

2013 Annual Report



VIOLENT CRIME AND DRUG CONTROL COUNCIL

*Submitted by
Florida Department of Law Enforcement*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Message from Commissioner Gerald M. Bailey

The Florida Violent Crime and Drug Control Council, in partnership with state, county and local law enforcement, continues to play an integral role in supporting criminal investigations which help ensure the safety and security of Florida's citizens, visitors, property and communities. Since its inception in 1993, the Council has maintained a reputation for initiating and supporting legislation to improve the overall quality of life for Florida's citizens and visitors.

The Council oversees four individual funding categories: Violent Crime Investigations, Drug Control and Money Laundering Investigations, Criminal Gang Investigations, and Victim/Witness Protection Reimbursement. Due to budgetary constraints the Council has only funded victim/witness protection reimbursement requests since September 2008.

In 2013, the Legislature continued authorization for FDLE to utilize trust funds to support victim/witness protection reimbursement requests. The Council funded 37 victim/witness protection and relocation reimbursement requests totaling \$111,168.20 in 2013. These totals increased significantly when compared to last year's funding of only 24 victim/witness protection reimbursement requests totaling \$68,122.69. FDLE also supported the Council by monitoring the status of five active drug control and money laundering investigations funded by the Council prior to 2013. During 2013, FDLE was successful in closing one of the five active drug cases.

Overview of Funding and Council Meetings

Pursuant to Florida Statutes, the Council held four open conference meetings in February, June, September and December 2013 to address the following topics:

- Victim/Witness Protection Reimbursement cases funded;
- Active Drug Funding Reports for the July-December 2012 reporting period; and
- Active Drug Funding Reports for the January-June 2013 reporting period.

The Council's six-member Victim and Witness Protection Review Committee held four closed conference meetings in February, June, September and December 2013. The Committee approved 37 reimbursement funding requests for a total of \$111,168.20.

FDLE continues to maintain the Council's website, which has proven to be a valuable source of information for the public and law enforcement community. The website contains information on Council membership, upcoming meetings, minutes and agendas from prior meetings, regional contacts, online forms and applications, and step-by-step application procedures. The website address is <http://www.fdle.state.fl.us/Content/VCDCC/Home.aspx>.



VIOLENT CRIME AND DRUG CONTROL COUNCIL

General Membership

Pursuant to Section 943.031, Florida Statutes, the Council is comprised of 14 members. Eight are standing members by virtue of their positions with their respective agency and six (two sheriffs, two police chiefs, one state attorney and one medical examiner) are appointed by the Governor. Council members receive no compensation, but are reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses. Standing members serve as long as they remain employed in the same capacity that served as the basis for their appointment and members appointed by the Governor serve two-year terms. FDLE continues to provide the support necessary to assist the Council in the performance of its duties.

Eight Standing Members:

- Chief Financial Officer
Honorable Jeff Atwater – Designee: Deputy Chief Financial Officer Jay Etheridge
- Attorney General
Honorable Pam Bondi – Designee: General Counsel Jim Schneider
- Commissioner of Education
Pam Stewart – Designee: Executive Director Mary Jane Tappen
- Public Safety Policy Coordinator, Executive Office of the Governor
Bonnie Rogers
- Secretary of Juvenile Justice
Wansley Walters – Designee: Deputy Secretary Christy Daly
- Secretary of Corrections
Michael D. Crews – Designee: Deputy Assistant Secretary Michelle Pyle
- President of the Florida Network of Victim/Witness Services
Lisa De Anda
- FDLE Commissioner
Gerald Bailey – Designee: Assistant Commissioner Jim Madden

Six Governor Appointed Members:

- Sheriff Ben F. Johnson – Volusia County Sheriff's Office
- Sheriff Scott J. Israel – Broward County Sheriff's Office
- State Attorney Bernie McCabe – 6th Judicial Circuit
- Police Chief Jeffrey A. Chudnow – Oviedo Police Department
- Medical Examiner Stephen J. Nelson – District 10 Medical Examiner's Office
- Police Chief – Vacant



2013 FISCAL SUMMARY

Florida Statutes require all agencies awarded Council funds to complete a report on all active/open drug funded cases every six months. The completed report, which is provided to FDLE by the receiving agency, must detail the expenditure of Council funds during the reporting period. If a previously open/active case is closed during the reporting period, the agency must submit a final report and closing letter to FDLE. All unspent funds must be returned to the State of Florida. Chart 1 is a summary of the 2013 drug cases and Chart 2 summarizes 2013 victim/witness protection reimbursement activity.

Chart 1: Drug Investigation Funding
(January 1 - December 31, 2013)

Beginning Number of OPEN Cases	5
Number of Cases CLOSED this Period	1
Ending Number of OPEN Cases	4
Unspent Funds for OPEN Cases	\$39,238.53
Returned Funds from CLOSED Cases	\$0

Chart 2: Victim/Witness Protection Reimbursement Funding
(January 1 - December 31, 2013)

February 2013 Awards	14	\$43,217.57
June 2013 Awards	11	\$29,484.07
September 2013 Awards	10	\$31,778.91
December 2013 Awards	2	\$6,687.65
Total Awards for 2013	37	\$111,168.20

