PUBLIC SAFETY SUCCESS STORY

Newport News PD Calls ShotSpotter an “Investigative Game Changer”

City leaders, law enforcement and a local hospital came together to address a shared public safety concern in Newport News, a mid-sized city that had seen gun violence steadily escalate since 2012. The coalition funded ShotSpotter’s gunshot detection technology in 2018 with the goal of reducing shootings by responding to incidents faster and having more accurate information to improve investigations.

After deploying ShotSpotter Respond in mid-2018, law enforcement saw immediate results through the coordination of gunshot alerts with PTZ cameras to quickly and accurately locate and arrest violent suspects, and provide the intelligence to solve crime. To bolster investigations, the agency found ShotSpotter guided officers to the scene precisely and quickly so they could greatly improve evidence collection, particularly shell casings, and were notified of crime scenes they might have otherwise missed. With the addition of a NIBIN machine, investigators could use the new trove of evidence for many more NIBIN hits that yielded an increase in useful case information.

HOW SHOTSPOTTER BENEFITS
NEWPORT NEWS POLICE DEPARTMENT

- **IMPROVED INVESTIGATIONS**
  - Officers receive a real-time ShotSpotter alert with pinpointed location for fast, accurate response to the scene to arrest offenders and collect critical evidence.

- **BETTER CLEARANCE RATE**
  - Coordination with NIBIN and PTZ cameras means more cases solved and 50 percent better clearance rate (above national average) on non-fatal shootings.

- **FEWER GUNS ON STREETS**
  - Decrease in shootings tied to the ability to seize more illegal weapons. Officers seized 1,050 guns in 2020, up significantly from 886 in 2019, and just 659 in 2018.

- **STRONGER COMMUNITY RELATIONS**
  - Faster response times help deter and reduce gun violence, reassuring the community and building trust.

ShotSpotter is an investigative game changer. We are able to get much more information with NIBIN hits and using our cameras to help solve cases that would not have been possible before.

ERIC RANDALL | Newport News Assistant Police Chief

If you would like to learn more about ShotSpotter, please visit us at [www.shotspotter.com](http://www.shotspotter.com)