Smart Policing in Los Angeles: Operation LASER

Newton Division, LAPD
Justice & Security Strategies, Inc. (JSS)

October 2012

Overview

- ❖ **Gun Problem**
  - ❖ **Scanning and Analysis**
- ❖ **Newton's Response:**
  - ❖ **Crime Intelligence Detail (CID)**
  - ❖ **Offender-Based Strategy**
  - ❖ **Location-Based Strategy**
  - ❖ **Implementation**
- ❖ **Assessment and Results**

Key Problem: Gun Violence

Scanning the Problem: Crime is down, but shots fired, and gangs and guns are major problems...

Analysis showed that Newton had the third highest number of gun-crimes in the city.

Response: Operation LASER --
Los Angeles' Strategic Extraction and Restoration Program

- Reduce gun-and gang- related crime in Newton Division

- Newton – 1 of 21 Divisions in LAPD –
  - 9 square miles; 150,000 people

- LASER is focused on:
  - Chronic offenders and
  - Chronic locations

- Using existing resources – no special task forces or LAPD units

On-going Analysis and Assessment

Create the Crime Intell Detail (CID)

- **Two police officers and one Intell Analyst**

CID collects information and uses new technology

- ◆ **FIs, Arrests, Criminal Histories, etc.**
- ◆ **Identify Chronic Offenders and Chronic Locations**
- ◆ **Continually measure dosage**

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CID and Chronic Offender Process

◆ **CID gathers intelligence daily from Patrol (Watch 2, Watch 5 and Watch 3), the Bicycle Unit, and the Parole Compliance Unit at Newton Division**

◆ **CID focuses on Robberies, Weapons Violations, and Aggravated Assaults related to gun and gang violence**

◆ **CID creates "Chronic Offender Bulletins" using 'Palantir'**

Chronic Offender Bulletins

- Physical descriptors
- Physical oddities
- Gang affiliation
- Prior crimes committed
- Parole or Probation Status
- Vehicles
- Areas they frequent
- Contact with law enforcement

DIAGRAM OF CRIME INTELLIGENCE DETAIL – OPERATION LASER

FIELD INTERVIEW CARDS (PATROL, SPU, GANGS & BIKES)

CITATIONS

RELEASE FROM CUSTODY (RFC)

CRIME REPORTS

ARREST REPORTS

CRIME TRENDS & PATTERNS

SMARTBOARD & CAD UNIT

CRIME INTELLIGENCE DETAIL (C.I.D.) - SELECTION PROCESS

WORK-UPS (EXEMPLAR)

M DRIVE & PATROL VEHICLES

PATROL OFFICERS, SPECIALIZED UNITS, DETECTIVES, & COMMAND STAFF

F.I.'S (211, AGG ASSAULTS, WEAPONS VIOLATIONS, ALL GANG MEMBERS, RAP SHEETS, CRIME REPORTS, CRIME TRENDS AND CRIME PATTERNS

INFORMATION ONLY
Notification
LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LAPD NEWTON CRIME INTELLIGENCE DETAIL

THE BELOW LISTED INDIVIDUAL IS NOT WANTED AT THIS TIME. THIS PUBLICATION IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON PROMINENT KNOWN OFFENDERS, PAROLEES AT LARGE, CAREER CRIMINALS, ETC AND IS NOT TO BE USED AS THE SOLE BASIS FOR YOUR PROBABLE CAUSE TO DETAIN THE INDIVIDUAL LISTED BELOW FOR ANY FUTURE CONTACTS. IF YOU BECOME AWARE OF AN INDIVIDUAL THAT MATCHES THE SUSPECT DESCRIPTION ON A CRIME REPORT, PRIOR TO ANY FURTHER INVESTIGATION YOU SHALL CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE DETECTIVE COORDINATOR FOR THAT CRIME.

OFFICERS: HOGG #38358 / PONCE #36692
NAME: SUTTON, DASHAWN
DOB: 09/07/1979
CII#: A22166454
CDLA: B9021269

1319 ¼ WEST 92ND ST LOS ANGELES, CA 90044
DOB: 05/28/1964
SEX: M
HAIR: BLK HEIGHT: 507
EYES: BRN WEIGHT: 148

PHYSICAL ODDITIES:
TATTOO ON BACK "COAST TO COAST SD"
TATTOO ON BACK "EAST COAST CRIP" WITH THE LETTERS "SD" INTERTWINED
TATTOO ON CHEST "EAST COAST CRIP"

SSN#:
571-53-5784

ARREST:
211, EVADING, NARCOTICS VIOL, POSS OF FIREARM BY A FELON 10851 VC AND BURGLARY.

CAL GANGS:
62 EAST COAST CRIP WITH MONIKER OF "D, DAY DAY, SHY, SHYSTY"

PAROLE:
ACTIVE PAROLE UNTIL 01/01/2013 FOR POSS OF NARCOTICS FOR SALES, FELON IN POSS OF A FIREARM AND 459 PC

PROBATION:
NONE

WARRANTS:
NONE

VEHICLES:
2000 MERZ ML4 4D WHI CA-5ZUU439
PASSENGER   02/24/2011
1996 OLDS AUR 4D GRN CA-4KNZ699
PASSENGER   02/21/2011
1996 OLDS AUR 4D GRN CA-4KNZ699
DRIVER 01/28/2011
1996 OLDS AUR 4D GRN CA-4KNZ699
DRIVER 01/10/2011

RECENT STOP:
OFFICERS: HOGG #38358 / PONCE #36692
DATE: 02/17/2011
LOCATION: 152 WEST 61ST ST
RD: 1381
NARRATIVE/MO: CONSENUAL ENCOUNTER . ADMITTED PAROLE FOR 459 PC. WANT AND WARRANT CHECK. SELF ADMITTED 62 EAST COAST CRIP WITH MONIKER OF "D". QUESTIONED AND RELEASED.

POLICE CONTACTS IN/NEAR NEWTON:
02/24/2011   SAN PEDRO/62ND,
02/24/2011   138 E 93RD ST, LOS
02/21/2011   CRENSHAW BL/39TH ST,
02/21/2011   1319 W 92ND STREET,
01/28/2011   59TH/MAIN,
01/26/2011   SAN PEDRO/62ND ST,
01/10/2011   BROADWAY/79 ST,
09/22/2009   8105 S WESTERN AV, LOS
01/24/2009   VERNON/CENTRAL,
01/26/2011   62ND/SAN PEDRO,
01/10/2011   MAIN/FLORENCE.

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Prepared by: < J. LOPEZ, SERIAL # 37481 > Crime Intelligence Detail   (323) 846-6524   Date: 03/21/11   CID# A-001

Chronic Offenders

- **124 Chronic Offenders identified and rank-ordered from August 2011 to January 2012**

- **87 of the 124 (70%) have been arrested at least once from Aug 2011 to June 2012**

  - **87 offenders scored 15 points or higher – 60 (68.1%) arrested**
  - **37 offenders scored 0-15 points – 27 (72.9%) arrested**

- **New list created in May 2012 – 65 new offenders**
  - **25 (38.5%) arrested**

- **Of 189 total offenders, 112 arrested at least once (59%)**

LASER: Location-based efforts

Where are the chronic locations? Using crime data (2006-2011), GIS, and analytics to answer questions

Gun-Related Crimes Newton Division 2011

Five Hotspot Corridors (in green)

Newton Area - 2011
Gun Related Crimes
Hot Spot - Gun Related Crimes

Legend
- Gun Related Crimes

Hot Spot - 2011
- Low
- Medium
- High
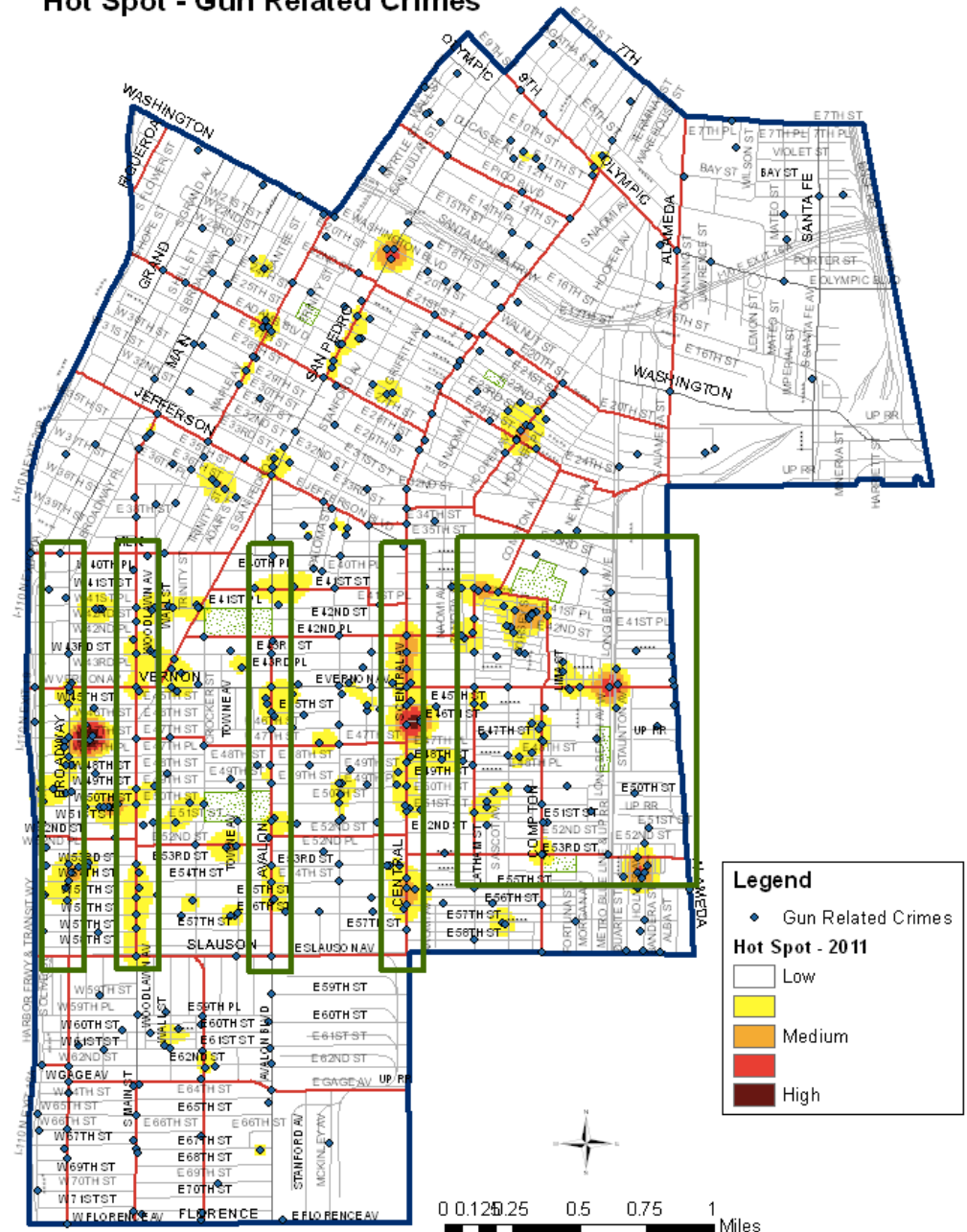
Interventions: Locations

Weekly Missions in Hot Spot Corridors

Use Existing Resources:
- ❖ **Patrol Units (watches 2, 3 and 5)**
- ❖ **Bikes**
- ❖ **Foot Patrol**
- ❖ **Parole Compliance Unit**
- ❖ **HIDE**

Measures

❖ **Dosage = Extra minutes/month in hot spot corridors**

❖ **Crime Count by Deployment Period (DP) and by month**
  - ❖ **Gun-Related Crime (Part 1 and 2 incidents with a gun) since 2006**
  - ❖ **All Part 1 Crimes – Violent and Property since 2006**

TOTAL MINUTES IN NEWTON CORRIDORS BY DP,
2011-2012

TOTAL MINUTES IN NEWTON CORRIDORS
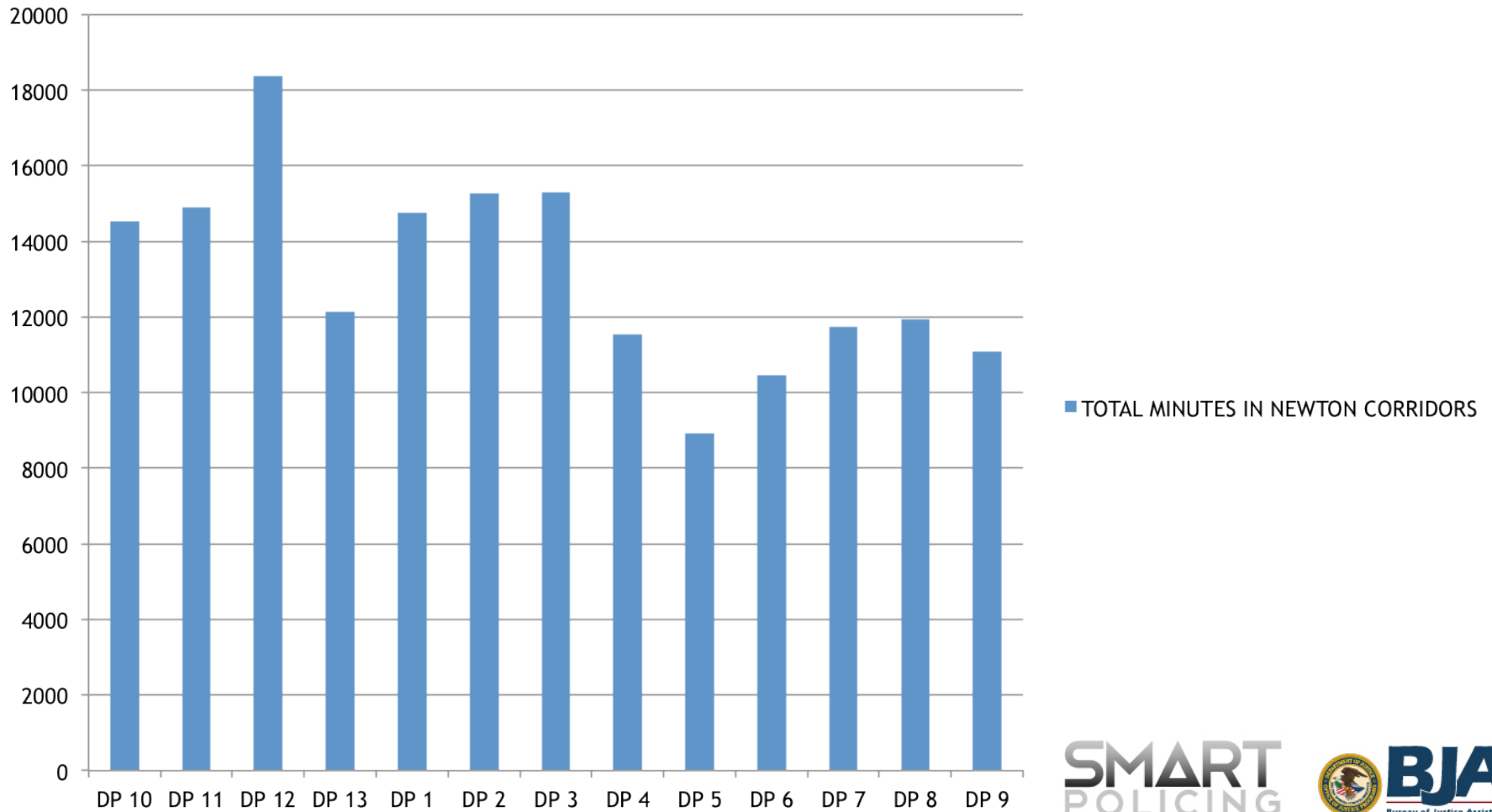
NEWTON COMBINED DEPLOYMENT TIME
IN HOT SPOT CORRIDORS
DP's 10-13 (2011) to DP 1-9 (2012)
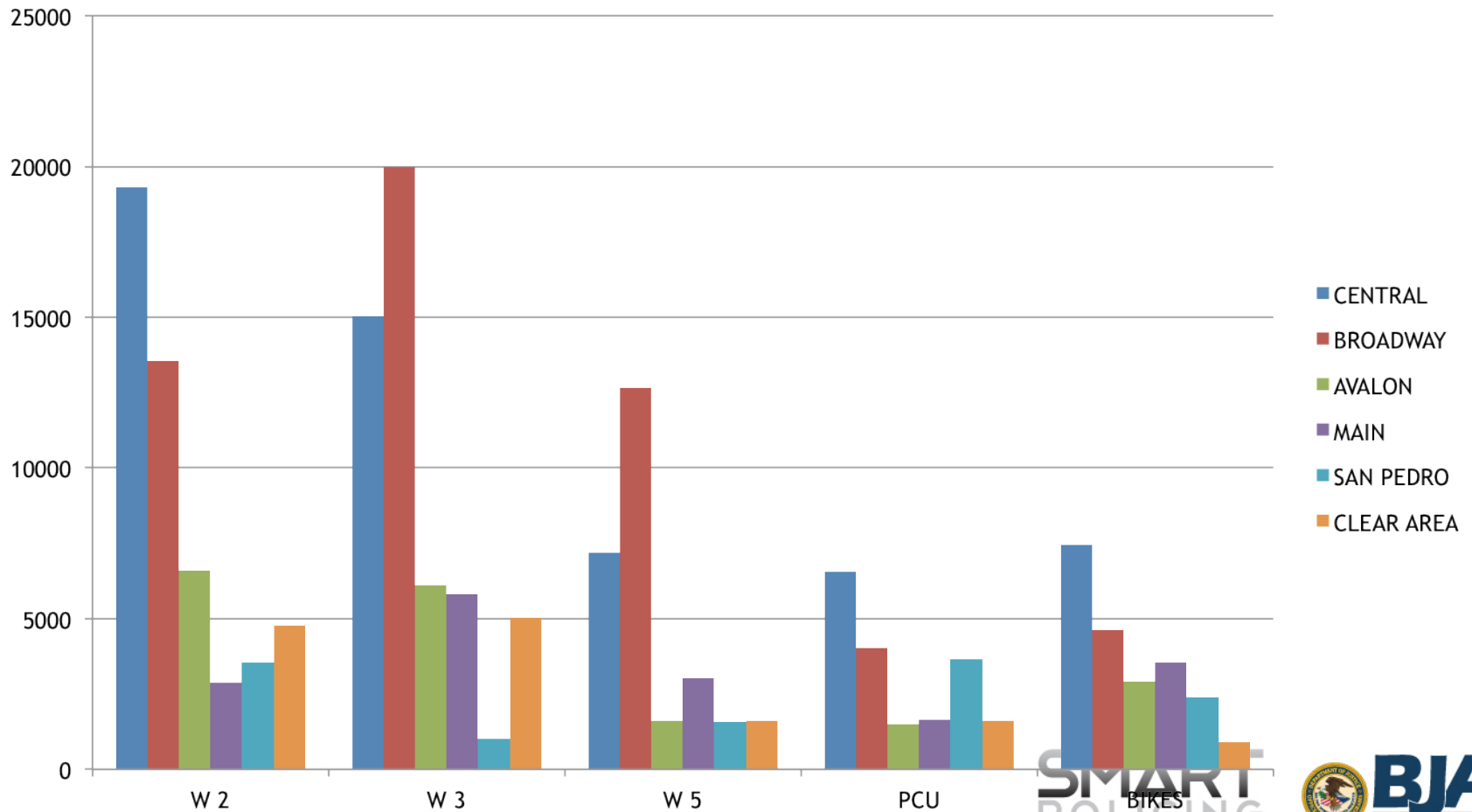
Dosage In Newton Corridors

❖ **On average, patrol, bikes, foot, and PCU spent 13,326 extra minutes per DP in the hot spot corridors**

❖ **Range: 8,935 (DP 5 in 2012) to 18,380 (DP 12 in 2011)**

❖ **13,326 extra minutes equates to 222 extra hours per DP or 55.5 extra hours per week**

❖ **About 8 hours extra per day in the corridors**

Impact Analysis

- ❖ **Use Powerful Analytic Methods:**
  - ❖ **Interrupted Time Series Design**
  - ❖ **Panel Data Analysis**

Interrupted Time-Series Design

❖ **One of the most powerful quasi-experimental designs**

❖ **Compare pre-existing trend before the intervention to the trend during/after the intervention**

  ❖ **Change in level**

  ❖ **Change in trend**

Time Series Analysis for Newton

- Examined:
  - Gun-Related Crime –
    - Crime incidents (Part I and II) with a firearm
    - Includes: Homicides, Robberies, Aggravated Assaults, Drive-by shootings, Misdemeanors with weapons (drugs, vandalism, etc.)
  - All Part 1 Crimes
- From January 1, 2006 to June 30, 2012 (78 month period)
- Intervention began Sept 2011
  - Arrests of chronic offenders started in Aug 2011, but increased patrol of corridors began Sept 2011
  - 10 post-intervention time periods
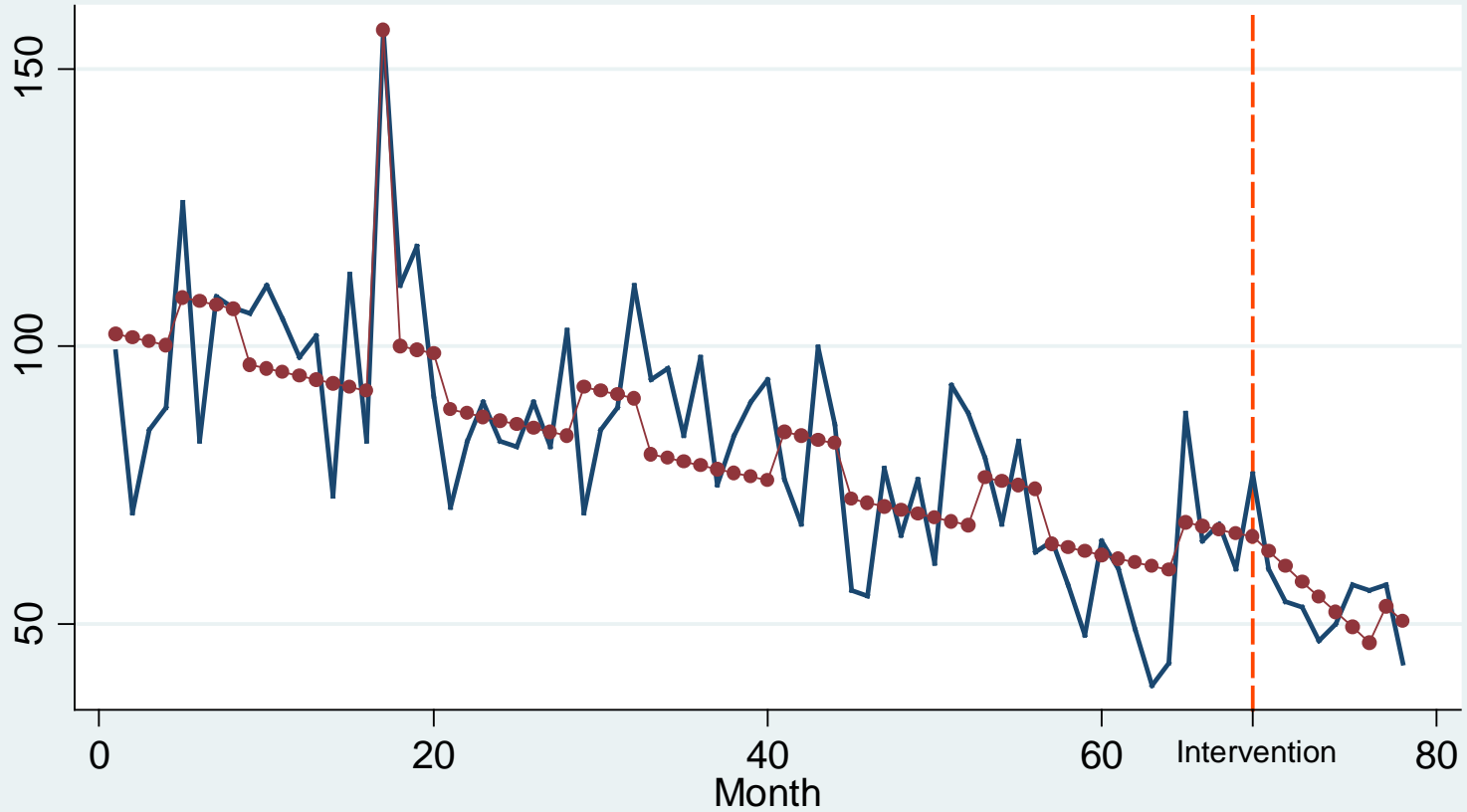
Time Series: Bottom Line

❖ Results indicate that Operation LASER is having *significant and tangible reductions in:*

❖ *Gun-related crime (Part 1 and 2)*

❖ *Homicides*

❖ *Robberies*

❖ *Violent Crime (Part 1)*

Time Series: Bottom Line

- Results **suggest that gun-related crime is falling nearly four (4) times faster** in Newton after LASER was implemented in Sept 2011

- Differences are statistically significant at the .10 level
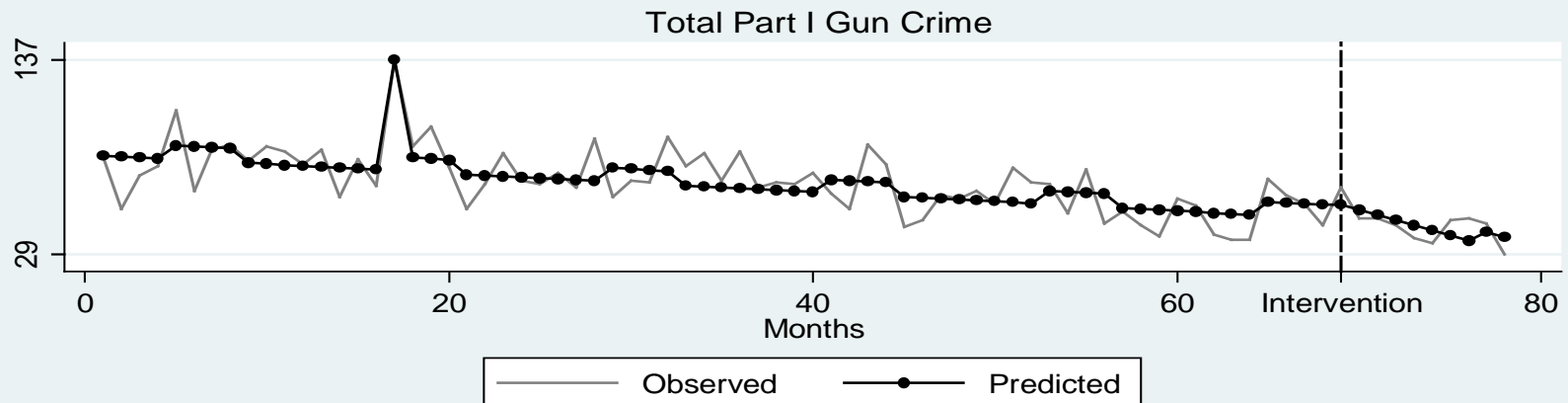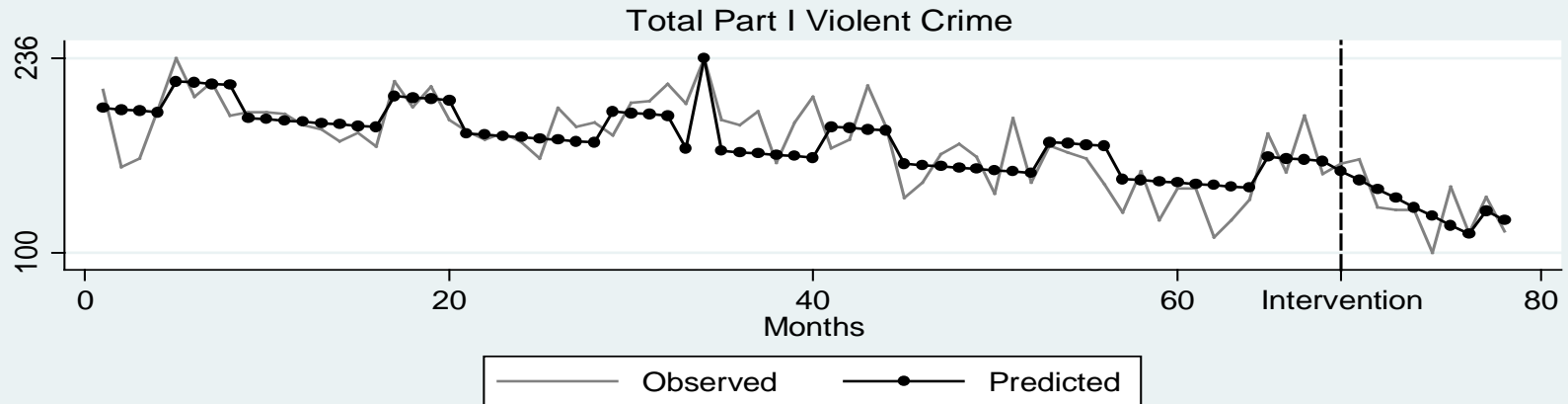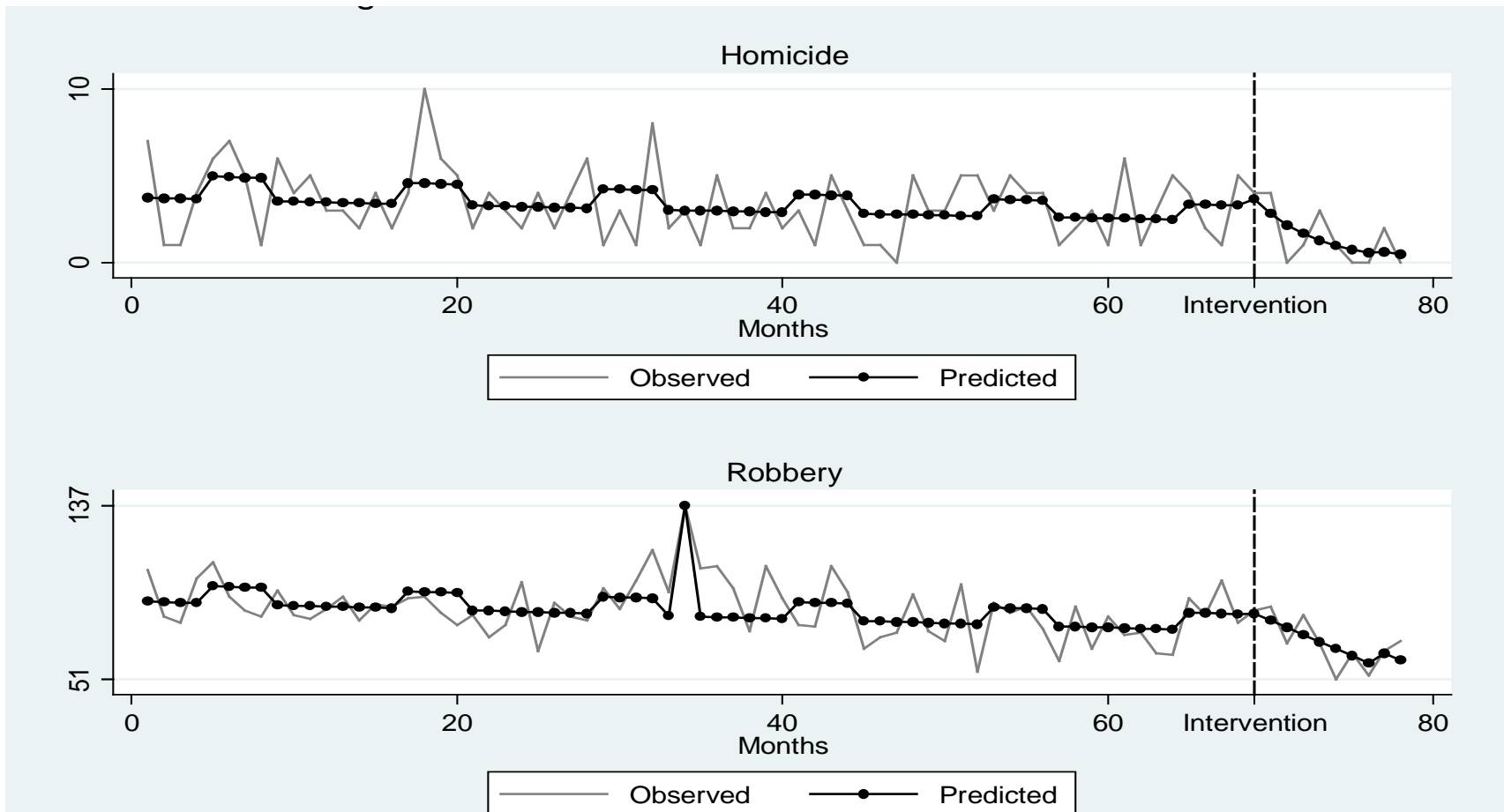
Gun-Related Crimes in Newton

Jan 2006 to Jun 2012

Time Series: Bottom Line

❖ Interventions in Newton resulted in a *decrease* of Part I Violent Crimes by an additional 5.393 crimes per month

❖ Homicides *decreased* by an additional 22.6 percent per month in Newton after Operation LASER began.

❖ Robbery *decreased* by an additional 0.218 robberies per month in Newton after Operation LASER was implemented

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Time Series: Violent Crime & Gun Crime

Total Part I Violent Crime

Total Part I Gun Crime

Time Series: Homicide & Robbery

Panel Data Analysis: Newton

- Look at gun-related crimes from Jan 2006 to June 2012
  - In addition to Newton, we are including RDS in 77th Street, Southeast, Southwest, Northeast, Central, Rampart, and Hollenbeck
  - Monthly counts of gun-related crime for all RDs in these divisions
- In Newton, RDs examined in hot spot corridors
  - 20 RDs considered intervention sites
  - For all of these RDs, the intervention was assumed to start Sept. 2011
- Counts of gun crime are low, so we model trends using the Poisson distribution

Intervention RDs in Newton

"Operation LASER"
Newton Intervention and Non-Intervention Reporting Districts
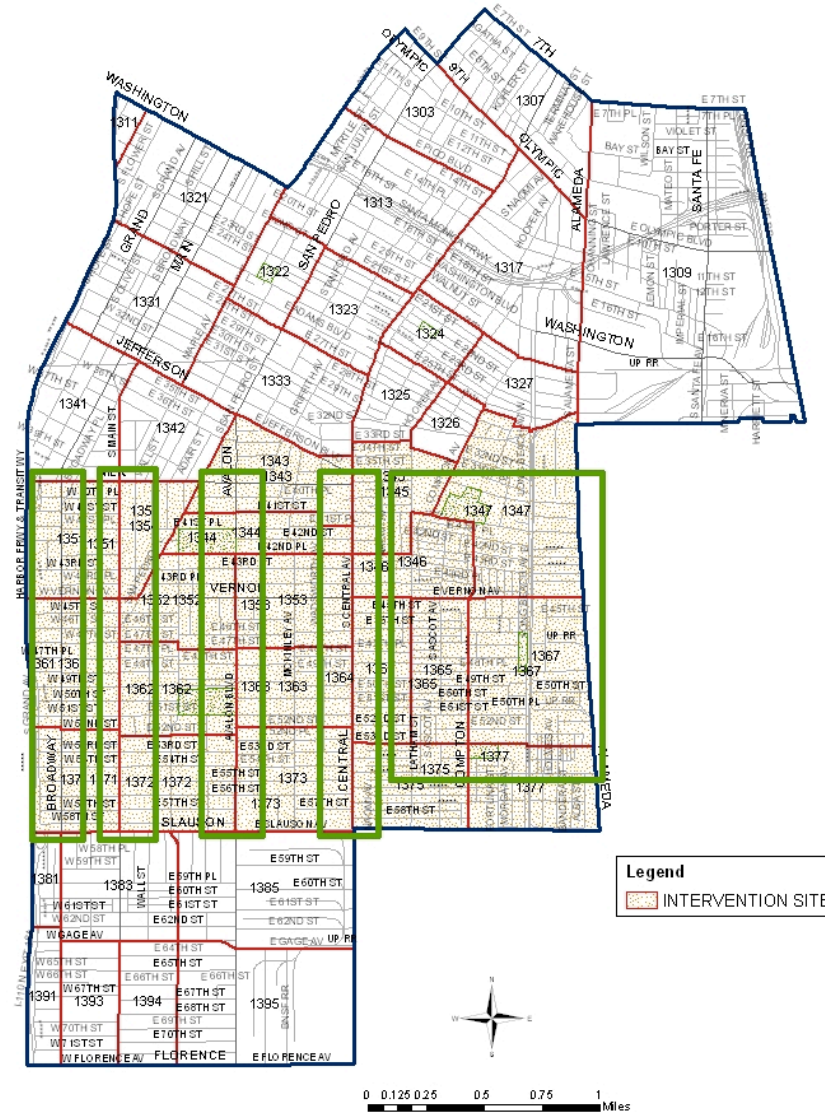
Panel Analysis: Bottom Line

❖ **Results from Panel Data Analysis:**

  ❖ We compared monthly gun-related crime for the 20 Newton Reporting Districts (in the hot-spot corridors) to 299 RDs in the city

  ❖ Results confirm that gun-related crime decreases an **additional 5.3%** per month in Newton RDs

  ❖ Caveat: These results may change when additional covariates are included, but these results are significant.

Future Directions: Analysis

❖ Re-examine these analyses with more time periods
  ❖ Additional time periods will provide more statistical power to detect an effect
❖ Inclusion of additional data and improvements of the models
      ❖ We are working towards compiling a database for all RDs that will provide statistical controls
      ❖ We will also be refining these models
      ❖ The results may change due to model improvements

Future Directions: Newton
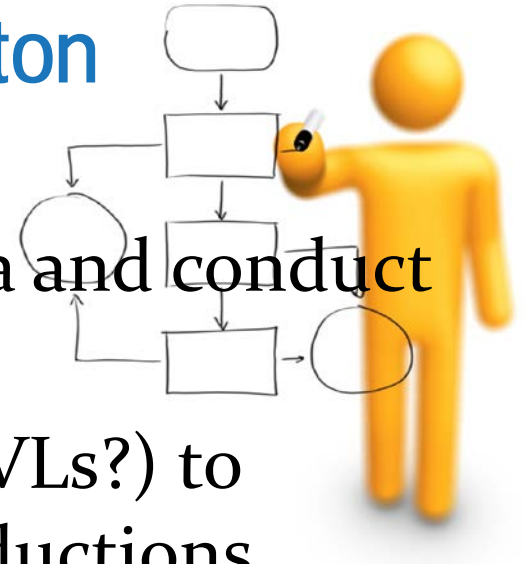
- ❖ Continue to use CID to collect data and conduct analysis

- ❖ Continue Missions and Dosage (AVLs?) to maintain and stabilize violence reductions

- ❖ Focus on Chronic Offenders

- ❖ Expand LASER to include Property Crimes, especially BFMVs

Future Directions: Other Divisions

❖ Replicate Operation LASER in areas with the highest gun crime: South and Central Bureaus

❖ Create CID units

❖ Work with the Real-time Crime Center to coordinate the use of technology

❖ Measure dosage – minutes in the RDs and hotspot corridors

❖ JSS will continue to analyze and evaluate

Questions?