

INTRODUCED: April 24, 2023

AN ORDINANCE No. 2023-125

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$65,800.00 from the Virginia Office of the Attorney General, and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Police’s Office of the Attorney General Special Fund by \$65,800.00, for the purpose of supporting gun violence reduction initiatives in the city of Richmond.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrons – Mayor Stoney and Ms. Lambert

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved as to form and legality  
by the City Attorney  
\_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC HEARING: MAY 8 2023 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That the Chief Administrative Officer is authorized to accept funds in the amount of \$65,800.00 from the Virginia Office of the Attorney General for the purpose of supporting gun violence reduction initiatives in the city of Richmond.

§ 2. That the funds received from the Virginia Office of the Attorney General are hereby appropriated to the Special Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023, by increasing estimated revenues by \$65,800.00, increasing the amount appropriated for expenditures by \$65,800.00, and allotting to the Department of Police’s Office

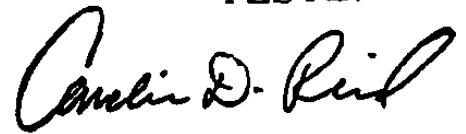
AYES:               9               NOES:               0               ABSTAIN:                 

ADOPTED:     MAY 8 2023     REJECTED:                        STRICKEN:

of the Attorney General Special Fund the sum of \$65,800.00, for the purpose of supporting gun violence reduction initiatives in the city of Richmond.

§ 3. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

**A TRUE COPY:  
TESTE:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlin D. Reed". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

**City Clerk**



# CITY OF RICHMOND

## INTRACITY CORRESPONDENCE

**O&R REQUEST**

**DATE:** March 7, 2023 **EDITION:** 1

**TO:** The Honorable Members of City Council

**THROUGH:** The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor

**THROUGH:** J.E. Lincoln Saunders, Chief Administrative Officer

**THROUGH:** Sabrina Joy-Hogg, DCAO Finance and Administration

**THROUGH:** Sheila D. White, Director of Finance

**THROUGH:** Jason May, Director of Budget and Strategic Planning

**FROM:** Richard G. Edwards, Acting Chief of Police

**RE:** Acceptance of grant funds to support Gun Safety, LE Equipment, and Community Events

**ORD. OR RES. No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**PURPOSE:** To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to accept \$65,800.00 from the Virginia Office of the Attorney General (OAG) and appropriate the same to the FY2023 Special Fund Budget to support the Richmond Police Department's Gun Violence Suppression Initiative, which includes gun safety, the purchase of law enforcement equipment, and community events.

**REASON:** The Adopted 2023 Special Fund Budget for OAG is \$190,000.00. Subsequently, the City of Richmond Police Department received \$255,800.00, which exceeds the adopted amount.

**RECOMMENDATION:** RPD recommends accepting an appropriation of \$65,800.00 to the Richmond Police Department FY 2023 Special Fund Budget for the Office of the Attorney General.

**BACKGROUND:** The Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation (BCJI) Program, formerly the Innovations in Community-Based Crime Reduction (CBCR) program, supports data-driven, comprehensive, and community-oriented strategies to reduce crime in neighborhoods with hot spots of crime. Through a broad cross-sector partnership team, including neighborhood residents, BCJI grantees employ a wide range of crime prevention and intervention strategies to address the conditions, including physical conditions, contributing to crime in these

areas. The **focus areas** for Richmond's BCJI initiative are the Gilpin neighborhood, one of the oldest and the largest public housing communities in the City's Northside, police sector 411, targeted neighborhoods, and identified hotspots.

**FISCAL IMPACT / COST:** These funds will increase the FY23 Special Funds Budget.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:** The addition of these funds (\$65,800.00) will allow the Richmond Police Department an opportunity to support gun safety, LE equipment, and community events.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NECESSARY:** Yes. This request amends the FY23 Special Fund Budget.

**REVENUE TO CITY:** The City of Richmond will add \$65,800.00 to the FY23 Special Funds Budget – Office of Attorney General.

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:** Upon Adoption

**REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE:** March 27, 2023

**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** April 10, 2023

**REQUESTED AGENDA:** Consent Agenda

**RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE:** Public Safety

**CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:** None.

**AFFECTED AGENCIES:** Department of Finance, Department of Budget and Strategic Planning, and the Richmond Police Department

**RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.:** This amends the Special Fund Budget, Ordinance 2022-056

**REQUIRED CHANGES TO WORK PROGRAM(S):** None.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Grant Award, Special Fund Agency Detail, Special Fund Description by Agency  
**STAFF:**

Richard G. Edwards, Acting Chief of Police, [Richard.Edwards@rva.gov](mailto:Richard.Edwards@rva.gov)

Victoria N. Pearson, Civilian Deputy Chief, [Victoria.Pearson@rva.gov](mailto:Victoria.Pearson@rva.gov)

Albert B. Stokes, Jr., Civilian Deputy Chief, [Albert.Stokes@rva.gov](mailto:Albert.Stokes@rva.gov)

Matthew E. Peanort, III, Deputy Director, [Matthew.Peanort@rva.gov](mailto:Matthew.Peanort@rva.gov)

GiTonya L. Parker, Grants Manager, [GiTonya.Parker@rva.gov](mailto:GiTonya.Parker@rva.gov)

## PROGRAM NARRATIVE

### **Statement of the Problem**

The Richmond Police Department intends during the calendar year 2022-2023 to extend the Gun Violence Suppression Initiative to reduce gun violence (all gun-related crimes) in defined micro hotspots throughout the City of Richmond and educate community residents, business owners, and stakeholders on the significance of gun safety.

The Richmond Police Department is in the business of problem-solving, whether those problems require short- or long-term solutions or affect individuals or whole neighborhoods. When it comes to the issue of violent crime, we must use the tools at our disposal to reduce the harm visited upon victim populations and their neighborhoods. In doing so, RPD has to balance the priorities of maintaining credibility and community support, working within a finite set of resources, and addressing the needs of stakeholders with potentially competing priorities. Moreover, despite the critical roles played by other components within the criminal justice system, law enforcement leaders and their agencies are often the focal points of concerns about violent crime.

Engaging in problem-solving exercises is essential to ensuring limited resources are used most effectively, maintaining the confidence of stakeholders, and ensuring that crime trends are responding to chosen interventions. Problem identification and analysis are the first steps in determining prioritized strategies and deployment. Numerous methodologies exist for getting to the root of an encountered problem, including the SARA Model (Scanning, Analysis, Response, and Assessment) and the Problem Analysis Triangles (Crime Triangle).

Although data analysis is often the first cut in identifying a problematic trend, a dramatic event galvanizes public opinion around a specific problem and will require special attention. Analyzing a critical incident may reveal an emerging problem before data indicate the issue. For example, in the past, a series of shootings from social media showed an emerging crime trend that became a severe problem in many jurisdictions when, at first, it appeared to be unique. Single events determine deployment priorities.

For the RPD 2022-2023 Gun Violence Suppression Initiative, Police Operations will utilize the following strategies to reduce gun-related violence in specific locations in each precinct: Police Hotspot Site Selection, Place Network Investigation Tools, Community Engagement, Police Investigations, RPD Intradepartmental Partnerships, SARA Model Problem-Solving methodology, and Crime Analytics and Technology.

### ***What is Place Network Investigation?***

PNI (Place Network Investigations) is a citywide strategy to eliminate violence and other chronic crime problems. The PNI strategy is grounded in evidence that suggests persistent crime patterns and violent hot spots are visible indicators of underlying crime place networks. Crime place networks are specific locations der groups use to conduct ongoing illegal activities. These locations provide the "infrastructure" necessary to operate illicit markets and often promote violent interactions. Skilled PNI investigators, working in chronically violent micro-locations, identify

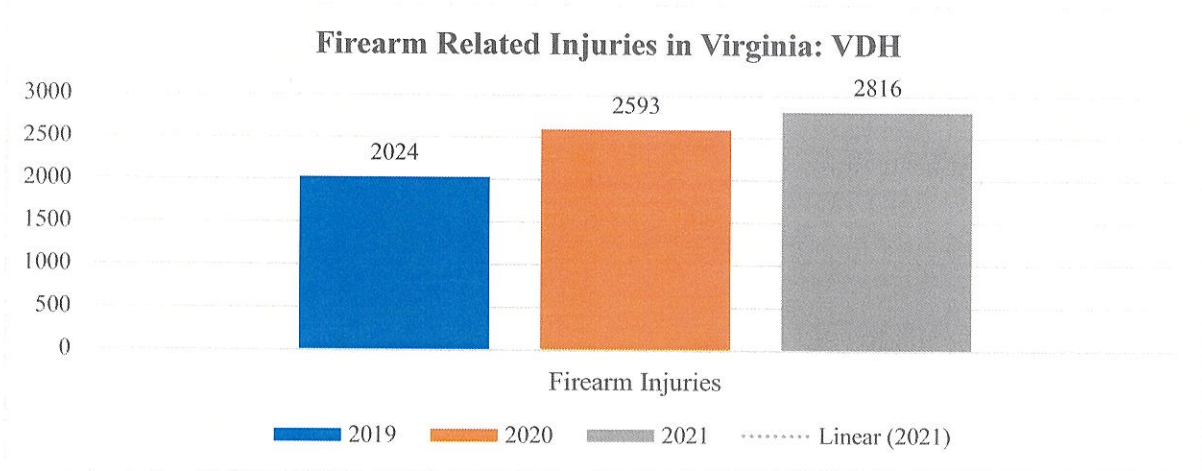


crime place networks and build cases against individuals who own and operate network locations. Investigative findings are reported to City PNI Board members. Board members include police and city department leaders who coordinate and strategically deploy existing city resources to dismantle crime place networks and disrupt offender networks operating in these locations. Eradicating deeply entrenched crime place networks produces the sustained crime reductions needed to support community redevelopment and long-term economic growth. (Chronic Violence Reduction Initiative, 2022)

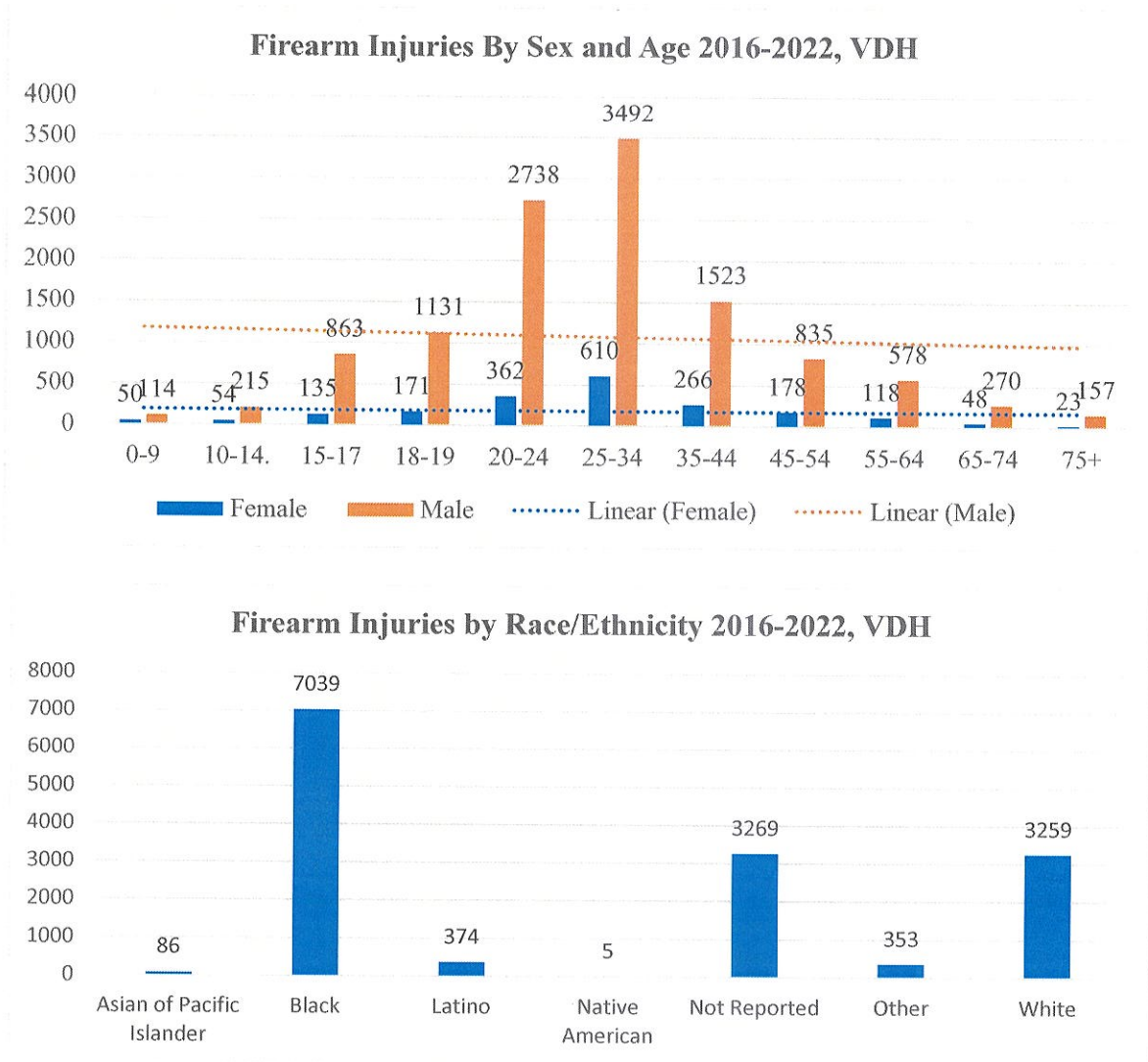
*\*From June 1, 2022, through September 8, 2022, Patrol Operations used the strategies above to reduce gun-related crime at micro hotspot locations throughout the City.*

### **Analytics**

Firearm injuries are a severe public health problem affecting people of all ages. Individual health effects include physical disability, mental health problems, and death. Firearm injuries also affect the well-being of family, friends, neighborhoods, and communities. The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) tracks emergency department (ED) visits for firearm injuries. These can include self-harm, assault, or unintentional (accidental). Accordingly, VDH reports that the City of Richmond has seen this upward trend (VDH, 2022).

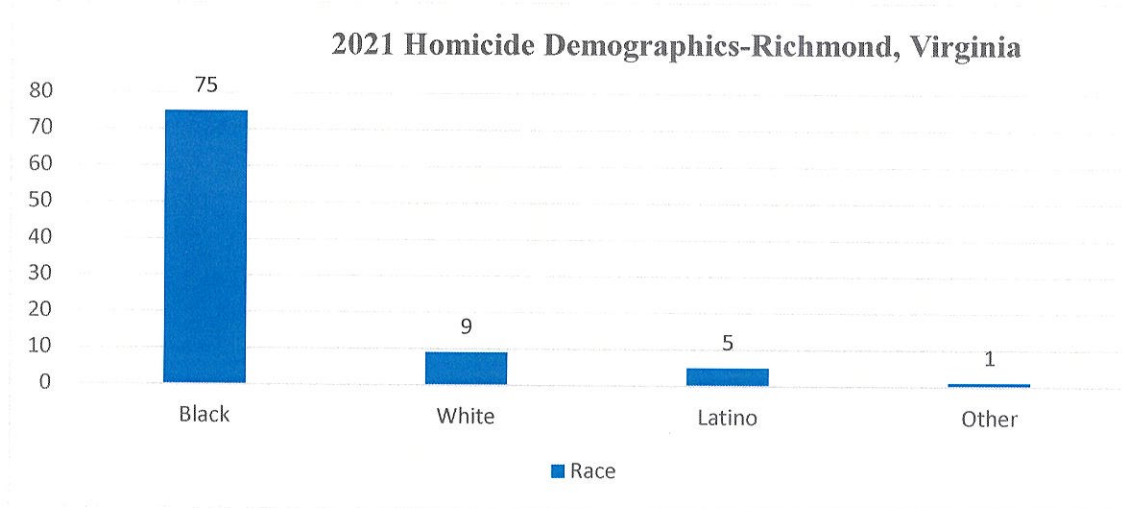


The victims of these types of incidents are polarizing. In Richmond, the likeliest victims of gun-related incidents are black males between the ages of 25-34 (VDH, 2022).



In 2021, the City of Richmond saw dramatic increases in gun violence. Overall, there were 1,102 reported violent crimes in 2021. In 2021, there were 92 homicides compared to 66 in 2020. This is a 39% increase, and 83% of all homicides were committed using firearms. In 2021, 60% of all robberies involved firearms, and 47% of all aggravated assaults involved firearms. There were 571 incidents involving firearms in 2021. Of the 571 incidents, 232 people were shot. (Richmond IBR, 2022) The demographics related to victimization in Richmond are equally polarizing to the regional reports. 83% of all homicide victims were Black. 87% of all homicide victims were male. Overwhelmingly, black males are the victim and offenders of gun-related aggravated assaults and robberies in 2021.

\*\*According to the 2021 U.S. Census, the population of Richmond, Virginia, is 226,604. Per capita rate for violent crimes  $((226,604/1102) \times 100,000) = 486$ .



### Crimes Impacted

The type of gun-related crimes that this initiative will focus on are:

- a. Aggravated Assault with Firearm
- b. Murder/Homicide
- c. Robbery with Firearm
- d. Shooting into Occupied Dwelling/Vehicle
- e. Shooting into an Unoccupied Dwelling/Vehicle
- f. Property Damage involving Firearms
- g. Accidental Shooting
- h. Stolen Firearms (Theft from Motor Vehicle)
- i. Weapons Law Violations — The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, concealment, or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices, or other deadly weapons.

### Geographical Area/Target Enforcement

The area of targeted enforcement will be the Gilpin neighborhood. Neighborhoods potentially affected by displaced or diffused crime within a mile and a half will also be included in the enforcement area. A common concern with place-based approaches, such as hot spot policing, is that they will not reduce crime and disorder but instead push or displace the activity to places nearby (so-called spatial displacement). A separate systematic review of displacement in policing interventions found little evidence of displacement and some evidence of diffusion of crime-control benefits. A diffusion of crime-control benefits refers to situations in which areas surrounding a targeted hot spot also show improvement, despite not receiving the intervention. These positive spillover effects of hotspot interventions make place-based interventions even more efficient and can be explained, in part, by offenders overestimating the size of target areas. They think crime prevention strategies are being implemented where they need to be. Additionally, the same opportunities for offending may not be present in the areas surrounding the hot spot site, which also decreases the likelihood of immediate spatial displacement (J. Hibdon & C. Telep,



2019). Incorporating coverage for displacement or diffusion allows law enforcement to cover the positive or negative effects of targeted place-based enforcement. Seventeen of 150 neighborhoods (11%) will be covered in this initiative.

	<b>Neighborhood</b>	<b>ABV</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Precinct</b>	<b>Distance from GLPN</b>
1	Biotech and MCV District	BIO	413	4	>1.5 mi
2	Brookland Park	BRKP	412	4	>1.5 mi
3	Carver	CRVR	412	4	>1.5 mi
4	Chamberlayne Industrial Center	CHC	411	4	>1.5 mi
5	City Center	CC	411	4	>1.5 mi
6	Edgewood	EGW	413	4	>1.5 mi
7	Fairfield	FRFD	113	1	>1.5 mi
8	Gilpin	GLPN	412	4	>1.5 mi
9	Ginter Park	GNP	412	4	>1.5 mi
10	Ginter Park Terrace	GNPT	412	4	>1.5 mi
11	Highland Park Southern Tip	HPST	411	4	>1.5 mi
12	Highland Terrace	HGTR	411	4	>1.5 mi
13	Jackson Ward	JKWD	413	4	>1.5 mi
14	Mosby	MSBY	113	1	>1.5 mi
15	North Highland Park	NHP	411	4	>1.5 mi
16	Southern Barton Heights	SBHG	411	4	>1.5 mi
17	Whitcomb	WHCB	113	1	>1.5 mi

**Crime Drivers- Crime Triangle** – This initiative focuses on location and not specific offenders/victims; however, the offender/victim plays a significant role in why crime is committed using the crime triangle.

1. Location (Hot Spots) - Within neighborhoods, research has indicated that violent crime occurs in a small number of “hot spots.” These hot spots are “micro places” — either street intersections or segments (two block faces on both sides of a street between two meetings). When gun violence increases, these hot spots account for most of the increase, and the same occurs when gun violence declines. Hot spots’ presence is linked to opportunities — for instance, the presence of more bus stops or the lack of street lighting — and social controls on crime. Both informal social controls as collective efficacy, and formal social controls, such as the presence of law enforcement, could prevent hot spots. Evidence suggests that policing aimed at hot spots — particularly problem-oriented policing that focuses on specific problems such as gun seizures and engages the community as a partner — can be more effective and does not just displace crime.
2. Offender - Crime place network strategies identify hot spot locations as safe places for the offender to ply their trade. Specifically, “comfort spaces” or private places controlled by

the offender and their associates (Chronic Violence Reduction Initiative, 2022) significantly contribute to the ease of committing or being the victim of violent crime.

3. Victim - Crime place network strategies identify hot spot locations as conducive locations where a citizen becomes a victim of a gun-related crime. Specifically, “comfort spaces” or private places controlled by the offender and their associates significantly contribute to the ease of committing or being the victim of violent crime (Chronic Violence Reduction Initiative, 2022).

**Analytics for Targeted Neighborhoods** - Data is based on the following neighborhoods: Biotech and MCV, Brookland Park, Carver, Chamberlayne Industrial Center, City Center, Edgewood, Fairfield, Ginter Park, Highland Terrace, Highland Park Southern Tip, Jackson Ward, Southern Barton Heights, Mosby, Whitcomb, Fairfield, Gilpin, Ginter Park Terrace, Edgewood, and North Highland Park

**Neighborhood Count Weapons Seized**

17 of 150 Neighborhoods	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 YTD
<b>Firearms Seized</b>		202	207	303	425	293

**Neighborhood Count Major Crime with Firearms**

17 of 150 Neighborhoods	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 YTD
<b>Homicide</b>	18	14	20	20	29	10
<b>Robbery with Firearm</b>	47	40	40	34	30	16
<b>Aggravated Assault with Firearm</b>	83	81	81	87	98	70
<b>Victims Shot</b>	74	46	70	79	7a 7	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>150</b>

**Neighborhood Count Accidental Shootings**

	<b>2017-2022</b>
<b>Accidental Shooting</b>	<b>75</b>

**Neighborhood Count --Weapons Violation**

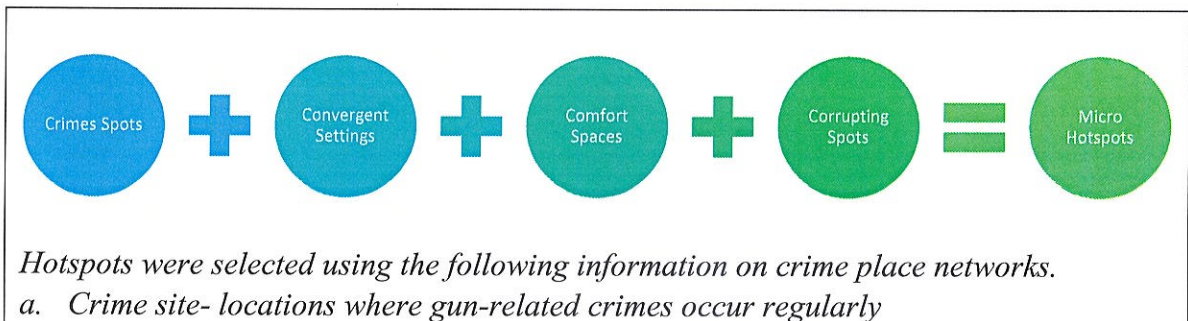
<b>Top Weapons Violation by Neighborhood</b>	<b>2017-2022</b>
<b>Whitcomb</b>	236
<b>Mosby</b>	197
<b>Fairfield</b>	107
<b>Gilpin</b>	289
<b>North Highland Park</b>	109
<b>Highland Park Southern Tip</b>	97
<b>Highland Terrace</b>	56
<b>Ginter Park</b>	116
<b>Carver</b>	47
<b>Brookland Park</b>	42
<b>Jackson Ward</b>	67
<b>Biotech and MCV</b>	51
<b>City Center</b>	40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1454</b>

**Project Design and Implementation**



*Site Selection/Hot Spots (Place Network Investigations)* - The geographic concentration of crime suggests responses that would include problem-solving (e.g., dealing with the issue of nuisance businesses and properties); community-based policing (e.g., foot and bicycle patrols, and the establishment of block watches); and traditional crime-suppression and investigations strategies (e.g., the use of task forces, careful debriefing of arrested suspects, hotspot policing, or plain-clothes operations). Crime sites are identified through calls-for-service and historical and current crime incident report analyses; police and other city department investigations are used to identify three additional crime place network location types.

- Bars, parks, intersections, or other public locations where offenders regularly loiter are examples of convergent settings.
- Apartment units, storerooms, garages, or other private locations offenders use to meet, stage crimes, or store and distribute illicit goods and services are examples of comfort spaces.
- Businesses that launder money or sell, buy, or distribute goods stolen in other locations are examples of corrupting spots. (Chronic Violence Reduction Initiative, 2022)





- b. *Convergent setting- public locations where offenders congregate*
- c. *Comfort Space-private locations controlled by offenders*
- d. *Corrupting Spot-local business that drives violent behaviors*

**A. Patrol Crime Strategies**

1. *Focused Deterrence* - directed patrol, arrest, surveillance, search warrants, hot spot curve, and field interview or arrest of known violent offenders.
2. *Disrupting Patterns* - identify and remove convergent settings and comfort spaces through surveillance, community walks, meeting with property owners/management, arrest of wanted persons, and directed patrol.
  - a. *The Koper Curve*, emanating from the Minneapolis Hot Spots Policing experiment and tested in Sacramento, suggests that random 10-15 minute patrols at least every two hours in hot spots optimized deterrence. The goal is to maximize crime reduction and increase community satisfaction and legitimacy.
  - b. *Blue Light Special*- Police blue lights are turned on patrol vehicles for higher visibility, in compliance with RPD's officer safety requirements.
3. *Community Engagement* - RPD will host Community Pop-Up Events for each neighborhood involved in this initiative. Previously, these events were highly successful, and several community businesses, law enforcement partners, and civic associations participated.
4. *Crime Analysis and Technology* - Technology is woven into every fiber of a police department and takes the form of hardware, software, communications systems, intelligence centers, and equipment. Technology systems can create the infrastructure for actionable intelligence, enhance officer safety, support efficient operations, and manage risk, but systems are only effective when complemented by appropriate processes and implementation. Effectively using technology in such a way that advances specific agency goals requires the critical human elements of ensuring compatibility of information systems, sufficient capacity to use it, training, protocols, and proper focus. The Crime Analyst Team has worked with the precincts to identify hotspot locations. We will continue with their team throughout this initiative. FMT officers will also use the following systems to help with their investigations.
5. *Investigations* - Focusing on habitual offenders sometimes overlaps with the geographic concentration of crime. However, an offender focus requires intelligence development to identify such persons carefully and necessitates partnerships with federal and local prosecutors and probation and parole agents. Repeat victims frequently overlap with repeat offenders. Firearms-related crime is often driven by a cycle of retaliatory violence in which today's victim may be tomorrow's offender. The habitual victim/habitual offender approach may be similar in these circumstances. However, there are times when a focus on victims, separate from their assailants, is required. For example, many victims of domestic violence are repeat victims, and part of any practical approach must go beyond arresting the assailant. Victims must be guided to and assisted with accessing domestic violence services in these cases.

- a. Patrol Operations- Focus Mission Teams will be the primary coordinator of daily operations for this initiative.
- b. Special Operations-Traffic, K-9, and Mounted officers are asked to provide staffing for directed patrol as requested by each precinct.
- c. Special Investigations-Red Ball Team and Narcotics are asked to share crime intelligence related to violent offenders.
- d. Sector Officers- All officers will be required to submit Hotspot Curve data and assist with collecting data using the Community Survey.
- e. Environmental Officers-Environmental officers will be asked to handle CPTED issues in each location.
- f. Precinct Detectives-Precinct detectives will assist FMT on surveillance operations, search warrants, and controlled buys.
- g. Major Crimes- Major crimes will be asked to share intelligence regarding targeted violent offenders.
- h. Community, Youth, and Intervention Services-CYIS will be asked to assist in data collection for business and community surveys and with gun safety training in each community.

**B. Community Engagement** - Maintaining community support is a classic problem in policing, and it is especially crucial and challenging when the Department deploys resources to address violent crime. Because violent crime patterns may require focus on a particular geography or high-rate, habitual offenders, the effects of the Department's efforts will be experienced differently, often dramatically, in areas that receive more of the Department's attention and resources. It is essential that the police executive sets and reinforces expectations and holds officers accountable for policing in a fair, impartial, constitutional manner to be effective and build trust.

- a. *Community Pop-Up Events*- Pop-Up events are an effective medium to educate and share information about gun violence. These events attract children and adults and last no longer than 2 hours. RPD has successfully hosted these events with the community and interdepartmental stakeholders. Using non-traditional vendors to provide education or job opportunities to the public directly affects gun-related violence. For example, the United States Army provided a recruiter to attend a pop-up event. While on the surface, this may seem contradictory, however, the recruiter provided job opportunities to young men and women who may not have considered the military a career choice. When reviewing the victimology and socioeconomic factors surrounding gun-related events, chronically unemployed young men ages 15-34 are overwhelmingly affected by gun violence. A 2021 study by the Philadelphia Department of Health reported:  
*ZIP codes with higher rates of chronic unemployment also have more shooting victims. She said the connection is most pronounced for men and boys ages 16 to 64, particularly Black and Hispanic men and boys. The opposite is true for ZIP codes with lower rates of chronic unemployment among men and boys, according to the study. In those ZIP codes, there are fewer shooting victims. More than 80%*

*of ZIP codes in the city have either high rates of chronic unemployment and gunshot victims or low rates of chronic unemployment and gunshot victims, the research found (Moselle, 2021).*

- b. *Community Walks-* Community walks are a critical tool used in community policing models. They are used to break down barriers, gain familiarity, educate the public, start critical conversations, and engage the community. These walks focus on developing relationships with community members and providing a law enforcement “point of contact” outside of calling 911.

C. **Intradepartmental Partnerships** - Ensuring districts/precincts foster relationships with non-profit, social service, victim advocacy, and faith-based agencies and use those relationships to identify and solve problems in high crime areas. At the same time, the Department as a whole maintains unique relationships with those agencies. Creating opportunities to share critical information with the private sector, business improvement districts, and professional associations to message the Department's goals and strategies, illustrate the importance of public safety in economic development and overall neighborhood stability, and collaborate to identify and solve problems. RPD will request a liaison from each agency within the City.

- a. Office of the Mayor
- b. Department of Emergency Communication
- c. Parks and Recreation
- d. Department of Planning and Review
- e. City Council
- f. GRTC and Transportation
- g. Community and Economic Development
- h. Commonwealth Attorney
- i. Richmond Ambulance Authority
- j. Community Wealth Building
- k. Human Services
- l. Richmond Fire and Emergency Management
- m. Housing and Community Development
- n. Immigrant Engagement
- o. Code Enforcement (CCET)
- p. RBHA
- q. RRHA
- r. Richmond City Health Department
- s. Social Services
- t. Justice Services
- u. DPW
- v. DPU
- w. Richmond Sheriff Office

D. **External Partners include** the FBI, ATF, DEA, U.S. Marshals, and the Office of the Attorney General, COGIC, and many others who participated in the summer initiative.

## Goals and Objectives

1. The primary goal of this initiative is to reduce calls for service and incidents involving gun violence within the hotspot locations. These calls include:
  - a. Aggravated Assault with Firearm
  - b. Murder/Homicide
  - c. Robbery with Firearm
  - d. Shooting into Occupied Dwelling/Vehicle
  - e. Shooting into Unoccupied Dwelling/Vehicle
  - f. Property Damage involving Firearms
  - g. Accidental Shooting
  - h. Stolen Firearms (Theft from Motor Vehicle)
  - i. Weapons Law Violations — The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, concealment, or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices, or other deadly weapons.

2. The secondary goal is to educate the public on gun safety, foster relationships with external and non-traditional stakeholders, and decrease incidents related to gun violence and improper handling of a firearm. Virginia Code § 22.1-204.1 permits local school boards to provide firearm safety education for students at the elementary school level. Specifically, the code section provides

*To assist local school boards electing to provide firearm safety education programs, the Board of Education shall establish curriculum guidelines for a standardized program of firearm safety education for the elementary school grades to promote the protection and safety of children enrolled in the public schools. The curriculum guidelines shall incorporate, among other principles of firearm safety, accident prevention, and the rules upon which the Eddie Eagle Gun safe Program offered by the National Rifle Association is based. Local school boards electing to provide firearm safety education shall offer instruction pursuant to the Board's curriculum guidelines and shall integrate firearm safety education into appropriate subject areas, if feasible, to ensure that every elementary grade student completes the course of study in firearm safety education. See Va. Code § 22.1-204.1. Firearm safety education program*

RPD would provide gun safety training and education to all elementary schools within the focused area neighborhoods. All training would meet the Virginia Board of Education requirements.



**Proposed Budget**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Solar Powered License Plate Recognition (LPR) cameras	\$ 110,000.00
Gun Safety T-Shirts	\$ 4,200.00
Gun Safety Program Materials	\$ 5,000.00
Community Patrol	\$ 99,000.00
Place Based Investigations	\$ 30,000.00
Pop-up events	\$ 2,000.00
Eddie the Eagle	\$ 5,600.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 255,800.00</b>

**Grant Management and Compliance**

The Richmond Police Department’s role in executing the grant strategy is multifaceted. RPD will be the fiscal agent for the Community Based Crime Reduction grant. Coordination of all progress reports will be handled by the department’s Grants Manager who is responsible for ensuring the programmatic and fiscal compliance of all grant activities. RPD’s Deputy Director, Business Services, will oversee the Grants Manager’s role and responsibilities and will ensure that all purchases follow the city government’s procurement policies, procedures, and the Department of Justice (DOJ) Guidelines. Majors Sybil El-Amin Jones and Rick Edwards, Project Coordinators, will be responsible for executing the project and defining measurable actions to achieve the overall goals and objectives. The OAG will be responsible for all communication and correspondence from the grantor as well as the coordination of all grant-related activities, including regular meetings, grant modifications/approvals, etc. All agencies will maintain communication and work within the grant’s terms and conditions.

Project Coordinator- Major Donald Davenport (Area 1)  
 Major Sybil El-Amin Jones, Chief of Staff

Grants Manager- Ms. GiTonya Parker (RPD Grants Manager)

Financial Manager- Mr. Matt Peanort (RPD Finance Chief)

OAG- Mr. Mark Fero, OAG

**Expected Outcomes** - The primary goal of this initiative is to reduce calls for service and incidents involving gun violence within the hotspot locations.

1. Reduced gun homicides
2. Reduced gun assaults/robberies
3. Reduced calls for service
4. Increased seizure of firearms
5. Reduced property crimes related to firearms

6. Reduced gun injuries (emergency room data are available from hospitals and state public health departments)
7. Reduced severity of gun injuries
8. Greater perceptions and education of safety among neighborhood youth, other community members, and local merchants.

**Project Evaluation** - the Project Coordinators, Major Sybil El-Amin Jones and Major Donald Davenport, will maintain all data regarding expected outcomes dependent on the affected area of patrol operations. Precinct Commanders will report out during the 28-day FOCUS schedules.

## Resources

- Chronic Violence Reduction Initiative, Place Network Investigations, Retrieved from:  
<https://www.theiacp.org/sites/default/files/Research%20Center/PNI%20Summary.pdf>
- Hibdon, J. & Telep, C. (2019) Understanding and Responding to Crime and Disorder Hot Spots  
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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
AND  
RICHMOND POLICE DEPARTMENT**

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (“MOU”) is made this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023 by and between the COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (“Commonwealth” or “OAG”), and the RICHMOND POLICE DEPARTMENT (“Department”).

1. **PURPOSE:** This Memorandum sets out the terms of an understanding between the OAG and the Department for using federal grant funds to assist the OAG and Gilpin community with reducing violent crime and improving public safety. The OAG will provide \$255,800 in federal grant funds to the Department to execute its responsibilities under the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), and Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) grant outlined in the Community-Based Crime Reduction (CBCR) action plan.
2. **TIME FRAME:** The grant received by the OAG has a project period ending September 30, 2023. Contracts signed and items procured before 09/30/23 may be reimbursed through December 15, 2023.
3. **BACKGROUND:** On or before October 1, 2018, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), and Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) awarded the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) a grant under the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program, also known as Community-Based Crime Reduction (CBCR) for Gilpin. This program furthers DOJ’s mission by leading efforts to enhance the capacity of local communities to effectively target and address significant crime issues through collaborative cross-sector approaches that help advance broader neighborhood development goals.

The grant is \$1,000,000.00, with \$255,800.00 budgeted and approved for the Department by DOJ and the OAG.

For this MOU, the sponsoring department within the city is the Richmond Police Department. The expenses being funded by this MOU are listed in the chart below and are more thoroughly detailed in the grant proposal.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Solar Powered License Plate Recognition (LPR) cameras	\$ 110,000.00
Gun Safety T-Shirts	\$ 4,200.00
Gun Safety Program Materials	\$ 5,000.00
Community Patrol	\$ 99,000.00
Place Based Investigations	\$ 30,000.00
Pop-up events	\$ 2,000.00
Eddie the Eagle	\$ 5,600.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 255,800.00</b>



4. **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION:** The Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation (BCJI) Program, formerly the Innovations in Community-Based Crime Reduction (CBCR) program, supports data-driven, comprehensive, and community-oriented strategies to reduce crime in neighborhoods with hot spots of crime. Through a broad cross-sector partnership team, including neighborhood residents, BCJI grantees employ a wide range of crime prevention and intervention strategies to address the conditions, including physical conditions, contributing to crime in these areas. The focus area for Richmond's CBCR initiative is the Gilpin neighborhood located in the City's Northside in the 23220 ZIP code and police sector 411. The Gilpin Court Public Housing community – one of the oldest and largest public housing communities in Richmond, occupies most of the neighborhood.
5. **COOPERATION WITH OAG.** The Department will cooperate fully with the DOJ and OAG to report, attend meetings, and implement and monitor the funded programs for goods and services provided under the MOU. The Department will work directly with the OAG to ensure that the purpose of this MOU is fulfilled. The OAG should have limited access to Department personnel, invoices, goods, and services relative to this MOU to ensure that funds are being used in a manner in accordance with the purpose of the MOU.
6. **COOPERATION WITH OTHER ENTITIES.** The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), under the direction of OAG and BJA, is providing training and technical assistance for the federal CBCR program. A VCU Researcher conducts surveys, analyzes data, and evaluates the CBCR program. The Department will cooperate with the evaluation and analysis of CBCR within reason, which will be performed by VCU and the OAG pursuant to the grant proposal. VCU and IACP are available as a resource to the Department for crime trend analysis, training, and technical support due to their affiliation with the federal grant program. Peer-to-Peer travel is budgeted under the CBCR program and available to members of the CBCR team, including the Department.
7. **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.** The Department must submit to the OAG quarterly progress reports and a final cumulative report. The OAG has developed a Worksheet for quarterly and final reporting of case activities and other information. The Department may submit one report covering all programs under this MOU; however, the report should provide individual information on each program. The OAG and VCU personnel will assist the Department with these reports.

The federal grant quarters and their associated report due dates are as follows:

<b>Federal Grant Quarter:</b>	<b>Report Due No Later Than:</b>
January 1 through March 31	April 15
April 1 through June 30	July 15
July 1 through September 30	October 15
Final Report Due	December 10

The Department shall submit a final cumulative report before November 30, 2023. At least two weeks before this date, the Department shall present a preliminary draft of the final report to the OAG. The final report shall include the information required in quarterly progress reports. The OAG shall have the right to require additional elaboration as it is necessary to ensure a

comprehensive and thorough written study of all work required by the MOU. Financial report exceptions will be made for unpaid invoices.

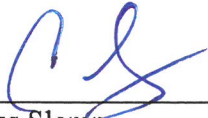
8. **SUBCONTRACTS.** If the Department desires to subcontract part of the work specified herein, the Department shall furnish the OAG with their proposed subcontractors' names, qualifications, and experience. The Department shall, however, remain fully liable and responsible for the work to be done by its subcontractors and shall assure compliance with all requirements of the subgrant. The Department shall ensure that the subcontractor shall not state in any of its advertising or product literature that the Commonwealth of Virginia or any agency or institution of the Commonwealth has purchased or used its products or services without the prior written consent of the Commonwealth.
9. **PAYMENT.** This is a reimbursement grant. The OAG will reimburse the Department within 30 days of receipt of a proper invoice. The Department shall submit invoices for goods and services and correlate them to specific items in the budget. Where applicable, original receipts for goods and services shall be attached to the invoice. Purchases must be reasonable charges against the subgrant funds, comply with the subgrant's specific terms, and will be reimbursed at the budgeted amount or the actual cost, whichever is lower.

The OAG reserves the right not to reimburse items not specifically outlined in the grant and for which it is determined that the good or service was not reasonably required under the grant. If there is a question on the part of the Department as to the appropriateness of the purchase, written approval must be sought from the OAG before the purchase is made; email is permitted. Charges that appear unreasonable will be researched and challenged, and that portion of the invoice held in abeyance until a settlement can be reached. Upon determining that invoiced charges are unreasonable, the OAG shall promptly notify the City in writing as to the unreasonable charges and the basis for the determination.

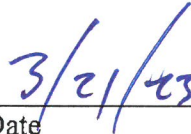
10. **RECORDKEEPING AND AUDITS:** The Department shall retain all books, records, and other documents relative to expenditures permitted by this MOU in accordance with record retention policy and/or Federal and state auditing guidelines. The OAG, its authorized agents, and/or state auditors shall have full access to and the right to examine any materials during the said period.
11. **PREVAILING LAW:** This MOU shall be construed, interpreted, and enforced according to the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.
12. **MODIFICATIONS:** Any amendments to or modifications of this MOU must be in writing and signed by the parties.
13. **ADDITIONAL TERMS.** The Department agrees to abide by any additional terms and conditions which the federal sponsor of this grant may require.

Witness the following signatures:

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

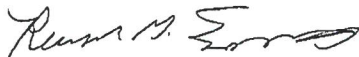


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Charles Slemp  
Chief Deputy Attorney General

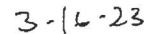


\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

RICHMOND POLICE DEPARTMENT, VIRGINIA



\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Edwards  
Chief of Police



\_\_\_\_\_  
Date