



**For Immediate Release
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**Project Safe Neighborhoods
Operation TIDE**

***Announces First Year Results; Expands Territory
Brings National Weed and Seed Conference to Detroit***

Detroit, MI -- The ten law enforcement agencies who lead the Project Safe Neighborhoods Operation TIDE (Tactical Intelligence Driven Enforcement) Initiative announced today the one-year anniversary results for Operation TIDE in the City's largest police district, the Northwestern District of Detroit. "Results have been excellent considering this has been our first year as a task force working to attack gun violence and gang activity," said U.S. Attorney Stephen J. Murphy.

Since Operation TIDE's inception in Detroit's Northwestern District in May 2006, homicides have decreased by 43% and non-fatal shootings have decreased by 26%. As of May 31, 2007, there have been 17 homicides in Northwestern Detroit, compared to 30 for the same period in 2006; and 87 non-fatal shootings compared to 118 for the same period in 2006. Comparatively, there was an 8% reduction in homicides and a 15% reduction in non-fatal shootings for the rest of Detroit during the same period. "ATF's strategy to focus on all gun crime has shown results. Our agents have been very successful in removing and disrupting the flow of crime guns onto the streets of Detroit. The drop in violent crime can be attributed to this firearm strategy coupled with targeting career criminals and drug dealers who are the root cause of violent crime in the City of Detroit," said ATF Special Agent in Charge Valerie Goddard.

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Two success stories of the collaborative work of TIDE are the recent indictments and apprehension of members of the Detroit Thug Lordz and Joy Road Gang. These cases are being prosecuted federally by the United States Attorney's Office. "Though the numbers of arrests and confiscations have been impressive, Operation TIDE is intelligence driven with success determined by the depths in which criminal enterprises are infiltrated and subsequently dismantled," said Police Chief Ella-Bully Cummings. "Many of the individuals associated with the targeted groups employ violence as a means to further their illegal activities. Arrest of these violent persons has a clear affect on quality of life for residents and because of the encouraging results in the Northwestern District; we are pleased to announce the expansion of TIDE into the Eastern District to help accelerate our efforts to combat gang and gun violence there." she said. The TIDE team has already begun to uncover the 'worst of the worst' in Detroit's Eastern District, and some of the gangs are sub-units of large, organized gangs that have a national network.

Murphy, Goddard and Bully-Cummings were joined by Robert L. Corso, DEA Special Agent in Charge, Andrew G. Arena, FBI Special Agent in Charge, Robert M. Grubbs, U.S. Marshal, Kym Worthy, Wayne County Prosecutor, Warren Evans, Wayne County Sheriff, John S. Rubitschun, Adrian L. Green and Russell L. Marlan of the Michigan Department of Corrections and Captain Anne Marie Gibson of the Michigan State Police.

In addition, the Department of Justice's Community Capacity Development Office is hosting the 2007 National Weed and Seed conference in Detroit called "Promoting Unity in Each Community," August 21 – 23 at Detroit's Marriott Conference Center. The conference promises to bring together law enforcement and community services agencies from around the country.

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A local host committee consisting of the federal agencies, Weed & Seed sites in Michigan, the State of Michigan Governor's Office, Michigan Department of Corrections, Michigan State Police, Wayne County Executive's Office, Wayne County Prosecutor, Wayne County Sheriff, City of Detroit Mayor's Office, Detroit Police Department, Arise Detroit, Comcast, Comerica Inc., Detroit Metropolitan Convention & Visitors Bureau, Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce, Detroit Receiving Hospital and the Skillman Foundation will help welcome the delegates to Detroit.

More than 1,500 law enforcement officials, crime prevention and community capacity development experts will come together in Detroit for this national conference and a powerful exchange of ideas and best practices. Operation TIDE and the ten law enforcement agencies participating have been selected to receive the national Office of Justice Programs Award for Outstanding Law Enforcement Collaborative. The Opening Ceremony will take place Tuesday, August 21 at 8:30am in the Grand Ballroom of the Detroit Marriott Conference Center and a reception hosted by Mayor Kwame M. Kilpatrick will take place at the GM Wintergarden on the evening of August 21 to welcome all the delegates.

For more information on the national conference "Promoting Unity in Each Community," and Project Safe Neighborhoods Operation TIDE, please visit www.psnworks.org and call 800.891.8881. Citizens with tips related to the criminal activity of gangs, illegal gun trafficking and sales, and illegal gun use, are urged to call the anonymous tip line that is managed by the law enforcement agency that wrote the book on illegal gun confiscation, the ATF. Calls to 800.ATF.GUNS are answered by real ATF agents, the caller can remain anonymous and there is a chance for a reward with conviction. For information about sponsorship and partnership opportunities with Project Safe Neighborhoods, please contact Peggy K. Goodwin, The Goodwin Co. at 248.414.4533.

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