

March 14, 2017

Re: 2017 Annual Report of the Office of the Dunn County District Attorney

Dear County Board Members:

The purpose of the Office of the Dunn County District Attorney (the "Office") is to seek justice for crimes committed in Dunn County. I would like to begin this report by thanking those that make this purpose possible, Assistant District Attorney Andrew Maki, Assistant District Attorney Renee Taber, Victim Witness Coordinator Barbara Lande, and the hard-working and dedicated professional staff that work in this Office. This Office works together as a team to proudly and capably serve Dunn County.

The Office had another record breaking year in 2017 with the highest number of felonies and referrals ever coming through this Office. This Office successfully prosecuted 509 felony cases (an increase of 94 cases over 2016), 563 misdemeanor cases, and 339 criminal traffic cases. Additionally, our Victim/Witness Program reached out to 695 new victims of cases. Of those 695 victim-related cases, 452 victims requested services from our Victim/Witness staff.

In addition to the extremely heavy caseload, this Office is seeing an increase in complex felony cases that require large amounts of prosecutor time and resources. These types of cases include sexual assaults of both adults and children, drug distribution with a strong concentration on methamphetamine, battery and homicide, cyber-related crimes, Children in Need of Protection and Services or "CHIPS", and school-related crimes.

Unfortunately, the school systems of Dunn County are not immune to the threats that have affected schools across this country. Without exception, the students in Dunn County deserve educational environments that are safe and free from fear, violence, and threats. As both the District Attorney and a parent, I will not tolerate threats or violence of any kind or type in our schools. My Office has a zero-tolerance policy against threats or violence in our educational environments.

As crimes and threats to public safety change, so must the responses. This Office continually strives to find new and more effective ways to seek justice. This County's utilization of effective tools include this Office's Pre-Charge Diversion Program for low risk

or first-time offenders, the Dunn County Treatment Court, and the new Treatment Alternatives and Diversion ("TAD") Program. Many participants have been extremely thankful for this program, which, in addition to the direct rehabilitation effect, has also helped Dunn County through restitution being more timely paid to victims and community service being performed to various non-profit agencies throughout our community.

While the operations component of this Office's budget was over in 2017, the personnel component was under due to a retirement in the Office. Overall, this Office remained under budget for 2017 with only \$844 to spare. Overages in the operations component includes items such as transcript costs, office supplies, and use of expert witnesses. Unfortunately, items such as these are highly variable with little ability to predict from year-to-year. Some years, this is an adequate amount. Other years, we have multiple, complex cases wherein the line item can be more than wiped out by a single case as will be the situation this year. In short, there is no way to foresee this issue from year-to-year. I have been, and will continue to, utilize the approach of conservative budgeting, but timely advising my home committee of anticipated overruns based on developing cases.

This Office's numbers continue to place an inordinate amount of stress on an Office that is already challenged by inadequate levels of prosecutorial staff. According to the most recent Wisconsin Department of Administration study utilizing a weighted caseload formula, Dunn County is in need of 2.93 additional prosecutors. In fact, this Office actually had more prosecutors in 2003 than it does now, despite the fact that the caseload and population of Dunn County has only increased since 2003.

For the last three (3) years, I have strongly and continually lobbied our local legislators for additional prosecutorial staff at meetings both here in Dunn County and at the Capitol in Madison. Finally, after years of inaction, the State Assembly included an amendment in pending legislation that would add fifty-four (54) assistant district attorneys throughout the State, with two (2) full time assistant district attorneys being added to Dunn County. This legislation has been forwarded to the State Senate for action later this month, and if approved, would then be sent to the Governor for his approval and signature. In the event this pending legislation becomes law, the funding for these two (2) positions would begin July 1, 2019. Although all funding for these positions is provided by the State, my Office would request an additional legal secretary to serve these assistant district attorneys in this Office's 2019 budget.

In the event these additional assistant district attorneys are not provided by the State, I will be forced to seek additional support staff from the County in order for this Office to be able to properly serve its purpose and protect the residents of Dunn County. I am sensitive to the County's limited budget and am very appreciative of the County resources this Office receives. Currently, I am prosecuting 475 of my own cases. 270 of those 475 cases are felony files that require additional time and consideration. With that current caseload, it is nearly impossible to serve as a front-line prosecutor in court every day, and also serve as an office manager performing day-to-day operational functions such as paying bills, reviewing payroll, balancing the budget, attending CJCC meetings, and handling a wide variety of support staff matters. Without the addition of more assistant district attorneys, I

would have no choice but request an Office Manager to maintain essential, day-to-day operational functions.

As needs continue to increase while budgets continue to get tighter and tighter, my Office is constantly looking at possible options for potential additional funding sources. To that end, I am pleased to report that this Office has just been notified by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Office of Crime Victim Services that the Dunn County District Attorney's Office is the recipient of a \$56,516 grant under the 2018 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) One-time Grant program.

These funds will allow for the purchase and installation of critically needed, state of the art, video conferencing equipment in the new Victim Witness facilities. This will be an invaluable tool for this Office given the substantial number of victims and witnesses that reside out of the area. By way of example, the victims in the current homicide case reside in Saudi Arabia, and tools of this type will allow my Office to provide the best and most efficient victim services to this family. I would like to specifically thank Barbara Lande for her tireless efforts in securing many of this Office's grants that in turn substantially reduce budgetary constraints.

It is truly an honor to serve the residents of Dunn County. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions, comments, or suggestions. My Office and I look forward to working with you to continue making Dunn County an amazing place to work and live.

Sincerely,

Andrea Amidon Nodolf  
Dunn County District Attorney

# ANNUAL REPORT

2017

## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY



ANDREA AMIDON NODOLF  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
DUNN COUNTY, WISCONSIN  
STAFF

---

District Attorney	Andrea Amidon Nodolf	w/DA since 11/14
Legal Secretary	Adrienne Bechel	W/DA since 11/17

---

Assistant District Attorney	Andrew Maki	w/DA since 3/93
Legal Secretary	Marcia Finder	W/DA since 5/85

---

Assistant District Attorney	Renee Taber	w/DA since 4/17
Legal Secretary	Pam Rudie	w/DA since 10/93

---

Secretary I	Aimee Cronk	w/DA since 10/14
-------------	-------------	------------------

---

Crime Victim/Witness Coordinator	Barb Lande	w/County since 7/77 w/DA since 4/85 V/W since 8/93
----------------------------------	------------	----------------------------------------------------------

---

Victim/Witness Assistant	Debbie Harmon	w/County since 7/74 PT w/VW since 7/13 FT since 1/17
--------------------------	---------------	------------------------------------------------------------

---

Victim/Witness Assistant	Alea Norrish	P-T V/W since 4/16
--------------------------	--------------	--------------------

---

Victim/Witness Assistant	Laura Steiner	P-T V/W since 10/17
--------------------------	---------------	---------------------

---

Deferred Prosecution Coordinator	Deanna Arntson	w V/W 2/13-12/16 1/16 to present
----------------------------------	----------------	-------------------------------------

---

# DISTRICT ATTORNEY 2017 CASELOAD STATISTICS

## TOTAL CASES OPENED

2013-2017

<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<b><u>2017</u></b>
3251	3140	3229	3092	<b>3301</b>

## TOTAL CRIMINAL COMPLAINTS FILED

2013-2017

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<b><u>2017</u></b>
CRIMINAL TRAFFIC	246	203	294	263	338
MISDEMEANORS	709	600	540	418	563
FELONIES	438	407	367	415	509
PRE-CHARGE DIVERSION				93	102
JUVENILE					173
Meth Cases:					
961.41(1)(e)1 to 961.41(1)(e)4			Deliver/Mfg Meth		22
961.41(1m)(e)1 to 961.41(1m)(e)4			Possess w/intent to Deliver Meth		17
961.41(3g)(g)			Possession of Meth		85
THC:					
961.41(1)(h)1 to 961.41(1)(h)2			Del/Mfg THC		23
961.41(1m)(h)1 to 961.41(1m)(h)5			Possess w/intent to Del/Mfg THC		30
961.41(3g)(e)			Possession of THC		159
961.41(3g)(e) F			Possession of THC-2 <sup>nd</sup> & Sub.		21
Burglaries:					83
Theft					100
Identify Theft					7
Retail Theft					73
DC:					321
Battery					139
Substantial/Aggravated Battery (Felony)					22
OWI					140
1 <sup>st</sup>					140
2 <sup>nd</sup>					60
3 <sup>rd</sup>					32
4 or more					35
OAR:					229
Sexual Assaults:					
§940.225					12
§948.02					13
Criminal Damage					98