

# METROPOLITAN BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

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The MBI continued its mission to remove criminal organizations engaged in Narcotics, Vice and Organized Crime from Central Florida. In 2009, the MBI Narcotics Section investigations yielded 103 trafficking level arrests, the seizure of narcotics valued at \$7,838,138.00, \$2,277,746.00 in cash, and six (6) drug trafficking organizations were dismantled and/or disrupted.

In 2009, Central Florida experienced a significant increase in the illegal sale of prescription drugs. The MBI Narcotics Section addressed this issue by conducting several investigations which resulted in 53 arrests for Trafficking in Prescription Drugs, and 16 arrests for Attempting to Obtain Prescription Drugs via Fraud. One major investigation resulted in the dismantling of a Drug Trafficking Organization that operated in the Ocoee area, while another involved a candidate for Orlando City Commissioner who was selling prescription drugs from his business and residence.

The MBI Narcotics Section continues to work with local, state, and federal agencies. MBI, DEA, FDLE, and FBI agents investigated a dangerous Drug Trafficking Organization that was trafficking cocaine and cannabis in Central Florida and South Georgia. The members of this organization have extensive violent criminal histories, many members had been arrested more than forty-five times. The MBI worked with DEA agents and the U.S. Attorney's Office to investigate a Drug Trafficking Organization that was trafficking over 2,000 pounds of cannabis a month into the Central Florida area. That group of traffickers had ties to the Gulf Cartel (which is known to be supplying large quantities of cocaine and cannabis to the Southeastern United States).

The MBI Airport Narcotics Group seized \$1,179,703.00 in cash, 15 Kilos of Cocaine, 1,321 pounds of cannabis, and 2.1 kilos of heroin as well as investigating a Drug Trafficking Organization that was smuggling packages that contained cocaine and heroin, from Puerto Rico to Florida, via the United States Postal Service.

The MBI Vice/Organized Crime Section made 68 arrests for prostitution and related offenses, closed four Asian Massage Parlors, an Asian bookmaking operation, and seven internet sweepstakes slot machine centers. Long term investigations included a bookie who was taking bets on sporting events, a human trafficking ring, the internet sweepstakes businesses operating in Orange County, and numerous undercover operations that focused on sex trafficking and prostitution.

The State Attorney's Office of the Ninth Judicial Circuit along with the Office of the Statewide Prosecution successfully filed and or indicted 205 defendants based on MBI investigations, and prosecuted 81 cases without a single case being lost.

The MBI concept as a multi-jurisdictional cooperative law enforcement task force has produced highly successful results, and its continued operation will remain an effective tool for law enforcement agencies across Central Florida.