2010 Annual Report



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. In 2010, the Legislature continued authorization for FDLE to utilize trust funds to support victim/witness protection reimbursement requests. This funding allowed the Council to fund 6 victim/witness protection and relocation reimbursement requests totaling \$26,177.90 in 2010. FDLE also supports the Council by monitoring the status of 27 active drug control and money laundering investigations funded by the Council prior to 2010.

Overview of Funding and Council Meetings

Pursuant to Florida Statutes, the Council held two open (telephone) conference meetings in March and October 2010 and addressed the following topics:

- Victim/Witness Protection Reimbursement cases funded;
- > Active Drug Funding Reports for the July-December 2009 reporting period; and
- > Active Drug Funding Reports for the January-June 2010 reporting period.

The Council's six-member Victim and Witness Protection Review Committee held three closed (telephone) conference meetings in February, June and September 2010. The Committee approved 6 reimbursement funding requests for a total of \$26,177.90.

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. FDLE provides the support necessary to assist the Council in the performance of its duties.

Eight Standing Members:

- Chief Financial Officer, Alex Sink Designee: Director John Askins, Division of Insurance Fraud
- > Attorney General, Bill McCollum Designee: Statewide Prosecutor William Shepherd
- Commissioner of Education, Eric Smith Designee: Executive Director Mary Jane Tappen
- Director of the Office of Drug Control, Executive Office of the Governor, Director Bruce Grant
- Secretary of Juvenile Justice, Frank Peterman, Jr. Designee: Assistant Secretary of Residential Services Darryl Olson
- > Secretary of Corrections, Walter McNeil Designee: Deputy Secretary Richard Davison
- > President of the Florida Network of Victim/Witness Services, Andy Hindman
- FDLE Commissioner, Gerald Bailey Designee: Assistant Commissioner Ken Tucker

Six Governor Appointed Members:

- Sheriff James F. Coats Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
- > Sheriff Ben F. Johnson Volusia County Sheriff's Office
- ➤ State Attorney Bernie McCabe 6th Judicial Circuit
- Police Chief Edward Overman DeLand Police Department
- Police Chief (currently vacant)
- Medical Examiner (currently vacant)

2010 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 2010 drug cases and Chart 2 summarizes 2010 victim/witness protection reimbursement activity.

Chart 1: Drug Investigation Funding (January 1 - June 30, 2010)		
Beginning Number of OPEN Cases	29	
Number of Cases CLOSED this Period	2	
Ending Number of OPEN Cases	27	
Unspent Funds for OPEN Cases	\$452,756.42	
Returned Funds from CLOSED Cases	\$6,989.15	

Chart 2: Victim/Witness Protection Reimbursement Funding (January 1 - December 31, 2010)		
February 2010 Awards	1	\$ 4,050.00
June 2010 Awards	3	\$14,221.90
September 2010 Awards	2	\$ 7,906.00
Total Awards for 2010	6	\$26,177.90