



Offender-Focused Hot Spots Policing

Port St. Lucie, FL Police Department

Lt. Roberto Santos and Dr. Rachel Santos

April 16, 2013

This project was supported by Grant No. 2012-DB-BX-0002 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Background

- PSLPD and Dr. Santos: Police/researcher partnership since 2003
- IACP Law Enforcement Research Award 2008
- Institutionalization of problem solving, analysis, and accountability
 - Evidence-based model for crime reduction
 - Focus on long-term crime problems
 - Focus on short-term hot spots

Background

- 2011-2012: 3,535 arrests of 2,118 offenders who live in Port St. Lucie
- Began offender-focused strategies in 2012
- With 1 detective, some analysis support
- Built upon strong relationships with state attorney, probation, and parole
- Addressing particular offenders identified through analysis and practice

SPI Team

- 2 detectives, 100% of their time (1 grant funded)
- Crime analyst (grant funded)
- Research partner to develop implementation and evaluation strategies (grant funded)
- Project director to oversee detectives, analyst, and implementation
- External partners

Strategy Implementation

Offender-focused strategies in crime hot spots

1. Identify long-term hot spots of residential burglary and theft from vehicle
2. Select hot spots for response and comparison
3. Identify all offenders living in the hot spots
4. Select offenders for response based on arrest data and criminal history:
 - Number
 - Crime type
 - Seriousness
 - Juvenile or adult
 - Recency of crime

Initial Analysis

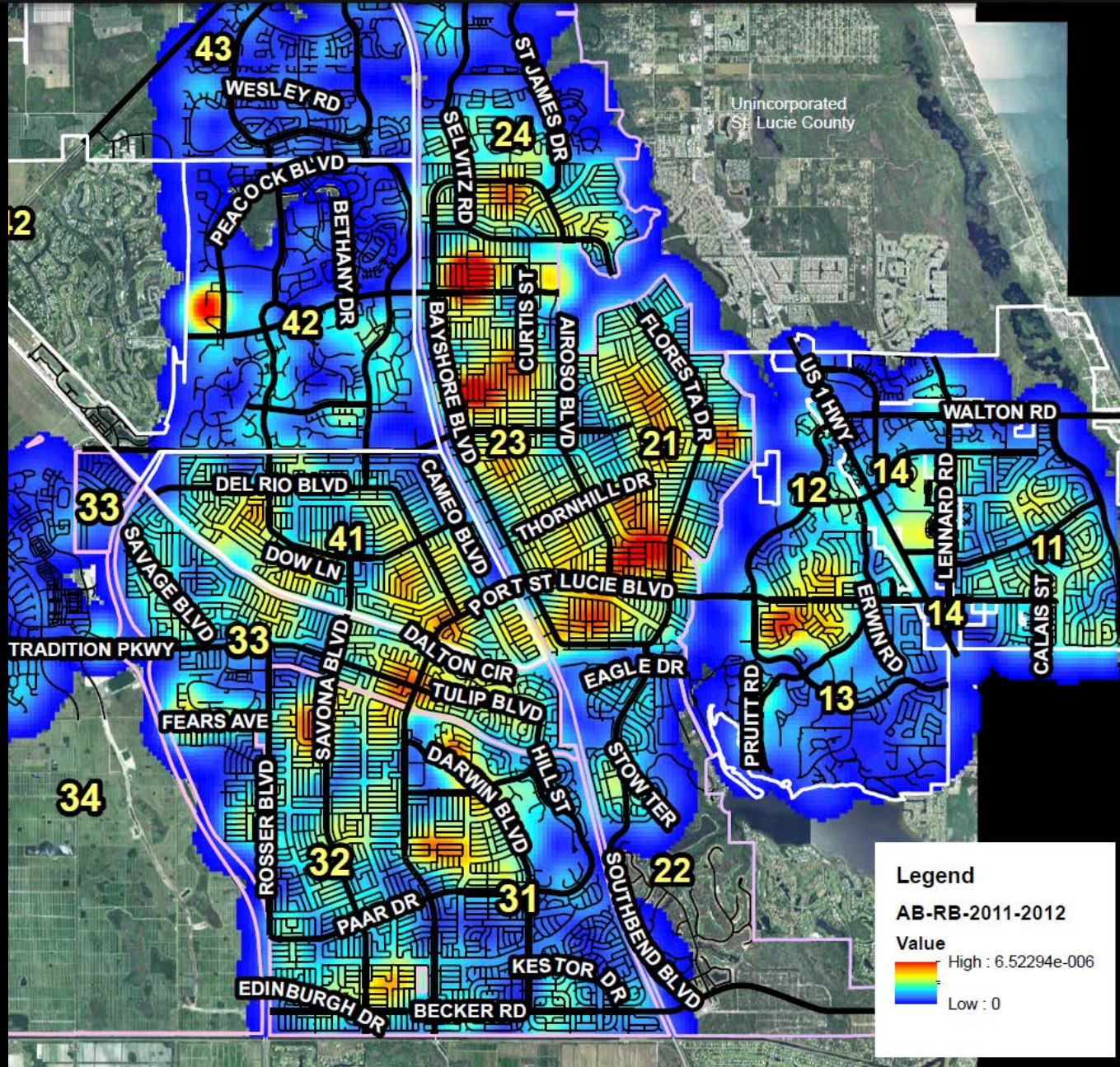
- Identify long-term crime hot spots
 - Burglary and theft from vehicle
 - 2 years of data
- Identify offenders within each hot spot
 - Arrest data
 - Select realistic number of offenders for response

Strategy Implementation

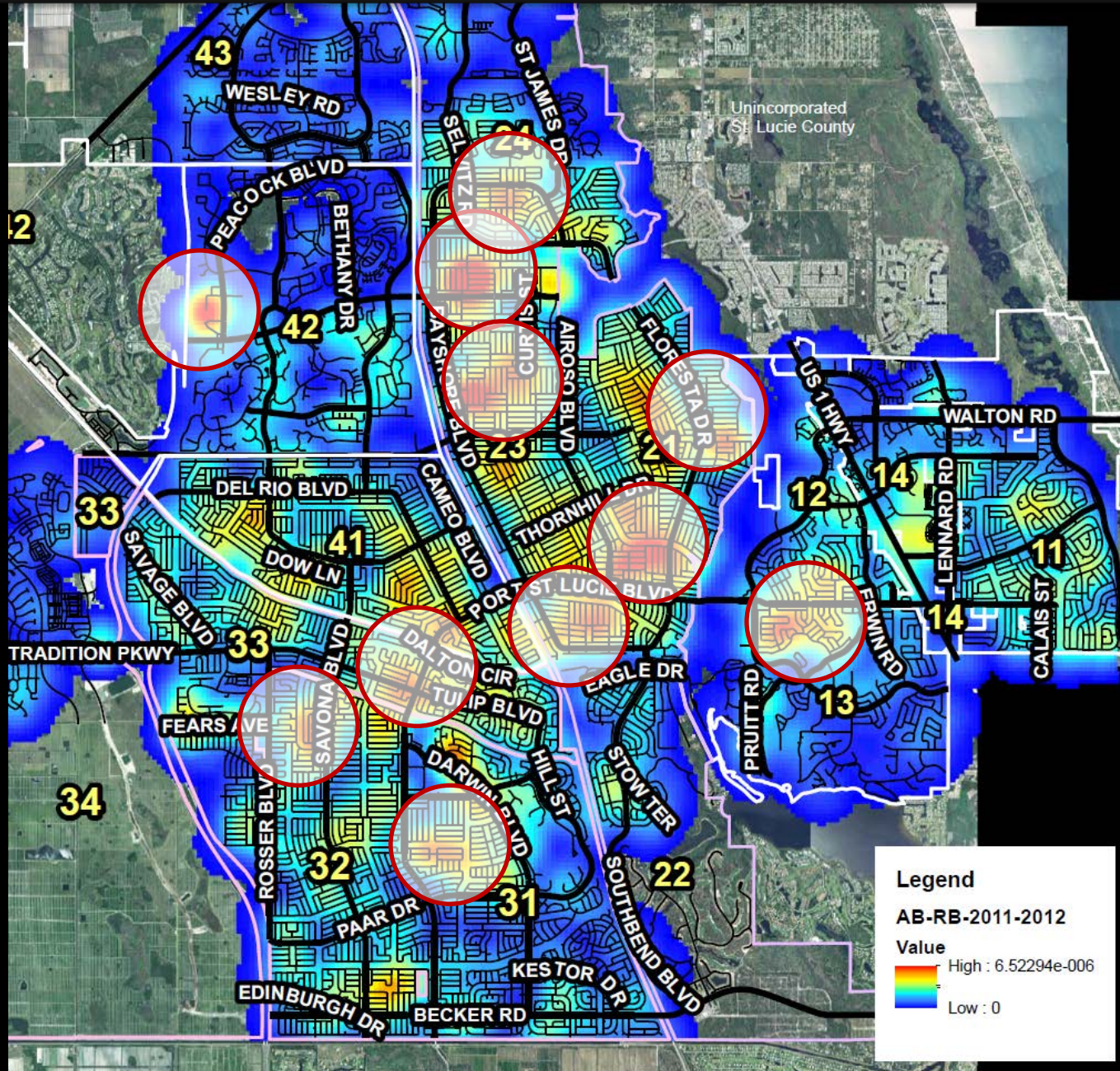
Offender-focused strategies in crime hot spots

1. Identify long-term hot spots of residential burglary and theft from vehicle
2. Select hot spots for response and comparison
3. Identify all offenders living in the hot spots
4. Select offenders for response based on arrest data and criminal history:
 - Number
 - Crime type
 - Seriousness
 - Juvenile or adult
 - Recency of crime

Residential Burglary and Theft from Vehicle Hot Spots Port St. Lucie, FL: 2011-2012



Residential Burglary and Theft from Vehicle Hot Spots Port St. Lucie, FL: 2011-2012



Ongoing Analysis

For selected offenders:

- Standardized packet—Criminal Resume
- Criminal history
- Corrections history and current status
- Any other contacts with police (calls for service, FI cards, victim, witness)
- Other information (financial, residence history, city services history)

Responses

- Responses vary by nature of offender's activity
- Work with state attorney, judges, probation, parole, parents, offender
- Work with other units and divisions in the agency

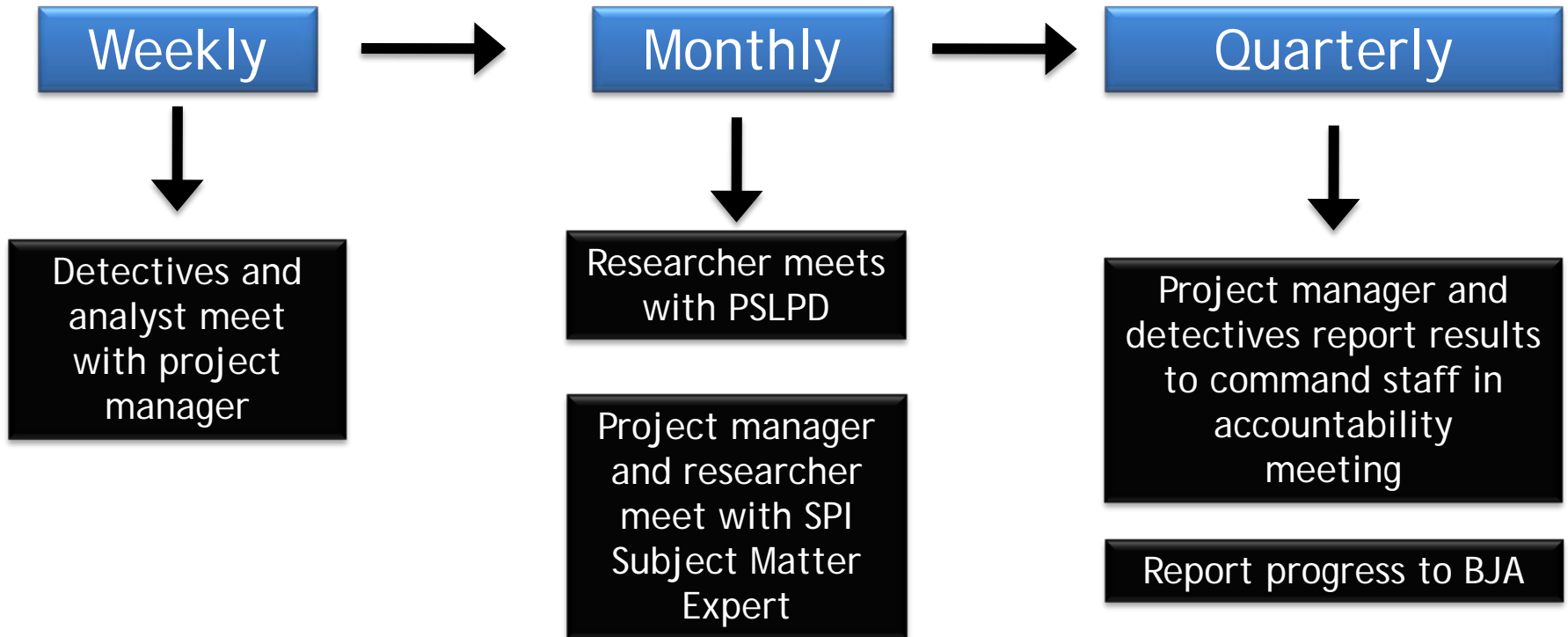
Responses

- Distribution of information to patrol and investigative personnel
- Communication and meetings with partners
 - Prosecutors/judges
 - Probation and parole
 - Others, as necessary
- Ongoing documentation of responses
 - Timeline of criminal history
 - Timeline and details of responses

Evaluation

- Analysis of individual offender results
- Analysis of crime in response and comparison hot spots
- Process evaluation
 - Implementation of individual responses
 - Organizational implementation
 - Roles of detectives and crime analyst
 - Collaboration within agency and among partners

Accountability



Value of Research Partnership

- Implementation of evidence-based strategies
- Quasi-experimental evaluation of offender-based hot spot policing strategies
- Model for offender-based strategies and organizational implementation
- Publications: academic and practical