

Sauk County, Wisconsin
DISTRICT ATTORNEY ANNUAL REPORT

2014 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.

2014 Goals Review

2014 GOALS REVIEW

OBJECTIVE	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED IN 2014?
	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.

2014 GOALS REVIEW

OBJECTIVE	WAS THIS OBJECTIVE REACHED IN 2014?
	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 January 2013, we were authorized to staff a .6 position. In January 2014, we increased that .6 position to a .8 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.

Electronic Files: On January 1, 2014, we became a “paperless” office – maintaining and working with our criminal case files in electronic format. We are developing 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 remain a work in progress and will be modified as day to day functioning presents more efficient procedures. Every case after January 1, 2014, is an electronic file. As time permits, we continue to 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 is 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 because of the transition to “paperless”. Duties continue to be shifted to other attorneys, if available, to accommodate that requirement.

OUTPUT MEASURES

DESCRIPTION	2012 ACTUAL	2013 ACTUAL	2014 ACTUAL
Total Cases Received	3285	2951	2792
Felony Complaints Filed	400	446	442
Misdemeanor Complaints Filed	859	774	743
Crim. Traffic Complaints Filed	721	616	527
Juvenile Delinquent Filed	68	43	37
Civil Traffic/Forfeiture	908	695	720
*Restitution	\$45,940.17	\$34,452.03	\$36,006.48
Restitution Surcharge	\$7,534.58	\$14,790.36	\$6,910.24
*This does not include money which was ordered by the Court & collected by Probation & Parole.			

OUTCOME AND EFFICIENCY MEASURES

DESCRIPTION	2012 ACTUAL	2013 ACTUAL	2014 REC'D FILED	
Criminal Felony Cases Filed	400	446	516	442
Criminal Misdemeanor Cases Filed	859	774	1054	743
Criminal Traffic Cases Filed	721	616	651	527
Juvenile Delinquent Cases Received/Filed	68	43	149	43
Civil Traffic/Forfeitures Received/Filed	908	695	720	720