

142350

PROGRAM NARRATIVE

NCJRS

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Grant No: 88- DD-CX-009

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1ST YEAR SUMMATION

On September 10, 1988, the City of Miami was awarded a \$350,000.00 Grant to fight the Crack Cocaine Epidemic. The grant was titled "Miami Police Crack Focused Task Force". This program started off slowly but quickly became a highly successful operation. Actual operational status was realized in January of 1989.

The grant was designed to address the drug problem in four areas. The first dealt with the demand side of the street level drug activity. OPERATION S.T.I.N.G. utilizes undercover police officers who pose as drug sellers. The customer, upon purchasing narcotics from our in-house drug sellers, is then immediately arrested for the purchase. If the they had traveled by car, the vehicle is impounded and forfeiture proceedings enacted.

The second area emphasized the supply side, specifically from the local street seller. In OPERATION BUY/BUST, undercover officers act as buyers to determine exact targets. Once this information is known, a team of officers, known as the TACTICAL COVER TEAMS, then goes in and makes the arrests. The impact is to literally shut down their operations for a long enough period of time, if not permanently, so that we can give back the community control of their neighborhood.

*Miami Police
CRACK focused
Task Force*

The third area of concern is in the local distribution. MID-LEVEL INVESTIGATION utilizes the coordinated efforts of the newly formed Street Narcotic Unit (S.N.U.) Interceptor Squad to develop a "connection" that will lead an investigation towards the reduction and or elimination of drug flows to the street level dealer/seller.

Lastly, emphasis will be placed on high-level investigations which deals with the sources of drug flows into the City of Miami. The Special Investigation Section (S.I.S.) is especially designed for such a task. Through their coordinated efforts yet independent investigations, the process of drug source, distribution and purchase will be addressed as a single problem.

The operations conducted by the Street Narcotics Unit and the Special Investigations Section have provided the foundation for a computerized data base by which the narcotics enforcement activity can be tracked and statistics compiled.

This data base, while in its infant stage, will serve as a useful tool for operations conducted during the requested secondary funding period, especially since the City of Miami has recently purchased a \$350,000 G.I.S. (computerized mapping system). The combination of the database with electronic mapping will have a tremendous impact on our operations. (See Appendix I - V)

OPERATION S.T.I.N.G.

(Appendix I)

During the 1st year grant period the Street Narcotics Unit conducted eight (8) Mini S.T.I.N.G.'s (Through July 31, 1989) and produced one hundred eighty (180) arrests, impounded 81 vehicles and confiscated seven (7) firearms.

The term "mini" is used to describe the total manpower and work-hours allocated to the S.T.I.N.G.. A normal 10 hour S.T.I.N.G. utilizes 50 to 55 officers while a mini S.T.I.N.G. operates for 8 hours and has 27 officers. These operations were in addition to the normal operations that are conducted during regular work days. Of the one hundred eighty arrests produced by the Crack Grant Operation S.T.I.N.G., Crack Cocaine was the primary drug purchased by offenders in 51% of the arrests effected.

During this same grant period, the Street Narcotics Unit conducted nineteen (19) regular work day S.T.I.N.G. Operations resulting in six hundred eleven (611) drug arrests.

The Crack Grant funded S.T.I.N.G. Operations have enabled the Miami Police Department to increase the number of drug arrests during S.T.I.N.G. Operations by nearly 30%.

The 81 impounded vehicles bought in a total of \$23,000 in project income. Forfeiture proceedings are progressing very slowly, due to due process, and as of July 31, 1989, we have had only 3 vehicles confiscated and sold. The amount received is reflected in the \$23,000 mentioned above. The impact of this grant funded activity upon the community is to place more people (those who are arrested) into the "system", so that they can eventually be helped by more appropriate agencies.

OPERATION BUY/BUST

(Appendix II)

During the 1st year grant period the Street Narcotics Unit has conducted fourteen (14) Buy/Bust Operations (Through July 31, 1989) which produced two hundred eighty two (282) arrests and the confiscation of eight (8) firearms. These operations were funded through the grant and were in addition to daily Buy/Bust Operations conducted by the Street Narcotics Unit.

Of the two hundred eighty two arrests produced by the Crack Grant Operation Buy/Bust, Crack Cocaine was the primary drug purchased from offenders in 72% of the arrests effected.

During this same grant period the Street Narcotics Unit conducted daily Buy/Bust Operations on a regular work day basis resulting in twelve hundred fifty one (1,251) drug arrests.

The Crack Grant funded Buy/Bust Operations have enabled the Miami Police Departments Street Narcotics Unit to increase the number of drug arrests during Buy/Bust Operations by 23%. Again this represents a sizeable increase in narcotics enforcement within the City of Miami.

Overall confiscation of narcotics amounted to the following:

Note: Street Level Drug sales are sold in small bags, i.e., "Nickel" and "Dime" bags.

<u>Drug Type</u>	<u>Total Weight</u>	<u>Num. of Bags</u>
Crack	1368.0 grams	6,480
Cocaine HCL	292.0 grams	1,460
Marijuana	1411.0 grams	564
Other	119.0 grams	-

The total weight of narcotics seized may appear small, but the amount of "bags" taken indicates the severity of the local use in certain areas of our city. Additionally, there were several indirect benefits that resulted from the operations.

COORDINATION WITH OTHER ANTI-DRUG ABUSE PROJECTS

In conjunction with the Federally Funded Crack Grant Operations, the Street Narcotics Unit has staffed one full-time officer to act as a liaison and conduct referrals with the Dade County Juvenile Intervention Program, which is funded under a formula grant awarded by the State of Florida. Our Crack Cocaine Grant is thus interlocked and constantly exchanging information with a Metro-Dade Juvenile Substance Abuse Grant - working together to fight the drugs among our youth.

Community Support

The Community Relations Unit of the Miami Police Department has worked towards keeping the community aware of the different Sting Operations and the benefit which it has had on Miami. We have received endorsements from the Miami Coalition, Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, and other concerned groups in the work we have accomplished. (see Appendix)

Training

The City of Miami of Police Department has become a training center for agencies from around the country. The tactics and methods utilized by the Miami Police Department to combat street level drugs are constantly showcased by the media for our successful approaches to the problem.

This media attention results in numerous requests from outside agencies for training by the Miami Police Department. These individuals request "Hands - On" training so that they can better utilize resources in their communities in combatting the narcotic war.

Agencies from such places as Oklahoma, Tennessee and Passaic County New Jersey, as well as local agencies, journalists, and district attorneys have sent personnel to participate with our staff. We have trained approximately 250 people during the past several years. (see Appendix)

Year Two - Request for Continuation

Our statistics indicates that since inception of our Narcotic Task Force, more specifically the onset of S.T.I.N.G.s and Buy/Busts, the number of arrests and narcotics seized have steadily decreased, but the number of smaller "clusters" of narcotic selling operations have been increasing. In essence, the dealers are basically saying that if they can't operate one large operation, they'll settle for several smaller ones.

Fortunately, through the grant we were able to concentrate extensive street level enforcement efforts that ordinarily we could not have provided. We have been able to reduce the blatant display of street sales but we need to continue the battle and not reduce the effort.

In continuation of the grant, we plan to double the efforts of the Buy/Bust operations and continue with the current S.T.I.N.G. strategy to attack the "clusters" and the buyers. The total budget and the amount we are requesting for this expanded project is \$350,000.

Many things were realized during the first year grant period. One was the need for statistical research and data entry into the computer data base. This is budgeted for during the second year funding request. The main bulk of the funding request will be for the operational overtime to staff Buy/Busts and S.T.I.N.G. Operations.

In the first year, four (4) Mid-Level Investigations were completed. This resulted in the arrest of six (6) "managerial" criminal personnel and the seizure of 593.7 gram of powdered cocaine, crack and herion destined for street sales. Thereby causing a disruption in the drug flow network. (see Appendix VI)

In 1989 the Miami Police Department formed the "Interceptor Squad" and assigned it to the Street Narcotics Unit. Its purpose is to target the delivery of narcotics and the seizure of illicit drug profits. The refunding request will make provisions for the incorporation of the "Interceptor Squad" into the grant concept. The Interceptor Squad will bridge the gap between S.I.S. and S.N.U. Together these units will combine their efforts to reduce the "supply" and utilize forfeitures to hit the dealers in their pockets.

During the second year, the Interceptor Squad will conduct four (4) operations geared specifically towards the distribution of narcotics. They will be trying to take down couriers, messengers and distribution points.

The Special Investigation Section will be focusing their attention on two (2) operations aimed at the high-level or source of imports of illegal drugs into the City of Miami. Both of these operations are anticipated to have a tremendous impact on the Street Level Drug Dealer.

The first year of any entity, is one of growth. Building blocks must be established and then built on. This is extremely germane with "Grants". The foundation was well laid and now the true fruits can be realized. The second year funding would result in the continuation of a program that is vital to the Miami Community.

The benefit that Miami has realized from this grant is immeasurable. There is no way to accurately measure the level of drugs and drug activity which may have impacted the Greater Miami Community had this grant not been realized.

Some of the initial problems during the 1st year of the grant have been addressed, corrected and improved upon. The system is in place and functioning smoothly. Hopefully, there would be no break in the operational schedule and the 2nd year would take right over.

It would be most prudent not to quantify directly our expectations for the number of arrests, narcotic seized and property confiscated and forfeited to made during year 2. But we could state with the utmost confidence that we will surpass our previous year in total output.

Changes in Legislature, that are to take place on October 1, 1989, will allow us to fully address the forfeiture proceedings and attack the users/dealers where it hurts the most, in their pockets.

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OBJECTIVES/ACTIVITIES - IMPROVEMENTS

During the requested 2nd year funding, the overall goal and objectives remain the same. We will staff and conduct twelve (12) mini S.T.I.N.G. operations. The S.T.I.N.G. operations will be conducted relatively unchanged in the structure to combat the "Demand Side" of the drug problem.

The Miami Police Department must be flexible to create new methods to combat the drug problem. A few planning changes are to be expected and are outlined below:

- 1 - The participation of the C.I.T.A.T. Unit in the Crack Task Force will be eliminated. This is necessary due to the police departments restructuring of the C.I.T.A.T. Unit within its organization .
- 2 - The liaison and referral of juvenile narcotics offenders to the Dade County Juvenile Intervention Grant will continue through the life of the Juvenile Grant. That date will depend upon renewing that grant.

MID/HIGH - LEVEL INVESTIGATIONS

- 3 - Support for the Mid-Level Narcotics Investigation will be added by the growth of this function within the grant . Funding is requested for the staffing of personnel to develop and evaluate information.

This information will be disseminated to members of the Interceptor Squad and the Special Investigations Section. Each of these two organizational elements will conduct independent narcotics investigations based upon ability to investigate and other criteria as determined by the Grant Coordinator.

OPERATION BUY/BUST

- 4 - During the 2nd year funding period, the Street Narcotics Unit will staff and conduct eighteen (18) Buy/Bust Operations, an increase of 12 from the previous year. The Buy/Bust Operation will be conducted unchanged in structure to combat the "Supply Side" of the drug problem. The increase in the number of operations is necessary to handle the changes in strategy that are being forced upon us.

DATA ENTRY

- 5 - The Street Narcotics Unit has determined that a data entry specialist will be required on an overtime basis to implement and maintain an effective data base for use to compile and report statistics and other information critical to effective operations.

PROPERTY UNIT CLERK

- 6 - During 1st year funding it became apparent that the overwhelming amount of evidence and property generated by Crack Grant Operations required the staffing of Property Unit Personnel on an overtime basis to process evidence during the Grant Operations. This funding category is addressed in the 2nd year funding request.

FORFEITURE/LEGAL UNIT

- 7 - Similar to the Property Unit's position, personnel from the Forfeiture/Legal Unit wasn't originally budgeted. The amount of administrative work placed upon this unit from the field operations requires additional labor. This funding category is addressed in the 2nd year funding request.

PROJECT INCOME

- 8 - As of October 1, 1989, we will no longer be able to place special fees on property that is impounded during the field operations. Due to changes in the State Legislature, project income from this source will be severely cut. But we will now be able to enact legal proceedings against real property. It is our expectation that this will be most fruitful, although it will require a certain amount of time to process and collect on such properties.

CONCLUSION

Miami's Grant has become a model for others throughout the nation. Miami's Grant has been "showcased" and numerous other jurisdictions have been "schooled" in our techniques.

For too long a period of time, Miami has been perceived as a City with a drug problem. That is beginning to change. Miami is fast becoming the "City With The Solution". The grant is responsible for this.

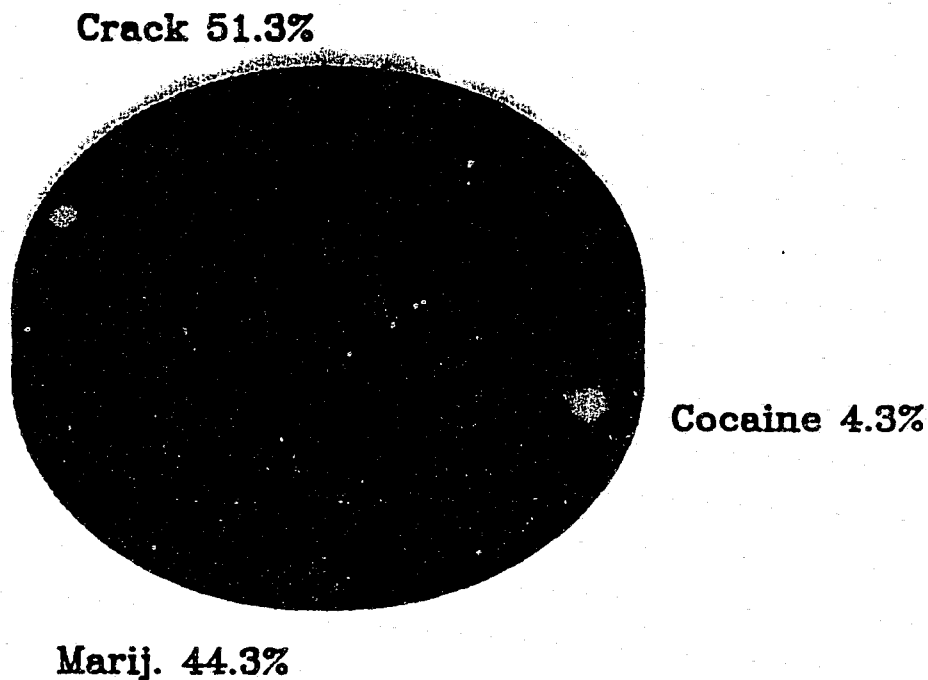
In conclusion, Miami has taken its first year grant and made it a winner. It surely deserves an opportunity for consideration of refunding for a second year.

APPENDIX

Miami Police Department

Crack Grant Status Report

Sting Arrests (180)



8/1/89

Appendix I

MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT
CRACK GRANT STATUS REPORT
180 STING ARRESTS

This graph depicts Sting operations.

As of August 1, 1989 the Street Narcotics Unit of the Miami Police Department has made 180 arrests during 8 sting operations.

44.3% of the arrests involved the purchase or possession of marijuana.

51.3% of the arrests involved the purchase or possession of crack cocaine.

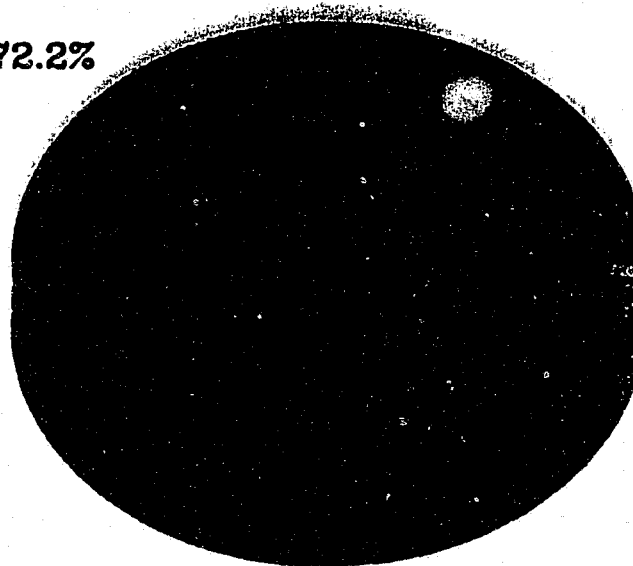
4.3% of the arrests involved the purchase or possession of cocaine powder.

Miami Police Department

Crack Grant Status Report

Buy-Bust Arrests (282)

Crack 72.2%



Other 1.4%

Cocaine 8.3%

Marij. 18.2%

8/1/89

APPENDIX II

MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT
CRACK GRANT STATUS REPORT
282 BUY BUST ARRESTS

The Street Narcotics Unit of the Miami Police Department has used two types of operations during the crack grant. These are Buy Busts, which target sellers, and Stings, which target buyers.

As of August 1, 1989 during 14 Buy Bust operations 282 arrests where made.

72.2% of the arrests involved the sale or possession of crack cocaine.

8.3% of the arrests involved the sale or possession of cocaine powder.

18.2% of the arrests involved the sale or possession of marijuana.

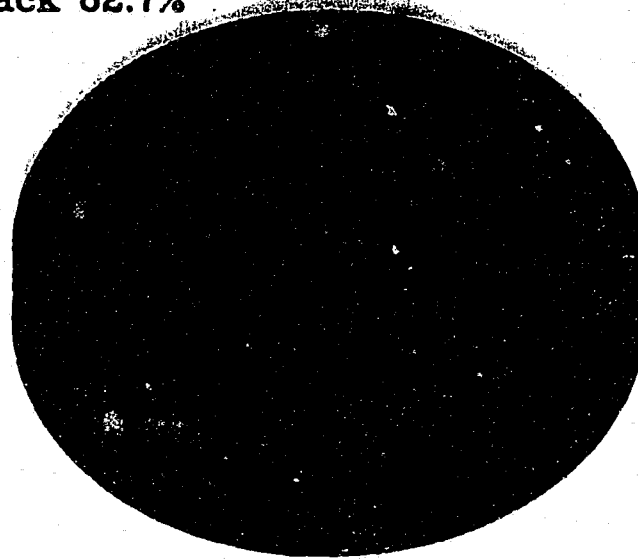
1.4% of the arrests involved the sale or possession of other types of narcotics.

Miami Police Department

Crack Grant Status Report

Total Arrests (462)

Crack 62.7%



Other 0.8%

Cocaine 6.5%

Marij. 30.0%

All Operations

8/1/89

APPENDIX III

MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT
CRACK GRANT STATUS REPORT
462 ARRESTS

As of August 1, 1989 during 22 Buy Bust and Sting operations, the Street Narcotics Unit of the Miami Police Department made 462 arrests.

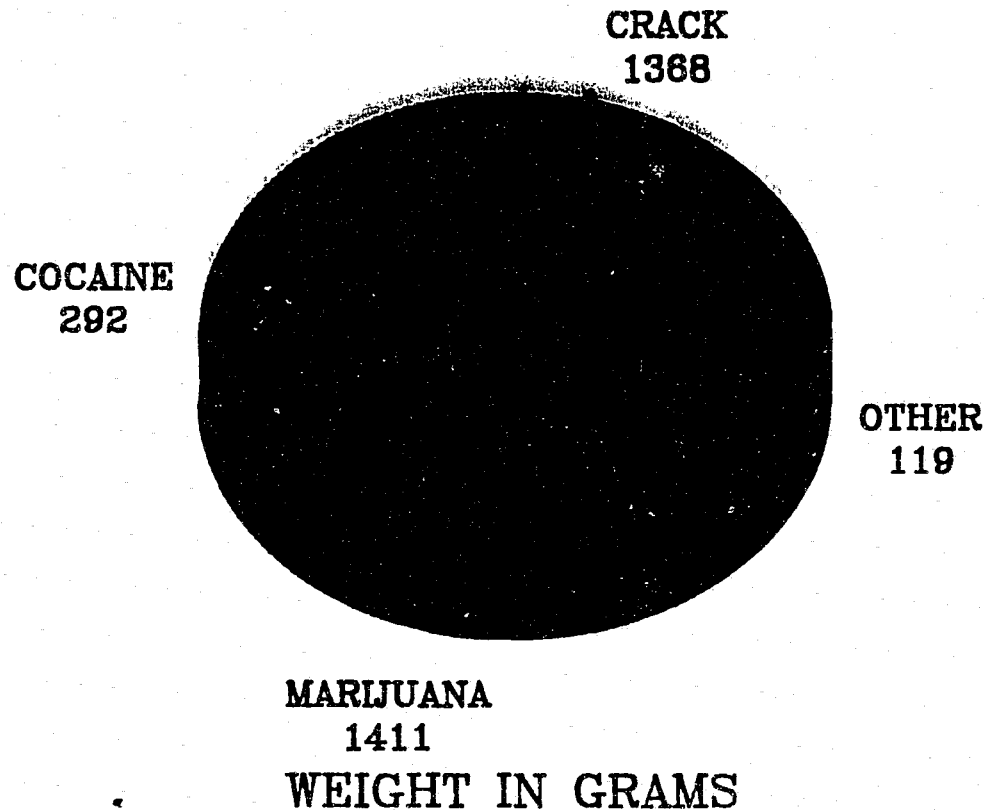
62.7% of the arrests involved the sale, purchase, or possession of crack cocaine.

6.5% of the arrests involved the sale, purchase, or possession of cocaine powder.

30.0% of the arrests involved the sale, purchase, or possession of marijuana.

.8% of the arrests involved the sale, purchase, or possession of other types of narcotics.

MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT CRACK GRANT STATUS REPORT NARCOTICS SEIZED



APPENDIX IV

MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT
CRACK GRANT STATUS REPORT
NARCOTICS SEIZED

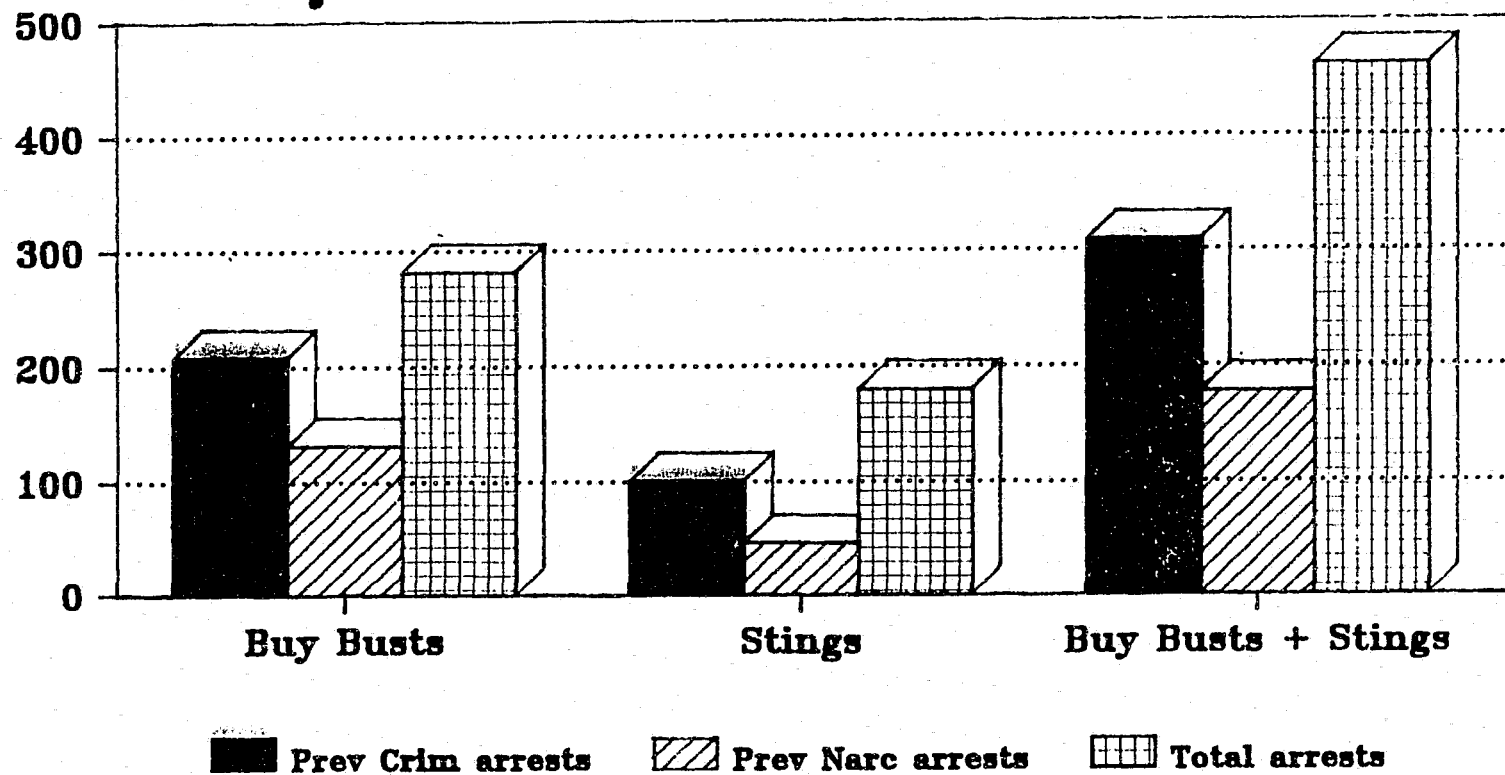
As of August 1, 1989 during 26 Buy Bust, Sting, and mid-level operations, Units of the Miami Police Department seized:

1368 grams of crack cocaine
292 grams of cocaine powder
1411 grams of marijuana
119 grams of other types of narcotics
(over 100 grams heroin)

MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT

Crack Grant Status Report

Defendant Profile



Appendix V

MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT
CRACK GRANT STATUS REPORT
DEFENDANT PROFILE

As of August 1, 1989 the Street Narcotics Unit of the Miami Police Department has made 462 arrests on the Crack Grant. An analysis of those arrested was undertaken to obtain a defendant profile.

Of the 462 arrested, 309 or 66.8% had previous arrest records. Of the 309 who had a previous arrest history, 178 or 57.6% had a narcotics charge in their records. Of the total number of individuals arrested, 38.5% had previous narcotics pasts.

Of the 282 arrested in Buy Busts, 208 or 73.6% had previous arrest records. Of the 208 arrested with previous records 132 or 63.4% had a narcotics charge in their past. Of the total number of individuals arrested in Buy Bust operations, 46.8% had a narcotics past.

Of the 180 arrested in Stings, 101 or 56% had previous arrest records. Of the 101 arrested with previous records, 46 or 46% had a narcotics charge in their past. Of the total number of individuals arrested in Sting operations, 26% had a narcotics past.

An analysis of this data reveals the major part narcotics plays in defendant arrest records. Data on the arrest of sellers reveals overwhelmingly that the individuals involved in this type of activity are no strangers to law enforcement.

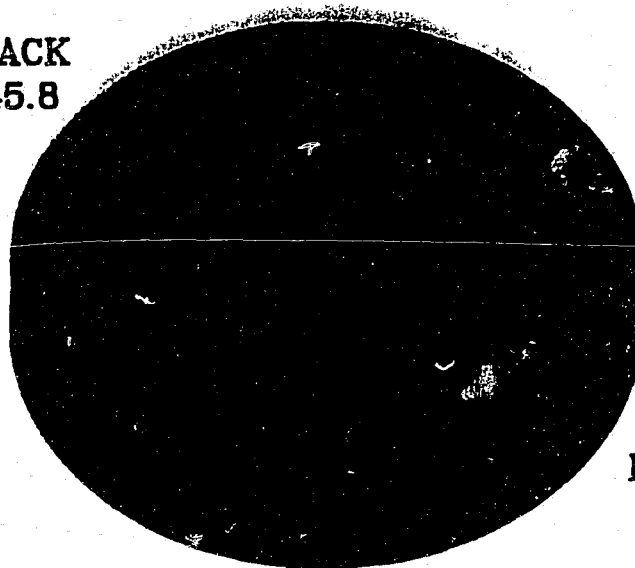
An analysis of the data on the arrest of buyers reveal a higher than expected percentage of individuals with previous records. A correlation could easily be drawn between the desire for drugs and an involvement in criminal activity.

MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT

MID-LEVEL INVESTIGATIONS

NARCOTICS SEIZED

CRACK
445.8



HEROIN
110.4

COCAINE
37.5

WEIGHT IN GRAMS

APPENDIX VI

MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT
CRACK GRANT STATUS REPORT
MID-LEVEL INVESTIGATIONS

As of August 1, 1989 during 4 mid-level crack operation investigations, Units of the Miami Police Department seized:

445.8 grams of crack cocaine
37.5 grams of cocaine powder
110.4 grams of heroin