

**Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Budget
Highlights and Goals**

State's Attorney

FY2012 Highlights

Civil Division:

- Opened 728 new assignments which includes opinions, contract and subpoena reviews, meetings, hearings, depositions, etc.
- Issued more than 330 written legal opinions to County Elected Officials and Department Heads.
- Assisted County FOIA officers in responding to more than 60 FOIA requests received by the County.
- Reviewed 40 County contracts.
- Monitored 205 pending child support enforcement cases, including 3 cases filed.
- Prosecuted 430 County ordinance violations.
- Attended 112 public meetings to advise County Board and committees.
- Represented County in 18 tax sale in error proceedings.
- Provided legal assistance to departments at and/or conducted miscellaneous hearings including: Stormwater Variance Hearing (Planning & Development), Vacation Hearing (MCDOT), two Involuntary Discharge Proceedings (Valley Hi).
- Handled 3 involuntary commitment (mental health) proceedings, prepared 9 writs for detention and examination, and reviewed 11 additional miscellaneous mental health matters.
- 74 civil litigation files were opened and handled.
- The Civil Division is also charged with the responsibility of preventing the litigation of conflicts to which the County may be a party.
- Responds to and conducts Open Meetings Act investigations.

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.
- 1,316 felony adult offenders charged.
- 2,785 misdemeanor adult offenders charged.
- Juvenile/Criminal Division has charged 209 juvenile offenders under 17 years of age.
- Filed 81 abuse and neglect petitions protecting children from unsafe family conditions.

Victim Services Representatives:

- Served the needs of victims of crimes in 3,200 cases.

Investigation Unit:

- Processed and served 1,401 Summons and Subpoenas for witnesses, defendants, and police officers with a success rate of 85% and made 1,900 attempts.
- Provided photographic evidence and geographic displays for the State's Attorney's Office for numerous trials.
- Copied 539 audio and visual tapes and/or CD's and cassettes for police departments and defense counsel.
- Supplied information in response to over 200 telephone inquiries by citizens.
- Handled 45 walk in complaints.
- Handled 10 child support investigations.
- Conducted 60 investigations.
- Assisted in locating, transporting and interviewing over 100 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.
- Responded to election law violations.
- Responsible for the identification, keys, badges and credentials of all employees.
- Responsible for the licensing, maintenance schedule, and duties of maintaining vehicles.
- Filing of Affidavits for the collection of service and return fees for Subpoena and Summons service.

Programs:

- The First Offender Program was initiated and designed for first time, non-violent felony offenders to keep a conviction from being permanently entered on their record by meeting with a community panel of citizens and completing requirements which may include community service, counseling, writing a letter of apology to the victim, paying restitution, obtaining a high school diploma or G.E.D. and paying the requisite program fees. Since its inception in September of 2010, the First Offender Program has generated \$56,115.00 in program fees, \$3,700.00 in application fees, 150 offenders have applied for the program, 94 offenders have been accepted into the program, \$162,460.69 in restitution has been ordered in accepted cases and 3,020 hours of public service has been ordered.

FY2013 Goals

- Advocate for crime victims as the cases of their offenders go through the criminal justice system.
- The State's Attorney's Office will continue to provide expert in-house counsel to the County to alleviate the need of costly private representation from private law firms.
- While showing compassion for the mentally ill through the expansion of the Mental Health Court, the State's Attorney's Office will continue to seek harsher sentences for offenders.
- The State's Attorney's Office is committed to meeting the needs of the citizens of McHenry County through its commitment to justice, community awareness, and crime prevention.