Together We Are One...

Miami-Dade Police Department

...in partnership with our community
THE MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Will commit its resources in partnership with the community to:

• Promote a safe and secure environment, free from crime and the fear of crime,
• Maintain order and provide for the safe and expeditious flow of traffic,
• Practice our core values of integrity, respect, service, and fairness.

INTEGRITY

Integrity is the hallmark of the Miami-Dade Police Department and we are committed to the highest performance standards, ethical conduct, and truthfulness in all relationships.

We hold ourselves accountable for our actions and take pride in a professional level of service and fairness to all.

RESPECT

We treat all persons in a dignified and courteous manner, and exhibit understanding of ethnic and cultural diversity, both in our professional and personal endeavors.

We guarantee to uphold the principles and values embodied in the constitutions of the United States and the State of Florida.

SERVICE

We provide quality service in a courteous, efficient, and accessible manner.

We foster community and employee involvement through problem-solving partnerships.

FAIRNESS

We treat all people impartially, with consideration and compassion.

We are equally responsive to our employees and the community we serve.
Your Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) has been and continues to be recognized as one of the finest law enforcement organizations in the United States. MDPD is currently the eighth largest police organization in the Nation and the largest within the Southeastern United States. MDPD is considered to be one of the finest, not because of the size of the agency, rather by its reputation of excellence and delivery of quality service to the community it serves. The rich tradition and proud accomplishments were not created overnight or without hardship. However, from the most difficult of times, MDPD rose to its current level of institutional integrity and professionalism.

MDPD has developed a distinction of being innovative in its crime fighting strategies, high-level of training, and youth-oriented initiatives. In fact, the Department’s Miami-Dade Public Safety Training Institute hosts regional and national training courses throughout the year. Additionally, the Department is under contract with the U.S. Department of State’s International Law Enforcement section as one of the principle training agencies for the Caribbean, and Central and South American law enforcement personnel. This endeavor is a clear indication of the high-level of commitment and dedication to the law enforcement profession.

Miami-Dade County (MDC) is the seventh largest county in the Nation and is populated by 2.7 million residents. MDC is one of the world’s most frequented tourist destinations. Its cruising industry, world famous beaches, international airport, and many sporting venues attract millions of visitors each year. MDPD provides direct services to approximately 1.2 million residents, and sheriff and specialized services to the remaining 1.5 million community members. Because of its geographic location, MDC is also recognized as a robust, internationally diverse community. As the gateway to the Americas, Miami provides economic opportunities to a wide array of business industries. This community complexity reflects the importance of maintaining a law enforcement agency that is as diverse as the community it serves. MDPD has lived up to that expectation.

This report will highlight many of the successful programs and innovations within the agency. Most importantly, it will feature the work product of the outstanding men and women of our Department. Comprised in the report are the technological advancements to include the deployment of body-worn cameras and development of the Real-Time Crime Center. Additionally, you will find the many innovations that followed the vision set forth for the 2016 calendar year; combatting violent youth crime and recruitment of qualified personnel.

As you review the many programs and accomplishments, one must recognize that none of the successes would be possible without the personal sacrifices of many. Behind the tradition and greatness of the Department, many made the ultimate sacrifice while serving the community. May we always remember and honor our fallen heroes. We now invite you to enjoy our proud accomplishments and efforts that uphold the core values of Integrity, Respect, Service, and Fairness.
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Office of the Director

The Director is responsible for ensuring that the citizens of MDC receive professional and efficient police services. He formulates plans and policies, coordinates departmental operations, and provides managerial leadership.

The Police Services, Departmental Services, and Investigative Services Assistant Directors; the Chief Financial Officer, and the Fiscal Administration; the Professional Compliance, Police Legal, and Public Information and Education Bureaus; and the Psychological Services Section report directly to the Director’s Office.

(Top, left) Director Juan J. Perez greets the crowd during a community rally.
(Top, right) Director Juan J. Perez provides an interview to the news media.
(Bottom, left) Director Juan J. Perez supports the fight against breast cancer at the “Real Men Wear Pink” fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. He also leads the MDPD Police Power in Pink Team which raised more than $36,000 for this most worthwhile cause.
The Chief Financial Officer

The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the oversight and management of departmental financial and physical assets, including all budgeting, purchasing, payment, and grant activities; departmental vehicle fleet operations; and maintenance of all departmental facilities, buildings, and offices.

Fiscal Administration Bureau

The Fiscal Administration Bureau (FAB) serves as the central administrative office for all fiscal related activities for MDPD. As part of several organizational re-alignments, FAB has evolved to have purview over the Budget and Grants Services, Resource Management Services, Fleet Management Section, Facilities Maintenance Section, and the Travel Unit.

The FAB Budget Section prepares and monitors the Department’s operating and capital budgets. It identifies optimal uses of existing revenue, potential new revenue sources, and viable streamlining and service delivery alternatives. The Section also prepares monthly operating and overtime budget projections and reviews expenditure and travel requests for approval. The Section prepares financial and management-related analyses, including fiscal impact reviews for County ordinances impacting the Department. The Section is also responsible for financial matters related to incorporations and participates in Federal Emergency Management Agency cost analysis issues impacting the Department. The Section is also tasked with conducting planning and research studies to improve operational activities, enhance departmental policies and procedures, and remains abreast of current developments in law enforcement.

The Grant and Trust Fund Section is responsible for accounting, reporting, and financial supervision for compliance of all departmental grants including 911 Grants and Law Enforcement Trust Funds awarded within the Department, in addition to, other County departments and outside entities. The Section is also responsible for the management and financial reporting for several community-based organizations (i.e., The Alternative Program Inc., Citizens’ Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County, Inc., and Trauma Resolution Center, Inc.).

Grant and Law Enforcement Trust Fund assets were utilized for the redesign of the operations and administrative areas, as well as the acquisition of equipment and technology needed for effective operation of the newly implemented Real-Time Crime Center.

The Finance Section is responsible for petty cash, accounts payables, account receivables, off-regular duty operations, and the financial
transactions associated with civil process. This section provides guidance to departmental elements regarding payables and expenditures; and reviews and processes invoices resulting from pre-approved expenditures, direct payments, purchasing card reconciliation, and transferring expenditures through journal entry procedures. The Section also monitors expenditure allocations for resolution contracts, release purchase orders and, small purchase orders; and provides technical assistance to departmental elements and vendors. Additionally, the General Accounting Unit prepares and performs all billing and reconciliation functions for the contracted municipal police services, and Enterprise billing, which includes Airport and Seaport police services.

The Procurement and Inventory Section is responsible for processing, facilitating, and monitoring purchasing activities for the Department. The Section reviews all departmental requisitions for one-time purchases or annual contracts, including small purchase orders and change orders; maintains a database for all contracts; and coordinates with the Internal Services Department and Procurement Management for bids and contracts including sole sources, bid waivers, and other government contracts. Additionally, the Section administers all departmental contracts and coordinates the notifications to departmental elements for bid reviews, bid evaluation requests, and contract awards. The Section conducts training sessions on general County purchasing policy and procedures, familiarization on the Advanced Purchase Inventory Control System mainframe program, and any changes of governmental procurement practices. The Section assists user elements to monitor and report on vendor performance and oversees the Department’s capital property. As such, personnel are responsible for identifying, labeling, and recording existing capital assets. The Section also serves as the quartermaster, which maintains and supplies all uniforms and standard equipment issued to sworn and civilian personnel.

The Travel Unit reviews all departmental business, extradition, and educational travel for compliance with County policy to ensure accuracy; creates and monitors reports on all outstanding travel; provides liaison with the Office of Management and Budget, and Finance.

The Fleet Management Section is responsible for the purchase, maintenance, accountability, financial management, and eventual replacement of the Department’s 3,500 vehicle fleet (inclusive of rental vehicles). The Section continually researches and reviews innovative technology regarding safety features, lighting, graphics, and state-of-the-art police vehicle equipment for possible implementation. The Section also oversees departmental investigative rental contracts, graphic services, window tinting services, confidential tags, and Florida SunPass issuance. Section personnel are also responsible for the auditing of all marked
and unmarked vehicle assets. This entails evaluating the vehicle age, equipment, and how these assets pair with the receiving entities’ job functions. Additional responsibilities include computer mounting solutions for the entire fleet which consists of approximately 1,200 units.

The implementation of the Department’s five-year vehicle replacement plan began with the acquisition of 642 vehicles to update the MDPD’s aging fleet. Additionally, 489 vehicles were purchased and will be distributed throughout Fiscal Year 2017.

The Facilities Management Section is responsible for the management and maintenance of the MDPD Headquarters Complex, all district stations, and other MDPD buildings. This section also oversees all contracted janitorial, landscaping, and repair services throughout the aforementioned facilities; handles all facility hurricane preparation and resulting repairs; oversees large construction projects, and directly handles in-house renovations, including work-space reconfiguration and reassignment of telephone and data lines.

Professional Compliance Bureau

The Professional Compliance Bureau receives, processes, and investigates all complaints against members of the Department. To ensure public trust and maintain the Department’s integrity, Bureau investigators conduct immediate, objective, and thorough investigations of all complaints. The Professional Compliance Bureau maintains and coordinates the Employee Profile and Early Identification Systems. The latter provides a systematic review of employee complaints and use of force incidents, and generates monthly, quarterly, and annual reports.

To ensure standardization of procedures and quality improvements of departmental services, the Bureau’s Staff Inspections Section conducts investigations of all MDPD elements every three years and reports all findings to the Department Director for review. The Section is also responsible for departmental compliance with standards from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies and the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation. Numerous reports and mock assessments are conducted annually to ensure compliance to these strict standards.

The Staff Inspections Section also maintains the Departmental Manual and the Department’s Directive System; and responds to inquiries from outside agencies regarding departmental procedures, policy, and operations.

The Public Corruption Investigations Section is responsible for investigating allegations of corruption involving public officials, MDC employees, lobbyists, and private vendors and contractors conducting business with County government. The mission of the Section is to ensure a high level of integrity.
in governmental fiscal affairs and to promote public confidence and trust in local government.

Comprised of investigative, analytical, and data entry personnel, the Section works cooperatively to expose and root out public corruption at all levels of County government. The Section works in conjunction with other local, state, and federal agencies when multi-agency cooperation is necessary in accomplishing shared goals.

Since the Section was created in 1998, investigators have concluded many complex, long-term investigations, culminating in the arrests of hundreds of individuals responsible for defrauding millions of dollars from the County. As a result of these investigations, the Section worked cooperatively with other County departments to incorporate procedural and policy changes to avoid recurrence of such crimes.

The Professional Compliance Bureau’s Records Unit maintains copies of closed internal affairs investigations and Supervisor’s Reports of Response to Resistance, and is responsible for fulfilling public records requests pertaining to the aforementioned cases.

**Police Legal Bureau**

The Police Legal Bureau (PLB) provides in-house legal counsel to the Director and the Department. The Bureau ensures that the Department is advised of current legal issues, statutory changes and case law of particular significance to law enforcement; prosecutes state civil forfeiture actions, and administers the federal asset forfeiture program; reviews discipline documents and internal investigations; assists in the drafting, lobbying and passage of new laws and legislative amendments that promote law enforcement objectives; provides legal review, and legislatively administers via the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners, Memoranda of Understanding, Mutual Aid Agreements, and other contracts with its law enforcement partner agencies and jurisdictions, as well as, with private entities; provides training to the Department; administers written and oral legal opinions; publishes Legal Notes and Legal Bulletins regarding important statutory revisions and court decisions; publishes Legal Tips of the Day for dissemination to all Department staff through e-mail distribution; coordinates discovery and other civil litigation matters with the County Attorney’s Office; manages the Department’s Diversion and Community Service Program; prosecutes all of the Department’s civil citations; manages the Nuisance Abatement Unit; and edits the Florida Law Enforcement Handbook.

On January 4, 2016, the PLB debuted a refresher training program for MDPD personnel called “Legal Tip of the Day.” Each working day, the PLB sends an e-mail message to all staff in the form of a concise, easy-to-understand, legal tip addressing issues relevant to law enforcement. This
program has assisted both rookie and veteran officers, civilian personnel, and are commonly used by first line supervisors as topics to initiate discussion and train their squads. The Legal Tip of the Day has expanded by popular demand and is currently shared with officers and command personnel of other police agencies.

In the past year, MDPD seized, and the PLB successfully litigated, more than $13 million in forfeited assets that were awarded to the MDPD Law Enforcement Trust Fund.

The civil citation for misdemeanor possession of marijuana was implemented on July 10, 2015. Since its inception, 3,712 civil citations have been issued in lieu of arrest. This has impacted the criminal justice system dramatically, and specifically the MDPD by reducing the number of police officer hours needed to enforce this violation of law, returning the officer to our neighborhoods to help our citizens. Most importantly, 53 percent of the violators were first-time offenders; therefore, spared from having a criminal arrest record.

Public Information and Education Bureau

The Public Information and Education Bureau (PIEB) is comprised of the Media Relations, Community and Youth Outreach, and Operations Support Sections that manage a wide variety of assignments.

The Media Relations Section (MRS) detectives are public information officers who coordinate MDPD’s response to media inquiries, especially regarding high-profile incidents which have attracted local, regional, and sometimes national and/or international media attention. Officers respond to scenes, provide interviews (in English and Spanish), and issue news releases. They also liaise with the media on lesser profile crimes and incidents, often providing video footage of MDPD events, and crimes such as burglaries, robberies, and assaults. At the same time, these MRS detectives often take a proactive approach to media liaison, alerting the media to developments in certain investigations, with a view to soliciting the public’s help in pursuing those cases. One example is the increasing use of “family pleas” in which MRS detectives arrange for survivors of violent crimes, or family members of the victims, to use the media to appeal to the public and provide information to investigators.

MRS detectives also accompany visiting television and motion picture producers in an effort to ensure that their finished productions comply with departmental regulations and portray accurate information.

This range of media liaison activities as well as their participation in...
formal training courses hosted by regional, federal, professional, and government organizations has produced within the MRS a cadre of highly skilled public information specialists. They are well regarded, both in the law enforcement community and throughout the media. The more experienced MRS detectives have, in turn, shared their skills with other law enforcement public information officers through formal training programs and informal contacts.

More recently, in response to developments on the media landscape, a social media component was added to the range of activities. A Social Media Team with extensive electronic media experience was added to the Section and charged with sensitizing MRS personnel to the use of information technology, especially concentrating in social media. Also implemented are two social media specialists, the first such hire by a south Florida police department. MDPD messages are now transmitted on all the major social media platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

The Bureau's Community and Youth Outreach Section (CYOS) coordinates a variety of programs designed to foster cooperation between the Department and the community. With youth programs at the forefront, CYOS coordinates the activities for the highly successful Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program, which annually reaches about 10,000 students in MDC. Students are taught the dangers of substance abuse, peer pressure, gang affiliation, and bullying. Officers promote self-esteem building principles, and positive extra-curricular activities, as viable alternatives to truancy, drug abuse, and gang involvement.

The Miami-Dade Police Athletic League is also coordinated through the CYOS. This afterschool program reaches 20,000 children each year, while involving the youth in athletic activities, educational initiatives, and an introduction to arts and crafts. The program has gained momentum and is committed to reducing juvenile delinquency by helping children recognize their self-worth and abilities as they interact with law enforcement officers. The “Join A Team, Not A Gang” initiative discourages gang affiliation and encourages constructive social and educational activities. Students are able to attend University of Miami and Florida International University athletic events and then meet

“Drug Free” DARE students with the DARE lion mascot.

The CYOS conducts a mock crash display to emphasize the importance of driving responsibly to avoid dangerous consequences.
athletes who encourage them to join teams and social clubs.

The CYOS coordinates the Students Together Against Negative Decisions program, which is directed at high school youths. This initiative reaches more than 90,000 students annually in an effort to eliminate drug and alcohol use associated traffic fatalities. Student activities presented throughout the school year include the Youth Summit, Ghost Out, Mock Crash, and the driving simulator, along with visits to the Driving Under the Influence Mobile Education Center. These impacting experiences are educational tools used to make students recognize the dangers of alcohol use and the consequences of drinking and driving. Additionally, the CYOS manages the Gun Bounty Program and the Crime Stoppers Squad. The Gun Bounty Program is an initiative aimed at deterring the illegal possession and use of guns. Since its inception, the Program has recovered 866 illegal guns and resulted in 557 arrests.

The CYOS is also responsible for community relations and crime prevention efforts on a Countywide basis. The Crime Stoppers of MDC TIPS line (305-471-TIPS) is a nationally recognized community action program that encourages citizens to support law enforcement by providing information about criminal activity. This partnership offers monetary rewards to tipsters while protecting their anonymity. The Section is also involved in a myriad of departmental, state, and federal programs including the Citizen’s Police Academy, Police Explorer Program, the College Internship Program, and Park Watch. Members of the CYOS have obtained their Florida Crime Prevention Practitioner’s certification and are tasked with conducting security surveys of both residential and commercial locations. Additionally, the CYOS coordinates community presentations of the Gun Bounty Program, Crime Prevention Display Vehicles, the Static Display Helicopter, and the DARE Mustang. These initiatives are geared toward the overall education, safety, and well-being of our residents and visitors.

The Operations Support Section is comprised of three units: Administration, Special Projects Unit (SPU), and the School Crossing Guard Unit. The Administrative Unit manages the Bureau’s budget, payroll, personnel files, and mobilization rosters. The SPU provides logistical support and promotional assistance for a wide range of MDPD and Countywide charitable events. The SPU is also responsible for various publications such as newsletters, brochures, pamphlets, and other printed material.

Managed by PIEB, the MDPD Police Explorer Program is offered to students, ages 4-19, and introduces them to traditional law enforcement.
material in support of various Countywide initiatives and campaigns. SPU staff also provide campaign management, creative design, publicity and publishing support, and photographic assistance to departmental entities. The School Crossing Guard Unit serves more than 100 public elementary schools throughout MDC, and facilitates the safe crossing of children at more than 500 busy crosswalks throughout the community to ensure safety in their commute to and from school.

**Psychological Services Section**

The Psychological Services Section (PSS) offers a full spectrum of clinical, educational, and consultation services for all departmental employees and their immediate family members. The PSS provides a 24-hour on-call response status for all emergencies such as officer-involved shootings, suicide interventions, and other critical incidents. The PSS provides assessment, treatment, and referral within its Substance Abuse Intervention Program.

This Section has achieved several significant accomplishments which have greatly impacted the Department. The PSS administers a nationally recognized program (American Psychological Association, International Association of Chiefs of Police) for the prevention of suicide for law enforcement officers and civilian staff. The Hostage Negotiation Team supervisor continues to facilitate the specialized in-house 40-hour training class which is required to join the Hostage Negotiation Team.

A unique bereavement program was developed for family members and friends of deceased police officers of the Department. This ongoing support group meets on a monthly basis. PSS is also responsible for the administration and supervision of the Police Chaplains Program, which provides spiritual and support services to the Department.
Police Services has the responsibility of providing traditional police services while establishing meaningful partnerships that meet the needs of a changing community. Keeping pace with Miami-Dade County’s diversity and expansion places additional demands on these multifaceted police services.

The Police Services Assistant Director oversees the North and South Operations Divisions, which are comprised of eight district stations along with the Special Patrol and the Seaport Operations Bureaus, and the Agricultural Patrol Section. Additionally, contracted police services are provided to incorporated cities to provide law enforcement and community-oriented service particular to each locality.

**Intracoastal District**

In an effort to effectively address the needs of the community, the Intracoastal District works jointly with all available resources within Miami-Dade County. The Neighborhood Resource Unit (NRU) employs a variety of programs and initiatives to build trust and develop partnerships between the police and the community. Youth safety and outreach activities are also a priority for the NRU.

The District’s unique environment and terrain characteristics require a tailored policing response. Haulover Park, a 99-acre urban park bordered by the Atlantic Ocean on the east and the Intracoastal Waterway on the west, is located within the boundaries of the District. Traditionally, from Easter to Labor Day, large crowds of people visit the park on weekends and summer holidays. Each year, an operational plan is developed where additional officers and equipment such as 4X4 trucks, all-terrain vehicles, bicycles, and personal watercraft are deployed to provide a safe environment for the community to enjoy.

The District established a Special Investigations Squad to provide immediate investigative information to road patrol units, in addition to neighboring jurisdictions requiring assistance for ongoing crimes and investigations occurring within the District. Additionally, the Special Investigations Squad provides General Investigations Unit (GIU) investigators with a platform to expand long-term, complex investigations such as drug violations, gang investigations, fraud investigations, auto theft rings, and others. The Squad was developed to eradicate criminal enterprise cells that prey on residents.

The District also established the Intracoastal Narcotics Team, which is comprised of both uniformed and non-uniformed personnel, to address narcotics activity and narcotics-related crimes within the District. Operations are conducted in identified “hot spots” throughout the District, where a nexus between narcotics activity and criminal activity has been identified. Through these collaborative operations, the District has seen a notable reduction in targeted crimes throughout recent years.


**Northside District**

The Northside District continues to foster a positive partnership with the community through crime prevention and awareness programs to improve the quality of life for its residents. Furthermore, the District strategically targets crimes utilizing enhanced enforcement initiatives and directed uniformed patrols, along with specialized elements such as the Crime Suppression Team, Gang Unit, Auto Theft Squad, and the GIU. The District continually updates and enhances its enforcement and protection capabilities to meet today's challenges. Recent enhancements include new bicycles which assist in providing quicker response times and higher police visibility.

The District’s Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Unit provides a forum for residents to address crime concerns and learn about crime prevention through monthly events such as the Major’s Community Outreach Day, the Citizens’ Crime Watch program, the Citizens Stand Against Crime initiative, the Citizen Advisory Committee, and Homeowners Association meetings. Citizens may also gain invaluable information concerning the many services provided by Miami-Dade County during the District’s Open House and Hurricane Awareness Fair.

The District also hosts a three-week summer camp program which establishes positive relationships with community youth, provides educational components, and conducts enjoyable activities in a safe environment. During the camp and throughout the year, NRU officers furnish parents with Child Identification Program materials that could provide crucial information to law enforcement in missing child cases.

**Northwest District**

The Northwest District maintains positive community relationships with the neighborhood that it diligently serves. By focusing on community engagement through crime prevention, education, and awareness programs, quality of life is improved for local residents. District personnel continually reanalyze and create innovative solutions to target current crime trends to keep the community safe. Determination to reduce overall crimes within the District include efforts such as utilizing targeted enforcement initiatives and directed uniformed patrol to maintain the continuity of service to its neighborhoods on a daily basis for optimal long-term intervention.

The District’s NRU is continuously involved with the community through monthly events such as the Major’s Community Outreach Days, the Citizens’ Crime Watch Program, the Citizen Advisory Committee meetings, and Homeowners Association meetings. Residents have many opportunities...
to obtain invaluable instruction regarding the services that are provided to them by Miami-Dade County during the District’s Open House and the Hurricane Awareness Fair.

The Police Explorer Program welcomes local youth to participate in community events such as law enforcement dedicatory ceremonies and charitable fundraising activities. Officers mentor our youth and invest quality time with the future of our community by coaching and counseling, encouraging positive civic involvement throughout the community, and cultivating everlasting partnerships.

Airport District

The Miami International Airport (MIA) is one of the busiest airports in the world. More than 40.9 million passengers and 2 million tons of cargo move through MIA annually. MIA is a major destination and departure point. It is also one of the busiest gateways between the global air transportation system and the United States domestic system. The District’s top priority is the protection of travelers, employees, and stakeholders at MIA.

The District continually updates and enhances its enforcement and protection capabilities to meet today’s challenges. Enhancements include bicycles, Segways, and golf carts that provide better response times and higher visibility. The District’s Motorcycle Squad provides the airport locality with traffic enforcement and a faster and easier way to maneuver through areas which are not easily accessible by marked/unmarked vehicles.

Additionally, the District houses two distinct Canine Units that provide explosive ordinance detection canine services to the MIA. Both the traditional Canine Unit and the Explosive Detection and Interdiction Canine Unit respond to all unattended vehicles and luggage to perform sweeps that determine if the items are safe to impound. Additionally, the Explosive Detection and Interdiction Units are trained to alert their handlers to the presence of explosive odors that originate from human sources. Unit canines are trained to track the source of the odor to a person as well as detect explosives in the conventional method.
District personnel work with all federal agencies assigned to the MIA to have the utmost security preparation and tactics plan. One example of this outstanding partnership was demonstrated recently through the use of multi-agency operations involving the Airport District, the Miami-Dade Aviation Department, and federal law enforcement personnel. These combined facilities form the Miami Intermodal Center.

A new patrol area was added to the District’s responsibilities when the Miami Central Station (MCS) began operation. The MCS currently houses a Greyhound Bus Terminal and Tri-Rail Station. Additionally, Amtrak will provide services to the MCS in the future. The Rental Car Center and the MCS are connected by the Concourse Vestibule, which houses the AirportLink MetroRail Station.

Airport District officers utilize bicycles to easily traverse through the crowds at MIA and provide increased police presence and security.

**Special Patrol Bureau**

The Special Patrol Bureau augments traditional police functions and is comprised of the Specialized Patrol and Events, Tactical Operations, and the Police Operations Sections. The Specialized Patrol and Events Section manages large-scale public events and provides support services for uniformed elements. The Section is comprised of the Special Events and Aviation Units (AU) the Marine Patrol/Underwater Recovery Team, and the Motorcycle/Breath Alcohol Testing/Impaired Driving Enforcement Squads. The Special Events Unit is responsible for the planning, coordinating, and management of police services during large-scale major events throughout MDC. Each year, the Unit coordinates more than 500 events including major league sports team games, international tennis tournaments, fairs, parades, and festivals. An example of the Special Events Unit’s cooperative involvement is managed police services for the Major League Baseball All-Star Game.

The AU is responsible for providing aerial support to Department personnel in addition to all federal, state, and municipal first responder agencies. Additionally, the AU provides aerial support to a variety of local governmental entities. The AU’s air fleet encompasses four helicopters and two airplanes, utilized to proactively patrol the County in support of tactical and investigative functions, and calls for service. The AU facilitates police response at perimeter searches for missing, wanted,
and/or fleeing individuals, and it also deters criminal activity through the presence of the aerial platforms at incidents where an overhead and distant view is advantageous.

The Marine Patrol Unit/Underwater Recovery Team provides enhanced patrols throughout the year along 84 miles of coastline and 22 miles of beaches. Additionally, “Boating Under the Influence” details are conducted during every other month and five major holidays that draw thousands of pleasure boaters to multiple anchorages throughout the County. The Marine Patrol Unit is also responsible for patrolling the Port of the Miami River. Annually, the Underwater Recovery Team conducts more than 400 dives throughout the inland and coastal waterways of the County that include the recovery of vehicles and deceased persons, evidentiary searches, and port security and training dives.

The Motorcycle Unit/Breath Alcohol Testing Squad/Impaired Driving Enforcement Squad’s efforts are often focused on specific targets such as traffic crash reduction, “Driving Under the Influence” (DUI) apprehension, and school zone enforcement. This Unit also conducted several traffic initiatives in an attempt to reduce traffic crashes, which include DUI checkpoints, Click It or Ticket Campaigns, and educational presentations. The Unit received the 2016 Mothers Against Drunk Driving Award for Recognition of Excellence in the apprehension of drunk and drugged drivers along with individual top awards for the officers. Recently, every Impaired Driving Enforcement Squad officer attained a Drug Recognition Expert certification and certain officers became DUI and Drug Recognition Expert instructors for the state of Florida.

The Police Operations Section provides police coverage for many of MDC’s high-profile locations including the Stephen P. Clark Government Center, Jackson Memorial Hospital, and the Miami-Dade Transit Authority Metrorail/Metromover System. Additionally, uniform patrol and general investigative services are provided to many recreational, natural, and cultural venues such as the Main Library and Cultural Center; the Rickenbacker Toll and Causeway; the unincorporated beaches and roadways on Key Biscayne; the Miami Seaquarium and Crandon Park facilities; Bill Baggs State Park; Fisher Island; Vizcaya Museum and Gardens; Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts; and Marlins Park.

Tactical Operations Section consists of the Special Response Team/Dignitary Protection, Mobile Field Force/Response to Gunfire, Canine, Bomb Disposal/Chemical Agents Coordinator, and the Incident Management Team/Rapid Deployment Force/Logistics Units. Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, this Section has been greatly involved in preparations regarding a regional response to terrorist activities throughout the Tri-County area (Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties).
The Special Response Team/Dignitary Protection Unit serves high-risk search warrants, responds to armed-barricaded subject calls, hostage rescues, airplane hijackings, felony-armed subject searches, high-risk security details, and dignitary escorts.

The Canine Unit consists of 17 dual-certified canine teams and 2 bloodhounds for locating missing persons. Of the canine teams, 15 are cross trained for explosive detection and 2 are cross trained to detect human remains. During a typical year, the Unit conducts more than 420 criminal searches, which yields hundreds of apprehensions; and performs more than 150 explosive detection sweeps and searches for numerous missing persons and cadavers.

The Bomb Disposal Unit responds to all suspect explosive devices and radiological/biological incidents throughout the County. Unit personnel respond to render bombs and improvised explosive devices safe, recover and dispose of explosives and pyrotechnics, process bomb scenes, collect evidence, assist in protection details, in addition to coordinate research, development, training, and application of the Section’s explosive breaching programs.

The Incident Management Team/Rapid Deployment Force/Logistics Unit is a multi-agency response entity that responds to spontaneous critical incidents, civil disturbances, and regional requests for assistance. The Unit assists in the planning and coordination of the Department’s overall operational response to major critical incidents ranging from complex shootings to acts of terrorism. They also provide logistical support during large-scale incidents by implementing a command post and sophisticated operational equipment.

The MDPD Honor Guard represents the Department by showing respect, gratitude, pride, and integrity through formal presentations to the Miami-Dade community and national law enforcement community. The Honor Guard also works with honor guards from local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to provide unified dedication presentations. The MDPD Honor Guard provides a wide array of services including funeral honors for fallen comrades; serves as the “guardians of colors” by escorting the national flag for ceremonial occasions at nationwide official functions; participates in local and national Police Memorial Ceremonies; and appears in other local events such as sporting events and public ceremonies.

The POS utilizes bicycles, all-terrain and four wheel drive vehicles, and personal watercraft to help access the District’s unique geographic territory.
Seaport Operations Bureau

The PortMiami, commonly referred to as the “Cruise Capital of the World,” is the world’s leading port. In terms of trade and commerce, it is recognized as a “global gateway.” During a typical year, PortMiami processes nearly 4.9 million multi-day passengers – more than any port in the world. It is also MDC’s second most important economic engine, contributing $28 billion annually to the local economy and supporting more than 207,000 jobs in south Florida. PortMiami stands as the U.S. container port closest to the Panama Canal, providing shippers fast access to Florida’s booming local consumer base and the entire U.S. market.

The Seaport Operations Bureau serves as the command and control authority for police services provided to PortMiami. The Bureau provides 24-hour directed uniformed patrol functions, security, and traffic crash and criminal investigations. In addition to traditional police services, the Seaport Operations Bureau maintains a number of specialized enhancements and equipment to further the law enforcement mission at PortMiami. All Seaport officers are continually trained in critical incident response tactics to immediately respond to any threat, terrorist activity, or criminal event that may occur at PortMiami. Seaport officers maintain highly visible proactive patrols in all areas of PortMiami including terminals, curbside, parking garages, bridges, tunnel, cargo yard, and surrounding areas. These operations deter potential terror groups or criminals, thus providing a hardened target image.

The Harbor Patrol Unit often renders assistance and works closely with other agencies including the United States Coast Guard, United States Customs and Border Protection, and local municipalities.

In addition to a GIU and a Training Unit, the Auto Theft Task Force has a full-time detective assigned at the Port to investigate all auto thefts and vehicle burglaries within PortMiami, as well as investigating all cases related to the exportation of stolen vehicles through the Port and the Miami River.

The Bureau’s Canine Unit has four Explosives Ordinance Detection canines that service the Port. This provision includes response to all unattended vehicles and luggage to perform sweeps which determine if the items are safe to travel.

The Bureau’s Harbor Patrol Unit enforces the maritime laws in the inland waterways and shipping channels surrounding PortMiami.
Hammocks District

Hammocks District personnel take a proactive approach to the most current crime and traffic concerns to accomplish the following goals: reduce crime by suppressing criminal activity and arresting violators; decrease traffic offenses and crashes through education and enforcement; enforce truancy and curfew laws to address juvenile offenders; and enhance police/community relations by providing high levels of service in response to community concerns.

District personnel consistently strive to reduce crime and provide enhanced service through innovative programs such as the Citizen Advisory Committee, Neighborhood Crime Watch, Police Explorer Program, and the NRU. The Priority Services Unit conducts zero-tolerance enforcement in high-crime areas while responding to service calls regarding burglar alarms, suspicious persons, and unknown vehicles, many of which are indicators of criminal activity. In addition to high visibility enforcement efforts, the District also yields a plainclothes enforcement and investigative operation. The Gang Unit, within the GIU, identifies and monitors habitual burglars and gang members.

In order to develop greater accessibility and communication between police and citizens, the NRU participates in numerous community events such as the Publix Supermarket’s “DNA Coloring Book Giveaway,” the South Miami Heights Community Winn Dixie Supermarket’s “Meet and Greet,” and the South Miami Heights Community Outreach “Halloween Fest” for kids, where District personnel conduct child fingerprinting as a public service to the community.

The Hammocks District’s Agricultural Patrol Section provides specialized police services to the south Miami-Dade County agricultural community which contributes more than $1 billion to the local economy each year. Section personnel investigate crimes involving commercial burglaries in farms, nurseries, and packing houses; thefts of livestock and exotic animals; and animal cruelty. The Section employs a combination of community-based policing, investigative techniques, high-profile patrol methods, and specialized vehicles to fulfill the law enforcement needs of the community.

Kendall District

The Kendall District’s is NRU is a community-oriented policing unit which serves the residents of the community by providing a wide array of services. In order to develop positive interaction between police and citizens, the NRU participates in numerous community events such as Publix Supermarket’s “Kids Fest,” Sports Day, Halloween Pumpkin Patrol,
Operation Identification, Juvenile Curfew Program, The Falls Parade, Thanksgiving Day Turkey Giveaway, Students Against Destructive Decisions, Students Together Against Negative Decisions, and the Christmas Toy Drive with Santa Claus.

NRU facilitates quarterly meetings for more than 100 crime watch groups. The Mobile Operations Center is utilized to target specific areas of concern and educate the public by distributing crime prevention pamphlets and addressing their concerns. NRU works hand in hand with governmental resources and handles quality of life issues such as unsafe structures, nuisance and abatement, exterior property maintenance, and illegal dumping matters. NRU personnel also conduct the Major’s Night Out which promotes community partnerships and improves quality of life for local residents. The NRU orchestrates Sports Day at Tropical Park where 240 students participate in several activities including basketball, kickball, and track and field. The day is filled with activities that promoted positive relations between police and youth.

The GIU addresses the growing task of providing a variety of investigative services within the Kendall District. GIU detectives routinely process crime scenes for the collection of evidence, including retrieval of video evidence. Additionally, detectives conduct proactive patrol duties and initiate operations such as undercover details in response to current crime trends. These initiatives have a positive impact in critical areas by apprehending wanted felons and preventing crimes.

**Midwest District**

Midwest District emphasizes service to the community by implementing programs and strategies that focus on combating crime. Through effective proactive enforcement activities, and a zero tolerance approach toward criminals, the District realized a significant reduction in targeted crimes. Furthermore, District personnel positively reduced the number of residential and commercial burglaries with the implementation of new technologies along with the combined efforts of the Residential Burglary Investigations and the Commercial and Theft Squads.

District personnel conduct several public awareness and crime
prevention conferences throughout the year. The meetings are conducted in an effort to strengthen relationships between the community and the Department, educate the local citizens, and raise overall awareness. The meetings are free of charge and include crime prevention demonstrations, security surveys, and safety presentations. Additionally, informative brochures are provided on a variety of topics such as elderly and domestic violence abuse, and identity theft. District Crime Watch groups and the Citizen Advisory Committee provide further citizen education and awareness which promotes greater interaction between the community and the Department.

Community partnerships with activities hosted by the Midwest District such as donation drives have provided food and goods to citizens in need throughout the community. Through the combined efforts of local businesses, schools, and citizens, more than 800 food baskets, toys, and other goods are provided to numerous families during the holiday season each year.

South District

South District personnel are committed to improving the quality of life for its citizens by addressing crime issues and implementing initiatives that strengthen the bond between law enforcement and the community. Annually, more than 50 such initiatives are conducted in various high-crime areas and schools throughout the District. Officers serve as mentors for at-risk teens and conduct door-to-door interaction with resident families to build positive relationships between the citizens and police.

The District’s innovations also include Project RENEW (Resident Empowering Neighborhood Enforcement Walks) which disseminates community service information directly to the neighborhoods most in need. It also empowers a cooperative effort between District personnel and the Naranja Lakes Community Redevelopment Agency that serves as a community-oriented police and problem solving initiative, and provides specialized proactive enforcement to the service area. Additionally, NRU officers conduct and participate in parades, festivals, holiday food and toy drives, and an open house, which supplies more than 1,600 children and families with school supplies and child identification materials.

The MDPD YOU program is part of community enhancement where officers assist schools with their “At Risk” youth.
Departmental Services

Departmental Services is responsible for the administration and operation of services concerning communications, records organization and dispensation, and personnel management. Departmental Services oversees training for law enforcement personnel and operations related to departmental policies and procedures; strategic planning and research; municipal and police services functions including non-financial incorporation related functions; and organizational information management.

The Departmental Services Assistant Director oversees the Support Services Division, which provides essential police and civilian training, personnel and human resources administration, comprehensive records management, radio and emergency communications services, technical support to operational entities, conducting research, and special projects of Countywide and departmental interest.

Miami-Dade Public Safety Training Institute

The mission of the Miami-Dade Public Safety Training Institute (MDPSTI) is to maintain the highest standards in professional law enforcement and to meet the training needs of local, state, and federal public safety employees. Based on unified training initiatives, the Institute houses staff from three partner agencies: Miami-Dade Police Department, Miami-Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

MDPSTI training includes the basic education required for new police officers, correctional officers, and public service aides; highly-specialized courses for the many advanced skills necessary in major law enforcement agencies; scientific and technical training to augment critical support functions; and professional development training to enhance the growth and effectiveness of all law enforcement personnel.

MDPSTI serves as the primary training facility for this region and provides specialized training of such high quality that attendees travel from all over the world to attend courses presented by the Department’s expert instructors.

MDPSTI is a Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission regional training center. It provides quality training for local, state, and federal law enforcement officers in addition to other law enforcement and criminal justice professionals worldwide.

The Institute is also the certifying agency for both Miami-Dade Police and Miami-Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation Departments’ academies. MDPSTI maintains the maximum professional training criteria to meet all the requirements of local, state, and federal public safety employees.
Departmental Services

Personnel Management Bureau

The Personnel Management Bureau administers personnel related policies and procedures for the Department. The Bureau is comprised of the Employee Relations, Selection and Administrative, and Departmental Discipline Coordination Sections. The Employee Relations Section is comprised of the Payroll, Records, Employment, and Benefits Units. Together these entities manage the auditing and submission of the payroll; oversee all departmental records retention, destruction, and release of information; administer County and state benefits, and ensure that proper hiring and employment processing procedures are followed. Additionally, the Employee Relations Section administers Equal Opportunity programs; Americans with Disabilities Act and Family Medical Leave Act policies; and the promotional process for more than 4,600 sworn and civilian employees.

The Selection and Administrative Section is responsible for coordinating background investigations on all prospective personnel and managing applicants to fill departmental position vacancies. Additionally, the Section is charged with the Bureau’s administrative support functions and for the dissemination of information regarding law enforcement positions throughout MDC. Employment opportunities are publicized through printed media and advertisements, distribution of brochures and pamphlets, and personal contact with various community groups. Furthermore, the Section maintains the Department’s identification cards system, which helps to ensure the accountability and integrity for employee access to County and departmental facilities. Typically, the Section processes hundreds of police officer and civilian applicants’ background investigations each year.

The Departmental Discipline Coordination Section is responsible for providing liaison with other County and departmental entities involved in the disciplinary and grievance process, including but not limited to, the MDC Attorney’s Office, Internal Services Department, and the collective bargaining unions. The Section coordinates all Department discipline by consulting with command level personnel to discuss appropriate levels of discipline to be imposed on employees and providing guidance regarding rules, orders, directives, and procedures involving the disciplinary and grievance process. This Section also oversees the Discipline, Appeals, and Grievance System, which is utilized to manage all discipline and grievances processed by the Department.
Central Records Bureau

The Central Records Bureau (CRB) serves as the official repository for all MDPD case reports; maintains Countywide arrest affidavits; provides criminal history and background information; and processes judicial requests. It is also responsible for data entry of stolen property and warrant information into the local and national criminal justice computer databases.

Bureau operations include liaison with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Additionally, CRB is responsible for departmental records management liaison with the MDC Clerk’s Office regarding public document retention and disposition schedules. Through a mutual agreement between the Miami-Dade Police and the Miami-Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation Departments, all subjects arrested are booked and fingerprinted in the MDC Jail. Following positive identification, CRB personnel process all subject affidavits and documentation. This procedure ensures that all subjects are positively identified before they are released.

CRB utilizes the Electronic Document Management System that delivers greater efficiency in record maintenance, storage, retrieval, and distribution of documents. The Electronic Document Management System also provides instant document sharing and transmission capabilities through the Internet and other methods of electronic communication. Encryption and security measures are featured to control use of various system functions, user authentication, and access control. This state-of-the-art system improves the quality of service provided to the general public, departmental entities, and law enforcement agencies. Implementation of the System also represents a tremendous savings of personnel resources, administrative expenses, and storage media.
Communications Bureau

Each year, Communications Bureau police complaint officers receive more than 2.4 million calls for assistance from citizens, and police dispatchers handle in excess of 54 million radio transmissions. MDPD’s 911 Center is the busiest in the southeastern United States and functions with state-of-the-art telecommunications systems.

Communications Bureau personnel moved into a new state-of-the-art facility that serves as the Public Safety Answering Point for Miami-Dade County. This geographically separated infrastructure minimizes the possibility of an overall system failure which would include loss of critical communications between citizens and emergency services. The Bureau is comprised of people who are dedicated to the quality of life of all MDC citizens and visitors. Personnel respond to emergency and non-emergency situations with accuracy, professionalism, and empathy to provide the vital link between citizens who require assistance and public safety personnel.

Communications Bureau personnel also conduct medical screenings to assess the needs of injured or ill persons with standardized questioning using the Medical Priority Dispatch System protocols to determine the response configurations and models, and to provide post-dispatch and pre-arrival instructions to callers. The instruction provides assistance to citizens in the gap period prior to the arrival of emergency services personnel.

Additionally, the Communications Bureau oversees the Department’s radio system logistics, facilitates the completion of police reports by telephone, and also provides public records requests relating to radio 911 telephone and Computer Aided Dispatch data. The Bureau is comprised of people dedicated to preserving the quality of life of all citizens and visitors to MDC. Personnel respond to emergency and non-emergency situations with accuracy, professionalism, and empathy to provide the vital link between citizens who require assistance and public safety personnel. In conjunction with Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department, personnel conduct medical screening to assess the needs of injured or ill persons with standardized questioning using the Medical Priority Dispatch System protocols, to determine the response configurations and modes, and to provide post-dispatch and pre-arrival instructions to callers. The instruction provides assistance to citizens in the gap period prior to the arrival of emergency services personnel.
Strategic Planning and Development Section

The Strategic Planning and Development Section has wide-ranging responsibilities in strategic planning and the implementation of strategic plans for the Department. The Section has the primary responsibility for conducting research, managing special projects, and providing comprehensive assistance to municipal governments, other County departments, and departmental elements.

The Section serves as a departmental research body and resource to assist with the development and implementation of best practices. The Section strives to improve the Department’s management of police contract services with municipalities and provides a variety of support activities such as the Department’s Active Strategy Enterprise and Scoreboard. The Section also provides strategic support for incorporation and annexation efforts, Developmental Impact Committee and zoning issues, and explores significant grant opportunities to enhance police services to the community.

Strategic Planning and Development Section personnel discuss the impact of the future incorporations and a new mega-mall and entertainment center on MDPD’s resources.
Investigative Services

Investigative Services performs centralized investigations for specific crimes that require highly specialized investigative skills, training, and equipment. Investigative Services is responsible for major investigations and the investigative support functions for the Department.

The Investigative Services Assistant Director oversees the Criminal Investigations Division, which is comprised of the Forensic Services, Homicide, Robbery, and Special Victims Bureaus, and the Property and Evidence and Crime Scene Investigative Support Sections; and the Special Investigations Division, which consists of the Economic Crimes, Narcotics, Court Services, Warrants, Homeland Security, and Information Technology Services Bureaus.

Forensic Services Bureau

The criminal justice system has entrusted forensic laboratories to examine evidence, perform analyses, and give expert testimony in courts of law. The forensic community must be certain that the analyses performed are valid and conform to accepted scientific standards.

The Forensic Services Bureau’s Crime Laboratory serves MDC’s 2.7 million citizens and all 35 municipalities as the only crime laboratory in the County. The Crime Laboratory is comprised of the Analytical, Forensic Identification, and Forensic Biology Sections.

The Analytical Section evaluates drugs of various types and trace evidence. The primary objective of the drug analyst is to conclusively identify any drug substance in a sample submitted as evidence. The Drug Analysis Unit analyzed more than 6,000 cases in the most recent year with many of those analyses containing multiple pieces of evidence. Additionally, the Unit is responsible for developing methods to identify emerging drugs such as “synthetic cannabinoids” and “bath salts” which were recently banned by Florida law.

The Trace Evidence Unit is responsible for the examination, analysis, and comparison of evidence that occurs when different objects come into contact with one another and cause a transfer of minute amounts of material during the commission of a crime. Examples of trace evidence in criminal cases include hair, cosmetics, fibers, glass, paint chips, gunshot residue, and ignitable liquids present in fire debris. Scientific analysis of trace evidence from a crime scene, or directly from a suspect, can show a recent association between the individual and the crime scene or victim.

The Forensic Identification Section is comprised of three elements. The Central Evidence Reception Facility is responsible for the intake, tracking, and safekeeping of evidence received by the Laboratory.
The Firearms Testing Unit is responsible for the test firing and computer entry of all routine auto-loading firearms impounded by MDPD, and other municipalities, into the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN). The Firearm and Toolmark Unit analyzes various firearms and ballistic evidence in order to identify which firearms were involved in a shooting. In addition, the Unit performs serial number restorations, shooting distance determinations, toolmark analysis, and shoe and tire track impression analysis. The Unit also houses a reference collection with more than 3,000 weapons.

The Forensic Identification Section also participates in NIBIN, which is a computer imaging database that allows the firearm and toolmark examiner to link cases. Every auto-loading firearm confiscated in MDC is test fired and searched against all of the images in the NIBIN system. In a typical year, more than 600 cases are linked as a result of NIBIN matches, and each of these cases represents a connection to a criminal act where no clue to a connection existed prior to MDPD’s Crime Laboratory analysis. To date, more than 3,250 hits have been made in NIBIN, linking same gun evidence across cases and jurisdictions.

The Forensic Biology Section screens evidence associated with various types of criminal investigations collected from crime scenes for potential biological material. Criminalists in this Section identify the type of biological material present and conduct Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) analysis where appropriate. More than 2,200 homicide, sexual assault, robbery and property crime cases are processed by the Section each year in addition to cold case violent crimes.

The Department’s Crime Laboratory has a proud tradition as a pioneer in the implementation of DNA technology into the criminal justice system of the United States. Since the inception of the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), the Section has made 7,220 DNA matches, making the Section a national model for success. CODIS compares DNA profiles obtained from crime scene evidence to DNA profiles obtained from known individuals (i.e. suspects, convicted offenders, and arrestees) to determine if a DNA profile is associated with an individual and/or linked to another crime. Notable success has been obtained from property crime testing that has led to perpetrator identification in approximately 30 percent of the unsolved cases searched in CODIS.

The Fingerprint Identification Section is responsible for the criminal and civil identification of individuals through fingerprint and palm print identification services. The Section maintains and manages fingerprint records for all subjects arrested in MDC, all County employment applicants, known and unknown deceased persons, and criminal registrants. Additionally, the Section processes fingerprint and palm print evidence collected at crime scenes.
During the most recent 12-month period, the Master File Unit processed 66,890 adults and 4,484 juvenile local jail bookings. The fingerprint database currently consists of 1,847,223 ten-print incident records, 1,058,240 palm print incident records, and 287,453 unsolved latent ten-print and palm print records.

In that same period, the Latent Unit received a total of 3,032 criminal cases. In excess of 750 hits were made in criminal cases, and a total of 890 criminal subjects were identified by the Unit. This includes 65 homicides, 4 sexual batteries, 139 robberies, 384 burglaries, 22 auto thefts, 19 assaults, 23 narcotics cases, and 98 general investigation cases.

**Property and Evidence Section**

In addition to unincorporated MDC, the Property and Evidence Section (PES) provides services to the Town of Cutler Bay, the Village of Palmetto Bay, the Town of Miami Lakes, the city of Doral, the Miami-Dade County Fire Rescue Department, the Florida Highway Patrol, and the Florida Marine Patrol. PES is committed to the safe and accurate care, custody, and control of all property and evidence. The PES routinely conducts disposal details in order to create needed space for storage of newly impounded property and evidence.

The Disposition Unit is responsible for researching and facilitating the return of found property to the rightful owner(s); retention of property for investigations or forfeitures; and the destruction, donation, or conversion of property to various entities.

The Vehicle Research Unit is responsible for the storage of towed or impounded vehicles, boats, trailers, and aircrafts. The PES maintains an indoor storage area and an outdoor storage facility for these large items. The Vehicle Research Unit enforces the Police Towing Contract which governs police towing and ensures required provisions are met and maintained by each contractor.

The PES received and processed 332,837 items during a 12-month period, which included 4,057 firearms, and 25,843 narcotic substances and paraphernalia. During the same time period, 2,556 firearms and 33,532 pounds of narcotics were destroyed. Additionally, the Vehicle Research Unit impounded and examined 13,000 vehicles.

PES personnel impound, process, and monitor thousands of items each year.
Crime Scene Investigative Support Section

The Crime Scene Investigative Support Section is comprised of four units: Body-Worn Camera, Crime Scene Investigations, Digital Forensics, and Forensic Imaging.

The Body-Worn Camera Unit (BWCU) is responsible for the management, deployment, assignment, and maintenance of the Department’s Body-Worn Camera Project. The BWCU generates reports to appropriate Command Staff to ensure compliance with established procedures and to maintain the integrity of the project. Additionally, the BWCU complies with public records requests received from the general public, State Attorney’s Office, Public Defender’s Office, and private attorneys according to established state of Florida records retention laws. The BWCU personnel are also available to assist detectives with their requests for videos of evidentiary value.

The five squads in the Crime Scene Investigations Unit are responsible for the detection, collection, preservation, and transportation of potential evidence from crime scenes. One example of diligent crime scene processing was the documentation of a homicide case that received national attention where the subject posted a photograph of his victim on Facebook. The subject was ultimately convicted and sentenced to life in prison due to the methodical crime scene documentation and effective courtroom testimony provided by Section personnel.

The Digital Forensics Unit provides a variety of digital forensic laboratory and crime scene support services to the MDPD, and greater municipal, state, and federal law enforcement agencies of MDC.

The Forensic Imaging Unit provides a full array of photographic services, including mugshot retrieval, photo finishing, digital imaging and enhancement, and forensic art services. The Unit’s forensic artist assists in the identification of unknown subjects, witnesses, and victims involved in criminal investigations. The Forensic Artist also makes submissions to the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System, a national centralized repository and resource center for unidentified remains and missing person’s records.
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Homicide Bureau

The Homicide Bureau is responsible for conducting thorough and objective investigations of all deaths that occur in unincorporated MDC and 28 municipalities. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) is responsible for investigating in-custody deaths involving MDPD personnel. A team approach is used in all homicide investigations. Each squad is led by a sergeant, and consists of a lead investigator and additional investigators who are assigned to one specific aspect of the investigation. This team approach ensures meticulous attention to detail and rapid development and investigation of leads during the critical first hours of the investigation. Witnesses, potential suspects, and evidence are quickly identified and categorized, which enables the investigation to proceed on several fronts simultaneously.

The Bureau also includes three specialized squads: The Traffic Homicide Unit investigates all fatal and critical-injury motor vehicle crashes and hit and run crashes involving life threatening injuries and fatalities. The Cold Case Squad probes into unsolved murder cases regardless of how long ago the murder occurred. The Homicide Street Violence Task Force’s (HSVTF) mission is to reduce violent crimes by employing a comprehensive strategic approach to identifying, arresting, and prosecuting violent criminals. The HSVTF has forged communication links between various MDPD units and all local, state, and federal agencies. As a result of the Community Outreach component of the HSVTF, trust and cooperation has been improved within our diverse community. As a direct conduit to the community, HSVTF detectives have been successful in locating homicide and shooting witnesses to come forward and assist with the investigation and prosecution of the case.

Robbery Bureau

The Robbery Bureau investigates robbery offenses in unincorporated MDC and contracted municipal jurisdictions. Aside from the robbery investigators, the Bureau is composed of three additional proactive entities: The Robbery Intervention Detail, the Robbery Clearinghouse, and the Street Terror Offender Program.

The Robbery Intervention Detail is an analytically-driven, comprehensive suppression unit that conducts proactive and covert operations in areas identified as “hot spots” for robberies and other violent crimes. The Street Terror Offender Program is a multi-agency task force focusing on violent home invasion robbery groups with ties to firearms and narcotics.
The task force is staffed by MDPD, the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and FDLE. The Robbery Clearinghouse feeds analytical information to the proactive units so that the appropriate crime fighting measures are implemented. The Clearinghouse is also the hub for robbery analysis in MDC and disseminates wanted subject bulletins, crime information, and other analytical data.

Since the inception of these proactive measures, MDC has benefitted from a steady decrease in robbery cases. Robbery cases have fallen by ten percent, and the successful closure rate for follow-up investigations has improved to significantly above the national average. In the most recent year, the Robbery Bureau had a total of 3,353 arrests, and seized 786 firearms, making our community a safer place to live.

Special Victims Bureau

The Special Victims Bureau (SVB) is divided into two major units: the Domestic Crimes Investigations Unit and the Sexual Crimes Investigations Unit. Domestic Crimes Investigations Unit investigators conduct follow-up criminal investigations involving crimes of domestic violence. The SVB uses victim advocates to work with domestic violence victims on each case to provide much needed social services, intervention, and treatment, and offer preventative alternatives for these crimes.

The Domestic Crimes Investigations Unit is comprised of Domestic Crimes, Vulnerable Victims, and Missing Persons Squads. The Vulnerable Victims Unit investigators work collaboratively with protective agencies and investigate crimes involving children and the elderly. Vulnerable Victim investigators immediately respond and investigate serious allegations of child abuse or child neglect. This ensures that all allegations of criminal misconduct of this type are addressed in a proper and timely manner to protect children and the elderly from further abuse.

The Missing Persons Squad investigators investigate all cases of adult and juvenile missing persons. Investigators utilize the LoJack/SafetyNet system, which allows them to implement an electronic search and rescue system to locate missing persons. This system reduces the time expended in recovering individuals missing due to dementia and other cognitive conditions, and increases the likelihood that missing persons are safely recovered.

The Sexual Crimes Investigations Unit investigates all sexual battery, lewd and lascivious assaults involving juvenile victims, Internet child pornography,
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sexual crime-related cases, and sexual predator enforcement.

The SVB Clearinghouse serves as the central repository for information regarding sexual crimes. Clearinghouse databases and intelligence information are utilized by multiple agencies throughout MDC and are extremely valuable tools for SVB investigators. Additionally, the SVB Clearinghouse, Sexual Predator Research and Registration performs many functions mandated by local, state, and federal laws. These functions include the registration of sexual predators and offenders; initiating community notifications when a sexual predator moves within a one-mile radius of any school or daycare facility in the unincorporated areas; conducting address verifications designated by FDLE; and the enforcement of all laws regarding sexual predator and offender registration and residency requirements.

Investigators utilize proactive approaches to deter sexual assaults. These initiatives include disclosing the presence of sexual predators on Internet networking sites frequented by children and teens, educating the community through public presentations, partnering with local community-based organizations that provide services to victims of sexual crimes, and proactively reviewing cold cases for additional clues.

As part of a National Institute of Justice grant initiative awarded to the Sexual Crimes Investigations Unit, detectives have been reviewing unsolved sexual battery cases dating back to the 1970s, looking specifically to identify evidence to submit for DNA analysis. As a result of this initiative, numerous cold cases have been closed, bringing those who committed the crimes to justice.

Economic Crimes Bureau

The Economic Crimes Bureau investigates crimes that inflict serious financial loss on the community through sophisticated theft or major destruction of property. One of today’s most pervasive crimes is Identity Theft. Because of Miami’s position as an important international gateway, this area is a particularly attractive target for international fraud groups. The Bureau is divided into two major sections in order to combat the growing number of these fraudulent crimes.

The Special Investigations Section investigates various large-scale financial crimes including bank fraud, credit card fraud, embezzlement, medical/pharmaceutical frauds, identity theft, money laundering, mortgage fraud, squatters, condo/homeowner’s association fraud, title fraud, and the unlicensed practice of a profession. Detectives in this Section have formed collaborative relationships with private sector financial institutions and worked jointly with the U.S. Secret Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Department of Homeland Security, and many other federal, state, and local law enforcement partners. This Section also includes the Arson Squad, which is responsible
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for the investigations of suspicious fires for the purpose of insurance fraud. This squad also meticulously investigates fires that result in serious injury or death.

The Organized Crime Section investigates and prosecutes a wide variety of cases which involve investigating the traditional organized crime activities such as racketeering, illegal lotteries, bookmaking, money laundering, illegal bingo, organized prostitution, human trafficking, and juvenile prostitution. This Section is charged with enforcing state laws relating to a wide range of organized criminal activity, and to gather, analyze, maintain, disseminate, and monitor investigative information on organized crime groups for local law enforcement agencies.

Narcotics Bureau

The Narcotics Bureau conducts criminal investigations of all offenses related to illegal narcotics and dangerous drugs, and those associated with money laundering. Narcotics investigations are conducted on three levels: interdiction; major investigations, including manufacturing; and street-level sales. The Bureau is also charged with the responsibility of investigating narcotics-related kidnappings.

The Bureau houses the Canine Detection Unit, which is comprised of narcotics, currency, and firearm detection canines. The Unit assists all entities within the Department, along with local and federal agencies.

With the assistance of the Narcotics Bureau’s Canine Detection Unit, Bureau detectives seized more than $25,000,000 in U.S. currency in a six-month period.

Narcotics Bureau detectives seized more than $7 million in U.S. currency and cocaine in collaboration with MDPD’s federal law enforcement partnerships.

Economic Crimes Bureau detectives seize evidence in an illegal plastic recycling warehouse which resulted in solving a multi-million dollar case.
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The Bureau continues to partner with state and federal task forces in major joint investigations. These cooperative ventures have resulted in the seizure of narcotics, large quantities of cash, and the systematic dismantling of major drug trafficking organizations.

The Bureau is also charged with locating, investigating, and dismantling marijuana hydroponic laboratories. These laboratories destroy homes, and are highly combustible due to the many chemicals used for their operation.

**Court Services Bureau**

The Court Services Bureau is responsible for the safety of judicial personnel and providing security for the courtrooms and judicial proceedings at ten courthouses throughout MDC. The Bureau also functions as a liaison with other government entities tasked with court-related responsibilities and is mandated by state statute to serve civil process and perform associated activities within the county. Additionally, the Bureau has the responsibility for the processing of subpoenas and other court-related documents for all police agencies in the County.

The Bureau is responsible for the e-Notify program, which streamlines the subpoena and court notification process to deliver and document subpoenas. It allows for the calculation of court-related overtime expenses and will enhance communication efficiency in the criminal justice system.

The Bureau comprises the Enforceable Writs and Non-Enforceable Writs Sections. The Enforceable Writs Section is responsible for the service and execution of enforceable civil process issued by the MDC courts, the state of Florida, and courts from other states. Typically, the Unit serves in excess of 14,000 Writs of Possession, 751 Writs of Execution, and 14,000 Domestic Violence Injunctions in a 12-month period. Additionally, the Cost Recovery Program nets more than $209,000 which is utilized to reimburse previously incurred overtime and investigative expenses.

The Non-Enforceable Writs Section receives, processes and posts 24-hour notices regarding Writs of Possession. They also serve non-enforceable civil and criminal processes and locate respondents for various court purposes. Annually, this Unit handles more than 35,000 civil and 328,000 criminal processes.
Investigative Services

Warrants Bureau

The Warrants Bureau is comprised of four Felony Apprehension Squads, the Career Criminal Squad, Headquarters Security, and the Extradition/Administrative Unit. The Warrants Bureau is responsible for serving felony warrants issued by the local criminal justice system and all jurisdictions nationwide. Annually, Bureau personnel receive an average of 12,000 warrants, make more than 1,700 arrests, and close more than 4,400 warrants.

The Felony Apprehension Squads’ primary responsibilities are to locate and apprehend individuals with outstanding felony warrants. Additional duties include the service of writs of bodily attachment, ex-parte orders, juvenile pick-up orders, grand jury indictments, and penal warrants. Squad members also assist in returning wanted subjects from other jurisdictions to Miami for judicial proceedings. The Career Criminal Unit is responsible for serving felony warrants on all career criminals and for enforcing Florida’s Career Offender Verification Act. The Unit ensures that career offenders are registered and annually verify their address. Currently, there are 1,497 career offenders registered in our County.

The Headquarters Security Unit is responsible for the security of the Fred Taylor Headquarters Complex. These duties include the control of all visitors to the Complex, monitoring security cameras, security barrier gates, and all entry accesses.

The Extradition/Administrative Unit tracks and coordinates the arrest and return of felony subjects from around the world who are wanted in MDC. This Unit makes approximately 170 extradition trips per year, and assists with returning fugitives with felony warrants to other jurisdictions.

Homeland Security Bureau

The Homeland Security Bureau (HSB) works with regional and national partners to keep our community safe from international and domestic terrorism. The Bureau is housed in a state-of-the-art facility, which creates a secure environment necessary to exchange and access critical classified information with federal agencies, and to conduct sensitive operations concerning national security. This efficiency enables the Department to respond to threat information in an expeditious manner while enhancing its investigations and vulnerability assessments.

The HSB is one of 78 national fusion centers, known as the Southeast Florida Fusion Center. The Center ensures the effective dissemination of intelligence across the region to a multi-jurisdiction and multi-discipline
The Center enjoys trusted relationships with federal, state, local, tribal, and private sector partners to enhance the ability to secure the homeland, while protecting the privacy of the public.

In order to create safer and more secure communities, the HSB has placed a strong emphasis on educating public and private sector partners about the United States Department of Homeland Security’s nationwide initiative, “See Something, Say Something,” also known as i-Watch. The campaign encourages citizens to report suspicious activities and unusual behavior to law enforcement. HSB personnel have proactively conducted awareness campaigns at numerous venues throughout our community. Additionally, the new MDPD mobile application, “Community on Patrol,” contains the “See Something, Say Something” anonymous online citizen reporting system, allowing anyone to report information using the Internet site www.iwatchsouthflorida.com. As a result, Suspicious Activity Reports received by the HSB have doubled in the past year. Furthermore, reports such as these with a possible nexus to terrorism, have increased more than ten times.

Recently, the Southeast Regional Domestic Security Task Force was nationally recognized by the United States Department of Homeland Security as it successfully coordinated “Operation Heat Shield,” which was a complex, regional response to a full-scale exercise developing over a span of nearly 18 hours and across eight venues throughout MDC. More than two dozen agencies participated in the exercise. The premise revolved around a fictitious terrorist group wreaking havoc during the All-Star Baseball Game weekend. The exercise focused on evaluating regional agency emergency response procedures and testing regional agency coordination, response, and rescue efforts when faced with terrorist activities.

**Information Technology Services Bureau**

The Information Technology Services Bureau (ITSB) is recognized nationally as an innovative leader in delivering law enforcement technology solutions. ITSB works in conjunction with the Miami-Dade County’s Information Technology Department to deliver modern, innovative, and secure information technology solutions to support policing services and business operations for more than 4,000 MDPD employees, other law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, and ultimately the citizens and residents of the community we serve. Together, ITSB and Miami-Dade County’s Information Technology Department accommodate an annual average of 10,000 service calls for information technology hardware and Customer-
Off-The Shelf software support, and have received several awards for pioneering Smart Policing applications.

ITSB enhances and sustains mission-critical production systems which support ongoing operations of MDPD to include: Human Resource, Employee Profile, Event Scheduling, Quartermaster, Department Inventory, Invoice Tracking, Travel Request, Overtime Tracking, Mugshot, Rapid Identification, Discipline/Appeals/Grievance, Court Cost Recovery system, Property and Evidence Tracking, Laboratory Information Management, Vehicle Tracking, Equipment Tracking, Warrants Tracking & Validation, CopLogic, e-Crash, Medical Examiner, and Subpoena Tracking Systems; and the Departmental Policy and Procedure Manual.

ITSB manages the provision and maintenance of the enterprise technology infrastructure, which recently consolidated more than 80 percent of MDPD’s independent servers to a virtual server platform. The virtual server platform is a private cloud environment designed to holistically aggregate, manage, and provision pools of infrastructure resources including processors, servers, storage, and networks into flexible and dynamic computing environments.

ITSB in cooperation with Miami-Dade County’s Information Technology Department implemented several key applications that have contributed to streamlined operations and rapid access to view, analyze, trend, and report on crime activity. These applications are enabling improved predictive policing and more effective deployment of police services. Among the most notable applications is the CrimeView Community webpage: the webpage, http://crimemaps.miamidade.gov, enables the residents and visitors of MDC to view crime incidents, generate reports, and maps of crime locations quickly and easily using the Internet.

“Rapid-Identification” programing was implemented in collaboration with the FDLE. This application enhances and expedites the positive identification process of a person suspected of a crime or traffic violation. The identity and any associated crime record are discovered through a rapid search of various state and national systems.

“Electronic Offense/Incident Report” application is the deliverable, resulting from the action taken by an officer in response to a request for police services. All incident data is stored in a Crime Data Warehouse repository to document the action taken, to provide crime statistics, and to aid in crime prevention by more effectively planning officer deployments where they are most needed.

“Regional Law Enforcement Exchange” is a law enforcement information sharing system that is designed to assist agencies in solving crime and fighting terrorism through improved data sharing. This system is being created with the FDLE and will allow participating agencies to contribute and query data, principally records management, and jail management systems.
Investigative Services

Real-Time Crime Center

The Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC) is housed within the ITSB and provides a centralized hub in which to consolidate the Department’s intelligence resources and data. The RTCC originated as a grant-funded initiative and was established to support field officers, investigators, and outside agencies with “real-time” information by combining innovative technology with common policing strategies.

The main function of the RTCC is to rapidly extract information from multiple crime databases, video feeds, and public sources for all calls for service involving robberies, thefts, pursuits, shootings, kidnappings, abductions, fleeing subjects, critical incidents or any event in which prompt support from the RTCC would be beneficial to responding officers. The intelligence gathered can include “wanted” or felony information; arrest history; gang association; sovereign citizen information; resident and tax roll information; number of prior calls for service; additional similar incidents and known criminals in a specified area; and any available video feeds which will provide enhanced situational awareness. The information is then closely analyzed and disseminated to officers in the field as real-time information in order to enhance officer safety, identify patterns, and stop emerging crime. Since January 2016 to date, the RTCC has vetted more than 44,216 calls for service, and sent approximately 4,704 responses to officers in the field, greatly contributing to the MDPD’S crime fighting mission.

The RTCC monitors available video feeds in real-time, and as situations dictate, initiates appropriate responses to major events. To date, there are approximately 300 monitored cameras in MDC. However, this number is expected to expand to about 1,400 monitored cameras within a year’s time.

With the use of License Plate Reader (LPR) software, the RTCC receives alerts for felony vehicles entered on the FDLE Hot List. The vehicle information is verified accurate and “Be On the Look Out” information is distributed to officers through radio transmissions. Additionally, RTCC proactively enters felony and wanted vehicle information from calls for service into the LPR system. This triggers a notification to RTCC if the vehicle passes LPR cameras. The RTCC, in conjunction with Northside and South Districts, are working on a pilot project to expand the number of stationary LPR cameras in the County and situate them to work in concert with acoustic gunshot detection devices.

The RTCC also monitors and receives alerts for the Community on Patrol mobile application. This is a recently released collaboration tool designed for crime reduction and prevention. The application allows citizens to report crime or suspicious activity and contains helpful information. Additional features include live video streaming, group media sharing, and the ability to allow police to send interested citizens alerts, announcements,
and solicitations for tips in current cases. Alerts received through the Community on Patrol application are vetted and either forwarded to the appropriate entity or dispatched by radio transmission for immediate response.

Although it is relatively new, the RTCC is the foundation of a visionary plan which currently has several ongoing projects designed to implement the latest in advanced technology in order to combat crime and meet the challenges of modern policing.
In Remembrance

Each year, during the first week of May, the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony is held to honor all law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in Miami-Dade County. Since 1989, the Police Officer Assistance Trust has embraced the responsibility of constructing and maintaining a most dignified monument and surrounding garden which honors our fallen heroes.

The following words of a south Florida police officer best express the sentiment embodied by this police memorial:

Four silent sentinels, rising from the earth to meet three arches signifying the esteemed position of law enforcement officers in a free society governed by its people through local, state, and federal jurisdictions...a constant reminder that those in authority are also under authority. Four granite monoliths rising from the earth shouting in deafening silence the names inscribed upon their shiny, smooth faces. Flanked by their predecessors who have stood bearing silent testimony to the honor and integrity of the law enforcement officers both living and dead who have hallowed this ground.

Two lions, passive yet ever vigilant, signify the law enforcement officers authority to preserve the peace and to bring justice to those who break the law. These lions represent the four character qualities in law enforcement officers: Courage, Vigilance, Justice, and Mercy.

The Miami-Dade County law enforcement community shares the pain and sorrow of the families and friends of the officers who have died in the line of duty. We gather each year to pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. We take pride in their courage and devotion, and we vow that they shall never be forgotten.

Director Juan J. Perez makes a special presentation to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, honoring their fallen officer, during the Miami-Dade Police Memorial Ceremony.
Our Fallen Heroes Will Always Be Remembered

Rhett McGregor 1895
Gustav Kaiser 1895
Wilbur Hendrickson 1915
Allen Henderson 1916
William Z. Henderson 1916
Charles Williams 1916
Edward E. Fritz, Jr. 1953
Jerome R. Christman 1960
Earl Lee Johnson 1962
Carlos S. Stuteville 1964
Paul G. Anderson 1967
Johnny E. Mitchell 1971
Harrison Crenshaw 1974
Simmons Arrington 1974
Frank Searcy 1974
Clark H. Curlette 1976
Frank K. D’Azevedo 1976
Thomas A. Hodges, Jr. 1976
William C. Cook 1979
William F. Askew 1979
Edward R. Young 1981
Cheryl Weiner Seiden 1982
Stephen Corbett 1983
Robert L. Zore 1983
Richard A. Boles 1988
David Strzalkowski 1988
Jose T. Gonzalez 1989
Joseph P. Martin 1990
Thomas Leis 1990
Evelyn Gort 1993
Carmen Gonzalez 1993
Robert Vargas 1997
Richard Wentlandt 1997
Rueben I. Jones 1998
Roberto L. Calderon 1999
Randy Kugler 2000
Nirza Rodriguez 2003
Jose L. Somohano 2007
Giovanni Gonzalez 2009
Amanda Haworth 2011
Roger Castillo 2011
Dade County was established in 1836 and encompassed an area which now comprises Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Martin Counties. In the early years, the area was policed by as few as three deputies on horseback.

Dade’s county seat was moved from Juno to Miami in 1899 when the population of Miami was approximately 5,000. Prior to this time, Dade’s sheriffs were appointed by the Governor. From the turn of the century through 1966, the office of sheriff was an elected position.

By 1950, Dade County’s population had grown to 495,000, and the jurisdiction area had been reduced to approximately its present 2,139 square miles. The metropolitan form of government was approved in 1957, and the Dade County Sheriff’s Office was subsequently renamed the Public Safety Department (PSD).

In 1960, in addition to providing Countywide police services, responsibility was assumed for police operations at the Port of Miami and Miami International Airport. The Department had a complement of 623 sworn personnel that year. In 1966, with a Department comprised of approximately 850 sworn officers, a longstanding controversy over the selection/election procedure for choosing a county sheriff was resolved by voter mandate. Subsequently, sheriffs were appointed by the County Manager as “Director of the Public Safety Department and Sheriff of Metropolitan Dade County.”

PSD’s organizational structure as determined by the Metropolitan Charter included responsibility for fire protection, the jail and stockade, civil defense, animal control, and motor vehicle inspection, in addition to police functions. By 1973, however, the Department had been divested of ancillary responsibilities in order to concentrate entirely on police services. The Department’s sworn force consisted of approximately 1,200 employees.

During the 1970s, great strides were made toward professionalizing the Department through development of innovative community programs, standard operating procedures, rules and regulations, and departmental training programs. By July 1981, the Department was reorganized and renamed the Metro-Dade Police Department (MDPD). As the complexity of its challenges grew, the Department expanded its size and skills accordingly. This expansion was characterized by acquisition of the latest equipment, and by training and educational programs offered to its officers. Examples include Survival City, where officers are trained in physical surroundings that replicate an urban setting, and a master’s degree program in management presented by the University of Miami.

Keeping pace with the increase in population and subsequent service demands, construction of a new police headquarters complex began in 1986 and was completed in 1990. In its commitment to law enforcement excellence, the Department became fully accredited in 1993 by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Reassessment occurs every three years to ensure continued compliance.

In 1997, citizens voted to rename our county Miami-Dade County. Currently, 2,728 sworn officers and 1,491 civilians are employed by the Miami-Dade Police Department. As we enter the 21st century, the Department will continue to build partnerships and expand its resources to meet the needs of our ever changing community.
SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY and MAKE A DIFFERENCE
MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Miami-Dade County provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate on the basis of disability. “It is the policy of Miami-Dade to comply with all of the requirements of The Americans with Disabilities Act.”