

Mid-America Intergovernmental Audit Forum High Impact Audits

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Police Case Clearance

- Released on September 8, 2008
- Audit Team: Linna Hung
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- <http://www.kcmo.org/auditor/08-09audits/policecaseclearance.pdf>

Today's Agenda

- **Background Information**
- **Audit Findings and Recommendations**
- **Post Audit Events**
- **Questions**

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Background

- **Missouri statutes require monthly reporting of crime statistics.**
- **Monthly reporting uses the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) summary format.**
- **The KCPD is moving to incident-based reporting.**

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Definitions

- **Clearance rate:** The number of arrests in a given time period divided by the number of offenses committed in the same period.
- **Clearance by arrest:** Arresting, charging, and turning over at least one person for prosecution.
- **Exceptional clearance:** A reason outside of police control prevents filing formal charges against the offender.

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Audit Objectives

- **Is the reported data on case clearance accurate?**
- **How can the Police Department clear more crimes?**

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Findings

- **KCPD is not reporting all clearances by arrest.**
- **KCPD is not reporting all exceptional clearances.**
- **Incomplete police reports are not reported.**

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Findings

- **State found errors in KCPD monthly reports.**
- **KCPD was not meeting the state's reporting deadline.**
- **Grant funding may be jeopardized.**

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Findings

- **Officers were improperly using Tiburon.**
- **Tiburon could not communicate case clearance data to the department's ALERT system.**

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Recommendations

- **Report all clearance data accurately.**
- **Process all reports in a timely manner.**
- **Meet state reporting deadlines.**
- **Train officers in computer system usage and incident-based reporting.**

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Clearing more crimes

- Initial police response.
- Detective actions.
- Other police actions.
- Barriers identified by police personnel.

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Post Audit Events

- News coverage.
- Revised 2007 crime statistics show an increase.
- Crime reporting deadlines are now met.
- Training in incident-based reporting continues.
- Working to achieve certification in incident-based reporting.

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Questions?



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