

City Commission Meeting
Public Safety
October 18, 2021



Our Strategy

Build trust and earn legitimacy. Meaningful engagement with, and accountability to, the Neighbors are essential underpinnings of any effective strategy to address violent crime.

Invest in prevention and intervention programs. We believe violent crime is not a problem that can be solved by law enforcement alone. We must continue to build partnerships with our neighbors in community-based violence prevention and intervention programs that work to keep violence from happening before it occurs.

Precision enforcement efforts and priorities, is most effective response when we focuses our enforcement resources on identifying, investigating, and prosecuting the most significant drivers of gun violence and other violent crime.

Measure results: The fundamental goal of this work is to reduce the level of violence in our communities, not to increase the number of arrests or prosecutions as if they were ends in themselves—we must measure the results of our efforts on these grounds.

CONNECTED COMMUNITY

CONNECTED



A Response To Gun Violence

Gainesville, FL



August 19, 2021



TRUST AND LEGITIMACY

Meaningful Law Enforcement and accountability to the community will be an essential underpinning of our strategies. In an effort to foster those strategies, we have held over eight listening sessions throughout our community. Although there were similar comments in all of the sessions, the most apparent commonality is that they all want to see an end to the violence. This is everyone's responsibility both Sworn and Civilian. GPD will work with other community stakeholders to assist in addressing issues that impact violence in our community. We will solicit assistance from the entire community to address issues that have been relayed as contributing factors to neighborhood violence.



One Community

- The Gainesville Police Department is actively working to remove the barriers that separate the police department from the neighbors we serve. We recognize that our primary responsibility is working in unison with our neighbors to “Identify and Resolve” community issues. We will only be successful working as “One Community” with a common goal of protecting all of our neighbors and especially our youth. No one entity is responsible for the ills that we face today as a community and no one entity will be able to resolve these challenges alone. We will only be successful addressing these challenges working as “One Community”, a community of educators, mental health professionals, businesses, criminal justice system, parents, clergy, elected officials and all of our community builders working toward a common goal. The following is a sample of steps that GPD has taken to advance our “One Community”:
 - Meeting with community members, clergy, and other stakeholders to identify, develop and implement unique approaches to addressing the issue of gun violence.
 - Assurance Group - “Who’s in the Box” Initiative.
 - Enhance Use of System of Care Program – Using Will Halvosa as Referral Coordinator
 - Preventive and Education initiative that provides round services to victims of homicides, victims of crimes, etc.
 - Meeting with apartment complex management to address violence in and around their communities (offer CPTED asst.)
 - Community Walks with the Mayor and City Leadership
 - Business Watches are being organized and implemented
 - Re instituted the Neighborhood Crime Watches
 - Neighborhood Policing Initiative is a training with law enforcement and community members.
 - Curriculum consists of Action Plan development - community engagement and problem solving policing

Neighbors Engagement

Our engagement and accountability to the community is an essential foundation of our strategy to address violent crime. We will work together with those most affected by violent crime to build a sense of mutual respect for the law and to be collaborative partners with our community. It is critical that we each other with dignity and respect. GPD community builders will be constitutional, consistent, and compassionate in carrying out our entrusted responsibilities.

Proofs: Engage community leaders/groups to proactively engage the neighbors, organizations, and businesses in anti-violence/gun violence activities i.e., walks, community events.

Number of Police/Staff of misconduct.

Number of residents and Neighborhood engagement, Number of anti-violence activity, Number of community walks.

2. Assigned: Assistant Chief Scott, Assistant Chief Pierce, John Alexander, Inspector Kurnick

Investment In Our Youth and Young Adults

We must continue to invest and, in some instances, enhance our efforts in community-based prevention and intervention programs. For example, our neighbors have in the past created programs that serve those individuals who are considered at risk of either engaging in or becoming the victims of violence. We will double our efforts in interrupting the cycle of violence by focusing on and encouraging those youth and young people to be a part of these programs.

Proofs:

- Operations and Administrative staff referrals of youth and young adults to programs ,
- Violence Interrupters case load numbers,
- School Resource Officers referrals of students to programs and activities.
- Co Responders referral in the focused area.
- Operations and Crime prevention: New activities created with neighbors, parent educational programs through collaboration with faith-based and schools
- Number of Youth and Young Adults added to Reichert House, B.O.L.D., Police Explorers.
- Community Based Gang Prevention Education for parents and youths.
- Create a social media campaign (Example: “Its 1100 PM, Do you know where your children are?”) message with parent input.

Assignment: John Alexander, Assistant Chief Pierce, Assistant Chief Scott, PIO Graham Glover

How are we investing in our youth?

Nspire Interrupters have case management files regarding the recent shooting activity between youth

Six additional Nspire Interrupters will be hired and trained through the Project Safe Neighborhood Grant and state agreement between the Florida Department of Corrections and the City of Gainesville. Anticipated to begin solo status at the beginning of 2022

School Resource Officers have been addressing the recent bomb threats within the school system

Implementing a new unit within the Gainesville Police Department called “Neighborhood Support Unit”

Strategic Enforcement Efforts and Priorities

We will practice Precision Policing; it has two important parts which are focused crime and disorder enforcement, and Community Policing. We believe that violent criminals who damage the communities are a small percentage of the population., by working with the larger percentage of the population it demonstrates a true partnership and reinforces the fact that public safety is a shared responsibility, when we focus our limited enforcement resources on identifying, investigating, and prosecuting the most significant drivers of gun violence and other violent crime, we will have a safer community.

Proofs:

- The Number of shots fired reported for the last Seven Days.
- **Number of weapons seized**
- Number of Firearms
- The quantity of illegal narcotics seized
- The number of neighbor contacts without arrest
- The number neighbor contacts with arrest
- The use of the CSAC aka RTCC Unit is a centralized technology center in which its principal purpose is to provide officers instant and comprehensive information to help find suspects, vehicles, identify patterns, and stop emerging crime.

Statistics

| Crime | August | September | Percent Change | Since Jan 1, 2021 |
|---|---|---|----------------|-------------------|
| Number of total stolen firearms | 8 | 23 | +188% | 118 |
| Number of total firearms stolen from vehicles | 4 | 16 | +300% | 66 |
| Number of total weapons other than guns seized by LEO | 29 | 14 | -52% | 144 |
| Number of total firearms seized by LEO | 23 | 38 | +65% | 261 |
| Quantity of Illegal drugs seized by LEO | 2079.03 gm + 0.75 lb. + 3 oz. + 267 pills + 442 DU + 0.9 UN | 1866.95 gm + 3 DU+ 1247.5 ea. + 13 lb. + 1 FO + 40.2 UN | | |
| Number of verified incidents of shots fired | 12 | 9 | -25% | 101 |
| Number of persons shot or injured by a gun fire | 7 (1 accidental) | 4 | -43% | 45 |
| Homicides | 0 | 1 | | 5 |

On Saturday, October 16, 2021, GPD seized several weapons during an armed disturbance.

Great work by these patrol officers to get these weapons off the street!



UCR

| Gainesville Police Department | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------|--|--|
| Year-To-Date Statistics Through October 5, 2021 | | | | | | | | |
| | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 3 Year Average | % Change 2020-2021 | | |
| Violent Crimes | | | | | | | | |
| Homicide | 4 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 4.00 | -16.67 | | |
| Rape | 131 | 117 | 96 | 129 | 114.00 | 34.38 | | |
| Robbery | 180 | 137 | 147 | 189 | 157.67 | 28.57 | | |
| Aggravated Assault | 475 | 446 | 527 | 535 | 502.67 | 1.52 | | |
| <i>Total</i> | 790 | 701 | 776 | 858 | 778.33 | 10.57 | | |
| Property Crimes | | | | | | | | |
| Burglary | 408 | 368 | 321 | 301 | 330.00 | -6.23 | | |
| Larceny | 3293 | 2919 | 2553 | 2137 | 2536.33 | -16.29 | | |
| Auto Theft | 301 | 308 | 376 | 310 | 331.33 | -17.55 | | |
| <i>Total</i> | 4002 | 3595 | 3250 | 2748 | 3197.67 | -15.45 | | |
| Grand Total | 4792 | 4296 | 4026 | 3606 | 3976.00 | -10.43 | | |
| Burglary to Conveyance | 725 | 588 | 667 | 553 | 602.67 | -17.09 | | |
| Motorcycle Thefts | 119 | 153 | 166 | 103 | 140.67 | -37.95 | | |
| Retail Theft | 1020 | 983 | 709 | 553 | 748.33 | -22.00 | | |



Violent Crimes up in USA by +5.6% from 2019

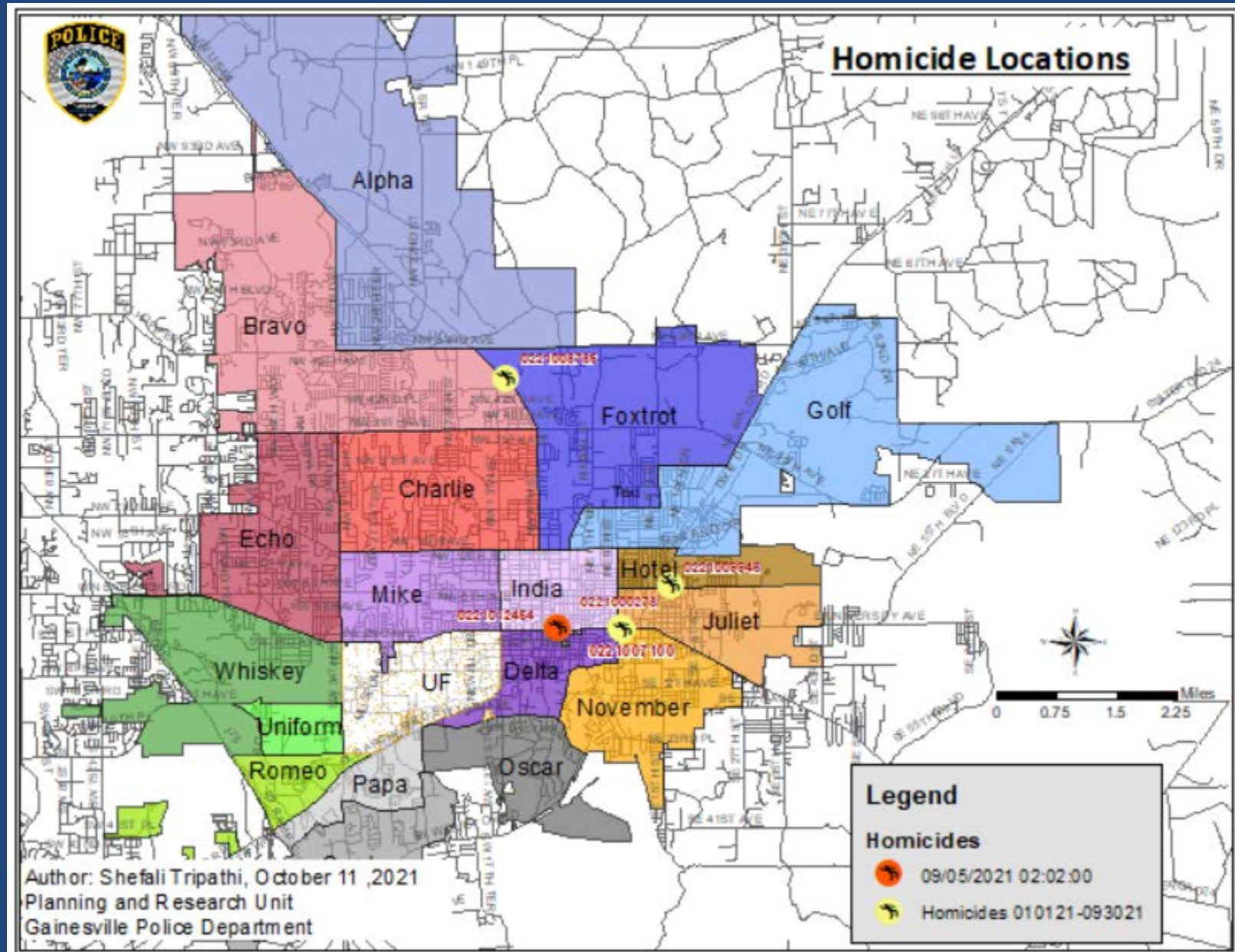
The Bureau reported that “for the first time in four years, the estimated number of violent crimes in the nation increased when compared with the previous year’s statistics” and cited a 5.6 percent rise in violent crime.

Property crimes dropped 7.8 percent, marking the 18th consecutive year the collective estimates for these offenses declined.

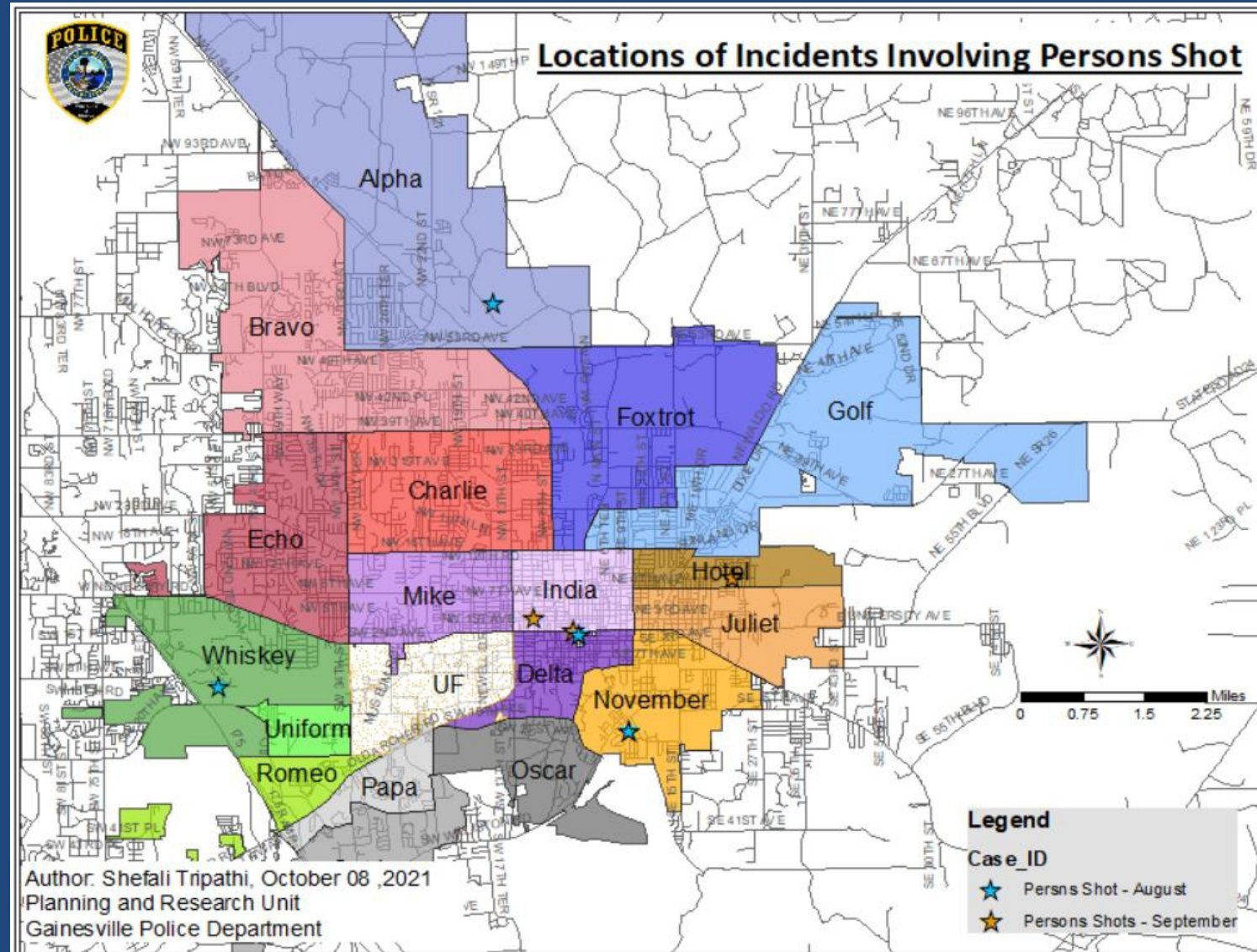
motor vehicle thefts rose 11.8 percent.



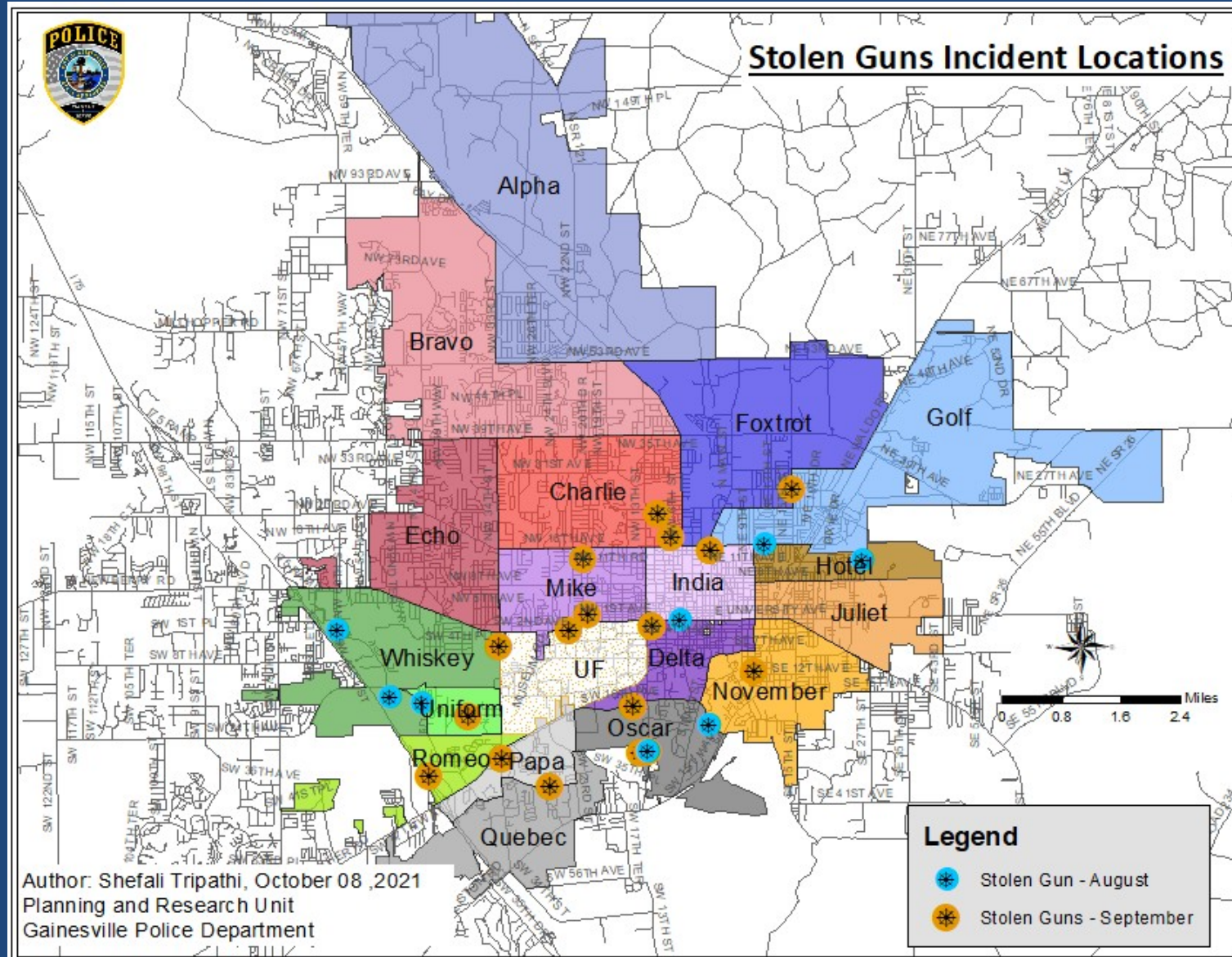
Incident Locations of Homicides



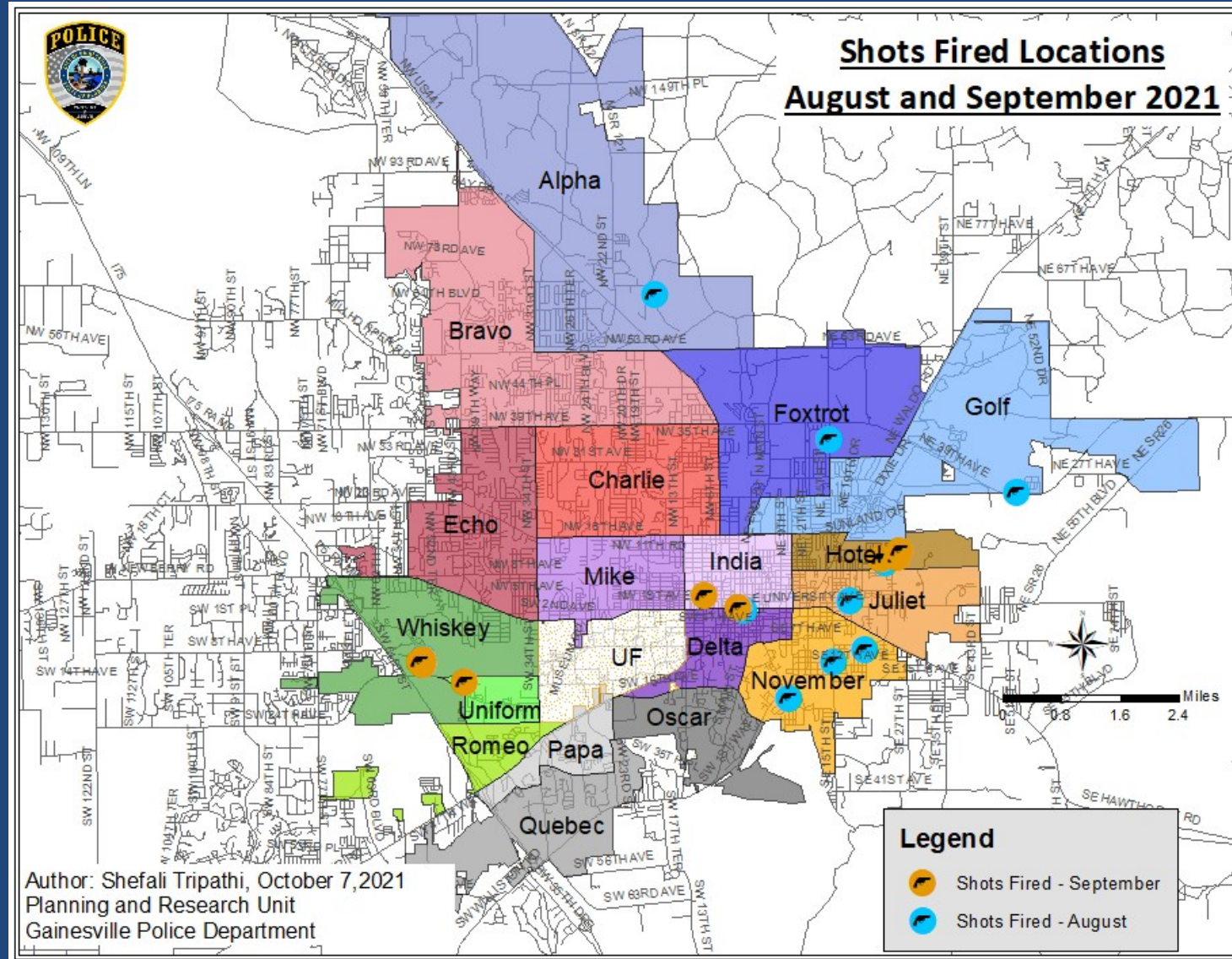
Map of Incidents Involving Persons Shot



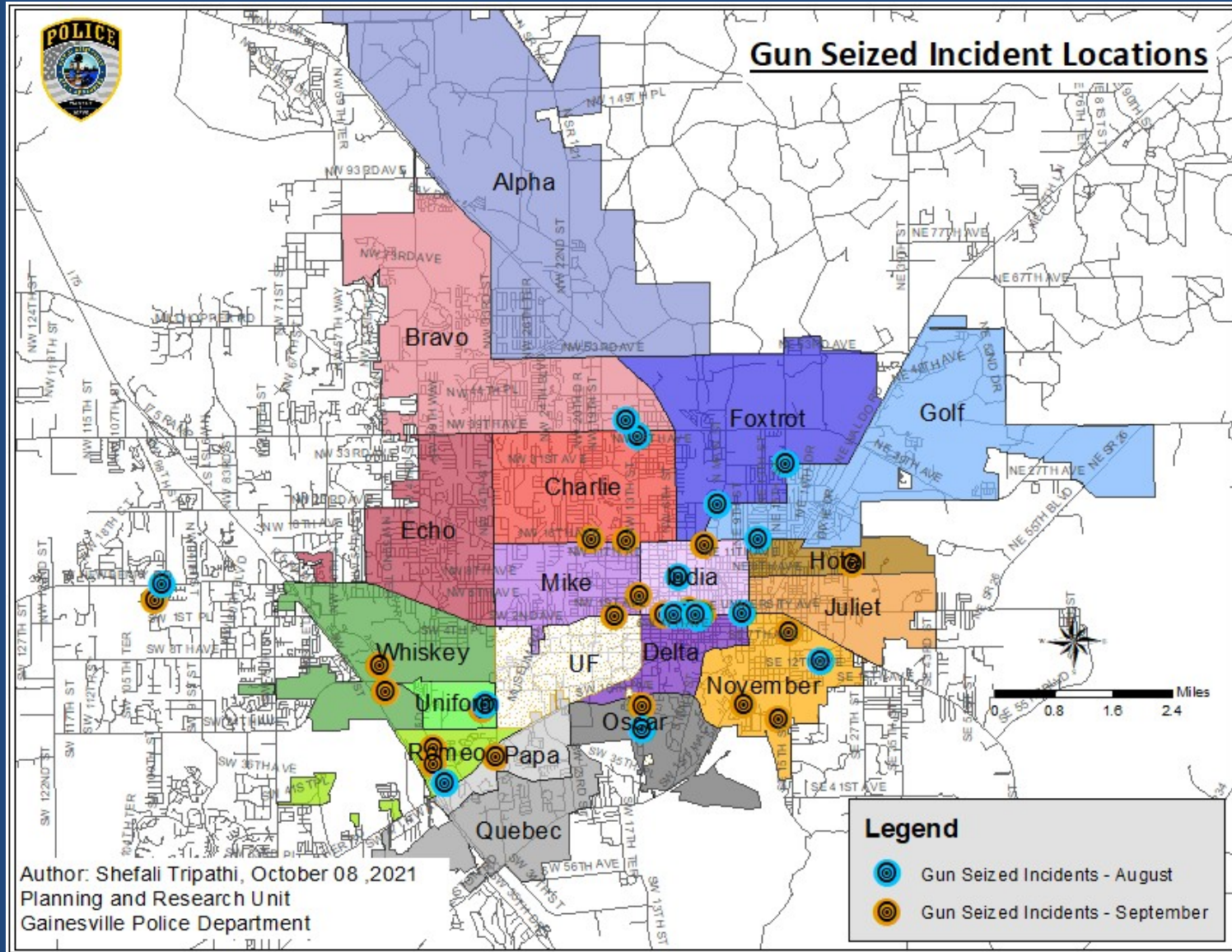
Map of Incidents Involving Stolen Guns



Map of Incidents Involving Shots Fired



Map of Incident Locations With Gun Seizures



Gun Buy Back Program

The first steps toward violent crime reduction focus on strategic interventions that will ensure a basic level of safety to reduce the number of shootings taking place in our community. Violent crime with illegal guns has impacted our community. We know that many of the weapons are obtained through illicit means, such as burglaries and illegal trading of these weapons. We will host several Gun Buybacks in conjunction with the States Attorney's Office. This program allows owners of firearms to trade their guns for vouchers or gift certificates which can be redeemed for other items of value. Those who turn in a firearm(s) can be assured that no questions will be asked, there will be total anonymity; therefore, the individual has immunity. If they discover a gun, that they don't own, they can turn it into one of two churches on a selected day and time for a gift card. This year considering the number of youths being shot or killed by gunfire, we will make a special appeal to parents to check their homes for weapons. If they discover a gun, that they don't own, they can turn it into one of two churches on a selected day and time for a gift card. The parent will have total immunity during this time. We believe that any weapon turned-in could save a life.

Proofs:

- The Number of Gun Buy Backs
- Total number of weapon & firearms exchanged for Gift Cards
- Advertisements went out community engagement in pre-planning for each event.

Assigned: John Alexander, Assistant Chief Scott, Assistant Chief Pierce, PIO- Graham Glover

Neighbors Lock Your Vehicles

We appeal to gun owner- “Stop Arming Criminals and Youth by leaving firearms in unsecured vehicles.” This is irresponsible and contributes to some of the crimes in our community.

GPD will attempt to identify funds to develop public safety education program.

Create public safety advertisements for dissemination in various publications i.e. videos, billboards, flyers. Utilize the full array of media; social and traditional to get the message out.

The 9:00 PM Routine was started on December 5th, 2019 and ran through April 30th, 2020. This was posted to Twitter and Facebook 7 days a week during this span.

Proof:

- Number of messages aired during evening message on social media to alert car owners to lock their vehicle
- Develop a marketing campaign against vehicle burglaries
- Number of vehicle inspections

Assigned: John Alexander, PIO Graham Glover, Assistant Chief Scott

One Community Neighbor Response Council

Chief Inspector Kurnick and John Alexander will be meeting with the Jacksonville Sheriff Office to learn about their council in the City of Jacksonville.

Once Chief Inspector Kurnick and John Alexander have collected data, they will begin creating the One Community Neighbor Response Council by advertising for neighbors and community leadership participation on the council.

The goal of this council is to receive input from our neighbors in order to address the rise in violent crime within the community.

We anticipate to hold our first meeting to be within the next several weeks.

Violent Crime Workgroup

We will establish a workgroup made up of community neighbors and businesses. This workgroup will review the progress of our strategy and make recommendations on how the efforts to reduce gun violence can be enhanced. This workgroup will also assist in identifying some of the underlying causes of violence in our community and offer suggestions in addressing these sources.

Mission: To curb violence, to reduce the growing number of homicides and shootings in the city and to develop specific, community-wide steps citizens and leaders can take to make their communities safer. How will this group accomplish its mission?

Listening sessions to discuss:

- **Connecting communities and GPD to develop more effective Community Policing Methods**
- Create opportunities for citizens of all ages and backgrounds to build positive relationships with police officers.
- Police and neighbors will partner to analyze and work toward positive alternatives to community and neighborhood conditions.
- Educate citizens on their rights and the role and responsibility of law enforcement officers:
- **Community mobilization:** establish a community value system, to create a crime reporting friendly environment for areas identified. Ways to engage residents in activities such as neighborhood crime watches and other prevention programs.
- **Advocacy and awareness** proposing and advocating for legislative and policy-related changes necessary to promote a safer community for all residents. Advocate for increased consequences for illegal gun activity. Leaving vehicles unlocked with firearms
- **Intervention and Prevention:** Creating parental supports intervention, prevention, and parental supports



Neighborhood Support Unit

Gainesville Police Department

**LEAVING
PEOPLE
BETTER
THAN
WE
FIND
THEM!**

E
D
U
C
A
T
I
O
N

S
T
R
A
T
E
G
I
C

S
E
N
T
R
O
F
O
R
C
E
M
E
N
T

I
N
T
E
R
V
E
N
T
I
O
N

P
R
E
V
E
N
T
I
O
N



Individual and Interpersonal Risk Factors for Violence

Individual

History of victimization

- High emotional distress
- Poor behavioral control
- Antisocial beliefs/attitudes
- Exposure to violence

Family

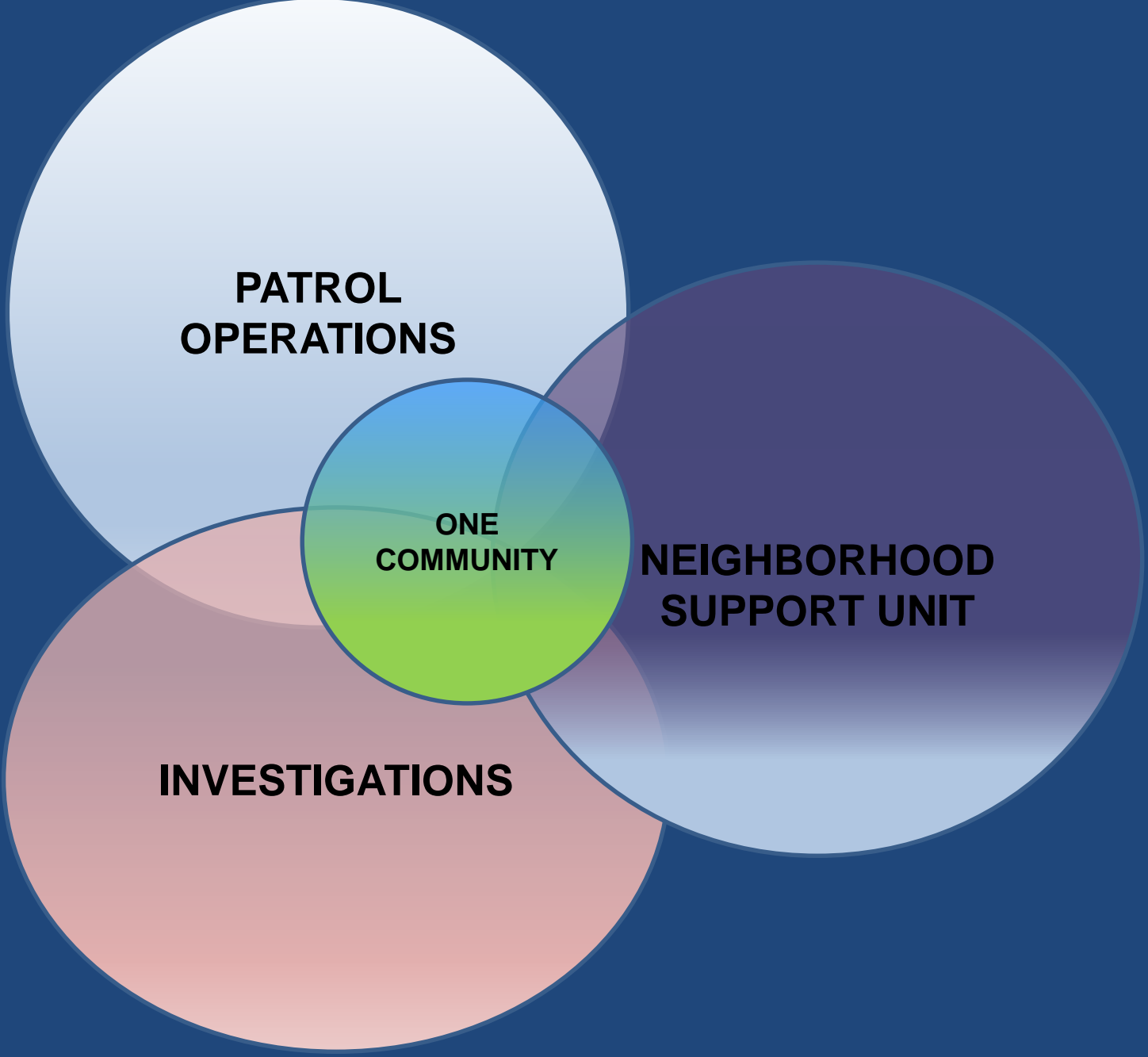
Low parental involvement – Low parental education/income – Parent substance abuse – Poor family functioning, Lack of Supervision, Low attachment to parent or caregiver.

Interpersonal

- Antisocial norms among peer group
- Social rejection
- Gang involvement
- Lack of involvement in conventional activities
- Low commitment to school/school failure



NSU INTERNAL COLLABORATION



**PATROL
OPERATIONS**

**ONE
COMMUNITY**

**NEIGHBORHOOD
SUPPORT UNIT**

INVESTIGATIONS

We Can Not Succeed If We Are Divided



