



## TPD's intelligence-led policing may be reducing crime

By **Michelle Shields** | July 11, 2014 at 1:35 AM EST - Updated July 20 at 10:18 PM



TOLEDO, OH (Toledo News Now) - Several police departments across the country have adopted a unique way of policing that's meant to cut down on crime.

Toledo Police have adopted what's called intelligence-led policing. Police officers use special tools to predict where crime will happen and who will commit it so they can be at the right place at the right time.

The sky cop cameras, a criminal intelligence bureau, predictive analysis modules and directive policing are all part of intelligence-led policing.

"It's a broad strategy that uses a lot of pieces," said Sgt. Joe Heffernan with the TPD. "But in essence, it's having an officer in the right place at the right time."

A small percentage of the population is responsible for a large part of crime. Police use software and good, old-fashioned police work to track repeat offenders and figure out their next move.

"If we can figure out which groups, which people in the community commit the most crime, and focus our resources on them, we can make the biggest impact and the most difference," said Heffernan.

Another part of intelligence-led policing is a monthly meeting with members from every division of the force.

"It's an info-sharing meeting, and accountability to hold command officers accountable for crime occurring in their area," said Captain Michael Troendle.

Overall, crime in Toledo has decreased, especially property crimes like burglaries, but violent crimes are down, as well.

"If we can stop a crime from happening, that's great, because it means one less victim," Troendle said.

The Toledo Police Department wanted to adopt intelligence-led policing back in 2008, but due to the economy, they couldn't get the necessary technology. In 2011 when former Chief Derrick Diggs took over, it was his top priority. Years later, the new methods have caught on and are curbing crime in the city.

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