



Welcome to the U.S. Attorney's Office Eastern District of Pennsylvania

The United States Attorney's Office (USAO) for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania is responsible for one of the nation's largest districts covering about 4,700 square miles with over 5 million people residing within its nine counties. The district is unique in its diversity, evident not only in its environment but also in its population.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, with 19 judges, is also located within the federal courthouse in the city.

Philadelphia, both a city and county, is the country's fifth largest metropolis, home of over 1.4 million people, and the birthplace of our nation.

*U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney's Office
Eastern District of Pennsylvania*

*U.S. Attorney's Office
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for more information:
www.usdoj.gov/usao/pae*



Michael L. Levy
United States Attorney

Virginia Gibson
First Assistant United States Attorney

All About the Office

The United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania is one of the largest in the country with 130 Assistant United States Attorneys (AUSAs) currently on staff. There are 105 non-attorney positions in the office. The USAO is located at 615 Chestnut Street in downtown Philadelphia, one block from the courthouse and adjacent to the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall. The office is divided into two divisions: Criminal and Civil.

Criminal Division

The Criminal division is the largest group of attorneys in the office. The division consists of 93 Assistant United States Attorneys. For management purposes, the Criminal Division is divided into eight teams. Each team has a team leader who also serves as the chief of cases in a particular subject. Attorneys in the Criminal Division are assigned to teams and the team leader serves as an administrative head of the team. Our criminal assistants are generalists within all areas of criminal law. All AUSAs receive all types of cases, and the criminal division has substantive teams for:

- The Organized Crime Team
- Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs
- Financial Institution Fraud and Identity Theft
- Government and Health Care Fraud
- Official Corruption, Tax Fraud and Civil Rights
- Firearms
- Violent Crime, Terrorism and Immigration
- Commercial Fraud
- Computer Crimes

Civil Division

The Civil Division consists of 25 attorneys. The Civil Division is responsible for representing the federal government and its agencies and employees in civil litigation in the District. Primary areas of practice are tort cases, including medical malpractice and Constitutional tort cases, and Title VII cases alleging discrimination in hiring and employment practices by agencies of the United States. Other areas of practice include immigration, bankruptcy, debts owed the United States or its agencies, breach of contract, and judicial review of administrative findings.

In addition to the defensive cases described above, the members of the civil division also handle affirmative civil enforcement actions including civil penalty and injunctive relief to enforce a wide variety of federal agency regulations, such as the environmental laws, predatory lending, and drug diversion. We have been in the forefront in healthcare fraud, recovering billions of dollars from hospitals, nursing homes, and pharmaceutical cases.

Training and Mentoring

The United States Attorney's Office has two Senior Litigation Counsel in each division and operates year-round training programs for AUSA's with all levels of experience. We hold NITA-Style training for newer AUSAs, give monthly continuing Legal Education in each division, assign a mentor to each newly-hired AUSA, and encourage AUSAs to attend DOJ's National Advocacy Center or serve as instructors there. Many AUSAs serve as faculty at our six area law schools.

District Programs & Initiatives

The office operates a number of programs to prevent crime, educate victims, and give federal, state, and local regulators and law enforcement a focus for specific problems in their communities.

- Project Safe Neighborhoods
- Weed & Seed
- Identity Theft
- Predatory Lending
- Quality of Care
- Financial Fraud in Care Homes

Summer Internships

The United States Attorney's Office offers unpaid summer internships for students in law school. The internship program is ten weeks long and begins shortly after Memorial Day. Interns are assigned to work on either criminal or civil matters, although it is usually possible to work on both types of cases during the summer if that is desired.

The program allows interns to work on and observe cases litigated in the United States District Court and the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. Interns participate with Assistant United States Attorneys in all phases of litigation, from investigations through trial and appeal.

Interns also attend training sessions in which they learn relevant skills and hear from various participants in criminal justice system. The speakers include judges and staff members of this office. When possible, the office also sponsors field trips to locations (such as prisons and local courthouses) relevant to the prosecution of criminal cases.

Requirements

To be hired, an applicant must be:

- currently enrolled in a law school
- a United States citizen
- selected by the internship committee
- successfully cleared following a background check undertaken by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (which includes inquiry into illegal drugs)