

# PROSECUTOR



## 2020 Budget Presentation

# 2019 Overview

Adult cases booked: **4,572**

Juvenile offenses booked: **1,547**

Trials: **41**

UCPO Generated Investigations: **593**

Number of Homicides: **12 (8 solved)**

Guns taken off the street by UCPO: **17 plus\***

Drugs taken off the street by UCPO:

- **3,478** grams of cocaine
- **2,011** grams of heroin (72,758 individual folds)
  - **83** grams of methamphetamine
  - **42** grams of pure fentanyl



## **Stated Goals of UCPO's New Leadership:**

- 1) Strengthen the public's trust in law enforcement.
- 2) Reduce violence in our community.
- 3) Empathetically and effectively address the opioid epidemic.
- 4) Improve the training and safety of our officers.
- 5) Protect Union County's children



## **2019 Accomplishments In Furtherance of Our Stated Goals**

**1- Strengthen the public's trust in law enforcement:** In order to ***protect*** the community, one must have the ***trust*** of the community, and in order for the community to ***trust*** us – they need to ***know*** us.

- Utilized a vacant prosecutor's agent position to recruit and hire a Community Outreach Manager to have a coordinated effort office-wide in outreach.
- Increased community presence. UCPO staff attended every national night out across the county. Senior Staff at over 100 community outreach events in just the last quarter of the year.
- Formalized a written *Brady/Giglio* policy to improve compliance with rules governing disclosure of exculpatory and impeachment evidence to the defense in criminal trials.



# **2019 Accomplishments In Furtherance of Our Stated Goals**

## **2- Reduce Violence in Our Community**

- Created the Major Crimes Division maximizing existing and available resources and directing them to serve a core mission of violence reduction through proactive violence prevention.
- Created the Intelligence-Driven Prosecution Unit, which fosters a more collaborative approach and better intelligence-sharing across county agencies.
- Began plans for the expansion of the Counter-Terrorism Task Force.



## **2019 Accomplishments In Furtherance of Our Stated Goals**

### **3- Empathetically and effectively address the opioid epidemic.**

- Created the Opioid Task Force to aggressively and strategically pursue those who profit from poisoning the people we are sworn to protect.
- Sought and secured grant funding to expand the generous existing support from the Board of Chosen Freeholders and Governor Murphy, and began coordinating the launch of Operation Helping Hand 24/7/365.



## **2019 Accomplishments In Furtherance of Our Stated Goals**

### **4- Improve the Training and Safety of Our Officers**

- Swore-in Chief Patricia Gusmano with nearly 30 years of intense investigative experience to not only lead this office into the future of law enforcement, but also redevelop internal cross-training for UCPO investigative staff. We want our staff to be subject-matter experts, who are also well-rounded enough to be able to support other units as needed (*added benefit of reduced overtime cost*).
- Utilize two vacant prosecutors agent positions to create a Director of County-Wide Police Policy, Planning & Training. Recruited and hired Jonathan Parham for the position, to improve and modernize county-wide police training initiatives, with a focus on officer safety and increased de-escalation technique training.



## **2019 Accomplishments In Furtherance of Our Stated Goals**

### **5- Protect Union County's Children**

- Developed a strategy for the increased impact of the CAC in three phases.
- Utilized existing resources to increase staffing at the Child Advocacy Center so as to be able to increase impact for child victims through Phase 1 of CAC expansion.
- Sought and obtained grant funding to be able to do internal construction so as to accommodate even more staff for an increased impact through Phase 2 of the CAC expansion.





## ***2020 Initiatives***

### **Strengthen the public's trust**

- Providing community forums that specifically meet stated community needs. (Examples: Active Shooter Training for Houses of Worship, A Community Conversation About Sensible Gun Safety at the Intersection of Art and Advocacy, Rideshare Safety and Self-Defense).
- Launching Public Service Announcements on Safety Tips.
- Training county-wide on the *Brady/Giglio* policy.
- Educational Presentations and Offerings:
  - Animal Cruelty Prevention
  - Kids Spreading Kindness for Adults
  - Drug Awareness for Parents and Educators
  - Justice in Action
  - Forensic Lab Tours
  - Career Panels
  - Supporting our Troops at Home and Abroad



## ***2020 Initiatives***

# **Reduce Violence in Our Community**

- Intelligence Liaison Program is at 100% participation among every law enforcement agency in county, plus state and federal partners.
- Additional personnel assigned to Counter-Terrorism Task Force and opened a formal working relationship between UCPO and FBI JTTF.
- Summer 2020, we will launch a forensic nurse response protocol in all non-fatal, domestic violence strangulation cases.
- Formalize a violence reduction partnership with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey.



***2020 Initiatives***  
**Empathetically and effectively  
address the opioid epidemic.**

- Became the first county in the state of New Jersey to expand Operation Helping Hand to a 24/7/365 Model.
- Training every department in the protocol and in maximizing recovery engagement.



## ***2020 Initiatives***

# **Improve the Training and Safety of Our Officers**

- Launching a pilot body-camera review protocol to use the incredible data points available through body-worn cameras to identify tangible ways to improve officer safety in every day interactions.
- Increased de-escalation training in the current Police Academy class by 40%. Will increase more by next class.
- Dedicated additional law enforcement assets to the Police Academy to improve upon in-service trainings.
- Created a committee to re-examine the legal courses at the Academy and update same for today's student.
- Implement roll-call training videos (*makes training more accessible to departments with added benefit of reduced overtime*)



## ***2020 Initiatives***

# **Protect Union County's Children**

- Phase 1 of CAC Expansion by April 2020
- Launch Union County Cares
- Create and launch Kids Spreading Kindness Campaign (and logo design contest)
- Behavioral Threat Assessment & Management Training – early intervention to prevent school violence
- Reunification Procedure Training & UCPO Toolkit (2020-2021)

Sign the Youth Initiative Partnership Pledge available on the Youth-Focused Initiatives Page at <https://ucnj.org/prosecutor>



## ***2020 Cost Reductions***

The Prosecutor's Office is seeking an increase in the overall budget within the statutory 2% CAP in order to settled contracts for this year, 2019, and 2018. To remain within CAP several cost-reduction measures were implemented including, but not limited to, the following :

- 2019 Re-Organization resulted in over **\$150,000** in available funds realized in 2019 and 2020.
- 2020 Proposed Budget includes promotions to vacancies that result in **\$75,000** in available funds.
- 2020 Proposed Budget includes reduction of salaries associated with resulting and existing vacancies in excess of **\$165,000**.
- 2020 Proposed Budget includes elimination of numerous positions resulting in over **\$275,000** in available funds.



<b>PROSECUTOR</b>				
<b>Description</b>	<b>2019 Adopted Budget</b>	<b>2019 Modified Budget</b>	<b>2019 Expenditures</b>	<b>2020 Budget Request</b>
Salaries	22,523,083	22,673,083	20,877,400.61	22,871,737
Overtime	800,000	800,000	721,650.07	810,000
Seasonal	50,000	50,000	6,547.50	25,000
Other Expenses	855,000	855,000	837,133.00	849,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,228,083</b>	<b>24,378,083</b>	<b>22,442,731.18</b>	<b>24,556,237</b>
<b>Request for promotions for 11 employees</b>			Total	19,999