

Sauk County, Wisconsin
DISTRICT ATTORNEY ANNUAL REPORT

2013 Mission: The Mission of the District Attorney’s Office is to prosecute violations of State law and County ordinances on behalf of the citizens of the County and in the name of the State of Wisconsin.

Departmental Program Summary:

Victim Witness Program: The Victim Witness Program provides services to victims and witnesses of crime. Assisting victims and witnesses with Court hearings, providing information to victims and witnesses, and collecting restitution information. This program is mandated under Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 950 and the Wisconsin Crime Victims' Constitutional Amendment.

Juvenile Delinquents: Criminal prosecution of juveniles from the age of 10 through 16 years old. This program is mandated under Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 938.

Adult Prosecution: Criminal prosecution of adults and juveniles who have original adult court jurisdiction and juveniles waived into adult court. This program is mandated under the Wisconsin Statutes.

Law Enforcement: The Sauk County District Attorney’s Office is available to all law enforcement agencies in the County 24 hours a day to answer questions and provide legal advice on the handling of criminal and related matters.

Restitution: Collection of restitution information from victims to submit to the Court or to Probation and Parole, as well as collection of restitution in our Department so that it may be returned to the community. Other payments included in restitution ordered by the Court to be paid by defendants may include Law Enforcement Transport Fees, Warrant Fees, Court Costs, etc.

Traffic/Forfeiture: Civil prosecution of violators of State Traffic Laws; County Ordinances and DNR violations. The Wisconsin Statutes and the Sauk County Code of Ordinances also mandate this program.

2013 Goals Review

2013 GOALS REVIEW

OBJECTIVE	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED IN 2013?
	Yes or No (If no, please provide comment)
Complete the prosecution of juvenile delinquency cases which will provide treatment and/or punishment for juveniles	We continue to receive new cases causing all programs to be on going.

2013 GOALS REVIEW

OBJECTIVE	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED IN 2013?
	Yes or No (If no, please provide comment)
Prosecute all cases as scheduled by the Courts	We continue to receive new cases causing all programs to be on going.
Recover Restitution and return it to the community	We continue to receive new cases causing all programs to be on going.
Provide services to Sauk county crime victims in compliance with Chapter 950 of the Wisconsin Statutes and the Crime Victims Constitutional Amendment	We continue to receive new cases causing all programs to be on going.

Changes / Accomplishments:

Victim Witness: We had been understaffed in the Victim Witness unit by 1.6 positions for a number of years (1.6 positions authorized but unfunded). In early 2013, we filled a .6 Victim Witness Specialist position, allowing for greater, more timely services to victims and witnesses. The Court’s fast track scheduling continues to impact victim services, leaving us a short time frame to contact victims for the purpose of assuring that their State constitutional rights are honored. As of January 2014, the .6 position increases to a .8 position. This will leave us with a vacant .8 position in the Victim Witness Unit.

Electronic Files: In late 2013, we began planning for the office to become “paperless” – maintaining and working with our criminal case files in electronic format. We developed and began implementing written policies and procedures for how to handle cases in electronic format – for both County office staff as well as the District Attorney and Assistants. The procedures and policies will remain a work in progress and will be modified as day to day functioning present more efficient procedures. Every case after January 1, 2014, will be an electronic file. As time permits, we will convert pre-1/1/14 paper files to electronic format. Other paper files will be converted as the file is closed.

Statistical Summary: All Programs: The Court system anticipates that a criminal complaint be filed before any person appears in Court. This allows the District Attorney's Office on average two to four hours to prepare criminal complaints each day for bail hearings. The Court system also requires any person charged with a domestic abuse related offense to appear at the next scheduled bail hearing after the offense occurs. With implementation of the “paperless” procedures, the bail attorney will be under stricter time constraints to review these bail reports. Further, preparation for Intake Court/Bail by the assigned attorney requires a greater amount of preparation time while we transition to fully “paperless”. Duties will be shifted to other attorneys, if available to accommodate that requirement.

OUTPUT MEASURES

DESCRIPTION	2011 ACTUAL	2012 ACTUAL	2013 ACTUAL
Total Cases Received	3,139	3285	2951
Felony Complaints Filed	338	400	446
Misdemeanor Complaints Filed	738	859	774
Crim. Traffic Complaints Filed	740	721	616
Juvenile Delinquent Filed	51	68	43
Civil Traffic/Forfeiture	892	908	695
*Restitution	\$30,157.26	\$45,940.17	\$34,452.03
Restitution Surcharge	\$8,599.17	\$7,434.98	\$14,790.36
*This does not include money which was ordered by the Court & collected by Probation & Parole.			

OUTCOME AND EFFICIENCY MEASURES

DESCRIPTION	2011 ACTUAL	2012 ACTUAL	2013 REC'D FILED	
Criminal Felony Cases Filed	338	400	445	446
Criminal Misdemeanor Cases Filed	738	859	n/a	774
Criminal Traffic Cases Filed	740	721	n/a	616
Juvenile Delinquent Cases Received/Filed	51	68	202	43
Civil Traffic/Forfeitures Received/Filed	892	908	695	695