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April 2009 Update

Working Together to Make Memphis and Shelby County Safer

Ways you can help!

Keep truant children out of court and in school

Memphis City Schools Truancy Hotline is 416-8111. Citizens of Memphis are encouraged to call if you see school-aged students not in school.

Learn more about [mentoring](#) at the Shelby County District Attorney General's Office [website](#).

Juvenile Court is looking for volunteers! Contact [Judy McEwen](#) for more information.

Sign up for [Cyberwatch!](#) Cyberwatch, developed by [MPD](#), emails reported incidents, sex offenders and outstanding arrest warrants daily. Additionally, users can report suspicious activity to the police.

Public Nuisance Property List Available Online

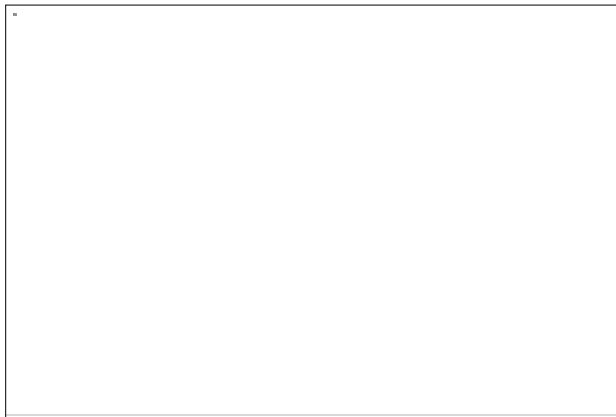
The Shelby County District Attorney General's Office has provided a [list of nuisance properties](#) since 2002.

Operation: Safe Community (OSC) is a roadmap to make Memphis and Shelby County one of the safest communities

TOP NEWS

Strategy 1: Deploy police officers based upon sound data and research.

Team Leaders: Director Larry A. Godwin & Sheriff Mark Luttrell



The Memphis Police Department's new Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) is an innovative approach to fighting crime in the city.

The readers are mounted on patrol cars, Skycop trailers and will be installed at fixed locations and monitored by the MPD's Real Time Crime Center and patrol officers in the field. The enhanced system allows the MPD to read the tags of any vehicle in its field of view. Unique audio notifications for vehicles of interest, gang members, known felons, expired tags, warrants, revoked or suspended licenses as well as sex offenders help the MPD become instantly informed of offenders and of their surroundings.

Director Larry A. Godwin expects to have 65 police cruisers equipped with tag readers and 40 cameras affixed throughout the city by the end of the year, and several hundred more over the next two years.

TUNE IN

At the end of each month is featured on WREG Channel 3's "Live at Nine" hosted by Mary Beth Conley and Alex Coleman.

This month Jamar Banks, Director of the Center of Student Involvement and Leadership at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. was this morning's guest on Live @ 9.

Mr. Banks will be the keynote speaker for the 15th Annual Crime Victims' Rights Week Awards Dinner this evening.

of its size in the nation by the end of 2011.

Utilizing 15 research- based strategies, the initiative is a guideline of how law enforcement and the citizens they serve can work together to make our community safe. It is a call to action for churches, neighborhoods, schools, government, business and the media.

The 15 strategies start with law enforcement, but the success of the plan rests with each and every citizen.

Operation: Safe Community (OSC) is led by:

U.S. Acting Attorney Larry Laurenzi, District Attorney Bill Gibbons, Police Director Larry Godwin, Sheriff Mark Luttrell, City of Memphis Mayor W. W. Herenton and Shelby County Mayor A C Wharton.

The business leaders of Memphis Tomorrow are providing strategic support, coordination and financial backing for the initiative.

The mayors of all the cities in Shelby County support **Operation: Safe Community.**

Research and administrative support are provided by the University of Memphis' Center for Community Criminology and Research and the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission.

STAY CONNECTED!

Make sure your friends, business associates and neighborhood associations are connect to Operation: Safe Community!

[Click here to sign up](#) to receive the monthly newsletter.

WANT MORE INFO?

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

15th Annual Crime Victims' Rights Dinner

Tuesday, April 28th
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Holiday Inn - University of Memphis

Guest speaker for the evening will be Jamar Banks. Mr. Banks is the Director of the Center of Student Involvement and Leadership at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. He has worked in the field of violence prevention for more than seven years and prides himself on being a man of responsibility and accountability. "I know the difference between blame and responsibility...do you?"

Tickets are still available. For more information or to make reservations for the 15th Annual Crime Victims' Rights Week Dinner please call the Shelby County Crime Victims Center at 901.545.HELP (4357).

Clean Memphis - Summer/Holmes

Saturday, May 2, 2009
8:00 a.m.

Join Clean Memphis and the Westwood Neighborhood Association for an area clean-up. Meet at the Charles Powell Community Center, 810 Western Park. For more information or to register call 488-6786 or email janet@cleanmemphis.org.

Mental Health Summit: Our Youth in Crisis

Wednesday, May 6, 2009
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Benjamin L. Hooks Memphis Library

Juvenile Court of Memphis & Shelby County invites you to attend a FREE Panel Discussion and Resource Fair to learn how to identify signs of emotional crisis in your child and ways to get help. Reservations are limited, please call 901-405-8420.

CommUnity 2009 @ Snowden School

Saturday, May 9, 2009
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Free and open to the public

Where a neighborhood and a neighborhood school come together.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The resolution to toughen gun-crime laws being promoted throughout the state by Councilmen Kemp Conrad and Harold Collins is making great headway. As of today, Jackson, Nashville and Knoxville passed resolutions supporting tougher gun-crime laws. A similar resolution is before Chattanooga currently.

Strategy 3: Toughen state gun-crime laws led by State Rep. John DeBerry and State Sen. Mark Norris.

**SB 0929 by Sen. P. Stanley (HB 1194 by Rep. B. Rich)
AKA "Street Terrorism Bill"**

Provides sentencing enhancements for certain crimes of force or violence if committed collectively by three or more individuals.

If your organization would like a speaker regarding OSC, contact:

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ARCHIVED E-MAILS

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[March 2009 Update](#)
[February 2009](#)
[September 2008 Report](#)

Those crimes include, second degree murder, attempted first degree murder, attempted second degree murder, especially aggravated robbery, aggravated robbery, robbery and carjacking.

SB Current Action: Passed 2nd consideration, referred to Senate Judiciary Committee

HB Current Action: Taken off notice for calendar in subcommittee - Criminal Practice and Procedure of Judiciary for 04/15/2009

Fiscal Note: \$17,141,100

[SB 0928 by Sen. P. Stanley \(HB 1195 by Rep. B. Rich\)](#)
AKA "Crooks with Guns Bill"

Adds additional offenses to the definition "dangerous felony" for which there are enhanced sentences for employing or possessing a firearm during the commission of a crime.

Those felonies include second degree murder, aggravated assault, aggravated robbery, aggravated arson and burglary.

SB Current Action: Passed 2nd consideration, referred to Senate Judiciary Committee

HB Current Action: Taken off notice for calendar in subcommittee - Criminal Practice and Procedure of Judiciary for 04/15/2009

Fiscal Note: \$27,267,400

[SB 0925 by Sen. P. Stanley \(HB 0612 by Rep. DeBerry J.\)](#)

AKA "Bill Enhancing Penalty for Aggravated Robbery"

Enhances the penalty for committing an aggravated robbery with a firearm or explosive device by increasing it from a class B to a class A felony.

SB Current Action: Passed 2nd consideration, referred to Senate Judiciary Committee

HB Current Action: Placed on calendar Judiciary Committee for 04/29/2009

Fiscal Note: \$48,996,600

[HB 2192 by Rep. DeBerry \(SB 1996 by Sen. Norris\)](#)

AKA "Fiscal Review Committee"

"Operating costs," for purposes of fiscal notes for bills resulting in net increase in periods of state incarceration, include deductions for reductions in recidivism and cost savings to community.

SB Current Action: Passed 2nd consideration, referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee

HB Current Action: Failed for Lack of Motion in: Budget of Finance, Ways & Means

Strategy 4: Reduce the caseload per prosecutor in the D.A.'s office for more effective prosecution led by State Sen. Jim Kyle and County Commissioner Mike Carpenter.

[SB 0838 by Sen. R. McNally \(HB 1402 by Rep. C. Fitzhugh\)](#)

AKA "DA Staffing Bill"

This legislation, as amended, would create additional assistant district attorney general positions statewide by October 1, 2009.

SB Current Action: Passed 2nd consideration, referred to Senate Judiciary Committee

HB Current Action: Assigned to subcommittee - Criminal Practice and Procedure of Judiciary

Strategy 7: Establish a comprehensive school safety initiative led by Superintendent Kriner Cash.

[SB 0723 by Sen. R. Tate \(HB 1645 by Rep. Jones U\)](#)

AKA "MCS Police Force"

Permits MCS to establish and operate a police force for the school system.

SB Current Action: Passed 2nd consideration, referred to Senate Judiciary Committee

HB Current Action: Action deferred in subcommittee Criminal Practice and Procedure of Judiciary to 2010

[HB 1647 by Rep. Jones U \(SB 0719 by Sen. R. Tate\)](#)

AKA "Mandatory Alternative Schools"

Establishes a pilot program of mandatory attendance in an alternative school within the Memphis City Schools.

SB Current Action: Placed on Senate Education Committee calendar for 04/28/2009

HB Current Action: Placed on calendar Education Committee to 4/29/2009

Strategy 12: Implement coordinated problem properties strategy led by Director Earnest Dobbins.

[HB 1847 by Rep. Miller L \(SB 1830 by Sen. J. Kyle\)](#)

AKA "Neighborhood Preservation Act"

Addresses the issue of vacant, neglected and abandoned properties that are a source of blight in Memphis and Shelby County.

SB Current Action: Placed on Senate Judiciary Committee calendar for 04/22/2009

HB Current Action: Placed on Regular Calendar for 04/27/2009

Strategy 14: Establish a coordinated domestic violence initiative led by County Commissioner Deidre Malone and Councilman Reid Hedgepeth.

[SB 0086 by Sen. P. Stanley \(HB 0317 by Rep. DeBerry\)](#)



Prohibits a medical facility from holding the victim of domestic abuse responsible for the payment of a forensic medical examination and provides for compensation of such exam by the criminal injures compensation fund.

SB Current Action: Passed 2nd consideration, referred to Senate Judiciary Committee

HB Current Action: Placed on subcommittee calendar Civil Practice and Procedure of Judiciary for 4/14/2009

Special Note: The Public Safety Coalition, of which MPD Director Larry Godwin, District Attorney Bill Gibbons and Sheriff Mark Luttrell are members, is also supporting the following bill:

HB 2193 by Rep. DeBerry J (SB 2115 by Sen. M. Norris)
AKA "Bill Enhancing Penalties for Repeat Aggravated Burglary Offenders"

All aggravated burglaries a defendant commits within a 24-hour period count as separate prior convictions for purposes of determining if the defendant is a multiple, persistent, or career offender under the criminal sentencing reform act.

SB Current Action: Recommended for passing. Referred to Senate Finance Ways & Means committee

HB Current Action: Placed on subcommittee calendar Criminal Practice and Procedure of Judiciary for 4/29/2009

Fiscal Note: \$191,600

For a complete list of bills currently before the General Assembly, Senate and House floor session schedules or to view videos of the Legislative Days during Tennessee's 106th General Assembly visit www.legislature.state.tn.us/

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