## Smart Policing in Los Angeles: Operation LASER

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#### **Overview**

- \* Background
- \* Results
- \* Crime Intelligence Detail (CID)
- \* Offender-Based Strategy
- \* Location-Based Strategy
- \* Implementation
- \* Evaluation by JSS
- More Results



#### **Operation LASER: Los Angeles' Strategic Extraction and Restoration Program**

- LASER is funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, US Dept. of Justice through the Smart Policing Initiative (SPI)
- The purpose of LASER is to reduce gun-and gang- related crime in Newton Division (one of 21 Divisions in the LAPD)
- LASER is focused on:
  - Chronic offenders and
  - Chronic locations





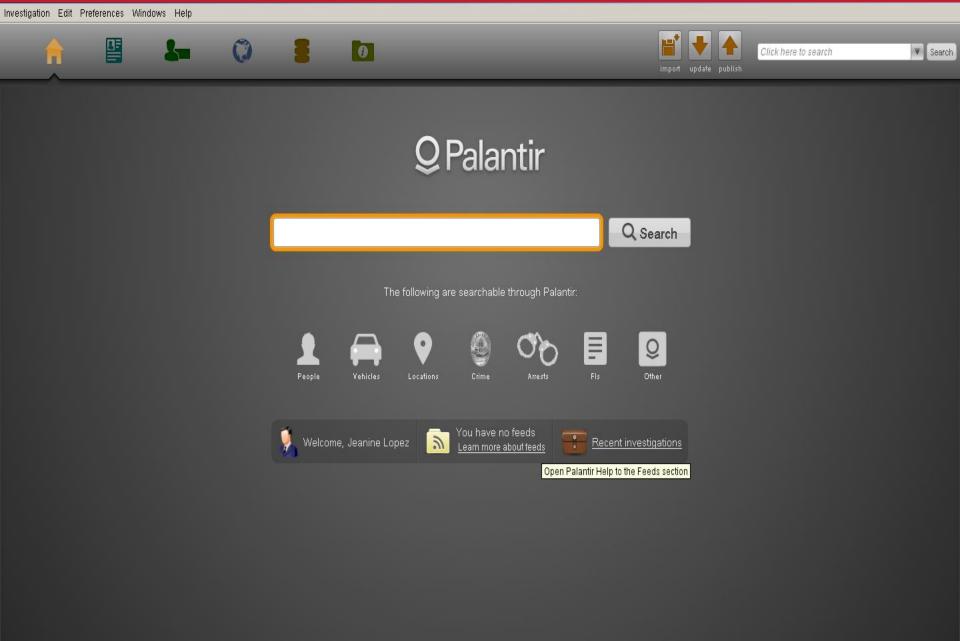
- Newton Division ended 2012 with an all-time low of 16 homicides –
  - A 56% decrease in homicides compared to 2011 and 59% decrease compared to 2010.
- Overall violent crime dropped 19% in Newton (from 2011 to 2012).
- Newton ranked number one in violent crime reduction in the entire LAPD for 2012



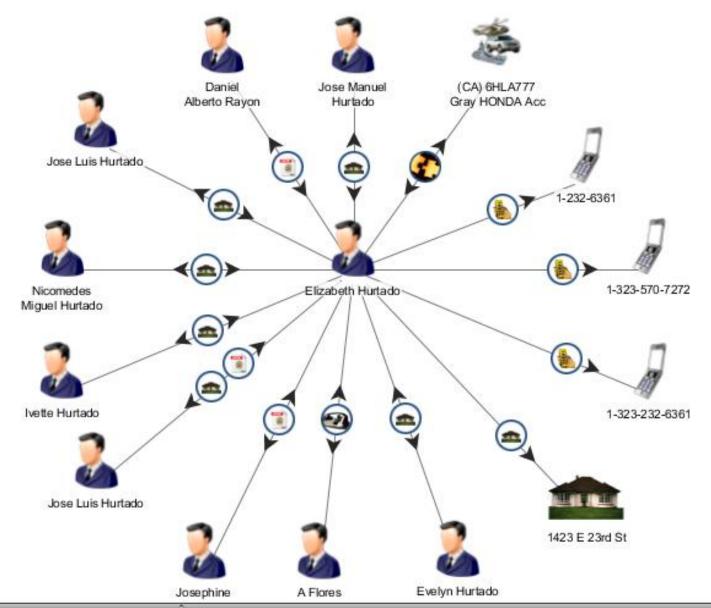
#### Why Did LASER Succeed?

- LASER relies on data and intelligence from the Crime Intelligence Detail (CID)
- & LASER is focused on:
  - \* Chronic offenders and
- LASER stays on mission, measures dosage, uses
   Palantir



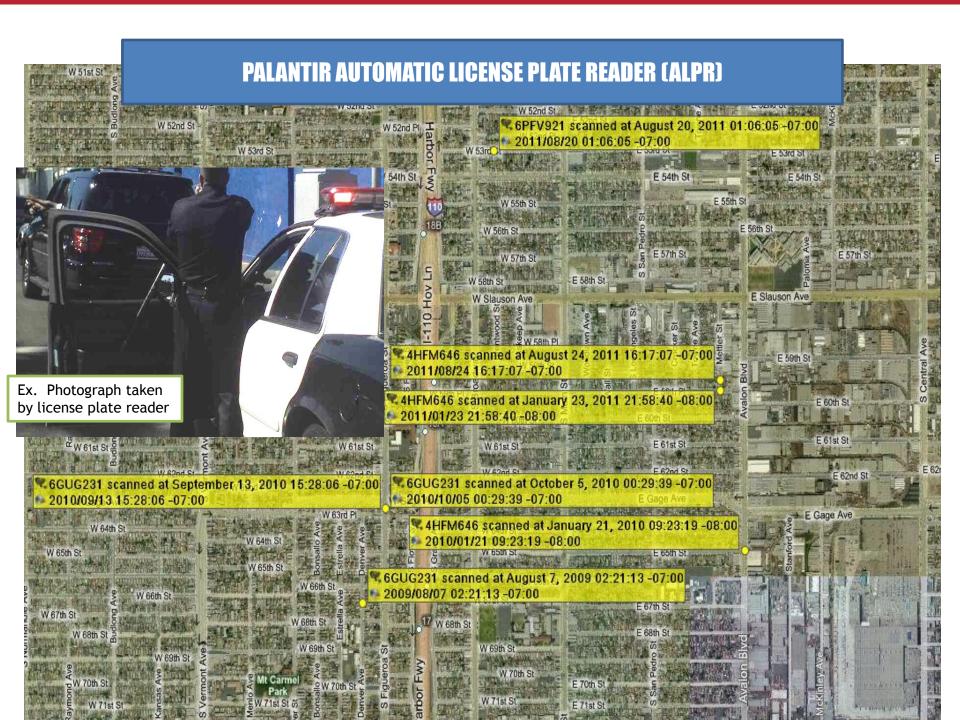


#### PALANTIR MAPPING SYSTEM



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#### The Crime Intell Detail (CID)

- Two officers and a Crime Analyst form the CID
- CID gathers intelligence daily from Patrol (Watch 2, Watch 5 and Watch 3), the Bicycle Unit, and the Parole Compliance Unit at Newton Division
- CID focuses on Robberies, Weapons Violations, and Aggravated Assaults related to gun and gang violence
- CID creates "Chronic Offender Bulletins"



#### **Implementation: CID Selection Process**

#### **CID reviews:**

- Field Identification Cards (FIs)
- Traffic Citations
- Release From Custody Forms (RFCs)
- Crime and Arrest Reports
- Criminal Histories
- CID selects the appropriate individuals based on pre-determined criteria:
  - Robberies, Weapons Violations, and Aggravated Assaults related to gun and gang violence

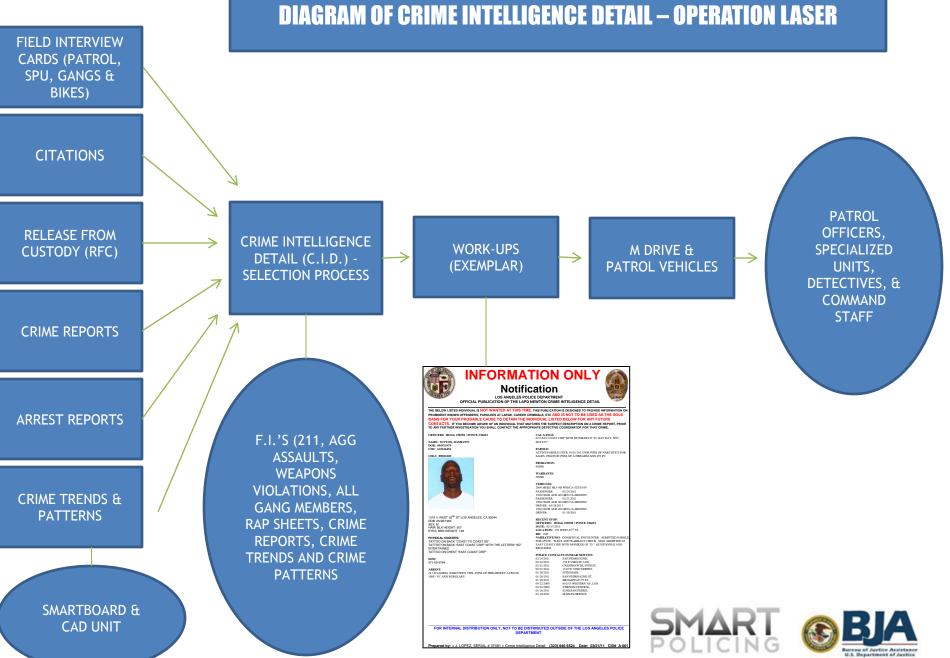


#### **Chronic Offender Bulletin**

- Physical descriptors
- Physical oddities
- Gang affiliation
- Prior crimes committed
- Parole or Probation Status
- Vehicles
- Areas they frequent
- Contact with law enforcement







Data. Analysis. Solutions.

#### **Chronic Offenders**

- \* 125 Chronic Offenders identified and rank-ordered from August 2011 to January 2012
- 87 of the 125 (69.6%) have been arrested at least once from Aug 2011 to June 2012
  - 88 offenders scored 15 points or higher 60 (68.1%) arrested
    37 offenders scored 0-15 points 27 (72.9%) arrested
- New list created in May 2012 65 new offenders
  25 (38.5%) arrested
- \* Of 189 total offenders, 112 arrested at least once (59%)



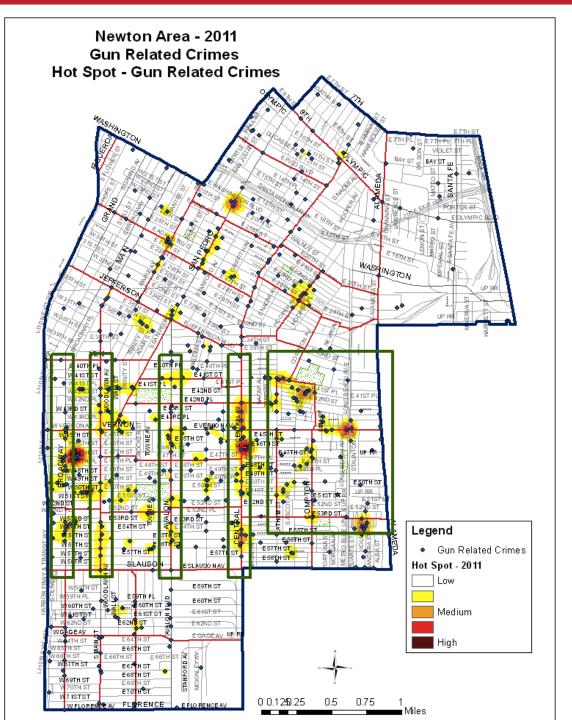
# LASER: Location-based efforts





#### **Gun-Related Crimes Newton Division** 2006-2011

#### Five Hotspot Corridors (in green)



#### **Interventions: Locations**

Weekly Missions in Hot Spot Corridors

**Use Existing Resources:** 

- \* Patrol Units (watches 2, 3 and 5)
- \* Bikes
- \* Foot Patrol
- \* Parole Compliance Unit
- \* HIDE





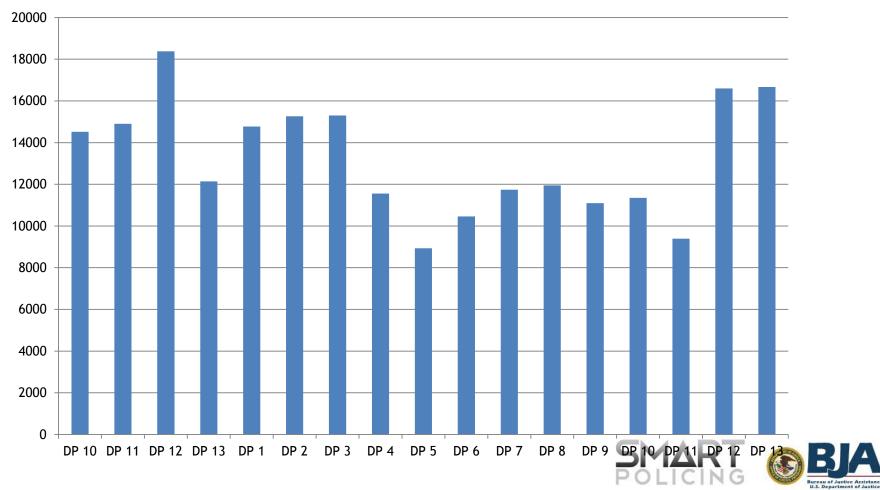
# \* Dosage = Extra minutes/month in hot spot corridors

- Crime Count by Deployment Period (DP) and by month
  - & Gun-Related Crime (Part 1 and 2 incidents with a gun) since 2006
  - All Part 1 Crimes Violent and Property since
     2006



#### **Measures: Dosage**

#### TOTAL MINUTES IN NEWTON CORRIDORS



Data. Analysis. Solutions.

#### **Dosage In Newton Corridors**

- \* On average, patrol, bikes, foot, and PCU spent 13,326 extra minutes per DP in the hot spot corridors
- Range: low of 8,935 minutes (DP 5 in 2012) to high of 18,380 minutes (DP 12 in 2011)
- \* 13,326 equates to 222 hours per DP or 55.5 hours per week
- \* 7.9 hours extra time per day in the five corridors



#### Impact Analysis: Interrupted Time-Series Design

- One of the most powerful quasiexperimental designs
- \* Compare pre-existing trend before the intervention to the trend during/after the intervention
  - **\*Change in level**
  - **\*Change in trend**



### **Time Series Analysis for Newton**

- Examined:
  - Gun-Related Crime
    - Crime incidents (Part I and II) with a firearm
    - Includes: Homicides, Robberies, Aggravated Assaults, Drive-by shootings, Misdemeanors with weapons (drugs, vandalism, etc.)
  - All Part 1 Crimes
- From Jan. 1, 2006 to June 30, 2012 (78 month period) and 1/1/06 to 12/31/2012 (88 months)
- Intervention began Sept 2011
  - Arrests of chronic offenders started in Aug 2011, but increased patrol of corridors began Sept 2011
  - 10 post-intervention time periods



#### **Time Series**

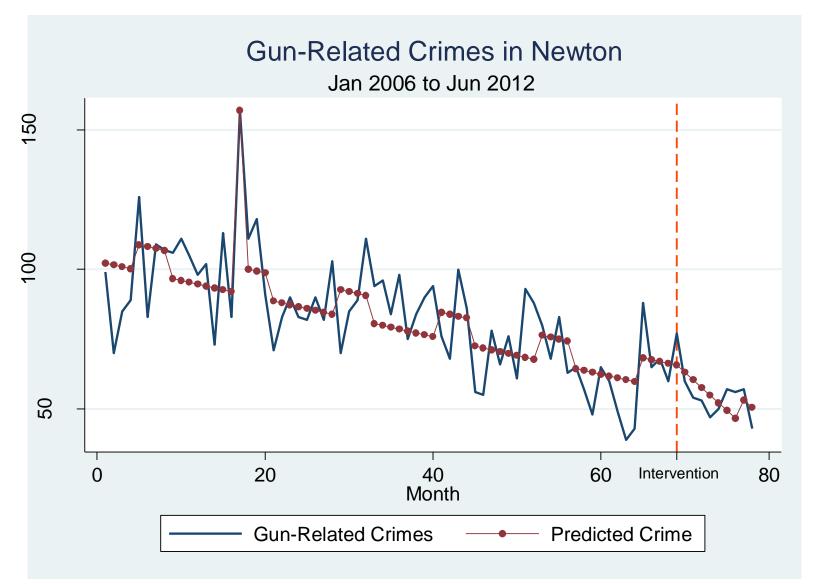
- \* From January o6 to June 2012
- \* Results indicate that Operation LASER had significant and tangible reductions in:
- & Gun-related crime (Part 1 and 2)
- \* Homicides
- \* Robberies
- & Violent Crime (Part 1)



#### **Time Series: Bottom Line**

- \* Results suggest that gun-related crime is falling nearly four (4) times faster in Newton after LASER was implemented in Sept 2011
- \* Differences are statistically significant at the .10 level





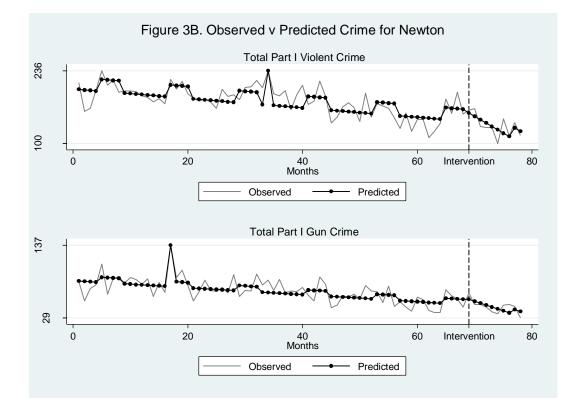


#### **Time Series: Bottom Line**

- Interventions in Newton resulted in a *decrease* of Part I Violent Crimes by an additional 5.393 crimes per month
- Homicides *decreased* by an additional 22.6 percent per month in Newton after Operation LASER began.
- Robbery *decreased* by an additional 0.218
   robberies per month in Newton after Operation
   LASER was implemented

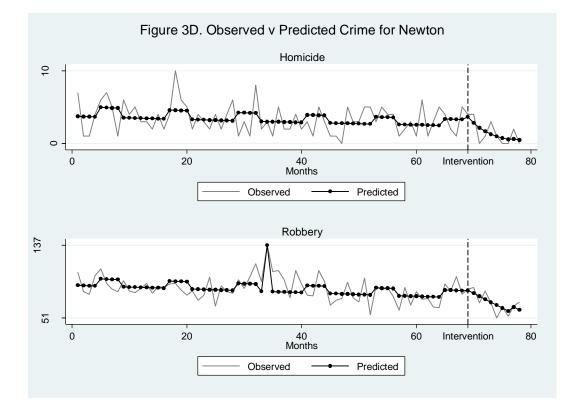


#### **Time Series: Violent Crime & Gun Crime**





#### **Time Series: Homicide & Robbery**



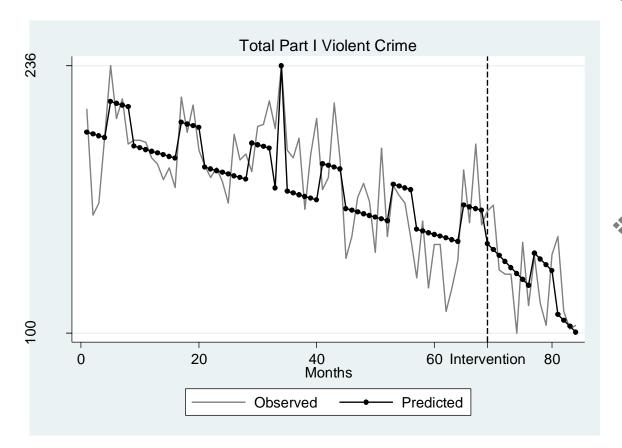


#### **Updated Findings**

- Analyzed data from January 2006 to December 31, 2012
- Intervention period = 16 months
- Time Series analysis shows different results



### **Part I Violent Crime**

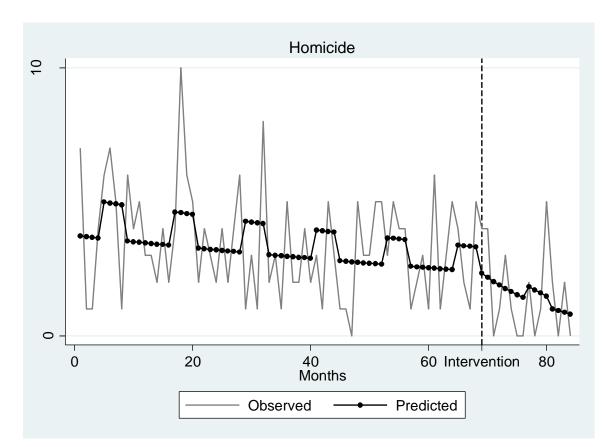


\* There is a significant decrease in Part I Violent **Crime after** LASER began Reduction of approximately 2 violent crimes per month over the past 16 months





### Homicide

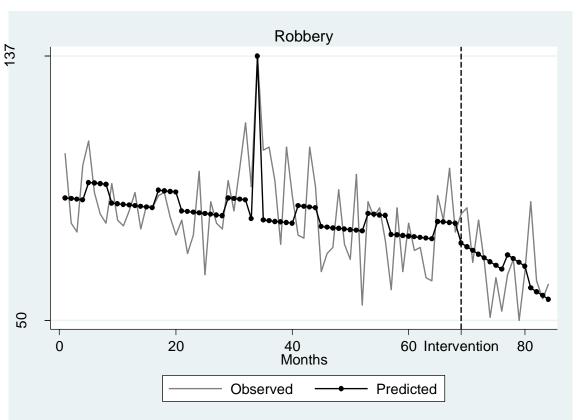


- There is a declining trend after LASER began
- Decrease is not statistically significant (p.<.125)</li>
- Previously significant for 10 months









There is a declining trend after LASER began

- Decrease is not statistically significant
- Previously
   significant for
   10 months





# What Happened to Homicide and Robbery?

- Examining the data, it appears that Homicide reached a post-intervention high point in August, 2012 and Robbery in September, 2012.
  - \*Highest numbers since the start of the intervention
- These data points are substantially influencing the post-intervention trend



#### **Future Directions: Analysis**

- Continue to analyze data (quarterly) and evaluate LASER activities
- Additional time periods will provide more statistical power to detect an effect
  - \* We are analyzing data for all RDs using a 'panel analysis'
  - The results may change due to model improvements



#### **Future Directions: LASER**

- \* LAPD has agreed to expand LASER to four new divisions:
  - \* Hollenbeck (violent crime)
  - Southwest (violent crime)
  - \* Foothill (property crime)
  - \* Wilshire (property crime)
  - \* Continue in Newton (violent and property crime)



# Future Directions: LASER in other Divisions

- Create Crime Intelligence Details
- Create chronic offender bulletins
- Use location-based strategies
- Measure dosage minutes in the RDs and hotspot corridors
- \* Use Palantir
- \* JSS- continues with real-time evaluation



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## **Questions?**



