



NEWS RELEASE

DIVISION OF POLICE • COLUMBUS, OHIO

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For Immediate Release

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Public Information Office

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SoundThinking Conducting Gunfire Detection Testing

The Columbus Division of Police in partnership with SoundThinking will be conducting tests of *ShotSpotter*, a gunfire detection system, on October 11 and 12, 2023, at the former site of Cooper Stadium. Residents and businesses in the area should anticipate hearing multiple caliber gunshots being fired between 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. each day. Testing will occur in a secure and safe environment that is away from the public.

ShotSpotter technology was developed by California-based SoundThinking and uses acoustic sensors to detect gunfire. A notification is then sent directly to neighborhood patrol officers which pinpoints the specific location in which the gunfire originated. *ShotSpotter* allows officers to respond to gunfire before 911 is called, and even without any 911 calls. This has enabled officers to locate victims and render aid more quickly, and ultimately helps police make more arrests to get violent offenders off the streets.

In 2022, the Columbus Division of Police recovered shell casings in 1,054 separate *ShotSpotter* alerts. Officers made 45 arrests for weapons offenses, 29 arrests for other offenses, and seized 45 firearms based on those alerts.

Residents with concerns are encouraged to call the Columbus Division of Police non-emergency line at 614-645-4545.

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