

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE

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Police Unveil State-of-the-Art Crime Fighting Technology ShotSpotter Gunshot Location System

The Metropolitan Police Department unveiled its new crime-fighting tool, ShotSpotter Gunshot Location System (GSL) today, Tuesday, July 1, 2008. Law enforcement agencies around the United States use ShotSpotter GSL technology as a crucial tool in their efforts to combat gun violence.

ShotSpotter GLS is a state-of-the-art system that uses sensors to detect the sound and location of gunfire. Within 15 seconds of gunshots, the computer system in patrol cars will alert officers of the address closest to where the gunshots came from. The system also determines how many shots were fired, and pinpoints whether the shooter was in the front, back or on the side of the building and even whether the shooter was moving or standing still.

ShotSpotter GLS has a track record of effectively assisting law enforcement as a proactive tool and during post-crime analysis. By aiding police in more quickly identifying gunfire, police and emergency personnel can more quickly come to the aid of gunshot victims. ShotSpotter GLS can help in forensic investigations by getting officers quickly to a crime scene while evidence is still fresh. It keeps recordings of the gunshots, including timelines and firing positions so police have a record of exactly when and where the gunfire occurred. This gives police better data to target areas showing high levels of illegal gunfire, enabling them to monitor and proactively patrol areas of concern.

ShotSpotter GLS was financed through a \$250,000, Edward Byrne Grant from the Department of Justice.

ShotSpotter Inc., was founded in 1994 by Robert Showen, a former physics professor at the University of California at Berkeley, who adapted sensors and software designed to locate earthquakes.

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