

# CRIME ANALYSIS ASSESSMENT



Crime analysis enhances a law enforcement agency's capabilities to make informed decisions, respond effectively, and prevent crime. Agencies often have limited crime analysis capacities, lack the understanding of the benefits of crime analysis, or struggle with ways to enhance their existing analytic capacities. Through Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), CNA offers crime analysis capacity assessments to provide agencies with insights into opportunities both to strengthen crime analysis capacities and to plan and implement initiatives to address gaps and needs.

## ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

- Conduct a needs assessment to determine analytical gaps and needs.
- Develop recommendations for addressing the identified gaps and needs, including any specific programs or policies that can be targeted for training and technical assistance (TTA).
- Document how TTA can promote organizational change, help reduce crime, enhance public safety, and identify data sources and elements to support these conclusions.
- Outline technical solutions that enable real-time sharing of crime data and analytical products on a local, regional, and statewide basis.



## THE PROCESS

The key steps of the assessment process include the following:

1. **Pre-assessment questionnaire:** The PSN TTA team asks the requesting agency to complete a pre-assessment questionnaire, which provides the subject matter experts (SMEs) with a preliminary review of the agency's analytic capacity and needs.



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2. **Kick off call:** CNA will host a kick off call with the PSN TTA team—including the requesting agency’s TTA liaison, analyst, and champions—to identify the desired goals and objectives of the assessment and potential dates for the on-site portion of the assessment.

3. **Site visit:** During the two-day site visit, SMEs will conduct comprehensive interviews with key personnel at the requesting agency and with representatives from relevant local, state, and federal partners. SMEs will also attend a CompStat meeting and view any technologies the department has. They will note whether they share systems or networks between the county or city.

4. **Assessment report:** The assessment team will develop an assessment report with findings and recommendations to enhance crime analysis capabilities. SMEs will discuss their findings with the site while developing the report. The PSN TTA team will provide a final report to the site within six weeks of the site visit. The SMEs can debrief the findings of the report via a conference call, at the request of the site.



## SAMPLE ON-SITE VISIT AGENDA

- Hold interviews with local personnel.
  - Chief of police and command staff
  - Research and planning manager (or equivalent office)
  - Police department crime analysis unit and analysts
  - City crime analysis/mapping or geographic information system staff members
  - Users of analytic products (officers, investigators)
- Attend CompStat or weekly shooting review meetings.
- View department technologies.
- Participate in ride-along.

## POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

- Modified practices or implementation of new practices based on lessons learned
- Improved technological and analytic capacity

## QUESTIONS AND MAKING AN ASSESSMENT REQUEST

If you have questions about this assessment or would like to request the assessment, please consult with your regional PSN TTA liaison or TTA PSN analyst. You can also complete the PSN TTA request form below to make an assessment request.

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