**Narrative - Databases Storm & Crime**

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This project started with two messy, real-world datasets, storm activity and crime reports, and turned them into an organized database capable of answering specific analytical questions. during the database course, I learned the basics of database design, creating schemas, and writing SQL queries. That class gave me a strong foundation, but this enhancement gave me the chance to take it further.

I included this artifact in my ePortfolio because it shows how I can take raw, unstructured data and transform it into something useful for decision-making. In my work in the insurance industry, organizing and querying large datasets (like employee benefit data) is critical. This project highlights my skills in database schema design, ERD creation, and writing queries that join, filter, and aggregate data.

For the enhancement, I improved the table structures, refined foreign key relationships, added indexes for better performance, and created more advanced queries for deeper analysis. I even added sample visualizations to make the output easier to interpret.

My initial goal was to demonstrate strong technical skills in using tools and techniques to implement computing solutions that deliver value. I believe I achieved that. The enhanced version uses better normalization, incorporates indexing for efficiency, and includes more complex queries that mirror the type of analysis I could apply in a business setting. I’m keeping my original outcome coverage plan because this project still perfectly aligns with my goal of showing practical, industry-relevant database skills.

The initial version worked fine for basic queries, but as soon as I tried adding more complex joins, the inefficiencies showed. I had to revisit and adjust table relationships to improve performance. Adding indexes was another big improvement, it made queries run much faster. The challenge was ensuring these changes still worked with both datasets without breaking existing queries.

Overall, the enhanced version is a much more polished and efficient database solution. It’s functional, scalable, and mirrors the kind of structured data systems I could work with in my career, whether for analytics, reporting, or decision-making.