



# PSP Virtual Academy

The National Public Safety Partnership (PSP), in collaboration with leading law enforcement experts and practitioners, has developed interactive, virtual courses on law enforcement topics identified to be of great importance and shared interest to PSP network-wide and beyond. These courses are available nationwide to requesting law enforcement professionals as part of the PSP Virtual Academy. All the courses within the Virtual Academy are self-paced, and students can access the platform using computers, smartphones, and tablets. Upon completion, students are given an opportunity to print and save a completion certificate. This can then be shared with their training staff or placed in their training records.

**Enroll Now!** Law enforcement professionals interested in enrolling in the PSP Virtual Academy can submit a request directly via the PSP website at [www.nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org/academy](http://www.nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org/academy).

## **Crime S.C.E.N.E. Excellence: Navigating the Initial Response to a Violent Crime Scene**

Numerous assessments across the PSP network have demonstrated that critical steps may be overlooked during the initial response to and management of a crime scene. This course highlights the tools and best practices that first responders need to consider to successfully manage violent crime scenes. Course topics include:

- Initial response
- Officer demeanor and empathy
- Properly securing and controlling scenes
- Providing initial medical attention
- Securing and separating victims, witnesses, and bystanders
- Evidence considerations
- Note taking
- Notifications
- Neighborhood canvassing
- Scene briefings
- Importance of excellent report writing

The intended audience for this course includes sworn and civilian law enforcement professionals who support crime scene and forensic investigations. This course takes approximately four hours to complete.

## **Constitutional Policing (Coming Soon!)**

Community partnerships and public trust are critical in enabling officers to perform the essential functions of policing and achieving a sustained impact on public safety. Without the community's cooperation, police departments may be unable to solve crimes and obtain convictions. How do departments balance building public trust, strengthening community partnerships, and reinforcing constitutional principles while exercising legitimate police powers? This course will provide an overview of the Constitution, strategies, and practical examples to address these and other important questions about the role of police-community relationships in enhancing public safety.

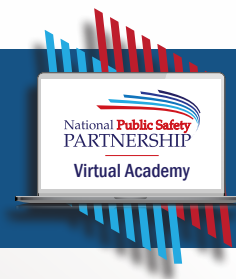
## **Ghost Guns (Coming Soon!)**

One only has to review the day's news to understand that ghost guns, or privately made firearms (PMFs), are a rapidly growing area of concern for law enforcement and for our communities. It is hard to determine the exact frequency and volume of PMF recoveries associated with criminal behavior because this an emerging problem in most of the country and, as a result, law enforcement has not yet established uniform procedures for identifying and documenting their recovery.

This PSP Virtual Academy training course is designed to provide participants with the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to identify, accurately describe, and document PMFs and a uniform methodology for accounting for them in the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' (ATF) Firearms Tracing System (FTS).

<https://www.nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org/Academy>

# PSP Virtual Academy



## GunStat: A Data-Driven Approach to Address Gun Violence

Gun crime is a complex problem impacting many communities and neighborhoods across the nation. As we think about the complexity of gun crime, it is important to understand that the primary perpetrators of these crimes represent a very small segment of a community. Despite their small number, unabated gun offenders perpetuate a cycle of violence that leaves a path of fear and devastation in neighborhoods—each crime representing real people, real families, and entire communities that are impacted by the wide-ranging consequences of gun violence. It is only through the systematic and collaborative efforts of law enforcement and other key stakeholders that those responsible for these crimes will be identified and prosecuted to prevent future violence.

During this training session, participants will learn how to leverage data and collaboration to implement the GunStat model. GunStat is a nationally recognized, data-driven management strategy that focuses on reducing gun crime through real-time intelligence and the targeted identification and prosecution of felony gun offenders. The strategy involves a collaborative approach among police, local prosecutors, and the U.S. Attorney's Office to systematically track gun offenders through the criminal justice system.

The intended audience for this course includes law enforcement executives and command staff members in charge of addressing gun violence. This course takes approximately one hour to complete.

## Law Enforcement Guide to Crime Guns

The initial recovery and identification of a crime gun is one of the most important steps in any investigation. This step is even more critical for agencies whose communities are experiencing high incidences of violent gun crime or are expanding their utilization of crime gun intelligence.

These firearms provide valuable investigative leads and are subsequently scrutinized during all aspects of the investigation after recovery. Despite the importance of this initial step, firearms are frequently misidentified, leading to missed opportunities for lead development, case connection, and successful prosecution.

This course, which was developed in close collaboration with ATF, provides an overview of the fundamentals of firearm

identification and how crime guns relate to investigative processes such as the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) and ATF's eTrace (Electronic Tracing System).

The intended audience for this course includes sworn law enforcement professionals of all ranks, especially line-level field personnel and those who work within major crimes or violent crime units. In addition, local district attorneys and their staff can benefit from the instruction. The course takes approximately two hours to complete.

## Leadership Strategies: Building Effective Leaders to Impact Violence Reduction

Law enforcement leaders are facing an unprecedented time of change coupled with a combination of unique challenges that society is facing. These leaders must be prepared to navigate the hurdles they will face, both internally and externally, to motivate and empower their personnel to achieve the goals of their organizations and meet the expectations of their communities.

This course provides law enforcement executives, line-level supervisors, and commanders with tools and resources to develop their leadership mindsets and self-assess their capacities to navigate extreme challenges while implementing the organizational change often associated with violence reduction strategies. This course takes approximately two to six hours to complete but may take longer based on user interest.

## Navigating NIBIN Leads via the GETS System

The National Integrated Ballistic Information System's (NIBIN) information flow for many departments is a constant stream of information expressed as NIBIN leads. It is not uncommon for a department to receive 10, 15, or even 25 of these NIBIN leads every week. This includes new leads linking two events and new events being added to existing leads. Each NIBIN lead links a shooting to another shooting or a recovered crime gun to a shooting or creates a complex combination of those. NIBIN leads received by most departments can quickly outpace available resources to address them.

**Enroll Now!** Law enforcement professionals interested in enrolling in the PSP Virtual Academy can submit a request directly via the PSP website at [www.nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org/academy](http://www.nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org/academy).



This project was supported by Grant No. 2016-DG-BX-K006 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART). Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.