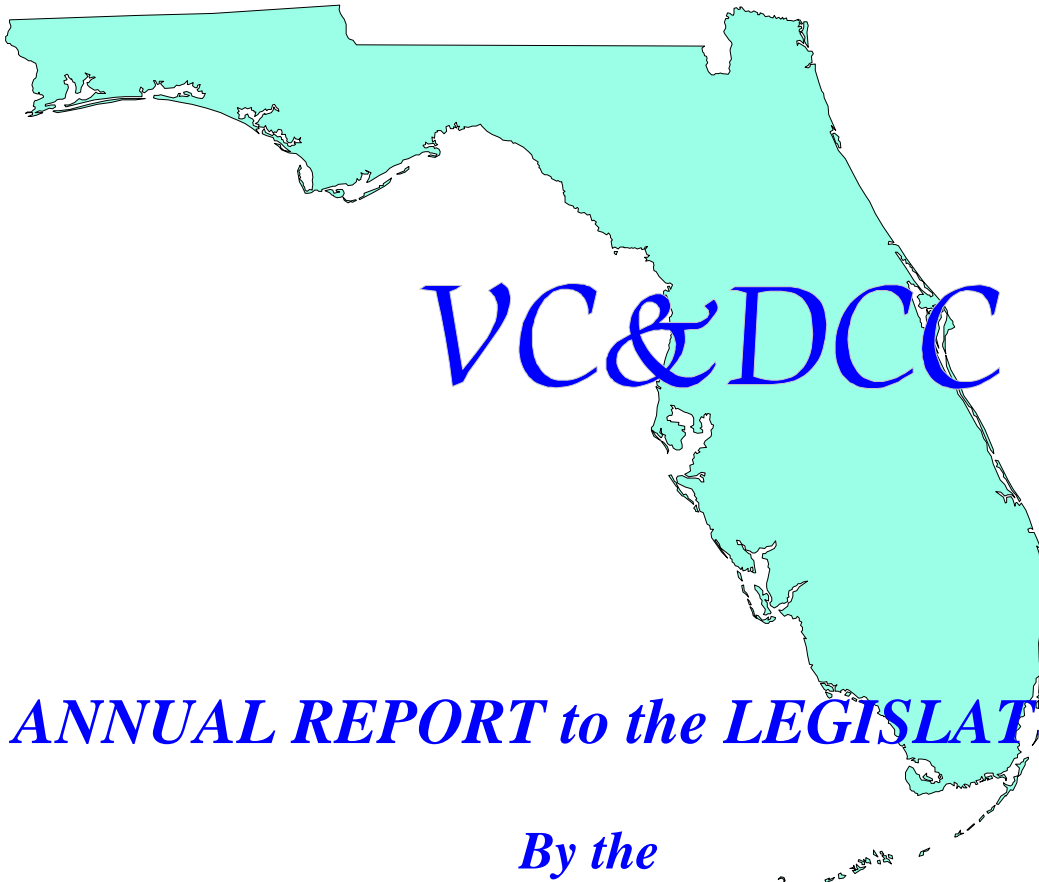




Florida Department of  
Law Enforcement



***ANNUAL REPORT to the LEGISLATURE***

*By the*

***FLORIDA VIOLENT CRIME &  
DRUG CONTROL COUNCIL***

**December 2002**

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## **ATTACHMENTS**

### **DETAILED SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES:**

- **Violent Crime Investigative Cases**
- **Drug Cases**
- **Victim/Witness Protection Cases**

## *A Message from Commissioner James T. Moore*

*This report presents the activities and accomplishments of the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council for 2002. As required by Statute, this report is being presented to the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House to inform them of these activities. Additionally, this report presents FDLE's responses to the Council's recommendations for its activities and funding for the year 2003.*

*Last year's annual report noted that the Council needed to define its role with respect to acts of terrorism and any subsequent requests for funding of investigations resulting from these acts. In January 2002, the Council received its first such request, and the critical need for funding provided via the Council became abundantly clear. In October 2001, the City of Boca Raton became the first site of bio-terrorism in the United States following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Two (2) employees of American Media, Incorporated (AMI), were the first victims of inhalation anthrax. The FBI was designated as the lead law enforcement agency for this murder investigation; however, it was the Boca Raton Police Department and Fire-Rescue Services Hazardous Material Team that secured the crime scene, managed the press and conducted ancillary investigations. The AMI incident was an enormous and unexpected expense on the operating budget of the City of Boca Raton. The Council moved to fund a request in the amount of \$70,162.00 in support of this violent crime investigation.*

*This past year also marked the first time that drug cases were awarded funds in the wake of the expansion of the Council to include drug trafficking and money laundering investigative efforts. The sheer volume of drug case submissions serves as a testament to the vital need these funds serve for local and state agencies working lengthy and complex investigations of sophisticated drug trafficking organizations. During fiscal year 2001-2002, the Council provided nearly \$2 Million in drug control funding to 28 cases involving partnerships between nearly 70 local, state and federal agencies. As funding sources for major drug investigations become scarcer, the monies from the Council for these investigative endeavors are indeed precious. Successes from these funded investigations are highlighted in this report.*

*The Violent Crime and Drug Control Council is committed to reducing violent and drug-related crime in the State of Florida. FDLE recognizes the outstanding contributions made to the criminal justice community by Council members and the members of the regional violent crime and drug enforcement coordinating teams that support the Council's activities. We encourage them to continue their efforts. The funding provided by you is critical to the successful investigations of our most violent offenders, the protection of victims/witnesses and the dismantling of drug trafficking organizations.*

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over the past year, the Florida Violent Crime and Drug Control Council has heard numerous presentations regarding approaches to combating violent crime, drug control, and money laundering. These include:

- Drug Prevention Programs – What Works?
- Operation RiverWalk
- Drug Enforcement Administration – Drug Trafficking Intelligence Overview
- CrimeTrax
- Parcel Intercept Programs
- Counter-Terrorism Intelligence Center/ ThreatNet database
- Financial Crimes Analysis Center – Investigations of Financing Terrorism
- Drug Sentencing – Comparison of State and Federal Guidelines
- Protecting Florida’s Children – A Review of the Amber Alert System
- Department of Children and Families – Operation SafeKids
- Department of Juvenile Justice – Youth Custody Officer Program
- Methamphetamine – A Rising Epidemic in Florida
- Profiling of ATM Robberies and Bank Safe Burglaries
- Violent Crime Apprehension Program (VICAP) System Update
- South Florida High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Support Center – An Analysis of Rising Heroin Deaths
- Diversion Control - Internet Pharmacy Investigation
- United States Attorney’s Office Project Safe Neighborhoods
- Benefits of DNA Submissions to Serial Rape Investigations
- Red Ribbon Week Campaign – National Kickoff in Florida

In 2002 the format of presentations made to the Council by both the Violent Crime and Drug Enforcement Coordinating Teams was significantly changed. Instead of routine reports on regional activity, the Council provided issues of interest for each day of the meeting. For example, on the violent crime day of the Council meeting in October, the issues presented were centered on the theme of Protecting Florida’s Children. Presentations were made by experts on the Amber Alert, Missing Children Information Clearinghouse (MCIC), Operation SafeKids, and Operation S.A.F.E. (Statewide Arrest and Fugitive Enforcement). After each presentation/briefing by the subject matter expert, the regional teams were allotted time to discuss with the Council how these issues were specifically impacting their particular region. Group discussion often followed and solutions for both regional and statewide problems were frequently formulated from this open exchange of ideas.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement also made significant changes to how information was disseminated to the Council and Regional Coordinating Team members. In October 2002, the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council website was launched. The website is accessible through the Criminal Justice Network (CJNET), a secure platform for local, state and federal law enforcement agencies within Florida to communicate. The website contains information on upcoming Council meetings, minutes/agendas from prior meetings, all applications and procedures for applying for funding, and success stories from funded cases. Most importantly, the site contains a contact “map” where one can click on any county in Florida and locate regional contacts for the violent crime and

drug enforcement coordinating teams. The website is maintained by the Office of Statewide Intelligence (OSI) within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. From the OSI home page, law enforcement members can access a wealth of information and intelligence on a variety of topics as well as retrieve a host of investigative tools. The site may be accessed via <http://osiweb.fdle.flcjn.net/>

In furtherance of the timely exchange of reliable and accurate information to the Council and the regional teams, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement has committed the resources of two (2) sworn agents within the Office of Statewide Intelligence to prepare quarterly briefings on the topics of violent crime, drugs and money laundering issues. The briefings are presented at the Council meetings and also posted on the FDLE website for law enforcement use. These agents are also actively involved in the review of all violent crime, victim/witness and drug cases submitted for funding to the Council. Both agents have been involved in the meetings of the regional teams and will take a more active role with these teams in the coming year.

The Violent Crime and Drug Control Council is committed to supporting the criminal justice system. It will continue to aggressively pursue its mission; advise the Florida Department of Law Enforcement about violent crime, drug control, and significant illicit money laundering investigative efforts; communicate with the Legislature on the need for new resources and creative solutions to the violent crime, drug-related, and money laundering problem; and pay close attention to violent crime and its impact on Florida's citizens.

## STATUS AND PROGRESS MADE TOWARD 2002 RECOMMENDATIONS

- ✓ **The Appropriation of \$1 Million to Replenish the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account.** \$500,000 was funded to the General Revenue Funds and \$500,000 was authorized for expenditure from Trust Funds.
- ✓ **The Appropriation of \$75,000 to Continue a Criminal Profiling Program.** \$75,000 was funded to provide assistance in ongoing investigations and train investigators on techniques to aid in developing a "profile" of a perpetrator of a violent crime.
- ✓ **The Appropriation of \$500,000 to Continue the Victim/Witness Protection Program.** An appropriation of \$500,000 was authorized for the Victim/Witness Protection Program.
- ✓ **The Appropriation of \$2 Million for Match Drug Funding to Replenish the Violent Crime and Investigative Emergency Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account.** An appropriation of \$2 Million was authorized for the Matching Drug Funding. It should be noted that, due to the extremely successful outcomes of the Council-funded drug investigative efforts, the Florida Office of Drug Control endorsed the recommendation **for increasing funding to \$4 Million** that emerged from the **Florida Drug Summit** in April of this year. Given the increased difficulty for local agencies to obtain federal funds for drug investigations, it is critical that state funding for these efforts not lapse or diminish.
- ✓ **The Council's Increased Education on Drug-Related Topics.** The Council heard multiple presentations on drug enforcement, education, treatment and prevention including an update on the drug control strategy, drug treatment programs, parcel intercept team, rising heroin related deaths, emergence of methamphetamine abuse/trafficking, internet pharmacy investigations, and comprehensive intelligence briefings by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the FDLE Office of Statewide Intelligence.
- ✓ **The Council's Continued Endorsement of the Enhancement to the Convicted Offender DNA Database.** The Council offered its continued support of laws relating to the collection and analysis of samples processed through the Database due to its invaluable assistance to the Criminal Justice Program. The Council also heard a presentation on how this database specifically contributed to a serial rape investigation in the Pensacola Region.
- ✓ **The Continuation of Status Reports on Computerized, Statewide Programs.** The Council received a status report on the Convicted Offender DNA Database, the GangNet Database, the ThreatNet Database, the DrugNet Database and the "THUGS" (Taking Hoodlums Using Guns Seriously) program. Several presentations by local, state and federal agencies stressed the importance of information sharing at all levels of law enforcement.
- ✓ **The Council's Continued Education on "Crime Demographics" to Ensure Proper Reaction to Significant Problems.** The Council received statewide overviews on violent crime and drugs at each meeting that included statistical data on crime trends, arrest data, drug-related deaths and drug abuse figures. The Council requested that future presentations include information on victimization rates.

- ✓ **The Continuation of the Council's Education on “Futures” Related Topics.** The Council supported new programs like the Orange County Parcel Intercept Team, the Youth Custody Officer Program and Operation Safekids.
- ✓ **The Council's Continued Endorsement to Keep Weapons Out of the Possession of Felons and Others Who Have the Propensity for Committing Violent Crimes.** The Council supported the statewide "THUGS" initiative.
- ✓ **The Council’s Endorsement of the Safe Neighborhood Initiative.** The Council heard a presentation from the United States Attorney’s Office regarding the *Safe Neighborhood Initiative* and agreed to support this initiative with the regional violent crime coordinating teams. *Project Safe Neighborhoods* is a nation-wide commitment to reduce gun crime in America by networking existing local programs that target gun crime and providing those programs with additional tools to be successful. Under Project Safe Neighborhoods, newly appointed U.S. Attorneys will establish strategic partnerships between federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in an intensive offensive against gun crime.
- ✓ **The Council's Proposal to Conduct a Violent Crime Presentation to Legislative Committees in Support of Case Funding.** Although this report was not requested, FDLE’s Office of Statewide Intelligence stands ready to make a presentation for Legislative Committees on the topic of violent crime on behalf of the Council.
- ✓ **The Council's Continuation to Formulate Strategies for Taking a Proactive Approach to Violent Crime.** The Council has taken a more proactive approach to combating violent crime via the solicitation of presentations that address unique enforcement, prevention and sentencing mechanisms for violent offenders. The Council heard a presentation on CrimeTrax, which is unique technology utilized to: 1) reduce crime; 2) increase offender accountability; 3) provide a workforce multiplier for law enforcement and corrections; and 4) improve crime analysis capability. CrimeTrax utilizes global positioning satellites (GPS), geomapping information systems (GIS) and advanced data warehousing/data mining techniques to keep track of offenders.
- ✓ **The Council's Continued Request to Task Regional Coordinators With Coming Up With Strategies to Attack Violent Crime.** The Regional Coordinating Teams provided the Council with quarterly reports on violent crime and drug-related investigations and training. As indicated, the Office of Statewide Intelligence is now interfacing with the Regional Teams to develop these quarterly briefings for the Council, on both violent crime and drug crime.

<b>2003 LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
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- **The Continued Total Appropriation of \$1 Million to Replenish the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account (\$500,000 General Revenue and \$500,000 Trust Fund).**
- **The Continued Appropriation of \$500,000 to Replenish the Victim/Witness Protection Program.**

- **The Continued Appropriation of \$75,000 to Replenish the Criminal Profiling Program and for other violent crime related areas, like the VICAP program.**
- **The Continued Total Appropriation of \$2 Million for Match Drug Funding to Replenish Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account.**
- **Support Legislation That Would Create a Prescription Monitoring Program in the State of Florida.**
- **The Continued Support for Continuation and Enhancement of the Convicted Offender DNA Database.**



## **THE FLORIDA VIOLENT CRIME ACT**

In order to address the critical statewide issues of violent crime in Florida, the 1993 Legislature passed the Florida Violent Crime Act of 1993. Chapter 943.031, Florida Statutes, created the Florida Violent Crime Council within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to address the violent crime occurring in Florida and to develop strategies to combat it. The 2001 Legislature amended the statute, renaming the Florida Violent Crime Council as the *Florida Violent Crime and Drug Control Council*. The legislation provides for the implementation of eight (8) major initiatives intended to produce meaningful and effective results in Florida's effort to curtail violent crime, drug trafficking, and money laundering.

### **Status of the Eight (8) Basic Components of the Violent Crime Act of 1993**

#### **1. Florida Violent Crime and Drug Control Council:**

##### **a. Membership of the Council**

As prescribed by the statute, the *Florida Violent Crime and Drug Control Council* membership comprises 14 members to advise the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Commissioner and make recommendations regarding the development and implementation of initiatives to combat violent crime, drug trafficking, and money laundering.

Eight (8) members of the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council are standing members by virtue of their positions, and six (6) are appointed by the Governor. Council members receive no compensation but are reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses. Members appointed by the Governor serve two-year terms and the standing members serve as long as they hold office or employment that was the basis for their appointment to the Council. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement provides the Council with the support necessary to assist in the performance of its duties. The standing members are:

The Comptroller of Florida: Robert F. Milligan

The Attorney General, Richard E. Doran - Designee: Statewide Prosecutor Melanie A. Hines

The Commissioner of Education, Charlie Crist - Designee: Regional Director Tom Wheeler

The Director of the Office of Drug Control, Executive Office of the Governor: Director Jim McDonough

The Secretary of Juvenile Justice, William Bankhead - Designee: Director Perry Turner (*DJJ Law Enforcement Services*)

The Secretary of Corrections, Michael Moore - Designee: Inspector General Fred Schuknecht

The Florida Network of Victim/Witness Services: Nancy Tanner, President

The FDLE Commissioner, Tim Moore - Designee: Assistant Commissioner Robert E. Cummings

The Governor's appointments to the Council (two sheriffs, two police chiefs, one state attorney and one medical examiner) are:

Director Carlos Alvarez - Miami-Dade Police Department

Sheriff Charles Morris - Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office

Chief Fred A. Maas - Sunny Isles Beach Police Department

Chief Daniel M. Davis - Williston Police Department

State Attorney Norman Wolfinger - Eighteenth Judicial Circuit

Dr. Marta U. Coburn - District 20 Medical Examiner

## **b. Duties of the Council**

The statutory duties of the Florida Violent Crime and Drug Control Council include, but are not limited to, the following responsibilities:

- Advise the executive director of FDLE on the creation of Regional Violent Crime Investigation Coordinating Teams (RCTs) and Regional Drug Enforcement Coordinating Teams (RDECTs).
- Monitor the activities of the regional coordinating teams that review cases involving violent crime investigations, drug related crimes, and investigations of significant money laundering activities.
- Develop criteria for the disbursement of funds from the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account.
- Review and approve all requests for disbursement of funds from the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account. In addition, establish an expedited approval procedure for rapid disbursement of funds in emergency situations.
- Advise the executive director of FDLE on analyzing and approving those funding requests that meet the criterion from the Victim-Witness Protection/Relocation Account.
- Advise the executive director of FDLE on the development of a statewide violent crime information system.
- Advise the executive director of FDLE on establishing a program, which provides grants to criminal justice agencies for violent crime prevention and investigative programs. This includes enhanced community-oriented policing and additional undercover officers and other investigative officers to assist with violent crime investigations in emergency situations.
- Advise the executive director of FDLE on creating a criminal justice research and behavioral science center.
- Advise the executive director of FDLE on expanding the use of automated fingerprint identification systems at the state and local level.
- Advise the executive director of FDLE on identifying methods to prevent violent crime, drug trafficking, and money laundering.
- Advise the executive director of FDLE on enhancing criminal justice training programs that address violent crime.
- Advise the executive director of FDLE on developing and promoting crime prevention services and educational programs that serve the public. This includes enhanced victim and witness counseling services and a rewards program for the apprehension and conviction of violent criminals.
- Advise the executive director of FDLE on enhancing information sharing and assistance by expansion of community partnerships and community policing, including the use of civilian employees or volunteers.

## 2. Regional Coordinating Teams:

### a. Regional Violent Crime Investigation Coordinating Teams:

The Regional Violent Crime Investigation Coordinating Teams (RCTs) are used to respond to violent crimes as requested by a sheriff, police chief or other law enforcement official. These teams provide forensic, investigative and technical expertise and facilitate communications and cooperation among law enforcement entities.

The Regional Violent Crime Investigation Coordinating Teams report to the Council on trends in each region, training provided to law enforcement agencies and summaries of the Violent Crime Emergency Account funding requests at every quarterly meeting. The Regional Violent Crime Investigation Coordinating Chairs are:

Major Al Lamberti, Broward County Sheriff's Office  
Captain Mike Gandy, Charlotte County Sheriff's Office  
Lieutenant Kevin Behan, Orange County Sheriff's Office  
Major Doug Potts, Palm Bay Police Department  
Captain Mary Hogan, Indian River County Sheriff's Office  
Major Gary Terry, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office  
Director Frank Mackesy, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office  
Captain Mike Wood, Leon County Sheriff's Office  
Special Agent Jeanine Williams, Pensacola Regional Operations Center, FDLE

### b. Regional Drug Enforcement Coordinating Teams (RDECTs)

The Regional Drug Enforcement Coordinating Teams are used to coordinate the identification and development of multi-agency or statewide drug control or illicit money laundering investigative or task force efforts that significantly contribute to achieving the state's goal of reducing drug-related crime as articulated by the Office of Drug Control, that represent a significant illicit money laundering investigative effort, or that otherwise significantly support statewide strategies developed by the Statewide Drug Policy Advisory Council established under s. 397.333, F.S.

The Department of Law Enforcement has established a Regional Drug Enforcement Coordinating Team in each geographic area of the state served by a FDLE Regional Office. Each team will be under the direction of the FDLE Regional Director for the region in which the team operates. The Teams are made up of representatives of state, local, and federal law enforcement and prosecuting entities working within the area. All requests for matching drug investigative effort funds from the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council must be developed in conjunction with, and approved by, the team in the region in which the lead requesting agency is located. The Council will consider no request submitted without the endorsement of the team. The Regional Drug Enforcement Coordinating Chairs are:

Special Agent Supervisor Steve Donoway, FDLE Miami  
Sheriff Rod Shoap, Lee County Sheriff's Office  
Chief Jay Etheridge, FDLE Orlando  
Regional Director Lance Newman, FDLE Tampa Bay  
Chief George Lueders, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office  
Special Agent Supervisor Chris Hirst, FDLE Tallahassee  
Special Agent Ed Hudson, FDLE Pensacola

### **3. Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account:**

The Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account provides funding to state and local law enforcement agencies involved in complex violent crime investigations and trials; drug-related investigations; and investigations of significant money laundering activities. Since its inception, the Council has awarded approximately \$4.2 million to local criminal justice agencies for violent crime investigations. During its first year of for funding drug and money-laundering investigations, the Council has provided nearly \$2M in drug control funding to 28 cases involving partnerships between over 70 local, state and federal agencies. These cases target major drug trafficking organizations located in the State of Florida engaged in the distribution of cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, MDMA, prescription drugs and cannabis. These funds support the cooperative collaboration of multiple agencies at both the local, state and federal level to dismantle these drug organizations through lengthy and complex investigative efforts, including pen registers, wire intercepts, undercover operations, surveillance, controlled purchases and financial analysis. The cases significantly contribute to achieving the state's goal of reducing drug-related crime as articulated by the Florida Office of Drug Control and the Governor's Drug Control Strategy (published 1999).

### **4. Implementation of the Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (VICAP)**

During the last quarter of 2002, the VICAP program received renewed attention and interest from federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. In September, a VICAP training program was held in Orlando to train local and state law enforcement officers and analysts on the latest version of the program. At the December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council, a special session was held for representatives from the Regional Violent Crime Coordinating Teams to discuss future versions of VICAP with analysts and programmers from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This group endorsed the VICAP programs and voiced the concern that VICAP should be tailored to fit the needs of law enforcement agencies throughout the State of Florida.

At the December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting the FBI also made a presentation to the Council regarding the newest version of VICAP and how the system will now allow for increased sharing of information among participating agencies nationwide. The old VICAP system did not allow for local and state law enforcement agencies to independently query and search records in the system. The new VICAP program recognizes that the sharing of case related information is critical to solving violent crimes and identifying patterns of offender behavior and victim profiles. The FBI announced that in the spring of 2003 it would conduct more training for law enforcement agencies in Florida. Furthermore, the recommendations of the members of the special session were acknowledged as critical to the participation of local and state agencies in the VICAP program.

### **5. Submission of Fingerprint Cards for Felony Juvenile Arrests:**

FDLE's criminal history database was created to serve as a valuable tool in the fight against violent crime. With more juveniles committing violent crimes, the criminal justice system must have information concerning the criminal activities of these offenders. To aid in this effort, this legislation mandated that juveniles charged with a felony or one of the following misdemeanors must be fingerprinted and the fingerprints sent to FDLE: assault, battery, carrying a concealed weapon, unlawful use of a destructive device, child abuse, negligent treatment of children, assault or battery on a law enforcement officer, open carrying of a weapon, exposure of sexual organs, unlawful possession of a firearm, petit theft, cruelty to animals and arson.

The following are statistics as of November 3, 2002, on juvenile criminal histories:

<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF JUVENILE RECORDS</b>	<b>336,348</b>
At time of first arrest juvenile age 5 through 9	13,393
At time of first arrest juvenile age 10 through 14	129,587
At time of first arrest juvenile age 15 through 17	193,368

The following are statistics as of December 1, 2002:

<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF JUVENILE ARRESTS PER INDIVIDUAL</b>	
Number with 1 juvenile arrest	125,765
Number with 2 juvenile arrests	56,054
Number with 3 juvenile arrests	31,499
Number with 4 juvenile arrests	21,728
Number with 5 juvenile arrests	16,087
Number with 6 – 10 juvenile arrests	48,879
Number with 11 – 20 juvenile arrests	25,785
Number with 21 or more juvenile arrests	13,247
<b>Total number of juvenile felony arrest charges (as opposed to arrest events)</b>	<b>740,715</b>

**6. Collection of Juvenile Criminal Histories:**

Fingerprint cards for juveniles arrested on felony and misdemeanor criteria charges are submitted to FDLE as required by section 943.051 of the Florida Statutes. FDLE maintains the information on file until 5 years after the offender has reached 21 years of age (age 26) for Serious Habitual Juvenile Offenders or those committed to a juvenile prison, and until 5 years after the offender has reached 19 years of age (age 24) for other juvenile offenders. If the offender commits a forcible felony as an adult, prior to his juvenile record being destroyed or is treated as an adult while still a juvenile, the juvenile criminal history will be merged with the adult record.

**7. Basic and Advanced Violent Crime Training:**

In compliance with the requirement to establish standards for basic and advanced training programs for law enforcement officers in investigation of violent crime and prevention, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement’s Division of Criminal Justice Standards and Training established a work group to develop a job task analysis (JTA) describing how law enforcement officers investigate violent crimes.

The following five courses were designed to train experienced investigators in the particulars of violent crime investigation: Crime Scene Procedures, Forensics, Legal/Prosecution Aspects, Investigative Procedures and Information Management. During the 2001/2002 fiscal year the Violent Crime Coordinating Regional Teams reported that these courses were offered multiple times for law enforcement and criminal justice professionals in their communities.

Of critical importance this past year has been the training of local law enforcement officers on database technology. Two databases crucial to the investigation of violent and drug-related crime are GangNet and DrugNet. A third database, ThreatNet, was built and offered to law enforcement agencies this past year. This database allows for the capture of information and intelligence regarding domestic security and counter-terrorism. During 2002, the following total users and agencies were trained on the use of all three of these systems:

<b>Database</b>	<b>Total Users</b>	<b>Total Agencies</b>
GangNet	967	202
DrugNet	541	99
ThreatNet	440	147

## **8. Submission of DNA Specimens**

Florida Law requires any person who is convicted or previously convicted of a qualifying offense or attempted offense to submit two blood specimens to FDLE for DNA testing and subsequent entry into the Florida Convicted Offender Database. These qualifying offenses include; murder, sexual battery, lewdness, aggravated battery, car jacking, home invasion robbery, and burglary.

Currently all samples received for entry into the Convicted Offender Database are analyzed using Short Tandem Repeat (STR) technology. As of November 30, 2002, a total of 157,404 samples have been collected for entry into this database, and 147,869 samples have been analyzed utilizing the STR technology and entered into the database. This makes Florida one of the states with the largest numbers in the national database.

The FDLE DNA Database has experienced a great deal of success since it began collecting samples in 1990. Currently, Florida leads the nation with over 763 “hits” or “matches” and a total of 1,093 investigations which have been aided using this technique.

**SUCCESS STORIES:  
CASES FUNDED VIA THE  
VIOLENT CRIME INVESTIGATIVE  
EMERGENCY  
and  
DRUG CONTROL STRATEGY  
IMPLEMENTATION ACCOUNT**

**Operation Broken Tile** was a joint investigation involving the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and State Attorney's Office of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, with assistance from the Drug Enforcement Administration. The investigative effort resulted in the arrest of individuals involved in a major drug trafficking organization. The in-depth investigation was begun in August 2001 and culminated in individuals being arrested on August 26, 2002.



*Above:* Florida Department of Law Enforcement Commissioner Tim Moore and Jacksonville Sheriff Nat Glover announce the solid results of a major drug trafficking investigation. *Below:* Members of Operation Broken Tile shown with seizures from the arrests.



The investigation started with lower level organization individuals and progressed to upper level targets. Arrested and booked into the Duval County County Jail were Ruben Diaz, Teofilo Quinones, Enrique Fiallo, Jesus Monge, Rene Reyes, Orlando Sanchez, Merrick Wade, Rosairo Monge, Heath Lytle, Edwin Ovalles, Felix Carela and Raymond Orta. Those arrested were charged with Conspiracy to Traffic in over 400 kilograms of cocaine and Conspiracy to Traffic in over 25 lbs. of marijuana.

Seized during the arrests was in excess of 130 kilograms of cocaine with a street value of approximately \$3.25 million, 3000 pounds of marijuana with a street value of approximately \$3 million, and in excess of \$1 million U.S. currency. Also seized were a multitude of weapons.

The organization has unknown suppliers in Miami, Mexico, Texas and New York. The investigation is ongoing with more arrests anticipated.



**Operation X-Men**, an eight-month multi-agency investigation involving the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and the Clay County Sheriff's Office targeted individuals who were distributing large quantities of MDMA, referred to as Ecstasy. Also involved in the investigation was the Tri-County Task Force whose members include FDLE, the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, Flagler County Sheriff's Office, Putnam County Sheriff's Office, Palatka Police Department, St. Augustine Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Agency. The investigation targeted individuals in Duval, Clay and St. Johns County who were responsible for distributing MDMA and also trafficking cocaine and marijuana.



SAS Noel Griffin addresses the media at a news conference announcing the results of Operation X-Men



A sampling of drugs and money obtained during Operation X-Men

The organization was led by Frederick Newbill, Jr., of Jacksonville, Florida. Newbill's organization obtained MDMA and cocaine in Miami and distributed it throughout north Florida, primarily at rave clubs. Drug distribution on a weekly basis was estimated at 10,000 Ecstasy pills, with an approximate street value of \$200,000; 100 pounds of marijuana, with an approximate street value of \$100,000; and 2 kilograms of cocaine, with an approximate street value of \$70,000.

At the time of a news conference on May 20, 2002, sixteen individuals in the organization had been arrested. These included Newbill; Gregory Mann, of Jacksonville and owner of Evolutions, a Jacksonville club; and John Chapman, one of the organization's main distributors. Irving Becerra of Miami was arrested as a source of supply to the organization.

According to FDLE Regional Director Ken Tucker, the results of this investigation speak highly of the law enforcement agency teamwork involved, and the members involved have taken a major step in breaking up an Ecstasy distribution ring. During the investigation various undercover techniques were utilized. Warrants still remain for members of the organization. With funding help from the Florida Violent Crime and Drug Control Council, authorities were able to pursue the case and make the arrests.

**Operation Circle Game** was an 18-month investigation that resulted in the arrest of a teacher at Ocala's North Marion High School and three (3) others who authorities believe are part of a statewide drug ring. Officials have chronicled the group's efforts to peddle cocaine, marijuana and Ecstasy pills in Marion County and elsewhere in Florida. In addition to the arrests, the undercover operation by local, state and federal authorities netted 25,000 Ecstasy pills, more than \$200,000 in cash and narcotics and other assets.

The four individuals were charged with several drug offenses, including Armed Trafficking in Cocaine, Sale and Possession of Marijuana and Ecstasy and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

At a news conference, Marion County Sheriff Ed Dean, Ocala Police Chief Andy Krietemeyer and Florida Department of Law Enforcement Special Agent Supervisor Kenneth W. Moore displayed some of the drugs, money and guns confiscated during the sting. Operation Circle Game disrupted the supply chain by keeping thousands of Ecstasy pills from coming into the community.

Authorities said the investigation began June 2001, when police and Sheriff's Office officials noticed they were conducting surveillance on the same people. With funding help from the Florida Violent Crime and Drug Control Council, which provided \$100,000 to support the investigation, authorities were able to pursue the case and make the arrests.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2003

- ❑ **Request Replenishment of \$500,000 from the General Revenue Funds and \$500,000 from the Operating Trust Fund for the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account**

*The Council will request an appropriation of \$1 Million to replenish the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account for investigative efforts.*

During the past nine (9) years, the Council has provided either partial or full funding for investigations or trials of many high profile cases. The funds for this came from the *Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account*. The amount of funds provided to date to local entities totals \$4.25 million to support their investigations and/or trials. A detailed summary of the expenditures is attached to this report. An agency or community that experiences one of these types of crimes and not having sufficient funds to provide the proper investigation or trial conditions can apply for reimbursement of up to \$100,000.

***Commissioner's Response:*** *FDLE concurs with the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council's recommendation for a total appropriation of a \$1 million replenishment of the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account for use in emergency violent crime investigations.*

- ❑ **Request Replenishment of \$2 Million from the General Revenue Funds for the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account**

*The Council will request an additional appropriation of \$2 Million to replenish the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account for multi-agency or statewide drug control or illicit money laundering investigative or task force efforts.*

***Commissioner's Response:*** *FDLE concurs with the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council's recommendation for a \$2 million replenishment of the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account for matching grants for drug control and illicit money laundering investigations. It should be noted that participants at the Drug Summit in April 2002 recommended that this figure be increased to \$4 million.*

- ❑ **Request refunding of \$75,000 for criminal profiling**

*The Council will request an appropriation of \$75,000 to continue the Criminal Profiling Program.*

***Commissioner's Response:*** *FDLE concurs with the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council's recommendation for \$75,000 to continue the FDLE Criminal Profiling Program. This funding has been essential in providing training to law enforcement personnel throughout Florida in this technique as well as providing valuable assistance in violent crime investigations throughout the entire state.*

□ **Request a total appropriation of \$500,000 to replenish the Victim/Witness Protection Program**

*The Council will request an appropriation of \$500,000 to replenish the Victim/Witness Protection Program.*

The Victim/Witness Protection Program authorizes law enforcement agencies to provide protective services, including temporary relocation services, under specified circumstances. The law enables the lead law enforcement agency to seek reimbursement from the Florida Violent Crime and Drug Control Council for expenses incurred in providing protective services for victims/witnesses certified by the prosecuting State Attorney or Statewide Prosecutor on or after July 1, 1997. A Victim and Witness Review Committee has been established within the Florida Violent Crime and Drug Control Council and is responsible for developing the criteria for disbursing the funds and reviewing and either approving or denying, in whole or part, each of the requests for this type of funding. From January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002, the Council has funded 45 victim/witness protection cases to 13 agencies totaling nearly \$270,000.

***Commissioner's Response:*** *FDLE concurs with the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council's recommendation for \$500,000 to replenish the Victim/Witness Protection Program.*

□ **Support for the continuation and enhancement of the Convicted Offender DNA Database**

*The Council will continue to offer its support for the continuance of the FDLE effort with the Convicted Offender DNA Database and its enhancement, as appropriate, to make sure the laws relating to the collection requirement are as inclusive as possible while not limiting the abilities of the Database to analyze the samples.*

***Commissioner's Response:*** *FDLE concurs with the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council's recommendation for the continued support for the Convicted Offender DNA Database.*

□ **Continued status reports on computerized, statewide programs**

*The Council will solicit regular status reports on database activities, such as VICAP, AFIS, DNA Database, GangNet, ThreatNet, and DrugNet, and make recommendations to the criminal justice community on how these databases can better be utilized by the community. The Council will make recommendations regarding potential legislative changes necessary to encourage and facilitate the use of these systems.*

***Commissioner's Response:*** *FDLE concurs with the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council's solicitation of reports concerning the databases currently in operation as well those that may be developed in the near future. FDLE is also interested in learning from the Council ways to increase the efficiency of these databases as well as how to make them more accessible to local law enforcement agencies. FDLE will provide speakers on whatever database that it is developing, as well as seek the assistance and support of other agencies to provide the necessary information.*

- **Education on “Futures” related topics such as population demographics, victimization of the elderly, weapons and juvenile crime, etc.**

*The Council will seek solicitations for presentations at its meetings on these topics. From the information presented, the Council will be better prepared to set future year goals and to assist local law enforcement agencies in their planning for future problems with violent crime.*

**Commissioner’s Response:** *FDLE concurs with the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council to become more educated on “futures-related” topics. This education will better allow the Council to assist law enforcement agencies in planning for future problems with violent crimes.*

- **Support the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and database**

*The Council will continue to seek solicitations for presentations at its meetings on this topic area. It will support proposed bills initiated by the Governor’s Office of Drug Control designed to: 1) establish a prescription marking (monitoring) system that would include counterfeit-proof serialized scripts; 2) establish an electronic database registry for all people who are prescribed for schedule two, three and four drugs, focusing on the most highly abused drugs; and 3) focus on doctors who prescribe the highly abused drugs, as determined by the information stored in the electronic database registry.*

**Commissioner’s Response:** *FDLE concurs with the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council in its efforts to support the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and database.*

- **Keep weapons out of the possession of felons and others who have the propensity for committing violent crimes**

*The Council will continue to seek solicitations for presentations at its meetings on this topic area. Updates on the THUGS initiative as well as Operation Safe Neighborhoods will be incorporated into the quarterly Violent Crime Intelligence Briefings for the Council. .*

**Commissioner’s Response:** *FDLE concurs with the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council on its efforts to become more educated on dealing with the use of firearms in violent crimes.*

- **Formulate strategies for taking a proactive approach to violent crime, drug trafficking, and illicit money laundering**

*The Council will take a more proactive approach to combat violent crime, drug trafficking, and illicit money laundering. The new format of Council meetings will facilitate a more “interactive” approach, engaging both Council and Regional Team members to participate in this process.*

**Commissioner’s Response:** *FDLE concurs with the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council assuming a more proactive approach in combating violent crime, drug control and illicit money laundering. It is hoped that through its efforts, the Council can facilitate communication throughout all law enforcement agencies in Florida to allow them to focus on the major criminal elements causing most of the problems in the state.*

- **Task Regional Coordinators with developing coordinated local strategies to attack violent crime and drug-related crime**

*The Regional Coordinating Teams will continue to provide the Council with quarterly reports regarding cases and training issues that relate to violent crime and drug investigations. These Teams will work closely with agents in the Office of Statewide Intelligence to ensure that intelligence and trend information can be gathered, analyzed and disseminated in a timely manner to law enforcement and criminal justice professionals throughout Florida.*

**Commissioner's Response:** *FDLE concurs with the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council tasking the Regional Coordinating Teams to develop strategies to attack violent crime and drug control activities. Ideally the information gleaned from the Regional Teams that is collated and assessed by OSI should dictate the types of enforcement operations needed in particular regions of the state. Intelligence information from the Regional Teams is critical to formulated effective operational endeavors.*

- **Develop strategies to Market the Victim/Witness Protection Program**

*The Council will develop a brochure and other publications in an attempt to market the funding available through the Victim/Witness Protection Program. The last two quarters have demonstrated a distinct increase in the number of cases submitted for funding from this program; however, the program is well known and utilized by law enforcement agencies in more metropolitan areas. Clearly information on the program needs to be disseminated to regions in Florida that are not serviced by large police agencies but which still may be in need of this program. The Council will continue to improve the overall function of the Victim/Witness Protection Program.*

**Commissioner's Response:** *FDLE concurs with the Violent Crime and Drug Control Council's marketing of the Victim/Witness Protection Program. This will enable the Council to ensure that the funds are being utilized to provide the maximum security for those individuals requiring additional safety or security while assisting in the investigation or prosecution of those crimes enumerated in the Statutes.*

**TOTAL CASES FUNDED  
(BY REGION)**

✓ **THE VIOLENT CRIME  
INVESTIGATIVE EMERGENCY  
and  
DRUG CONTROL STRATEGY  
IMPLEMENTATION ACCOUNT**

**and**

✓ **THE VICTIM/WITNESS  
PROTECTION TRUST ACCOUNT**

**Funded Violent Crime Investigative Cases**  
(By Region – January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002)

**Tampa Bay Region**

Hillsborough Co. SO	Serial Robberies	\$ 55,629.13
<b>Total for Region</b>		<b>\$ 55,629.13</b>

**Fort Myers Region**

Fort Myers PD	Churchwell Homicide	\$ 13,185.88
<b>Total for Region</b>		<b>\$ 13,185.88</b>

**Orlando Region**

Kissimmee PD	Bernier Homicide	\$ 5,172.25
Melbourne PD	Tri-Event Operation	\$ 28,467.92
Palm Bay PD	Gill Homicide	\$ 10,100.42
<b>Total for Region</b>		<b>\$ 43,740.59</b>

**Tallahassee Region**

**No funds awarded**

**Pensacola Region**

**No funds awarded**

**Miami Region**

Boca Raton PSD	AMI/Bio-Terrorism Homicide	\$ 70,162.00
Boynton Beach PD	Quantum Industrial Park Homicides	\$ 32,645.63
<b>Total for Region</b>		<b>\$102,807.63</b>

**Jacksonville Region**

Bradford Co. Board of Co. Commissioners	Valdes Murder Trial	\$ 21,750.38
Jacksonville SO	Fast Food Robbery Investigations	\$ 37,885.38
Bradford Co. Board of Co. Commissioners	Valdes Murder Trial	\$ 63,905.11
Gainesville PD	Duck Pond Burglaries	\$ 13,879.66
<b>Total for Region</b>		<b>\$137,420.53</b>

**TOTAL Violent Crime Investigative cases awarded funding during 2002:** **\$352,783.76**



**Funded Drug Cases**  
(By Region – January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002)

<b>Tampa Bay Region</b>	
Operation Bay of Pigs	\$100,000
Operation Bahama Breeze	\$100,000
<b>Total for Region</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>
<b>Fort Myers Region</b>	
Operation Alamo	\$100,000
Operation Five Speed	\$ 40,000
<b>Total for Region</b>	<b>\$140,000</b>
<b>Orlando Region</b>	
Operation Rock the World	\$100,000
Operation Speedway	\$ 95,000
Alawar Organization	\$100,000
Operation Box Cutter	\$100,000
Operation Don Veijo	\$100,000
Operation Rosebud	\$ 85,000
Harris Organization	\$ 75,000
<b>Total for Region</b>	<b>\$655,000</b>
<b>Tallahassee Region</b>	
Operation Madison Wipe-Out	\$ 51,000
Cotes Organization	\$ 51,500
Harrison Organization	\$ 28,000
“J” Organization	\$ 22,500
Corbett/Williams Organization	\$ 50,000
Operation Havana Highwire	\$100,000
Operation Suwannee County Slim-Fast	\$100,000
<b>Total for Region</b>	<b>\$403,000</b>
<b>Pensacola Region</b>	
Operation Ladies Man	\$ 68,867
Operation Baker Man	\$ 71,430
Operation Lolley-Pop	\$ 41,000
<b>Total for Region</b>	<b>\$181,297</b>
<b>Miami Region</b>	
Operation Conch Sweep	\$ 50,000
Operation Ponderosa	\$100,000
Jordan/Hayes Organization	\$100,000
Operation Five-O Top Echelon	\$100,000
Operation For Life	\$100,000
Moody Organization	\$100,000
Operation Two-Fold	\$100,000
Operation Hot Dogs	\$100,000
Operation “In Too Deep”	\$100,000
<b>Total for Region</b>	<b>\$850,000</b>
<b>Jacksonville Region</b>	
Operation Alachua’s Finest	\$ 65,000
Operation Broken Tile	\$ 70,000
Operation X-Men	\$ 78,168
Operation Circle Game	\$100,000
Operation Raw-Hide	\$ 85,000
Operation Kiki-Hut	\$ 50,000
Operation Weed Wacker	\$100,000
<b>Total for Region</b>	<b>\$548,168</b>

**TOTAL Drug cases awarded  
funding during 2002: \$2,977,465**

**Funded Victim/Witness Protection Cases**  
(By Region – January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002)

**Tampa Bay Region**

**No funds awarded**

**Fort Myers Region**

Okeechobee County SO	Sep-02	\$ 965.60
Okeechobee County SO	Dec-02	\$ 39.78
<b>Total for Region</b>		<b>\$ 1,005.38</b>

**Orlando Region**

Cocoa PD	Jan-02	\$ 2,961.28
<b>Total for Region</b>		<b>\$ 2,961.28</b>

**Tallahassee Region**

2 <sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit SAO	Dec-02	\$ 1,770.00
<b>Total for Region</b>		<b>\$ 1,770.00</b>

**Pensacola Region**

**No funds awarded**

**Miami Region**

Miami Beach PD	Jan-02	\$ 7,164.62
West Palm Beach PD	Jan-02	\$ 3,102.90
West Palm Beach PD	Jan-02	\$ 1,301.84
Miami-Dade PD	Apr-02	\$ 7,421.25
Miami Beach PD	Apr-02	\$ 2,400.00
Miami-Dade PD	Jun-02	\$ 2,588.00
Sunny Isles Beach PD	Jun-02	\$ 420.00
West Palm Beach SAO	Jun-02	\$ 9,122.55
West Palm Beach SAO	Jun-02	\$ 14,380.45
Miami-Dade PD	Sep-02	\$ 17,714.65
Miami Beach PD	Sep-02	\$ 3,400.00
Miami PD (13 cases)	Sep-02	\$106,978.92
North Miami PD	Sep-02	\$ 1,735.45
Sunny Isles Beach PD	Sep-02	\$ 7,537.00
West Palm Beach SAO	Dec-02	\$ 3,083.00
Sunny Isles Beach PD	Dec-02	\$ 2,062.00
FDLE Miami	Dec-02	\$ 4,685.80
Miami PD (9 cases)	Dec-02	\$ 15,431.83
<b>Total for Region</b>		<b>\$210,530.26</b>

**Jacksonville Region**

Clay County SO *	Apr-02	\$ 44,060.53
Jacksonville SO	Jun-02	\$ 2,670.69
Jacksonville SO	Sep-02	\$ 2,080.00
<b>Total for Region</b>		<b>\$ 48,811.22</b>

\* Valdes Murder Trial (21 Inmates)

**TOTAL VWP cases awarded  
funding during 2002: \$265,078.14**