



DOJ OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS EMAIL UPDATES

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BJA NTTAC PROGRAMS

The U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) was implemented with the intention of assisting local, state, and tribal authorities in their mission to make communities safer. The BJA allocates services and provides leadership in both grant management and policy creation and improvement related to the criminal justice field.

The BJA's National Training and Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC), developed in 2008, pairs specialized experts with local, state, and tribal authorities in need of assistance. Said assistance focuses on everything from crime reduction strategies to information aimed at reducing recidivism rates. These experts specialize in maintaining both safety and fairness in the justice system.

The BJA NTTAC provides free training and technical assistance in multiple formats (in-person and online) on various topics such as mental health and crime prevention. Specialized attention allows specific agency-based issues to be appropriately and efficiently addressed. In order to request this training, sign up with the [link](#) and follow the directions on the page.

CRIME SOLUTIONS

PSN seeks to connect analysis of local gun and gang crime to evidence-based and promising practices. The Office of Justice Programs runs a webpage, CrimeSolutions.gov, that allows an individual or agency to review thorough and sound research in order to find potential solutions to juvenile and adult criminal justice issues. It also has research available on crime victim services and their effectiveness. A simple rating system is in place to easily notify viewers how effective a program was at achieving its end goal. This site was created with the intention of sharing both solutions and failures of programs related to the criminal justice field. It is important to note that being presented on this site does not indicate nor constitute an endorsement by the United States Department of Justice.

IN THE NEWS

According to the Charleston Gazette, a woman faces up to 10 years in federal prison for a felon in possession of a firearm. This comes after Project Safe Neighborhoods helped bring the case to court. According to authorities the woman initially pulled out a pistol in front of an informant during a drug deal, a week later two more guns were found in her home, showing how easily it is for felons to have access to firearms. Focusing enforcement resources on high risk felons using guns to further illegal drug sales has been a cornerstone of Project Safe Neighborhoods. [READ MORE](#)

Among the crack-down of creating a safer society a Manchester man has been sentenced to 83 months in federal prison for illegal possession of gun and ammunition. The investigation was done as a part of Project Safe Neighborhoods, where two stolen AK-47 combat rifles, several gun clips, and drugs in this man's home were found in the man's home. The man was also prohibited from possessing firearms at the time. [READ MORE](#)

Kideuk Kim, a participant and instructor at the Smart Suite, a Smart Suite Researcher Practitioner Fellows Academy, winter 2017 offering, is the lead author on this insightful publication, 2016 Law Enforcement Use of Social Media Survey. [READ FULL PUBLICATION](#)

EXCHANGE CORNER

The Exchange Corner is designated space in the newsletter for a transfer of peer to peer highlights, suggestions, and successes. Have something to share on strategies, desired training or session topics, emerging issues? Please send all correspondence to: **Heather Perez**, perezh@msu.edu.

Innovative and evidence-based gun and gang crime reduction strategies are occurring in communities across the country through Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN). These include enforcement, intervention, prevention, and community building strategies. Each Newsletter provides an opportunity to share these ideas.

Detroit PSN is focused on the city's 8th precinct due to historic and current levels of gun and gang violence. Detroit PSN leverages multiple resources to support a comprehensive strategy that includes a focused deterrence approach to gang and group violence (Detroit Ceasefire) coupled with street outreach and services; long-term gang investigations conducted by a local-federal task force; joint federal-local prosecution screening of gun cases; school-based prevention; and a unique police-business partnership aimed at place-based violence prevention (Detroit Greenlight).

Fort Worth PSN also employs a comprehensive and data-driven approach to gun, gang, and family violence reduction. Through an established relationship with an

embedded research partner, Fort Worth PSN utilizes a variety of analytical tools to provide strategic and tactical intelligence on the drivers of gun and gang violence. An innovative finding from these analyses is the overlap between gun and gang violence with domestic violence and child maltreatment. This has resulted in a collaboration between PSN and the Cook Children's Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment so that highly focused prevention efforts can be coupled with the PSN enforcement and intervention strategies.

In Memphis, a GunStat model is utilized to identify the most prolific repeat violent offenders in gun crime hotspots and to coordinate proactive enforcement and highly focused prosecution. The **Memphis PSN** GunStat approach emphasizes team accountability by monitoring people and places involved in gun crime, tracking cases from arrest through prosecution, and working with the research partner to track impact at the level of individual offenders as well as community trends in violent crime.

Milwaukee PSN is a FY15 and FY16 funded PSN site and has developed many strategies to address and reduce violence and gun crime in the City. One such means is the [Milwaukee Homicide Review Commission](#), rated by CrimeSolutions.gov as an effective strategy.

Gun crime and related violence generates significant trauma in the community. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has developed principles and resources for police, first responders, treatment providers and others on how to recognize and respond to individuals who may be experiencing trauma. See <https://www.samhsa.gov/nctic/trauma-interventions>

PSN REDUCING VIOLENT CRIME WORKSHOP

The PSN Reducing Violent Crime Workshop was developed in 2012 to support Project Safe Neighborhoods' task forces in the effective implementation of evidence-based strategies for reducing violent crime. The workshop provides a grounding in the PSN model of federal-state-local and community partnerships as well as data driven strategies and research collaboration. Cutting-edge violence reduction strategies and peer-to-peer learning among PSN teams from across the nation highlight the workshop.