



MEDIA RELEASE

Criminal Justice Services

Ohio Criminal Justice Services • Karhlton F. Moore, Executive Director
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OCJS Hosts Community Initiative to Reduce Violence Workshop

(COLUMBUS) – Today, the Ohio Department of Public Safety’s (ODPS) Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) hosted a Community Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV) workshop at the Columbus Police Training Academy.

The Ohio Community Initiative to Reduce Violence, or OCIRV, brings together local, state and federal partners throughout Ohio in a common effort to reduce gang-related violent crime.

“The goal of OCIRV is to provide assistance and resources to cities interested in implementing this violence-reduction strategy, and today’s workshop is just that,” said OCJS Executive Director Karhlton Moore. “We are proud of our partnership with David Kennedy and our ability to contribute to the safety of all Ohioans.”

In 2007, OCJS, as the lead criminal justice planning agency in Ohio, sought out the expertise of criminal justice researchers to identify strategies shown to reduce violent crime. OCJS’ goal was to offer assistance to cities that wanted to implement proven focused deterrence strategies to affect violent crime—in particular, gang and group-related violent crime. OCJS turned to Professor David Kennedy at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice to learn more about the focused deterrence strategy he developed in Boston in the mid-1990s. Since then, OCJS has continuously worked with cities that have and are currently implementing some form of the strategy in their communities.

Nearly 50 people from around the state attended today’s workshop. In addition to Professor Kennedy, attendees heard from cities currently implementing the strategy, such as Cleveland Dayton, Toledo, Youngstown and Cincinnati. Researchers from the University of Cincinnati and Kent State University presented as well.

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