

# United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Indiana



# Strategic Plan

October 2022 through October 2026

Zachary A. Myers  
United States Attorney

## Our Charge

We serve on behalf of the people of the United States as the federal government’s principal litigators in the Southern District of Indiana. As a component of the Department of Justice, we strive to uphold the law, keep our country safe, and protect civil rights. As a U.S. Attorney’s Office, we must apply our valuable and finite resources towards the most urgent threats facing our district.

Our authority is limited to enforcement of the laws enacted by Congress. As former Attorney General Robert Jackson directed U.S. Attorneys over eighty years ago, we must work to identify, investigate, and prosecute those cases “in which the offense is the most flagrant, the public harm the greatest, and the proof the most certain.” In doing so, we will maximize our impact on public safety and the rule of law. We must build and maintain vital partnerships with our state and local law enforcement partners who—by Constitutional design—handle the vast majority of criminal investigations and prosecutions, work that is purposefully and properly reserved to their care.

Gun violence and the trafficking of deadly controlled substances pose a real and present threat to public safety in our district. Technology-facilitated crime and other complex offenses denigrate the safety and economic wellbeing of our people. The deceitful and the depraved exploit public trust and private vulnerability. Groups associated for criminal purposes engage in offenses more complex and harmful than one criminal could accomplish alone. Recidivist offenders undermine respect for the rule of law. We will apply our Office’s investigative and prosecutive resources accordingly—and we will seek to increase those resources to better meet the needs of the communities we serve.

How we exercise the authority with which we are entrusted is as important as the cases we pursue. We must seek equal justice, treating like cases alike and following the facts and law without fear or favor. We must prosecute with earnestness, vigor, and integrity—to strike hard blows, but fair ones. This requires our continuing commitment to excellence, professionalism, and the training and development needed to maintain and sharpen our skills. Through these efforts we will strive to be the best-performing, best-prepared litigators in our courts. We will recruit, retain, and develop an outstanding team of attorneys and support professionals who are committed to our mission and reflect the public we serve. As your United States Attorney, I will do all I can to ensure our district has the resources, policies, and support needed to advance our noble mission on behalf of the United States.



Zachary A. Myers  
United States Attorney  
Southern District of Indiana

## MISSION

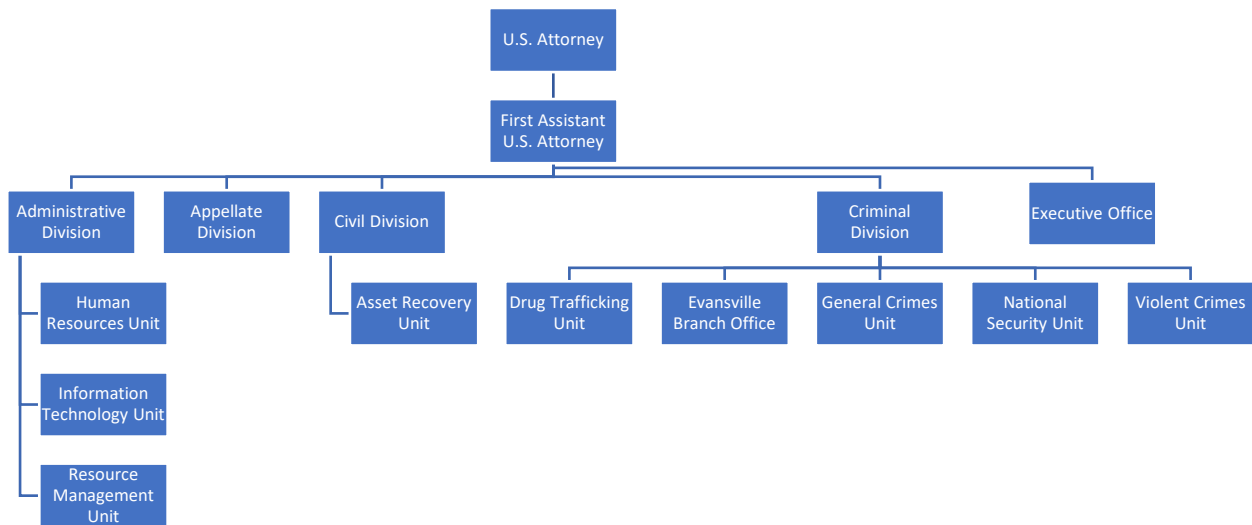
The mission of the Department of Justice is to uphold the rule of law, to keep our country safe, and to protect civil rights.

## VALUES

- **Independence and Impartiality**
- **Honesty and Integrity**
- **Respect**
- **Excellence**

## ORGANIZATION

Under the leadership of the United States Attorney, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Indiana is the principal federal litigator in the southern sixty counties of the state. The Office is headquartered in Indianapolis, with a branch office in Evansville and unstaffed offices in Terre Haute and New Albany.



## GOAL 1: UPHOLD THE RULE OF LAW

(DOJ Goal 1)

The Justice Department is the one agency of our government named for a value. In the pursuit of justice, as a United States Attorney's Office we have unique privileges and responsibilities. We have the privilege of using our time and talent on behalf of upholding the rule of law itself, as opposed to representing the interests of any individual client or faction. We have the responsibility to use the powers granted to us by the people to be a force for that which is right. Bound by the Constitution and our laws, guided by our policies and norms, we will support and protect our democracy and our democratic institutions. We will marshal our efforts and resources to make a meaningful difference in the lives of all who call our country home.



IF WE ARE TO HAVE A GOVERNMENT OF LAWS AND NOT OF MEN,  
THEN IT TAKES PARTICULARLY DEDICATED MEN AND WOMEN TO  
ACCOMPLISH THIS THROUGH THEIR ZEAL AND DETERMINATION,  
AND ALSO THEIR CONCERN FOR FAIRNESS AND IMPARTIALITY.

Attorney General Edward H. Levi

**Objective 1.1: Well and Faithfully Discharge our Duties**

(DOJ Objectives 1.1, 3.3)

As holders of an office and public trust, each of us is bound to well and faithfully discharge our duties on behalf of the people—that is, to do the right thing and to do it the right way. The public rightfully expects us to serve as effective and principled advocates on their behalf as we seek to uphold the rule of law.

**Strategy 1: Maximize our Impact**

We must make the best use of the limited resources with which we have been entrusted. To do this, we must direct our efforts towards bringing the cases we believe will have the greatest impact on the challenges we face and those cases where our unique resources or authorities are critical. We must communicate continuously with our law enforcement partners and community stakeholders to ensure that we are targeting our most urgent law enforcement priorities.

**Strategy 2: Exercise our Authority and Discretion with Impartiality and Integrity**

The public has entrusted us with the significant authority and discretion we exercise on their behalf. We must honor that trust by pursuing justice impartially in all our endeavors—treating like cases alike. In every case, we must follow the facts and the law without fear or favor in our pursuit of justice. We must be cognizant that the decision not to take an action should be given the same careful consideration as the decision to proceed.

In all matters, we must understand and abide by our ethical and constitutional obligations. We must be forthright and candid. Through the exercise of ethically sound and legally supported judgment we will uphold the law on the public’s behalf while strengthening the community’s trust in our efforts.

**Strategy 3: Embrace and Execute the Policies and Norms of the USAO and DOJ**

At all times we must abide by our constitutional and ethical obligations. We also must faithfully embrace the policies and norms of the U.S. Attorney’s Office and the Department of Justice, which reflect the experience and wisdom of generations of our predecessors and the thoughtful consideration of our present challenges.

**Strategy 4: Promote Public Trust through Communication and Engagement**

To advance our mission to promote public safety and the rule of law, we must build trust with the communities we serve. We build this trust through the work we do and the relationships we build. The public has a right to know what we do on their behalf, in keeping with our policies and professional responsibilities. We will promote deterrence and reporting of crime by keeping the public informed about our work and our priorities.

We better serve the public when we listen to their concerns and engage with our communities. We will engage with community partners and participate in public activities that advance the goals and priorities of the office and the Department.

**Objective 1.2: Grow and Foster a High-Performing Workforce Reflecting the Public we Serve**  
(DOJ Objective 1.2)

The skills and dedication of the people empowered to accomplish our mission are our greatest asset. Investing in and growing our workforce are critical to our success. We must provide our team with opportunities to learn and grow as professionals and leaders. We must enact workplace policies that further our mission while providing staff with appropriate flexibility and support. We must also ensure that we are able to attract and retain talented and dedicated professionals who are committed to our mission and reflect the community we serve.

**Strategy 1: Make our Office a Fantastic Place to Work**

Hiring and retention of talented and dedicated staff is critical to our success. We must treat all our team with respect and professionalism. We must provide fair and appropriate evaluation and compensation, in the context of public service. We must recognize and reward outstanding achievements. We will build and maintain a team-centered culture that is positive and inclusive. We will promote trust and honesty with each other in our communications and interactions. We will cultivate a workplace environment that is intellectually challenging and personally fulfilling.

**Strategy 2: Recruit and Retain a Talented and Diverse Team**

To remain competitive in today's market and ensure that we have the largest possible pool of talent, we must purposefully recruit and hire outstanding professionals from every community. As officers of the United States and law enforcement professionals, it is imperative that our office reflect the diversity of the public we serve. We will develop strategies and incorporate best practices to ensure diversity and equity at each step of the recruitment, application, and hiring process. We must recognize that inclusion and equity are essential values as we seek to advance our mission and retain our talent.

**Strategy 3: Invest in Professional and Leadership Development**

We must make the most of existing resources by investing in high-quality professional development for our attorneys and support professionals. Led by our Senior Litigation Counsel and our Executive Committee, we will develop and implement training programs to continually expand our professional competencies. New staff will be provided with individualized training and mentoring designed to integrate them effectively and efficiently into our efforts. We will also invest time and resources in quality training from the Office of Legal Education and other sources. We will invest in leadership development to improve our management and prepare our emerging leaders. We will provide staff with leadership and program management opportunities to help them build leadership competencies. We will work to provide pathways to professional growth to enable our team to expand the scope of their contributions to the office over time.

**Strategy 4: Administrative and Information Technology Excellence**

We recognize that our administrative and information technology staff and systems are indispensable to our ability to pursue our mission. We must develop local strategies and seek out best practices to ensure we are meeting our administrative and technology challenges with creativity and collaboration. Efficient and effective use of technology is not optional for legal professionals—it is fundamental to our ability to serve the public. Our cases involve ever-expanding quantities of electronically stored information, and our courts and juries rightfully expect mastery in our presentation of this evidence. We must invest in tools, training, and personnel that will enable us to handle the explosion of digital evidence, successfully complete the mandatory government transition to fully electronic records and processes, and take full advantage of the benefits of electronic discovery and litigation

**Strategy 5: Enact Flexible Workplace Policies for the Benefit of our Team and Mission**

Working together in person is an essential component of our work, our development, and our culture. We now know that there are some aspects of our work that can be successfully pursued away from our office. Workplace flexibilities will allow us to recruit and retain the best employees. We must enact policies that maximize employee job performance and satisfaction by offering practical and workable solutions to balance the demands of work and home, to the extent those solutions are consistent with the mission of the office.

**Objective 1.3: Defend the Interests of the United States in Civil and Appellate Litigation**

(DOJ Objective 1.1)

The Department of Justice plays a vital role in upholding the rule of law by defending agencies and employees throughout the federal government in civil litigation. We will support client agencies by providing candid and professional assessments of litigation risk and defending against civil litigation to achieve just results. We must continue our advocacy in criminal and civil cases before the court of appeals in the face of complex and novel challenges. Defendants routinely seek to challenge convictions and confinement for years or even decades after all direct appeals in their cases are resolved. We must effectively and efficiently respond to all collateral challenges to the decisions of our judges and juries.

**Strategy 1: Protect Public Funds and Employees through Outstanding Advocacy**

We must defend the interests of the United States in civil litigation, prevailing against unwarranted monetary claims, while resolving fairly those claims with merit. We must also recover monies owed to the United States and victims. We will zealously represent covered federal employees who have been sued in their individual capacity. We will provide high-quality legal advice and representation in cases where the United States and its agencies have a monetary claim or interest, including high-volume Social Security, mortgage foreclosure and bankruptcy cases.

**Strategy 2: Effectively Litigate Appellate and Post-Conviction Matters**

Appellate advocacy is a critical component of our legal practice, and all AUSAs are expected to represent the United States before the Court of Appeals when the opportunity arises. Preparing briefs and oral arguments sharpens our skills and analysis, improving our performance before trial and appellate courts. The Appellate Division will provide training and support to all AUSAs as they pursue their appellate work. The Appellate Division will also handle appeals itself, especially those with the most complex or novel issues. AUSAs from the Appellate and Criminal Divisions will provide high-quality legal representation to actively defend other post-conviction litigation.




## GOAL 2: KEEP OUR DISTRICT AND COUNTRY SAFE

(DOJ Goal 2)

Every person who calls our district and our country home deserves to feel safe. As officers of the United States, we are each duty bound to defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. As a United States Attorney's Office, we pursue this mission by enforcement of our laws to combat threats to public safety.

Deadly weapons and deadly drugs take lives, destroy families, and menace communities. Violent extremists at home and abroad threaten our populace. Technology that brings the world together also makes our people and institutions vulnerable to criminals across the globe. Greed, hate, and sickness drive exploitation of our most vulnerable. With our federal, state, and local law enforcement partners—and the help of the community—we must utilize our abilities and authorities to ensure that we are rising to meet current and emerging challenges, in line with our priorities and available resources.



WHILE THE PROSECUTOR AT HIS BEST IS ONE OF THE MOST  
BENEFICENT FORCES IN OUR SOCIETY, WHEN HE ACTS FROM MALICE OR  
OTHER BASE MOTIVES, HE IS ONE OF THE WORST.

THESE POWERS HAVE BEEN GRANTED TO OUR LAW-ENFORCEMENT  
AGENCIES BECAUSE IT SEEMS NECESSARY THAT SUCH A POWER TO  
PROSECUTE BE LODGED SOMEWHERE. THIS AUTHORITY HAS BEEN  
GRANTED BY PEOPLE WHO REALLY WANTED THE RIGHT THING DONE-  
WANTED CRIME ELIMINATED-BUT ALSO WANTED THE BEST IN OUR  
AMERICAN TRADITIONS PRESERVED.

Attorney General Robert H. Jackson

**Objective 2.1: Protect National Security**

(DOJ Objectives 1.1, 2.1, 2.2)

The Department of Justice plays a pivotal role in deterring, disrupting, and prosecuting those who threaten our security. We must defend our district and our country against the dangers posed by domestic and foreign enemies, whether they arise from adversary governments, extremist conspiracies, or lone criminal actors. These hostile forces threaten our physical, digital, and economic safety—the institutions of our government, and the public servants who make it work. It is our duty to make the best use of the resources at our disposal to protect the public and hold wrongdoers accountable.

**Strategy 1: Deter, Disrupt, and Prosecute Violent Extremists**

We will urgently combat violent extremist threats—individual and organized, domestic and international—using every tool at our disposal. We must extend every effort to identify and disrupt threats before they culminate in mass violence and to vigorously investigate and prosecute any such attack that occurs. We must work to protect our communities in close coordination with our law enforcement partners through joint efforts including the Joint Terrorism Task Force and the Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council. We will commit to employing our resources to deter and disrupt violent extremists even when it is unlikely such efforts will result in a federal criminal prosecution.

**Strategy 2: Protect Critical Infrastructure and Sensitive Assets**

We must play an important role in protecting our critical infrastructure and sensitive physical and economic assets. This includes identifying, disrupting, and dismantling physical and cyber threats that pose national security risks. We must also protect our sensitive economic and institutional assets through vigorous investigation, prosecution, or other disruption of economic espionage and technology theft, as well as combatting traditional espionage and other foreign malign influence.

**Strategy 3: Protect Public Servants from Violence and Threats of Violence**

Violence and threats of violence against public servants in the course of their duties are criminal acts that must be fully investigated and prosecuted. Vociferous protest, disagreement, and other nonviolent constitutionally protected activities are not crimes—and this office will not investigate or prosecute anyone simply because of their views. We must work closely with those who are or may be subjected to threats to help them understand what conduct might constitute a crime and how to report threats to law enforcement agencies.

**Objective 2.2: Combat Gun Violence and Other Violent Crime**

(DOJ Objective 2.3)

Gun violence and other violent crime are an ongoing epidemic causing devastation for our families and in our communities. Shootings take a disproportionate toll on marginalized and underserved communities, including communities of color. To make the greatest impact, we will target for federal prosecution serious violent crimes, serious, repeat violent offenders, criminals illegally funneling firearms into the hands of criminals, and unlawful use of the emerging firearms technologies that accelerate the danger of gun violence to the public.

**Strategy 1: Investigate and Prosecute Serious Violent Crimes and Criminals**

Our unique, limited resources to fight violent crime must be focused on the most serious violence and the most serious violent offenders. We must identify and dismantle violent criminal enterprises and conspiracies. We must target those who engage in serial gun crimes and who continue to illegally arm themselves notwithstanding a significant, violent criminal history. This includes illegally armed offenders with a domestic violence history, a strong predictor of future dangerousness. We must make the best use of gun intelligence and partnerships such as the Indiana Crime Guns Task Force to ensure that we are bringing high impact cases against the offenders who pose the greatest danger to our communities.

**Strategy 2: Target the Sources of Guns Used in Crimes**

The illegal trafficking of firearms to those who intend to commit violent acts or have serious violent criminal histories fuels violent crime in our community. Targeted investigation and prosecution of those who illegally acquire and transfer significant quantities of deadly weapons will enable us to reduce the supply of black-market guns and get them off the streets before they are used in further crimes. We will also focus our federal resources on the illegal manufacture and possession of “ghost guns,” conversion devices such as “Glock switches” and “auto sears,” and other devices that conceal the manufacture and accelerate the lethality of these already deadly weapons.

**Strategy 3: Invest in Violent Crime Prevention and Disruption**

As federal prosecutors, criminal enforcement is an invaluable tool as we pursue our public safety mission. However, years of experience have shown us that arrests and prosecutions alone are not enough. We must invest in community efforts geared towards violence prevention, including engaging with the prior offenders who are most likely to be the perpetrators or victims of gun crimes. Through efforts including Project Safe Neighborhoods and our district’s Re-Entry Assistance and Community Help (REACH) courts, we will work to connect returning citizens with supportive services to help them on a successful path forward and reduce recidivism.

**Objective 2.3: Disrupt Trafficking in Deadly Drugs**

(DOJ Objective 2.5)

Beginning in early 2020, drug overdoses accelerated in Indiana and nationwide. According to the Indiana Department of Health, 2,554 Hoosiers died of drug overdoses in 2021 and over 70%—over 1,700 deaths—were caused by synthetic opioids like fentanyl, with hundreds more caused by overdoses of heroin and psychostimulants such as methamphetamine. Drug deaths touch every Hoosier family. Violent drug traffickers pose an ongoing threat to public safety. Traffickers increasingly turn to technology to conceal their activities and their illegal profits. We must target our resources to have the greatest impact on public safety: the overdose crisis, violent drug traffickers, and prolific, sophisticated drug trafficking organizations.

**Strategy 1: Help Prevent Overdose Deaths by Prosecuting Traffickers of Deadly Drugs**

The overdose epidemic is overwhelmingly driven by the abuse of opioids—primarily fentanyl and other synthetic opioids. We must prioritize enforcement strategies tailored to the specific challenges posed by fentanyl trafficking. Methamphetamine and other psychostimulants are also significant contributors to the overdose crisis. We must leverage data and partnerships with state and local law enforcement agencies to identify the most serious threats to public safety and prioritize them for federal prosecution. We must prioritize the investigation and prosecution of the networks responsible for trafficking these deadly drugs into our communities. We must bring prosecutions that will dismantle fentanyl, heroin, and methamphetamine distribution networks and hold traffickers accountable, including appropriate prosecutions of drug traffickers whose crimes result in death.

**Strategy 2: Dismantle Violent and Sophisticated Drug Trafficking Organizations**

The Department of Justice and our law enforcement partners have powerful, but limited, resources to dismantle drug trafficking organizations. These resources must be used to have the greatest impact on our communities, including targeting the most violent, prolific, and sophisticated drug traffickers. We must pursue traffickers of deadly drugs even when they try to use international borders and technologies like the dark web and cryptocurrency to evade law enforcement. We must dismantle the money laundering networks that are indispensable to drug traffickers and use financial prosecutions and asset seizures to ensure that all who facilitate these dangerous drug trafficking organizations are accountable.

**Strategy 3: Utilize Partnerships to Maximize our Impact on Public Safety**

Coordination and cooperation among law enforcement agencies are critical to our efforts to combat the trafficking of deadly drugs. This includes fully leveraging our Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement (OCDETF) and High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) partnerships and resources. We must also partner with community organizations and aggressively enforce the civil rights laws on behalf of people with substance use and mental health disorders.

**Objective 2.4: Fight Cybercrime and Other Complex Technology-Facilitated Offenses**

(DOJ Objective 2.4)

Criminals worldwide exploit our interconnected economic and communications systems through constantly evolving cybercrime schemes. These malign foreign and domestic cybercrime actors pose an accelerating threat to our people and our critical institutions. Ransomware gangs target our critical infrastructure and sensitive assets. Criminals breach our networks to steal assets and sensitive information for extortion and fraud. Cryptocurrency and internet infrastructure are abused to further these criminal activities. The Department of Justice and United States Attorneys' Office, working with our law enforcement and other partners throughout the government, must bring these criminals to justice, disrupt their capabilities, and strip them of their ill-gotten gains. We must also engage with stakeholders in the public and private sector as we work to protect networks, prevent cybercrime, and encourage reporting of attacks.

**Strategy 1: Disrupt and Dismantle Ransomware Gangs and other Cyber Threats**

Ransomware gangs are sophisticated, transnational racketeering enterprises who seek to cripple our critical infrastructure including schools, hospitals, governments, and industry. We must dedicate our unique expertise, authorities, and partnerships to address, disrupt, and dismantle these criminal organizations. We must work closely with federal law enforcement agencies to ensure our resources are targeted to have the greatest impact and avoid duplication of efforts.

Criminals increasingly use technology to facilitate fraud, theft, and harassment against our institutions, organizations, and residents. We must target serious, complex cybercrimes for federal investigation and prosecution. Criminal prosecution and enforcement are critical tools we must seek to employ in ransomware and other cybercrime investigations in conjunction with seizure of criminal proceeds and other whole of government efforts to protect the public and hold criminals accountable.

**Strategy 2: Target the Infrastructure and Tools Utilized by Cybercriminals**

Cybercriminals use technologies including cryptocurrencies and anonymization tools to conduct attacks and launder proceeds. We must work closely with federal law enforcement agencies and our partners to disrupt and dismantle cybercriminal infrastructure, including unlawfully operating cryptocurrency businesses and "bulletproof" hosting services. While we investigate and build federal prosecutions, we must also seek to disrupt, seize, and take down cybercriminals' command and control systems to make the public safer from cybercriminals while we work to bring them before our courts to be held accountable.

**Strategy 3: Engage with Community and Industry Leaders to Prevent Attacks and Encourage Reporting**

Partnership with community and industry groups and leaders is critical to preventing and responding to cyberattacks. We must make it clear that we will support victims of cybercrime, and work to ensure that investigations and prosecutions do not further compound the harms to victims. We must conduct targeted outreach to share cybersecurity best practices and encourage prompt engagement with law enforcement while responding to a major cyber incident. We must listen to stakeholders and victims to ensure that we take their perspectives into account as we seek to protect the public from cybercrime.

**Objective 2.5: Protect Vulnerable People and Communities from Violence and Exploitation**

(DOJ Objectives 2.6, 3.2, 3.5)

A society is measured by how it treats its most vulnerable. Sexual predators seek to assault and exploit our children, often abusing positions of trust to gain access to victims and using technology to document their crimes. Human traffickers prey on the vulnerable in furtherance of their own greed. Polluters contaminate marginalized and vulnerable communities. We must utilize our federal law enforcement resources to identify those who exploit vulnerable individuals and communities and hold them accountable.

**Strategy 1: Remove the Most Dangerous Child Sex Offenders from the Community**

We must utilize our unique federal resources and authorities to incapacitate the most dangerous offenders engaged in the sexual abuse and exploitation of children. Our federal resources must be directed towards offenders who directly abuse children, in person or remotely, as well as recidivists who continue to abuse children or traffic in child sexual abuse material. We must continue to be leaders in Indiana's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, and work with our federal, state, and local law enforcement partners to ensure that dangerous offenders are successfully identified and held accountable in federal and state courts. We will continue to invest in training, outreach, and community partnerships to help keep our children safe in person and online.

**Strategy 2: Combat Human Exploitation**

Commercial sex and labor trafficking are insidious crimes targeted at the most vulnerable in our communities. We must utilize federal law enforcement resources to ensure that those who engage in sex and labor trafficking of minors, or by force, fraud, or coercion, are held accountable. We must leverage partnerships between law enforcement and nongovernmental organizations serving survivors to ensure that supportive resources are available and instances of trafficking are investigated and prosecuted.

**Strategy 3: Advance Environmental Justice for Marginalized Communities**


We must provide timely and effective remedies for systemic environmental violations and contaminations and for injury to natural resources in underserved communities that have been historically marginalized and overburdened, including low-income communities, and communities of color. We will do so through implementation of the Department of Justice's comprehensive environmental justice enforcement strategy including civil and criminal enforcement of federal laws, coordination through the Environmental Crimes Task Force, and outreach to the public to identify impactful enforcement matters.

## GOAL 3: VINDICATE FEDERAL INTERESTS IN COMPLEX ENFORCEMENT

(DOJ Goals 2, 3, 4)

Equal justice under law means that no individual or institution is above the law. We must make this promise real by holding wrongdoers accountable regardless of their power or privilege. Failure to aggressively prosecute these crimes weakens our democratic institutions, erodes our sense of fair play, and undermines public trust in the rule of law.

Only federal law enforcement can root out the most insidious corruption. Only federal law enforcement can vindicate violations of federal civil rights. Only federal law enforcement can tackle the most complex frauds and corporate crimes. Through this work we will safeguard Hoosiers' fundamental rights, protect the public's finances and foster fairness in the marketplace, and strengthen the public's trust in the positive impact law enforcement can, and should, have in our community.



THE ESSENCE OF THE RULE OF LAW IS THAT LIKE CASES ARE TREATED ALIKE; THAT THERE IS NOT ONE RULE FOR THE POWERFUL AND ANOTHER FOR THE POWERLESS; ONE RULE FOR THE RICH AND ANOTHER FOR THE POOR.

Attorney General Merrick B. Garland



**Objective 3.1: Hold Offenders Accountable for Violations of Public Trust and Civil Rights**

(DOJ Objectives 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.2, 5.2)

Abuses of the public trust are a special category of wrongs to be righted—if the powerful cannot be held accountable, confidence in our institutions of government fails. Government officials who engage in corruption betray the public’s trust, in furtherance of personal gain. Law enforcement officers who violate Hoosiers’ civil rights betray the public’s trust and erode support for their sisters and brothers who serve honorably. Governments and businesses who unlawfully discriminate flout the protections granted by our laws to each of us. We must dedicate our resources to investigate and prosecute these complex offenses and hold offenders accountable for violating our rights and our trust.

**Strategy 1: Combat Public Corruption**

Federal law enforcement is a critical tool to deter official corruption and hold those who betray the public trust accountable. We must prioritize investigating and prosecuting the criminal corruption of federal, state, and local governments. We will work with our law enforcement partners, including the Justice Department’s Criminal Division, to disrupt efforts by government officials and those who seek to corrupt them to criminally abuse positions of public trust for personal gain.

**Strategy 2: Uphold Civil Rights of all Hoosiers Through Enforcement and Partnership**

The Department of Justice was founded to protect the civil rights of the oppressed and formerly enslaved. We must continue the Department’s commitment to making the promise of equality and justice real for all who call our great country home. To promote public trust between communities and law enforcement, we will support efforts to make communities safer while protecting individual civil rights and strengthening connections between law enforcement and the communities we serve.

We will identify, investigate, and vigorously pursue criminal and civil enforcement for violations of federal civil rights laws. Law enforcement, corrections, and any other public officials will be held accountable for betraying the public’s trust by violating civil rights. Governments and businesses will be held accountable for unlawful discrimination, including in employment and housing. We will steadfastly protect citizens’ voting rights and the integrity of our elections.

We must educate community partners about our commitment to the enforcement of federal civil rights laws in Indiana through outreach and communication with community organizations and state and local governments and law enforcement agencies. We will meet at least annually with local law enforcement partners and community stakeholders to collaborate on efforts to prevent hate crimes and incidents.



**Objective 3.2: Investigate and Prosecute Complex Economic Crimes**

(DOJ Objectives 1.1, 2.6, 4.2)

Economic crimes both devastate the finances and security of individuals and businesses, and erode the public's sense of trust and fairness in the marketplace. Fraud on public programs drains resources dedicated to serving our communities and those in need. Complex economic offenses, including corporate crimes and transnational conspiracies require expert investigation and prosecution resources to bring them to heel. Our office will work vigorously with our law enforcement partners and fully utilize our task force resources to pursue the criminals responsible for frauds and other financial crimes.

**Strategy 1: Combat Financial Crimes Against Individuals and Businesses**

Frauds and other financial crimes deprive Hoosiers of their hard-earned savings and security. Corporate crimes impact markets and competition, even when there are not individually identifiable victims. We must pursue the perpetrators of frauds and other financial crimes with significant impacts on individuals and institutions, especially those that target the elderly and other vulnerable populations. We must unravel complex schemes and conspiracies, undeterred by criminals who cross borders and utilize sophisticated means to commit or conceal their offenses.

**Strategy 2: Combat Frauds and False Claims Against Government Programs**

Prosecution of fraudsters who bilk government programs must be a priority of our office. We will use all criminal and civil enforcement tools at our disposal to combat schemes to defraud or make false claims relating disaster relief funding, health care programs, public benefits programs, and government contracts. We will work with our law enforcement partners to identify and prosecute financial offenses with a significant impact on taxpayers, including our Suspicious Activity Reports Review Team, Bankruptcy Fraud Working Group, and Health Care Fraud Task Force.

We will identify and investigate cases of health care fraud and unlawful diversion of pharmaceuticals that harm the public and the healthcare system. We will work with HHS-OIG, FBI, DEA, DFAS, and the Indiana Medicaid Fraud Control Unit to prioritize cases, including viable *qui tam* cases, that undermine the healthcare system and federally funded programs. We will use Affirmative Civil Enforcement and parallel criminal and civil remedies where appropriate to divest perpetrators of the proceeds of their frauds on the United States.

**Objective 3.3: Divest Criminals of their Proceeds and Tools and Return Assets to Victims**

(DOJ Objectives 1.1, 2.6)

Our office must employ its asset forfeiture powers in a manner that enhances public safety and security and provides support and respect to victims of crime. This is accomplished by removing the proceeds of crime and other assets relied upon by criminals and their associates to perpetuate their criminal activity against our society. Asset forfeiture has the power to disrupt or dismantle criminal organizations that would continue to function if we only convicted and incarcerated specific individuals. Restitution and related tools help victims recover financially, physically, and emotionally.

**Strategy 1: Use Legal Authorities to Seize the Proceeds and Tools of Crime**

Through the Asset Recovery Unit, use criminal and civil forfeiture as effective tools by identifying assets early in an investigation and taking appropriate steps to freeze and seize criminal proceeds and facilitating property. Target forfeitures of proceeds and tools of crime.

Use appropriate post-judgment enforcement mechanisms through the Financial Litigation Program to ensure that criminal defendants are more fully held accountable for their crimes.

**Strategy 2: Vigorously Pursue Compensation for Victims of Crime**

Use procedural tools including restitution, restoration, and remission to compensate and return assets to victims. Prioritize compensation of victims over forfeiture of property to the government.