

# Mass Violence Advisory Initiative



Acts of mass violence create unique challenges for law enforcement leaders tasked with keeping their communities and officers safe during a time of intense pressure. In response, the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) have partnered to launch the Mass Violence Advisory Initiative (MVAI). Through the MVAI, the IACP has developed a Mass Violence Peer-to-Peer Advisory Team ready to assist when a mass violence incident occurs.

## Mass Violence Peer-to-Peer Advisory Team

If a mass violence incident occurs in your community, you can request peer-to-peer assistance from the IACP's Mass Violence Peer-to-Peer Advisory Team, comprised of subject matter experts (SMEs) with experience leading agencies and communities through an incident of mass violence. Upon submitting a request, the IACP and BJA will assess the request and determine how best to assist. The IACP can provide a team of SMEs to assist, at no cost to the local community, either virtually or in-person, to aid and advise law enforcement immediately following a tragedy. The team provides peer-to-peer mentoring to law enforcement leaders and connects them to different BJA and IACP resources to help facilitate the local response and to start the healing process for first responders and communities.

Over the coming months, this team will build out a cadre of community, faith-based, psychological services, and other SMEs to enhance this effort. Through a trauma-informed approach, the team will provide ongoing assistance, information, and resources to help law enforcement and communities bring about community healing and ensure overall officer and community safety and wellness. This may include guidance around the following: managing agency response, communicating with the media and addressing the public, coordinating with local community resources and volunteers, collaborating with victim service personnel to support victims and their families, and officer wellness. In addition, leaders will have access to specialized resources, such as guidebooks, checklists, and toolkits to assist them in the aftermath of an incident.

### The Mass Violence Peer-to-Peer Advisory Team assists law enforcement and communities with:

- Overall incident management
- Public information strategies
- Criminal investigation considerations
- Victim and witness health and wellness
- First responder health and wellness
- Long-term community wellness

### Future MVAI personnel will include:

- Mental health professionals
- Faith-based leaders
- Community leaders
- Family members of victims

## How to Request Services?

To request assistance, email [MVAI@theIACP.org](mailto:MVAI@theIACP.org)

Visit [www.theIACP.org/MVAI](http://www.theIACP.org/MVAI) for more information about this initiative, a list of available resources, and FAQs.