



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
JEFFERSON COUNTY

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April 16, 2012

Dear County Board Members:

This past year was once again filled with cases that made headlines. One of the most prominent cases our office closed in 2011 was the homicide of Beau Butschke, who was senselessly murdered by James Richardson and whose body was concealed for 12 days by Richardson and his accomplice, James Richards. Our office also convicted a woman for the attempted homicide of a Sheriff's Deputy and she is now getting the mental health treatment she so desperately needed. In 2011, this office also prosecuted four defendants involved in a botched armed robbery that left a homeowner gravely injured and one of the suspects left to die with a near fatal gunshot wound. Fortunately, the injured suspect lived and all four perpetrators were convicted and are now serving lengthy prison sentences. As in years past, our office also prosecuted everything from sexual assaults, strangulation cases and domestic offenses down to traffic offenses.

As technology develops, so too have the offenders. In 2011, this office saw an increase in the number of prosecutions and convictions of offenders who use their computers to solicit children to engage in sexual activity with them. These types of undercover investigations have been seen on shows like NBC's "To Catch a Predator". In our county, law enforcement has successfully set up fake profiles that lead to chats with grown men who come to our county intending to have sex with a 14-year-old. The offenders are then arrested, prosecuted and convicted. In 2011, we also saw a sudden explosion in the production and sale of K2 – a synthetic form of marijuana. These dangerous drugs quickly became popular with teenagers due to their easy availability at gas stations and their initial "legal" status. Many communities passed ordinances to ban the sale of K2, but statewide action was needed. I am proud to say that our office was instrumental in helping draft AB57 and testify before the committee. That bill has now become law so that it is illegal to possess, manufacture or sell K2.

Similarly, our office worked with Representative Jorgensen to introduce a bill that would close a loophole that allows those who manufacture methamphetamine, known as "meth", to purchase pseudoephedrine from numerous different pharmacies and circumvent the 30-day limit intended to prevent meth makers from having easy access to pseudoephedrine, a key ingredient in making meth. Representative Jorgensen and I also worked together in drafting legislation that attempts to close a loophole in current law that would create criminal liability for homeowners who provide alcohol to underaged persons who are subsequently injured or killed as a result of their consumption of alcohol. Under current law, criminal liability in these situations only applies if the person injured or killed is under the age of 18.

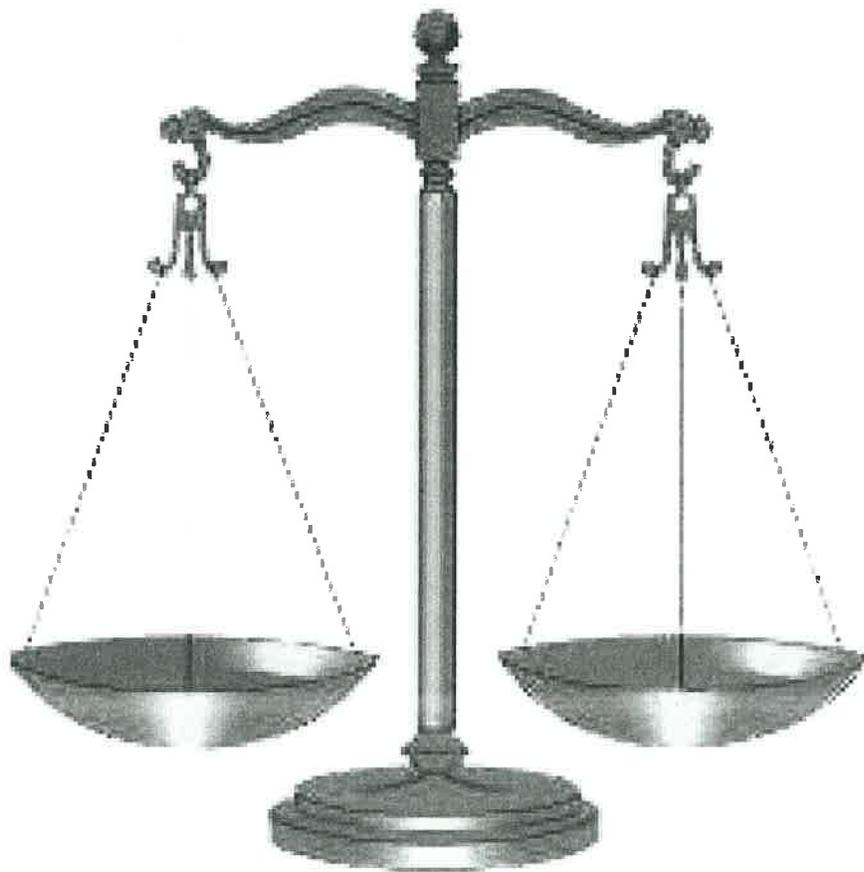
I will continue to work with our legislators to propose legislation that will serve to benefit our citizens and make our community a better, safer place to live. It has been an honor to serve as your District Attorney and I look forward to continuing to work together with all of you in 2012.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Susan V. Happ".

Susan V. Happ
District Attorney

**2011 ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
JEFFERSON COUNTY DISTRICT
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**



The office of the District Attorney is created under Chapter 978 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The department represents the people of the State of Wisconsin and County of Jefferson in the courts. The District Attorney and staff prosecute state criminal matters, forfeiture actions, state and County traffic code and ordinance violations. Department of Natural Resources violations and juvenile cases. The District Attorney also provides education to law enforcement through yearly inservice training.

The District Attorney oversees the First Offender Program, which diverts defendants out of the formal court process. The First Offender Program Director meets with individual offenders and develops a personalized contract. The length and conditions of the contract depend on the nature and seriousness of the offense, his or her adjustment, treatment needs and need for supervision. The First Offender Program Director then monitors the offender to assure that he or she is following through on their contract conditions.

The District Attorney also operates the Victim/Witness Program which provides statutory and constitutionally mandated support to victims and witnesses of crime. The primary purpose of the Victim/Witness program is to provide information, referral and support to citizens and law enforcement officers who have been victims or witnesses to crimes, and to ensure that the services mandated under Chapter 950, Wisconsin Statutes, are made available to them.

The District Attorney's office consists of 1 District Attorney and 4.2 Assistant District Attorney's who are state employees. County employees include the Office Manager, Justice Information Sharing Coordinator, 5.5 legal secretaries, Receptionist/Legal Secretary, Victim/Witness Coordinator, .5 Victim/Witness Secretary, paralegal and First Offender Program Director.

REFERRALS

| | <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2011</u> |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Felonies | 608 | 551 | 534 |
| Misdemeanors | 1137 | 956 | 869 |
| Delinquencies | 309 | 283 | 271 |
| JIPS (Juvenile In Need of Protection or Services) | 40 | 51 | 42 |
| CHIPS (Child in Need of Protection or Services) | 248 | 332 | 392 |
| Juvenile FO's (Immunizations) | 11 | 2 | 2 |
| Criminal Traffic | 667 | 475 | 465 |

FILINGS

| | <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2011</u> |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Felonies | 495 | 375 | 399 |
| Misdemeanors | 798 | 537 | 611 |
| Criminal Traffic | 659 | 464 | 469 |
| Forfeiture Traffic | 491 | 513 | 461 |
| Other Forfeitures | 106 | 94 | 89 |
| Civil | 13 | 15 | 5 |
| Delinquencies & Jips | 129 | 123 | 102 |
| CHIPS | 62 | 58 | 83 |
| Juvenile Forfeitures | 7 | 2 | 3 |

FIRST OFFENDER PROGRAM

| | <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2011</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Persons Accepted | 137 | 123 | 104 |
| Persons in program as of end of year | 92 | 90 | 113 |
| Persons who completed program | 175 | 105 | 82 |
| Fees collected | \$63,913.06 | \$40,556.00 | \$40,451.73 |

VICTIM/WITNESS PROGRAM

| | <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2011</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| All Contacts | 4087 | 3450 | 2552 |
| Witness Cancellations | 1299 | 1567 | 1720 |
| Officer Cancellations | 2634 | 1997 | 2016 |

Officer cancellations result in less overtime paid by departments

2011 FINANCIAL REPORT

The following chart shows a comparison of the budgeted versus actual finances:

| <u>2011 Budget</u> | <u>2011 Actual</u> |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 720,569 | 645,300 |

A net savings of **\$75,269**

The majority of savings is reflected in Health Insurance Premiums and Retirement paid by employees.