

PUBLIC SAFETY SUCCESS STORY

# Winston-Salem Police Department Saves Lives and Takes Firearms Off the Streets

CITY

POPULATION

**COVERAGE AREA** 

**ShotSpotter**<sup>®</sup>

PRODUCT USED

CUSTOMER SINCE

**AUGUST 2021** 

**WINSTON-SALEM, NC** 

245,787

3 SQ. MI

#### SITUATION

Prior to the installation of ShotSpotter, nearly 80% of gun crime went unreported in Winston-Salem. The subsequent lack of police response left offenders at large to commit more crimes and eroded the community's trust in law enforcement. To address the issue, the WSPD implemented SoundThinking's ShotSpotter gunshot detection system in August 2021.

#### **RESULTS**

One year after ShotSpotter implementation, the WSPD reported that there had been 1,398 total ShotSpotter alerts, 78% of which did not have a corresponding 9-1-1 call for service. With ShotSpotter's 99% detection rate, law enforcement can respond to calls faster and with greater situational awareness, provide emergency care to victims, and collect more evidence. The greater levels of responsiveness improve the community's trust in law enforcement and strengthen relations between the police and the community.

Firearms recovered

Victims aided

Lives saved

In one recent success story, officers responded to a ShotSpotter alert outside a local high-rise apartment building. Working in tandem with a real-time crime center detective, law enforcement was able to apprehend an armed offender inside the building, avoiding an officer-involved shooting as well as any citizen injuries.

In another incident, a ShotSpotter alert led law enforcement to a field where a gunshot wound victim was covered in blood. Attending officers were able to able to apply a tourniquet to stop the bleeding until emergency medical support arrived. WSPD believe the swift response, thanks to ShotSpotter, saved the victim's life.



Our mission is to provide exceptional service to our community in partnership with the citizens, and to me, two lives saved, 47 guns recovered, and a police response to 80% more of the [gun] crime is pretty exceptional.

Captain AMY GAULDIN, Criminal Investigations Division at Winston-Salem

## **How ShotSpotter Benefits** Winston-Salem PD



Every second matters for shooting victims. ShotSpotter ensures responders are notified quickly with an accurate location, allowing them to provide prompt medical care and save lives.

## **EVIDENCE COLLECTION**

One year after the implementation of ShotSpotter, the WSPD recovered 3,678 shell casings as well as 47 firearms.

#### STRONGER COMMUNITY **RELATIONS**

Law enforcement's responsiveness and effectiveness at the scene helps deter gunshot incidents and builds trust with the community.



**How Can Your City Benefit** 

Request a consultation with one of our experts to find out how we can help you improve public safety in your city.



To learn more about our SafetySmart Platform, scan the QR code or visit: soundthinking.com/safetysmart-platform

