PUBLIC SAFETY SUCCESS STORY

Cleveland Officials Credit ShotSpotter for Saving Lives and Ensuring a Safer Community

With an increase in shootings and many gun-related crimes going unreported, police found it difficult to know when, where or even if an incident occurred. This prompted the city officials to adopt new technology to address gun violence.

In late 2020, ShotSpotter Respond was deployed in key gunfire hot spot areas of the city and it immediately led to significant results. Addressing the low rate of public reporting, the Cleveland Division of Police (CDP) revealed that in just one year they had received 2,777 ShotSpotter alerts for gunfire incidents that had not been called into 9-1-1. These real-time alerts include a precise location of a shooting, allowing officers to arrive on the scene quickly and better prepared. Already the CDP’s increased response efforts are estimated to be at least two times as fast as prior to ShotSpotter and helped them to provide critical first aid to save six lives.

Homicides have dropped 15% from 2020 to 2021 in the coverage area while a similar non-ShotSpotter area experienced a 25% increase in homicides. The city is seeing other results that bolster the efforts to make the community safer with 38 guns recovered and 36 arrests. In terms of investigations, the CDP reports that the fast on-the-scene response has helped them increase evidence collection, resulting in 175 NIBIN leads. Overall city leaders say that the existence and awareness of ShotSpotter is a deterrent in and of itself and a positive step to build trust and strengthen the police and community relationship.

In the short time that ShotSpotter has been in place, Cleveland Police Officers have been able to save the lives of at least six gunshot victims. I will continue to be a supporter of technology that saves lives and makes my community safer.

Council President BLAINE A. GRIFFIN  |  Cleveland Ward 6

ShotSpotter technology is assisting the Cleveland Division of Police in providing for the safety of our community through smarter, safer, and more effective policing. We are saving lives, building trust, and engaging our community thanks to the practices we are putting into place with Shotspotter.

Commander BRANDON KUTZ  |  Cleveland Division of Police, Fourth District

HOW SHOTSPOTTER BENEFITS CLEVELAND DIVISION OF POLICE

蜇 SAVING LIVES
Every second matters for the lives of shooting victims and ShotSpotter ensures responders are notified quickly and accurately to the pinpointed location.

蜇 MODERN AND EFFECTIVE POLICING
Timely tactical information about gunshot incidents helps improve law enforcement’s effectiveness at the scene, during evidence collection and follows through to investigations and prosecution.

蜇 STRONGER COMMUNITY RELATIONS
Reduced shooting rates, along with reliable officer response to shooting events, help deter gunshot incidents and build trust with the community.