

Problem-Oriented Policing in a Mid-Sized City

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Chief of Police
Lincoln, Nebraska**

What's a mid-sized city?

- Lincoln: 251,000
 - 73rd largest U.S. City
 - 317 sworn officers
- UCR Group II and Group I subset
 - Populations of 100,000 to 499,999
 - 223 cities with total population of 41,159,030

Features of mid-sized cities

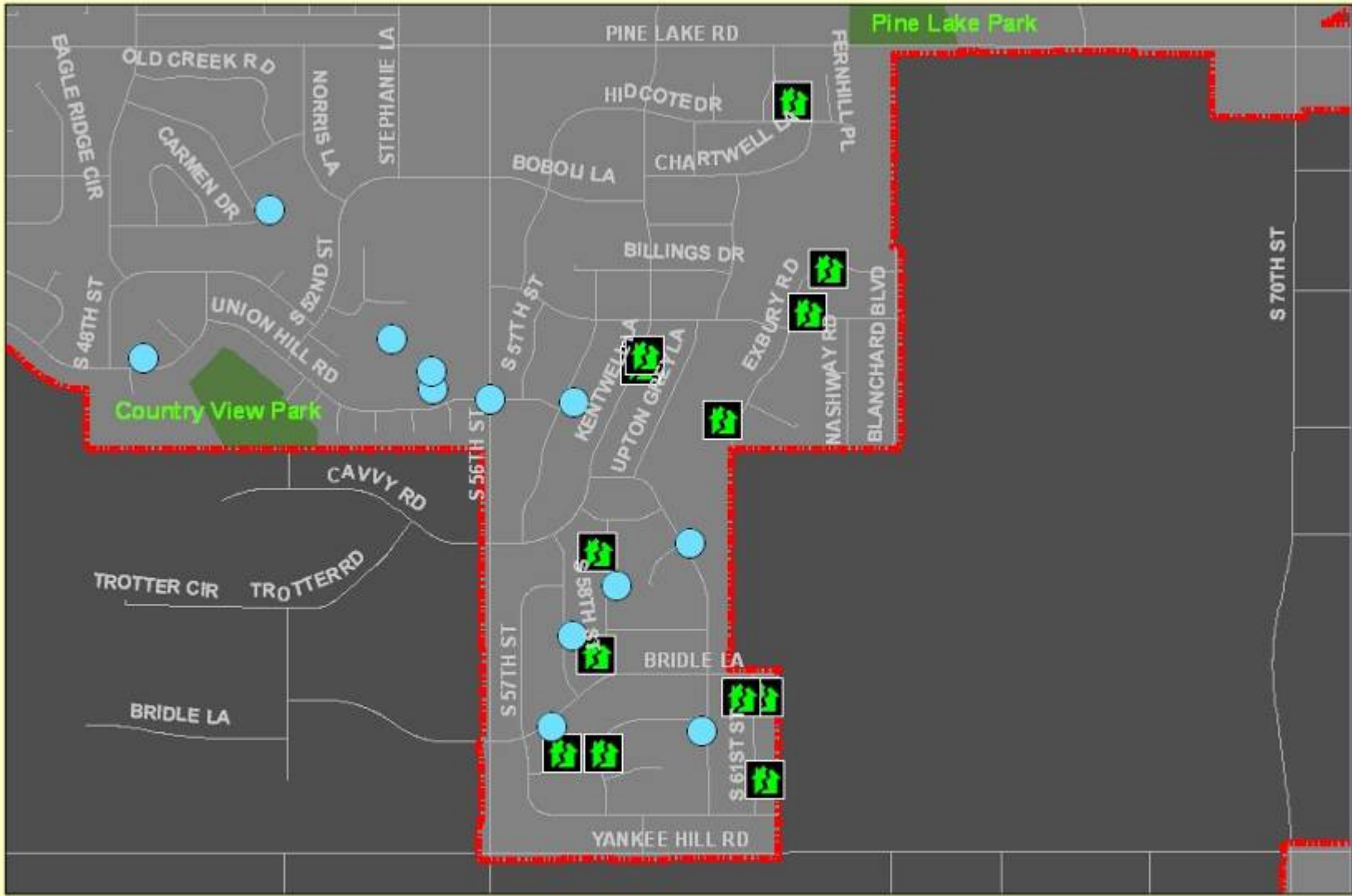
- Greater volume of police incidents
- More media attention on police
- Political environment more partisan
- Heterogeneous culture
- Influence of unions
- “Big city” problems
- Resource availability & scarcity

POP Projects

- Theft of high-value metals
- Storage garage burglaries
- Off-campus drinking party disturbances
- Open garage burglaries

Theft of high-value metals

- Scan revealed huge increase, local and international problem
- Two major strategies:
 - Local ordinance
 - ID, fingerprints, 72 hour hold or permit
 - No prior theft convictions
 - Targeted public awareness
 - Construction trades
 - Residents near construction



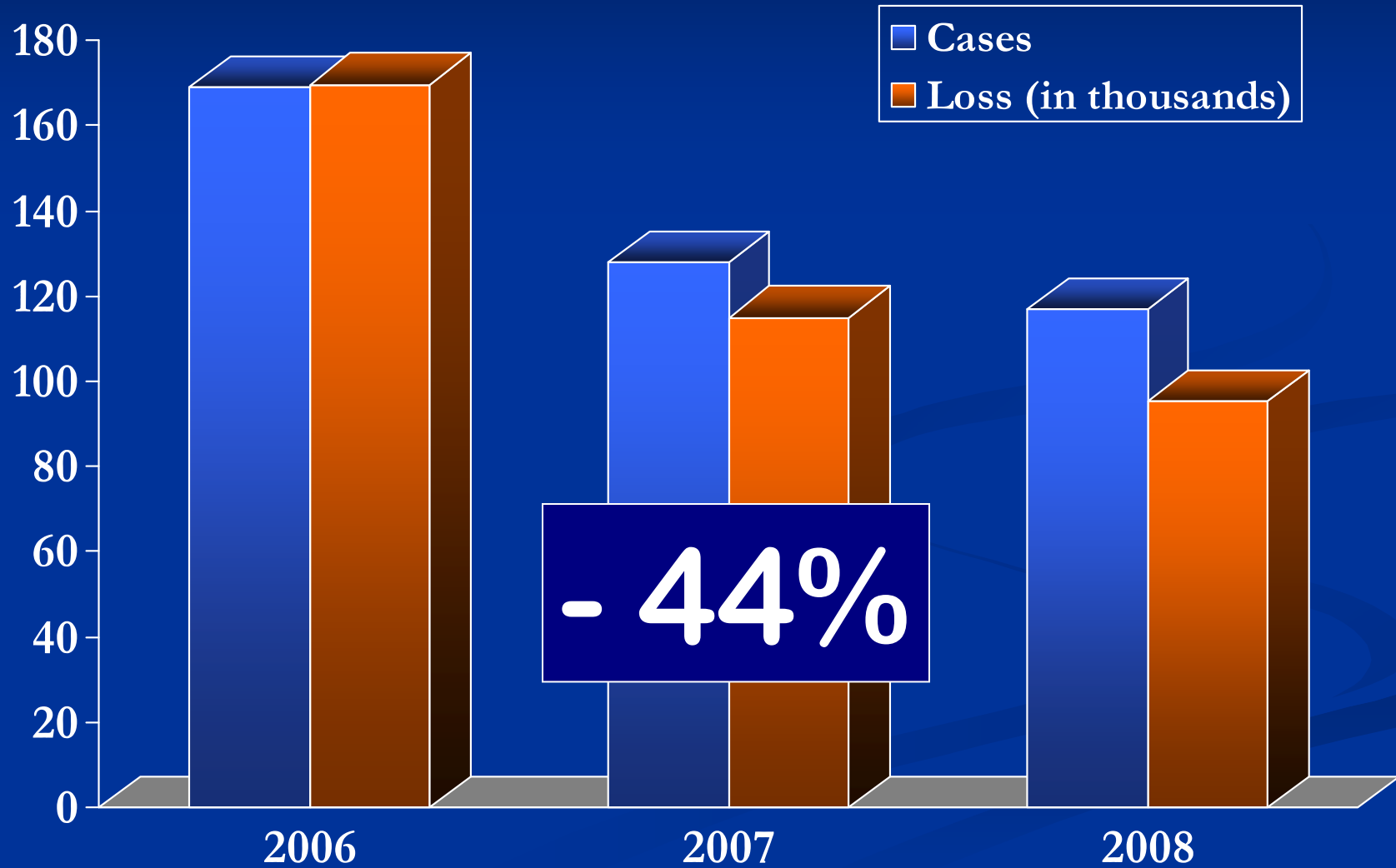

 2007 Prowler Calls
 2006 Offenses


Metal Thefts at Construction Sites Lincoln, Nebraska

Lincoln Police Department 12004
 Lincoln, Nebraska
 Data Sources:
 Lincoln Police Department 1RMS
 Lincoln Lancaster County GIS
 Map Produced by Tom Casady



Results:

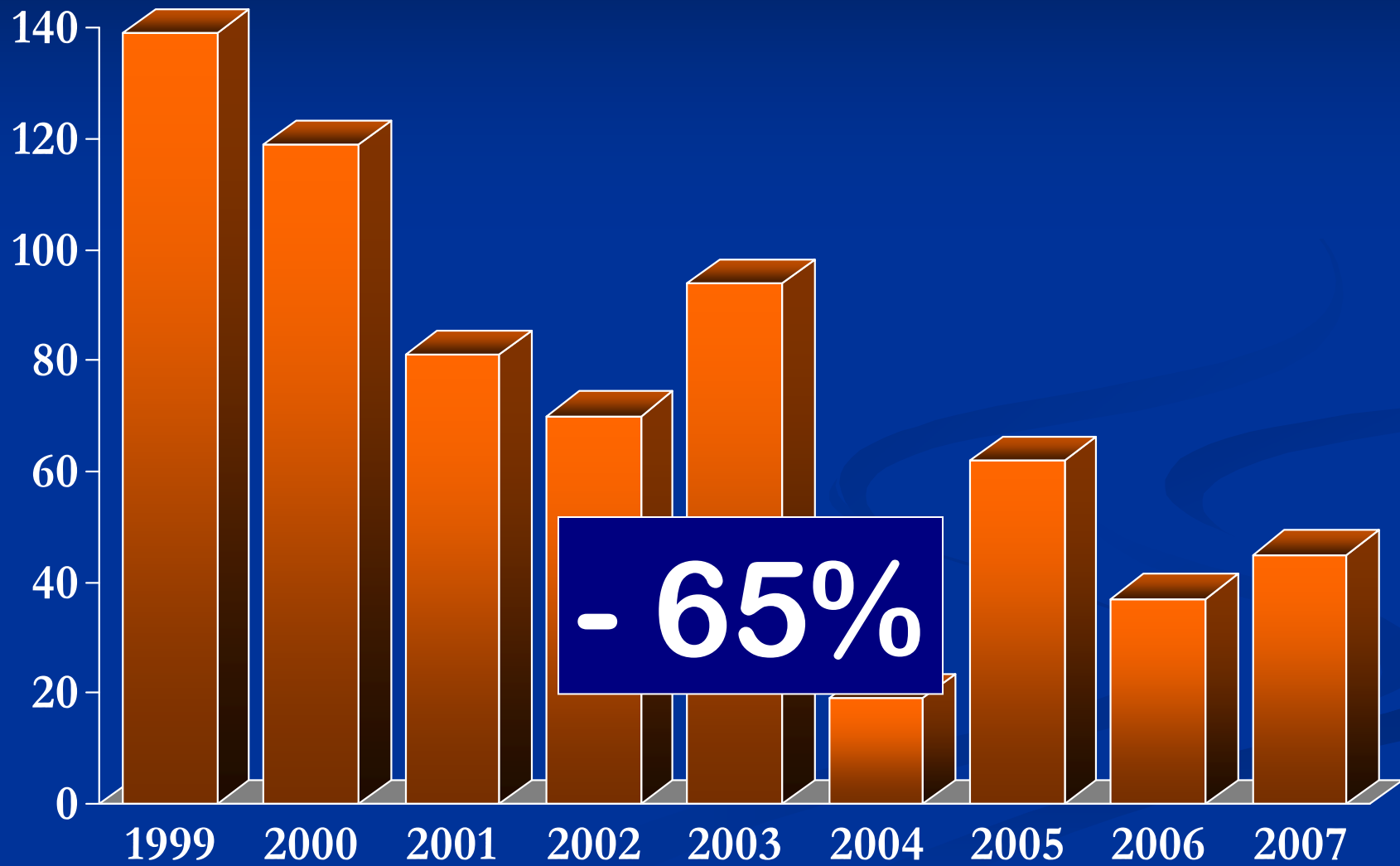


Storage garage burglaries

- **Outbreak discovered in 2000**
 - Discussion at ACUDAT meeting
 - Sgt. Jeri Roeder
- **Strategy**
 - Higher-security locks
 - Public awareness



Results:



Party disturbances

- Strategy formulated in 1997-98
- NU Directions coalition
- Lincoln College Partnership

The impact of high risk drinking on crime

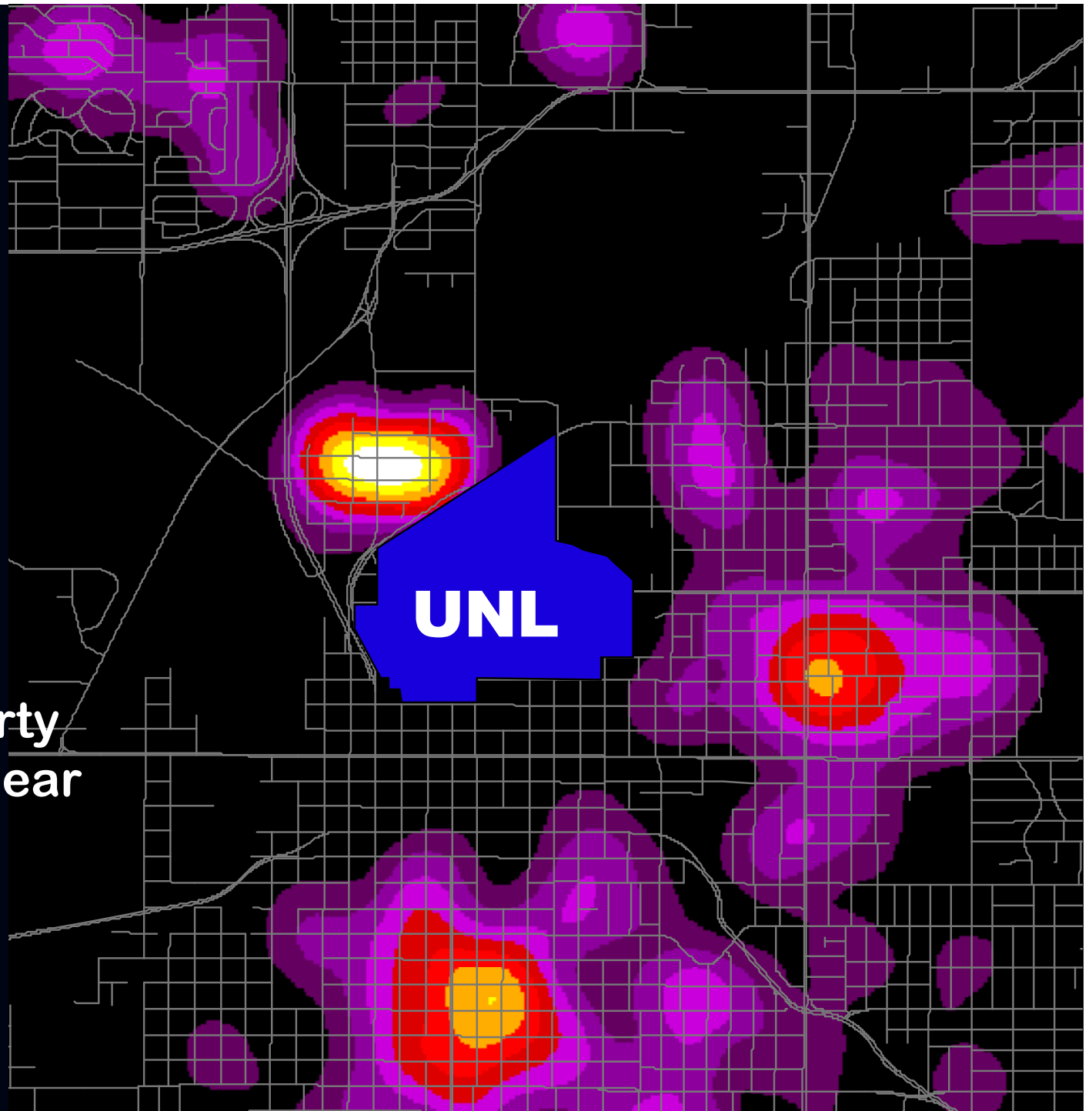
- Young people are at risk.
- Rapes, assaults, DUI offenses, and other crimes.
- High-risk drinking contributes to significant neighborhood decay.



Case A4-093238

935 New Hampshire

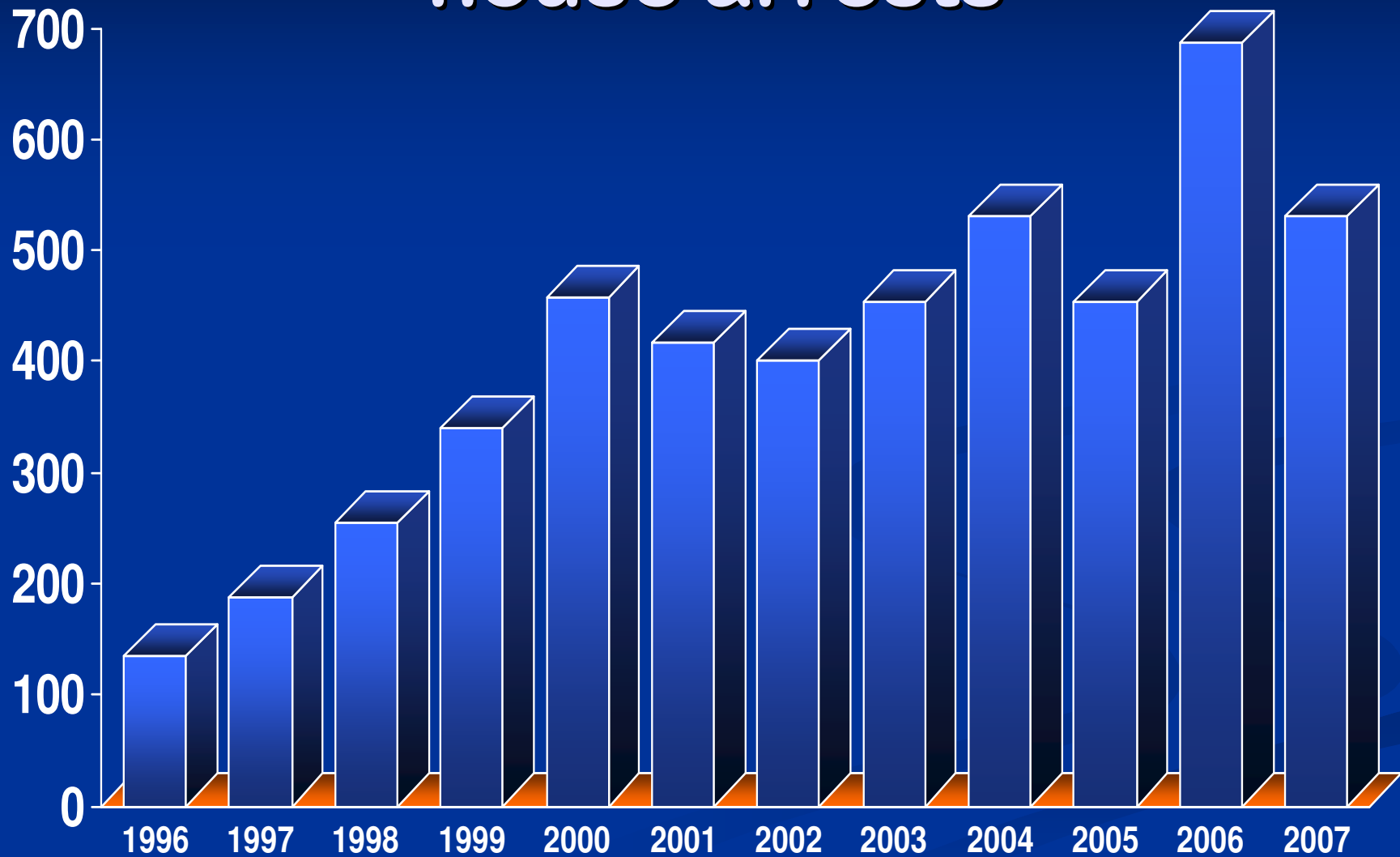
**Density of Party
Complaints Near
Campus**



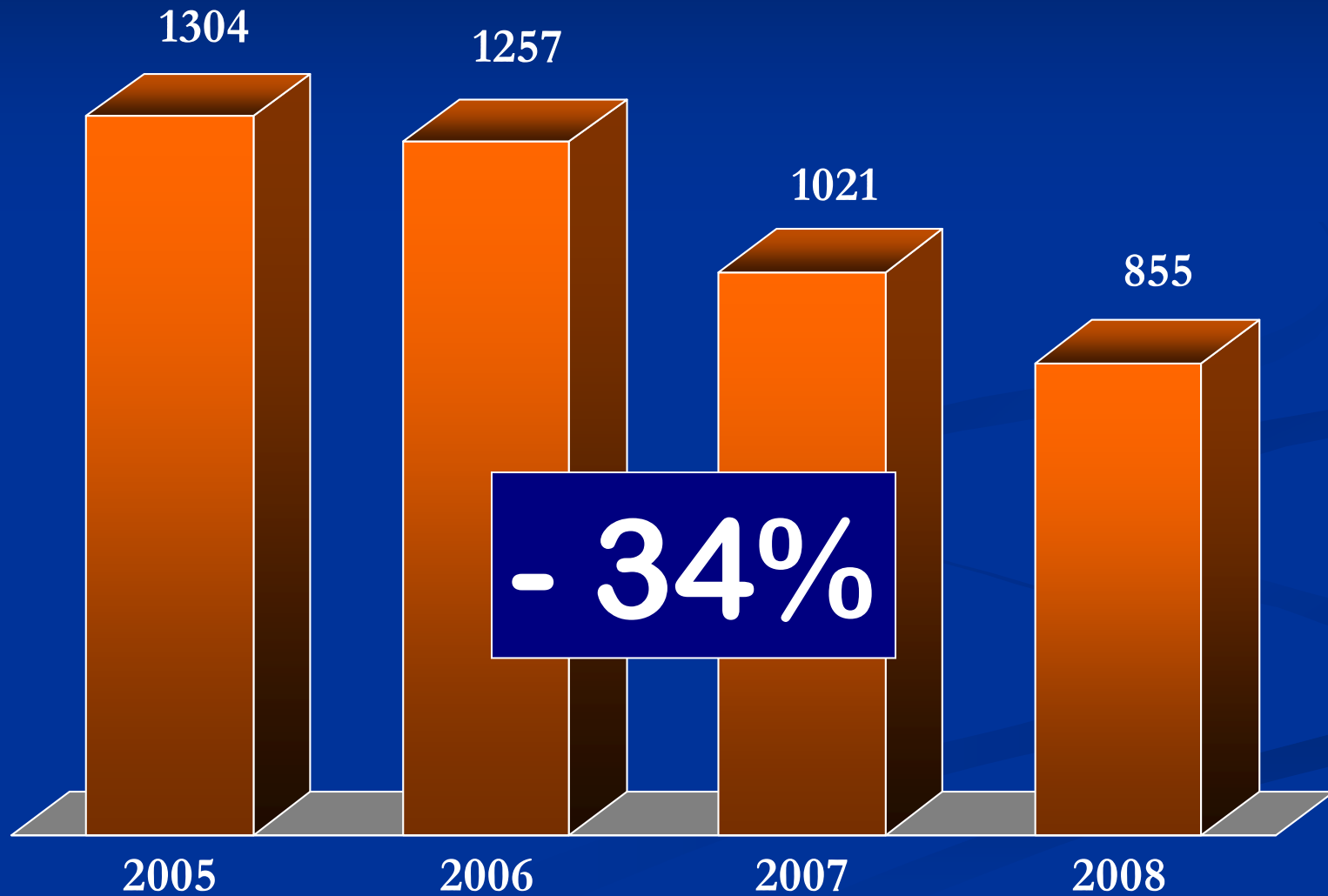
Strategies

- **Party Patrol**
 - **Objective: increase perception of risk by underage and high-risk drinkers and hosts**
- **Increased arrests**
- **Reports to student judicial affairs**
- **Enhanced publicity**
- **Landlord accountability**

Maintaining a disorderly house arrests



Results:

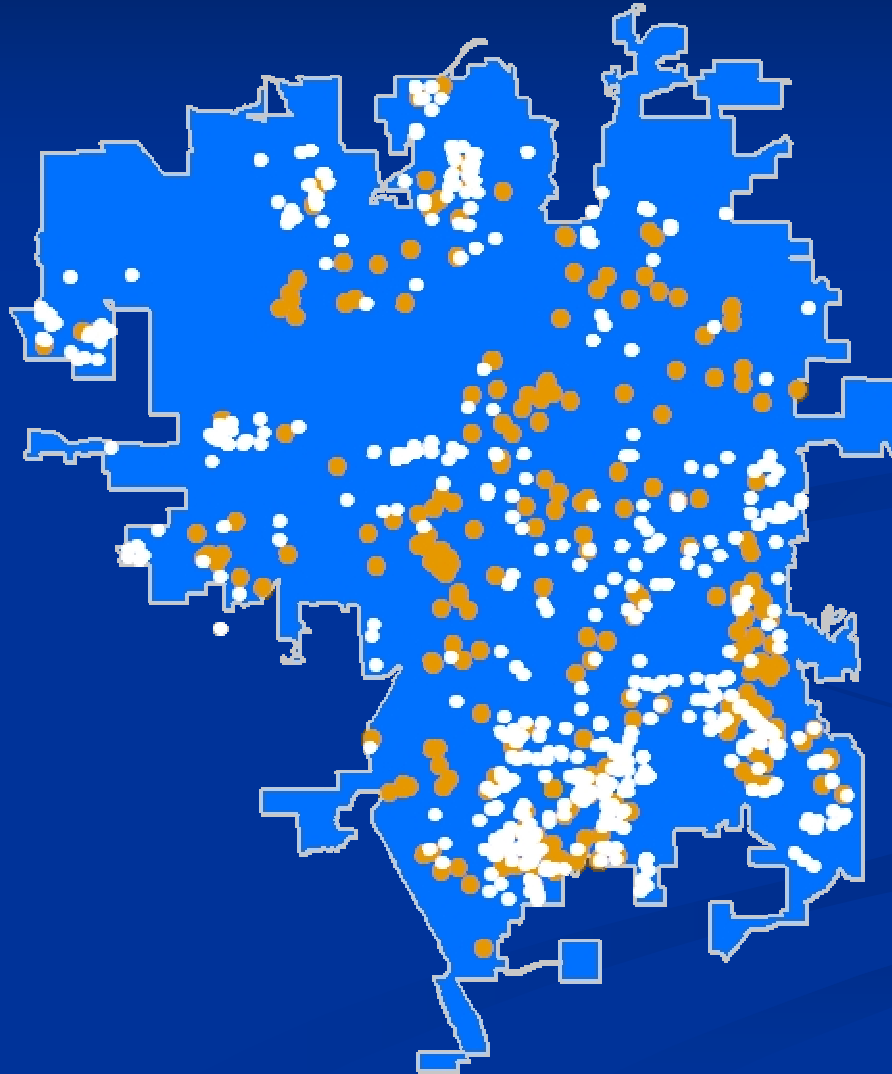


Open garage burglaries

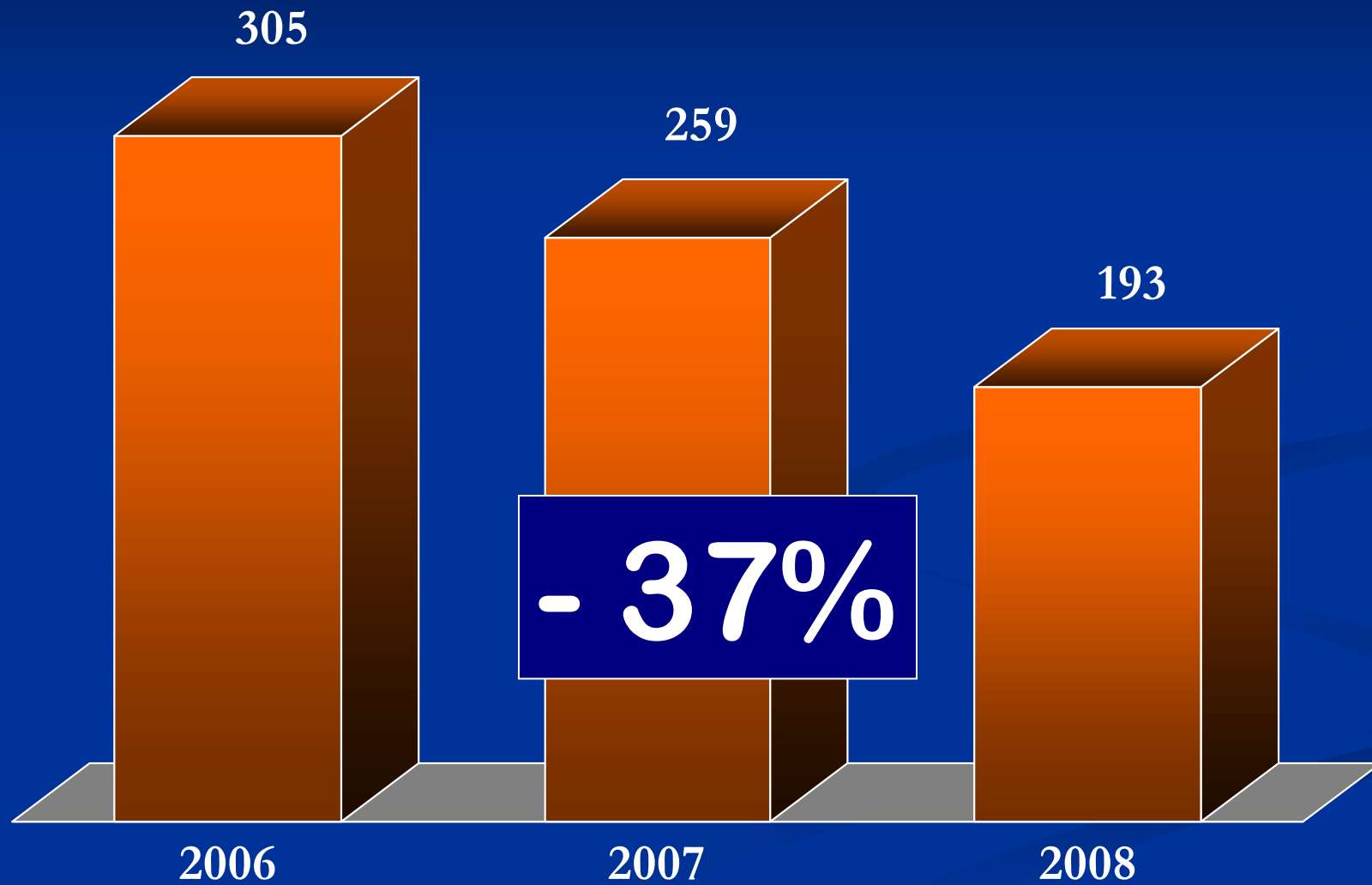
- Southeast Lincoln
- Project initiated in late 2007
- Sgt. Jason Stille's squad
- Built on prior POP projects
 - Flyer distribution
- The graveyard shift's new approach

Open garage burglaries

Open doors found by officers



Results:



**The common
thread...**

...prevention!

**Problem-oriented policing
is a great complement to
a COMPSTAT process**

Impediments to POP

- Poor data
- Lack of analytical capacity
- Absence of champion
- High CFS volume per officer
- Multiple and conflicting expectations
- Inadequate training
- No management support structure
- Negative organizational culture

Overcoming obstacles

- It's all about results
- Show everyone it works!
 - Officers
 - Community
 - Media
 - Elected officials
- Mainstream POP

lincoln.ne.gov

lpd304.blogspot.com