

# Ogden City

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Mike Ashment

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19 June, 2013

Utah Board of Juvenile Justice  
State Capitol Complex  
Senate Office Building Suite 330  
PO Box 142330  
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Re: 2013 Northern Utah Gang Conference

*The Ogden Metro Gang Unit sponsors an annual gang conference that offers participants more than 20 hours of accredited training. Our topics are designed to assist law enforcement, teachers, probation and parole, youth corrections, school administrators, and other youth service providers involved in addressing gang and youth violence.*

*We provide these conferences because of the cost savings. It is less expensive to bring speakers to the conference than it is to send individuals out of state to attend conferences. The speakers we invite are recognized professionals that highlight emerging trends with an emphasis on best practices.*

*We are adding a third day to the conference this year to address Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) which has become a growing concern for severe years. Providing training to this diverse group would create an environment to develop strategies needed to reduce DMC rates.*

*This letter is to request \$5,000.00 in grant funding for 28 scholarships which would go to Juvenile Court and Juvenile Justice Service probation officers in Davis, Weber, and Cache Counties.*

Sincerely,



Vernon Hairston

Project Coordinator

Ogden Metro Gang Unit

# ★ Save the Date ★

**2013 Northern Utah Gang and Youth Violence Conference**

**September 4,5,6, 2013**

**Ogden Megaplex Theater**

**\$175.00**

**Tentative Sessions**

**Effective School Staff Interactions with Students and Police: A topic addressing Disproportionate Minority Contact, (DMC) and the disproportionate representation of minorities in corrections and the juvenile justice system.** Addresses how to use disciplinary data and protocols with police to ensure a consistent response to student misbehavior, reduce the number of students that are referred to the Juvenile Courts for minor offenses committed on school property, including assault (non-serious injury), disorderly conduct, and criminal trespass. The goal is to divert students from ever appearing on any paperwork in the juvenile court system without changing school policies. Solutions offered include both system and individual actions.

**Effective Police Interactions with Youth: A topic addressing Disproportionate Minority Contact, (DMC) and the disproportionate representation of minorities in corrections and the juvenile justice system.** Police officers are the "gate keepers" to the juvenile justice system. This session provides police officers with information to better understand youth behavior and with practical strategies for interacting with young people in positive ways. The goal is to reduce the likelihood that interactions between police officers and young people will have negative outcomes and/or result in police action, particularly for minority youth.

**Mexican Drug Cartels in the Neighborhood:** Drug cartels set up phony businesses to launder drug money, usually used car lots, and used tire shops that serve as a "front" for their operations. It all starts when a small business, like a restaurant, is purchased by someone with drug money from Mexico and sets up shop.

**How Good Kids are Seduced into Gangs:** Before a gang member joins a gang and is physically jumped in, his mind must be seduced into believing a lie. He or she must be convinced that good (society) is evil and evil (criminal gangs) is good. This subtle seduction of winning potential gang members' minds and hearts occurs early, often as early as grammar school. It is founded in the common experiences almost all children must endure. These negative experiences include social exclusion, feelings of fear, bullying, and victimization. The breeding ground for all gangs begins with an excluded group who feels victimized by poverty, the establishment, or some other real or imagined injustice. It is fed by the anti-establishment culture of drugs, power, hate, and racial separatism.

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**Sovereign Citizens: A Clear and Present Danger.** Hear from an undercover officer's look into the Sovereign Citizens movement group who believe local law does not apply to them and that brings them in direct conflict with you.

**The Mexican Mafia & Street Gangs (Portrait of a Hit Man):** This speaker will present a firsthand account of the characteristics and pitfalls of joining a street gang, a detailed journey into the world of prison gangs and a look into the proliferation of prison gang influence over its street counterparts.

**The Making of a Gang Member:** Nobody begins life as a monster. Hear how a good kid and once altar boy end up in prison for numerous murders. The speaker will talk about the risk and pitfalls that await our youngsters at every turn in their adolescent lives.

**Human Trafficking, Sex and Labor, Hidden in Plain Sight:** Human trafficking is not isolated to third world countries. Americans make up 72 percent of human trafficking victims. The typical age of a new victim is now 12 to 14 years old. Gangs have moved into the trafficking business because they see the selling of girls as a recyclable, highly lucrative and low risk product. Traffickers seek vulnerable victims by trolling the internet, especially Facebook, looking for kids who appear board, sad, lonely or neglected. They cruise malls during school hours and lurk around homes for foster children, centers for at-risk children and classrooms with special needs students.

**Hear from a victim of Sex trafficking:** The story of a teenager who found a job as a bookkeeper for a small home-based business. The position quickly turned into a nine month nightmare of beatings and sexual slavery.

**Community Prevention and Intervention Strategies.** A look at two promising local gang intervention programs.

**Drugs/Alcohol Use Trends, Social Norms, and Behaviors:** Substance abuse triples between 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. An inside look at youth experimentation with substance abuse and other high risk behaviors.

**What Not to Do in Anti-Gang Programs:** Amazingly, agencies are willing to spend buckets of money on programs that don't do a thing to combat gangs.

**Anti-Gang Legislation, Injunctions and Ordinances.** Updates on new state anti-gang legislation and Ogden's new local anti gang injunction.

**Gang Trends in Utah, Regional and Local Gangs.** Gang updates from cities across the state.

