



Palm Bay crime rate decreases for second year in a row according to FBI Uniform Crime Report

PALM BAY- The citizens of Palm Bay have experienced another year in a decreasing crime trend that has resulted in a 7.9% drop in 2016 and a 9% drop in crime in 2015; where many other communities are experiencing an increase in reported crimes. This is according to the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) published through the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports Program. In addition to the decrease for 2015 and 2016, Palm Bay has seen its overall crime rate drop over 23% since 2011.

"It is our belief that the decrease can be credited, in part, to the department's multifaceted approach to community policing and a robust crime analysis system," explained Acting Police Chief Jim Rogers. "This decrease is a direct reflection of the hard work and dedication of both our sworn and civilian staff."

In addition to a strong emphasis in building community relationships, the Palm Bay Police Department utilizes a number of innovative tactical teams and strategies to address and target crime trends. Specifically, the department employs two crime analysts who are solely dedicated to providing real time crime information to officers and investigators. The analysts provide information that lead directly to crime prevention and locating those committing crime.

"This type of intelligence-led policing not only keeps the Palm Bay Police Department connected across a multitude of media as the analysts use different platforms to track trends and sources," explained Rogers. "But it allows our officers to work with real time information, solving cases and locating subjects quickly and resourcefully."

The Uniform Crime Reporting Program has been the starting place for law enforcement executives, students of criminal justice, researchers, members

of the media, and the public at large seeking information on crime in the nation. The program was conceived in 1929 by the International Association of Chiefs of Police to meet the need for reliable uniform crime statistics for the nation. In 1930, the FBI was tasked with collecting, publishing, and archiving those statistics.

Today, four annual publications, Crime in the United States, National Incident-Based Reporting System, Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted, and Hate Crime Statistics are produced from data received from over 18,000 city, university/college, county, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies voluntarily participating in the program. The crime data are submitted either through a state UCR Program or directly to the FBI's UCR Program.