

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DADE

SPRING TERM A. D. 1967

FINAL REPORT OF THE GRAND JURY

Filed

January 18, 1968

Circuit Judge Presiding

THOMAS E. LEE

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CAPITAL AND OTHER CRIMINAL CASES PRESENTED TO THE GRAND JURY

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
LEON MATHEWS	First Degree Murder	True Bill
JACK HOGAN	First Degree Murder	True Bill
P. C. McCLOUD and THOMAS BUNK	Rape	True Bill
ARTHUR DOWLING	Crime Against Nature	True Bill
ARTHUR DOWLING	Crime Against Nature	True Bill
WALDENCE QUINCE	First Degree Murder	True Bill
JOE LEWIS ROYAL, also known as JOE LOUIS ROYAL	Rape	True Bill
JAMES KERNEY	Assault and Battery	True Bill
HERBERT ROSS and ARTHUR McCOY, also known as ARTHUR McCALL	Rape	True Bill
JESSIE JOSEPH TAFERO	Assault with Intent to Commit Rape	True Bill
JESSIE JOSEPH TAFERO and PHILLIP WEINSHANKER	Crime Against Nature	True Bill
JESSIE JOSEPH TAFERO and PHILLIP WEINSHANKER	Breaking & Entering an Apartment Dwelling and Assaulting Persons Lawfully Therein Robbery	True Bill
JERRY WATSON	Rape	True Bill
EMMETT JAMES PARAMORE	First Degree Murder	True Bill
EDWARD BLACKMON, also known as ELWOOD BLACKMON	First Degree Murder	No True Bill
MARK HABER, also known as MARTIN HABERMAN and WILLIAM ROSSETTI	Usury (Two Counts)	True Bill
JOHN BOWMAN HARP	First Degree Murder	True Bill
ARNOLD FRANKLIN HUMPHREY	First Degree Murder	True Bill
MURRAY GARDINER	Theft of Public Document	True Bill
CHARLES MILES	Rape	No True Bill

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
PAUL NICHOLAS GAGNON and PETER KOULIZOS, JR.	Conspiracy to Unlawfully Possess Stolen Operators' or Chauffeurs' Licenses	True Bill
EDDIE LEWIS	First Degree Murder	True Bill
ESTÈLLE HENDERSON	Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia	True Bill
MAUD RAHMING RICHARDSON	Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
WILLIAM JAMES JOHNSON and LUVENIA JOHNSON	Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor	True Bill
DANIEL WILSON and MARY WILSON	Unlawfully Aiding or Assisting in the Conducting of a Lottery Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia Possession of Lottery Tickets Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor	True Bill
ANNIE MAE MACK	Unlawfully Aiding or Assisting in the Conducting of a Lottery Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
SUSIE ELLA McMURRAY	Unlawfully Aiding or Assisting in the Conducting of a Lottery Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
ADDIE MAE TAYLOR	Unlawfully Aiding or Assisting in the Conducting of a Lottery Sale of Lottery Ticket Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
CLARENCE WILLIAMS CURTIS WILLIAMS WILLIAM JAMES JOHNSON LUVENIA JOHNSON THOMAS MOBLEY and ROSE W. MOBLEY	Unlawfully Aiding or Assisting in the Conducting of a Lottery Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
GEORGE ARLINGTON JARRETT and WARREN WHYMS	Unlawfully Aiding or Assisting in the Conducting of a Lottery Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
CEDRIC GARTH BRUTON	Assault with Intent to Commit Rape	True Bill
DAVID MOORE	Conspiracy to Violate Lottery Laws	
DAVE MARCUS	Aiding and Assisting in the	
CHARLES THOMAS	Conducting of a Lottery	
JOSEPH THOMAS	Aiding and Assisting in the	
LEROY MUNLIN	Conducting of a Lottery	True Bill
ROBERT ROWE		
FANNY MAE MOTON		
ANDERSON FORD		
ALFRED RAYMON		
WALTER PERKINS		
DOROTHY PERKINS		
RUDOLPH JOHNSON		
PATRICIA ANN PEREZ		
ROBERT L. DAVIS		
AZARINE DAWSON		
BENJAMIN BRAHAM and		
MARY SMITH		
DAVID B. DICE, JR.	Conspiracy to Violate Lottery Laws	
GENE GEORGE BARRON	Aiding and Assisting in the	
LUVENIA MONTGOMERY	Conducting of a Lottery	
NATHANIEL MONTGOMERY	(Two Counts)	True Bill
SAM HARRIS		
RUTH GUMMER		
JOHNNIE MAE GATEWOOD		
WILLIE JONES		
AZARINE DAWSON		
WALTER SINGLETARY		
L. B. GIBSON		
JOHN HENRY HATCHER		
BEATRICE HATCHER		
CHARLES DYE		
HENRY HARVEY		
JOANNA REDDICK		
MAGGIE BENNETT		
MARY GOODMAN		
GILMORE HOLLIS		
EARLINE BRADLEY		
OLIVE MOSS		
JOHN W. JEFFERSON		
CHRISTINE JEFFERSON		
ALFONSO THOMAS		
CHARLES BAUGH		
JULIUS RICHARDSON		
JAMES CLARIT		
THELMA HILL		
MARTHA McKINNON		
CHARLES PAYNE		
RUBIN DAVIS		
MAXINE PARKS		
SUSIE MILLER		
CORA WILLIAMS		
JAKE RUSSELL and		
ESTELLE HENDERSON		

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
OTIS HUNTER and ONAH MAE HUNTER	Unlawfully Aiding or Assisting in the Conducting of a Lottery Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
KATIE McCOY and BEN RIVERS	Unlawfully Aiding or Assisting in the Conducting of a Lottery Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
WALTER PERKINS and DOROTHY PERKINS	Unlawfully Aiding or Assisting in the Conducting of a Lottery Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
ALFRED RAYMON	Unlawfully Aiding or Assisting in the Conducting of a Lottery Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
ANNIE MAE WHITE and ROSE WILLIAMS	Unlawfully Aiding or Assisting in the Conducting of a Lottery Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
DEMETRA THOMPSON	Second Degree Murder	True Bill
JOHN GONZALES, also known as JOHNNY GONZALES	First Degree Murder	True Bill
OVIDIO R. GONZALES	First Degree Murder	No True Bill
SAMUEL OTIS CARTER	First Degree Murder	True Bill
CAROL GARCIA NORMA A. ROMAN BARBARA ANN STETZLER and MARGARET PEARL WOLFORD	First Degree Murder	True Bill

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
FRED CHAPMAN DAN MORAN MARVIN PRINE JEANIE GLOVER JIMMIE BOYD STUART GRIFFIN CORA WILLIAMS JOHN RUEX ROBERT FAGIN NATHANIEL HORNE JAKE RUSSELL FRED BETHOL MARY HOLDRESS O. C. JENNINGS ROSA CULMER ELSIE GRIFFIN HANNAH DAVIS JEFFERY LIZZY B. TOWNSLEY REBECCA SMITH FRANCIS SOUTHWARD CLYDE BEMAN WOODS BEN JAMES BRANTLEY LUCINE GRAY BRANTLEY BESSIE LEE TRUITT SALLIE GERTRUDE ABRAMS LUCHIOUS ABRAMS LOUISE HUNTER LILLIAN MILLER BATEMAN JOE BATEMAN FRANCES FREDERICK GEORGE ARTHUR ROBINSON CATHERINE WILLIAMS HENRY TAYLOR PARRIS JERRIDO ROSA LEE BLACK LIMBERY BLACK LONNIE HARDY LOUIS NELSON McCUTCHEON CLEAVE BROWN ROBERT LEE HICKS WILLIE A. JONES ISAAC REEVES HILTON WHITE BEN SAPPS and WILLIE T. CHEEVER	Conspiracy to Violate Lottery Laws Aiding and Assisting in the Conducting of a Lottery	True Bill
CHARLES EUGENE HUBBARD	Prostitution	True Bill
CHERYL CLASS HUBBARD	Prostitution	True Bill

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
HUBERT "TOBY" VANN JOHNNIE ASHLEY JIMMIE ASHLEY GLADYS LARODA PROMISE STROUD GERALDINE YOUNG NELLIE MAE WILLIAMS O. C. JENNINGS LOIS JENNINGS LEROY LLOYD VELMA BROWN OZELL JOHNSON FRED BETHEL IVORY BRADWELL LEE TOM WILLIAMS EDDIE B. PERRY LEOLA "TOAD" JESTER and TERESSA WOMACK	Conspiracy to Violate Lottery Laws Aiding and Assisting in the Conducting of a Lottery	True Bill
GENE GEORGE BARRON	Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia	True Bill
JAKE RUSSELL	Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia	True Bill
THELMA HILL	Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
OLIVE MOSS	Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
JOHNNIE MAE GATEWOOD	Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
JULIUS RICHARDSON	Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia	True Bill
AZARINE DAWSON	Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
NATHANIEL MONTGOMERY	Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia	True Bill
ALFONSO THOMAS	Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
ANNIE MAE WHITE and TOM LEE	Possession of Lottery Tickets	True Bill
SAM HARRIS	Possession of Lottery Paraphernalia	True Bill
FRED KIRKLAND, also known as FRED CLEMENTS, JR.	Rape	True Bill
EMMETT JAMES PARAMORE	Rape	True Bill

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
RAFAEL MONTERO, also known as RALPH MONTERO	First Degree Murder	True Bill
WILLIAM J. McALLISTER	First Degree Murder	True Bill
JOSEPH SAMUELS	Usury (Six Counts)	True Bill
EARL STUART SHEINGOLD	Usury (Six Counts)	True Bill
ROY FEINER and EDDIE LEVINE	Usury	True Bill
EDDIE LEE DANIELS and EDWARD EARL JONES	Rape	True Bill
HARRY COLLINS	First Degree Murder	True Bill
JUAN GARCIA, also known as JOHNNY GARCIA, and GILBERTO SIERRA PEREZ	Rape	True Bill
ROBERT C. SCHUYLER	Rape	True Bill
GEORGE ALBERT GORDON	Assault with Intent to Commit Rape	True Bill
FELIX LOPEZ and TONI KAY NANNEY	First Degree Murder	True Bill
EARVIN THOMAS and WILLIE LEE VINSON	Rape	True Bill
WILLIE SCOTT	Rape	No True Bill
EDWARD BLACKMON	Rape	True Bill
ROBERT T. STANFORD	First Degree Murder	True Bill
JIMMIE LEE McCORVEY	Rape	True Bill
EFREN CALLE	Assault with Intent to Commit Rape	True Bill
MARCUS HOLMES	Rape	True Bill
MARCUS HOLMES	Rape	True Bill
RICHARD HOLLIS	Usury Extortion	True Bill
CHARLES WILLIAMS	First Degree Murder	True Bill

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
JOHN MICHAEL HOLLEN	Unlawful Carnal Intercourse with Unmarried Female Minor of Previous Chaste Character	True Bill
JOHN RICHARD JENKINS	Rape	True Bill
MURRAY GARDINER	Grand Larceny	True Bill
MURRAY GARDINER	Grand Larceny	True Bill
MURRAY GARDINER	Grand Larceny	True Bill
JAY GLYNN	Grand Larceny	True Bill
JAY GLYNN	Grand Larceny	True Bill
SAM L. ELCOOK, JR.	Grand Larceny	True Bill
SAM L. ELCOOK, JR.	Grand Larceny	True Bill
RICHARD W. JOHNSTON	Grand Larceny	True Bill
RICHARD W. JOHNSTON	Grand Larceny	True Bill
JOHN A. GAUTIER	Grand Larceny	True Bill
ROBERT M. EVANS	Rape	True Bill
DENNIS H. STEVENS	First Degree Murder	True Bill
DAVID LAWRENCE KATZ	First Degree Murder	No True Bill
JOSEPH M. BERTONE	Rape	True Bill
ANTHONY ESPERTI	First Degree Murder	True Bill
JAMES RICHARD ORR	First Degree Murder	True Bill
JAMES RICHARD ORR	First Degree Murder	True Bill

<u>Defendant</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
RAYMOND C. McLENDON	Conspiracy to Violate	
FLOYD A. MORAN, also known as	Lottery Laws	
DANNY MORAN	Aiding and Assisting in	
EDWARD B. SHOOK	Conducting of a Lottery	
MONA T. SLATON	Setting Up, Promoting and	
PAUL E. SLATON	Conducting a Lottery	True Bill
MARGARET JOHNSON		
JOSEPH GRIER, JR.		
JOHNNY GRIER		
O. C. JENNINGS		
LOIS JENNINGS		
FRED BETHEL		
HARCOURT GIBSON		
RUFUS McGRUDER		
CAMMIE MAE JOHNSON		
SAVANNAH GREEN		
NELLIE MAE WILLIAMS .		
FRANKLIN CLAYTON		
BENJAMINE CLAYTON		
ANNIE WILL CLAYTON		
THOMAS SCOTT, also known as		
TOM WILLIAMS		
JOHNNIE E. ASHLEY		
JIMMY LEE ASHLEY		
LEROY LLOYD		
MAXINE PARKS		
LEONORA ANDERSON		
OZELL JOHNSON		
RED WILLIAMS, also known as		
SOOTER WILLIAMS		
MOOKIE WILLIAMS		
JOE SIRMON		
WILLIE PEARL BETHEL		
JOANNA REDDICK		
DANIEL WILSON		
MARY LOU WILSON		
WILMO BROWN		
VELMA BROWN		
EDDIE B. PERRY		
MARY PERRY		
THELMA K. MILLER		
MARCELIA GOSS, also known as		
KITTY GOSS		
ROSA CULMER		
WALTER GREEN		
LORRAINE CLAYTON		
LOUISE GRIER		
WILLIE MAE THOMAS and		
JORGE GOMEZ PUGA, also known as		
GEORGE PUGA		

TO THE HONORABLE THOMAS E. LEE, CIRCUIT JUDGE
OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

The Spring Term 1967 Grand Jury herewith submits this report of those matters investigated by us during the past eight months. We recognize the importance of the Grand Jury as the one official body whose services are available to all citizens. Every complaint received by this Jury was considered by the entire body and the Jury acting as a whole made the appropriate disposition.

As evidenced by this report, the Jury has taken some major steps forward in the battle against crime. We were able to achieve this success primarily because of the assistance and cooperation of the law enforcement officials and agencies specifically enumerated in this report.

We are confident that our service has contributed to the betterment of our community. We earnestly encourage others to serve on Grand Juries, for they will find it to be a rewarding and enlightening experience. We pass our responsibility on to the next Grand Jury with the sincere hope that our report will be meaningful to them.

* * * * *

BOLITA

With the expert assistance of the Vice Squad of the Dade County Sheriff's Office, we have conducted an extensive investigation into bolita activities in the South Florida area. Our goal was to secure evidence of complete bolita operations from those who finance the operations - the bankers - down to the lowly sellers of bolita tickets. This goal was achieved. We have returned 30 indictments charging 199 defendants with violations of the laws of Florida prohibiting bolita, including 5 indictments charging 161 defendants with conspiracy to violate the lottery laws.

We cannot overemphasize the importance of the use of the conspiracy charge. It opens the door to states-witness evidence, elicited from one or more of the conspirators themselves, which would otherwise be inadmissible and generally unavailable. All members of a gang of lawbreakers who contributed in any way to the perpetration of crime may be brought to justice, without the necessity of proving that each was present at the time the conspiracy culminated in a violation of the laws. The underlying rationale is both simple and satisfying: the social menace of numerous individuals combined to breach the laws is qualitatively greater than the undeveloped intent of any one alone.

The use of the conspiracy charge is also important in that it strikes a telling blow at the complete bolita operation. To prosecute a handful of sellers or "pick-up" men can have little, if any, effect upon an over-all bolita operation. But to prosecute every individual engaged in the illicit gambling, including the ones who finance it, has the effect of totally disrupting the entire operation.

To stress the importance of the conspiracy indictments in relation to organized crime in our community, the evidence presented to us

shows that the five bolita operations involved drained nine to ten million dollars annually from our community - primarily from individuals who could least afford the luxury of illegal gambling. We have also found that the bolita operations we have ferreted out do not recognize county lines in the conducting of unlawful activities, and do not recognize state boundaries in obtaining financial backing and in the distribution of profits.

To obtain essential evidence of the aforementioned conspiracies, we have made effective use of the power afforded us by statute to give immunity from prosecution in exchange for the testimony of some of the co-conspirators. We must emphasize, however, that we have limited the granting of immunity to lesser figures in the bolita structure, and have not immunized any of the overlords of gambling or their top lieutenants. We have used the immunity power as it should be used - sparingly and with the utmost of caution.

We have achieved our success in the bolita area with the expert direction of State Attorney Richard E. Gerstein and our Special Counsel Joseph P. Manners. The results of our labors, not realized by prior Grand Juries, have been based upon the work of the Sheriff's Vice Squad which, for the first time in many years, is doing the job expected of it by the law abiding citizens of this community. Their labors have to a degree rectified the conditions under which bolita has thrived in this area, conditions which were specifically outlined in the Final Reports of prior Grand Juries.

While we believe that our investigation and indictments have dealt an extremely severe blow to one of the most lucrative areas of organized crime in our community, we do not profess to have stopped bolita in Dade County. And, therefore, we encourage succeeding Grand Juries and all law enforcement agencies in Florida to continue to keep the searchlight of public vigilance turned upon this major social and economic evil.

TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

We have continued the investigation initiated by a prior Grand Jury into alleged irregularities and corruption in the Tax Assessor's Office. Our investigators have interviewed scores of witnesses and have examined copious records in the office in question. The evidence presented to this Grand Jury did not reveal any violation of the law by the present employees of the Tax Assessor's Office. However, the evidence did show that numerous tax consultants have allegedly defrauded property owners in Dade County of thousands of dollars by falsely representing that they effected reductions in tax assessments on real property. We have returned several indictments in this regard.

In order to prevent defrauding of taxpayers by tax consultants in the future, we recommend that the Florida Legislature consider enacting a law requiring the Tax Assessor's Office to notify taxpayers by mail when their assessments are either raised or reduced.

Our investigation and the investigation of the prior Grand Jury have resulted in the following improvements in the operation of the Tax Assessor's Office:

1. The Tax Assessor's Office has been divided into two areas - that which is open to the general public and that which is open to employees only. This does not mean that the public has been denied access to any part of the office, but it does provide an orderly means of handling requests for information and allows the employees to proceed with their work with minimum interruptions.
2. As a check on tax consultants, all inquiries from persons who act as agents for taxpayers must be promptly referred

to the Supervisor of the Real Estate Services Division of the Tax Assessor's Office. The Supervisor is required to keep a log containing the subject matter of each inquiry and the disposition of same.

3. Stricter internal control over Realty Records has been established. All changes in value must be approved by the Supervisor of the section initiating the change and no erasures are permitted.
4. Four professional appraisers have been retained to give sorely needed, competent appraisal assistance to the Tax Assessor's Office.
5. An employee in-service training program has been formulated which should provide a better educated and more flexible work force.

The difficulties experienced by the Tax Assessor's Office in prior years were due largely to the absence of proper administration and the lack of internal control. The foregoing changes should go far in the alleviation of these difficulties and we commend Mr. W. Wirt Culbertson, the Tax Assessor, for instituting these changes. We feel confident that under his aggressive management, the operation of the Tax Assessor's Office will be greatly improved. To assist Mr. Culbertson in this important task, we recommend that internal auditors be permanently assigned to the Tax Assessor's Office.

The Grand Jury wishes to commend the Investigative Committee of the Tax Assessor's Office, which was guided by Mr. Robert M. Morgan, for the outstanding cooperation and assistance it afforded us in this investigation. This committee has conducted an intensive internal

audit of the Tax Assessor's Office and has made available to the offices of this Jury its final report. We have noted in this Committee Report certain apparent discrepancies in real property assessments in areas of Dade County, and we have requested the Tax Assessor to take affirmative action to rectify these discrepancies.

USURY

As we noted in our Interim Report issued on July 20, 1967, our investigation into all aspects of organized crime in this community has led us into an area in which unscrupulous money lenders thrive lavishly at the expense of the necessitous borrowing class by exacting interest charges far in excess of the legal rate. The evil of "loan-sharking" is readily ascertainable. We all agree that one of the most precious commodities of our nation is freedom. However, no human being has an opportunity to be free once he becomes entangled in the clutches of the "loan-shark." The hypothetical borrower knows little of the budget system, cares little for future security, and in general is somewhat irresponsible and very susceptible to "loan-sharks." The need for small loans by this typical borrower is always an immediate one. With his normal living expenses, the payment of excessive interest rates on loans may put the borrower in a financial status "above his head." Sooner or later he must default on his payments. Then the harrowing collection processes begin - the delinquent borrower is coerced, intimidated, threatened with physical violence, and in some cases, actually subjected to physical violence. The next step for the borrower may be loss of employment or a resort to felonious criminal conduct. These dire results caused by the unprincipled interest charging of "loan-sharks" indeed present a grave social and moral problem. The additional evil of "loan-sharking" is that it constitutes a major source of revenue for organized crime. In fact, crime experts classify the "loan-shark" business in the multi-billion dollar range.

This Grand Jury has attacked the problem with the return of six indictments against "loan-sharks." However, this major social and

economic evil can never be cured until the State Legislature strengthens our laws prohibiting usury. And, therefore, as we did in our prior report, we again strongly urge and recommend that the Florida Legislature, in its forthcoming special session, consider and enact a usury statute similar to that recently enacted by the State of New York. This statute should contain the following provisions:

1. A person charging interest equal to 25 per cent per annum on any loan shall be guilty of a felony.
2. Each offense shall carry a maximum penalty of five years imprisonment and a five thousand dollar fine.
3. Anyone knowingly possessing records of illegal interest charges equal to 25 per cent shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a one year prison term and a five hundred dollar fine; possession of records alone should be made presumptive evidence of knowledge.

It is difficult to understand why the Legislature has ignored our prior report and failed to make "loan-sharking" a felony. The present statute providing for a maximum penalty of ninety days in jail is totally inadequate.

The Grand Jury believes that the enactment of the legislation proposed and recommended in this report will enable succeeding Grand Juries, as well as other law enforcement agencies, to successfully combat the evils of "loan-sharking."

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH

Ten years ago the City of Miami Beach hired the Wackenhut Corporation to investigate the Police Department and crime conditions in that city. That year the Grand Jury retained the Wackenhut Corporation and a special counsel chosen by the Wackenhut Corporation to conduct further investigation of the information contained in the Miami Beach Report. After four months the investigation failed to yield any indictments. The next Grand Jury dismissed the investigation as a waste of time and money.

The Jury which preceded ours revived the entire matter in their Final Report and directed us to pursue it. We have made the Wackenhut report available to investigators from the Department of Public Safety; conferred with the Director of Public Safety about its contents, and requested that Department to follow up all allegations contained in the report. In addition, we have conferred with representatives of the Wackenhut Corporation and of the Department of Public Safety concerning not only the 1957 report, but general crime conditions today on Miami Beach. We dispatched investigators from the Public Safety Department to report on vice conditions on Miami Beach.

While we are not ready to label Miami Beach as being free of sin, neither do we find that vice is rampant there. No agency, the Department of Public Safety, the Wackenhut Corporation, or anyone else has been able to produce evidence that organized crime has a foothold in the government of the Beach, nor in its Police Department. The public should be reminded that much of the crime situation, for which the City of Miami Beach unjustly receives blame, actually occurs in other political entities such as North Bay Village, the Sunny Isles strip, etc. These areas are unfortunately generalized as being "the Beach."

The former City Manager of Miami Beach, who departed under less than friendly circumstances, and was not likely to be a witness favorable to the powers that be on the Beach, reported to us that law enforcement conditions on Miami Beach are better than in cities such as Phoenix, Arizona and Champaign, Illinois, where he had served; that the crime situation is not out of hand; that the burglary rate is decreasing; that he knew of no evidence of corruption within the governmental structure, and nothing which warranted further investigation by the Grand Jury.

We, therefore, submit that the 1957 Miami Beach Report should be closed to any further investigation.

BOMBINGS

The Grand Jury conducted an intensive investigation into the recent wave of terror bombings in Dade County. Numerous witnesses were subpoenaed. Police officers, as well as victims, were summoned before us in an attempt to discover the motivation for these seemingly senseless acts of violence. We cooperated with the various law enforcement agencies involved, in an attempt to apprehend the person or persons responsible for these bombings.

During this series of bombings, property damage amounted to thousands of dollars. Fortunately, no one was injured or killed. The danger of this type of underworld activity lies in the fact that innocent people are subjected to great financial property losses as well as personal danger. Loss of life and maiming is not uncommon when explosives are discharged.

The victims in most cases are reluctant to testify. The ever present danger of underworld reprisal seals the mouths of many of these victims, thereby depriving law enforcement agencies of necessary information. Thus the investigation is hampered and the guilty cannot be apprehended nor punished. Many of the victims insist that they are unable to provide any clue to the motive for the violence that has been directed towards them. We find this difficult to believe. With such apathetic cooperation, law enforcement officials are seriously hindered in solving these crimes and preventing new outbreaks of terror and violence. In some instances the victims themselves were involved in illegal activity and thus were hesitant to divulge pertinent information which they felt might be incriminating. A re-awakening of a sense of justice on the part of these witnesses is essential in our continuing battle against crime.

Undoubtedly most of these bombings stemmed from underworld vengeance or extortion. They are intended to terrorize and thus enforce extortionate demands. Bombings are almost invariably designed to deliver a message, to enforce the will of the underworld. There is no purpose in hurling a bomb to intimidate unless the victim knows the motive of the violent act. Yet, many of the victims have insisted that they could shed no light as to the motive for this violence. However, it became quite obvious that these bombings were calculated to enforce the mandates of organized crime.

Evidence revealed that these bombings formed a definite pattern-- even to the extent that the same type of explosive and detonating device was used in many of them. It was apparent that several of these bombings centered around underworld bookmaking and the dissemination of illegal service to bookmakers, that is, the setting of odds on sporting events.

We are hopeful that the public exposure given to this investigation has caused the termination of these activities. Law enforcement agencies must strengthen their intelligence divisions and make more frequent use of surveillance procedures if these terror tactics are to be deterred in the future. This cannot be done unless the public is willing to provide the funds and manpower necessary. Competent personnel cannot be inadequately compensated if they are to be recruited and trained. We believe the public is willing to pay the price and legislative bodies should appropriate funds accordingly.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

At the beginning of our term, investigators from the Dade County Sheriff's Office, the Miami Police Department, the State Beverage Department, and the Florida Highway Patrol were assigned to assist the Grand Jury in its investigation of organized crime. After making an evaluation of investigative problems, it was soon realized that a much larger force was needed, and therefore the Grand Jury arranged a meeting of all law enforcement agencies in the area. This meeting resulted in the creation of the Combined Forces Group, which consists of representatives of the State Attorney's Office, the Dade and Broward Sheriff's Offices, the State Beverage Department, and the Police Departments of the cities of Miami, Hialeah, North Miami, Miami Beach, Miami Springs, South Miami, Opa Locka, Fort Lauderdale and Hollywood.

The purpose of the Combined Forces Group was to rectify the need for greater law enforcement cooperation by coordinating the actions of state, county and municipal law enforcement agencies. This goal has been accomplished. Rather than merely exchanging criminal intelligence information, the Combined Forces Group has organized field combat teams which make use of the intelligence in effecting arrests and investigating criminal activities in South Florida. In this connection, over 100 arrests have been made, informations have been filed, and indictments have been returned. Through the operation of the Combined Forces Group, current criminal intelligence information is gathered daily, and is disseminated to the proper law enforcement agencies, thus making arrests possible throughout the State of Florida and in other States. Our information indicates that the criminal underworld is concerned about the existence, activities, and continuing pressure being applied against law-breakers by the Combined Forces Group.

The Grand Jury realizes that the only effective way to combat organized crime is through organized law enforcement, and therefore, we urge succeeding Grand Juries to continue to work with and to direct the activities of the Combined Forces Group.

THE FLORIDA RACING COMMISSION

The preceding Grand Jury initiated an investigation of the Florida Racing Commission which was referred to this Jury for completion.

We investigated several allegations of corruption, but did not find sufficient evidence to warrant an indictment on that basis. However, another phase of our investigation being conducted by the State Attorney resulted in the filing of a perjury charge against the former Director of Racing.

Our investigation has convinced us that there is an urgent and immediate need for the adoption of a conflict of interest regulation to govern the conduct of employees of the Florida Racing Commission. We have learned of instances wherein employees of the Commission have engaged in business activities involving the purchase and sale of race horses, borrowed money from persons in the industry over whom they have control and supervision and engaged in other activities which we deem improper. The governing of racing in this State is an extremely sensitive matter in which the public has a tremendous interest. Employees of the Racing Commission cannot be allowed to pursue private racing enterprises with the persons whom they regulate. There must be a set of guide lines adopted to control the activities of Commission employees.

SUNLAND TRAINING CENTER

During the early stages of our term, we investigated alleged mistreatment of residents and unlawful activities of employees at the Sunland Training Center in Dade County, Florida. This investigation resulted in the return of indictments and in the filing of an Interim Report in which we made specific recommendations to improve the conditions at Sunland. After further investigation, we are pleased to state that our recommendations have resulted in the following improvements in the operation of Sunland:

1. Applicants for employment are given a thorough background check, and must submit to both a physical and mental test before being employed. New employees work the first three months under the close supervision of experienced personnel.

2. Regulations are now in effect which forbid any employee from inflicting any type of physical punishment on a resident. A violation of these regulations will result in the employee's immediate dismissal.

3. An upgraded pay scale has been effected, and various key personnel, including nurses and cottage parents, have received pay raises.

4. Property donated to Sunland is immediately tagged and placed on an inventory. All items in the possession of Sunland are accounted for at all times by roving inventory.

5. A system has been instituted whereby incorrigible residents are removed to the Ft. Myers facility, where proper detention areas are available. This innovation is most important because it will prevent any recurrence of the unfortunate truck body incident.

We feel that the foregoing improvements, which are a result of this Jury's investigation, have greatly increased the efficiency of the operation of Sunland Training Center in its most important task of helping the mentally retarded.

GRAND JURY

Early in our term, it was suggested that we would not have the cooperation of law enforcement agencies which prior Grand Juries had enjoyed. Nothing could have been further from the fact. We have had full cooperation and aid from Federal, State and local law enforcement agencies. This joint effort has been responsible for an unprecedented number of indictments against organized crime. We have labored many hours and have indicted in excess of 200 persons. Many of the known hoodlums who reside in Dade County were subpoenaed and appeared before us in our effort to investigate crime in Dade County. While these people usually invoke their constitutional privilege against self-incrimination, spotlighting them is of deterrent value.

One of the main sources of criminal income was depleted by the returning of 155 indictments against the bolita rackets. Six indictments were also returned against loan sharks, another prime source of revenue for organized crime. This, of course, was in addition to numerous indictments returned in capital cases. These activities indicate that this has been one of the most effective Grand Juries.

We were dismayed to discover that the Florida Legislature, during its last session, provided for the impaneling, at the discretion of the Circuit Court, of two Grand Juries. This was done without consulting this Grand Jury, the Dade County Grand Jury Association, or the State Attorney's Office. We are opposed to this law. There is absolutely no need for two Grand Juries in Dade County. Under the excellent counsel of Richard E. Gerstein and his able assistants, one Grand Jury is sufficient to carry out the duties legally and historically relegated to Grand Juries.

We were able to handle our duties with a maximum of two after-noon meetings per week.

The advocates of two Grand Juries cite New York City where several Grand Juries are required. There is no analogy. In New York all felonies, some 15,000 per year, must be submitted to the Grand Jury. The Florida law provides for the State Attorney to handle these cases by information thus eliminating the routine work of Grand Juries in other States.

We fail to understand why the Dade delegation to the Florida Legislature has addressed itself to the passage of legislation creating an unnecessary second Grand Jury, while ignoring recommendations of this Jury to strengthen the usury statute, which could be a genuine weapon against organized crime.

For this reason we urge the State Legislature to repeal the Act in question and until it is repealed, we recommend that the Circuit Court Judges of this County refrain from impanelling a second Grand Jury.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT

DISTRICT #3

Having received complaints involving undue delay in the processing of cases in the Justice of the Peace Court of the Third District (Coral Gables and South Miami area), we conducted an investigation.

We found that procedures followed in the subpoenaing of witnesses to appear in the Court are not adequate. Subpoenas are issued in a slipshod manner, resulting in the failure of witnesses to be served and appear. This stems from a lack of communication between police agencies dealing with the Court and the Constables serving subpoenas. Frequent clerical errors have contributed to improper service of subpoenas. Part of the problem is due to a heavy case load and a lack of personnel to process cases.

The Court Clerk's Office must be staffed with additional personnel if it is to operate efficiently. It appears that when the Chief Clerk is on vacation or absent from the office, there is a complete breakdown in the operation. This is a deplorable condition that must be rectified immediately. No public agency can function properly when its entire operation is dependent upon one person, nor can a Court operating in this fashion render service to the public.

We recommend that the County Commission provide additional clerical personnel for the Third District Justice of the Peace Court. We also recommend that the present system of subpoenaing witnesses be altered and innovations instituted by the Court itself, with particular emphasis placed on communication between the various law enforcement agencies involved, the Constable for this District, and the personnel of the Court. The work load in the Clerk's Office should be allocated equally among present personnel so that the operation is not totally dependent upon any particular individual.

STATE ATTORNEY RICHARD E. GERSTEIN
AND STAFF

Richard E. Gerstein, the State Attorney for Dade County, has rendered us his services in a most conscientious, efficient and praiseworthy manner. We have confidence in the integrity and ability of Mr. Gerstein and his staff, and they deserve and receive our appreciation. Without Mr. Gerstein's diligent efforts, this Jury could not have made the inroads it has made against bolita, loan-sharking, and fraud in connection with tax assessments.

We also wish to express our appreciation to Assistant State Attorney Joseph Durant for his effective legal guidance. His expertise in the criminal law field was extremely important to us.

Assistant State Attorney David Goodhart presented capital cases to this Grand Jury with professional competence and otherwise greatly aided us in our duties.

GRAND JURY SPECIAL COUNSEL

We are most appreciative of the dedicated efforts of our Special Counsel, Joseph P. Manners, and we commend him for his professional ability in assisting this Jury in carrying out its duties. We are further indebted to Mr. Manners for the leadership he has given to the Combined Forces Group which is one of the most important achievements of this Grand Jury.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

During the term of this Grand Jury, many individuals, groups, and departments have served us and served us well. In particular, without intentionally overlooking the majority of those involved, but for purposes of brevity and brevity alone, we wish to express our sincerest appreciation to the following:

We have enjoyed and appreciated our relationship with the Honorable Thomas E. Lee, Judge of the Circuit Court, who has been our presiding Judge. We have found Judge Lee to be extremely conscientious in carrying out his duties and responsibilities to this body. At all times he has been courteous and helpful without objecting or hesitating to advise and counsel with us.

We express our appreciation to the Clerk of the Circuit Court, E. B. Leatherman, who has assisted Judge Lee and the Jury during our prolonged term.

Once again, Eleanor M. Robinson must be singled out for commendation and appreciation. Her efficiency in handling the many administrative details of the Grand Jury is extraordinary and is coupled with a very sincere devotion to her duties.

The bailiff of the Grand Jury, W. Rufus Holzbaur, has also performed his duties in a conscientious manner.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard R. Wright
Howard R. Wright, Foreman
Dade County Grand Jury
Spring Term 1967

Attest: *Patricia S. Larimore*
Patricia S. Larimore
Clerk

Dated: January 18, 1968