

PUBLIC SAFETY SUCCESS STORY

Small Town Embraces Big City Tech to Curb Growing Gun Violence



CITY
KANKAKEE, IL

POPULATION
26,024

COVERAGE AREA
1 SQUARE MILE

PRODUCT USED
SHOTSPOTTER RESPOND™

CUSTOMER SINCE
NOVEMBER 2020

SITUATION

Gun violence in Kankakee, population 26,000, has escalated in recent years. In 2020, there were seven homicides and almost daily reports of shots fired.

RESULTS

The Kankakee police department is one of a growing category of smaller towns deploying ShotSpotter's acoustic detection technology for preventing and reducing gun violence. Results were almost immediate: Police arrested a suspect in December 2020 after ShotSpotter pinpointed a location where shots had been fired. Officers also recovered a 9 mm handgun nearby, along with shell casings matching the weapon.

59

shots fired recorded by ShotSpotter in second full month

50%

reduction in response time to shots-fired scene with ShotSpotter

In a January 2021 case, police credited the technology and quick action of the responding officer for saving the life of a gunshot victim. In four of the six shooting incidents in January, police made arrests or identified suspects. Overall, Kankakee police report they have located victims, evidence and suspects more quickly since introducing ShotSpotter.

Photo by: Michael Hammond Photography

HOW SHOTSPOTTER BENEFITS KANKAKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

✓ QUICKER RESPONSE TIMES

Officers **respond to a shots-fired scene within 3 to 4 minutes**, compared to between 7 and 8 minutes prior to ShotSpotter being deployed.

✓ BOOSTS COMMUNITY CONFIDENCE

City officials and community members have been extremely concerned by increased gun violence. **ShotSpotter "makes a statement"** that the police are being proactive.

✓ BETTER EVIDENCE LINKING CRIMES

Rapid scene response has led to **better recovery of shell casings**, which have been **linked to other crimes** through forensic analysis.

“ We are finding that the ShotSpotter technology is making our community safer in a financially responsible way by maximizing the impact of our officers' response to shots fired calls.

Police Chief **FRANK KOSMAN**
Kankakee Police Department

“ ShotSpotter enabled us to get to the scene before the call for service came out, directly helping us save lives and arrest the suspects in the shooting incident.

Commander **Donell Austin**
Kankakee Police Department