



CITIZENS CRIME COMMISSION OF NEW YORK CITY

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Contact: Alexis Grenell, (917) 327-1180, or agrenell@gmail.com

Crime Commission Statement on NYPD's Operation Crew Cut

Newly announced gang violence initiative is smart and proactive

NEW YORK-In response to NYPD Commissioner Kelly's announcement that the Department is establishing a new initiative to combat street violence, Operation Crew Cut, Richard Aborn, President of the Citizens Crime Commission, issued the following statement:

"Operation Crew Cut is a smart and proactive approach to curtail youth violence which accounts for 30% of shootings in New York City. By utilizing the latest technology, doubling the size of the gang violence unit and coordinating closely with District Attorneys, the New York City Police Department is making effective use of targeted resources to not only combat crime, but create an overall deterrent effect. This is the kind of smart solution which keeps our crime rate low, and continues to set New York apart as one of the safest large cities in the world."

Background

Today at the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), NYPD Commissioner Raymond Kelly, announced an initiative to combat loosely affiliated gangs, or street crews, mainly comprised of young teens in public housing: Operation Crew Cut. The effort will double the size of the Gang Division from approximately 150 detectives to 300, with lawyers from the Department's Legal Bureau assigned to coordinate arrest and prosecution with each of the five district attorneys in New York City. Each of the affected precincts in the city will have a team of a dozen uniformed and plainclothes officers to specifically address street conditions caused by the rivalries between crews. In addition, the Juvenile Justice Division of the NYPD will offer support for social media driven investigations on Facebook, You Tube and elsewhere.

The Citizens Crime Commission of New York City is a non-partisan non-profit organization working to make criminal justice and public safety policies and practices more effective through innovation, research, and education. In the last three decades, the Crime Commission has been a leader on key issues such as: increasing the size of the NYPD, expanding the use of DNA evidence in crime fighting, creating innovations that reduce juvenile crime, developing interventions against gun violence and illegal gun crime, and highlighting the changing nature of the threat of terrorism.

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