

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Leon County 2009 Annual Crime Report

Today the Florida Department of Law Enforcement released Florida's 2009 Annual Crime Report which indicates a state-wide decrease of 6.7% from the index crime volume reported for the same time period in 2008. Florida's 2009 Annual Crime Report uses information compiled from Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) which contain data on crimes that are reported to law enforcement agencies across Florida and the United States. This data is then provided to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. UCR focuses on index crimes, which include murder, robbery, sex crimes, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny/theft and motor vehicle theft.

The validated 2009 Uniform Crime Report also indicated a 10% state-wide reduction in violent crime. In unincorporated Leon County, violent crime decreased 1.2% and in the City of Tallahassee violent crime decreased 13.7%. The total crime index in Tallahassee and Leon County decreased 7.5%.

"After an escalation of gang and gun related violence in early 2009, the Leon County Sheriff's Office identified the reduction of violence in the City of Tallahassee as a public safety priority. Partnerships with the Tallahassee Police Department, community leaders and citizens were renewed, and a Gang Unit was created to address violent crime in Tallahassee" said Sheriff Larry Campbell. "I am encouraged that the efforts of this community have resulted in the significant reduction of violent crime in Tallahassee".

"I am very proud of the men and women of the Tallahassee Police Department and the partnership we have with the Leon County Sheriff's Office. Together we have made Tallahassee a safer place for our citizens" said Chief Dennis Jones. "While we celebrate the reduction in crime, it is important that law enforcement and citizens continue to be vigilant, as we know criminals are still out there looking for their next victim. Together we can make a difference."

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