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*The Justice Coalition began in 1995 because one man's priorities were changed. Ted Hires was the average businessman working 60 to 80 hours a week and looking out for himself until that day when he and his staff were held at gunpoint and robbed. Being a victim of crime, Ted found the criminal justice system worked harder for the criminal than the victim. As a result of Ted's experience, he formed a (501C3) non-profit organization, the Justice Coalition, and is making an effort to change the Fourth Judicial court system for the better.*

*Since 1995, the Justice Coalition has been fighting crime every step of the way. Fugitives captured are through a partnership with local media and law enforcement agencies.*

The Justice Coalition's

**Victims' Advocate**

A free newspaper supporting victims' rights published monthly by The Justice Coalition. The opinions of contributing writers are not necessarily those of the Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate or the Justice Coalition. The Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate welcomes both editorial and photographic submission, but they cannot be returned. Please allow six weeks for a response to submitted works. Calendar information is welcome but must be submitted one month in advance of the event.

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All correspondence to the Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate should be sent to:

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**THE JUSTICE COALITION'S OBJECTIVES**

- To be available for innocent victims of violent crime
- To educate the general public on criminal justice issues
- To be pro-active in the fight against crime

**Advertising Deadline**

The deadline for advertising copy for the **March 2006 Edition** of the JUSTICE COALITION'S VICTIMS' ADVOCATE is **February 10, 2006.**

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**Crime...**

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Planning and Research Unit possess, and their integrity, enabling them to offer the essential, objective interpretive analysis of our city's crime rate. As your Sheriff, I must evaluate this statistical analysis closely and, together with my senior executive team, make decisions about where it makes the most sense to deploy our men and women and utilize all our resources for maximum effectiveness and efficiency.

There is another equally

more to the men and women of the JSO than "statistics" – they are a citizen, a neighbor, a friend or a family member of someone in this city. And their crime deserves to be responded to quickly, investigated thoroughly and resolved, if possible.

Every day our Crime Analysis Unit looks at the previous day's crime reports. They look for patterns, trends, indicators – all kinds of information that our patrol

crimes were all solved using a powerful combination of good police work and expert crime analysis. I have invested greatly in this program and, like our Planning and Research Unit, have high expectations and respect for the work being done by these professionals.

Crime statistics are crucial and they don't lie. We'll tell them exactly as they are. We will continue to examine crimes and criminal activity

**CITYWIDE CRIME STATISTICS**

Citywide Crime Report	2004 Jan-Nov.	2005 Jan-Nov.	% Change
Murder	91	84	-7.7%
Rape	195	178	-8.7%
Other Forcible Sex	198	204	3.0%
Robbery	2,000	2,062	3.1%
Agg. Assault	3,444	3,623	5.2%
<b>Total Violent Crime</b>	<b>5,928</b>	<b>6,151</b>	<b>3.8%</b>
Burglary	8,234	8,271	0.4%
Larceny	26,940	27,326	1.4%
Vehicle Theft	4,255	4,512	6.0%
Arson	234	174	-25.6%
<b>Total Property Crime</b>	<b>39,663</b>	<b>40,283</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
<b>Total Index Crime</b>	<b>45,591</b>	<b>46,434</b>	<b>1.8%</b>

important component to the complex equation of delivering the best law enforcement services possible. It is our Crime Analysis Unit. On the other side of "statistics" and "rates" and "clearances" is the day-to-day analysis of where every crime reported to JSO is occurring, and the specifics surrounding that incident.

While it is important that we know our violent and non-violent crime rates are below the national average for cities the same size as Jacksonville, I also recognize that every car jacking, every auto theft, every robbery or assault effects a real person or a real business.\*\*

These events are much

and investigative units need to know so they can take action that is as effective as possible. On many occasions, based on this kind of analysis, we've organized special task forces or put teams together utilizing various individuals' expertise to solve a crime or series of crimes.

In the past year you heard about several "good catches"...the group that was burglarizing the cars of people attending funeral services; the fellow who was robbing the pizza delivery folks in a specific area of town; the group that was breaking into ATMs throughout the city. Those

close. We'll make decisions about the operation of our agency with a close eye on how our crime rates compare to Baltimore, Charlotte and other cities around the country – but also never forgetting that we are Jacksonville; we are Brentwood and Woodland Acres and Beauclerc and Regency.

\* Source of the quoted information is the FBI webpage  
\*\* American City Business Journal – San Jose, CA, November 21, 2005: "Jacksonville, Florida entered the top ten list of safest big cities..."

**Dumb Criminals**



Most of us are amused when we read stories of wannabe crooks who can't quite get their act together. Jacksonville has its share of criminal mishaps and here are two recent examples:

In October, Bonita Clark, Marise Marshall and Mary Thompson decided to hold up a Bank of America branch on West State Street. Instead of going into the bank, maybe wearing ski masks and brandishing weapons, this hapless trio pulled up to the drive-through window and sent the teller a note demanding cash.

Of course, the teller, who possessed considerably more intelligence than the would-be robbers, called police who arrested them without incident shortly thereafter. JSO Sgt. Mike Powers commented: "Because [tellers] are behind bullet-proof glass, there's no way it would work. So these aren't our smartest criminals – not the sharpest

tools in the shed."

Because drugs were found in the car, police say the three now face both felony robbery and drug charges and could spend years behind bars.

In June, a man pulled into his driveway on Spindrift Circle East and was approached by another man who had apparently followed him home. The crook pulled a gun on the victim and took his wallet and cell phone. The man drove away, not knowing that the victim had been talking to his girlfriend on the phone when he was robbed. The call was not terminated and the line remained open.

When the girlfriend arrived at the victim's home, she told police she could overhear the robber talking to a woman inside his car, discussing plans to cash a check from the stolen wallet at Walmart on Beach Blvd. and San Pablo. JSO and Neptune Beach police officers were sent to Walmart, where they found the two suspects with the victim's wallet and cell phone – with the line still open.