

CITY OF CORAL GABLES

-MEMORANDUM-

TO: **CARMEN OLAZABAL**
INTERIM CITY MANAGER
MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSIONERS

DATE: DECEMBER 4, 2014

FROM: EDWARD J. HUDAK, JR.
INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE

SUBJECT: AUDIT OF
UNIFORM CRIME
REPORTING (UCR)

In response to citizens' concerns regarding the underreporting of burglary incidents by the Coral Gables Police Department, an independent audit was requested by the Department to review its crime reporting procedures.

On September 9, 2014, the City of Coral Gables requested a formal audit of the Coral Gables Police Department (CGPD) crime statistics reporting to be conducted by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

Consequently, on September 22, 2014, a senior member of FDLE's Uniform Crime Reporting Office and a team of five auditors from the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Audit Unit (AU) arrived at CGPD to conduct administrative interviews and a week-long audit of offenses reported to date by the Police Department. The team also audited the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) compilation procedures and thus the validity of the Department's crime statistics reporting.

On November 20, 2014 the completed audit report was received by the CGPD. Enclosed please find correspondence from FDLE CJIS Division Director Jennifer Cook Pritt and FBI CJIS Division Section Chief John H. Derbas. Audit findings indicate no significant issues with the aspect of the program that were reviewed. Additionally, the findings did not reveal any underreported burglaries by the Coral Gables Police Department.

Specifically, the audit unit reviewed 3,508 Part I offenses and discovered 121 classification errors consisting of 38 overreported offenses, 4 underreported offenses, and 79 inaccurately reported offenses.

In its independent findings, the FBI reported a weighted error rate of just 4.55 percent, validating the professional standards of CGPD in this low error margin within the audited crime reporting data. In addition, 629 Part II offenses were reviewed and no underreporting was discovered.

To ensure the integrity of the Coral Gables Police Department when providing information regarding crime statistics data, the following initial measurable objectives are in effect:

- **Centralization of statistical data analysis:** The fulfillment of all data requests will be performed solely by the CGPD Records Section and will be managed by a civilian Data Management Analyst position. This centralization will greatly improve the uniformity in the researching, management and tracking of the data provided by the Department.
- **Utilization of software generated reports:** CGPD will solely rely on software generated reports that will utilize consistent data parameters to provide consistent raw data results. Attached are two samples of software generated Incident Summary of Offenses reports for September and October 2014.
- **Additional Staffing Resources:** With the assistance of the Human Resources Department, CGPD is requesting the reclassification of Records Section positions to offer a more competitive salary structure and improve much needed employee retention in order to foster consistency in data generation, review, management and communication.

As I stated previously regarding this critical issue, despite what various reports may generate, statistics don't accurately tell the story of a victim's experience. The Coral Gables Police Department will continue to proactively communicate these numbers in a manner to be deserving of the public's trust.

Upon your request, I look forward to discussing the attached audit in more detail.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Letter from FDLE with FBI Audit Report
2. Incident Summary of Offenses Report data samples