

U.S. Department of Justice Community Relations Service Begins at 11:00 am



Working Together to Serve
Diverse Communities

A Virtual Resource Fair



TO JOIN BY TELEPHONE:

Phone: (510) 210-8882 | Access Code: 199 456 2878



U.S. Department of Justice – Community Relations Service
Information about the Community Relations Service

The Community Relations Service (CRS), a component of the Department of Justice (DOJ), serves as “America’s Peacemaker” for communities in conflict by mediating disputes and enhancing community capacity to independently prevent and resolve future conflicts.

Presenter:

Synthia Taylor

Regional Director of the CRS Southwest and Southeast Regional Offices





America's Peacemaker
conciliate | mediate | facilitate | educate



What is

CRS COMMUNITY
RELATIONS
SERVICE ?

Created under **Title X of
Civil Rights Act of 1964**

CRS, a U.S. Department of Justice
agency, is the Federal government's

“peacemaker”

for community conflicts and
tensions arising from differences
of race, color and national
origin.

*Photo: President Lyndon Baines Johnson signs the Civil
Rights Act of 1964, surrounded by civil rights and
congressional leaders. Taken from the 2015 Annual Report.*





What is **CRS** COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE ?

Services expanded under the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009, CRS acts to prevent and respond to violent hate crimes:

- Gender
- Gender Identity
- Sexual Orientation
- Religion
- Disability
- Race
- Color
- National Origin

CRS Services



CRS Services



Facilitation

Convening parties in dialogue to identify issues and solutions



Training

Knowledge or skills-based programs

Who We Work With



CRS Service Areas



Administration of Justice

- Police-community relations
- Controversial incidents
- Alleged bias or hate incidents/crimes



Education

- Intergroup tensions in schools
- Alleged bias or hate incidents/crimes in schools
- Alleged bullying



General Community Relations

- Demographic shifts
- Language-based conflicts
- Public demonstrations or controversial events
- Alleged bias or hate incidents/crimes

CRS Programs

Administration of Justice

- ▶ Engaging and Building Relationships with Transgender Communities
- ▶ Strengthening Police and Community Partnerships (SPCP)
- ▶ Engaging and Building Partnerships with Muslim Americans
- ▶ Engaging and Building Partnerships with Sikh Americans
- ▶ Customized Information and Education Sessions



Education

- ▶ School-Student Problem Identification and Resolution of Issues Together (School-SPIRIT)
- ▶ Campus-Site Problem Identification and Resolution of Issues Together (Campus-SPIRIT)
- ▶ Customized Information and Education Sessions



General Community Relations

- ▶ City-Site Problem Identification and Resolution of Issues Together (City-SPIRIT)
- ▶ Protecting Places of Worship
- ▶ Dialogue on Race
- ▶ Bias Incidents and Hate Crimes Forums
- ▶ Contingency Planning: Reducing Risk During Public Events
- ▶ Event Marshals: Supporting Public Safety During Events
- ▶ Customized Information and Education Sessions



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Case Study

Law Enforcement Community – Trayvon Martin Case in Sanford, FL

- CRS was the catalyst to create “Sanford Pastors Connecting,” during the 2013 trial of George Zimmerman



Additional Case Studies

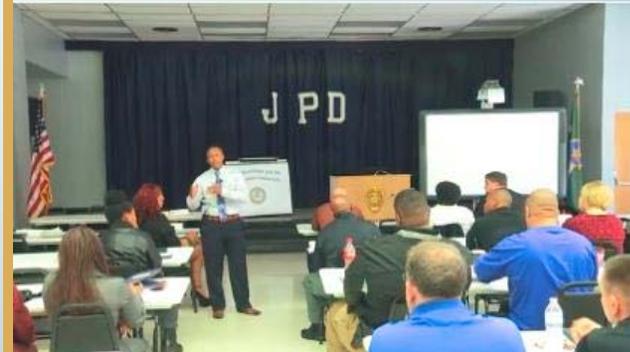


School Community – SPIRIT Program in Duluth, MN

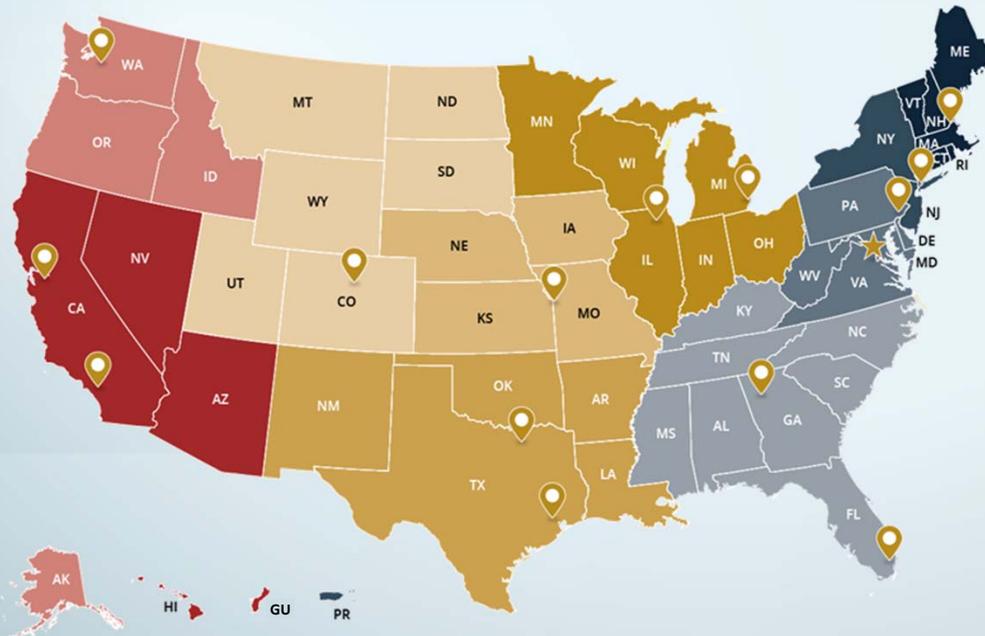
- A group of students at Denfeld High School circulated a picture on Snapchat of a black student with a noose around his neck captioned, “Gotta hang ‘em all,” sparking significant community tension
- CRS conducted a Student Problem Identification and Resolution of Issues Together (SPIRIT) program for the student body to work through the issue as an ongoing effort

Transgender Community – Law Enforcement Training in Jackson, MS

- CRS worked with the Jackson Police Department and members of the Transgender community to deliver cultural competency training
- CRS presented the training in an effort to increase understanding, improve relations for all involved, and decrease the instances of violence



CRS Regional and Field Office Locations



legend

- New England Regional Office (ME, VT, NH, MA, CT, RI)
- Northeastern Regional Office (NY, NJ, VI, PR)
- Mid-Atlantic Regional Office (DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV)
- Southeastern Regional Office (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN)
- Midwestern Regional Office (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)
- Central Regional Office (IA, KS, MO, NE)
- Southwestern Regional Office (AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)
- Rocky Mountain Regional Office (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY)
- Northwestern Regional Office (AK, ID, OR, WA)
- Western Regional Office (AZ, CA, GU, HI, NV)
- Regional Office Locations

Regional and Field Offices Contacts (1 of 2)

New England Regional Office (Region I)
(ME, VT, NH, MA, CT, RI)

Northeastern Regional Office (Region II)
(NY, NJ, VI, PR)

Mid-Atlantic Regional Office (Region III)
(DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV)

Southeastern Regional Office (Region IV)
(AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN)

Southeastern Field Office

Midwestern Regional Office (Region V)
(IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)

Midwestern Field Office

Regional and Field Offices Contacts (2 of 2)

Southwestern Regional Office (Region VI)
(AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)

Southwestern Field Office

Central Regional Office (Region VII)
(IA, KS, MO, NE)

Rocky Mountain Regional Office (Region VIII)
(CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY)

Western Regional Office (Region IX)
(AZ, CA, GU, HI, NV)

Western Field Office

Northwestern Regional Office (Region X)
(AK, ID, OR, WA)

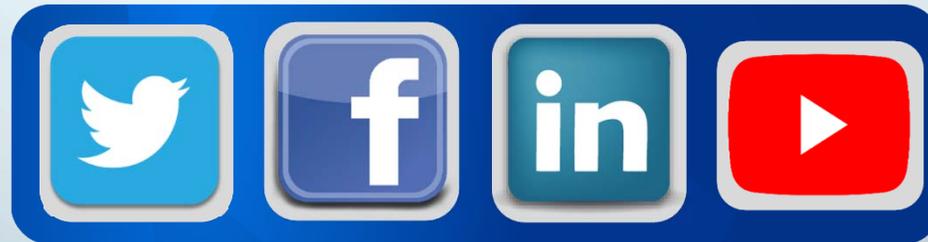
Connect With Us

For More Information

214 655-8189

www.justice.gov/crs

Please visit our social media sites:



Case Highlight: Southeastern Region

CRS works with educational institutions experiencing racial conflict and tensions by facilitating Know Your Rights forums and Student Problem Identification & Resolution of Issues Together (School-SPIRIT) programs.

Supporting the school district in Terry, MS following perceived racial discrimination at a school

- CRS's services were requested by the Hinds County School District after a student-planned Black History Month celebration was cancelled and racial tension ensued
- CRS facilitated an educational forum for two student assemblies, allowing students to voice concerns, and school leaders to confirm belief in diversity and support for the students' right to free expression

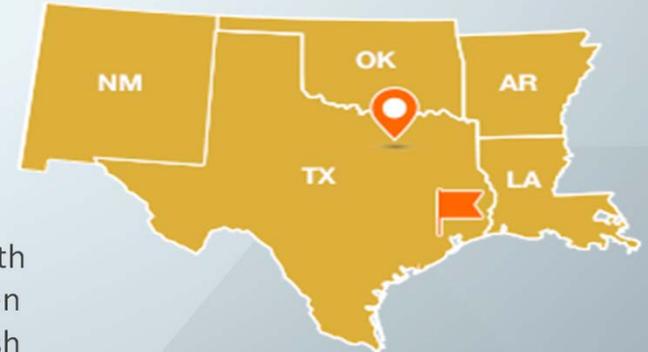


Case Highlight: Southwestern Region

In the aftermath of violence, CRS works with law enforcement, city officials, clergy, and community members to facilitate open dialogues and encourage parties to find sustainable solutions to productive relationships moving forward.

Convening parties in Baton Rouge, LA to find sustainable solutions to racial tension

- Police and community relations are strained following violence in the community
- CRS facilitated dialogue among the police chief, his command staff, and the local U.S. Attorney; it resulted in the “Prayer Patrol:” a partnership between law enforcement and faith leaders to develop healthy and sustainable relationships between law enforcement and young men, ages 17 to 33, within the parish

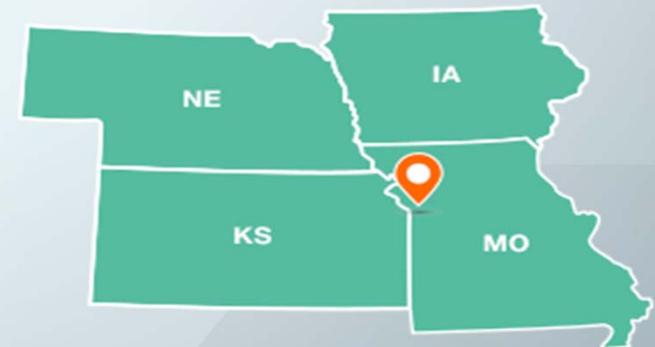


Case Highlight: Central Region

CRS supports communities experiencing heightened fear following hate crimes through its various programs and services: Protecting Places of Worship, and Hate Crimes forums, trainings, dialogues, and consultations to educate, develop relationships, and improve communications and information sharing.

Building relationships, and developing capacity in Kansas City, MO to address safety concerns

- Following a hate crime, CRS facilitated dialogues, coordinated active shooter training, and facilitated a Protecting Places of Worship forum, and Engaging and Building Partnerships with Muslim and Sikh Americans programs
- CRS's services helped the community build relationships, connect with government resources, improve information sharing, and develop greater capacity to address safety concerns



Case Highlight: Rocky Mountain Region

CRS supports communities, tribal communities, and educational institutions facing increased tensions following hate crimes or bias incidents based on national origin. CRS convenes parties and facilitates dialogue, and provides resources to build trust, increase communication, and diffuse tension.

Facilitating dialogue and providing resources in Sheridan, WY to address increasing tensions

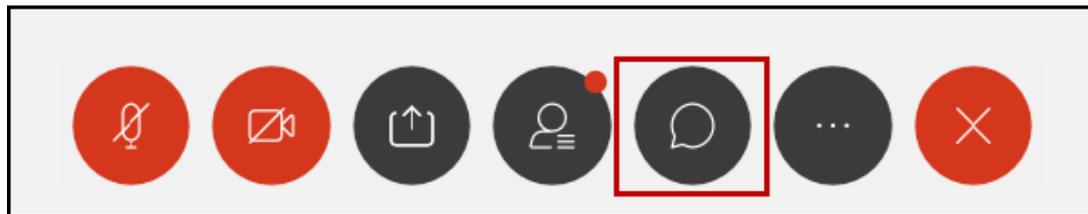
- Community tensions increased after three incidents against Native American female college students were not investigated by campus law enforcement
- CRS facilitated dialogue between parties, worked with tribal leadership to make trauma counseling services available, convened a parental briefing, and provided hate crimes resources to guide future responses by campus law enforcement



Questions?

Send your question by **Chat**:

- Open the **Chat** panel



- In the **Send To** or **To** drop-down list, select the recipient of your question
- Type your message in the **Chat** text box, then press **Enter** on your keyboard.