



# THE SURGE OF VIOLENT AND BRAZEN RETAIL CRIME IN CANADA

Staff Superintendent Joe Matthews

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Toronto Police Service

## OVERVIEW

- Current landscape of retail crime
- Types of retail crime
- How we can address the surge



# THE CURRENT LANDSCAPE OF RETAIL CRIME IN TORONTO

## 2024 Data – Retail Crime

- Robbery – Business 392 – 27%
- Theft Over – Commercial (includes shoplifting ) 661 +3%
- Theft Under – Commercial (includes shoplifting) 42,956 +10%

## 2024 Data – Other violent Crime

- Shootings 461 +34%
- Home Invasion – for auto theft 107 +106%
- Carjackings 187 +17%



# CHARACTERISTICS

## Brazen Crime:

- Bold, and often public acts of crime that show a disregard for consequences
- Significant increase in daytime thefts and acts of violence
- Increase in young offenders participating in these activities



# TYPES OF RETAIL CRIME



## KEY FACTORS

- Economic Pressures
- Technology
- Few consequences for offenders



# ORGANIZED RETAIL THEFT

Impact on  
Businesses and  
Communities -  
Financial

Impact on  
Businesses and  
Communities –  
Safety Concerns



# RETAILER RESPONSIBILITIES TO ADDRESS THE SURGE

## Retailer Responsibility:

- Leverage technology
- Share information with other retailers
- Preserve intelligence/information for police investigations and prosecutions
- Retailers must participate in the prosecution process





# LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES TO ADDRESS THE SURGE

## Law Enforcement Responsibility:

- Collaborate with other law enforcement agencies
- Dedicate resources to combat retail crime
- Both upstream and downstream



## LAW ENFORCEMENT AND RETAILER PARTNERSHIP TO ADDRESS THE SURGE

### Law Enforcement / Retailer:

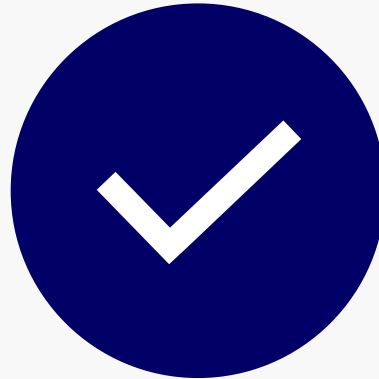
- Build on previous successful TPS RCC collaboration in the preventative space
- Develop and maintain relationship between local divisions and retailers
- A shared commitment to prosecute offenders



# CONCLUSION



PARTNERSHIPS



COORDINATED  
STRATEGIES



INFORMATION  
SHARING





QUESTIONS