

Program Initiatives (Chris Blair)

Revitalization Programs- This program was developed to assist in combating high crime areas. Directed patrol techniques were used to buy drugs, conduct warrant sweeps, and provide high visibility patrol. Law Enforcement partnered with community business leaders, the Judicial system, the State Attorney, County Code Enforcement, the Marion County MSTU Manager, and Crime Stop in developing programs that were effective in reducing crime and removing the criminal element from the streets of Marion County.

Tactical Robbery Apprehension Program (TRAP) – This program was developed as a proactive analytical approach to reduce commercial robberies and burglaries to local businesses by means of new technology. This program increased the number of arrests of offenders in a timelier manner and lowered the number of robberies and burglaries to the businesses within our community. Additionally, this program reassured the safety for the employees and reduced investigative costs and insurance rates. This program was implemented in over 100 locations within Marion County.

Sex Offender/Predator REGNET Program- This is a computer based program that allows Sex Offenders/Predators to be monitored and checked on a continual bases by deputies. This computer program is color coded to establish time frames between checks.

DNA Screening Lab-This lab was established in partnership with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to reduce turn-around-time concerning DNA evidence. It resulted in extraditing arrests on criminal cases, was cost effective, and reduced crime and evidence being stored at FDLE.

Cold Case Unit- This unit was established to review cold case homicides by experienced retired Law Enforcement Officers and Prosecutors who volunteer their time. Volunteers work in partnership with the Major Crimes Unit in hopes of one day providing closure to the family members of the victims.

NIBIN (National Integrated Ballistics Information Network)-This program was developed to work in conjunction with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement by test-firing every firearm located in Evidence at the Marion County Sheriff's Office. The results were that the collection and storage of firearms in the evidence section would be reduced and all firearm casings would be entered into NIBIN. This would link unsolved crimes which would reduce the costs on long-term investigations and remove the criminals from the streets.

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