



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
Thursday, February 4, 2016

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## **OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COALITION – FEBRUARY 18**

(Stockton, CA) - The City of Stockton Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) is calling on all service providers and community members to be part of the new Community Engagement Coalition. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, February 18, 2016, 9:00a – 11:00a at the Civic Auditorium, 525 N. Center Street.

“We are really looking forward to this first meeting of the Coalition,” shares La Tosha Walden, OVP Manager. “There are so many individuals and organizations doing great things and tremendous work to prevent and address issues of crime in our community. Everything that they do is so meaningful and powerful. We can accomplish so much more together, united by building a better quality of life for everyone.”

The forum will include a brief presentation by the OVP Community Engagement Coordinator Denise Manning. Stockton Police Department will also present information about Operation Ceasefire, followed by a working session to develop the purpose and intent of the Coalition. Peacekeepers will also be present to answer questions about the Peacekeeper program and the role of Outreach Workers.

“This meeting is the foundation for the work that we will do together,” said Ms. Manning. “It's time to unite, engage, and empower our community. It's time to join forces

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and bring our resources together in an effort to prevent and stop crime in the Stockton community.”

Consistent with the City’s Marshall Plan on Crime, the City’s Office of Violence Prevention will act as the convener to coordinate service providers and resources within the community through the Community Engagement Coalition. For questions about the Coalition and to sign-up, please call (209) 937-7198 or e-mail

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