

POLICY TEAM AT ASC CONFERENCE

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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

- Philadelphia, PA from Nov. 14 – Nov. 18th
- Academic with an emphasis on research
- Topics on the sessions attended include:
 - Crisis Intervention
 - Mental Health Services
 - Dispatch
 - Police Practices
 - Policy

KEY TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

- Evaluation of ShotSpotter in Bakersfield, CA
- Decriminalization of Illicit Substances in BC, Canada
- Implications of dispatchers and the 911 system for policing

EVALUATION OF SHOTSPOTTER IN BAKERSFIELD, CA

- An assessment of ShotSpotter's effectiveness in 1) reducing gun violence and 2) increasing police response times once notified of a gunshot
- Key Findings:
 - No significant differences in either variable in years prior to being installed to two years after
 - A slight increase in gun violence after installation
- Future Considerations:
 - Looking to add 24 months of additional data to see if more significant differences arise over a longer period
 - Including a public health variable

DECRIMINALIZATION OF ILLICIT SUBSTANCES IN BC, CANADA

- “Police Officer Hopes and Concerns for Decriminalization in British Columbia: a Pre-Implementation Study”
 - Seattle CB 120645 (Ordinance 126896)
- Training is critical for implementation
- More robust public health infrastructure
- Regulation of production and distribution of illicit substances

DISPATCHERS AND THE 911 SYSTEM FOR POLICING

- **The role of dispatch in the criminal justice system is grossly understudied, yet it is important to understand the impact of their interactions with civilians and their subsequent impacts on civilian perceptions of on-site police officers**
- Key Findings:
 - Civilian interactions with the call-taker significantly impacted how they interacted with the police once on scene
 - The use of procedurally-just tactics successfully mitigated negative perceptions
- Practical Implications:
 - Procedural Justice tools are effective and should be incorporated in police trainings
 - It is important to consider the role of dispatch in accountability theory and practice

DISPATCHERS AND THE 911 SYSTEM FOR POLICING

- **Managing mental health calls: an evaluation of extending the co-responder model into the call center setting**
- When there appears to be a mental health concern for some who aren't calling for mental health needs, dispatchers cannot force services they aren't asking for
- Can and should behavioral health liaisons work alongside dispatch personnel to help divert calls away from law enforcement?
- Key Findings:
 - Incorporating behavioral health liaisons significantly diverted calls away from law enforcement, saving time and resources for the police department and getting callers connected to useful resources



QUESTIONS?