

OPERATION: SAFE COMMUNITY

A MEMPHIS FAST FORWARD INITIATIVE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 22, 2012

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Memphis Shelby Crime Commission Announces New Operation: Safe Community Plan

MEMPHIS, Tenn. - The Memphis Shelby Crime Commission, known for its' Operation: Safe Community plan, will convene a press conference on Friday, March 23 at 2pm, in The Urban Child Institute Auditorium at 600 Jefferson. Over the past five years, Operation: Safe Community has reduced major violent crime by 22.8% in Shelby County and reduced major violent crime in Memphis by 23.8%.

Successful strategies include expansion of data-driven police deployment in Memphis and Shelby County, coordinated services for domestic violence, truancy/ mentoring initiative for middle school youth and Project Safe Neighborhoods. Additionally, the plan was successful in getting tougher state laws for gun crimes, reducing crime in apartment communities and securing state support for a pilot office of reentry. Over thirty stakeholders were engaged in making the first plan a success.

Bill Gibbons, Chair of Operation: Safe Community and Commissioner of Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security, will kick off the press conference with the results of the first plan and introduction of the new plan, Operation: Safe Community 2012-2016. "This plan is more comprehensive and builds on the achievements of the previous plan. It integrates the Youth Violence Prevention Plan supported by the Department of Justice along with several city, county and state public safety initiatives."

Others scheduled to speak at the press conference include: US Attorney Ed Stanton, Mayor AC Wharton, Mayor Mark Luttrell, Judge Curtis Person, Shelby County District Attorney General Amy Weirich, Director Toney Armstrong and Chief Deputy Bill Cash. They will present information on gangs and drug crime, reducing crime in apartment communities and blighted properties, community policing, youth crime intervention programs and delinquency prevention.

For more information on the event, contact Michelle Fowlkes, Executive Director for Memphis Shelby Crime Commission at (901) 527-2600 or email mfowlkes@memphiscrime.org

Note: Copies of Operation: Safe Community 2012-2016 will be available during the press

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conference.