

Atlanta Police Department UCR Quality Assurance Review Executive Summary

BACKGROUND

In early 2008, the Atlanta Police Department (APD) and the Atlanta Police Foundation (APF) requested that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), in conjunction with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI), conduct a Quality Assurance Review (QAR) of the APD Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) data. The purpose of this review was to substantiate that APD's reporting of crime data complies with standards established by the FBI's National UCR Program guidelines.

REVIEW PROCESS

The mission of the FBI's Quality Assurance Review is to assess compliance with the requirements to operate a certified state Unified Crime Report Program. Evaluation teams evaluate reported data through the review of local agency case reports to ensure it meets National UCR Program guidelines. The National QAR assesses summary and incident-based reporting methods through universal application to be consistent and to assure uniform crime reporting.

The QAR at APD consisted of a multi-part process. First, an administrative interview was conducted by a QAR team member with a member of the APD. The interview consisted of questions regarding duties and responsibilities, records management system, arrests, clearances, property values, jurisdictional guidelines, offense scoring, quality assurance, training, state program and organizational structure. Second, a data quality review of predetermined time periods' offense reports and arrest reports is conducted. The data quality review's purpose is to ensure the accuracy of UCR data reported to the National UCR Program and to make certain that the data are compatible with national standards. Finally, an exit briefing was conducted to document the findings of the Review. The exit briefing summarized the findings based on the administrative interview and the data quality review.

APD QAR RESULTS

Data Quality:

The FBI Assessment Team reviewed 88 total Part I Offenses reported by APD, and found that only one was over-reported, none were underreported and none were found to be inaccurate. They also reviewed 81 Part II Offenses and found that one record of 81 was an underreported Part I offense found in the Part II offense records.

Administrative Review Results:

All sections of APD Administrative Interview resulted in the satisfactory assessment of "meets UCR guidelines."

Records Management Assessment:

The review of APD's records management resulted and a successful grade of "Low Assessment" which indicates that recommended procedures/guidelines are in place to provide the information needed for generation of UCR data.

CONCLUSION

Overall, the FBI's assessment of APD crime reporting is satisfactory according to the National UCR Program guidelines.