



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

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**U.S. ATTORNEYS' OFFICES CONTRIBUTED TO \$6.68 BILLION IN
CIVIL AND CRIMINAL COLLECTIONS IN FISCAL YEAR 2010**

Recoveries Largest In History

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that financial collections by the Department of Justice in criminal and civil actions in Fiscal Year ("FY") 2010 reached an all-time high due to the efforts of the U.S. Attorneys' offices nationwide. The ninety-four U.S. Attorneys' offices nation-wide contributed to the collection of \$6.68 billion during the government's fiscal year. This amount is the most successful collection year by the U.S. Attorneys' offices.

According to statistics from the Department of Justice, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York collected and deposited into the asset forfeiture funds \$268,502,595 from civil and criminal forfeitures in FY 2010. In addition, the Office obtained forfeiture judgments totaling in excess of \$932,143,015. The Southern District of New York also had \$49.5 million in criminal collections and \$138.9 million in civil collections.

Manhattan U.S. Attorney PREET BHARARA said: "In addition to prosecuting individuals who engage in illegal activity, this Office strives to locate and recover funds for victims of crimes and for the federal treasury. Together with our law enforcement partners, we will continue to work to restore illicit proceeds from those who attempt to profit at the expense of others."

The U.S. Attorneys' offices are responsible for enforcing and collecting civil and criminal debts owed to the United States and criminal debts owed to federal crime victims. Statistics from the Department of Justice indicate that the total

amount collected in criminal actions totaled \$2.84 billion in restitution, criminal fines, and felony assessments. The law requires defendants to pay restitution to victims of certain federal crimes who have suffered a physical injury or financial loss. While restitution is paid directly to the victim, criminal fines and felony assessments are paid to the Department's Crime Victims' Fund, which distributes the funds to state victim compensation and victim assistance programs.

Additionally, the U.S. Attorneys' offices contributed to the collection of \$1.8 billion in asset forfeiture actions in FY 2010. Forfeited assets are deposited into either the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund or the Department of Treasury Forfeiture Fund and are used to restore funds to crime victims and for a variety of law enforcement purposes.

The statistics also indicate that \$3.84 billion was collected in civil actions. The largest civil collections were from affirmative civil enforcement cases, in which the United States recovered government money lost to fraud or other misconduct or collected fines imposed on individuals and/or corporations for violations of federal health, safety, civil rights, or environmental laws. In addition, civil debts were collected on behalf of several federal agencies, including the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Health and Human Services, Internal Revenue Service, and Small Business Administration.

The nationwide collection totals for FY 2010 represent nearly a 30% increase in criminal collections and 57% increase in civil collections over FY 2009. In FY 2009, the U.S. Attorneys' offices contributed to the collection of more than \$4.6 billion. Of the amount collected, \$2.23 billion was collected criminally and \$2.44 billion was collected civilly. The significant increase in collections was due to various large criminal restitution cases as well as large health care fraud cases.

For further information, the Department's Annual Statistical Reports can be found on the internet at http://www.justice.gov/usao/reading_room/foiamanuals.html.