

# BELIZE POLICE DEPARTMENT



## SERIOUS CRIME SUMMARY JANUARY TO JUNE, 2007 AND 2008

### SERIOUS CRIMES

Serious crimes in Belize fluctuated over the first six months (January to June, 2007 and 2008). Statistic shows that for January 2007 there was a total of **(331)** major crimes reported. In February there were **(261)**, in March **(317)** in April **(254)** in May **(255)** and **(302)** in June. During 2008 there were **(247)** major crimes reported, in January, **(244)** in February, **(248)** in March, **(269)** in April **(296)** in May and **(262)** in June, 2008.

**When comparing serious crimes reports for this same period in 2007, with the exception of Carnal Knowledge, statistics reflect a decrease of (154) major crimes or a (9%) reduction. In 2007 during this same period, there were (1,720) Major crimes reported, compared to (1,566) reports made in 2008.**



These crimes include **Murders, Robberies, Burglaries, Thefts, Rapes and Carnal Knowledge.**

During the period January to June, 2007 there were a total of **(50)** Murder cases reported countrywide. There were **(5)** cases in January, **(6)** in February, **(15)** in March, **(8)** in April, **(7)** in May and in June there were **(9)** cases. During this same period in 2008 there were a total of **(48)** cases reported countrywide, with **(5)** cases in January, **(13)** in February, **(11)** in March, **(9)** in April, **(5)** in May and in June there were **(5)** cases.

**In regards to Murders, statistics has shown that during the period under review there was a decrease of 4% or two (2) Murders in 2008. In 2007 there were (50) Murders committed and during 2008 there are (48) Murders.**



During this period in 2007 there were **(29)** Murders committed in the Belize District, **(5)** in the Corozal District, **(5)** in Orange Walk, **(4)** in the Cayo District, **(6)** in the Stann Creek District and **(1)** in the Toledo District. For this same period in 2008 there were **(31)** Murders in the Belize District, with **(2)** in Corozal, **(4)** in Orange Walk, **(7)** in the Cayo District and **(4)** in the Stann Creek District. The Toledo district recorded no Murder during this period in 2008.

Statistics also shows that Belize City continues to be the main area of concerns, as it relates to Murders. During the period under review in 2007 Belize City had recorded **(22)** Murders with **(18)** occurring on the Southside of the city and **(4)** on the North side. In 2008 Belize City recorded **(24)** Murders with **(21)** occurring on the south side and **(3)** on the north side.

The motive for these Murders was as a result of Robberies, Altercations, Misunderstandings (old beefs), Drug related and Domestic Disputes. Although statistics indicates that altercations are the leading causes of most Murders there are several Murders where the motive is undetermined.

During this period in 2007 (January to June) the detection rate for Murders was **86.0%** and during this same period in 2008 the detection rate has fallen to **66.7%**. Although there was a slight decrease in the number of Murders during the first six months of 2008 the Country's detection rate remains on average.

During the period under review (Jan to June 2007- 08) there were a total of **(43)** persons arrested and charged for Murder countrywide in 2007. Three **(3)** persons were arrested in January, **(5)** in February, **(16)** in March, **(4)** in April, **(7)** in May and **(8)** persons in June. For this same period in 2008 there were thirty **(30)** persons arrested countrywide. Two **(02)** persons were arrested in January, **(05)** in February, **(8)** in March, **(10)** in April, **(2)** in May and **(3)** person in June. **It is important to note that included in these figures are those that were jointly charged.**

#### **ROBBERIES:**

During the period under review (Jan to June 2007-08) there were a total of **(275)** cases of Robberies reported countrywide during 2007. There were **(53)** cases reported in January, **(51)** in February, **(58)** in March, **(42)** in April, **(38)** in May and in June there were **(33)** cases. During this same period in 2008 there were a total of **(242)** Robbery cases reported countrywide. **Forty-one (41)** cases were reported in January, **(24)** in February, **(38)** cases in March, **(45)** in April, **(61)** in May and in June there were **(33)** cases. **This reflects a decrease of (33) cases or 12% reduction during 2008.**

#### **BURGLARIES:**

During the period under review (Jan to May 2007-08) there were a total of **(648)** Burglary cases reported countrywide during 2007. There were **(108)** cases reported in January, **(105)** in February, **(127)** in March, **(94)** in April, **(91)** in May and in June there were **(123)** cases. During this same period in 2008 there were a total of **(574)** Burglary cases reported countrywide. **Ninety-one (91)** cases were reported in January, **(84)** in February, **(111)** cases in March, **(88)** in April, **(112)** in May and in June there were **(88)** cases. **This reflects a decrease of (74) incidents or 11.4% reduction during 2008.**

#### **THEFTS:**

During the period under review (Jan to June 2007-08) there were a total of **(679)** cases of Theft reported countrywide during 2007. There were **(151)** cases reported in January, **(91)** in February, **(105)** in March, **(99)** in April, **(108)** in May and in June there were **(125)** cases. During this same period in 2008 there were a total of **(637)** cases of Theft reported countrywide. One hundred and one **(101)** cases were reported in January, **(110)** in February, **(82)** cases in March, **(113)** in April, **(108)** in May and in June there were **(123)** cases. **This reflects a decrease of (42) cases or 6.2% reduction during 2008.**

#### **RAPES:**

During the period under review (Jan to June 2007-08) there were a total of **(28)** Rape cases reported countrywide during 2007. There were **(03)** cases reported in January, **(06)** in February, **(02)** in March, **(07)** in April, **(4)** in May and in June there were **(6)** cases. During this same period in 2008 there were a total of **(18)** Rape cases reported countrywide. Three **(3)** cases in January, **(5)** cases in February, **(3)** cases in March, **(3)** in April, **(0)** in May and in June there were **(4)** cases. **This reflects a decrease of (10) cases or 35.7% reduction during 2008.**

### **CARNAL KNOWLEDGE:**

During the period under review (Jan to June 2007-08) there were a total of **(40)** Carnal Knowledge cases reported countrywide during 2007. There were **(11)** cases reported in January, **(02)** in February, **(10)** in March, **(4)** in April, **(7)** in May and in June there were **(6)** cases. During this same period in 2008 there were **(47)** cases of Carnal Knowledge reported countrywide. **Six (6)** cases were reported in January, **(08)** in February, **(03)** cases in March, **(11)** in April, **(10)** in May and in June there were **(9)** cases. This reflects an increase of **(7)** case or **14.9%** increase during 2008.

### **SHOOTINGS/ATTEMPT MURDERS**

During the period January to June 2008 ONLY, there were **(42)** shooting incidents recorded countrywide. There were **(33)** cases reported in Belize City, **(2)** case each in San Ignacio and Benque Viejo, **(1)** case was each recorded in Ladyville Village, Hattievill village, the Corozal district, Orange walk district and Independence village.

Statistics show that for the month of January there were **(7)** shooting incidents recorded, **(7)** in February, **(10)** in March, **(10)** in April, **(6)** in May and in June there were **(2)** shooting incidents recorded.

**It is important to note that the statistics in regards to shooting incidents are not inclusive of shootings that are related to crimes such as robberies, murders aggravated assaults etc.**

### **FIREARMS:**

During the period under review (Jan to June 2007-08) there were a total of **(73)** Illegal firearms taken off the streets of Belize Countrywide in 2007. There were **(14)** firearms confiscated in January, **(11)** in February, **(08)** in March, **(15)** in April, **(6)** in May and during June **(19)** firearms. **During this same period in 2008 there were a total of (81) Firearms confiscated by Police countrywide. Fifteen (15) were confiscated in January, (13) in February, (19) in March, (14) in April, (9) in May and during June (11) firearms. When comparing this same period (Jan to June) 2007, statistic shows an increase of (8) firearms confiscated or 9.9% increase in the number of firearms confiscated during 2008.**

During the period under review (Jan to June 2007-08) there were a total of **(50)** persons arrested and charged for Firearm and Ammunition related Offences countrywide in 2007. There were **(16)** persons arrested in January, **(7)** in February, **(0)** in March, **(13)** in April, **(7)** in May and in June there were **(7)** persons. **During this same period in 2008 there were a total of (77) persons arrested for firearm related offences by Police countrywide. Thirteen (13) persons were arrested in January, (16) in February, (18) in March, (9) in April, (9) in May and in June there were (12) persons arrested. When comparing this same period (Jan to June) 2007, statistic shows an increase of (27) arrests or 35.1% in the number of arrest made during 2008.**

### DRUGS:

During the period under review (Jan to June 2007-08) there were a total of **(295 kilos)** of Cannabis seized countrywide in 2007. There were **(24 kilos)** seized in January, **(25 kilos)** in February, **(33 kilos)** in March, **(38 kilos)** in April, **(24)** kilos in May and in June there were **(151 kilos)** of cannabis confiscated. During this same period in 2008 there were a total of **(116.8 kilos)** of cannabis seized by Police countrywide. **Four (04 kilos)** were seized in January, **(58 kilos)** in February, **(25 kilos)** in March **(17.5 kilos)** in April, **(9.5 kilos)** in May and in June there were **(2.8 kilos)** of cannabis confiscated. When comparing this same period Jan to June 2007, statistics shows a decrease of **(178.2 kilos)** or **61%** in cannabis confiscation during 2008.

In regards to Marijuana plants during the period under review (Jan to June 2007-08) Police eradicated a total of **19,459** mature marijuana plants countrywide. During this same period in 2008 Police eradicated a total of **16,338** marijuana plants.

In regards to Cocaine hydrochloride during the period under review in 2007 Police confiscated a total of **32.6 kilos** of cocaine. During this same period in 2008 there was a total of **15 kilos** of cocaine confiscated. This reflects a decrease of **17.6** kilos.

During the period under review (Jan to June 2007-08) there were a total of **(772)** persons arrested and charged for Drug Related Offences countrywide in 2007. There were **(134)** persons arrested in January, **(113)** in February, **(155)** in March, **(123)** in April, **(110)** in May and in June there were **(137)** persons arrested. During this same period in 2008 there were a total of **(749)** persons arrested for drug related offences by Police countrywide. One hundred and twelve **(112)** persons were arrested in January, **(119)** in February **(138)** in March, **(135)** in April, **(146)** in May and in June there were **(99)** persons arrested. When comparing this same period (Jan to June) 2007, statistic shows a decrease of **(23) arrests** or **3%** in the number of arrest made during 2008.

### EXPLOSIVES:

In February 2008, Police also seized **two (2) blocks of M112 explosives**, weighing a total of 1¼ pounds with a detonator. **An American national was arrested and later issued with an expulsion order.**

In May 2008, a grenade explosion **killed (1) person and injured (11) others.** Two Belizeans were arrested and charged in connection with this incident.

In June 2008, Police acting on information searched a residence in Belize City which led to the discovery of (1) green smoke screening grenade, (3) electrical detonators, (5) none electrical detonators, (17) electrical safety fuse, (2) tube of P.E. 4 explosive and 20 feet of safety fuse. Police arrested and charged (3) persons of Belizean Nationality in connection with this discovery.