

2011 Annual Report



VIOLENT CRIME AND DRUG CONTROL COUNCIL

*Submitted by
Florida Department of Law Enforcement*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Message from Commissioner Gerald M. Bailey

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

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

In 2011, the Legislature continued authorization for FDLE to utilize trust funds to support victim/witness protection reimbursement requests. In 2011, the Council funded 14 victim/witness protection and relocation reimbursement requests totaling \$42,770.36. FDLE also supported the Council by monitoring the status of 12 active drug control and money laundering investigations funded by the Council prior to 2011.

Overview of Funding and Council Meetings

Pursuant to Florida Statutes, the Council held two open (telephone) conference meetings in May and October 2011 to address the following topics:

- Victim/Witness Protection Reimbursement cases funded;
- Active Drug Funding Reports for the July-December 2010 reporting period; and
- Active Drug Funding Reports for the January-June 2011 reporting period.

The Council's six-member Victim and Witness Protection Review Committee held three closed (telephone) conference meetings in February, June and September 2011. The Committee approved 14 reimbursement funding requests for a total of \$42,770.36.

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



VIOLENT CRIME AND DRUG CONTROL COUNCIL

General Membership

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

In 2011, the Executive Office of the Governor was reorganized, eliminating the Council position previously known as the Director of the Office of Drug Control. The position was replaced by the Public Safety Unit of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budgeting. FDLE provides the support necessary to assist the Council in the performance of its duties.

Eight Standing Members:

- Chief Financial Officer, Jeff Atwater – Designee: Director John Askins, Division of Insurance Fraud
- Attorney General, Pam Bondi – Designee: General Counsel Jim Schneider
- Commissioner of Education, Eric J. Smith – Designee: Executive Director Mary Jane Tappen
- Director of the Office of Drug Control, Executive Office of the Governor – REPEALED
- Public Safety Policy Coordinator, Bonnie Rogers
- Secretary of Juvenile Justice, Wansley Walters
- Secretary of Corrections, Kenneth Tucker
- President of the Florida Network of Victim/Witness Services, Andy Hindman
- FDLE Commissioner, Gerald Bailey – Designee: Assistant Commissioner Jim Madden

Six Governor Appointed Members:

- Sheriff James F. Coats – Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (retired, November 7, 2011)
- Sheriff Ben F. Johnson – Volusia County Sheriff's Office
- State Attorney Bernie McCabe – 6th Judicial Circuit
- Police Chief Jeffrey A. Chudnow – Oviedo Police Department
- Police Chief Samuel Williams – Ocala Police Department
- Medical Examiner Stephen J. Nelson – District 10 Medical Examiner's Office



2011 FISCAL SUMMARY

Florida Statutes require all agencies awarded Council funds to complete a report on all active/open drug funded cases every six months. The completed report, which is furnished to FDLE by the receiving agency, must detail the expenditure of Council funds during the reporting period. If a previously open/active case is closed during the reporting period, the agency must submit a final report and closing letter to FDLE. All unspent funds must be returned to the State of Florida. Chart 1 is a summary of the 2011 drug cases and Chart 2 summarizes 2011 victim/witness protection reimbursement activity.

Chart 1: Drug Investigation Funding
(January 1 - June 30, 2011)

Beginning Number of OPEN Cases	15
Number of Cases CLOSED this Period	3
Ending Number of OPEN Cases	12
Unspent Funds for OPEN Cases	\$172,667.94
Returned Funds from CLOSED Cases	\$1,983.74

Chart 2: Victim/Witness Protection Reimbursement Funding
(January 1 - December 31, 2011)

February 2011 Awards	6	\$ 20,879.76
June 2011 Awards	5	\$14,909.26
September 2011 Awards	3	\$6,981.34
Total Awards for 2011	14	\$42,770.36

