

# ANTIOCH POLICE DEPARTMENT

## PRESS RELEASE

**SUBJECT:** Press Conference

**DATE:** July 21, 2010 (Wednesday)

**TIME:** 2:00 PM

**LOCATION:** Antioch Police Department  
Community Room  
300 'L' Street

**PURPOSE/EVENT:** **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**  
**PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**  
***ANTIOCH YOUTH INTERVENTION NETWORK (YIN)***

The United States Department of Justice has singled out Antioch's community policing efforts as a national model for addressing crime and gang activity. Antioch last week received the D.O.J.'s *Outstanding Community Involvement Award* for an exceptional level of partnership between its police department and the community.

Police Chief Jim Hyde and community organizer Iris Archuleta were presented with the award Wednesday at a ceremony in New Orleans. Chief Hyde and Mrs. Archuleta together developed the Youth Intervention Network, a comprehensive program to mentor young people identified as likely to commit or become victims of violent crimes.

The program revolves around intense training for community volunteers so they can engage with at-risk youth and help mentor them and their families. Its curriculum is modeled on a successful outreach to at-risk youth in Northern Ireland called Dialog for Peaceful Change, where it is credited with helping reduce violence and contributing to peace efforts.

In recommending Antioch's community policing efforts for DOJ recognition, U.S. Attorney Joseph Russoniello lauded the commitment of the program volunteers as well as the extent of the police department's partnership with community members

The award-winning program, Russoniello said, will serve as a model for other cities searching for a way to combat gang violence and youth crime.

Community-oriented efforts such as the Youth Intervention Network have been nurtured and supported by the DOJ extensively. The Department issues grants and provides models for programs that bring police and communities together to address the root causes of crime rather than merely responding to it.

Antioch has been a leader in embracing community oriented policing and in employing DOJ models to build a safer community. The city features a thriving Neighborhood Watch program as well as the successful Community Action Team, which brings community members and police together to address persistent criminal and nuisance problems in both commercial and residential neighborhoods.

“We’re deeply honored to be recognized by the Department of Justice for the progress we’ve made in building a safer city,” Chief Hyde said. “I’m particularly proud that the DOJ recognized the fact that protecting a city is a partnership with the community. We couldn’t be successful if it weren’t for the many members of this community who have stepped forward to make a difference in our neighborhoods and our city.”

YIN started with seed money from a Project Safe Neighborhood grant in 2008 and 2009. YIN has made those funds go a very long way in leveraging assets and relationships and has been sought out as a best practice program by other communities.

The media along with members of our community are invited to attend a Press Conference to be held on Wednesday, July 21, 2010 at 2:00 PM in the Antioch Police Department’s Community Room located at 300 ‘L’ Street. In attendance to acknowledge the award will be Chief Jim Hyde, YIN Co-Chair Iris Archuleta, a representative of the U.S. Attorney’s Office, YIN Staff and a sample of YIN Families benefiting from YIN services.

If you have any questions or inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Lieutenant Rick Marchoke at (925) 779-6903.

By: Lieutenant Rick Marchoke  
Antioch Police Department  
Professional Standards Bureau