

# What Is The VIOLENT CRIME SUPPORT UNIT?

The Violent Crime Support Unit (VCSU) within the Missouri State Highway Patrol is available to assist criminal justice agencies during the investigation of serious violent crimes. Trained crime analysts can provide on-site case management services such as report entry into a computerized case management system; lead tracking, identification, and development; analysis and comparison of investigative reports and their findings to major case squads and other investigative authorities within the state. Case review services are available whereby unsolved violent crime cases can be submitted to a panel of experienced investigators from agencies throughout the state who will re-examine reports, leads, evidence, and make recommendations for action. Funding is available through the Violent Crime Support Unit for expert professional services, non-conventional laboratory testing, and/or technical assistance if deemed appropriate after case evaluation. Future plans include development of a statewide violent crime case comparison system.



For the Missouri State Highway Patrol Troop Headquarters nearest you, consult your local phone directory.

**Emergency Highway Assistance**  
(800) 525-5555

**Road Conditions**  
(800) 222-6400  
(573) 526-3313

**METH Hotline**  
1-888-823-METH (6384)

# VIOLENT CRIME SUPPORT UNIT



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An Internationally Accredited Agency

# HOW CAN VCSU HELP?

## CASE MANAGEMENT

The Violent Crime Support Unit can provide an agency with on-site civilian crime analysts during the first three days of the investigation of a serious violent crime.

The Crime Analysts will:

1. Enter reports and leads into a case management system.
2. Track leads that have been completed, unassigned, or assigned and pending.
3. Provide analytical services such as link charts, flow charts, time lines, case progress visuals, and/or courtroom graphics.
4. Provide the appropriate case agent, commanding officer, prosecuting attorney, or administrative officer with completed typed reports.
5. Search leads and reports, including narratives, for commonalities as requested.
6. Track evidence.
7. Process requests for information and provide:
  - a. telephone subscriber information
  - b. telephone toll analysis [pen-link]
    - i. financial analysis:
      - i. FinCen
      - ii. Prentice Hall
      - iii. Credit Bureau
      - iv. Department of Revenue
    - d. employment checks [Employment Security files]
    - e. criminal history records
    - f. AFIS data
    - g. intelligence data from MOCIC, MSHP, INTERPOL, etc.
    - h. Department of Revenue access:
      - i. title histories
      - ii. driver's histories
      - iii. license plate partial number checks
      - iv. printouts on persons surrendering Missouri licenses



- vi. vehicles licensed at certain addresses
- vii. all licensed operators at certain addresses
- viii. lists of specific types, makes, models, or years of vehicles registered in a certain area
- ix. lists of lien holders
- i. off-line MULES and NCIC searches
- j. department of Revenue driver's license photos
- k. juvenile/missing persons data
- l. organized crime intelligence data

## CASE REVIEWS

The Violent Crime Support Unit can coordinate a formal review of an unsolved violent crime. A panel of experienced investigators from criminal justice agencies around the state that have agreed to participate in case reviews will provide this service to the unit. Expenses for case reviews will be paid from the Violent Crime Support Fund.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Funding has been established to assist criminal justice agencies in obtaining professional services necessary during the investigation of a serious violent crime, but not commonly available within the criminal justice community. Such services might include:

- a. Professional forensic services
- b. Special laboratory testing
- c. Technical forensic services

*Requests for funding will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and must be requested in writing.*



# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. Who oversees the Violent Crime Support Unit?

The Violent Crime Support Unit is supervised by the director of the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Division of Drug and Crime Control. Suggestions for improvement, growth, future funding, and critique of the current program will come from

an oversight committee comprised of representatives from criminal justice agencies across the state.

2. Who can request the services of the Violent Crime Support Unit?

Any major case squad during activation, as well as any local, municipal, county, or state criminal justice agency. Priority will be given to multi-agency investigations.

3. When should the Violent Crime Support Unit be asked for their assistance?

As soon as possible (within four hours) after discovery of the crime or upon activation of the major case squad.

4. How long will the Violent Crime Support Unit remain on-site with an agency to assist in case management?

Normally, 72 hours after arrival, but the time can be extended in exigent situations.

5. Who can submit cases for review?

Any criminal justice agency within the state that has originating authority on an unsolved violent crime.

6. Who can request funds for professional services?

Any criminal justice agency involved in a violent crime investigation in which the Missouri State Highway Patrol or the Violent Crime Support Unit has assisted, and a need exists for special services that are not commonly provided free-of-charge to the agency. This does not include prosecution services.

7. How can the services of the Violent Crime Support Unit be obtained?

By calling (800) 877-3452 during normal business hours, or by calling the nearest Missouri State Highway Patrol troop headquarters. Requests for case reviews and professional services must be submitted in writing to:

Director, Division of Drug and Crime Control  
Missouri State Highway Patrol  
P.O. Box 568  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
Fax: (314) 526-5577