

## **Ohio Violent Crime Reduction Program Grant Summaries**

In 2021, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine launched the Ohio Violent Crime Reduction Grant program to assist local law enforcement agencies in investigating and preventing violent crime. The list below summarizes the first six rounds of awards. This list was compiled by the Ohio Department of Public Safety. Members of the media with general questions about the grant program should contact DPS Communications Director Bret Crow at [bacrow@dps.ohio.gov](mailto:bacrow@dps.ohio.gov) or 614-769-4779. Those with questions about specific grant awards should contact the agency receiving the award.

### ROUND ONE

- The **Cleveland Division of Police (Cuyahoga County)** will receive **\$355,400** to address homicides and felonious assaults, particularly those committed with firearms, by enhancing the work of its Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC). Operational intelligence and situational awareness will be improved with new technology to help identify wanted suspects.
- The **Columbus Division of Police (Franklin County)** will receive **\$413,908** to increase the solvability of violent crimes, including homicides and felonious assaults, with a new Digital Forensics Unit Response Vehicle, which will be used to immediately respond to serious crime scenes to recover video evidence from local businesses, residences, community crime cameras, traffic cameras, etc., to allow detectives to more quickly follow up on generated leads. Additional technology will allow homicide detectives to better interpret and investigate digital intelligence to expedite investigations and prevent future crimes.
- The **Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office** will receive **\$250,670.19** to create a team of investigators working as part of the Cuyahoga County Crime Gun Intelligence Center who will be assigned exclusively to investigating National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) leads tied to incidents in suburban Cuyahoga County communities. These investigators will work with suburban agencies and will assist as needed with tasks such as interviewing witnesses and obtaining search warrants.
- The **Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office** will receive **\$163,000** to expand on current efforts to combat violent crime by targeting more resources to hot spot areas with high rates of violent crime. The department will increase collaboration with more than 60 Cuyahoga County law enforcement agencies by offering additional technological resources to aid in investigating incidents of violence, preventing crime through general deterrence, and increasing the apprehension of violent offenders.
- The **East Cleveland Police Department (Cuyahoga County)** will receive **\$149,236.58** to work to reduce gun violence in their community with new gunshot detection technology to increase response times and improve effectiveness at crime scenes. The gunshot detection technology will also allow the department to utilize gunfire location and frequency data to identify strategic hot spot locations for future saturation patrols. Data will also be used to further develop the community's comprehensive community policing initiative with an emphasis on neighborhoods where community outreach may have the highest impact on reducing incidents of gun violence.
- The **Elyria Police Department (Lorain County)** will receive **\$193,496.88** to expand its Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative to reduce violent and firearm-related crimes in targeted areas with high crime rates. New technology combined with an increase in

traditional proactive policing in specified areas will create coverage in identified high-crime areas 24/7 to prevent crime through general deterrence and increased risk of apprehension.

- The **Euclid Police Department (Cuyahoga County)** will receive **\$174,771.75** to implement a new intelligence-led policing initiative using predictive analysis to target gun violence in neighborhood micro-locations. The focused-deterrence initiative will create Gun Violence Reduction Teams (GVRT) that will focus solely on these gun violence hot spots with the goal of identifying those illegally in possession of firearms, increasing gun seizures, and reducing the number of shots fired in these areas. GVRT officers will rapidly respond to calls of shots fired to identify and arrest suspects, locate and interview witnesses, and provide first aid to any victims.
- The **Franklin County Sheriff's Central Ohio Violence Eradication Response Team (COVERT)** will receive **\$337,850.96** to work to prevent violent crime including murder, robbery, and aggravated assault through interdiction operations in areas with high violent crime rates. The team will use technology to identify violent crime enterprises and will work to eliminate the backlog of firearm evidence not yet entered into the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network. COVERT will also work to link at-risk youth with mentorship and counseling services.
- The **Ironton Police Department (Lawrence County)** will receive **\$84,862.57** to expand officer presence in targeted areas with high violent crime rates to address issues of domestic violence, assault, burglary, menacing, and other violent crimes. Funding will help the department increase visible police presence to potentially prevent violent crimes from occurring. The Ironton Police Department will also hold several town hall meetings to collaborate with the public on crime reduction strategies and will conduct in-class discussions with youth.
- The **Lima Police Department (Allen County)** will receive **\$75,425** to address gun violence and prevent shootings with a new mobile gunshot detection system. The mobile system will be placed in hot spot areas with high incidents of gunfire and firearm assaults to help the department capture valuable evidence of criminal activity and act as a deterrent to potential gun violence.
- The **Mansfield Division of Police (Richland County)** will receive **\$272,000** to increase the square mileage covered by gunshot detection technology to impact more areas of the city with high crime rates. The added technology will allow the department to improve response time to incidents of gun violence and focus on high-risk offenders in geographic hot spots.
- The **Middletown Police Department (Warren/Butler Counties)** will receive **\$33,000** to develop a new hot spot policing strategic plan that will employ the use of new technology to aid in the investigation of homicides and other violent crimes. The new investigative strategy will place a concentrated focus on identified neighborhoods with high rates of crime to help investigators solve incidents of violence and deter additional violent acts.
- The Mansfield Police Department will administer a **\$130,418** grant for the **Northern Ohio Violent Crime Consortium (NOVCC)**, which is made up of the police departments in Akron, Canton, Cleveland, Elyria, Lorain, Mansfield, Toledo, and Youngstown. Law enforcement in these communities will amplify various existing evidence-based investigative strategies through increased crime analysis, information sharing, and community

engagement. NOVCC will also expand officer hours devoted to violent crime reduction strategies to include saturation patrols, town hall meetings, door-to-door conversations, and similar efforts to help reduce gun violence.

- The **Painesville Police Department (Lake County)** will receive **\$136,482.60** to expand its Intersection Camera System to the southern and western parts of the city to allow for city-wide coverage of significant intersections, traffic choke points, and roads leading into and out of the city. Videos of vehicles before, during, and after incidents of violent crime will help investigators quickly develop tangible leads and will be useful to neighboring communities for incidents involving travel to and from Painesville. The cameras will also serve as a crime deterrent.
- The **Summit County Sheriff's Office** will receive **\$421,241.13** to add four additional deputies to the Akron Police Department Gun Violence Reduction Team (GVRT), which targets hot spot areas of high crime and violence and works to identify individuals committing crimes with guns. The additional deputies will allow GVRT to expand its surveillance and intelligence gathering into additional areas to reduce incidents of violent crime and increase the seizure of guns possessed by prohibited individuals.
- The **Toledo Police Department (Lucas County)** will receive **\$220,000** to work to combat gun violence with new forensic technology in their Crime Gun Intelligence Center (CGIC) to increase the analysis of gun evidence through the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network to generate more leads for investigation. The department will also improve CGIC operations with more staffing during identified peak hours for shooting incidents and with new technology to allow investigators immediate access to law enforcement databases while in the field.
- The **Warren (Trumbull County ) Police Department's Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU)** will receive **\$218,344** to use new technology in certain hot spot geographical areas with high rates of violent crime incidents including homicide, felonious assault, rape, human trafficking, and drug trafficking. The equipment will give CIU officers access to critical evidence that can be used to analyze crime patterns and aid in CIU's intelligence-led policing strategies to predict community threats.
- The **Westlake Police Department (Cuyahoga County)** will receive **\$119,250** to work to reduce gun-related crimes and other acts of violence by enhancing its current hot spot policing efforts through daily focused patrols, regular saturation patrols, and new technology in identified areas with high violent crime rates. Concentrated focus on specific hot spots will prevent crime through general deterrence and increased risk of apprehension. The Westlake Police Department will also work to engage the community through continued problem-oriented policing to address underlying conditions that lead to recurring crime problems.

## ROUND TWO

- The **Ada Police Department (Hardin County)** will receive **\$53,283.80** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels and recruiting prospective employees.

- The **Cuyahoga Falls Police Department (Summit County)** will receive **\$40,000** to enhance ongoing recruitment efforts through a 20-week radio campaign targeting likely police candidates.
- The **Defiance County Sheriff's Office** will receive **\$82,218.58** to hire a new full-time school resource officer to engage with students in the county's school districts. In addition to working to prevent crime, this officer will also work to educate students about the dangers of drug use through the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program.
- The **Dillonvale Police Department (Jefferson County)** will receive **\$28,600** to hire a part-time officer to increase law enforcement presence and enhance public safety.
- The **Fostoria Police Division (Seneca County)** will receive **\$15,000** to fund police academy tuition for selected minority applicants as part of the division's work to diversify its police force while also offering more police coverage and protection for the community.
- The **London Police Department (Madison County)** will receive **\$126,556** to offer retention bonuses to aid in retaining its experienced officers and recruiting prospective employees.
- The **Medina County Sheriff's Office** will receive **\$1,469,209.41** to hire six deputies to improve public safety by increasing law enforcement presence and enhancing community policing initiatives that engage the public. The additional personnel will also allow for an increase in the number of outstanding warrants served.
- The **Sheffield Village Police Department (Lorain County)** will receive **\$257,244.84** to hire two full-time patrol officers to increase law enforcement presence and enhance public safety.

### ROUND THREE

- The **Austintown Township Police Department (Mahoning County)** will receive **\$281,800** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of 45 officers and 19 dispatchers, and recruiting prospective employees.
- The **Beverly Police Department (Washington County)** will receive **\$11,833** to retain current staffing levels of three full-time officers.
- The **Bratenahl Police Department (Cuyahoga County)** will receive **\$89,500** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current full-time staffing levels for 11 of the authorized 15 sworn staff.
- The **Cadiz Police Department (Harrison County)** will receive **\$29,796** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels for eight of sworn staff.
- The **Cleveland Division of Police (Cuyahoga County)** will receive **\$1,747,101.01** to expand work to deter youth from gang involvement; purchase a National Integrated

Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN) system to aid in solving gun crimes; and expand the number of Violent Crime Reduction Teams that immediately respond to violent crimes in the city.

- The **Coldwater Police Department (Mercer County)** will receive **\$36,600** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of one chief, one sergeant, six patrolmen and one dispatcher.
- The **Gallia County Sheriff's Office** will receive **\$109,586.88** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of one chief deputy, two lieutenants, three sergeants, two detectives, and 15 deputies.
- The **Marietta Police Department (Washington County)** will receive **\$228,085** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of 31 officers, and four dispatchers.
- The **Mentor Police Department (Lake County)** will receive **\$186,000** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of 77 officers, 15 dispatchers, and four part-time officers/dispatchers.
- The **Milton Township Police Department (Mahoning County)** will receive **\$18,000** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of nine officers.
- The **Pomeroy Police Department (Meigs County)** will receive **\$16,933** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of five officers and three dispatchers.
- The **Portsmouth Police Department (Scioto County)** will receive **\$280,211.36** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of 43 officers and eight dispatchers.
- The **Scioto County Sheriff's Office** will receive **\$285,424.44** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of 45 officers, 10 dispatchers, and the one evidence analyst.
- The **Sebring Police Department (Mahoning County)** will receive **\$51,521** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of 10 officers including the chief, and 10 telecommunicators.
- The **Springfield Police Division (Clark County)** will receive **\$305,206.94** to combat crime with new video technology and automatic license plate readers that will be used to quickly gather actionable intelligence to help investigate and solve incidents of gun violence in high-crime areas.
- The **Whitehall Police Department (Franklin County)** will receive **\$633,966.00** for the purchase of multiple dispatch consoles to improve communication between officers, dispatchers, and other agencies to allow for continuity of service and to enhance the department's ability to respond to and proactively address violent crime.

## ROUND FOUR

- The **Arcanum Police Department (Darke County)** will receive **\$20,221.76** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of one supervisor and three officers.
- The **Beachwood Police Department (Cuyahoga County)** will receive **\$559,073.82** to assign two full-time officers to their Specialized Patrol Enforcement and Response (SPEAR) to provide high-visibility in target areas to reduce crime.
- The **Bucyrus Police Department (Crawford County)** will receive **\$445,947.10** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels for 20 officers.
- The **Chillicothe Police Department (Ross County)** will receive **\$1,602,588.16** for staffing personnel to pre-pandemic staffing levels by hiring one detective, six patrol officers, and one community resource officer.
- The **Erie County Victim Assistance Program** will receive **\$466,038.11** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of attorneys and one special sheriff deputy, as well as hiring two additional staff attorneys.
- The **Hocking County Prosecutor's Office** will receive **\$414,030.63** to hire and fund new staff, including a full-time assistant prosecutor and a full-time prosecutor's investigator to reduce caseload, maintain efficient criminal prosecution, and assist in office management and communication between law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and victims.
- The **Jackson Township Police Department (Mahoning County)** will receive **\$35,846.64** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining and training current staffing levels of 14 officers.
- The **Kent Police Department (Portage County)** will receive **\$376,771.20** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of nine dispatchers, 28 deputies, and 12 supervisors.
- The **Lorain Police Department (Lorain County)** will receive **\$42,845.83** to launch a directed-patrol initiative to deter gang-related crime through saturation patrols. The department will also develop a youth mentoring/gang diversion program in partnership with Lorain Men of Courage, a local nonprofit youth mentoring organization. The six-week mentoring program for at-risk youth will focus on diverting these youth from gang and school violence by offering mentoring and providing other supports to facilitate future success.
- The **Mechanicsburg Police Department (Champaign County)** will receive **\$140,527.12** to aid in hiring staff to fulfill pre-pandemic levels of five full-time officers.
- The **Miami Township Police Department (Montgomery County)** will receive **\$303,209.90** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of 23 officers, four detectives, 11 supervisors.

- The **Morrow County Sheriff's Office** will receive **\$587,141.08** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels six full-time deputies and three full-time dispatchers.
- The **New Lexington Police Department (Perry County)** will receive **\$76,528.32** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of 10 dispatchers, 15 officers, and two supervisors.
- The **Niles Police Department (Trumbull County)** will receive **\$262,350.10** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of three detectives, 22 officers, and five dispatchers.
- The **Oregon Police Division (Lucas County)** will receive **\$442,373.16** to aid in hiring five full-time officers to fulfill pre-pandemic levels.
- The **Pike County Sheriff's Office** will receive **\$412,955.99** to aid in hiring two deputies to implement crime reductions strategies to combat criminal activity involving trafficking of drugs, illegal weapons, and stolen property.
- The **Piqua Police Department (Miami County)** will receive **\$201,502.08** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of 22 sworn officers and four supervisors.
- The **Richwood Police Department (Union County)** will receive **\$34,892** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of seven full-time police officers.
- The **Sandusky Police Department (Erie County)** will receive **\$232,380** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of 43 full time sworn peace officers and a sign-on bonus for new hire candidates.
- The **Sidney Police Department (Shelby County)** will receive **\$425,704.31** to aid in hiring two full-time officers to replace positions that were cut because of the pandemic.
- The **Springfield Township Police Department (Hamilton County)** will receive **\$255,974.87** for aid to bring staffing levels up to pre-COVID-19 numbers allowing the agency to re-instate the IMPACT Unit in order to combat violent crime and drug activity. Three full-time officers will be hired.
- The **Stark County Sheriff's Office** will receive **\$2,045,146.15** to partner with the Canton, Jackson Township, Alliance, Perry Township, and Massillon police departments to create the new Stark County Violent Crime Task Force. The multi-jurisdictional unit will deploy proactive and preventative enforcement strategies targeting problem areas known for gang-related activity and other incidents of violent crime. Each participating agency will dedicate a full-time and part-time officer to the task force for hot-spot policing, community-oriented policing, and engagement at community events.
- The **Toronto Police Department (Jefferson County)** will receive **\$48,702.40** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of five patrolman, two sergeants, two captains, and the chief.

- The **Trumbull County Sheriff's Office** will receive **\$366,799.68** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of 48 deputies, one analyst, and 11 supervisors.

#### ROUND FIVE

- The **Athens Police Department (Athens County)** will receive **\$200,680** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of four dispatchers, 15 officers, and eight supervisors.
- The **Bath Police Department (Summit County)** will receive **\$230,826** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of nine full-time dispatchers, one part-time dispatcher, 23 full-time officers, and one part-time officer.
- The **Brooklyn Police Department (Cuyahoga County)** will receive **\$181,471.39** for special detail consisting of four officers to deter crime and increase engagement with the community with a goal of decreasing weapons related offenses.
- The **Champaign County Prosecutor's Office** will receive **\$28,800** to aid in retaining current staffing levels for at least five years and develop career employees and career prosecutors dedicated to the pursuit of justice.
- The **Columbus Division of Police (Franklin County)** will receive **\$629,047.72** to fund crime analysts for two years, mobile license plate readers, and laptops with a goal of apprehending and successfully prosecuting violent offenders, in an effort to reduce the number of homicides that occur in Columbus' most impacted areas.
- The **Cortland Police Department (Trumbull County)** will receive **\$112,097.73** to assign a full-time officer to the Mahoning Valley Human Trafficking Task Force to target violent traffickers. The funds will also pay for overtime for undercover operations.
- The **Gallipolis Police Department (Gallia County)** will receive **\$155,579.18** to aid in filling two vacancies for two years and retention bonuses for 10 full-time officers, one part-time officer, one detective, and one supervisor.
- The **Noble County Sheriff's Office** will receive **\$116,462** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of seven supervisors, one detective, nine full-time deputies, two part-time deputies, one dispatch supervisor, eight full-time dispatchers, and one part-time dispatcher.
- The **Oak Hill Police Department (Jackson County)** will receive **\$20,316.80** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of two supervisors, three full-time officers, and two part-time officers.
- The **Reynoldsburg Police Department (Franklin County)** will receive **\$685,021.96** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of nine dispatchers, one crime analyst, 13 supervisors, and 50 officers.



- The **Ross Township Police Department (Butler County)** will receive **\$235,244.25** to fill one full-time officer vacancy for two years and retention bonuses for two supervisors and seven full-time officers.
- The **Stow Police Department (Summit County)** will receive **\$330,689.60** for retention bonuses to aid in retaining current staffing levels of 12 supervisors, five detectives, and 25 officers.
- The **Toledo Police Department (Lucas County)** will receive **\$372,800** to purchase new technology that will help prevent and solve crimes in high-crime areas. The enhanced technology will be used to develop better leads to track down prolific criminals.
- The **Wadsworth Police Department (Medina County)** will receive **\$241,020.68** to aid in recruitment efforts, hiring one police officer, and providing surveillance technology as well as data retention/access.

## ROUND SIX

- The **Bellefontaine Police Department (Logan County)** will receive **\$78,780.20** to replace eight cruiser video cameras and buy new hardware, software, and a server to help collect more evidence to prosecute violent offenders.
- The **Cincinnati Police Department (Hamilton County)** will receive **\$393,597.41** to identify prolific offenders and crime hotspots by deploying gunshot detection technology, which will alert officers to locations where gun crimes are actively occurring, reducing response time, preserving evidence, and creating better investigative opportunities.
- The **Clark County Sheriff's Office** will receive **\$639,691** for National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN) training for staff and NIBIN equipment to link local gun crimes to other agencies' cases.
- The **East Liverpool Police Department (Columbiana County)** will receive **\$323,413.40** to bring staffing levels back up to pre-pandemic levels, reassign two officers to the Columbiana County Drug Task Force, and replace the vacant school resource officer position.
- The **Grandview Heights Police Department (Franklin County)** will receive **\$238,155.40** to buy license plate readers to alert officers of license plates associated with violent offenders, warrants, and other dangerous crimes to increase investigative leads.
- The **Madison Township Police Department (Franklin County)** will receive **\$364,995.63** to pay for retention bonuses and to fill two officer vacancies caused by the pandemic.
- The **Maple Heights Police Department (Cuyahoga County)** will receive **\$216,237** to pay for retention bonuses to keep current staffing levels stable.
- The **Mercer County Sheriff's Office** will receive **\$110,640.70** to purchase advanced technology that will allow the agency to access and extract digital evidence from cellular devices and other electronic equipment. The technology will aid the sheriff's office in the

timely analysis of digital evidence to help them quickly solve cases and protect the community from potential repeat offenders.

- The **Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS)** will receive **\$1,230,038.69** to create a violence reduction program to proactively prevent juveniles from absconding from DHS parole supervision and to quickly locate any youth who do violate the terms of their release. The new Community Intervention and Intelligence Unit will work to locate and reengage youth who have declined to abide by the terms of their parole and will engage youth to help prevent incidences of recidivism. The specialized unit will also focus on assisting local law enforcement with locating paroled DHS youth with active warrants.
- The **Owensville Police Department (Clermont County)** will receive **\$88,812.72** to pay for retention bonuses to maintain current staffing levels and to add full-time officers to fill two vacancies.
- The **Perkins Township Police Department (Erie County)** will receive **\$268,857.79** to offer hiring bonuses to attract new officers and retention bonuses for current staff.
- The **Perry Township Police Department (Franklin County)** will receive **\$109,396.50** for retention bonuses for its officers currently on staff.
- The **Salem Police Department (Columbiana County)** will receive **\$159,704** for retention bonuses and work with city leaders to increase officer pay over time.
- The **Summit County Prosecutor's Office** will receive **\$764,982.74** to fund two additional prosecutor positions for the existing Gun Unit within the office and to offer retention and hiring bonuses.
- The **Trumbull County Prosecutor's Office** will receive **\$495,151.79** to hire a new assistant prosecutor and investigator to prosecute violent crime cases that increased during the pandemic.
- The **Wadsworth Police Department (Medina County)** will receive **\$237,956** for retention bonuses for current staff.