

ShotSpotter® Forensic Services

The Value of ShotSpotter Doesn't End at the Crime Scene

Simplifying the Discovery Process in Criminal Cases with ShotSpotter Forensic Services

While ShotSpotter's gunshot detection technology is built to enable rapid first responder action—saving lives and securing key evidence like shell casings—it also serves as a powerful tool in the courtroom. Its forensic capabilities can establish an exact timeline, determine who fired first, and present compelling audio evidence to judges and juries. Here's a closer look at the ShotSpotter Forensic Services that make it possible.

ShotSpotter can aid trial attorneys in their presentation of the shooting incident to a jury using our forensic services and products. These include:

● The Investigative Lead Summary (ILS)

The ILS is a machine-generated ShotSpotter report that captures the date, time, and approximate location of detected gunfire, with links to related audio clips. Accessible instantly in the ShotSpotter app, it helps officers pinpoint shooting scenes, collect evidence, and identify potential witnesses or surveillance sources. Adding the ILS to case files alerts prosecutors to its existence and audio evidence. While primarily investigative, certified versions can be used to authenticate audio files for court.

● Detailed Forensic Report (DFR)

Unlike the automated ILS, the DFR is a comprehensive forensic report prepared by an expert witness. It analyzes shooting data and audio to precisely determine location, timing, and cadence, providing compelling evidence of how, when, and where a shooting occurred. Attorneys use DFR-based testimony to support or challenge accounts, address self-defense claims, and prove elements like intent or premeditation. Officers rely on DFRs mainly for officer-involved shooting investigations and, when needed, in arrest or search warrants. Most reports are completed in 2–3 weeks, or within 24–48 hours for officer-involved shootings.



Sample Detailed Forensic Report

The Credibility of ShotSpotter Forensic Services

ShotSpotter's Forensic Services have been admitted as expert testimony in courts across 25 states, with experts testifying in over 400 cases to date. Unlike competitors—who typically appear only as custodians of record—ShotSpotter's forensic experts are qualified to provide in-depth analysis and present the critical Detailed Forensic Report (DFR) to support their findings in court.



To learn more about ShotSpotter Forensic Services, scan the code or visit:
soundthinking.com/law-enforcement/forensic-services

