



U.S. Department of Justice Community Relations Service

Contingency Planning

Reducing Risk During Public Events

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Community Relations Service's (CRS) in-person training program, *Contingency Planning: Reducing Risk During Public Events*, is designed to help event organizers, community volunteers, government officials, and law enforcement personnel plan safe public events.

Communities sometimes experience tensions because of differences of race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, and disability, and these conflicts may be reflected through public protests. CRS's contingency planning course helps communities plan for a safe march, rally, or demonstration by providing best practices and tools for identifying and mitigating risks to public safety prior to the event.

Course Goals ▼

Increase knowledge of how to plan for a safe public event

Establish the importance of planning for a public event

Begin to develop an appropriate plan to prepare for the event, hold the event, and assess potential issues for supporting public safety during the event

Program Overview ▼



When conflicts arise in communities due to differences of race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, and disability, public protests may occur, and CRS helps ensure community members are trained in best practices for planning a safe event.

Event Planning Considerations

Participants examine the various factors to consider when planning an event, including logistics, permits, and allocation of resources.

Roles, Responsibilities, and Other Parties

Participants learn best practices in developing action plans, identifying other potentially significant parties, assigning roles and responsibilities, and providing organizers with resources and training.

Event Stage Planning

Participants review the five key stages of most public events — pre-event, assembly, march, rally, and disbandment — and discuss the planning and risks associated with each.

Planning for Potential Issues

Participants discuss contingency planning, including coordination between local law enforcement and event organizers.

About CRS ▼

Established by Title X of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, CRS's services expanded through the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr., Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009. CRS, a component of the United States Department of Justice, serves as "America's Peacemaker" for communities facing tension or conflict based on differences of race, color, natural origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, and disability. Through the services CRS provides, the agency enhances the ability of such community members to independently and collaboratively prevent and resolve future conflicts through increasing knowledge, understanding, and communication from within.

CRS Programs ▼

CRS provides an array of programs to communities experiencing tension. As a companion course to this training, CRS also offers *Event Marshals: Maintaining Public Safety During Events*. These programs and others are tools for cultivating understanding, improving collaboration, and preventing future disagreements. CRS staff are professional mediators, facilitators, trainers, and consultants experienced in bringing community members together to help enhance their ability to resolve existing conflict and prevent future conflicts.

Where We Work ▼

CRS Headquarters 📍
Washington, DC

CRS Regional Offices 📍

New England
Boston, MA

Northeast
New York, NY

Mid-Atlantic
Philadelphia, PA

Southeast
Atlanta, GA

Midwest
Chicago, IL

Southwest
Dallas, TX

Central
Kansas City, MO

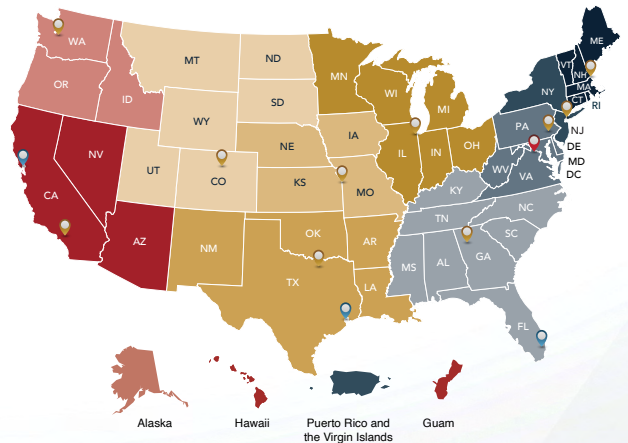
Rocky Mountain
Denver, CO

Western
Los Angeles, CA

Northwest
Seattle, WA

CRS Field Offices 📍

Miami, FL San Francisco, CA
Houston, TX



Find us, connect with us ▼

www.justice.gov/crs

facebook.com/DOJCRS/

[@DOJ_CRIS](https://twitter.com/DOJ_CRIS)

askcrs@usdoj.gov

202.305.2935

To contact any of our regional or field offices about training, please visit:

<https://www.justice.gov/crs/about-crs/regional-and-field-offices>