

Memorandum

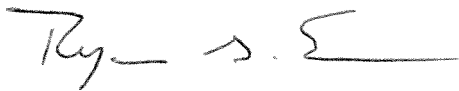


DATE: February 11, 2010

TO: Members of the Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: **Dallas Police Department Crime Reporting Procedures**

Attached is briefing material on the "Dallas Police Department Crime Reporting Procedures" to be presented to the Members of the Public Safety Committee on Tuesday, February 16, 2010.



Ryan S. Evans
First Assistant City Manager

alb

Attachment

CC: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Dallas City Council

Mary K. Suhm, City Manager

Deborah Watkins, City Secretary

Tom Perkins, City Attorney

Craig Kinton, City Auditor

Victor Lander, Administrative Municipal Judge

Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager

A.C. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager

Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager

Dave K. Cook, Chief Financial Officer

Helena Stevens-Thompson, Assistant to the City Manager Mayor/City Council



Dallas Police Department Crime Reporting Procedures

February 16, 2010



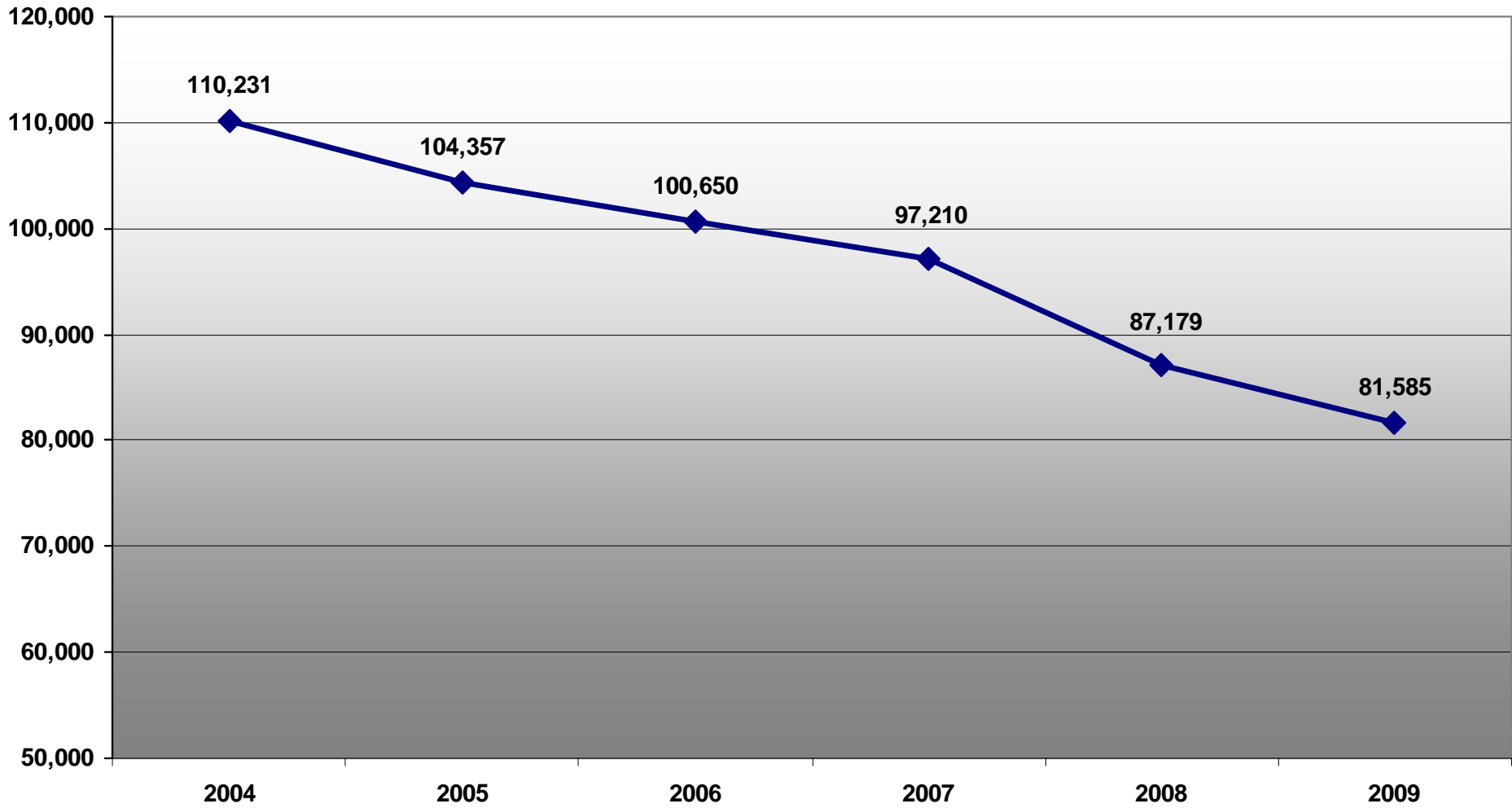
Today's Discussion

1. Crime has fallen significantly in the City of Dallas
2. Crime reporting and data accurately reflects the situation in Dallas and the current trends

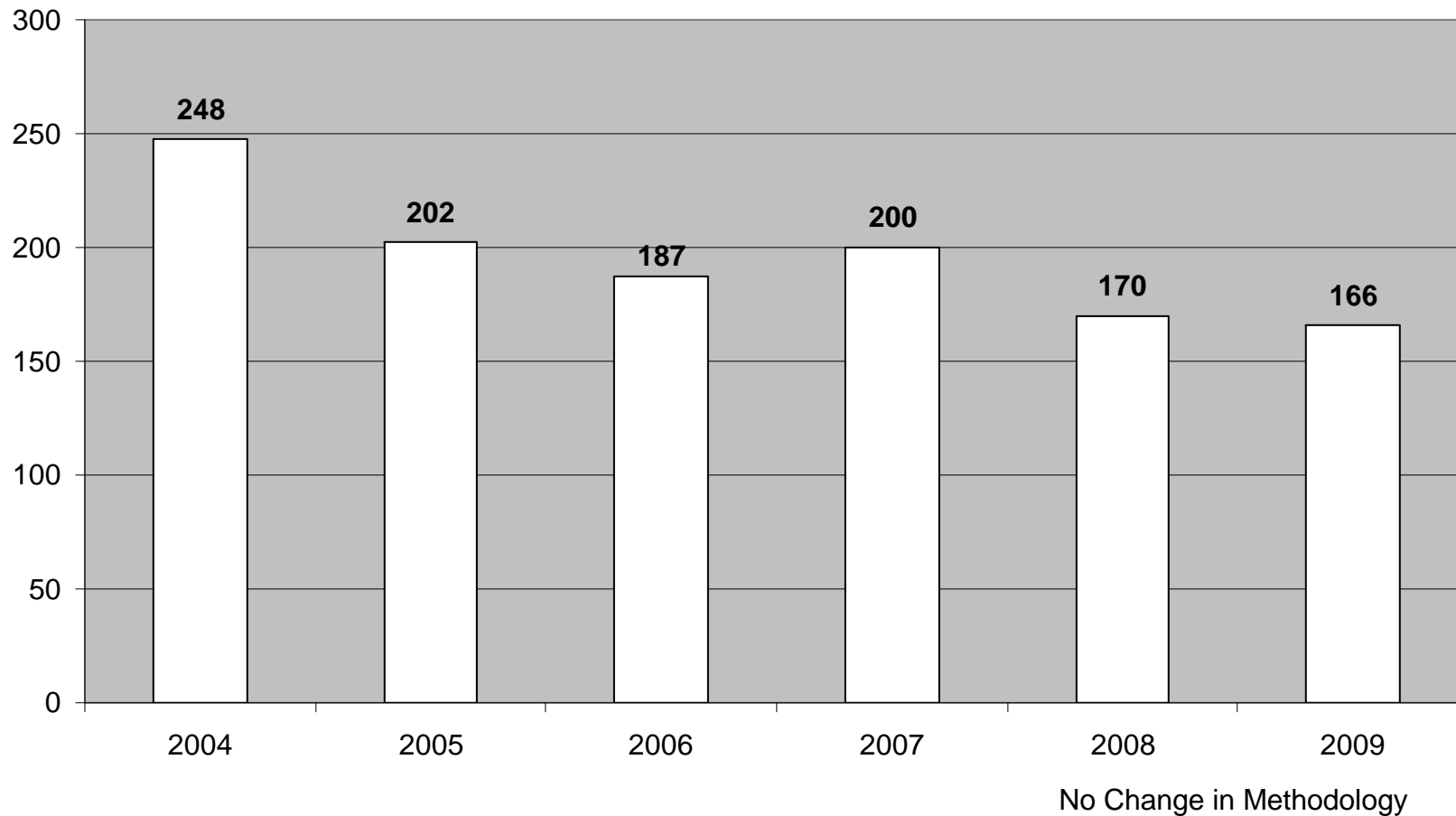
2009 Crime Statistics

- Sixth consecutive year of total crime reduction
- Total crime down 26% since 2004
- Lowest per capita murder rate in 51 years and 36% lower than 2004
- Violent crime down 10.5% in 2009

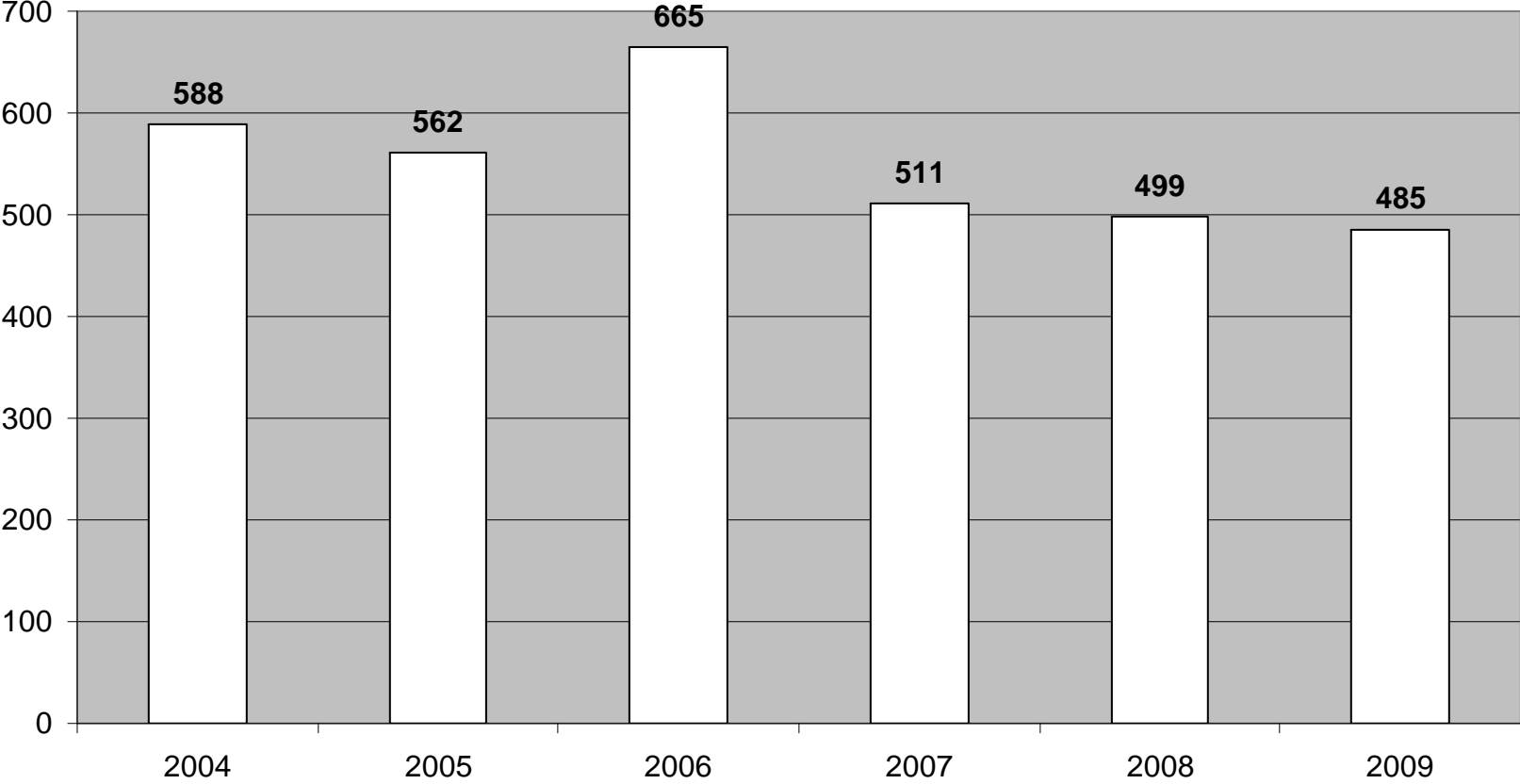
Dallas Total Reported Crime 2004 - 2009



Dallas Murders 2004 - 2009

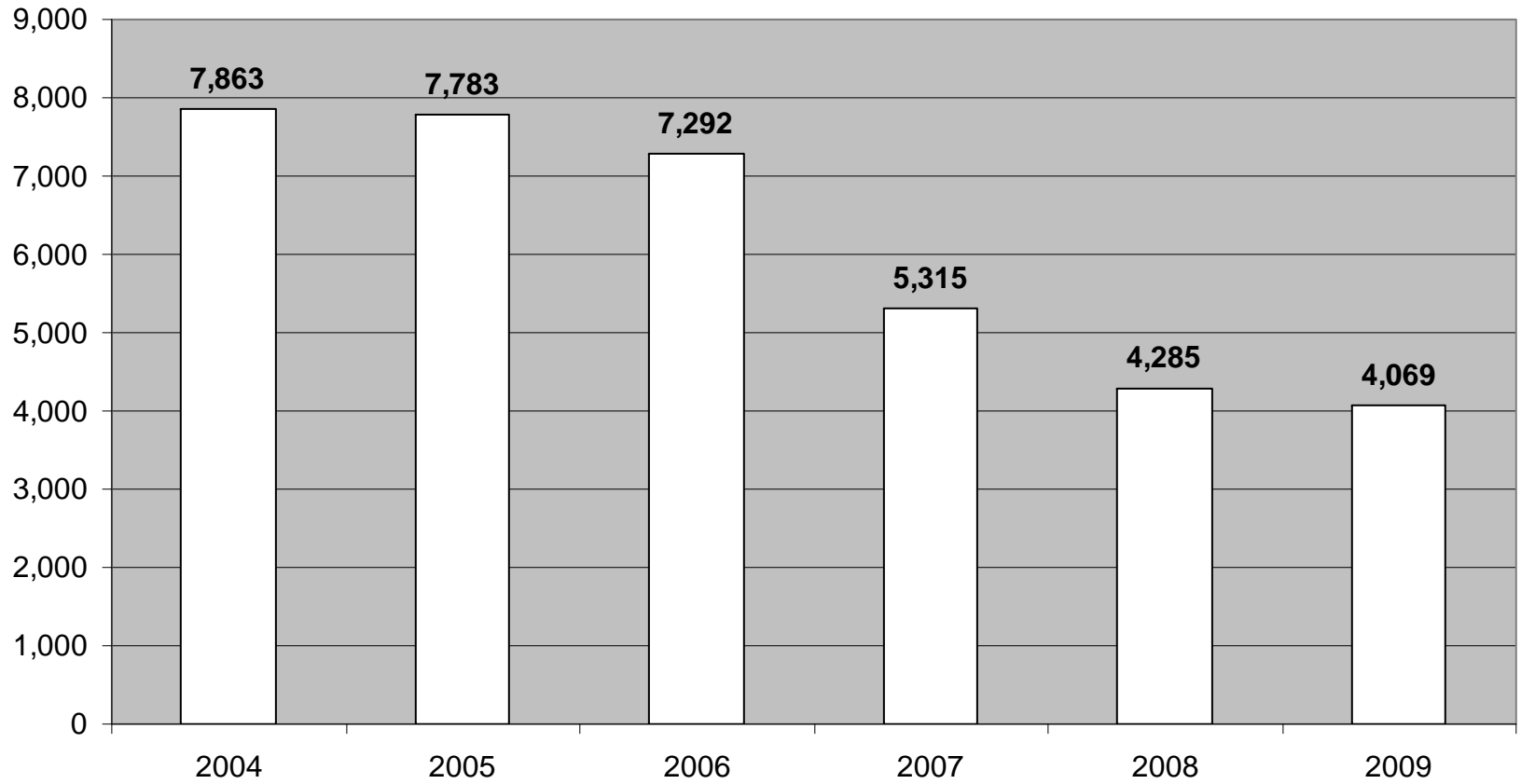


Dallas Rapes 2004 - 2009



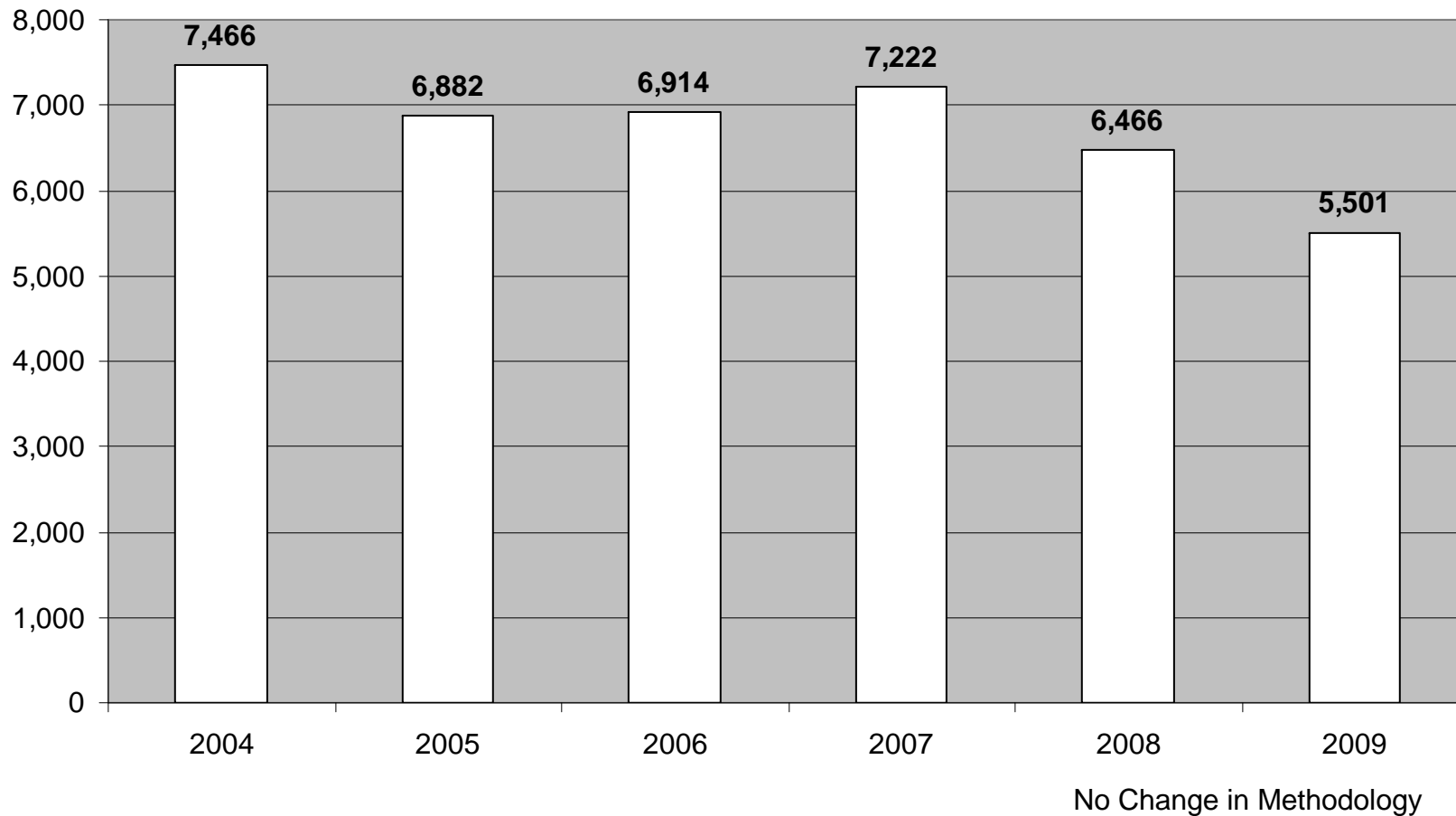
No Change in Methodology

Dallas Aggravated Assaults 2004 - 2009



No Change in Methodology

Dallas Robberies 2004 - 2009



Factors Contributing to Dallas Crime Reductions

- Mayor, City Council and City Manager's commitment to making public safety the highest priority
 - New Ordinances
 - Regulation of scrap metal recyclers
 - Convenience store crime reduction regulations
 - Mandatory crime reduction program for apartment complexes
 - Daytime teen curfew
 - Technology
 - Fusion Center
 - Updated Mobile Data Computers (MDC)
 - CAD
- Tireless efforts of Dallas Police Department employees

Factors Contributing to Dallas Crime Reductions

- Increased uniformed strength by 433 officers since 2007
 - Allowed for expanded use of Beat Policing model
 - Permitted vibrant Neighborhood Policing Officer (NPO) program
- Public/Private partnerships
 - Safer Dallas/Better Dallas
 - Caruth Police Institute
 - Meadows Foundation
- Improved community partnerships
 - 10-70-20 Program
 - Continued expansion of Volunteer programs

DPD Crime Reporting System

- The current DPD crime reporting system was developed in a thoughtful, transparent manner and accurately reflects crime in Dallas
 - The system employs professional investigative discretion and common sense
 - The methodology is comparable to other peer cities
 - DPD continually strives to improve the process when necessary and warranted
 - The Records Management System (RMS) recently approved by Council will assist in this function

DPD Crime Reporting System

- Over the past several years DPD has made several modifications to more accurately measure crime:
 - Officers were creating crime reports about incidents that were potentially fraudulent or not criminal in nature
 - DPD was over reporting crime
- Changes were made in a totally transparent manner to both internal and external constituents
- Importantly, variations in methodology while impacting specific numbers, do not change the message or trends reflecting significant decreases of crime in Dallas

Texas Penal Code

- DPD must follow the Texas Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure when making criminal offense reports and arrests
- DPD must be able to prove the elements of an offense in accordance with the Texas Penal Code in order to prosecute an individual for a crime

Summary

- Dallas has enjoyed six consecutive years of crime reduction due to a variety of sources, including, the efforts of its citizens, Mayor and Council, City Staff and the Dallas Police Department
- The Dallas Police Department's crime reporting system hasn't produced these results but is reflective of the remarkable efforts of all those who work every day to make Dallas a safer city

Questions?