

The SCRAP test

A tool to identify crime reduction strategies that will not work

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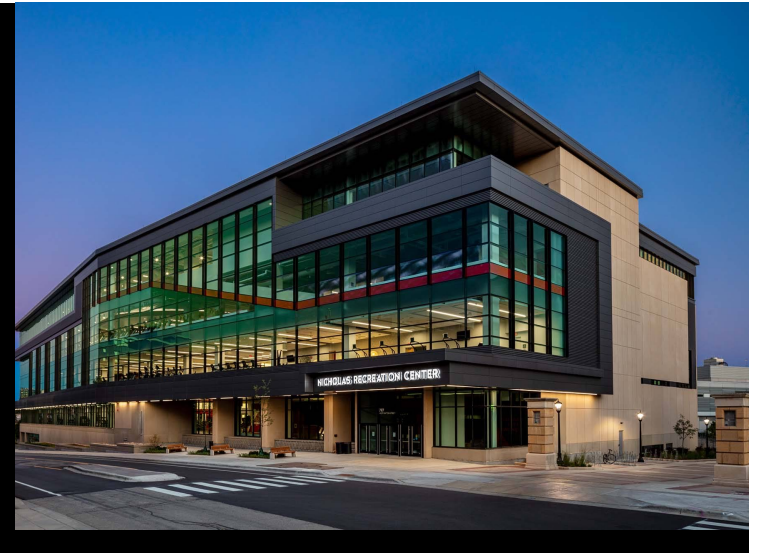
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Peel9

31st Annual Problem-Oriented Policing Conference

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If your strategy assumes...

Solutions to crime are complex

Crime is widespread

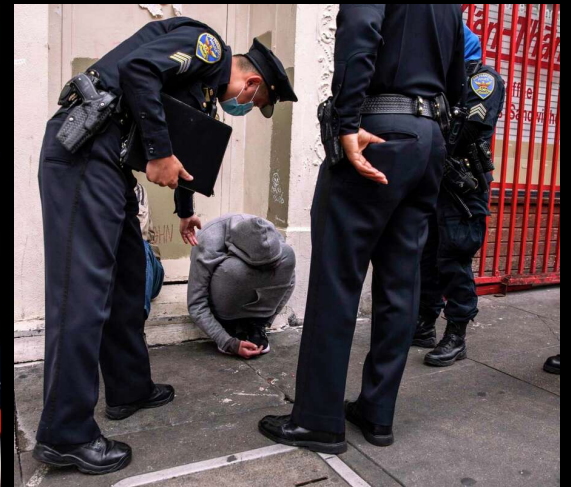
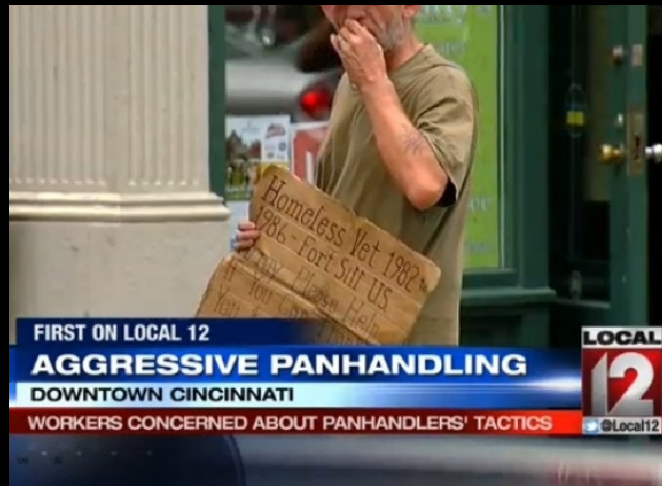
Residents matter most

Arrests reduce crime

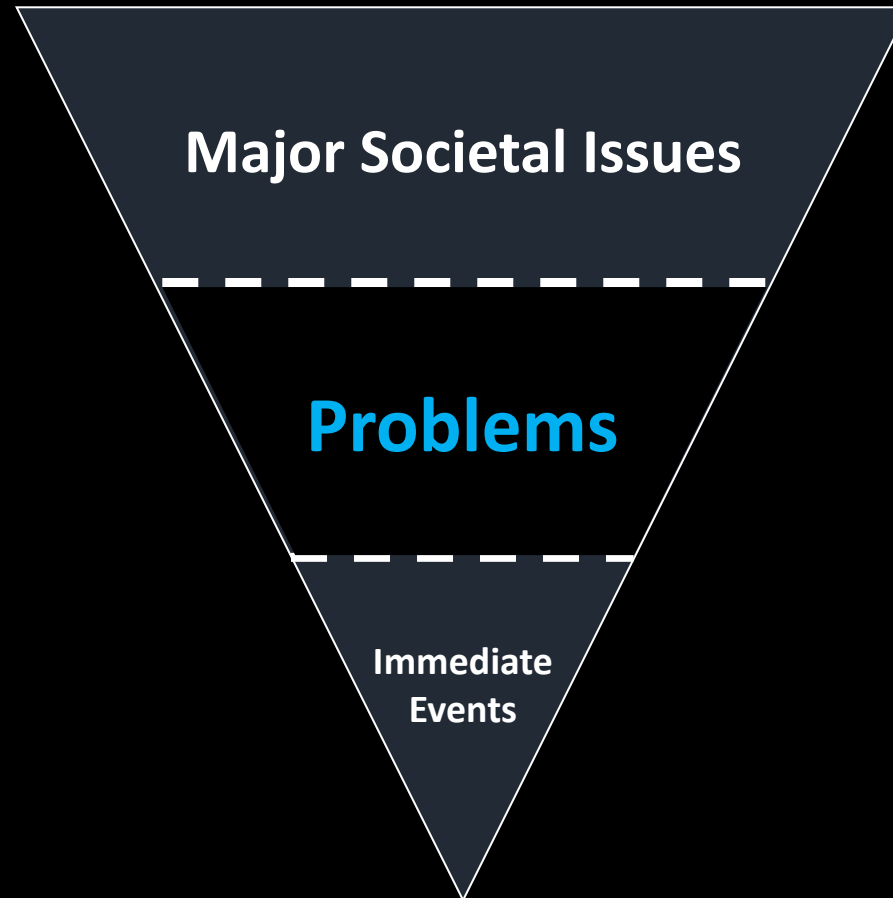
Police can solve all crime problems

Scrap it!

1 Myth: Solutions to Crime are Complex

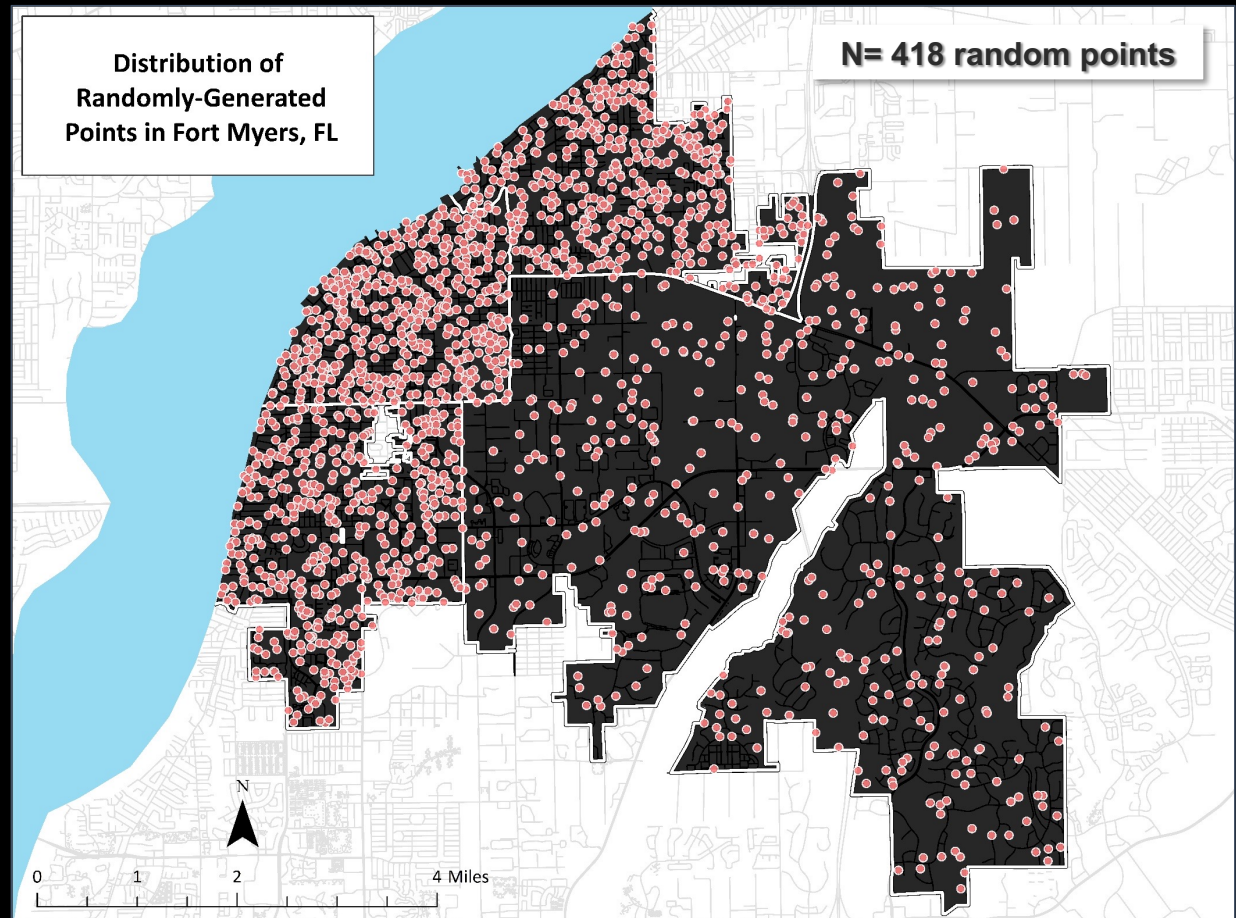


1 **Fact:** Break issues down to problems



2

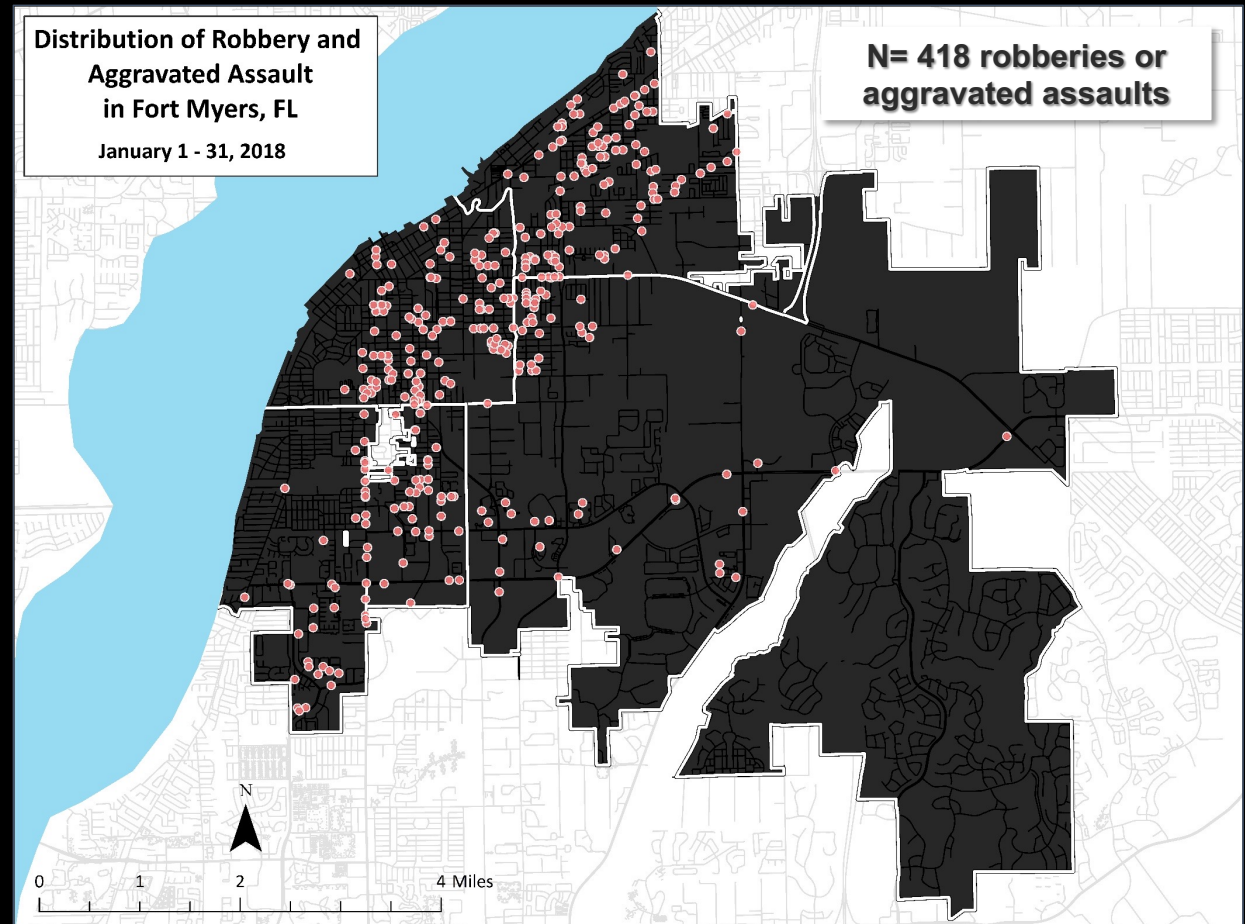
Myth: Crime is Widespread



*Image courtesy of Jillian Desmond

2

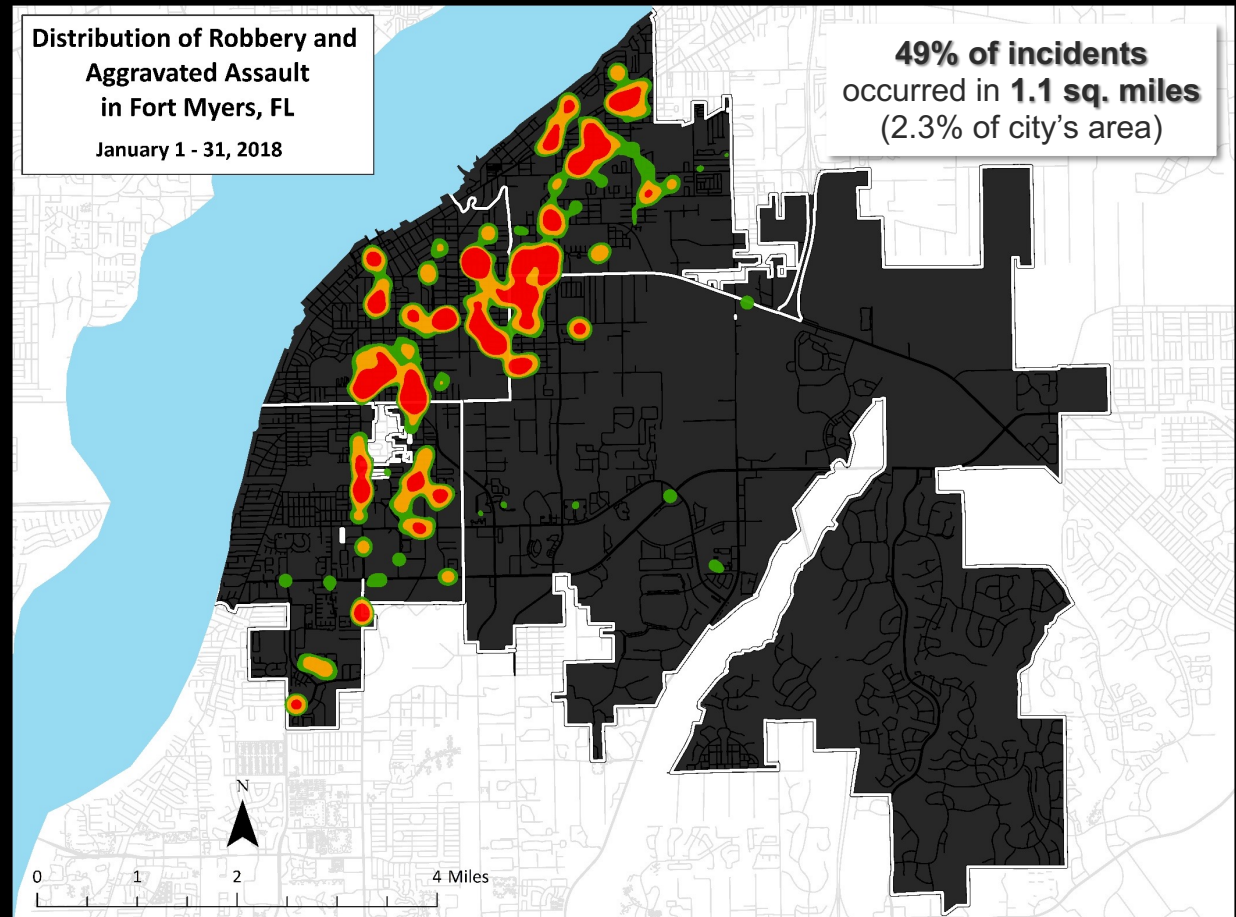
Fact:
Crime is
Concentrated



*Image courtesy of Jillian Desmond

2

Fact:
Crime is
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Fact:
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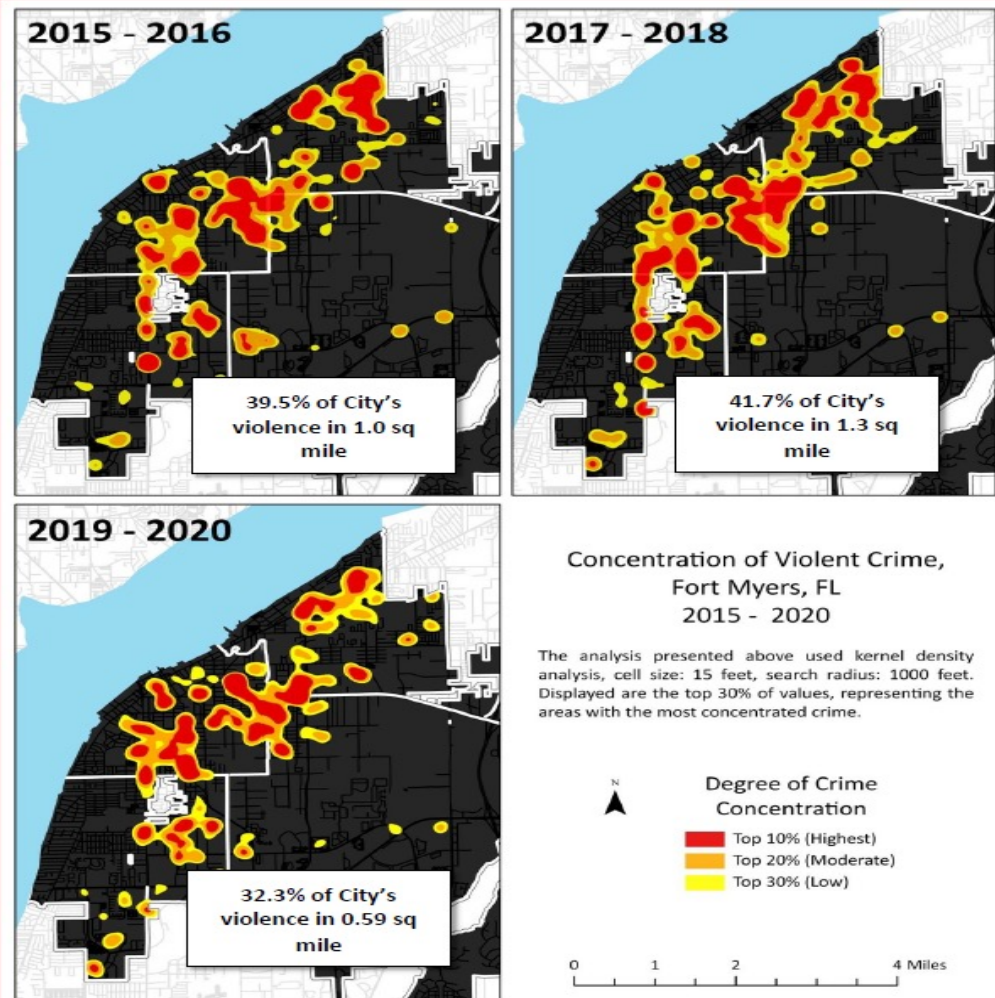


Figure 8. Distribution of Violent Crime Hot Spots by Year, 2015 - 2020

2

Fact: Crime is Concentrated

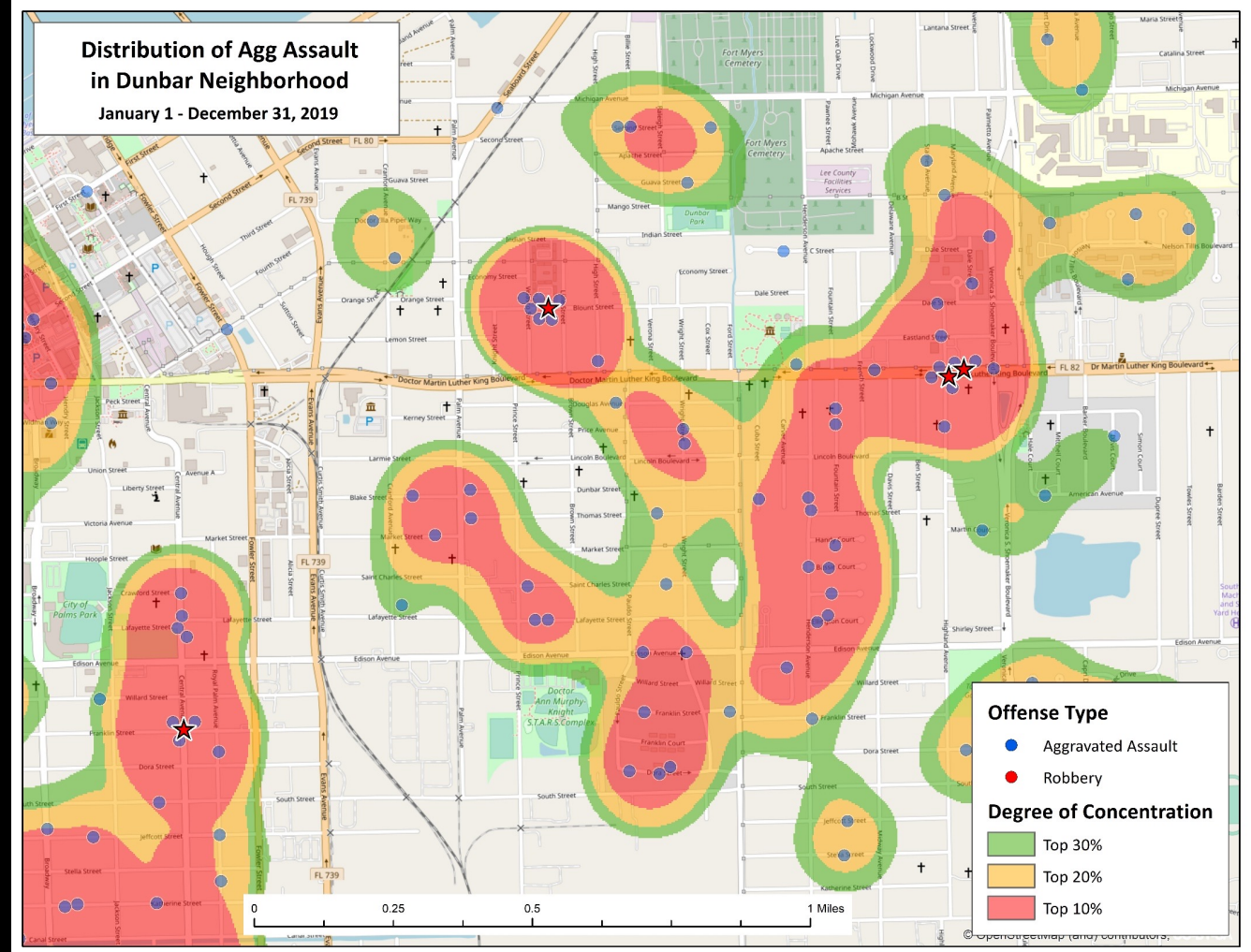


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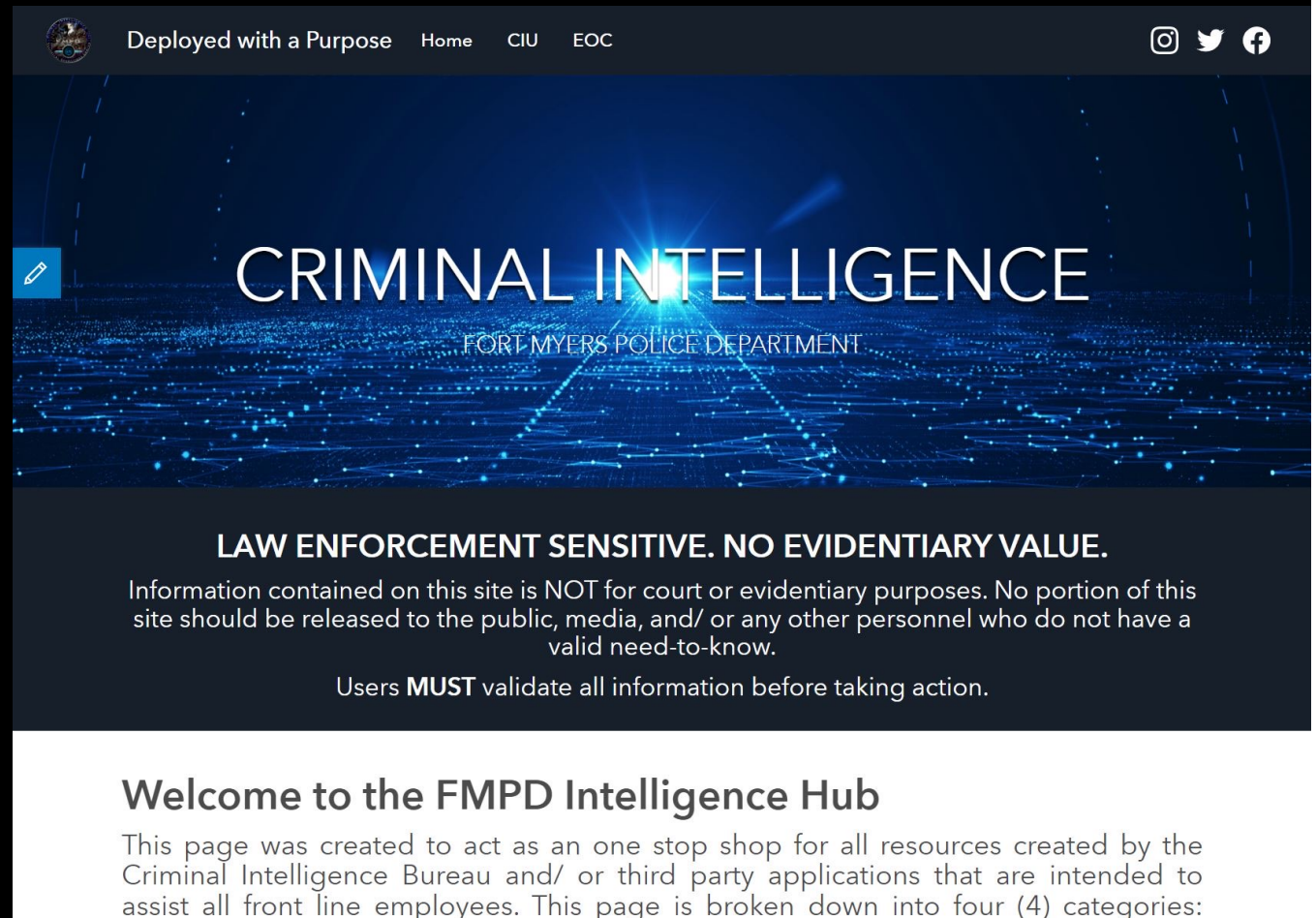
Fact: Crime is Concentrated



Deployment with a Purpose



Deployment with a Purpose



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Fort Myers Police Department's Criminal Intelligence Hub. The header features a navigation bar with the text "Deployed with a Purpose" and links for "Home", "CIU", and "EOC". Social media icons for Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook are on the right. The main banner has a blue, network-themed background with the title "CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE" in large white letters, followed by "FORT MYERS POLICE DEPARTMENT" in smaller white letters. Below the banner, a dark blue section contains the warning "LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE. NO EVIDENTIARY VALUE." in white, followed by a disclaimer: "Information contained on this site is NOT for court or evidentiary purposes. No portion of this site should be released to the public, media, and/ or any other personnel who do not have a valid need-to-know." and "Users **MUST** validate all information before taking action." The bottom section, titled "Welcome to the FMPD Intelligence Hub", explains that the page is a one-stop shop for resources created by the Criminal Intelligence Bureau and third-party applications, intended to assist front-line employees, and is organized into four categories.

Deployed with a Purpose Home CIU EOC

CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE
FORT MYERS POLICE DEPARTMENT

LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE. NO EVIDENTIARY VALUE.

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Users **MUST** validate all information before taking action.

Welcome to the FMPD Intelligence Hub

This page was created to act as an one stop shop for all resources created by the Criminal Intelligence Bureau and/ or third party applications that are intended to assist all front line employees. This page is broken down into four (4) categories:

3 **Myth:** Residents matter most



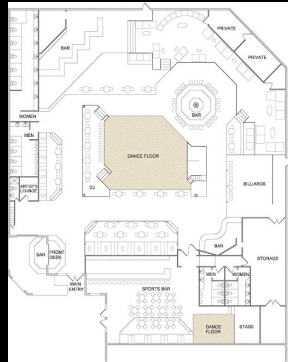
- 3 Fact: Place managers are part of communities



3

Fact: Place managers are part of communities

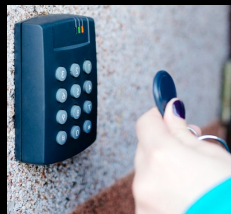
Organization of Space



Regulation of Conduct



O.R.C.A.



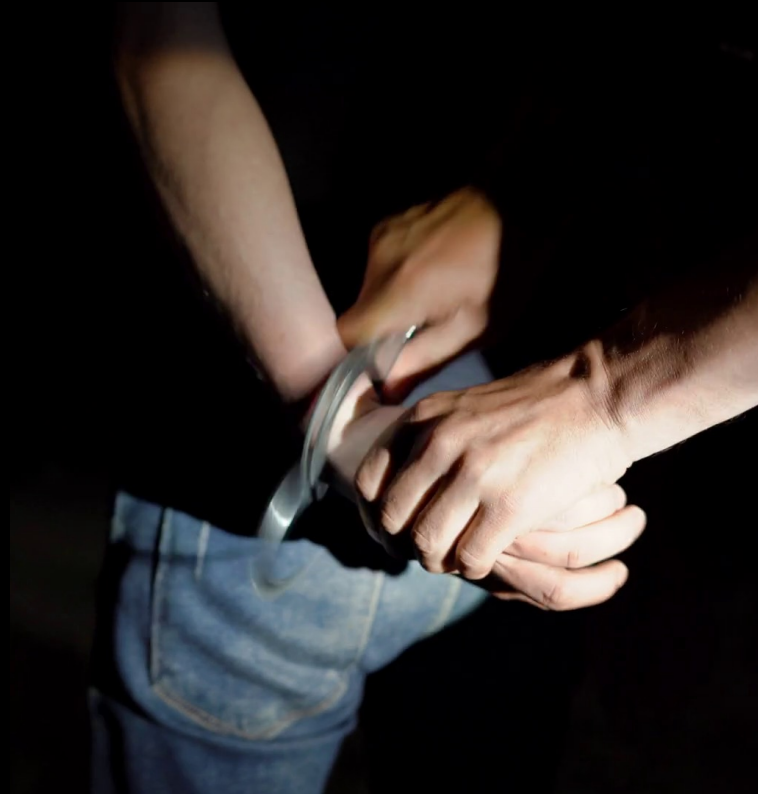
BUSINESS HOURS:			
Mon.	8:00	to	5:00
Tues.	8:00	to	5:00
Wed.	8:00	to	5:00
Thur.	8:00	to	5:00
Fri.	8:00	to	5:00
Sat.	10:00	to	9:00
Sun.	CLOSED	to	CLOSED

Control of Access



Acquisition of Resources

4 Myth: Arrests Reduce Crime



4 **Fact:** Arrests are a result, not an outcome



5 Myth: Police can solve all crime problems



5 Fact: Place managers can change crime opportunities

- Differences in place management
- Powers of ownership
- Can change places

Increase Effort	Increase Risk	Reduce Rewards	Reduce Provocations	Reduce Excuses
Target Harden	Extend Guardianship	Conceal Targets	Reduce Frustration	Establish Rules
Control Access	Assist Natural Surveillance	Remove Targets	Reduce Provocations	Establish Consequences
Screen Exits	Reduce Attraction	Remove Targets	Reduce Provocations	Alert Conscience
Deflect Offenders	Reduce Attraction	Remove Targets	Neutralize Peer Pressure	Assist Compliance
Control Access	Strengthen Formal Surveillance	Deny Benefits	Discourage Imitation	Control Drugs & Alcohol

see Situational Crime Prevention

If your strategy assumes...

Solutions to crime are complex

Crime is widespread

Residents matter most

Arrests reduce crime

Police can solve all crime problems

Scrap it!

Instead, ask yourself...

Is there a smaller solution?

Does the 80/20 rule apply?

Who are the place managers?

What is the desired outcome?

How can we change the opportunity?

Try this!

Ft. Myers PD's Strategic Plan includes SCRAP Test

1-22: Tightly merge a Place-Based Crime Strategy with the existing FMPD Offender-Based Strategy and develop one overarching narrowly focused FMPD Crime Strategy. Usually, about 6% or fewer places experience half of the crime in any US city ([Weisburd, 2015](#)). This trend has become so commonly observed that it has even been classified as a fundamental law in criminology: *The Law of Crime Concentration*. Crime-prone places often encourage or allow offending by providing criminal offenders access to valuable targets in areas with little or no guardianship or by facilitating the criminal activities of a large number of highly motivated offenders. Offender-based strategies, like focused deterrence, do not explicitly focus on crime-prone places. By addressing the underlying causal mechanisms, FMPD can be more effective in reducing both the criminal opportunity and crime associated with particular places.

1-23: Prior to implementation, test this Strategy (and any newly proposed FMPD strategy) against Linning's SCRAP Test to assess the likelihood the strategy will be effective.

SCRAP Test

The SCRAP Test is a checklist-style test that can be used to determine whether an intervention or strategy is appropriate. It lists 5 common misconceptions surrounding crime and policing.

If a proposed strategy assumes one or more of the statements is true, the strategy/intervention should be "scrapped" or altered to address the misconception.

See Addendum A for more details

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