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On-Duty Fatal Police Shootings: Patterns of Officers Charged with Homicide Offenses, 2005-2021

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On-Duty Fatal Police Shootings: Patterns of Officers Charged with Homicide Offenses, 2005-2021

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Las Vegas, NV

March 18, 2021

Support for this project was provided by the Wallace Action Fund of Tides Foundation. This research was also supported in part by the Center for Family and Demographic Research, Bowling Green State University, which has core funding from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (P2CHD050959).

Background

- The federal government does not collect, analyze, nor disseminate data concerning crimes perpetrated by the police.
- **George Floyd Justice in Policing Act** – “This bill addresses a wide range of policies and issues regarding policing practices and law enforcement accountability. It increases accountability for law enforcement misconduct, restricts the use of certain policing practices, **enhances transparency and data collection**, and establishes best practices and training requirements” (H.R. 7120).
 - The legislation stalled in the Senate – No immediate plans of data collection by federal government
- Previous research is heavily reliant on special commissions, observational data, and is often limited to one jurisdiction or city.
- The public’s understanding is conditional on investigative journalism and sensationalized cases. The true breadth and depth of police crime may be misunderstood.
- Other independent entities such as Mapping Police Violence, Fatal Encounters, and the Washington Post collect and disseminate data about police encounters but these measures do not necessarily capture police *crime*.

Henry A. Wallace Police Crime Database

Purpose

The purpose of the Henry A. Wallace Police Crime Database is to **improve policing** and **inform the public** about crimes committed by nonfederal sworn law enforcement officers across the United States.

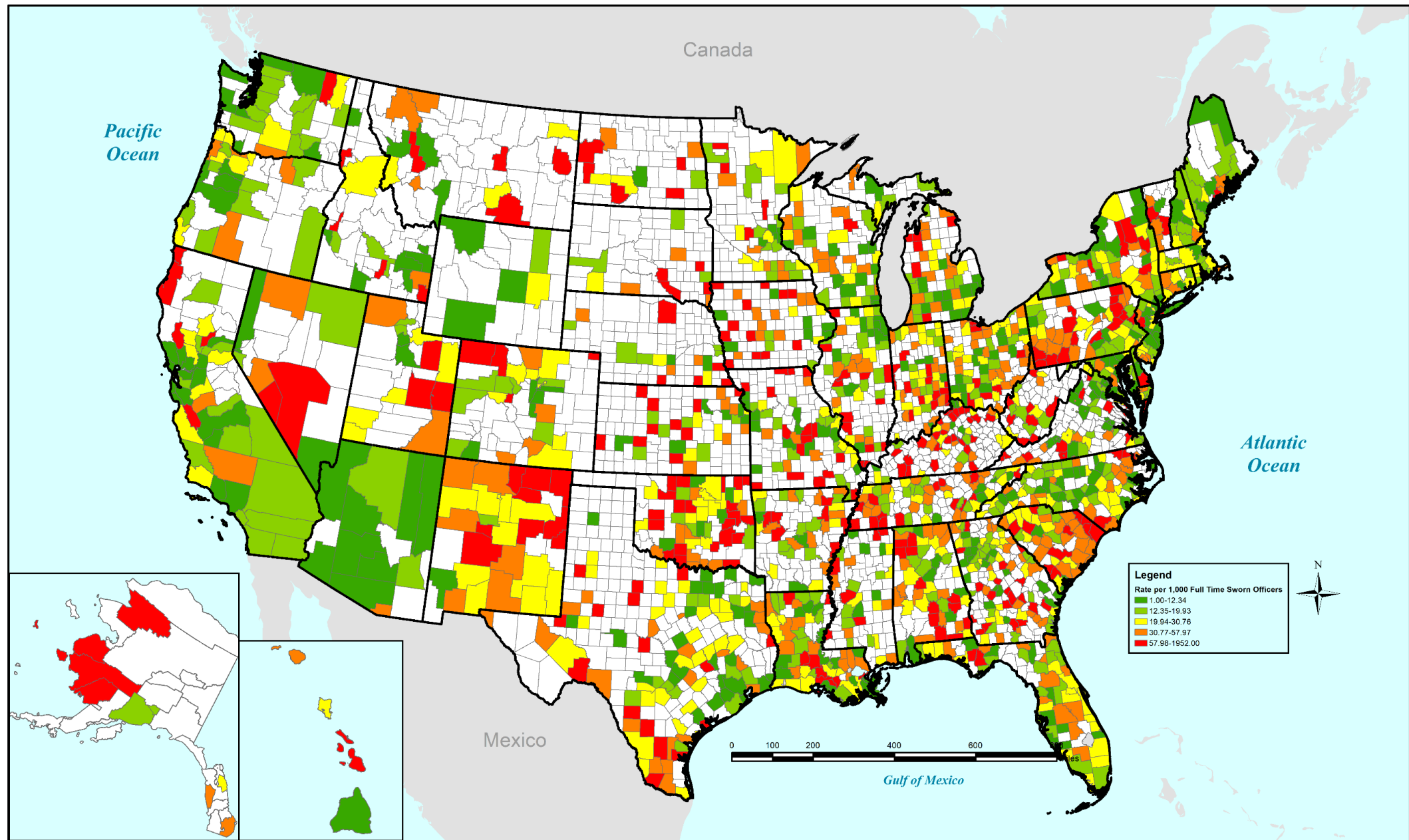
About Us

The Henry A. Wallace Police Crime Database is a research project of **Philip Stinson** and the **Police Integrity Research Group at Bowling Green State University**. The database provides summary information that is not otherwise aggregated or publicly available for approximately 13,000 criminal arrest cases of nonfederal sworn law enforcement officers (e.g., police officers, state troopers, deputy sheriffs) from the years 2005-2016.



policecrime.bgsu.edu

Rates of Police Crime Cases per 100,000 Population (N = 13, 214)



The Henry A. Wallace Police Crime Database currently includes summary information on **13,214 criminal arrest cases** from the years **2005-2016** involving **10,901 individual nonfederal sworn law enforcement officers**, each of whom were charged with one or more crimes. The arrested officers were employed by **4,104 state, local, and special law enforcement agencies** located in **1,648 counties** and independent cities in **all 50 states** and the District of Columbia.

Location and Year of Arrest

State*

Ohio

County

Wood County

Year of Arrest

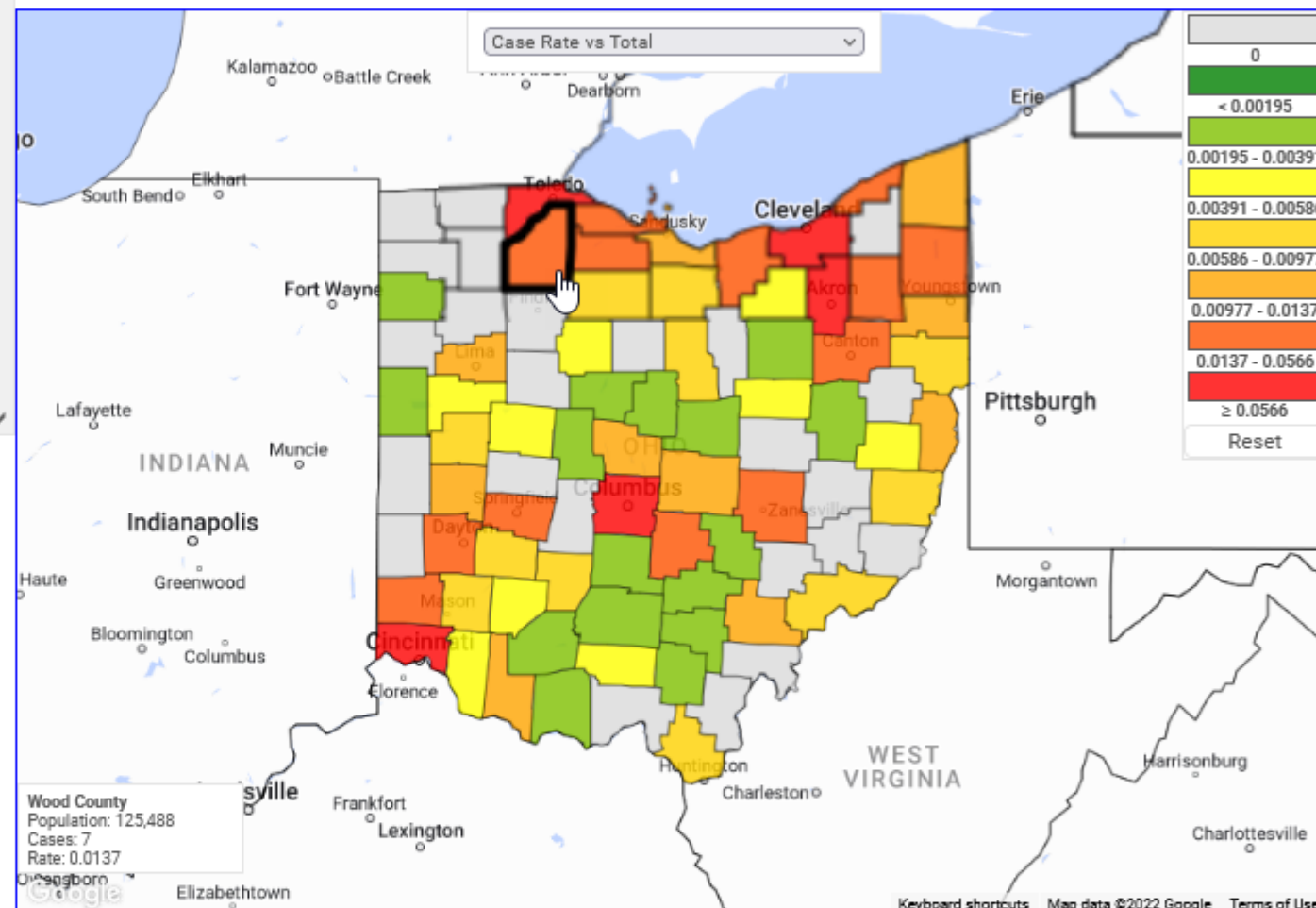
Crime Type

Crimes Charged

Outcome

Reset search

The Search by Location feature allows users to search the Henry A. Wallace Police Crime Database using the interactive heat map below. This feature includes summary information on 13,214 criminal arrest cases from the years 2005-2016 involving 10,901 individual nonfederal sworn law enforcement officers. Each arrest case was coded for the most serious offense charged (pursuant to the UCR hierarchy of crime seriousness) as well as for every criminal offense charged against the arrested officer. The heat map provides users with the ability to search various crimes based on crime type, crimes charged, criminal case disposition, final adverse employment outcome, and year of arrest by location.



High Contrast

Alcohol-Related

Sex-Related

Violence-Related

Profit-Motivated

Drug-Related

Other

Wood County

Ohio

Details

Show

10

entries

Search:

| ID | Date | County | Agency | Drug Related | Alcohol-Related | Sex-Related | Violence-Related | Profit-Motivated | Other |
|-------------|------------|-------------|------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|-------|
| 00489N01922 | 04/15/2005 | Wood County | Perrysburg Police Department | | | | ✓ | | |

Arrested Officer Information:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Arrested Officer: | 00489N01922 |
| Age: | 24 |
| Years of Service: | 0 |
| Sex: | M |
| Arrested Officer Ethnicity: | Unknown |
| Arrested Officer Race: | Unknown |
| Rank: | Officer/Deputy/Trooper |

Arrested Officer's Employer:

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Employing Agency: | Perrysburg Police Department |
| Agency ID: | 12424120 |
| City: | Perrysburg |
| County: | Wood County |
| State: | OH |
| Type of Agency: | Municipal Police Department |

Case Information:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Date of Arrest: | 4/15/2005 |
| Most Serious Offense Charged: | Weapons law violation |
| Type of Crime: | Violence-Related |
| Officer's Duty Status During Crime: | Off Duty |
| Officer's Capacity During Crime: | This crime was committed by officer in their individual capacity |
| Arresting Agency: | Arresting agency is not officer's employer |

Case Status:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Adverse Employment Outcome: | Officer was suspended for a period of time Officer's employment was terminated |
| Criminal Case Disposition: | Unknown |
| Pre Trial Release: | Unknown |



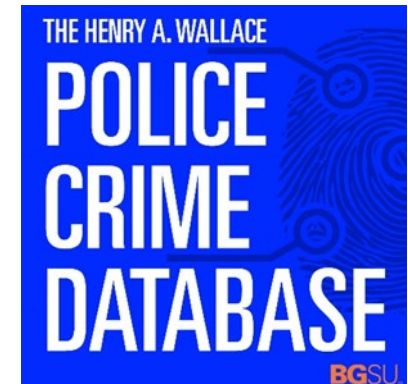
Database v.012122.0842

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Support for the Henry A. Wallace Police Crime Database was provided by the Wallace Action Fund of Tides Foundation on the recommendation of Randall Wallace.

Methods

- Publically available data can be found on the **Henry A. Wallace Police Crime Database** (<https://policecrime.bgsu.edu>)
- The **Police Integrity Research Group** at Bowling Green State University is the only known research group with collects and disseminates data about police crime which occurs throughout the United States.



The Henry A. Wallace Police Crime Database

Police Integrity Research for the Public Good

The Police Crime Database includes summary information on 13,214 criminal arrest cases from the years 2005-2016 involving 10,901 individual nonfederal sworn law enforcement officers, each of whom were charged with one or more crimes. The arrested officers were employed by 4,104 state, local, and special law enforcement agencies located in 1,648 counties and independent cities in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Search by Location



Search by Crime



Search by Victim



Methods

- We aim to capture criminal arrest cases of nonfederal sworn law enforcement officers within the United States since 2005.
 - Although we never claim to capture all cases, we do believe our methods capture the overall phenomenon of police crime.
- The Police Integrity Research Group utilizes Google Alerts™ which constantly crawl the Google News™ search engine to find cases of police crime.
- **Inclusion Criteria:**
 - The individual must be employed as a sworn nonfederal law enforcement officer:
 - At the time of their arrest and/or
 - At the time of commission of the crime(s)
 - The officer was arrested on/after January 1, 2005
- Once an officer/arrest has been identified, additional Google Alerts™ will be created to track the specific officer.
- Primary Unit of Analysis: Criminal Arrest Case

Identifying a Case

- Google Alerts and Google News Search Engine are utilized to identify a criminal arrest cases.
- News articles are printed and checked against our inclusion criteria for relevancy.
- This starts the beginning process of coding variables such as full name, officer's employing agency, city, county, state, and date of arrest.
- Once approved by a supervisor, our research assistants will enter this criminal arrest case into our internal object-relational database system.
- Additional Google Alerts are created to track that specific officer and criminal arrest case.

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RESEARCH GROUP**

| | |
|--|---|
| Offender Name (Last, First) _____ | |
| Offender's Employer / Agency _____ | |
| City (County) & State _____ COUNTY FIPS: _____ | |
| Case # _____ | NEW CASE LOGGED IN BY: _____ |
| Case Ref: _____ (i.e., Victim #, Arrest #) | TODAY'S DATE: _____ |
| Date of Arrest _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) | APPROVED BY: _____ |
| N-Number _____ | DATA ENTERED INTO ONBASE BY: _____ |
| | CASE FILES SCANNED INTO ONBASE BY: _____ |

NEW CASE LOG-IN SHEET

_____ MEETS CASE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (SEE BELOW CRITERIA)

_____ CHECKED NAME/ARREST AGAINST EXISTING BOOKING SHEET DATABASE

_____ *THIS IS A "NEW" OFFICER NOT FOUND IN OUR DATABASE
OR
THIS IS AN OFFICER WHO IS ALREADY IN OUR DATASET FOR
A DIFFERENT ARREST/CASE AND HIS/HER EXISTING N-NUMBER
IS INDICATED IN THE BOX ABOVE*

_____ VERIFIED AGENCY, COUNTY, STATE & FIPS ON CSLLEA 2008 DATA SET

Case Eligibility Criteria:

- (1) The person was employed as a sworn nonfederal law enforcement officer:
 - ☐ a. at the time of their arrest and/or
 - ☐ b. at the time of commission of the crime(s) for which they were arrested.
- (2) The term "officer" includes sworn law enforcement officers with general powers of arrest and includes officers, troopers, deputies, constables, etc. An "officer" includes all ranks (e.g., officers, detectives, investigators, corporals, sergeants, lieutenants, captains, majors, colonels, inspectors, deputy chiefs, chief deputies, chiefs, sheriffs, commissioners, etc.).
- (3) The officer was arrested on or after January 1, 2005.
- (4) The officer's employing nonfederal law enforcement agency must be located within the United States (limited to those areas within and/or inclusive of the fifty states and the District of Columbia).
- (5) "Officer" includes those who are employed full-time and/or part-time, as well as officers who are auxiliary or reserve officers.
- (6) "Arrests" include arrests, indictments, charge by criminal information, charge by summons, etc. for criminal offenses. Traffic tickets alone do not meet the criteria for inclusion as a "case" in this research study.
- (7) Use FIPS code for the county where the arrested officer's employing agency is located. For officers employed by a state or multi-county agency, use the FIPS code for the county where the officer regularly works (not where the agency HQ is located).

Continuously Tracking Cases

- After a case is identified, we track the case through the criminal courts process.
- Using Google Alerts, we gather Google News articles about the officer and criminal arrest cases and store these documents with our internal object-relational database.
- Court records and news videos are also obtained and stored.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VERSUS

KENNETH BOWEN
ROBERT GISEVIUS
ROBERT FAULCON
ANTHONY VILLAVASO
ARTHUR KAUFMAN
GERARD DUGUE

Judge tentatively sets August trial for former Fort Worth officer charged with murder

BY EMERSON CLARRIDGE
OCTOBER 27, 2020 03:49 PM, UPDATED OCTOBER 27, 2020 06:20 PM

A state district judge on Tuesday set a tentative window for the trial for a former Fort Worth police officer indicted on a murder charge in the death of a woman he shot as he and another officer handled an open structure call.

SECTION "N" (1)

ORDER AND REASONS

Before the Court is the Motion for New Trial (Rec. Doc. 963) originally urged by defendant Arthur Kaufman, and joined in by the other defendants in this matter who were tried and convicted in 2011 (hereinafter referred to as "Defendants" or "the defendants").¹ The government opposes this motion. (Rec. Doc. 1007.) The Court heard oral argument on the defendants' motion on June 13, 2012 (Rec. Doc. 1020). A detailed recounting of subsequent events is set forth in this Court's Order and Reasons dated November 26, 2012 (Rec. Doc. 1070). As an expected result of that Order, the



Judge denies Nouman Raja's sentence reconsideration | WPEC

<https://cbs12.com/news/local/judge-denies-nouman->

Judge denies Nouman Raja's sentence reconsideration

by Sabrina Lolo
Thursday, February 27th 2020

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (CBS12) — A judge denied a sentence reconsideration request from a former Palm Beach Gardens police officer **convicted of killing a local church drummer**. Nouman Raja's request was denied Tuesday.

Raja was found guilty last year of attempted first-degree murder and manslaughter for the death of Corey Jones in 2015. He was **sentenced to 25 years** in prison.

Raja's attorneys had **filed a motion** back in January to correct "a sentencing error," claiming that neither the jury's verdict nor the evidence in the case were enough to support his 25-year sentence.

However, prosecutors said in a later court filing that Raja's request was "flawed" and the claims are "legally unsound."

Coding a Case

- Once sufficient time has passed for the majority of cases to be concluded, we code each case on over 270 variables.
 - Variables include but are not limited to:
 - Offense variables, types of crime, criminal case outcomes and sentencing, employment outcome, officer and victim demographic, and agency characteristics
- We utilize a data collection instrument (Unicom Intelligence Interviewer software) to code these cases. We have customized the survey instrument by building in logic and integrating it with our internal object-relational database system.
- Cases are coded by year of arrest. Once a full year is complete, inner-coder reliability and data cleaning processes are used to check for accuracy and consistency between coders.
- The year's worth of criminal arrest cases are then added to our master dataset and made publically available through the Henry A. Wallace Police Crime Database.
- Currently, information about 2005 through 2016 criminal arrest cases are publically available and we are working on coding 2017 criminal arrest cases.

Strengths and Limitations

- Limitations:

- Only captures criminal arrest cases – cases of police *misconduct* which do *not* result in a criminal charge are *not* included.
- Our knowledge of these cases are limited to *publically available* information, news articles, and court records.
- Using Google Alerts requires real-time data collection.

- Strengths:

- There are no other comprehensive, nationally representative datasets of police crime within the United States.
- Descriptive summary data which can inform the public of the breadth and depth of the problem.
- Our data lend itself well to more advanced quantitative data analysis techniques such as, logistic regression, CHAID and CART decision trees algorithms, and other predictive models.
- Using Google Alerts we have identified more cases than other more traditional methods.

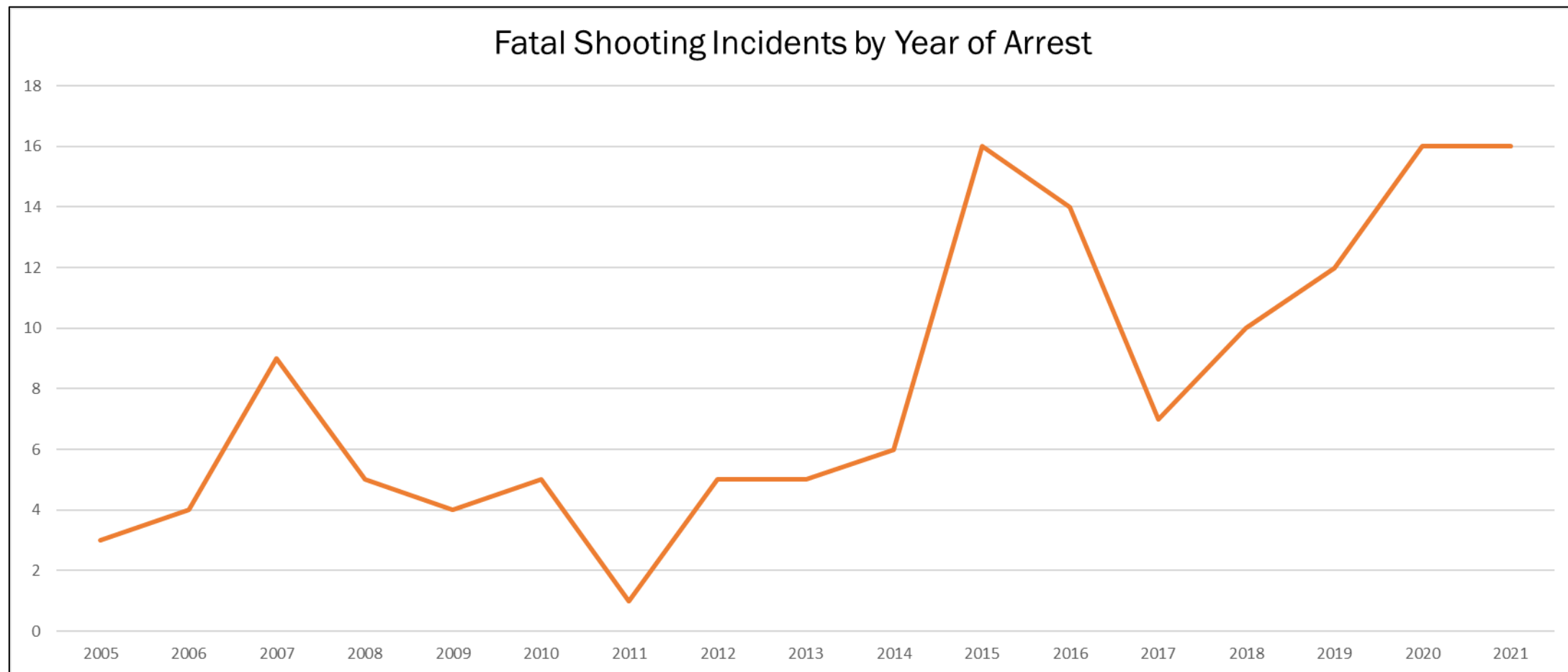
Background

- Policing has become a topic of public scrutiny after several violent police-citizen encounters.
 - These encounters have led to large scale protests and what commentators perceive as a “national reckoning” on the issue of racial injustice.
- Race and Policing
 - Race permeates all stages and processes of the criminal justice system, starting with police street encounters, interactions during police calls for service, and in the discretionary decision-making and powers of individual officers (Stinson, 2020).
 - *Terry v. Ohio* (1968) laid the foundation for the continued proliferation of racially biased policing. Blacks are almost three times more likely than Whites to be pulled over by the police in a traffic stop (Epp, et al., 2014).
 - Many police officers fear Black people (Stinson, 2020). Gabbidon (1994) coined the term “Blackaphobia” to describe fear of Blacks as criminals.
 - Many Black people are very distrustful of the police (Anderson, 2000).
- Police Militarization
 - Police typically invoke a warrior mentality and work in quasi-military organizations.

Methods

- **Inclusion criteria for larger research project:**
 1. Individual was a sworn nonfederal law enforcement officer within the United States at the time of arrest and/or the commission of the crime
 2. Officer was arrested on or after January 1, 2005
 3. Officer was arrested and/or criminally charged
 4. Primary Unit of Analysis: Criminal Arrest Case

- **Inclusion criteria for this study:**
 1. Meets all the criteria for larger research project
 2. Officer was involved in a *fatal on-duty shooting*
 3. Officer was charged with a *homicide offense* resulting from the incident
 4. For the purpose of this presentation, data was limited to years 2005-2021.
 5. *Primary* Unit of Analysis: Officer



Units of Analysis:

152 Officers*

141 Victims

138 Incidents**

*One Texas officer has been arrested for two separate incidents

**One incident which involved two officers arrested in different years. The first year of arrest is shown in the figure.

Descriptive Statistics

| Table 1. Officer and Agency Characteristics (N = 152) | | | | | |
|---|----|------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------|
| | n | (%) | (Valid %) | | n (%) |
| Officer's Age | | | Officer's Ethnicity | | |
| 19-23 | 4 | 2.6 | 2.8 | Non-Hispanic | 143 94.1 |
| 24-27 | 21 | 13.8 | 14.7 | Hispanic | 8 5.3 |
| 28-31 | 33 | 21.7 | 23.1 | | |
| 32-35 | 31 | 20.4 | 21.7 | Officer's Race | |
| 36-39 | 17 | 11.2 | 11.9 | Non-Black | 133 87.5 |
| 40-43 | 15 | 9.9 | 10.5 | Black | 19 12.5 |
| 44-47 | 7 | 4.6 | 4.9 | | |
| 48-51 | 7 | 4.6 | 4.9 | Officer's Sex | |
| 52-55 | 5 | 3.3 | 3.5 | Male | 147 96.7 |
| 56 or older | 3 | 2.0 | 2.1 | Female | 5 3.3 |
| Missing | 9 | 5.9 | | | |
| Officer's Years of Service | | | Region of United States | | |
| 0-2 | 30 | 19.7 | 23.1 | Northeastern States | 13 8.6 |
| 3-5 | 27 | 17.8 | 20.8 | Midwestern States | 25 16.4 |
| 6-8 | 25 | 16.4 | 19.2 | Southern States | 85 55.9 |
| 9-11 | 18 | 11.8 | 13.8 | Western States | 29 19.1 |
| 12-14 | 11 | 7.2 | 8.5 | | |
| 15-17 | 3 | 2.0 | 2.3 | | |
| 18-20 | 8 | 5.3 | 6.2 | | |
| 21-23 | 3 | 2.0 | 2.3 | | |
| 24-26 | 2 | 1.3 | 1.5 | | |
| 27 or more years | 3 | 2.0 | 2.3 | | |
| Missing | 22 | 14.5 | | | |

Descriptive Statistics

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Table 2. Victim Characteristics (N = 141)

| | <i>n</i> | (%) | | <i>n</i> | (%) |
|--------------------|----------|------|---------------------------------------|----------|------|
| Victim's Age | | | Victim's Sex | | |
| 0-10 | 3 | 2.1 | Male | 121 | 85.8 |
| 11-15 | 3 | 2.1 | Female | 20 | 14.2 |
| 16-18 | 12 | 8.5 | | | |
| 19-21 | 6 | 4.3 | Victim was Armed wth Gun | | |
| 22-24 | 13 | 9.2 | Yes | 23 | 16.3 |
| 25-27 | 19 | 13.5 | No | 118 | 83.7 |
| 28-30 | 13 | 9.2 | | | |
| 31-33 | 11 | 7.8 | Victim armed with dangerous weapon | | |
| 34-36 | 6 | 4.3 | Yes | 52 | 36.9 |
| 37-39 | 4 | 2.8 | No | 89 | 63.1 |
| 40-44 | 18 | 12.8 | | | |
| 45-49 | 15 | 10.6 | Victim's Weapon Type (<i>n</i> = 52) | | |
| 50-54 | 7 | 5.0 | Gun | 20 | 38.5 |
| 55-59 | 4 | 2.8 | Car | 12 | 23.1 |
| 60+ | 6 | 4.3 | Knife | 7 | 13.5 |
| Missing | 1 | 0.7 | Baseball Bat | 3 | 5.8 |
| | | | Taser | 2 | 3.8 |
| Victim's Ethnicity | | | Air Rifle/Pellet Gun/Artificial Gun | 3 | 5.8 |
| Non-Hispanic | 128 | 90.8 | ATV | 1 | 1.9 |
| Hispanic | 12 | 8.5 | Bicycle | 1 | 1.9 |
| Missing | 1 | | Lighter and Light Fluid | 1 | 1.9 |
| | | | Metal Object | 1 | 1.9 |
| Victim's Race | | | Screwdriver | 1 | 1.9 |
| Non-Black | 65 | 46.1 | | | |
| Black | 75 | 53.2 | | | |
| Missing | 1 | 0.7 | | | |

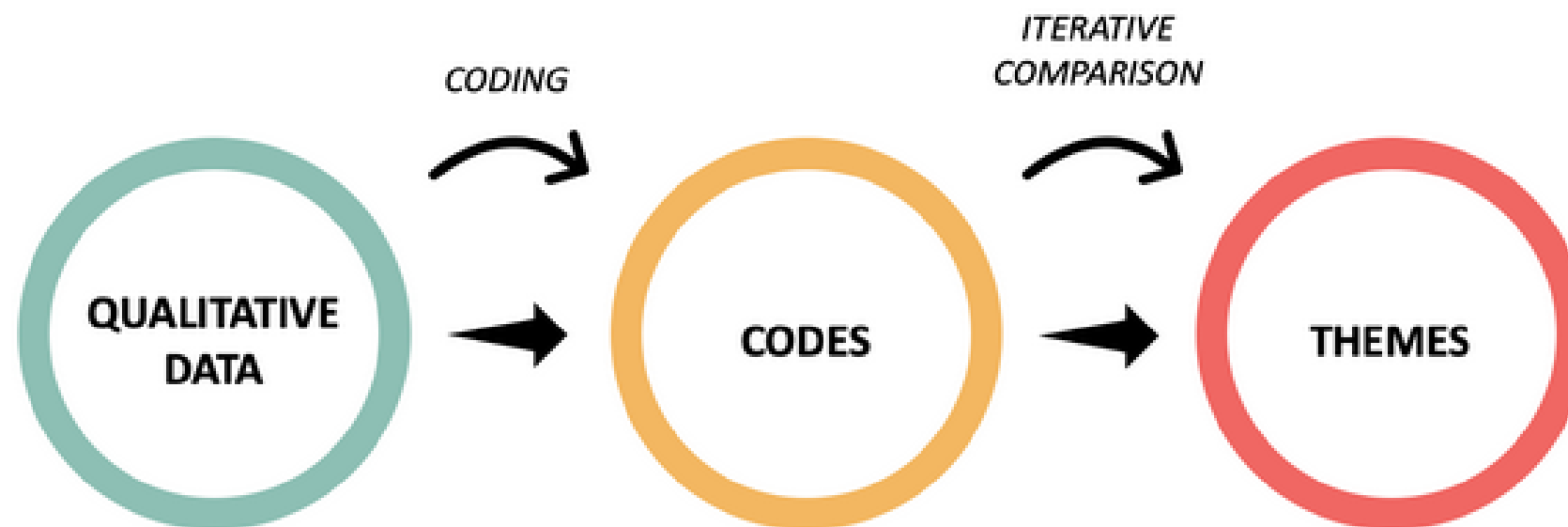
Descriptive Statistics

Table 3. Incident Characteristics (*N* = 138)

| | <i>n</i> | (%) |
|---|----------|------|
| Incident involved Multiple Officers charged with Murder or Manslaughter | | |
| Yes | 10 | 7.2 |
| No | 128 | 92.8 |
| Incident involved Multiple Fatal Victim | | |
| Yes | 3 | 2.2 |
| No | 135 | 97.8 |
| Location of Incident | | |
| Exited car | 19 | 13.8 |
| Friend/relative home | 3 | 2.2 |
| In car | 38 | 27.5 |
| Near friend/relative home | 4 | 2.9 |
| Near victim home | 24 | 17.4 |
| Victim home | 19 | 13.8 |
| Other | 37 | 26.8 |
| Type of Video | | |
| Bodycam video | 31 | 22.5 |
| Bystander video | 6 | 4.3 |
| Dashcam video | 13 | 9.4 |
| Other video | 13 | 9.4 |
| No video | 75 | 54.3 |

Themes

- Thematic Analysis used to develop these themes
 - Repetitive process of inductive code development
 - Full saturation has *not* been achieved – not all incidents can be explained by a reoccurring theme



Themes

| Pattern Identified | Number of <i>Incidents</i> with Identified Pattern |
|---|--|
| 1. Officer initiated traffic stop (or attempted traffic stop) | 27 |
| 2. Officer expressed fear because victim was in car/vehicle | 25 |
| 3. Officer expressed fear of firearm - victim was unarmed | 24 |
| 4. Officer claimed they did not intend to use deadly force against the victim | 13 |
| 5. Officer claimed victim was reaching for the officer's weapon | 12 |
| 6. New articles mention the victim was mentally ill | 11 |
| 7. Officer and victim had a non-stranger relationship prior to incident | 6 |
| 8. Shooting of Black women within or at their own home | 5 |

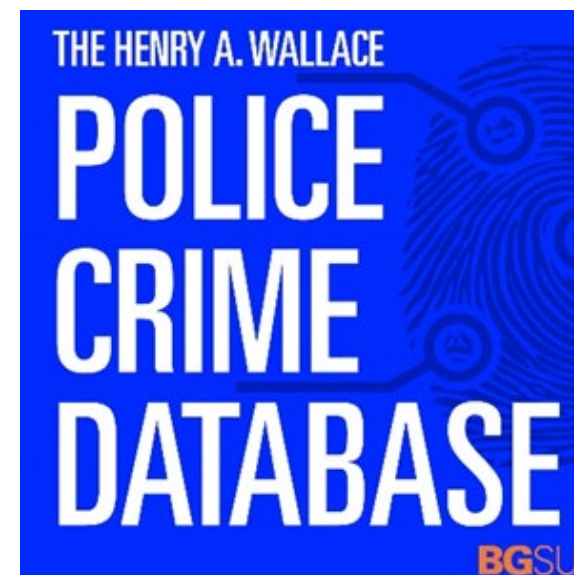
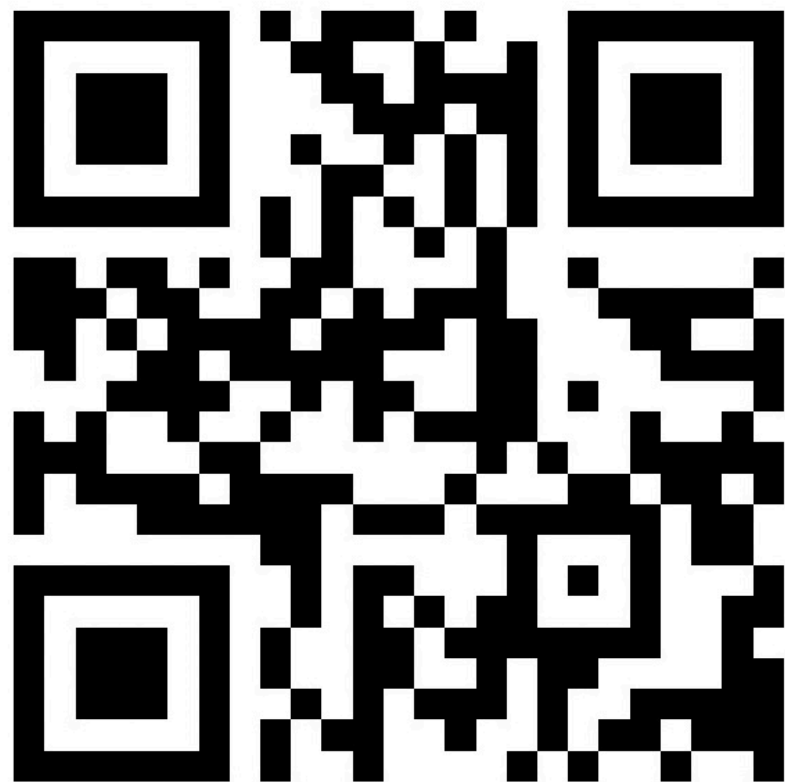
Conclusions

- Research and coding should continue until full saturation (or close to it) has been achieved
 - Themes should also consider the *conviction statuses* of these cases
- Preliminary policy recommendations should consider the warrior mentality of policing, “Blackaphobia,” alternative responses to mental health crises, and police accountability.
- Unit of analysis needs to be reconsidered (officer, arrests, incidents, victims).
- Future research should examine themes of arrest vs. non-arrest, conviction vs. non-convictions, video evidence, and non-shooting on-duty fatalities.

Thank you!

Henry A. Wallace Public
Police Crime Database

<https://policecrime.bgsu.edu/>



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