

“I know that only my neighbors and I can make my neighborhood a safe place. When we worked together to manage our own crime issues...we had our lowest rate of crime in five years.”

— *Michael Petetit, Chairperson,
Safety Committee,
Lafayette Square*

“When citizens work with police and prosecutors, it sends a message to criminals...That message is more powerful than any technology we can buy.

— *Chief Dan Isom
St. Louis Metropolitan
Police Department*

“The more information judges have, the better equipped we are to make decisions. When [neighbors] work with the authorities to help gather accurate and complete information, we all benefit.”

— *Presiding Judge
Steven Ohmer
St. Louis Circuit Court*

For a comprehensive Neighborhood Ownership Model plan and to seek assistance in creating your own Neighborhood Ownership Model, contact the Community Affairs Bureau at the Circuit Attorney's Office at 314-622-4941.

FURTHER RESOURCES

St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department
Non-Emergency Hotline: 314-231-1212
Web: www.slmpr.org
Twitter: twitter.com/slmpr

National Crime Prevention Council
www.ncpc.org

City of St. Louis
Website: www.stlouis-mo.gov
Board of Aldermen: 314-622-3297
Neighborhood Stabilization: 314-657-1392

Case.net - Missouri Public Court Records
www.courts.mo.gov/casenet

VINELink - National Victim
Notification Network
www.vinelink.com

CIRCUIT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
1114 MARKET STREET, ROOM 401
ST. LOUIS, MO 63101
PHONE: 314-622-4941
FAX: 314-622-3369
WEB: WWW.CIRCUITATTORNEY.ORG
TWITTER: [TWITTER.COM/JENNIFERJOYCECA](https://twitter.com/JENNIFERJOYCECA)



**YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD
OWNERSHIP
MODEL**

YOU & YOUR NEIGHBORS ARE THE ESSENTIAL KEY TO FIGHTING CRIME IN OUR CITY.

Living in a safe neighborhood is the right of every person. Unfortunately, few citizens realize that safe neighborhoods exist *only* when their residents make them safe. Concerned local citizens and law enforcement officials created a comprehensive Neighborhood Ownership Model to help guide you to long-term crime reduction.

THE PROBLEM: *Lack of Participation*

Criminals target neighborhoods where they think they have a low risk of getting caught. Criminals know the neighborhoods that are more likely to tolerate bad behavior and they plan and act accordingly. Neighborhoods that do not have involved citizens are an easy target for criminal activity.

THE SOLUTION: *Active Ownership*

Criminals fear neighborhoods that don't tolerate crime. They know which communities have citizens that will call the police, show up to court and fight for justice. Neighborhoods that actively take ownership of their safety have significantly lower criminal activity.

SIX STEPS TO NEIGHBORHOOD OWNERSHIP

Creating a Neighborhood Ownership Model can make reducing crime a manageable task. There are six simple steps to creating a Neighborhood Ownership Model.

1. Set up a team of interested neighbors committed to reducing crime.
2. Determine what level of crime occurs in your neighborhood. What do you need to reduce this crime?
3. Prepare a written plan addressing the most pressing needs.
4. Involve local government partners. Your alderman, the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, and the Circuit Attorney's Office are good places to start.
5. Actively implement your plan. However, remain open to adjustments as needed.
6. Finally, be persistent and patient. It takes time to implement changes and to see results.

SOLUTION EXAMPLES

Every neighborhood has different needs and challenges. No two neighborhood crime-fighting plans will look the same. By partnering with your local police or government representative, you can determine which solutions work best for your neighborhood. An effective plan can include a mixture of citizen, government and technology-based tactics to deter crime. Here are some examples.

Citizen-based

- Citizen safety patrol
- Neighborhood victim support team
- Neighborhood court advocates

Government-based

- Neighborhood impact statement training
- Police partnerships
- Aldermonic partnerships
- Victim support training

Technology-based

- Security cameras
- Email distribution of crime alerts
- Neighborhood website or blog
- Electronic calendaring

“The Public is the 800 pound gorilla in the criminal justice system. When they work with police, prosecutors and the courts, citizens have more power than all law enforcement agencies combined. With citizen support, we have a nearly 100 percent conviction rate.”

— Jennifer M. Joyce, Circuit Attorney