



**SHERIFF WAYNE IVEY**

**BREVARD COUNTY**

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Released By: Corporal Dave Jacobs**

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**BREVARD COUNTY'S 2014 CRIME RATE CONTINUES TO DECLINE**

Sheriff Wayne Ivey, your Brevard County Chiefs of Police and State Attorney Phil Archer are pleased to announce that the 2014 Uniform Crime Report compiled by the FBI and FDLE has been released and reflects the lowest Brevard County crime rate in the past 20 years.

Overall, Brevard County observed a significant 6.3% decrease in the reported Crime Rate (crime rate per 100,000) for 2014 as compared to 2013, and the Brevard County Sheriff's Office reflected a decrease of 11% for the unincorporated areas of the County (crime rate per 100,000) for the same time period.

The Uniform Crime Report (UCR) contains official data on crime that is reported to law enforcement agencies across the United States. Florida UCR numbers reflect the crimes reported by law enforcement agencies to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). The UCR focuses on 7 major crimes, which include: homicide, robbery, forcible rape, burglary, aggravated assault, larceny/theft, and arson.

Sheriff Wayne Ivey stated, "As the Sheriff of Brevard County, I am so proud of the cooperative initiatives between Brevard's Law Enforcement agencies and the partnerships we have forged with our citizens. The incredible efforts of Brevard County's Law Enforcement Officers and State Attorney's Office, coupled with strong prison sentences for violent offenders, are truly making a difference. Let there be no doubt, if we keep violent criminals behind bars, the crime rate goes down. It is really that simple! Criminals have no boundaries, so partnerships with Law Enforcement, our State Attorney and our citizens are vital to lowering our crime rate and making Brevard a safe place to live, work and raise our families."

Satellite Beach Police Chief Jeff Pearson stated, "The Satellite Beach Police Department is very proud to be a part of a law enforcement community that works so hard to protect our citizens. We have one of the safest cities in one of the safest counties due to the dedication and commitment of our men and women who have taken an oath to serve and protect."

State Attorney Phil Archer stated, "The reduction in the crime rate is a direct result of our Sheriff, Police Chiefs, State Attorney and community working together to ensure criminals are arrested, prosecuted and convicted. It sends a strong message that criminal behavior will not be tolerated in our community."

While there are many factors that have aided in lowering the crime rate, collective partnerships between Brevard County Law Enforcement agencies have been one of the most impacting. By partnering together with programs like the GAMEOVER Task Force, the Economic Crimes Task Force, and one of the first in the country Crime Prevention Task Force, Brevard County Law Enforcement agencies have partnered together to protect the citizens of Brevard County.

For example, the GAMEOVER Task Force and the Graffiti Busters Program were initiated to combat violent crime and gang activity within Brevard County. Resources from various agencies were used to identify, monitor, and arrest violent offenders. By working together and sharing resources, intelligence information, and analysis, inter-agency communication was greatly enhanced and the goal of safer communities and a safer county has been realized. The initiative was designed to measure success not by the quantity of arrests, but in the quality of arrests made. By targeting and aggressively pursuing the "worst of the worst" criminals, a clear message is sent to criminals that Brevard Law Enforcement agencies are serious about taking them out of the game.

Recently, Brevard County's Law Enforcement community launched two new innovative partnership concepts, the Economic Crimes Task Force and the Brevard County Crime Prevention Task Force that were both designed to share resources to protect our citizens.

The Economic Crime Unit is responsible for investigating identity theft, exploitation of elderly, schemes to defraud, income tax fraud, public assistance fraud, money laundering, and/or any substantial fraudulent type crimes where the victims suffer a loss. This initiative, through a three-prong approach of coordinated efforts in the areas

of Aggressive Investigation, Victim Advocacy, and Prevention demonstrates a "Best Practice" approach to combating this pressing problem.

The Brevard County Crime Prevention Task Force is a multi-agency partnership designed to work collaboratively on crime prevention initiatives in an effort to reduce crime throughout Brevard County. In addition to the creation of consistent crime prevention messaging, the partnership works collectively to develop innovative crime prevention programs for our communities. The Task Force serves as a force multiplier in the area of Crime Prevention for all participating agencies and their communities. Combining personnel and resources allows each participating member to broaden their respective crime prevention efforts. While developing this concept, other programs around the country were researched regarding their respective operations, effectiveness and efficiency. While other prevention programs exist, this concept appears to be the first where multiple law enforcement agencies, volunteers, and citizens have partnered for the purpose of reducing crime. This unique concept is based upon educating our citizens and equipping them with the knowledge and tools necessary to safeguard themselves, their families and their homes.

Through an aggressive prevention program we provide our citizens with the information needed to protect them from becoming a victim. Our advocacy program provides victims with the resources needed to recover from their losses while our investigative efforts identify and arrest those who prey upon our citizens.

Each of these initiatives was created using existing personnel with no additional financial impact to the citizens of Brevard. If you would like more information regarding crime prevention efforts, please call your local law enforcement agency or visit us at [brevardsheriff.com](http://brevardsheriff.com) or call our Crime Prevention Unit at (321) 264-7755.

For additional information regarding this media release, please contact Corporal Dave Jacobs at (321) 636-4665.

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