Smart Policing: An Overview

Western Smart Policing Initiative Workshop

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Origins of the Smart Policing Initiative

- 40+ years of police innovation
  - COP, POP, hot spots, intelligence-led policing

- 2008-2009 Recession -
  - budget reductions; layoffs; back to the basics

- BJA releases SPI solicitation in June 2009
  - Provide support to reinforce use of effective, efficient practices; test new practices
  - Facilitate partnerships between law enforcement agencies and criminal justice scholars - build the evidence base
Smart Policing Vision

- Vision = police organizations as ‘complete’ organizations
  - Strategic planning
  - Science, research, planning, analysis, and evaluation
  - Utilization of technology
  - Utilization of a variety of information resources
  - Better development and utilization of intelligence
  - Collaborate comprehensively
  - The “learning organization” = transparency, feedback, dynamic
Is Smart Policing “new”?

- Yes and No
  - Incorporates elements of:
    - POP & COP
    - Intelligence-led policing
    - Compstat
    - Strategic Approaches to Community Safety
    - Project Safe Neighborhoods
  - Plus
    - Technology
    - Research for “results”: the research partner
    - Cost Benefit Analysis
Objectives

- Identify and fund police departments “ready” for Smart Policing, good candidates to innovate and test
- Provide comprehensive training and technical assistance (CNA)
  - National meetings
  - Webinars
  - Other Products
  - Monitor progress and difficulties (SMEs)
Smart Policing Initiative Objectives

- **Objectives**
  - Publish and disseminate information about the Smart Policing sites
    - Spotlight reports
    - Police Quarterly special issue (Sept 2013)
    - Regional Workshops
  - Maintain the Smart Policing website as a key vehicle for training, assistance, and dissemination
    - [http://www.smartpolicinginitiative.com](http://www.smartpolicinginitiative.com)
Smart Policing Initiative in Action

- Through 2013, more than $12.4 million in funding to 33 agencies (36 projects)
  - Big-city departments (Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Boston, Phoenix)
  - Medium-sized departments (Lowell, Glendale, Savannah, Reno)
  - Small departments (York, ME; Pullman, WA)
  - Sheriff’s departments (Evans County, GA)
  - State agencies (Michigan State Police)
Smart Policing Initiative in Action

- Problems targeted are varied
  - Gun violence and street crime
  - Prescription drug abuse
  - Working with immigrant communities
  - Retail theft
  - Repeat offenders and hot spots

- Responses
  - Place and offender-based; technology-driven
Western SPI Workshop Agenda

- Reno PD
- Indio PD
- Glendale PD

- Lunch break

- Phoenix PD
- Los Angeles PD
- Commentary-
  - James “Chip” Coldren and Hildy Saizow