

Fiscal Year 2009/2010 Budget Highlights and Goals

State's Attorney

FY2009 Highlights

Civil Division:

- Issued over 795 legal opinions.
- Reviewed more than 141 public contracts.
- Handled 35 involuntary commitment petitions.
- Responded to 39 FOIA requests.
- Opened approximately 740 new ordinance violations on behalf of County Departments.
- The Civil Division had a total of 114 new litigation cases.
- The Civil Division is also charged with the responsibility of preventing the litigation of conflicts to which the County may be a party.

Criminal Division:

- Successful conviction rate with the goal toward protection of the public and rehabilitation of the offender toward a law abiding return to the community.
- 1,520 felony adult offenders charged.
- 4,400 misdemeanor adult offenders charged.
- Juvenile/Criminal Division has charged 347 juvenile offenders under 17 years of age.
- Filed 109 abuse and neglect petitions protecting children from unsafe family conditions.

Victim Services Representatives:

- The Victim Services Representatives served the needs of victims of crimes in 1126 cases.

Investigation Unit:

- Processed and served 255 Grand Jury Summons.
- Processed and served 1,474 Summons and Subpoenas for witnesses, defendants, and police officers with a success rate of 83%.
- Provided photographic evidence and geographic displays for the State's Attorney's Office for numerous trials.
- Copied 538 audio and visual tapes and/or CD's and cassettes for police departments and defense counsel – a 59% increase this year.
- Supplied information in response to over 300 telephone inquiries by citizens.
- Handled 50 walk in complaints.
- Conducted 35 investigations.
- Assisted in locating, transporting and interviewing over 75 witnesses for trial.
- Assisted in the enforcement of the Check Enforcement Program by preparing informational material, meeting with numerous civic groups, including chambers of commerce and service clubs, and worked with police agencies to coordinate the arrest of non-compliant offenders.
- Assisted in civil and criminal seminars on various topics including the Open Meetings Act.
- Responded to election law violations.
- Investigated open meetings violations.
- Responsible for the identification, keys, badges and credentials of all employees.
- Responsible for the licensing, maintenance schedule, and duties of maintaining eight (8) vehicles.
- Filing of Affidavits for the collection of service and return fees for Subpoena and Summons service.

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FY2010 Goals

- The main focus of the State's Attorney's Office goals in 2010 will be to develop and work to implement a Drug Court and First Offender Program based on availability of funding.
- Increase our ability to help victims of crime as the cases of their offenders work their way through the criminal justice system.
- The State's Attorney's Office will continue to provide capable in-house counsel to the County and decrease the need to pay private firms to represent the County.
- We will continue to be tough on crime and those who break the law while still showing compassion for the mentally ill through expanding the capacity of the Mental Health Court.
- The State's Attorney's Office plans to create a Speakers Bureau that will provide a coordinated effort for personal outreach to the community with information regarding relevant issues and respond to specific audience questions.
- The resources of the State's Attorney's Office are committed to serve the needs of the people of McHenry County.