



# NEWS RELEASE

CHERYL MOODY  
INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE

PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
207 N. GARFIELD AVE.  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91101

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**For More Information:**

Watch Commander (626) 744-4620

## **PASADENA DEPLOYS SHOTSPOTTER TO COMBAT GUN VIOLENCE**

**Pasadena, CA** – The Pasadena Police Department is announcing the ShotSpotter gunshot detection system, approved by City Council in October of 2021, has been installed and is operational beginning today. The technology is meant to combat the increasing problem of illegal firearm use and is designed to help law enforcement officials identify, locate and deter gun violence. The real-time alerts notify police precisely when and where gun incidents occur, resulting in a faster, more accurate response to the scene to provide medical attention to gunshot victims, recover evidence and interview witnesses. The overall goal is to reduce gun violence and improve the safety of the community.

The City of Pasadena is committed to reducing illegal gun use and have partnered with ShotSpotter to protect the quality of life of those living in the impacted communities. The gunshot detection system creates an environment of enhanced public safety and security. When a gunshot occurs, the system's sensors work instantly to triangulate the sound and pinpoint the location of the gunfire. Trained ShotSpotter acoustic experts are on duty 24/7 to review and qualify all gunfire incidents. If the acoustic expert determines the sound to be actual gunfire, a detailed alert is sent to the local law enforcement agency. The review and alert occur within a minute or less of the actual gunfire event.

Interim Police Chief Cheryl Moody is optimistic about the deployment of the gunshot detection system and calls the technology, "A game-changer, especially for those communities most impacted by the violence over the past few years." She added, "By installing this system, the officers of the Pasadena Police Department will be able to quickly respond, save lives and increase the chance of taking into custody, those responsible for the senseless acts of violence." It is the Chief's hope that ShotSpotter will deter future acts of gun violence.

Research indicates that nationwide, fewer than 20% of all gunshots are reported to 9-1-1. ShotSpotter technology will eliminate the reliance on delayed and/or unreported calls and the immediate alerts will enable officers to quickly mobilize and safely respond to the incident. The gunfire data can also provide investigating officers with detailed information to improve evidence collection, prosecution and overall crime fighting efforts.

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