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PRESS RELEASE

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Mayor Tyler Addresses Anomaly In Recent Gun Violence

Mayor Ollie Tyler has been coordinating efforts this past month with the leadership of the Shreveport Police Department to address her top priority - public safety.

The recent shootings have sharpened the City's focus on maintaining a safe and inviting community.

"I'm very concerned about the recent violence in our city. Although these have been isolated incidences, I am aware they impact our entire community," Mayor Tyler said. "My heart goes out to the families that have lost loved ones to these senseless acts of violence; one loss of life is one too many. I have spent my life working to educate young people to get them on the right track."

Investigations of violent crimes reveal the vast majority of these incidents are the results of disputes between known parties who have some sort of relationship. "It's very disheartening to see men and women make bad choices with irreversible consequences for all involved," said Mayor Tyler.

The police department command staff continually reviews statistical data in an effort to identify and address emerging crime patterns. Some of the changes include:

- Adjustment of officers' shift hours/days off
- Increased police presence in problem areas
- Implementation of special operations to address specific crimes through *task forces* made up of local, state and federal law enforcement

"It is very important that Shreveport is not continuously compared to smaller cities around us because it is not an apples-to-apples comparison," said Mayor Tyler. "We should be compared to cities of comparable size, like Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Montgomery, Alabama; Little Rock, Arkansas; or Jackson, Mississippi. Many of these cities with comparable populations show that Shreveport's crime rate is lower and in some cases, considerably lower."

CITY OF SHREVEPORT

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Community involvement is paramount to reducing crime. Community Oriented Policing is the cornerstone of the city's crime reduction strategy and emphasizes the goal of becoming more involved with citizens through:

- Community Liaison Officers
- Community Response Unit
- Neighborhood Assistance Team
- Pastors on Patrol
- Citizens Police Academy
- Auxiliary Officer Program
- Youth Camps

“It’s going to take our entire community working together to address this recent trend. We need everyone – families, schools, churches, nonprofits - who influence and touch the lives of our citizens to get involved,” said Mayor Tyler. “We cannot always predict when and where a crime will occur. However, we are doing everything in our power to be as proactive as possible.”

-Shreveport-