

UNION COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE 2016 ANNUAL REPORT



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LETTER FROM ACTING UNION COUNTY PROSECUTOR GRACE H. PARK



The 2016 calendar year marked my third full year in office, and I am proud to report that it was an extremely productive time in which the dedicated men and women of the Union County Prosecutor's Office (UCPO) excelled in the performance of their sworn duties. Throughout the course of the year, the Office undertook ambitious new initiatives, managed significant and complex investigations, and successfully prosecuted many cases impacting public safety within the County.

The UCPO staff handled a total of nearly 4,700 adult and juvenile cases in 2016, the majority of which were resolved prior to indictment. The Office also obtained more than 650 guilty pleas and took a total of 67 cases to trial.

The Guns, Gangs, Drugs, and Violent Crimes Task Force successfully coordinated three dozen investigations resulting in more than 50 arrests and substantial seizures of heroin (6,575 grams), cocaine (44,043 grams), and fentanyl (8,016 grams). The quantity of heroin and fentanyl seized in 2016 was the largest single-year total recorded by the Task Force since at least 2008, while the quantity of cocaine seized was the largest single-year total since 2010. In addition, a long-term Task Force investigation resulted in the recovery of approximately eight kilograms of fentanyl – the largest such seizure by any New Jersey-based law enforcement entity of the year.

In 2016, the UCPO also began introducing Fair and Impartial Policing (FIP) training for all members of law enforcement, countywide – making Union the most populous county in New Jersey to make the nationally recognized and federally endorsed training mandatory. FIP training is based on the science of bias, which has revealed that even ostensibly unprejudiced police officers can manifest implicit biases bearing the potential to impact their perceptions and behavior without them even being fully aware

of it. The FIP training began with a daylong session involving the County's police chiefs and community and faith-based leaders in March 2016 before mid-level police supervisors underwent training over the summer, with patrol officers following suit over the remainder of the year.

The UCPO also continued the rollout of New Jersey's most comprehensive county-funded, multi-department deployment of body-worn cameras to date, resulting in patrol officers in 16 of Union County's 21 municipalities being outfitted with the devices as part of their uniforms by the start of August 2016. Body-worn cameras are now being worn by police officers in Berkeley Heights, Clark, Elizabeth, Fanwood, Garwood, Linden, Mountainside, New Providence, Plainfield, Rahway, Roselle Park, Scotch Plains, and Springfield, as well as by members of the Kean University Police Department, Union County Police Department, and Union County Sheriff's Office.

The UCPO also continued to make community outreach and engagement a top priority in 2016, when I and other members of the Office traveled to speak to civic, religious, business, and youth groups on dozens of occasions.

In April 2016, the UCPO also teamed up with YWCA Union County and other co-sponsors to host the third annual Union County C.A.R.E.S. (Community, Action, Response, Education, Safety) Domestic Violence Symposium, which offered an in-depth analysis of an often overlooked area of major public health and safety concern. And in the fall, the Office hosted its fourth annual Forum for School Administrators, addressing education executives from across the county on matters ranging from school security to juvenile drug enforcement.

Several 2016 criminal cases in particular also merit mention, most significantly the events of Monday, September 19, 2016, when a group of Linden Police Department officers responding to an initial request to check on an unknown man sleeping in the front vestibule of an East Elizabeth Avenue bar discovered that the person in question was federal terror suspect Ahmad Khan Rahami (a.k.a. Ahmad Khan Rahimi).

Rahami engaged police in a shootout in which he and two officers were shot and injured, and the incident ended in his apprehension. In November 2016, a Union County grand jury returned a 30-count indictment against Rahami, charging him with five counts of first-degree attempted murder of a law enforcement officer, multiple counts of second-, third-, and fourth-degree aggravated assault, two second-degree weapons offenses, and fourth-degree possession of a high-capacity magazine. The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey also both have filed federal criminal charges against Rahami for allegedly conducting and attempting to

conduct bombings in New York City and various locations in New Jersey on the two days immediately prior to his arrest.

Also in November 2016, an Elizabeth drug kingpin who became one of the nation's most wanted fugitives after eluding capture multiple times was found guilty of all 19 criminal charges against him following a two-month trial. A Union County jury delivered the verdict against defendant Luqman Abdullah following deliberations spread over four days.

Abdullah was the primary target of a Guns, Gangs, Drugs, and Violent Crimes Task Force investigation into large-scale drug sales in the city's Midtown neighborhood that culminated with the execution of search warrants on April 23, 2009, when nearly seven pounds of cocaine – enough to fill 30,000 individual vials – plus more than 800 folds of heroin, two handguns, an AK-47 rifle, and hundreds of items used for the processing and packaging of cocaine were recovered from a stash house in Newark. After being featured in the television program "America's Most Wanted" and being listed among the FBI's most wanted fugitives nationally, Abdullah turned himself in to police on December 28, 2012.

Finally, in late 2016 three fugitives who remained at large for a number of years after allegedly committing homicides in Union County were apprehended, including one arrested in Guatemala and one arrested in England. David Ghigliotty of South Plainfield was charged with murder in connection with the June 22, 2004 Scotch Plains shooting death of 26-year-old Taji Pile; Welder Morente Dubon, 30, was charged with murder in connection with the March 29, 2007 Plainfield beating death of 23-year-old Joseph Tremarco of the Millington section of Long Hill; and Eslam Gad, 27, was charged with murder in connection with the August 8, 2012 Elizabeth shooting death of 21-year-old Anthony Holmes Jr. of Pemberton Township, Burlington County. Dubon and Gad since have been extradited back to the U.S. from Guatemala and England, respectively.

It is my sincere hope that you will take the time to read this report to learn about our Office and to better understand the many efforts being made to protect and serve the citizens of Union County.

Regards,

Grace H. Park

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Grace H. Park", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Acting Union County Prosecutor

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Union County Prosecutor's Office is to investigate and prosecute major crimes occurring within the County; to proactively coordinate community outreach initiatives that improve quality of life for the County's citizens; and to work cooperatively with each of the County's various law enforcement agencies to protect the public's fundamental right to safety, security, and liberty.



ANNUAL REPORT & SUMMARY

The Acting Union County Prosecutor is the chief law enforcement officer for Union County and maintains the Office of the County Prosecutor, located at 32 Rahway Avenue in Elizabeth, New Jersey, as well as the Elizabeth-based Child Advocacy Center of Union County, the John H. Stamler Academy in Scotch Plains, the Forensics Laboratory in Westfield, and the Guns, Gangs, Drugs, and Violent Crimes Task Force at a confidential location.

The Union County Prosecutor's Office (UCPO) is staffed by approximately 250 people.

In addition to the Prosecutor, the staff currently consists of attorneys who act as assistant prosecutors, sworn law enforcement officers who function as detectives, prosecutor's agents, victim/witness counselors, and clerical employees.

The County Prosecutor is a constitutional officer who is responsible for the investigation and prosecution of all indictable offenses within the County. The Prosecutor is also responsible for ensuring that policies and procedures mandated by the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General are disseminated and enforced among all law enforcement agencies within the county.

The County Prosecutor renders legal and investigative guidance to local police departments in the investigation, identification, apprehension, and prosecution of people accused of committing crimes within the County. In addition, the County Prosecutor performs an important public function in educating the public about crimes, trends, disposition of criminal cases, preventive action to detect and prevent crimes, and policies and procedures to keep our families and vulnerable members of our community safe.

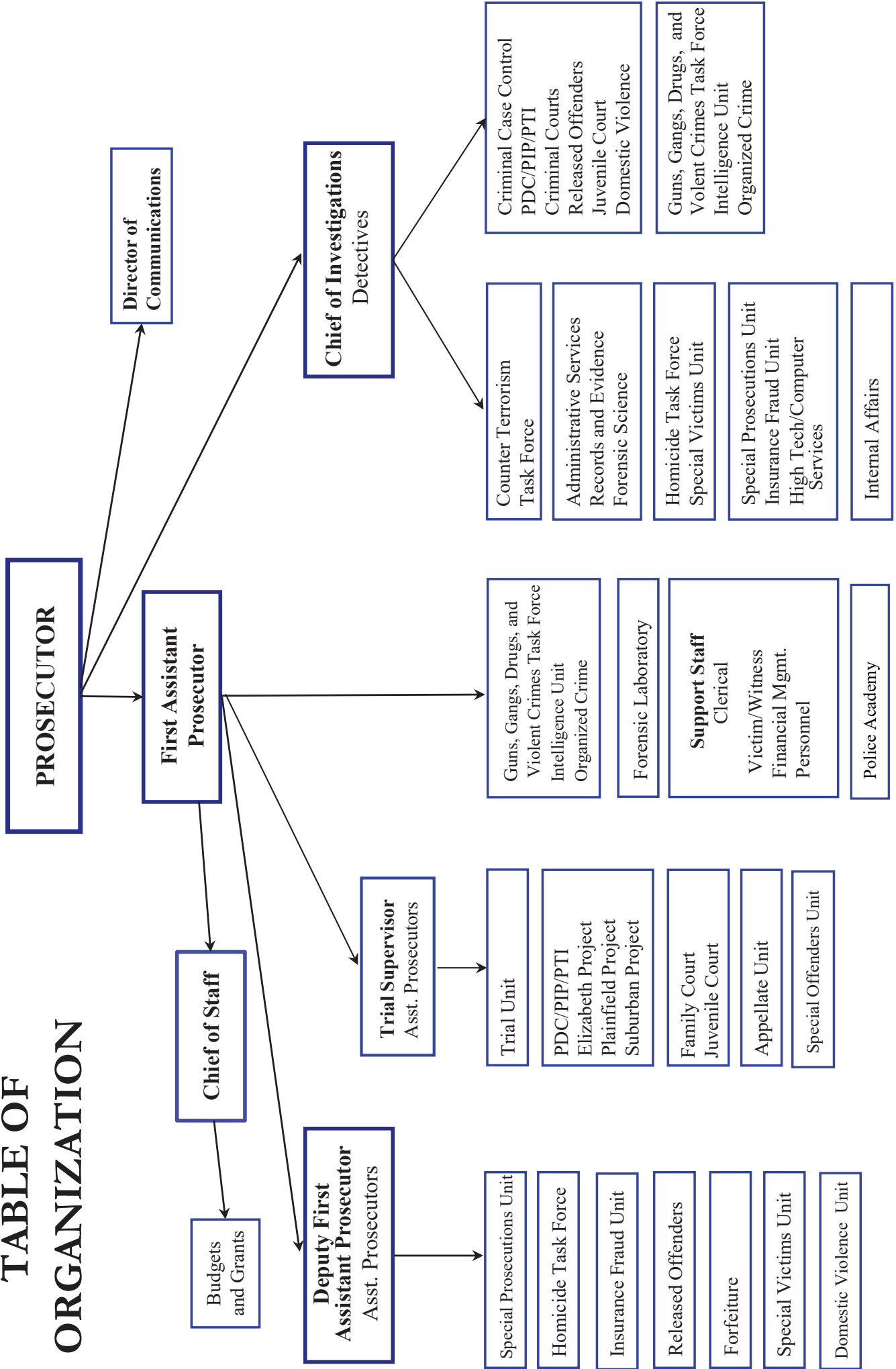
Union County is a jurisdiction of slightly more than half a million residents living in approximately 100 square miles. Union County is bordered by Essex, Hudson, and Morris counties to the north; Richmond County, New York (Staten Island) to the east; Middlesex County to the south; and Somerset County to the west.

There are 21 municipalities in Union County, ranging in size from Winfield (population approximately 1,500) to the county seat, Elizabeth, which at nearly 125,000 residents is New Jersey's fourth-largest city. All 21 municipalities in the County maintain an independent police department.

The Union County Prosecutor's Office is organized into various specialized units. What follows are a brief description of the functions and 2016 accomplishments of each Unit.

2016

TABLE OF ORGANIZATION



APPELLATE UNIT

Attorneys in the Appellate Unit represent the State of New Jersey in various proceedings in the Superior Court Law Division and Appellate Division, the New Jersey Supreme Court, and Federal Court. These proceedings include direct appeals, post-conviction relief proceedings (including habeas petitions and appeals of municipal court convictions), and convictions for driving while intoxicated. Unit members also conduct legal research and handle interlocutory appeals.

The Appellate Unit serves as the primary training ground for new attorneys embarking on prosecutorial careers. The Unit also employs law students, many of whom return to the Office as assistant prosecutors after completing their legal studies. Appellate Unit employees concentrate on handling direct appeals referred to this Office by the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General, thus becoming familiar with all aspects of New Jersey criminal law and procedure. Handling these appeals also enables new attorneys to hone their skills in crafting persuasive legal arguments. Additionally, appearing in both the Law Division and Appellate Division provides firsthand knowledge as to how the courts function and further training for their future work as trial attorneys.

The volume of interlocutory motions for leave to appeal, particularly those granting motions to suppress evidence and challenging juvenile waivers, have increased steadily during recent years. In 2016, several such motions resulted in the reversal of trial court decisions suppressing evidence. Given the constantly evolving state of search-and-seizure and juvenile law, this trend likely will continue.

The number of habeas petitions that the Appellate Unit handles in Federal District Court and the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit also has increased in the last few years. All answers to these petitions filed in the past year resulted in denial of relief to defendants.

In a long-awaited landmark 2016 decision, *State v. Gary Lunsford*, the New Jersey Supreme Court held that in order to obtain telephone billing records, the State no longer needed to obtain a search warrant or communications data warrant (CDW) supported by probable cause. Rather, the State only needed to obtain a court order based on a lesser showing that the records were relevant to a criminal investigation.

In two 2016 cases that the Appellate Unit handled in the Appellate Division, the Supreme Court reversed the Appellate Division and reinstated defendants' convictions. In both *State v. Bobby Perry* and *State v. David Bueso*, the Supreme Court reinstated defendants' convictions for sexual assault crimes.

Our Office also prevailed in two published Appellate Division decisions in 2016. In *State v. Daniel Mordente*, the Appellate Division held that the police have the right to search a private home for a missing person under the community caretaking exception. And in *State v. Iris Quintero*, the Appellate Division held that the standard statement read to defendants suspected of driving while intoxicated who refuse to submit to a breath test satisfies the statutory mandate under the implied consent law requiring notice of the penalties faced for refusal.

Finally, our Office also has cases pending before the New Jersey Supreme Court that should be decided in the coming year, namely, *State v. William Burkert*, considering whether communications made to third parties can constitute harassment; and *State v. Ornette Terry*, addressing whether the police properly searched a defendant's glove compartment pursuant to the public safety exception under *State v. Keaton*.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

In 2016, the Domestic Violence Unit continued its vertically integrated investigative prosecution of a high volume of indictable offenses, as well as violations of restraining orders and weapons forfeitures addressed in Family Court. The Domestic Violence Unit is responsible for the charging, indictment, and trial of indictable offenses stemming from domestic violence, including first-degree crimes such as kidnapping and attempted murder, as well as investigation-intensive crimes such as interference with custody, stalking, cyber-harassment, and invasion of privacy. The Domestic Violence Unit handles approximately 30 new indictable cases and/or restraining order violations each month.

The Unit is staffed by four assistant prosecutors, three investigators, one victim/witness advocate, and one clerical. The Domestic Violence Unit also maintains a 24-hour hotline whereby police departments can contact an on-call assistant prosecutor for domestic violence-related legal advice or for the approval of indictable charges.

The Domestic Violence Unit experienced several successes in 2016. In Family Court, Unit attorneys conducted 15 trials, handled 69 weapons forfeiture matters, and prosecuted 207 cases involving non-indictable violations of restraining orders. Unit prosecutors also obtained 35 indictments before the Grand Jury, sentenced numerous defendants to indictable crimes after obtaining guilty pleas, and conducted several noteworthy investigations. For instance, the Domestic Violence Unit was instrumental in the recovery of a child whose mother had

absconded with him to the State of Texas, in violation of a Union County Family Court order. After determining the child's specific location, Unit prosecutors and detectives filed criminal charges that allowed for the defendant's arrest and extradition to New Jersey. The father was reunited with his son and escorted him back to New Jersey, and the defendant subsequently pled guilty.

Domestic violence cases present several challenges that distinguish them from other matters typically handled by the Prosecutor's Office. Victims of domestic violence are often emotionally, financially, and legally bound to their perpetrators, attachments that can significantly impact criminal prosecution of domestic violence crimes. The Domestic Violence Unit therefore takes the time to learn details about each victim's personal circumstances to help guide the victim through the criminal justice process and to connect the victim to community-based resources designed to help him or her break the cycle of violence. By understanding the dynamics of each victim's relationship with the defendant and by empowering the victim to improve his or her personal circumstances as soon as a domestic violence incident occurs, the Domestic Violence Unit improves its chances for a successful prosecution.

Members of the Unit also instruct at the John H. Stamler Police Academy on domestic violence law and specialized domestic violence evidence-gathering and investigative skills. The Domestic Violence Unit also provides training for Domestic Violence Response Teams (DVRTs), schools, community organizations, and civic groups.

DRUG COURT

In 2016, the Drug Court Unit was staffed by one full-time assistant prosecutor who was responsible for the legal review of all applications and all court-related appearances.

The State's Drug Court Program, now in operation for 18 years, offers non-violent, substance-abusing, and addicted offenders a treatment-based alternative to prison. In 2016, approximately 351 individuals participated in Drug Court in Union County and were required to report to Court on a weekly, bi-monthly, or monthly basis, depending on the length of time the participant had spent in Drug Court and their successful compliance with the program rules while in the Program. Participants are required to: submit to random drug testing; submit to unannounced home visits; report to probation on a weekly basis; obtain employment or education; and participate in either inpatient or outpatient treatment, as clinically determined. In 2016, 39 Drug Court participants successfully completed their five-year term and graduated.

One hundred and fifty applications were filed and reviewed for legal acceptance into Drug Court in 2016. Of that number, 65 were determined to be legally suitable for Drug Court, and letters of acceptance were submitted in each case. After clinical assessments were conducted, 73 defendants entered guilty pleas and were sentenced into Drug Court.¹ Detailed letters of legal ineligibility were submitted in 85 cases.

¹ Note that some applicants were admitted to Drug Court over the State's objection, which accounts for the number of Drug Court sentences being higher than those actually determined to be legally eligible.

ELIZABETH PROJECT

Since 1994, the Union County Prosecutor's Office has assigned an assistant prosecutor to work full-time at the Elizabeth Police Department. Referred to as the “Elizabeth Project,” this program aims to foster a positive working relationship between the two entities by providing the Department with legal advice and investigative support.

The assistant prosecutor reviews police reports and statements for complaint approval and determines when there is sufficient evidence for indictable charges to be filed, or whether cases should be heard in Elizabeth Municipal Court.

In 2016, the assistant prosecutor visited Elizabeth Municipal Court on a nearly daily basis and reviewed 2,232 complaints for accuracy and completeness. A total of 683 cases were downgraded to the Elizabeth Municipal Court and/or administratively dismissed, while indictable charges were approved in 238 cases. It was determined that only disorderly persons offenses should be charged in 97 cases, and for 56 cases, insufficient evidence existed to charge any offense or crime(s).

The assistant prosecutor’s referral of appropriate cases to Elizabeth Municipal Court, rather than to the Prosecutor’s Office, allows detectives to spend more time on cases involving serious indictable charges. The referral of cases to Municipal Court also eases the burden of the clerical, investigative, and legal staff of both the Elizabeth Police Department and the Prosecutor’s Office. Numerous armed robberies, aggravated assaults, shootings, and burglaries were solved as a result of the cooperative effort between the many different investigative divisions within the Elizabeth Police Department and the Prosecutor’s Office. Both the Director and Police Chief lend full support to the assigned prosecutor with respect to both investigative

and legal issues.

A particular 2016 case that demonstrated the exemplary efforts of the Elizabeth Police Department involved the luring and sexual assault of a young child.

At approximately 8 a.m. on September 30, 2016, an officer responded to the area of Orchard Street to investigate a report of a sexual assault of a 10-year-old child. Information was gathered from witnesses at the scene, but the suspect, later identified as Jair Ramirez, had already fled. The child had been walking to school when Ramirez tried to pull her into an alleyway; an eyewitness who saw Ramirez masturbating in the area beforehand grabbed the child and managed to take her to safety.

The area was canvassed for video cameras, and numerous recordings showing the suspect's movement in the neighborhood were obtained by detectives. Further video showing the victim walking to school prior to the attack was also retrieved.

After being apprehended and during questioning, Ramirez made no admissions, but he vaguely recalled that he might have been in the area. At that time, the investigating detective noticed that Ramirez was wearing an ankle monitor.

Ramirez denied that the monitor had a tracking system on it. A U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement officer was subsequently contacted, and he provided the GPS tracking device information proving that Ramirez was the person depicted in the videos and the person who attempted to sexually assault the young girl.

Complaints were approved charging Ramirez with second-degree luring, second-degree sexual assault, third-degree endangering the welfare of a child, and fourth-degree lewdness. Thereafter, the eyewitness who thwarted the crime was commended by the Department.

The Elizabeth Project assistant prosecutor also screens all criminal investigations for accuracy, completeness, and disposition before they are forwarded to the Prosecutor's Office. In 2016, the assistant prosecutor screened over 430 completed investigations prior to their submission to the Prosecutor's Office. The assistant prosecutor also provided daily legal advice, complaint approval, and assistance in applications for bail for the Elizabeth Police Department. She remains available to both the Municipal Court administrators and the Police Department telephonically after hours.

Additionally, the assistant prosecutor reviewed and assisted in obtaining affidavits for search warrants and/or court orders from the designated judge. She also gave approval for the submission of evidence for DNA analysis and assisted with firearm applications. Assistance was also provided to the Elizabeth Police Department Narcotics Unit and Detective, Traffic, and Juvenile bureaus in obtaining and preparing over 82 Grand Jury subpoenas for bank records and other essential documents, and she was responsible for preparing affidavits and orders for investigative detention. The assistant prosecutor also obtained authorization from Superior Court Judges for higher bail for recidivist defendants who committed serious offenses.

FORENSIC LABORATORY

The Union County Prosecutor's Office Forensic Laboratory was established in 1972 to analyze physical evidence submitted by law enforcement agencies in Union County, and it was New Jersey's first county-run laboratory. The Forensic Laboratory today occasionally extends services to the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office, the Newark Police Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and the Port Authority Police Department.

The Forensic Laboratory is comprised of two analytical sections, Forensic Biology and Controlled Dangerous Substances (CDS), which offer forensic science service delivery for criminal investigations within Union County. The Forensic Laboratory currently employs 15 technical and support staff, including a laboratory director, DNA technical leader, senior forensic chemist supervisors, and other staff members. The Forensic Laboratory has maintained accreditation by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board-International, demonstrating continual commitment to improvement for delivery of forensic services.

In 2016, the Forensic Biology Section saw a slight decrease in case submissions, with 256 submissions in total. Requests were received in the following types of cases: 54 homicides, 37 sexual assaults, 67 burglaries/robberies, 22 assaults, and 76 others. There are currently 1,297

DNA profiles that have been uploaded to the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). To date, the Forensic Laboratory has linked crime-scene DNA profiles to convicted offenders in 209 Union County cases and to arrestees in eight Union County cases. Another 28 case requests linked DNA profiles with other Union County investigations or cases in other jurisdictions. Union County's shared-services agreement continued with the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office for the analysis of biological evidence and DNA in 2016, with the completion of 70 Middlesex County cases to date.

The Controlled Substances Section saw a 22 percent increase in case submissions in 2016 as compared with 2015, with a total of 4,377 submitted. Requests to analyze suspected controlled substances comprised the following: marijuana (38 percent), heroin (27 percent), and cocaine (16.5 percent), accounted for over 80 percent of all submitted evidence items. There was a significant increase in cases involving fentanyl, acetyl fentanyl, or a heroin/fentanyl mix, with 130 submissions in 2016, up from 28 the year before. Both marijuana and synthetic marijuana submissions saw a slight decrease from 2015 to 2016.

There were increases in submissions of alprazolam (Xanax), carisoprodol (Soma), and clonazepam (Klonopin) in 2016. Benzodiazepines (Xanax, Valium, Ativan, and Klonopin) submissions stayed about the same, but the number of total tablets seized increased significantly. The number of alprazolam (Xanax) tablets seized went from 1,593 in 2015 to 4,066 in 2016. Clonazepam (Klonopin) submission increased from 101 to 409 tablets. Prescription legend drugs (PLDs) submitted increased from 1,344 tablets/capsules in 2015 to 2,384 tablets/capsules in 2016. Synthetic cathinones ("bath salts") submissions decreased for the third year in a row.

The CDS section's most significant cases of 2016 were from search warrants by the Union County Prosecutor's Office. These submissions included a heroin case totaling 5,994

grams (211 ounces), a fentanyl case with 8,015 grams (282.7 ounces), and a cocaine case totaling 23,000 grams (811 ounces). The largest marijuana case came out of Union Township and contained 26,670 grams (58.8 pounds).

Shared-services testing with the Newark Police Department continued to bring narcotics submissions to the Forensic Laboratory. In 2016, evidence in 229 such cases was submitted for routine processing, an increase of 37 percent over last year.

GRANTS MANAGEMENT

During 2016, Grants Management supervised all federal and State grants awarded to the Union County Prosecutor's Office. Grant funds totaled over \$1 million in all.

In the past year, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) 2014 funds for the DNA Backlog Reduction and Enhancement Grant Program enabled the Prosecutor's Office Forensics Laboratory to reduce DNA analysis time and obtain better DNA profiles for criminal investigations. In September 2016, the Office secured \$276,231 in funds for the NIJ 2016 DNA Backlog Reduction and Enhancement Grant Program. The new grant began on January 1, 2017 and will extend until December 31, 2018.

The multi-jurisdictional County Gang, Gun, and Narcotics Task Force Grant, part of the Justice Assistance Grant Program of the State of New Jersey, continues to offset overtime costs and purchase equipment for the Office's Task Force. In July 2016, the Union County Prosecutor's Office was again awarded funding for the 2016-2017 grant period for this Program.

The Jail Diversion Program continues through an agreement between the Trinitas Hospital Department of Behavioral Health and the Union County Prosecutor's Office.

Grant funds from the Office of the Insurance Fraud Prosecutor continued to fund three salaries in the Insurance Fraud Unit in 2016.

In 2016, the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)/Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Grant Program continued to fund equipment costs and pay all on-call and examination fees of nurse examiners who are a part of the Union County Sexual Assault Response Team.

On-call SART nurses have provided more than 1,300 forensic examinations to victims of sexual assault since the inception of the Program in June 2001. Due to the increase in statistics and a stable program, the State of New Jersey's Division of Criminal Justice awarded the Union County Prosecutor's Office with increased funds for the SART/SANE Program for the 2016-2017 grant period. These funds enabled the Office to add two additional on-call nurses to the Sexual Assault Response Team.

The Victim Assistance Project continues to fund the salaries of victim advocates and victim notification clerks to improve and enhance programs and services for victims of crime in Union County. Additionally, the Union County Prosecutor's Office continues to participate in the State of New Jersey Violence Against Women Act Program, which funds the salary of a domestic violence advocate.

The Law Enforcement Officers Training and Equipment Program, awarded by the Police Training Commission to the John H. Stamler Police Academy, provided new equipment for recruits and funding for in-service training for Union County law enforcement personnel.

Union County also continues to receive funds from the Body Armor Replacement Program. These funds allow the Office to upgrade body armor for existing investigative staff and purchase body armor for new investigative staff.

Grant funding allows the Union County Prosecutor's Office to continue existing programs and pursue new initiatives. Grants Management will continue to manage fiscal reporting and explore new funding that corresponds to initiatives of the Office.

GUNS, GANGS, DRUGS, AND VIOLENT CRIMES TASK FORCE

The Guns, Gangs, Drugs, and Violent Crimes Task Force works with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to investigate illegal drug trafficking and gang activity in Union County. The Task Force is the successor to the Narcotics Strike Force, the oldest county-wide, multi-jurisdictional narcotics task force in New Jersey, established in 1971. It is comprised of four assistant prosecutors and 13 detectives from the Prosecutor's Office.

The Task Force's daily activities include narcotics interdiction, search warrant preparation, speaking engagements to civic groups, presentation of training courses at the John H. Stamler Police Academy regarding narcotics, gang enforcement, and search-and-seizure issues; technical and surveillance assistance to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies; and maintenance of an extensive inventory of sophisticated surveillance equipment. Detectives assigned to the Task Force also contribute their expertise by reviewing cases in Union County in which a defendant is charged with possession of controlled dangerous substances with the intent to distribute. These detectives are responsible for testifying as expert witnesses in Superior Court.

The narcotics interdiction efforts of the Task Force are two-pronged in that the priority is to identify and arrest mid- and upper-level drug dealers and gang members while also assisting municipal police departments with disrupting open-air, street-level drug distribution and gang

activities. This effort is accomplished by employing the full spectrum of investigative techniques, including surveillance, undercover operations, search warrant execution, and electronic surveillance.

In 2016, through the cooperation of the Union County Police Chiefs Association, a program through which municipal detectives are detailed to the Task Force for six months to a year was continued. Through this program, participants are trained in all aspects of narcotics and gang investigations. The benefit of this initiative is threefold: departments are given a cash stipend for each detective assigned; the Task Force gains additional staffing; and participants return to their departments better equipped to handle narcotics and gang investigations.

In 2016, the Task Force initiated 36 investigations and executed 33 search warrants, resulting in 51 arrests and substantial seizures of heroin (6,575 grams), cocaine (44,043 grams), marijuana (2,528 grams), and fentanyl (8,016 grams), as well as three handguns, \$117,882.75 in United States currency, jewelry valued at \$35,980, and five vehicles. Additionally, one wiretap and 18 pen registers were conducted.

In January 2016, Task Force detectives, assisted by members of the Linden Police Department, conducted an investigation resulting in the seizure of five kilograms of cocaine and the arrest of two individuals.

In April 2016, Task Force detectives concluded a wiretap investigation in Elizabeth, Plainfield, and Newark, New Jersey. Using both physical and electronic surveillance, detectives developed probable cause to execute six search warrants and nine arrest warrants. This resulted in the arrests of nine individuals and the seizure of a half-kilogram of heroin, one kilogram of cocaine, a half-kilogram of synthetic cathinone ("molly"), 7,212 folds of heroin, 30 bricks of heroin, and approximately one kilogram of fentanyl.

In April 2016, Union County Prosecutor's Office detectives along with members of the FBI concluded an investigation in Elizabeth, resulting in the seizure of 20 kilograms of cocaine and the arrest of one individual.

In August 2016, Union County Prosecutor's Office detectives, along with members of the FBI, concluded an investigation resulting in the seizure of eight kilograms of fentanyl, seven kilograms of heroin, and the arrest of two individuals. A secondary investigation resulted in the seizure of 16 kilograms of cocaine and the arrest of one individual.

A Task Force trial of particular note also took place last year, when an Elizabeth drug kingpin who became one of the nation's most wanted fugitives after eluding capture multiple times was found guilty of all 19 criminal charges against him.

A Union County jury delivered the verdict against defendant Luqman Abdullah after deliberations spread over four days in November 2016, following a two-month trial.

Abdullah was the primary target of a Task Force investigation into large-scale drug sales in the city's Midtown neighborhood that culminated with the execution of search warrants on April 23, 2009, when nearly seven pounds of cocaine – enough to fill 30,000 individual vials – plus more than 800 folds of heroin, two handguns, an AK-47 rifle, and hundreds of items used for the processing and packaging of cocaine were recovered from a stash house in Newark.

After being featured in the television program "America's Most Wanted" and being listed among the FBI's most wanted fugitives nationally, Abdullah turned himself in to police on December 28, 2012. He was sentenced to 37 years in state prison in July 2017.

HOMICIDE TASK FORCE

The Homicide Task Force is responsible for the investigation of all homicide cases, including vehicular homicides, that occur within Union County. The Unit is also responsible for the investigation of police-involved shootings that result in a death, all suspicious deaths, deaths that occur when an individual is in custody, baby deaths, and murder-suicides. The Homicide Task Force works in conjunction with municipal detectives and police officers when a death occurs in their jurisdiction.

The Homicide Task Force maintains a 24-hour-a-day legal and investigative on-call service to all law enforcement agencies in Union County. In 2016, the Unit was comprised of five assistant prosecutors, four investigative supervisors, six detectives, five municipal detectives, one prosecutor's agent, and two clerical personnel. Furthermore, certain unit personnel are assigned to particular tasks such as cold cases, electronic surveillance and evidence collection.

In 2016, there were 23 homicides in the County of Union. In total, 12 of those homicides were solved. Of the 23 homicides, there were 17 shootings, two stabbings, three strangulations, and one blunt-force trauma case. In addition, there were 11 motor vehicle deaths, one police-involved shooting death, three child deaths, and six unattended/suspicious deaths. One of those deaths, the police-involved shooting, was presented to a Grand Jury and was true-billed.

In total, 29 homicide complaints were signed in 2016, with a total of 29 defendants charged. There were also three complaints signed in connection with vehicular homicides. During the course of the year, there were seven homicide trials prosecuted by members of the Homicide Task Force.

One investigation of note occurred on June 30, 2016, when, at approximately 12:30 a.m., members of the Homicide Task Force were notified of the homicide of Neelega Perry of Plainfield.

The victim was located in the rear yard of 411 Spruce Street with a gunshot wound to her head. The crime scene was at the end of a dead-end street with approximately eight homes.

On scene, and approximately eight to ten feet from the victim's body, a weapon was recovered. During the course of several months, detectives completed numerous interviews and obtained search warrants of phones and locations. As a result of the investigation, it was discovered that Ms. Perry was lured by three individuals into the rear of 411 Spruce Street, where she was shot to death.

On September 20, 2016, homicide complaints were approved for Anthony Baines, Gquan Johnson, and Raeqwon Segers.

On Thursday, December 8, 2016, members of the Homicide Task Force were notified of a homicide in the area of 744 West 4th Street in Plainfield. The homeowner discovered the victim, later identified as Ronnell Harrison, badly beaten and shot in the driveway of his residence.

Subsequently, video footage was obtained from several locations and a number of witnesses were identified. Based upon that information, it was found that Ronnell Harrison was viciously assaulted by Mack Brown and Luis Delvalle in front of 750 West 4th Street in

Plainfield, which was Brown's residence. After assaulting the victim, Brown and Delvalle carried dumped the victim's body in a different location. Delvalle then stood watch over the victim's unconscious body and continued to assault the victim any time it appeared that he was regaining consciousness. During that time period, Brown went back to his residence and retrieved a handgun. Brown then ran back to where Delvalle and the victim were and handed the weapon to Delvalle, who killed the victim with a single gunshot. Alishia Bryant, an associate of Brown, was also charged with second-degree hindering apprehension as an accomplice to the initial aggravated assault of the victim. On December 14, 2016, murder charges were authorized for Mack Brown and Luis Delvalle.

A notable trial handled by the Task Force last year culminated with a Union County jury returning guilty verdicts against an Irvington man who killed one man and seriously injured another during a 2008 shooting in Elizabeth.

Antwan Horton, then 35, was convicted in April 2016 on charges of second-degree reckless manslaughter and third-degree aggravated assault after more than two weeks of jury deliberation following a two-month trial before state Superior Court Judge Regina Caulfield.

The shooting took place on August 7, 2008 on the 1000 block of Flora Street near Routes 1&9 in Elizabeth, where first responders found 33-year-old Christopher Cunningham and then-28-year-old David Rivera both suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. Shortly thereafter, Cunningham was pronounced dead, while Rivera received emergency treatment at a local hospital and was released.

An intensive joint investigation involving the Union County Homicide Task Force, the Elizabeth Police Department, and the Union County Sheriff's Office resulted in Horton being identified as a suspect in the case, and he was arrested and charged in August 2010. At trial it was revealed that Horton was in Elizabeth that day over an incident in which his girlfriend and young child were robbed of jewelry at gunpoint in the area hours earlier.

He confronted the two shooting victims on Cunningham's porch, demanding information about what happened, and following an exchange of words, Horton and an as-yet unidentified second suspect brandished handguns and fired a total of nearly a dozen shots.

There was never any indication that either shooting victim had been involved in the robbery. Horton was sentenced to 18 years in state prison in June 2016.

INTELLIGENCE UNIT

The Union County Prosecutor's Office Intelligence Unit was established in December 2002. The mission of this Unit is to gather information from any number of sources in a manner consistent with the law in order to provide tactical and strategic assessments on the existence, identities, and capabilities of criminal suspects and criminal enterprises, and to further the crime prevention and law enforcement objectives and priorities identified by the Union County Prosecutor's Office.

One key responsibility of the Intelligence Unit is collecting, analyzing, and disseminating gang member intelligence/information into the InfoShare intelligence database. This includes the verification of gang members and identifying information regarding photographs, addresses, vehicles, and involvement in criminal activity.

The Intelligence Unit is often also tasked with mapping a variety of criminal activity throughout the county and state; identifying crimes that have similar methods of operation; and giving assistance to units within the Office, as well as municipal police departments. A primary focus is put on analyzing series of crimes, most notably homicides, assaults, robberies, burglaries, and auto thefts, with the intent of apprehending the offenders and deterring continued criminal acts.

In 2016, the Unit gave assistance in the form of intelligence to hundreds of different municipal, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, as well as law enforcement officers and legal personnel within the Union County Prosecutor's Office.

The Unit also continues to monitor the 24-hour Union County Crime Stoppers tips hotline, and it reviews and forwards those tips to the appropriate agencies. In 2016, there were 127 tips received through Crime Stoppers.

In 2016, the Unit also maintained the following county-wide statistics: There were 11 incidents of carjacking, 49 non-lethal shooting hits, and 161 naloxone deployments.

The Unit continues to host intelligence sharing monthly roundtable meetings, the goal of which is to provide intelligence-led policing in order to help local agencies allocate resources, improve investigations, enhance community response, and increase agency effectiveness. Attendance at these meetings continues to expand well beyond Union County law enforcement agencies.

The Unit handled 187 deconflictions in 2016 in order to ensure officer safety. This system is used to determine whether multiple agencies are investigating the same person or crime.

In 2016, the Unit also conducted more than 1,300 background checks on individuals who applied to be volunteers or vendors during the PGA Golf Championship held at Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, New Jersey. This project contributed to the safety of the more than 200,000 people that attended the event from July 25 to July 31, 2016.

The Intelligence Unit personnel also in 2016 assisted various local, state, and federal agencies with obtaining information regarding federal terror suspect Ahmad Khan Rahimi. After multiple bombing incidents occurred in New Jersey and New York, Rahimi became the subject of a manhunt that ended with a police shootout and his capture in Linden, New Jersey. During the search for this suspect, the Intelligence Unit queried all databases, and information was passed on to assist agencies involved with the investigation.

Lastly, the bi-monthly Intelligence Brief continues to be compiled and disseminated to more than 300 law enforcement professionals, thus identifying potential criminal activity that is typically trans-jurisdictional in nature.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Union County Prosecutor's Office is responsible for conducting investigations of criminal and administrative violations committed by law enforcement personnel. It is also charged with the responsibility of overseeing internal affairs criminal investigations for all police jurisdictions within Union County. Under certain conditions, the Prosecutor's Office may conduct investigations of Union County police personnel at the executive level of law enforcement and may conduct independent or joint investigations of any criminal or administrative incident involving municipal or county law enforcement.

At times, the Union County Prosecutor's Office provides legal and investigative support to municipal and county law enforcement for internal affairs investigations. The Prosecutor's Office requires all Union County law enforcement agencies to report statistical information on a quarterly basis summarizing each department's internal affairs unit's activity for that period. Union County internal affairs reporting statistics are derived from each of the county police department's Professional Standards Summary Reports. The Union County Prosecutor's Office's Internal Affairs Professional Standards Summary Reports provide a summarized yearly analysis for the entire County.

During 2016, the Union County Prosecutor's Office provided training to all new police recruits regarding internal affairs policy requirements, as well as training to superior officers from three municipalities newly assigned to internal affairs.

The Professional Standards Summary Report Forms, Table 1, 2, and 3 listed below are for the 2016 calendar year. The complaints reported this year, for the most part, occurred during the reporting year. However, it is understood that not all complaints filed will have had a disposition during the same reporting year, and the number of all dispositions may not equal the number of complaints filed. In order to better understand the Internal Affairs Professional Standards Summary Reports, a “complaint” is defined as a single incident and the officer involved. If an officer commits more than one act under the complaint types, only the most serious complaint type is reported. If there are multiple officers involved in an incident, each officer who had a complaint filed against him or her is a separate case. The reports from each department’s quarterly reporting and a summarized yearly analysis are consolidated into a county-wide annual report using the sample format provided by the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General Internal Affairs Guidelines.

The following report contains statistical summaries for all law enforcement departments in Union County for 2016. A review of these reports, and a comparison with the statistics from 2015, reveal the following:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Complaints Filed</u>		
Anonymous Complaint	12	21
Citizen Complaint	385	307
Agency Complaint	<u>316</u>	<u>337</u>
Total Complaints	713	665
<u>Agency Dispositions</u>		
Sustained	283	280
Exonerated	143	116
Not Sustained	132	83
Unfounded	81	52
Administratively Closed	<u>63</u>	<u>60</u>
Total Agency Dispositions	702	591
<u>Court Dispositions</u>		

Cases Dismissed	1	1
Cases Diverted	1	0
Acquittals	0	0
Convictions	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>
Total Court Dispositions	3	4

In 2015, police departments within Union County reported a total of 713 internal affairs complaints filed. In comparison to the 665 complaints in 2016, this represents approximately a 7 percent decrease in complaints filed. There was also a decrease in agency disposition of 16 percent. The decrease in disposition is likely attributable to the decrease in overall complaints. Finally, with the current widespread use of body-worn cameras and dashboard cameras in multiple municipalities, there was a sizable reduction in the “not sustained” category of complaints of 62 percent: in 2015, a total of 132 complaints were classified as such, while in 2016, that figure dropped to 83. Body-worn camera video, dash camera video, and audio surveillance are important tools in coming to a definitive finding of fact in areas of racial profiling, use of force, and general demeanor complaints. We anticipate that overall internal affairs complaints will continue to decrease in 2017.

JUVENILE UNIT

The Juvenile Unit is responsible for prosecuting juveniles for acts of delinquency or criminality ranging from violations of township ordinances to murder. The Unit is comprised of a supervising assistant prosecutor, three or four full-time assistant prosecutors, a detective, a victim/witness advocate, and two clericals. The goals of the Unit are to promote swift and certain punishment for repeat violent offenders and to divert minor offenders away from delinquency and further Court action.

During 2016, the Unit handled approximately 700 cases and 100 violations of probation. Staff members from the Unit handled 11 juvenile delinquency hearings.

Two motions were filed to have juveniles treated as adults for purposes of criminal prosecution. Of those motions, one of the juveniles was charged with aggravated sexual assault and the other was charged with armed robbery.

Statistics show a slight decrease in the number of complaints filed last year, with 1,010 cases filed in 2015 and 946 in 2016. The number of juveniles charged with acts of delinquency decreased to 732 juveniles, down from 782 in 2015, and 337 cases were diverted from the formal calendar. In 2016, a total of 101 violations of probation were filed.

The number of serious and complex cases being handled by the Unit remains high. Specifically, in 2016 a total of 23 juveniles were charged with sexual assault, a figure that was approximately double that of the previous year. There is a great deal of time and preparation required in prosecuting these types of cases. The assistant prosecutor must review extensive discovery and may be required to meet with the victim and the victim's family regarding a plea offer. The assistant prosecutor must answer numerous defense motions and prepare the State's motions and briefs for the admission of certain evidence unique to these cases. The State must

retain experts and prepare the witness or witnesses for testimony. Most importantly, each assistant prosecutor spends weeks preparing the victim for their testimony.

Last year also saw a steady reporting of gang-related or gang-affiliated crimes and violent offenses involving juveniles. Approximately 43 robbery cases were handled by the Juvenile Unit in 2016. In addition, the Unit handled two murder/attempted murder cases, two carjacking cases, 54 weapons-related offenses, and 114 assault cases.

The Unit provides daily legal advice to the 22 juvenile bureaus within Union County. The supervising assistant prosecutor is a member and officer of numerous county initiatives regarding juveniles, including but not limited to the Juvenile Officers Association, the local and statewide Council on Juvenile Justice Systems Improvement, and the Executive Planning Committee of the Youth Services Commission.

PLAINFIELD PROJECT

The Plainfield Project is a fully staffed Union County Prosecutor's Office satellite office established in the City of Plainfield. Its mission is to work closely with the Plainfield Police Division to advance the shared goal of reducing crime in the Queen City. It serves as the presence of the Prosecutor's Office in Plainfield to work with the community and the police on crime reduction initiatives.

The assistant prosecutor assigned to the Plainfield Project provides legal advice and investigative support to the Plainfield Police Division on a daily basis. This consists of preparation and review of affidavits for search warrants, plus the obtaining of court orders, communication data warrants, and other legal documents required to appropriately investigate and prosecute criminal matters arising in the city. The Plainfield Project also serves to provide in-service training to Plainfield Police Division personnel and to help craft strategies to address emergent and chronic crime problems. In addition to providing daily legal advice and investigative support to the Plainfield Police Division, the assistant prosecutor also provides legal assistance to the Westfield, Scotch Plains, and Fanwood police departments.

All criminal matters arising within Plainfield, Westfield, Scotch Plains, and Fanwood are initially screened to determine whether there is sufficient evidence for indictable charges to be filed. Upon a determination that indictable charges are appropriate, all cases are further screened for accuracy and completeness before being forwarded to the Trial Unit for disposition. This helps improve the quality of cases originating from all four municipalities.

In 2016, the assistant prosecutor reviewed a total of 649 cases. The assistant prosecutor referred 191 of the cases to the municipal courts, as there was only sufficient evidence of disorderly persons offenses having been committed. Additionally, the assistant prosecutor

determined that no charges should be filed in 18 cases, since there was insufficient evidence of any criminal offenses having been committed.

The assistant prosecutor reviewed 21 affidavits for search warrants and assisted the Narcotics Bureau and the Criminal Investigations Bureau in Plainfield in obtaining those warrants. In addition to obtaining search warrants and grand jury subpoenas, the assistant prosecutor also obtained court orders for telephone call detail records. The assistant prosecutor also assisted investigative units in the various police departments in obtaining and preparing 93 grand jury subpoenas for medical, telephone, and banking records, along with other essential documents to assist the police departments in their investigations.

JOHN H. STAMLER POLICE ACADEMY

Union County is home to one of New Jersey's premier police training facilities: the John H. Stamler Police Academy in Scotch Plains. The Academy has two primary functions: to provide basic police training to recruits to produce qualified law enforcement officers for municipal, county, and state agencies, and to provide advanced (in-service) training for veteran police officers.

The Basic Training Police Curriculum meets the strict requirements of the New Jersey Police Training Commission (PTC). The instructional staff is comprised of experts in various areas of law enforcement, thus assuring that Academy graduates have the desire, ability, and judgment to serve the public and honor their oaths of office.

In 2016, the Police Academy conducted two 20-week sessions of the Basic Course for Police Officers. Class No. 114 consisted of 64 graduating recruits, and Class No. 115 consisted of 69 graduating recruits.

In addition to training police recruits, the Academy strives to provide top-notch continuing education to law enforcement professionals in Union County and throughout the state. In 2016, approximately 3,494 law enforcement professionals – 2,050 from Union County (59 percent) and 1,444 from out of county (41 percent) – attended 181 in-service training courses (including Computer Proficiency for Law Enforcement courses), representing 119 different course offerings presented over 364 training days.

The Academy courses represent a diverse offering focused on expanding the core Police Training Commission's Basic Police Training Curriculum and are often created to respond to forecasted and identified needs in the field.

Among our other accomplishments in 2016 were:

- Class 20 graduation of 21 auxiliary recruits from our three-month Basic Auxiliary Police Training Program, in cooperation with the New Jersey State Police and New Jersey Office of Emergency Management;

- Class 10 graduation of 10 recruits in the Special Law Enforcement Officer Class One Police Training Program, in cooperation with the New Jersey Police Training Commission;
- Implementation of the Fair and Impartial Policing Training Program for all Union County law enforcement officers;
- The inspection and reaccreditation of the John H. Stamler Police Academy by the New Jersey State Police Training Commission, completed in December 2016. The Academy was reaccredited for the period of January 2017 through December 2019;
- A wide array of special in-service course offerings from such esteemed institutions as Pennsylvania State University, Northwestern University, and law enforcement agencies including the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice, New Jersey State Police, New Jersey Department of Homeland Security and Preparedness, and U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement. Other offerings were conducted by federal agencies and regional and specialized law enforcement organizations and training agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, MAGLOCLIN, Connell Consulting, Marin Consulting, and Renahan Consulting. These courses focused on enhanced investigation and prosecution techniques, particularly with regard to gang, narcotics, and cyber investigations; specialized Crisis Intervention Training to enhance police response to individuals with mental illness and to assist returning veterans in crisis; enhanced professional standards and performance; increased patrol efficiency; and safety, leadership, supervision, and agency management enhancement, as well as special training for educators and law enforcement officers coordinated in partnership with the Office of the Union County Superintendent of Schools.

The unique partnership between the Police Academy, Union County Police Chiefs Association, and the Union County Prosecutor's Office, forged in July 1986, continues to ensure the provision of broader opportunities for the basic and in-service training programs, and that the highest standards of training, competence, and professionalism are being met to assist our law enforcement officers to successfully and safely protect and serve our citizens.

PDC / PIP / PTI

The Pre-Disposition Conference/Pre-Indictment Program/Pre-Trial Intervention Unit is tasked with resolving cases early by offering defendants their lowest plea offer in the process. All three components of the Unit are designed to resolve cases as expeditiously as possible. In 2016, the unit handled approximately 3,449 cases.

The largest component of the Unit is the Pre-Disposition Conference (PDC), handling a little over 94 percent of these files. Once a defendant has a first appearance, he or she is given a PDC date approximately four to six weeks later. All cases are given a PDC date. Once a defendant has a first appearance, the case is then forwarded to the deputy trial team supervisors for dissemination amongst their respective team members.

The Trial Team representatives then prepare discovery and a plea offer to be handled at PDC. When each respective file comes to PDC, plea negotiations occur in an attempt to resolve the matter as judiciously as possible.

Two examples of this expeditious movement of such files come from cases involving charges of second-degree eluding and second-degree unlawful possession of a weapon. In January, Anoine Satterfield pleaded guilty to the eluding charge under N.J.S.A. 2C: 29-2B. The defendant pleaded guilty and was sentenced to five years in state prison. The defendant had been facing up to 10 years with a five-year parole disqualifier.

The second case dealt with Deshon Fleming, who pleaded guilty to the weapon charge under N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5b and received a sentence of five years with a 42-month parole disqualifier. Fleming had been facing up to 10 years with a forty-two month parole disqualifier.

The second case dealt with Deshon Fleming, who pleaded guilty to the weapon charge under *N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5b* and received a sentence of five years with a 42-month parole disqualifier. Fleming had been facing up to 10 years with a forty-two month parole disqualifier.

In both of these cases, the State was willing to plead the defendant to the bottom range of the sentencing guidelines due to their prior criminal history and to mitigate the resources the State would have to dedicate to take the case to trial. These two cases illustrate the value of early plea negotiations in a county with such a high caseload.

The Pre-Indictment Program component (PIP) of the Unit is a subset of PDC. Handling a little less than 1 percent of cases that go through PDC, PIP is tasked with resolving those files that should be easily resolved with little negotiation. The typical PIP file is a controlled dangerous substance (CDS) case wherein only possession of CDS is charged, or where third- or fourth-degree theft is charged. The typical PIP defendant has no prior convictions, and an offer of non-custodial probation is recommended if the case has not been downgraded. Files are designated for PIP by municipal screeners and the deputy Trial Team supervisors.

The last component of the Unit is Pre-Trial Intervention (PTI). PTI is a diversionary program designed for first-time offenders who commit non-violent, victimless crimes. In 2016, 179 defendants were admitted into the Program. On March 1, 2016, the Acting Attorney General of New Jersey issued new guidelines for the uniform implementation of PTI. The impact the directive had on Union County was twofold. First, domestic violence cases became presumed rejections.

Second, all defendants charged with a first- or second-degree crime now were to plead guilty as a condition of entry into PTI.

RELEASED OFFENDERS UNIT

The Released Offenders Unit, better known as the Megan's Law Unit, is staffed by one supervising assistant prosecutor, one legal analyst, one legal assistant, one investigator, one prosecutor's agent, and two clericals.

The Unit is responsible for ensuring that all convicted sex offenders residing in the County have properly registered their residence, employment, and/or school attendance with the police department in the municipality in which they live. This includes verifying that the registrant does in fact reside at the given address and the monitoring of offenders with local law enforcement to ensure compliance with the quarterly and annual address verification for each registrant.

As a result of intense monitoring and tracking of sex offenders, this Unit, working with local law enforcement and the New Jersey State Parole Board, uncovered instances in which sex offenders failed to register their employment, failed to notify the police of their intent to move, failed to re-register their new addresses, and provided false address information to law enforcement. In 2016, eight criminal complaints were signed against sex offenders for violating the registration requirements of Megan's Law.

The Unit also works closely with the State Parole Board's Sex Offender Management Unit and the GPS Monitoring Unit, and it investigates and prosecutes offenders who violate community supervision for life, parole supervision for life, or GPS conditions. In 2016, nine

criminal complaints were also signed against sex offenders who violated community supervision for life conditions.

The Megan's Law Unit also ensures that immediate notification is made to the GPS Unit of a Tier-Three (high-risk) offender determination to coordinate the mandatory placement of the offender on GPS monitoring. Moreover, due to the thorough investigation and tracking of missing sex offenders, numerous arrests were made by the Unit detective for offenders who violated the registration provisions of Megan's Law.

The primary focus of the Released Offenders Unit is the tiering of registered offenders to determine the level of risk of re-offense to be assigned to each individual and the subsequent scope of community notification. This requires an assessment of many factors, including the individual's criminal history, the facts of the sex offense, institutional progress, response to treatment, employment and residential stability, and whether publication on the Sex Offender Internet Registry is applicable to the registrant. Registrants must also be re-tiered whenever their address, employment, or school status changes.

During 2016, there were approximately 665 registered sex offenders residing in Union County. In 2016, approximately 112 new sex offenders registered their addresses, and a total of 97 cases were tiered by the Unit. A total of 14 notifications were made to law enforcement regarding Tier 1 offenders; numerous offenders were personally served with notice of their Tier 2 status; and there were three Tier 3 statuses. In excess of 1,990 schools and 220 community organizations and civic groups received notification regarding a sex offender. Close to 2,400 door-to-door notifications to residences and businesses also were made in connection with the Tier 3 notifications.

This Unit is also responsible for entering all sex offender data in the new Offender Watch Registry and Megan's Law Promis/Gavel. The Offender Watch database that was implemented this year by the New Jersey State Police is the basis for the information that is listed on the Internet Sex Offender Registry, and data entry is an important and continuous function to track sex offenders, as they frequently move and change employment. The up-to-date data entry significantly improves notification procedures to schools and community organizations and the public, thereby enhancing public safety.

This past year several members of the Unit continued to work diligently to review the list of offenders and obtain the necessary fingerprints and documentation so that those offenders who were no longer residing in Union County, and those who were deported or deceased, could be removed from the New Jersey State Police database and the Internet Registry of Union County sex offenders. The Unit staff also attended numerous trainings on the use of Offender Watch and provided instruction to municipalities within Union County.

This Unit continues to assist Immigration and Customs Enforcement to identify convicted sex offenders residing in the County who are subject to deportation. The Unit also reviewed and objected to clemency/pardon applications submitted to this Office by the New Jersey State Parole Board. The Unit also handled numerous motions to be relieved of Megan's Law obligations – a substantial increase from years prior. Pursuant to the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General Guidelines, the Released Offenders Unit also conducted numerous training sessions for school personnel, community organizations, and civic groups so they could receive Megan's Law notifications, and conducted law enforcement training, public awareness training, and service provider training.

SEIZED ASSET FORFEITURE UNIT

The Seized Asset Forfeiture Unit files civil lawsuits seeking the forfeiture of property that has been or is intended to be utilized in the furtherance of illegal activity; has been or is intended to become an integral part of illegal activity; or that which constitutes the proceeds of illegal activity.

A forfeiture action is commenced by the filing of a verified complaint in the Law Division of Superior Court. A copy of the filed complaint and summons are then served upon each claimant and/or potential property claimant. A claimant is an individual who has an ownership and/or possessory interest in the seized property. If the claimant fails to file an answer to the complaint, the Court or the Clerk of the Superior Court may enter default against the claimant.

Upon the entry of a default, the State then applies to the Court for the entry of an order for judgment by default. Once such an order is entered, title in the property is transferred to the State. Where an answer is filed, the matter will ultimately be resolved either by way of a negotiated settlement, trial, or court order.

Forfeiture actions promote major public policy objectives by encouraging property owners to be more responsible with their property and deterring them from using or allowing it to be used for, or in furtherance of, illegal activity. A corollary benefit is that the forfeited property is distributed to the law enforcement agency or agencies that participated in the investigation and seizure of the property. The forfeited property is to be utilized by the seizing agency or agencies solely in furtherance of law enforcement purposes.

In 2016, the Seized Asset Forfeiture Unit opened 557 files and seized \$403,302.93 in United States currency, 20 motor vehicles valued at \$45,857, and other forfeited property valued at \$90,067, totaling \$539,226.93 in value of property forfeited.

SPECIAL OFFENDERS UNIT

The Special Offenders Unit was established in March 2005 to address a marked increase in criminal prosecutions against individuals with mental illness. The Unit is comprised of two assistant prosecutors who handle any Trial Team case in which the defendant's competency to stand trial is questioned or the defenses of insanity or diminished capacity are raised.

The Special Offenders Unit also partners with Trinitas Hospital and Bridgeway Rehabilitation Services to operate the Union County Jail Diversion Program. The Jail Diversion Program attempts to divert mentally ill criminal defendants from traditional prosecution, wherein the underlying offense is related to the defendant's mental illness.

In 2016, the Unit reviewed approximately 480 referrals to the Jail Diversion Program. Referrals involved individuals who presented or self-identified as suffering from mental illness and were received from local law enforcement, the Union County Jail, the defense bar, and the Court.

Each referral is screened to determine if the individual is a Union County resident; whether the case is assigned to the Criminal Division; if the case has already been disposed of via plea, sentence, dismissal, or alternate avenue of diversion; and whether the case or individual is legally appropriate for diversion based on the nature of the current charge or past criminal history. If the individual is deemed legally appropriate, a clinical assessment is completed to determine the appropriate diagnosis and level of recommended treatment. If the individual is deemed clinically appropriate, a case management assessment is conducted to determine if

appropriate treatment is available, amenability to treatment, and willingness to participate in the Program and follow the Program rules. A treatment plan is formulated by mental health professionals from Trinitas Hospital and Bridgeway Rehabilitation Services, and progress with the treatment plan is ordered and monitored by the court. Successful completion of the Program could result in diversion from conviction, jail, or prison.

The Special Offenders Unit provides training for law enforcement in the areas of recognition of mental illness and techniques for de-escalation of crisis situations. The Unit, in conjunction with local law enforcement and various mental health service providers and agencies, began the process of establishing a Crisis Intervention Training Program (CIT) in Union County in 2010. This process resulted in three 40-hour CIT training sessions conducted annually for law enforcement and mental health providers. The Unit also in 2016 continued its efforts to provide a two-day practical training curriculum at the John H. Stamler Police Academy for all recruits. In 2016, the Unit conducted two separate 1.5-day intensive training programs on law enforcement's response to the mentally ill and the concept of excited delirium, offering practical de-escalation methods and tactical demonstrations.

The Special Offenders Unit is further responsible for involuntary civil commitment cases at the state psychiatric hospitals. The assistant prosecutors in this Unit regularly appear at these hospitals to represent the State in the commitment hearings of profoundly mentally ill criminal defendants who have maxed out on their State Prison sentences and require hospitalization. In addition, the Unit is responsible for the continued legal monitoring of individuals who are found not guilty by reason of insanity, as well as individuals found not competent to stand trial.

SPECIAL PROSECUTIONS UNIT

The Special Prosecutions Unit's core function is the investigation and prosecution of complex financial matters, internal affairs complaints, identity theft, and official misconduct by public officials, among other matters. The Unit also takes on intricate investigations of officer-involved shootings via its Shooting Response Team, insurance fraud, bribery, election law violations, bias crimes, Open Public Meeting Act violations, and cybercrimes.

The Unit is staffed by four assistant prosecutors, one lieutenant, two sergeants, five detectives, and two clericals. More specifically, there are three assistant prosecutors, one sergeant, and four detectives assigned to the Special Prosecutions Unit; one assistant prosecutor, one sergeant, and one detective assigned to the Insurance Fraud Unit; and one assistant prosecutor and two detectives assigned to the Cyber Crimes Unit. The Special Prosecutions Unit's Financial Crimes Section handles civilian inquiries regarding financial and fiduciary crime.

The Special Prosecutions Unit signed 37 criminal complaints and made 39 arrests in 2016. The Unit also handled more than 125 citizen contacts/inquiries and conducted six police-involved shooting investigations. Criminal charges were filed against 11 defendants for insurance fraud, seven defendants for distribution of sexually exploitative images or media of minors, and three separate private employees for embezzlement of amounts ranging between \$300,000 and \$800,000 from their respective employers. A Union County Police Department officer was indicted for official misconduct via 12 acts of theft taking place in three different counties. A Newark Fire Department captain was also indicted for official misconduct through

wrongful impersonation of a police officer in Hillside and Newark. Also in 2016, two municipal police dispatchers permanently forfeited their eligibility for public office in New Jersey as a result of guilty pleas due to unauthorized use of confidential law enforcement databases for private purposes. One defendant also was charged and later pleaded guilty to forgery regarding a vote-by-mail ballot application.

By year's end, 23 defendants pleaded guilty to some form of theft, identity theft, forgery, or fraud, pre-indictment; 26 separate defendants had a grand jury return an indictment, and 16 defendants pleaded guilty post-indictment.

Between March 11 and October 4, 2016, the Special Prosecutions Unit responded to six separate officer-involved shootings in Union County. These responses included multiple shots exchanged between four Linden Police Department officers and federal terror suspect Ahmad Rahami, who is currently indicted on four counts of attempted murder.

In another case, multiple shots were fired at a speeding Freightliner commercial truck by members of the Elizabeth Police Department; the truck driver, Danny Williams, is currently indicted for aggravated manslaughter of a motorist approximately one mile from the weapons discharge and is pending trial. In three other separate cases, a suspect attempted to stab an officer or displayed a handgun during the course of a police encounter.

Two officer-involved shootings were presented to the Union County Grand Jury in 2016. In the first case, transferred as result of a conflict of interest from the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General, a New Jersey State Police detective was attempting to arrest a carjacking suspect in a narrow apartment complex parking lot in the Vauxhall section of Union, New Jersey. The suspect attempted to evade police and quickly drove a large pickup truck toward the detective.

The Detective, who was pinned against a wall, fired multiple shots to stop the suspect, killing him. The Grand Jury found the use of force by the detective justified as self-defense.

In the other officer-involved shooting presented to the Grand Jury, 35-year-old Joseph Macchia, an off-duty Newark Police Department officer, shot and killed a bar patron with his service weapon in Union, New Jersey. The Union County Grand Jury rejected the officer's self-defense claim and returned an indictment for manslaughter. This matter is pending trial.

All officer-involved shooting investigations abided by the Attorney General's Law Enforcement Directive 2006-5 regarding prosecution and investigation of police use of deadly force.

A total of 10 bias-related incidents were referred to the Prosecutor's Office for review in 2016. In comparison to 2015, the incidence of bias crimes increased by 33 percent.

In 2016, no bias incidents resulted in criminal charges. Seven bias incidents involved acts of graffiti on public and private property. The Unit's bias crime staff continued to work collaboratively with the Attorney General's Office and New Jersey Bias Officer's Association on issues of community outreach and training. Additionally, the staff conducted bias crime training for police recruits. As members of the Union County Human Relations Commission, the Unit also apprised the Commission of recent bias incidents on a regular basis.

On October 7, 2015, the Attorney General, the New Jersey State Police, and the Union County Prosecutor's Office signed a memorandum of understanding and agreed to work collaboratively with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) regarding Internet crimes against children. In 2016, the New Jersey State Police forwarded 61 cyber tips preliminarily qualifying as sexually exploitative images of minors. Upon receipt of each NCMEC cyber tip, legal and investigative staff utilized multiple confidential legal tools to

identify the subscriber. Once the subscriber was identified, a search warrant and/or communication data warrant was drafted. Six referrals led to search warrants and arrest warrants for child endangerment via distribution or sexually exploitative images of children, nine referrals were transferred to other police jurisdictions in and out of state, and 36 referrals were closed.

The Unit's Insurance Fraud division is state-mandated under a grant provided by the Office of Insurance Fraud Prosecutor (OIFP). This division devotes 100 percent of its efforts to combatting insurance fraud. In 2016, the Insurance Fraud Unit issued complaints against 11 defendants, made 10 arrests, secured 10 guilty pleas, and obtained four indictments.

Defendant Ahmed Hessein was a pain management doctor operating offices in Union and Essex counties known as Advanced Pain Management (APM). Doctor Hessein was primarily responsible for the financial management of the office. In 2009, while conducting an investigation involving an unrelated employee theft from this practice, suspicious billing activity came to light.

This UCPO investigation, undertaken with the assistance of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General, revealed that over the course of several years, defendants billed for numerous procedures that were not performed, overbilled for procedures that were performed, and billed numerous patients for procedures performed when Amgad Hessein was travelling domestically or internationally and/or the office was closed.

In August 2011, defendant was charged in a 74-count indictment with healthcare claims fraud, theft, and conspiracy. Dr. Hessein pleaded guilty in September 2016 to second-degree theft by deception and healthcare claims fraud. On December 9, 2016, Dr. Hessein was sentenced to concurrent terms of eight years in State Prison. Dr. Hessein agreed to forfeit \$2 million and pay restitution to Medicaid/Medicare and various private insurers in the amount of

\$235,093.75. The sum of \$2, 235,094.75 represents the largest amount of criminal proceeds and restitution ever obtained in the 12-year history of the Insurance Fraud Unit.

SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT

For three decades, the Union County Prosecutor's Office has consistently dedicated every available resource to protecting survivors of sexual abuse and holding perpetrators fully accountable for the bodily and psychological harm of children, teens, and adults. Referrals to the Special Victims Unit (SVU) come from all 21 municipalities.

In February 2013, the Child Advocacy Center of Union County staff and the Sex Crimes Unit of the Office merged to form a single Special Victims Unit. At that same time, SVU assumed responsibility for interviewing all children from infants to the age of 17 who disclose sexual penetration. The SVU staff includes 10 detectives, six assistant prosecutors, two clericals, a multidisciplinary team coordinator, two part-time, on-site therapists from Trinitas Regional Medical Center, five intake workers from the New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P), and a forensic sexual assault nurse examiner coordinator.

SVU members are jointly involved with municipal police detectives in the initial stages of investigations into the sexual abuse of adults. The SVU staff supervises these investigations and reviews witness interviews, suspect statements, and evidence analysis, and the Unit also obtains search warrants, court orders for phone records, and biological evidence.

The SVU works closely with the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), the Union County Prosecutor's Office Forensics Laboratory, and the New Jersey State Police Laboratory. In June 2001, the Prosecutor's Office, following two years of collaborative efforts with Runnells Hospital, the Rape Crisis Center, and emergency room staffs at Trinitas, Muhlenberg, and Overlook hospitals, established a special team to address the needs of survivors of sexual assault.

If a survivor is over the age of 13 and the sexual assault occurred within five days, he or she is offered special medical and therapeutic services. The Prosecutor's Office, in close collaboration with the Rape Crisis Center and local hospital emergency rooms, continue to meet every eight weeks as the SART Advisory Board to review and improve patient care at the point of first disclosure.

The Child Advocacy Center of Union County is an integral part of the SVU team. Since 1995, the Center's detectives have interviewed more than 3,700 children age 12 and under regarding sexual abuse. The Unit's various members shepherd each child's case through the criminal justice system.

The 2016 calendar year marked the fourth year of operation for the new "wraparound" service model at the Center. Colocation has allowed total investigative, prosecutorial, and therapeutic review time of all new sexual abuse referrals to be reduced from five business days to one business day.

In 2016, more than 529 referrals of child abuse involving children under the age of 17 were received, 303 criminal investigations were opened, and 98 criminal complaints were signed, with 73 defendants arrested. Regardless of the opening of a criminal investigation, all families were offered community-based resources for follow-up. The vast majority of complaints were signed for first- and second-degree sexual assaults.

Detectives completed 604 interviews of sexually abused children, teens, and fresh complaint witnesses, and 18 off-site statements from related victims/witnesses were taken. A total of 131 suspect interviews were also obtained by investigative staff.

The child sexual abuse clearance rate in 2016, or those formal investigations that resulted in a criminal charge, was 98 percent, and the teen sexual abuse clearance rate in 2016 was 100 percent. This figure is a Unit record.

Additionally, legal and investigative staff are assigned to the Child Abduction Response Team (CART) and assist in locating numerous children and teens that were reported missing and/or endangered. In addition, over 30 complaints were signed against adult defendants for sexual assault crimes.

Last year, the SVU investigated and prosecuted a number of high-profile cases. For instance, on April 6, 2016, the Unit received a referral from Polaris and the Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCPP) regarding the possible sex trafficking of a 15-year-old child. The child had returned home on April 2, 2016, after she had been missing since February of 2016. Upon returning, she disclosed she had been involved with a male, later identified as a defendant, who had facilitated her having sex in exchange for money with males at multiple locations in Union County.

During an extensive investigation, additional victims were identified by SVU after reviewing in excess of a thousand registration records from numerous motels/hotels in both Union and Essex counties to confirm that two defendants, a male and a female, registered at various motels, consistent with the victims' statements. Multiple subpoenas and preservation requests were served for numerous social media sites and ads were searched for correlation to known phone numbers and email addresses, and for ad titles described by the victims.

Two of the victims in this case were habitual runaways who initially were distrustful of law enforcement. Upon meeting with members of SVU, they were immediately put at ease. Ultimately, three defendants were arrested and charged with multiple counts of first- and second-

degree human trafficking, third-degree endangering the welfare of a child, and promoting prostitution of a child under the age of 18. Following the arrests, sworn statements from each of the defendants were obtained in which they admitting their involvement with the underage victims. The three pleaded guilty and are currently serving New Jersey State Prison sentences.

Also in 2016, SVU received a referral from the Morris County Prosecutor's Office Special Victims Unit regarding a nine-month-old girl who had been airlifted to Morristown Medical Center from Overlook Medical Center in Summit with a 107-degree fever after being brought into the Overlook ER by her mother, an employee at the hospital who was on duty there at the time.

The mother initially informed ER personnel that she had left her daughter in the care of a babysitter that morning before reporting for work at 7 a.m. She stated that the babysitter had called at approximately 12:15 p.m. to say she had left the baby in her car when she ran into a store for a few minutes and the baby was unresponsive.

Following a comprehensive investigation involving review of video evidence and numerous interviews, the mother was confronted and admitted she left the baby in the car, parked in the Overlook parking garage, while she was at work. She was ultimately indicted for five counts of second degree Endangering the Welfare of a Child and her case is currently pending.

In 2016 the Child Advocacy Center staff received a referral from the Cranford Police Department requesting assistance on a sexual assault investigation. The investigation revealed that a woman, now 35 and residing out of state, had reported that she had been the victim of years of sexual assaults perpetrated by her gymnastics coach in Cranford from the time she was age 10 to 12.

The victim described how the defendant had become friends with her parents and was invited into their home to drink alcohol on a regular basis. She disclosed incidents of sexual assault which graduated from kissing to penetration.

As a result of the investigation the defendant was arrested and charged with first-degree aggravated sexual assault and second-degree sexual assault. The case is pending grand jury presentation.

A notable trial handled by the Unit last year involved an Elizabeth man charged with kidnapping a woman off the street and attempting to sexually assault her. A Union County jury deliberated for several hours in early May 2016 following a two-week trial before finding Wukeem W. Lewis, then 57, guilty of first-degree kidnapping, second-degree attempted aggravated sexual assault, and second-degree attempted sexual assault.

The incident took place on September 15, 2013, when Lewis attacked the victim on the 500 block of Westminster Avenue in Elizabeth as she walked home from a night work shift at approximately 6 a.m. Lewis subsequently dragged the woman a short distance to an area in front of an abandoned home, restrained her, and attempted to sexually assault her before a concerned citizen intervened, prompting him to flee the scene.

An intensive joint investigation involving the Prosecutor's Office's Special Victims Unit and the Elizabeth Police Department resulted in Lewis being identified as a suspect in the case, and he was arrested in December 2013, with bail set at \$300,000. He was sentenced to 37 years in state prison in October 2016.

TRIAL UNIT

The Trial Unit is comprised of one trial supervisor, three deputy trial supervisors, and 18 assistant prosecutors who are assigned, in teams of three, to six criminal courts that handle first-, second-, third-, and fourth-degree criminal charges that are not being handled by a specialized unit. The 2016 calendar year was the first full year of a vertical prosecution approach on the Trial Unit; in other words, assistant prosecutors handle all aspects of each individual criminal case, from post-complaint to sentencing.

Assistant prosecutors assigned to the Trial Unit conduct case review and issue complaint approval on a rotating, on-call basis. Once complaint approval is given, assistant prosecutors screen the cases to determine which are suitable for prosecution in Superior Court and which should be remanded to municipal court for disposition. All indictable cases, wherein the defendant is not charged with a first-degree offense, are referred for a pre-disposition conference, during which assistant prosecutors will attempt to resolve the case through a plea.

The court rule regarding cases eligible for pre-indictment disposition conference has been amended to include all cases, including first-degree matters. Cases that are not resolved at the pre-disposition conference are referred to the grand jury, wherein the vertically assigned assistant prosecutors will present them for indictment. After an indictment is returned, the assistant prosecutors handle the arraignments, status conferences, pre-trial motions, trials, and sentences. The Trial Unit is the backbone of any prosecutor's office, as reflected in the volume of cases that each assistant prosecutor must review, prepare, and dispose of during the course of a year. In

2016, the Trial Unit handled approximately 1,740 cases for crimes of kidnapping, carjacking, burglary, robbery, aggravated assault, weapons possession, eluding, and drugs.

A total of 656 defendants entered guilty pleas in 2016, while approximately 26 defendants proceeded to trial. The cases that proceeded to trial included defendants who were subjected to significant penal exposure due to the nature of the charges or a significant prior record. Throughout the year, the Trial Unit assistant prosecutors also sat as “second chairs” in a number of investigative or specialized unit trials for crimes ranging from homicide to aggravated sexual assault.

In 2016, the legal staff also prepared for the implementation of criminal justice reform, which became effective on January 1, 2017. Trial Unit assistant prosecutors attended multiple New Jersey Office of the Attorney General and in-house trainings. The assistant prosecutors also prepared for organizational changes within their Unit and increased work responsibilities.

Notable cases adjudicated by the Trial Unit in 2016 included a first-degree robbery and weapons possession case wherein a defendant and other individuals robbed three victims on the street while armed with a machete and knife. Once reported, police officers stopped a van a short time later and located individuals, including the defendant, in the van matching the description of the suspects. A machete and knife were also located in the van, as well as, proceeds from the robbery. The defendant was found guilty at trial and was subsequently sentenced to 20 years in state prison, with 85 percent of the term to be served prior to the possibility of parole.

In another trial, a single defendant was tried for second-degree robbery, conspiracy to commit robbery, and aggravated assault.

An entirely circumstantial case was tried, utilizing witness testimony as well as video surveillance of THE defendant's actions prior to and subsequent to the robbery, although the actual robbery was not caught on videotape. Defendant was determined to have set up the robbery, in which \$40,000 from a safe was stolen from a check cashing business, while two unapprehended actors repeatedly punched a store employee in the face. Evidence demonstrated that the defendant was familiar with the inner workings of the business and had planned to commit the robbery with the unknown persons. The defendant was found guilty and subsequently sentenced to an extended term of 16 years in state prison, with 85 percent of the term to be served before the possibility of parole.

Another notable trial involved a defendant who was found guilty of second-degree certain persons not to have weapons in a case in which the State presented evidence that the defendant shot a firearm from his bedroom window onto the street below.

Police responded to a report of shots fired and recovered spent shells from the street. An on-scene investigation led to defendant's apartment, where the firearm and matching spent shells were located. After trial, defendant was sentenced to a term of seven years with a five-year parole disqualifier.

VICTIM/WITNESS ADVOCACY

In the aftermath of a crime, victims are often shocked, scared, confused, angered, and traumatized, all while their participation in the criminal justice system is proceeding. The Union County Office of Victim/Witness Advocacy (OVWA) continues to provide comprehensive services to survivors of crime in Union County, offering supportive services upon the inception of cases and beyond. These supportive services range from emotional support to transportation, orientation, help to apply for compensation or restitution, notification, updates, information, and more. A successful case is usually the result of careful investigative work, proper legal presentation, as well as compassionate and comprehensive care of victims and witnesses. In growing to enhance and improve services provided to the community, we can effectively work to improve the prosecution of cases in Union County; such is the goal for this Office.

In 2016, the Office was comprised of a victim/witness coordinator, five advocates, and two clericals/victim notification clerks. The coordinator oversees victim services program development and supervises staff, as well as supports the functions of the Office as needed to support victims. A dedicated advocate is assigned to the Homicide Task Force and Domestic Violence and Juvenile units. We also have two dedicated victim advocates assigned to the Trial Unit.

In the last quarter of 2015, OVWA started a restructuring to include two new County-funded positions. The County-funded positions have dramatically improved the quality of victim services. This transition continued into 2016.

During 2016, OVWA continued to service victims to the best of its abilities. The County was also faced with many unique cases and victim-centered needs.

In response to changes to our reporting requirements to the federal government and our grantors, the State Office of Victim/Witness Advocacy, we have had to make significant changes to our methods of statistical reporting. As such, the administration has provided support in the form of the acquisition of software to support our technological needs and lessen the burden of collecting statistical information. This investment has yielded significant positive results in more accurate reporting to our grantors and more time and attention being paid to serving victims.

As a result of the recent restructuring, continuing into 2017, advocacy and increased training efforts of staff within the Office is helping to improve the quality of services offered. This improved quality of care assists in expediting the legal process, as well as providing the necessary supportive services victims of crime may need.

Each advocate has examples of exemplary work and service to victims. Our Domestic Violence advocate has grown significantly in her role and has been able to support the needs of English- and Spanish-speaking victims. Our advocate in the Homicide Task Force has seamlessly integrated into this group, helping it respond to victim survivor needs as well as provide victim services unique to those who have suffered the sudden loss of a loved one. Our advocate in the Juvenile Unit has continued to support the needs of the victims there, providing dedicated care, support, and communication for each. With two advocates responding to the needs of such high-volume and fast-paced units, we are better able to support victims in the community. Trial Unit advocates are able to communicate to the victims they serve in Spanish and English; one advocate is also tri-lingual and able to speak Portuguese.

Each advocate has caseloads that range from simple calls and restitution requests to intensive services, including crisis counseling. Through their training, communication, team work, care, and compassion, the OVWA is continuing to make positive impacts within the Office and community. We also work to create and develop community partnerships with agencies and providers to strengthen our referral base and promote services of the Unit and Office.

In the 2016 calendar year, the Office has grown to continue to strive to better meet the needs of the diverse needs in Union County. We continue to make efforts to competently, effectively, and comprehensively meet the needs of all the victim survivors we serve. We have made exciting and very significant enhancements, and we look forward to bringing continued positive results in 2017 and the years to come.

APPELLATE DIVISION STATISTICS

CONVICTION ACTIVITIES AND MISCELLANEOUS COURT ACTIVITIES BY TYPE AND OUTCOME

Post-Conviction Activity and Outcome	Totals
1. Krol hearings involving the Prosecutor's Office	46
2. Total post-conviction relief applications/briefs filed involving the Prosecutor's Office	40
a. Defendants granted relief	2
b. Defendants denied relief	36
c. Defendants granted relief in part/denied relief in part	1
d. Defendants dismissed/withdrawn	14
3. Total habeas corpus petitions/briefs filed involving the Prosecutor's Office	10
a. Defendants granted relief	0
b. Defendants denied relief	9
c. Defendants granted relief in part/denied relief in part	0
d. Defendants dismissed/withdrawn	0

Rev. 2015

APPELLATE UNIT WORKLOAD & DISPOSITIONS

APPELLATE DIVISION AND OTHER APPELLATE COURTS

Appellate Workload and Disposition/Outcomes	Appellate Division Appeals						NJ Supreme Court Appeals	US and Other Court Appeals	Totals
	Criminal Referral Cases	Other Criminal Appeals	Criminal Interlocutory	Juvenile	Law Division (de novo)	Civil			
1. Appeals pending at beginning of the year	571	61	52	10	20	0	146	30	890
2. Notices of appeal received/filed	146	66	9	3	3	0	56	10	293
3. Appellate motions, motion responses filed	5	0	12	0	0	0	50	7	74
4. Appellate briefs filed	91	5	4	6	2	0	2	6	116
5. State appeals and total disposed cross appeals	4	1	5	1	1	0	7	1	20
a. Conviction or order affirmed	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	6
b. Conviction or order reversed	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
c. Remanded or judgment modified	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
d. Withdrawn or dismissed	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
e. Affirmed in part/reversed and/or remanded in part	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. Defense appeals, total disposed	134	62	2	3	10	0	57	9	277
a. Conviction or order affirmed	83	51	1	3	8	0	50	9	205
b. Conviction or order reversed	2	9	1	0	1	0	2	0	15
c. Remanded or judgment modified	18	14	0	0	0	0	1	0	33
d. Withdrawn or dismissed	10	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	16
e. Affirmed in part/reversed and/or remanded in part	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
3. Appeals pending at the end of the year	579	64	54	9	12	0	138	30	886

APPELLATE UNIT WORKLOAD & DISPOSITIONS LAW DIVISION

Appellate Workload and Dispositions/Outcomes	Municipal Court Appeals by Type of Violation					Totals
	Criminal	Disorderly Persons	Motor Vehicle	Municipal Ordinances	Other	
1. Appeals pending at beginning of year	0	12	15	0	0	27
2. Notices of appeal received/filed	0	6	20	0	0	26
3. Appellate motions, motion responses filed	0	0	4	0	0	4
4. Appellate briefs filed	0	5	27	0	0	32
5. Total appeals disposed	0	3	22	0	0	25
a. Conviction or order affirmed	0	3	14	0	0	17
b. Conviction or order reversed	0	1	1	0	0	2
c. Remanded or judgment modified	0	1	1	0	0	2
d. Withdrawn or dismissed	0	1	3	0	0	4
4. Appeals pending at the end of the year	0	12	15	0	0	28

Rev. 1995

BUDGETS AND EXPENDITURES

Activity	Year	Total Operating Budget (Excluding Grants)	Total Grants Funding
1. Total actual expenditures, prior reporting year (including all County, State, and Federal funding)	2015	\$21,434,040.00	\$1,504,346.00
a. Salaries and Wages		\$20,669,040.00	\$865,435.00
b. Other Expenses		\$765,000.00	\$638,911.00
2. Total budgeted appropriations, current report year (including all County, State, and Federal funding)	2016	\$22,358,970.00	\$1,277,254.00
a. Salaries and Wages		\$21,593,970.00	\$762,505.00
b. Other Expenses		\$765,000.00	\$514,749.00

Rev. 2007

ELIZABETH PROJECT

MONTHLY STATISTICS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Indictable Complaints Screened - Indictment Recommended	40	25	37	40	27	32	44	25	41	60	28	31	430
Indictable Complaints Screened - Downgrade/Remand/AD	10	23	27	7	9	8	5	5	5	9	8	6	122
Complaints Approved - Indictable	12	25	19	26	13	15	17	12	38	34	17	10	238
Complaints Approved - DP Only	7	5	12	6	3	12	11	12	3	10	10	6	97
Complaint Approval Denied (Insufficient Evidence/Other)	13	5	3	1	3	5	6	8	3	3	3	3	56
Search Warrants/CDWs Reviewed and Approved	0	0-Jan	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3
Investigative Subpoenas Issued	4	6	4	3	7	9	5	8	9	11	5	11	82
Trigger Lock Gun Referrals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Court Orders/DNA Approval	4	2	0	2	7	3	3	9	9	8	5	2	54
Complaints Received Mun. Ct.	179	192	133	183	209	257	195	100	220	158	200	206	2232
Briefs	2	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	8
Court Appearances	4	5	15	4	2	2	3	0	2	1	1	2	41
Complaint Downgraded to Mun. Ct.	76	50	49	50	60	64	55	60	62	72	50	35	683
First-degree crimes screened	1	0	0	3	2	10	5	5	6	8	10	0	50
Gun Permits for Destruction	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	28
Totals	352	340	299	325	357	419	352	244	411	375	337	313	4124

GUNS, GANGS, DRUGS, AND VIOLENT CRIMES TASK FORCE INVESTIGATIVE WORKLOAD AND DISPOSITIONS

Investigative Workload and Dispositions	Number of Investigations by Type – Original and Post-Complaint Investigations						
	Original Investigations Conducted Jointly With:				Original Exclusive Investigations	Total Original Investigations	Total Post-Complaint Investigations
	Local Police	State Agency	Other County Prosecutor	Other Agency			
1. Investigations pending or inactive at the beginning of the year	0	0	0	0	17	17	0
2. Investigations opened during the year	0	0	0	6	82	88	0
3. Total investigative workload for the year (add 1 - 2)	0	0	0	6	99	105	0
4. Total investigations completed during this year (add a. - d.)	0	0	0	6	36	42	0
a. Resulting in criminal charges	0	0	0	4	34	38	
b. Referred to other agency for criminal prosecution	0	0	0	1	1	2	
c. Referred to other agency for civil or administrative action	0	0	0	0	0	0	
d. Closed – No further action	0	0	0	1	1	2	
5. Investigations pending or inactive at the end of the year	0	0	0	0	63	63	0

Rev. 1995

GUNS, GANGS, DRUGS, AND VIOLENT CRIMES TASK FORCE DISPOSITIONS OF ORIGINAL INVESTIGATIONS RESULTING IN CRIMINAL CHARGES

Dispositions of Original Investigations Resulting in Criminal Charges	Number of Defendants
1. Defendants charged by complaint, total	51
a. Defendants with complaints administratively dismissed	0
b. Defendants with complaints downgraded to disorderly persons offenses	5
c. Defendants with complaints referred to Family Court	0
d. Defendants with complaints presented to grand jury	39
2. Defendants with original charges presented to grand jury on direct presentation	0
3. Defendants charged through accusation	5
4. Defendants completing grand jury process on direct presentment and complaint presentation, total	39
a. Defendants indicted	39
b. Defendants no-billed and remanded to municipal court	0
c. Defendants no-billed/no action	0

Rev.

HOMICIDE TASK FORCE

INVESTIGATIVE WORKLOAD AND DISPOSITIONS

Investigative Workload and Dispositions	Number of Investigations by Type – Original and Post-Complaint Investigations						
	Original Investigations Conducted Jointly With:				Original Exclusive Investigations	Total Original Investigations	Total Post-Complaint Investigations
	Local Police	State Agency	Other County Prosecutor	Other Agency			
1. Investigations pending or inactive at the beginning of the year	130	0	0	0	0	130	0
2. Investigations opened during the year	103	0	0	0	0	103	0
3. Total investigative workload for the year (add 1 - 2)	233	0	0	0	0	233	0
4. Total investigations completed during this year (add a. - d.)	83	0	0	0	0	83	0
a. Resulting in criminal charges	29	0	0	0	0	29	
b. Referred to other agency for criminal prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	0	
c. Referred to other agency for civil or administrative action	0	0	0	0	0	0	
d. Closed – No further action	54	0	0	0	0	54	
5. Investigations pending or inactive at the end of the year	150	0	0	0	0	150	0

Rev. 1995

HOMICIDE TASK FORCE

DISPOSITIONS OF ORIGINAL INVESTIGATIONS RESULTING IN CRIMINAL CHARGES

Dispositions of Original Investigations Resulting in Criminal Charges	Number of Defendants
1. Defendants charged by complaint, total	29
a. Defendants with complaints administratively dismissed	0
b. Defendants with complaints downgraded to disorderly persons offenses	0
c. Defendants with complaints referred to Family Court	0
d. Defendants with complaints presented to grand jury	16
2. Defendants with original charges presented to grand jury on direct presentation	1
3. Defendants charged through accusation	0
4. Defendants completing grand jury process on direct presentment and complaint presentation, total	35
a. Defendants indicted	32
b. Defendants no-billed and remanded to municipal court	0
c. Defendants no-billed/no action	3

Rev. 1995

INTERNAL AFFAIRS UNIT

COMPLAINTS FILED

Type of Complaint	Anonymous Complaints	Citizen Complaints	Agency Complaints	Total Complaints
Excessive Force	0	22	3	25
Improper Arrest	0	12	1	13
Improper Entry	0	5	1	6
Improper Search	0	8	0	8
Other Criminal Violation	0	14	4	18
Differential Treatment	0	24	2	26
Demeanor	6	114	7	127
Domestic Violence	0	2	1	3
Other Rule Violation	15	106	318	439
Total	21	307	337	665

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS SUMMARY REPORT FORMS

INTERNAL AFFAIRS UNIT

AGENCY DISPOSITIONS

	Sustained	Exonerated	Not Sustained	Unfounded	Administratively Closed	Total Dispositions
Excessive Force	0	8	4	3	7	22
Improper Arrest	0	4	5	2	0	11
Improper Entry	0	3	2	0	0	5
Improper Search	0	3	0	1	0	4
Other Criminal Violation	1	1	1	2	7	12
Differential Treatment	0	4	4	11	0	19
Demeanor	16	28	33	12	10	99
Domestic Violence	2	0	0	0	2	4
Other Rule Violation	261	65	34	21	34	415
Total	280	116	83	52	60	591

INTERNAL AFFAIRS UNIT

COURT DISPOSITIONS

Court	Cases Dismissed	Cases Diverted	Acquittals	Convictions
Municipal Court	1	0	0	2
Superior Court	0	0	0	1
Total	1	0	0	3

Revised 2011

JUVENILE UNIT WAIVER DECISIONS

1. Voluntary Waivers at Juvenile's Request	0
2. Juvenile Waiver Applications by Prosecutor's Office	
a. Pending at Beginning of Year	8
b. Motions Filed by Prosecutor this Year	2
3. Juvenile Waiver Decisions (Prosecutor's Applications)	
a. Waived on Prosecutor's Motion with Juvenile's Consent	0
b. Waived on Prosecutor's Motion after a Hearing	5
c. Motion Voluntarily Withdrawn by Prosecutor	1
d. Waivers Denied	1
e. Total Decisions (sum of 3a through 3d)	7
4. Juvenile Waiver Applications filed by Prosecutor Pending at Year's End (2.a. + 2.b. - 3.e.)	3

Rev. 1999

PDC 2016 STATISTICS - FEBRUARY THROUGH SEPTEMBER

PIP		
Pleas	9	13%
DG/TBDG	28	41%
AD/TBD	5	7%
PTI	0	0%
GJ	3	4%
BW	3	4%
ADJ	7	10%
PTI App	14	20%
TOTAL	69	

DV		
Pleas	61	28%
DG/TBDG	7	3%
AD/TBD	6	3%
PTI	3	1%
GJ	47	22%
BW	6	3%
ADJ	88	40%
TOTAL	218	

2nd DEGREE		
Pleas	68	16%
DG/TBDG	0	0%
AD/TBD	11	3%
PTI	6	1%
GJ	192	45%
BW	9	2%
ADJ	137	32%
TOTAL	423	

PUBLIC DEFENDER		
Pleas	321	19%
DG/TBDG	157	9%
AD/TBD	80	5%
PTI	87	5%
GJ	467	27%
BW	75	4%
ADJ	404	23%
PTI App	131	8%
TOTAL	1722	

SPECIAL PROS		
Pleas	12	22%
DG/TBDG	0	0%
AD/TBD	0	0%
PTI	1	2%
GJ	12	22%
BW	0	0%
ADJ	29	54%
TOTAL	54	

3rd/4th DEGREE		
Pleas	379	18%
DG/TBDG	186	9%
AD/TBD	93	5%
PTI	143	7%
GJ	445	22%
BW	87	4%
ADJ	726	35%
TOTAL	2059	

PRIVATE		
Pleas	126	16%
DG/TBDG	29	4%
AD/TBD	24	3%
PTI	62	8%
GJ	174	23%
BW	21	3%
ADJ	248	32%
PTI App	82	11%
TOTAL	766	

SVU		
Pleas	2	4%
DG/TBDG	1	2%
AD/TBD	0	0%
PTI	0	0%
GJ	37	69%
BW	1	2%
ADJ	13	24%
TOTAL	54	

PTI		
Accepted	149	51%
Rejected	107	37%
BW	1	0%
ADJ	34	12%
TOTAL	291	

PDC / PIP / PTI

PROSECUTORIAL SCREENING OF DEFENDANTS

Screening Outcomes	Stage of the Criminal Justice Process When Decision Occurs	
	Pre-Complaint Decisions	Post-Complaint Decisions
a. Defendants administratively dismissed		535
b. Defendants with charges downgraded to disorderly persons offenses		1779
c. Defendants accepted for pre-trial diversion		190
d. Defendants otherwise screened out		100
e. Defendants with change of venue		41
f. Accusations filed		817
g. Defendants with either indictable complaints authorized or charges approved for grand jury		682
h. AOC Correction: Defendants who completed grand jury		670
Total Screening Decisions for 2016		4,814

Rev. 2010

PDC / PIP / PTI

DEFENDANT APPLICATIONS FOR DIVERSION PROGRAM, ACTION TAKEN, AND OUTCOMES

PRE-TRIAL INTERVENTION (PTI) DIVERSION PROGRAM

	Number of Defendant Applications for PTI	
	Pre-Indictment	Post-Indictment
1. Applications reviewed	280	106
2. Recommended for acceptance	190	53
3. Recommended for rejection	157	92
4. Accepted into Program	190	53

Rev. 1995

PDC / PIP / PTI

DEFENDANTS PENDING GRAND JURY PROCESS (PRE-INDICTMENT DEFENDANT CASES) BY AGE OF COMPLAINT

Ages of Pre-Indictment Defendant Cases from Date of Complaint	Number of Defendants	
	Active	Inactive/Fugitive
1. 0 to 1 month	193	0
2. 1 to 2 months	188	0
3. 2 to 3 months	137	2
4. 3 to 4 months	87	0
5. Over 4 months	61	14
6. Total defendant cases pending grand jury	666	16

Rev. 1999

PDC / PIP / PTI

DEFENDANTS COMPLETING THE GRAND JURY PROCESS AND ACTION TAKEN

Action Taken	Number of Defendants
1. Defendants presented to the grand jury	1,186
2. Defendants indicted	1,172
3. Defendants no-billed and remanded to municipal court	0
4. Defendants no-billed/no action	14
5. Total defendants completing the grand jury process	1,186

PDC / PIP / PTI

DEFENDANTS CHARGED BY ACCUSATION

	Number of Defendants
Total defendants charged through accusation	817

Rev. 1995

PLAINFIELD PROJECT

MONTHLY STATISTICS

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Indictable Complaints Screened - Indictment Recommended	17	15			27	24	31	36	27	21	29	19	246
Indictable Complaints Screened - Downgrade/Remand/AD	11	16			14	21	19	15	23	16	15	12	162
Complaints Approved - Indictable	5	6			6	4	7	11	8	6	10	5	68
Complaints Approved - DP Only	3	7			2	2	3	1	2	4	2	3	29
Complaint Approval Denied (Insufficient Evidence/Other)	2	1			0	2	3	2	2	1	3	2	18
Search Warrant Applications Reviewed and Approved	2	2			3	1	4	2	1	0	3	2	20
Investigative Subpoenas Issued	10	5			8	14	9	7	12	8	8	12	93
Trigger Lock Gun Referrals	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Court Orders	0	0			1	2	1	1	2	3	1	2	13
Total Matters Handled	50	52	0	0	61	70	77	75	77	59	71	57	649

During the months of March and April, there was no assistant prosecutor assigned to the Plainfield Project.

POLICE PURSUIT SUMMARY REPORTS

Agency: Union County Prosecutor's Office		County: Union
Reporting Period: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016		
Person Completing Report: Acting Chief of Detectives John G. McCabe, Jr.		Date: March 24, 2017
Phone Number: (908) 527-4500		
1. Number of pursuits initiated	167	
2. Number of pursuits resulting in accidents	50	
3. Number of pursuits resulting in injuries (no deaths)	23	
4. Number of pursuits resulting in death	0	
5. Number of pursuits resulting in arrest	72	
6. Number of vehicles in accidents		
a. Pursued vehicles	50	
b. Police vehicles	15	
c. Third-party vehicles	34	
7. Number of people injured		
a. Pursued vehicles	24	
b. Police vehicles	7	
c. Third-party vehicles	8	
d. Pedestrians	0	
8. Number of people killed		
a. Pursued vehicles	0	
b. Police vehicles	0	
c. Third party vehicles	0	
d. Pedestrians	0	
9. Number of people arrested	100	
10. Number of pursuits in which a tire deflation device was used	1	

(DCJ 10/2001)

SEIZED ASSET FORFEITURE UNIT

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

Activity	Number	Value
1. Notice of intention to solicit funds received		
2. Expungement applications received	649	
2. Total number of forfeiture actions	557	
3. Number of motor vehicles obtained through forfeiture actions	20	
4. Total value of property forfeited (add a. - c.)		\$539,226.93
a. Cash forfeited		\$403,302.93
b. Value of forfeited motor vehicles		\$45,857.00
c. Value of other forfeited property		\$90,067.00
(Specify property)		
Laptops		
Jewelry		
Tablets		
Televisions		
Sound system		

SPECIAL PROSECUTIONS UNIT

INVESTIGATIVE WORKLOAD AND DISPOSITIONS

Investigative Workload and Dispositions	Number of Investigations by Type – Original and Post-Complaint Investigations						
	Original Investigations Conducted Jointly With:				Original Exclusive Investigations	Total Original Investigations	Total Post-Complaint Investigations
	Local Police	State Agency	Other County Prosecutor	Other Agency			
1. Investigations pending or inactive at the beginning of the year	0	0	0	0	5	5	0
2. Investigations opened during the year	2	0	0	0	42	44	0
3. Total investigative workload for the year (add 1 - 2)	2	0	0	0	47	49	0
4. Total investigations completed during this year (add a. - d.)	0	0	0	0	39	39	0
a. Resulting in criminal charges	0	0	0	0	37	37	
b. Referred to other agency for criminal prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	0	
c. Referred to other agency for civil or administrative action	0	0	0	0	1	1	
d. Closed – No further action	0	0	0	0	1	1	
5. Investigations pending or inactive at the end of the year	0	0	0	0	7	7	0

Rev. 1995

ADULT DEFENDANTS WITH BIAS CRIME-RELATED CHARGES DISPOSED

	Total	Number Convicted		Acquitted	Dismissed	Downgraded or remanded
		Plea	Trial			
Number of defendants disposed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of defendants for whom application for extended term of imprisonment were made	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of defendants for whom application was granted	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of defendants for whom application was denied	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of defendants for whom simple assault was upgraded to fourth-degree crime	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of defendants for whom harassment was upgraded to fourth-degree crime	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of defendants who had both an upgrade to a fourth-degree crime and an application for extended terms	0	0	0	0	0	0

Rev. 1992

Section IV. 13b.
2016

JUVENILE DEFENDANTS WITH BIAS CRIME-RELATED CHARGES DISPOSED

		Number Convicted				
	Total	Plea	Trial	Acquitted	Dismissed	Downgraded or Remanded
Number of juveniles disposed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of juveniles waived for adult prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of juveniles for whom application for extended term of imprisonment made	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of juveniles for whom application was granted	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of juveniles for whom application was denied	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of juveniles for whom simple assault was upgraded to fourth-degree crime	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of juveniles for whom harassment was upgraded to fourth-degree crime	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of juveniles who had both an upgrade to a fourth-degree crime and an application for extended terms	0	0	0	0	0	0

Rev. 1992

SPECIAL PROSECUTIONS UNIT

DISPOSITIONS OF ORIGINAL INVESTIGATIONS RESULTING IN CRIMINAL CHARGES

Dispositions of Original Investigations Resulting in Criminal Charges	Number of Defendants
1. Defendants charged by complaint, total	37
a. Defendants with complaints administratively dismissed	0
b. Defendants with complaints downgraded to disorderly persons offenses	0
c. Defendants with complaints referred to Family Court	0
d. Defendants with complaints presented to grand jury	26
2. Defendants with original charges presented to grand jury on direct presentation	2
3. Defendants charged through accusation	23
4. Defendants completing grand jury process on direct presentment and complaint presentation, total	28
a. Defendants indicted	26
b. Defendants no-billed and remanded to municipal court	0
c. Defendants no-billed/no action	2

Rev. 1995

SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT

INVESTIGATIVE WORKLOAD AND DISPOSITIONS

Investigative Workload and Dispositions	Number of Investigations by Type – Original and Post-Complaint Investigations						
	Original Investigations Conducted Jointly With:				Original Exclusive Investigations	Total Original Investigations	Total Post-Complaint Investigations
	Local Police	State Agency	Other County Prosecutor	Other Agency			
1. Investigations pending or inactive at the beginning of the year	7				70	77	
2. Investigations opened during the year	26				529	555	
3. Total investigative workload for the year (add 1 - 2)	33				599		
4. Total investigations completed during this year (add a. - d.)	121				497	572	
a. Resulting in criminal charges	38				75	113	
b. Referred to other agency for criminal prosecution					30		
c. Referred to other agency for civil or administrative action	8				8		
d. Closed – No further action	75				384	459	
5. Investigations pending or inactive at the end of the year	5				74	79	

Rev. 1995

SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT

DISPOSITIONS OF ORIGINAL INVESTIGATIONS RESULTING IN CRIMINAL CHARGES

Dispositions of Original Investigations Resulting in Criminal Charges	Number of Defendants
1. Defendants charged by complaint, total	113
a. Defendants with complaints administratively dismissed	5
b. Defendants with complaints downgraded to disorderly persons offenses	3
c. Defendants with complaints referred to Family Court	18
d. Defendants with complaints presented to grand jury	64
2. Defendants with original charges presented to grand jury on direct presentation	2
3. Defendants charged through accusation	12
4. Defendants completing grand jury process on direct presentment and complaint presentation, total	66
a. Defendants indicted	65
b. Defendants no-billed and remanded to municipal court	0
c. Defendants no-billed/no action	1

Rev. 1995

TRIAL TEAM/CCCU NARRATIVE NUMBERS

Manner of Disposition	Homicide	Kidnap	Sexual Assault	Robbery	Arson	Assault	Burglary	Bribery	Narcotic	Official Miscon.	Perjury/ Falsif	Theft	Forgery/ Fraud	Weapons	Child Abuse/ Endanger	Gamble	Wiretap	Obstr. Govt. Oper.	Fail to Register	Other	Total
1. Guilty plea to most serious offense	17	9	16	52	20	120	117	1	479	0	9	179	46	77	14	0	0	67	1	41	1265
2. Guilty plea to lesser indictable offense	8	1	8	34	1	18	3	0	18	0	0	7	1	1	1	0	0	4	1	3	109
3. Ind. dism., plea to dis. person offense	0	1	1	0	6	23	5	0	37	0	0	13	3	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	95
4. Guilty at trial, most serious offense																					
a. Jury	3	2	7	2	0	3	2	0	6	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
b. Non-Jury	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
5. Guilty at trial, lesser indictable offense																					
a. Jury	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
b. Non-Jury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Guilty at trial, dis. person offense																					
a. Jury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
b. Non-Jury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7. Not guilty at trial																					
a. Jury	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
b. Non-Jury	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8. Acceptance into diversion program	0	0	0	0	4	15	9	0	92	1	5	57	26	12	3	1	0	11	0	2	238
9. Dismissed over objection of pros.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
10. Dismissed pros. motion or consent	2	0	2	12	0	9	6	0	92	0	0	21	5	72	0	0	0	4	0	4	229
11. Total dispositions	35	13	34	101	32	192	142	1	725	2	15	278	81	170	19	1	0	90	2	54	

VICTIM/WITNESS NOTIFICATION SERVICES

Notification Services	Notification Provided to:					
	Victims		Lay Witnesses		Law Enforcement Witnesses	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Initial contact	X			X		X
Administrative dismissal	X			X		X
Remand to municipal court	X			X		X
Indictment returned	X			X		X
No-bill	X			X		X
Acceptance into pre-trial intervention	X			X		X
Guilty plea	X			X		X
Not guilty at trial	X			X		X
Guilty at trial	X			X		X
Indictment dismissed	X			X		X
Sentence	X			X		X
Parole	X			X		X
Disposition of juvenile cases	X			X		X
Other (specify)						

Rev. 1995

VICTIM/WITNESS

ASSISTANCE SERVICES PROVIDED

Victim/Witness Assistance Services	Service Provided to:			
	Victims		Witnesses	
	Juvenile Cases	Adult Cases	Juvenile Cases	Adult Cases
Information and Referral Services				
Introductory brochure	X	X		
Criminal justice system orientation	X	X		
Case information	X	X		
VCCB referral	X	X		
Social service information/referral	X	X		
Crime prevention information/referral	X	X		
Property return information	X	X		
Witness fee information				
Public education, community awareness	X	X		
Logistic Services				
Stand-by subpoena and call	X	X	X	X
Witness waiting area	X	X	X	X
Response to witness intimidation, harassment	X	X	X	X
Restitution recommendation at sentencing	X	X		
VCCB claim assistance	X	X		
Social service intervention	X	X		
Employer/student intervention	X	X	X	X
Travel, lodging assistance	X	X	X	X
Transportation assistance	X	X	X	X
Child care assistance	X	X	X	X
Property return assistance	X	X		
Witness fee assistance				
Victim impact statement assistance	X	X		
Counseling	X	X		
Other (specify)				

Rev. 1995



UNION COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

GRACE H. PARK
ACTING UNION
COUNTY PROSECUTOR

THOMAS K. ISENHOUR
FIRST ASSISTANT
PROSECUTOR

ANN M. LUVERA
DEPUTY FIRST
ASSISTANT PROSECUTOR

JOHN G. MCCABE, JR.
ACTING CHIEF
OF INVESTIGATORS

