear a backlog of more than 800 firearms and increased the West Memphis PD's ability to use NIBIN to identify and connect firearms.

Community Engagement

Through Operation DETER, the West Memphis PD works with the school board and housing development on safety concerns and neighborhood restoration. In August 2018, the West Memphis PD participated in a peer exchange to the Austin, Texas, PD to learn more about its community engagement and community-based crime reduction efforts. The West Memphis PD also hired a community outreach officer and a civilian community liaison using a grant awarded by the COPS Office. The West Memphis PD also has built a growing social media presence to regularly engage with the community by sharing crime and safety information, providing violent crime strategies and neighborhood restoration efforts within the city, announcing departmental activity, and soliciting assistance from the community to solve crimes. The West Memphis PD also attended DIVRT training through PSP and now produces crime commercials to share on social media.



Site Highlights: July–September 2018

Birmingham, Alabama

Federal Partnerships and Criminal Justice Collaboration

Local and federal law enforcement partners continued to conduct proactive, targeted operations. A four-day roundup in August, carried out by the Birmingham PD, USMS, and the USAO—NDAL, resulted in 29 arrests on charges such as attempted murder and robbery.⁹ The USAO—NDAL also has charged 15 gangs federally as of August 2018. This quarter, ATF continued to build its coordination with the Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles, participate in home visits, and develop relationships with informants.

Technology

The Birmingham PD continued to increase its coordination with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office's Metro Area Crime Center (MACC) this quarter. In September, Birmingham announced plans to install cameras in nonresidential high-crime areas in a pilot program. The Birmingham PD will determine camera locations based on crime trends. The cameras will be monitored by the MACC.¹⁰

Local Updates

An increase in Birmingham PD staff has enabled accelerated information and intelligence sharing. The homicide clearance rate has increased from 36 percent to 47 percent in two months as of August 2018. The Birmingham PD also combined its robbery and homicide units, created a felony assault unit, and adjusted its patrol shifts to 10-hour shifts to provide more coverage in the community.¹¹ The Birmingham PSP site hosted the 2018 PSP Symposium on Violent Crime on September 24–26, 2018.



Site Highlights: July–September 2018

Indianapolis, Indiana

Criminal Justice Collaboration

The Indianapolis Metropolitan PD reported in July that it has identified, with assistance from local and federal partners through ballistic tests and other forensic evidence, 45 juveniles and young adults responsible for approximately 24 violent crimes since 2017, including murders, robberies, and shootings.¹² USMS also has increased the number of warrants served, especially for shootings and homicides, and is leading witness protection efforts.

Gun Violence

As of July 2018, NIBIN submissions have increased to 1,800 year-to-date compared to 636 in 2017. The Marion County Prosecutor's Office has hired a part-time assistant prosecutor to follow up on NIBIN cases. In August, two drug busts in Indianapolis resulted in the arrest of eight individuals and the seizure of three loaded handguns, one of which was stolen.¹³ The Indianapolis Metropolitan PD seized 80 illegally possessed firearms in three weeks, reported in August 2018.¹⁴ In August, Marion Superior Court Probation reported 60 recovered firearms during home visits with the Indianapolis Metropolitan PD and ATF in the last five months.

Crime Analysis

The Indianapolis Metropolitan PD identified plans to hire three new crime analysts this quarter using an award from DOJ. These analysts will focus on using data from social media to track criminal activity and focus on gun violence, performing link analysis on recovered shell casings.¹⁵

Local Updates

The Indianapolis Metropolitan PD participated in numerous community meetings this quarter to talk with the community and detail the department's efforts to reduce violent crime and enhance community relations. The Indianapolis Metropolitan PD has increased its homicide clearance rate from 40 percent in 2017 to 70 percent year-to-date as of July 2018. The department attributes this increase to enhanced collaboration, improved relationships between investigators and operations staff, new detectives, assigning an analyst to the homicide unit, and more community members coming forward. Supervisors with the Indianapolis Metropolitan PD received implicit bias training, already required for recruits, in July 2018.¹⁶



Site Highlights: July–September 2018

Jackson, Mississippi

Federal Partnerships

As of July 2018, Project EJECT (Empower Jackson Expel Crime Together) has federally indicted over 70 individuals. The Hinds County District Attorney's Office joined the Project EJECT task force this quarter and began working with the USAO—Southern District of Mississippi (SDMS) on case referrals to enhance prosecution outcomes on cases with a federal nexus, such as carjackings, illegal firearms, and business robberies. The USAO—SDMS hosted several community forums to discuss Project EJECT's efforts with the community regarding how the program works and how the community can be more involved. Prevention efforts as part of Project EJECT were active this quarter, hosting engagements and dialogue with local youth in Jackson to discuss gun violence.¹⁷ The USAO—SDMS also began participating in the Jackson PD's CompStat and pre-CompStat meetings this quarter.

Criminal Justice Collaboration

The Jackson PD participated in a number of peer exchanges this quarter. Representatives from the Jackson PD visited the St. Louis, Missouri, Metropolitan PD in August 2018 to learn more about its CompStat processes, crime analysis, ballistic evidence, and collaboration with prosecutors. Participants from the Jackson PD attended a training on the New Orleans, Louisiana, PD's Ethical Policing Is Courageous (EPIC) peer-intervention program. The Jackson PD hosted trainers from the New Orleans PD's EPIC program for a two-day training on August 7–8, 2018. Representatives from the Jackson PD also attended an IHIA training in Newtown, Pennsylvania, in September 2018 to enhance homicide investigations.

Crime Analysis

The embedded analyst program between the Jackson PD and Jackson State University kicked off this quarter. A memorandum of understanding was approved for students at Jackson State University to provide research and analysis on crime data for the Jackson PD to reduce gun-related crime and its negative impact on quality of life in the community as part of the embedded analyst program.



Site Highlights: July–September 2018

Memphis, Tennessee

Gun Violence

The USAO—Western District of Tennessee (WDTN) is focused on prosecuting firearm cases and has participated with other partners such as ATF, the Memphis PD, and the Shelby County District Attorney’s Office in campaigns targeting firearms, including “Fed Up,” the “Project ChildSafe” Initiative, and a campaign against straw purchases.¹⁸ The Memphis PSP site was awarded a CGIC grant and is exploring the creation of a regional CGIC. In September 2018, Memphis’s site partners began planning efforts with subject expert Mark Kraft, the Memphis PSP site team, and the Police Foundation to discuss training and objectives related to comprehensive gun tracing. Representatives from the Memphis PD and the Shelby County District Attorney’s Office attended a training session at the Milwaukee, Wisconsin, CGIC in August to observe its procedures and processing of recovered firearms and shell casings during the investigations of violent crimes. Memphis also has established a dedicated NIBIN team. This team has increased its follow-up on NIBIN submissions and now responds to NIBIN leads in real time. This strategy has been successful in removing chronic offenders from the community. As of July 2018, homicides were down approximately 50 percent in Memphis’s PSP focus area Raines Street Station. Business robberies were down 28 percent. The FBI arrested several individuals responsible for business robberies. Citywide, homicides were down approximately 17 percent year-to-date as of August 2018 and nonfatal shootings were down 46 percent in August 2018.

Criminal Justice Collaboration

PSP subject experts conducted an additional site visit to support the comprehensive prosecution assessment of the Shelby County District Attorney’s Office in August 2018. The Shelby County District Attorney’s Office created a new crime strategies prosecution unit as a result of the ongoing prosecution assessment. The new unit handles violent crime, including gun and drug crime, and uses data to address crime drivers in the community. The Multi-Agency Gang Unit, Project Safe Neighborhoods, NIBIN, and the USAO—WDTN are working closely with this new crime strategies prosecution unit. Memphis site partners began conducting focused deterrence call-ins earlier this year, with great success. The Memphis PD is exploring best practices and considerations for identifying group offenders to be notified at call-ins to further enhance this initiative. The OVC TTAC assessment team conducted a site visit for the victim services assessment in August 2018. This assessment will help Memphis examine its strengths and how to enhance victim services, especially related to domestic violence.



Site Highlights: July–September 2018

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Gun Violence

Nonfatal shootings decreased 17 percent year-to-date citywide and 38 percent in the Center Street Corridor, Milwaukee's PSP focus area, as of September 2018. The Milwaukee PD instituted a rolling follow-up of shooting cases in August 2018 to provide more accountability based on its peer exchanges to the Oakland, California, PD regarding shooting reviews and lessons learned in implementing its own shooting review processes. Local, federal, and research partners attend these shooting reviews.

Criminal Justice Collaboration

The Milwaukee PD's Special Investigation Division (SID) and anti-gang unit executed a search warrant in September that resulted in the seizure of two firearms and drugs worth \$65,000 in estimated street value.¹⁹ Another search warrant executed in September by the SID and DEA's local High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area team resulted in the seizure of five guns and 265 grams of cocaine, fentanyl, and oxycodone.²⁰ In September, the Milwaukee PD and the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office formed a tactical enforcement unit to focus on violent crime reduction and illegal firearms in Milwaukee's highest-crime areas.²¹

Local Updates

The Milwaukee PD began planning for a technology assessment, specifically regarding its RMS, in September. The Milwaukee PD also attended several community meetings and forums this quarter to discuss its violent crime strategies and relationships with the community.



Site Highlights: July–September 2018

Nashville, Tennessee

Criminal Analysis and Criminal Justice Collaboration

The Metropolitan Nashville PD's crime analysts received training in August on ArcGIS to support the Metropolitan Nashville PD's crime analysis initiatives. In August 2018, Nashville established a task force to target gang violence. The USAO—Middle District of Tennessee (MDTN), USMS, the FBI, and the Metropolitan Nashville PD all participate in this task force. USMS and the Metropolitan Nashville PD are exploring how best to coordinate and use SNA to develop top offenders lists and use crime analysis to identify and target chronic perpetrators of gang violence. The Metropolitan Nashville PD plans to implement SNA in four of its districts.

Investigations

The Metropolitan Nashville PD's juvenile crime task force, established in February 2018, reported in September that it has confiscated 127 firearms and recovered 94 vehicles since its inception.²² As part of the establishment of its homicide hybrid team based on the homicide investigations assessment, the Metropolitan Nashville PD developed standard operating procedures with the Davidson County Prosecutor's Office and the USAO—MDTN regarding these teams in August 2018. The Metropolitan Nashville PD is exploring various basic and advanced training options for the department as a whole and for the homicide hybrid team, respectively. In July, the Metropolitan Nashville PD arrested 85 suspects in one week on gun, cocaine, heroin, and other charges.²³ The Metropolitan Nashville PD also executed a search warrant in September that resulted in the seizure of 15 guns.²⁴ In August, the Metropolitan Nashville PD reported a 16 percent decrease in fatal shootings, comparing January–August 22, 2018, to the same period in 2017.²⁵

Community Engagement

In the Metropolitan Nashville PD's West Precinct, where PSP is deploying the collective efficacy initiative, an officer was able to successfully use de-escalation tactics on an assailant with a gun to prevent a shooting. The officer knew the individual through his work in the targeted collective efficacy neighborhood. Since this incident, the rest of the precincts and the community have fully embraced the philosophy of collective efficacy. As part of the community capacity assessment and the collective efficacy initiative, the Metropolitan Nashville PD worked with the PSP site team and subject expert Dr. Craig Uchida to develop a community outreach plan in the West and North Precincts.



Site Highlights: July–September 2018

New Orleans, Louisiana

Federal Partnerships

A partnership between ATF and DEA led to the indictment of nine and the arrest of seven targeted individuals in the New Orleans PD's 1st District for conspiracy to engage in racketeering. As part of the New Orleans PD's "Operation Summer Heat," the New Orleans PD, DEA, and USMS arrested 71 drug dealers in August 2018 as part of the two-month undercover operation.²⁶

Gun Violence

Armed robberies were down in the city 13 percent year-to-date as of August 2018. Nonfatal shootings were down 10 percent year-to-date. Subject expert Chief J. Scott Thomson from the Camden County, New Jersey, PD conducted a site visit to New Orleans to meet with the New Orleans PD, the Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office, and the USAO—Eastern District of Louisiana in July regarding gun case review processes and gun crime intelligence assistance. As a result of this engagement, New Orleans is refining its federal case investigative and charging decision processes.

Criminal Justice Collaboration

The multiagency gang unit that was previously housed under the Mayor's Office was transferred to the New Orleans PD. This unit will work together with the Tactical Intelligence Gathering and Enforcement Response (TIGER) teams on armed robberies and shootings citywide. This quarter, the New Orleans PD hired three social workers to aid victims of crime using a federal grant to provide counseling and victim advocacy, inform victims about criminal justice processes, and serve as a liaison between victims and detectives on their cases. These social workers will be based in the New Orleans PD's 5th, 6th, and 7th Districts and will supplement the city's overall violence reduction strategies.²⁷ Trainers from the New Orleans PD's EPIC program also traveled to the Jackson PD, a PSP site, in August to provide a two-day training on the peer-intervention program.



Site Highlights: July–September 2018

St. Louis, Missouri

Federal Partnerships

In July, the USAO—Eastern District of Missouri (EDMO) reported that USMS has rounded up 155 felons wanted for serious violent crimes.²⁸ The USAO—EDMO reorganized its office to focus more on violent crime prosecutions and was on track to triple the number of prosecutions this year as of July 2018. As of August 2018, the USAO—EDMO had doubled gun prosecutions, prosecuting 600 cases year-to-date compared to 300 at the same time in 2017. The USAO—EDMO also plans to bring on additional violent crime prosecutors.

Gun Violence

A list of “top shooters” was announced in January 2018, identified by local and federal law enforcement, prosecutors, probation officials, and social service groups.²⁹ In July, the USAO—EDMO reported success in targeting offenders on this list, with 15 individuals already charged.³⁰ This list and the partners involved enable local and federal agencies to use data analysis and a more regional, proactive approach to crime, while the inclusion of community partners helps stabilize neighborhoods. In August 2018, the site reported that homicides were down 12 percent year-to-date and robberies were down 17 percent.

Criminal Justice Collaboration

In July, the USAO—EDMO announced federal indictment charges for 15 people related to a specific public housing complex on conspiracy to distribute fentanyl, deaths resulting from the conspiracy, and firearm charges. Numerous firearms were seized in the execution of search warrants related to the investigation by local, state, and federal law enforcement. With these arrests, U.S. Attorney Jeff Jensen explained that he believes that the drug distribution organization in the complex has been dismantled.³¹ The St. Louis Metropolitan PD’s Commissioner John Hayden followed up the indictments by visiting the complex to build further relationships with the community, providing reassurance that involvement in the complex would not be strictly enforcement-only and that other resources had been invited to work in the area.³² Representatives from the St. Louis Metropolitan PD received procedural justice training in July, and the department hosted a BJA VALOR³³ Survive and Thrive training in September that focused on deconfliction and de-escalation.

Technology

Mobile technology trailers with cameras and gunshot-detection systems that travel around the city have had a significant impact in stabilizing areas in the immediate aftermath of events such as shootings to help break the cycle of retaliation.

Community Engagement

The St. Louis Metropolitan PD participated in numerous community engagement events this quarter, including a mobile ice cream truck called “Operation Polar Cops”; an antiviolence march; “Feeding and Reading” to provide meals, books, and activities for local youth; and Real Time Crime Center tours for citizens.



Site Highlights: July–September 2018

Toledo, Ohio

Gun Violence

In anticipation of acquiring its own NIBIN machine, the Toledo PD continues to visit and observe other agencies to identify best practices for implementation. At the IACA Conference in September, analysts attended several sessions about NIBIN analysis and geospatial work and identified some successful strategies being used by other cities around the country. In September, the Toledo PD announced plans to purchase ShotSpotter using a BJA TIPS grant. ShotSpotter will be used to help identify locations of shootings and recover more shell casings for NIBIN.

Criminal Justice Collaboration

In August, the USAO—Northern District of Ohio reported that a ring of individuals suspected of selling large quantities of fentanyl in the Toledo area had been indicted following arrests by the FBI and the Toledo PD.³⁴ Based on recommendations from the violence analysis assessment report delivered in April 2018, the Toledo PD selected a geographic area in downtown Toledo in which to focus its PSP efforts. Local and federal partners are working to identify hot spots and violent offenders in the focus area.

Crime Analysis

To enhance Toledo's crime analysis capacity, two analysts from the National Guard counter-drug force will support the Toledo PD's vice unit on drug crime prevention and training the other analysts. Representatives from the Toledo PD also attended an International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST) Crime Analysis for Executives training in August.

Technology

A technology assessment was conducted for Toledo in July to enhance the Toledo PD's public safety plans. This assessment examined matters such as IT support and planning, network and infrastructure, RMS, patrol and vehicle technology, detective investigations, and databases.

Investigations

The report for the major crimes assessment was provided to the site this quarter. This assessment reviewed the Toledo PD's case management and approaches to investigations in order to identify areas for enhancement.



Upcoming 2018 Events and Endnotes

OCTOBER 2018						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

October

- 16–19: New Orleans Strategic Planning Site Visit
- 18: Jackson Embedded Analyst TTA
- 18: Tampa PD's Gun Crime Reduction Strategies Webinar
- 24–25: FBI DIVRT Training in Huntsville, Alabama
- 30: Miami New Site Listening Session
- 30–November 1: Indianapolis Crime Analysis Assessment

NOVEMBER 2018						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

November

- October 30–November 1: Indianapolis Crime Analysis Assessment
- 5–7: Nashville PSP Site Team Visit
- 5–9: Advanced Homicide Training in Quantico, Virginia
- 15: Kansas City New Site Listening Session
- 28: Tulsa New Site Listening Session

DECEMBER 2018						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

December

- 11–12: Indianapolis Strategic Planning Site Visit
- 18–19: Memphis Strategic Planning Site Visit

Endnotes

- <https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdtn/pr/attorney-general-sessions-announces-new-national-public-safety-partnership-sites-combat>.
- <https://www.justice.gov/opa/speech/attorney-general-sessions-delivers-remarks-us-department-justice-national-public-safety>.
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Resources



Public Safety Clearinghouse

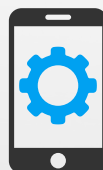
Strategic Solutions to Increase Public Safety

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.

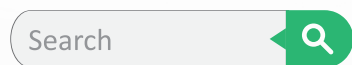


How to Build a Toolkit

- » **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



Browse by Topic



- » Community Policing
- » Corrections
- » Crime Analysis
- » Crime Prevention
- » Domestic Violence
- » Drug Crime
- » Gang Violence
- » Gun Violence
- » Homicide
- » Human Trafficking
- » Intelligence/Information Sharing
- » Justice-Involved Youth
- » Officer Safety/Wellness
- » Prosecution
- » Sex Crimes
- » Social Media
- » Technology
- » Victim/Witness Assistance

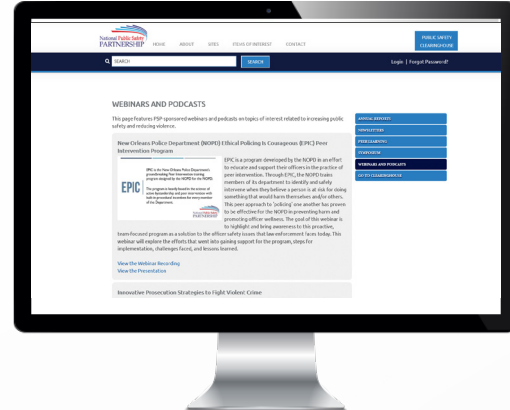
www.NationalPublicSafetyPartnership.org/Clearinghouse

PSP Website



To access these and other resources, visit www.nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org.

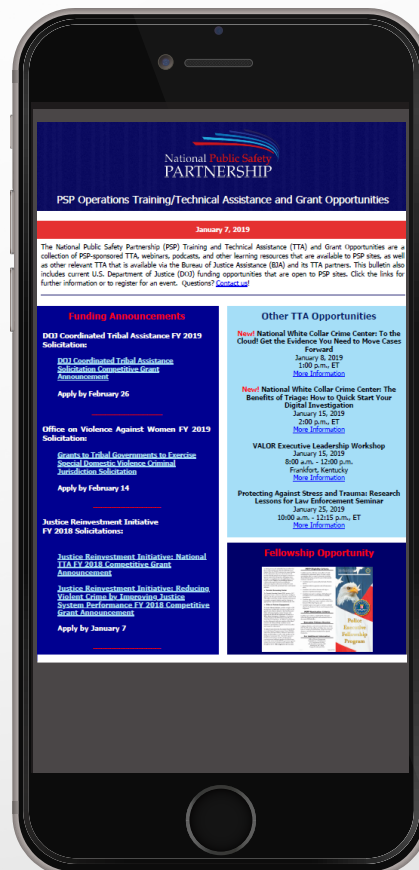
Webinars and Podcasts



To access all of the PSP webinars, visit www.nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org/Home/ItemsOfInterest/Webinars.

PSP Operations Training/Technical Assistance and Grant Opportunities Bulletin

The *PSP Operations Training/Technical Assistance and Grant Opportunities* bulletin is distributed biweekly and serves as a one-stop resource for PSP sites regarding upcoming learning opportunities such as peer exchanges, webinars, conferences, and meetings; DOJ publication releases and competitive grant solicitations; featured toolkits from the Public Safety Clearinghouse on emerging issues in the criminal justice community; and other information regarding violent crime strategies for the PSP sites. [Click here to subscribe.](#)



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