

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA
2011 ANNUAL REPORT**



**DEBORAH R. GILG
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**



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MESSAGE FROM THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

The year 2011 marked another year of significant accomplishments within the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Nebraska. The summaries of case reports in this report are snapshots of some of the cases handled by this office.

In cooperation with federal and local law enforcement and prosecutors, Project Safe Neighborhoods continues to be a high priority of this office. In 2011, 938 guns were recovered as part of Project Safe Neighborhoods. The Grand Jury returned numerous indictments which included firearms associated with the delivery or conspiracy to deliver controlled substance.



In 2011, as in years past, cooperation among federal and local law enforcement agencies and prosecutors resulted in 564 criminal indictments and criminal informations filed. Inter-department law enforcement cooperation also resulted in the criminal forfeiture of 33 vehicles, 6 guns and cash with a total value of more than \$639,000. \$482,623 resulted from civil forfeitures.

Project Safe Childhood also remains a high priority for this office. The disturbing reality of child pornography as distributed through the Internet cannot be ignored nor can the online predators who seek to rob children of their innocence go without punishment. We have collaborated with county prosecutors and the Nebraska Attorney General's Office to strategize which jurisdiction, state or federal, can maximize the punishment and deterrence of these crimes. We continue to request mandatory minimum sentencing on child pornography cases, wherever appropriate.

The Civil Unit exceeded all expectations. The civil cases included foreclosures, bankruptcy, medical malpractice, employment discrimination, federal employee liability, immigration, and Social Security issues. A major function of the Civil Division is to collect debts owed to the United States. Those debts include criminal restitution and fines. In 2011, the Civil Division had a banner year and collected more than 26 million dollars, more than 1.2 million dollars was court-ordered criminal restitution and fines and 2 million dollars in civil collections. Our Affirmative Civil Enforcement program, designed to collect civil monetary penalties and damages for violation of federal law and to recover costs incurred by agencies as a result of those violations, recovered more than 23.6 million dollars.

In recognition of the sovereignty and importance of Indian Country, we have compiled a separate 2011 Indian Country Annual Report. This report can be found online at: www.justice.gov/usao/ne.

We recognize that it is our duty to protect national security and enforce the law for the benefit of all Americans. In order to do our jobs, we conduct outreach efforts with



MESSAGE FROM THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

many local groups and individuals, including the Arab American and Muslim American communities as well as the Hispanic communities. This outreach is intended to improve our ability to perform our duties in a manner that is consistent with core American values such as respect for civil liberties, embracing diversity and commitment to religious freedom. These are values that are found in the Constitution and laws of the United States. We have initiated regular and continuing contact with the Mexican Consulate in Omaha. Also, in partnership with the FBI, we have engaged leaders of Arab American and Muslim American organizations to make sure that these groups are being afforded the full rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizens consistent with our American values.

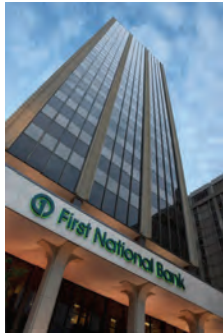
Finally, for the year 2011, we inaugurated a monthly electronic newsletter for Nebraska law enforcement. The goal of the newsletter is to keep law enforcement up-to-date on federal issues that affect them. We continue to welcome your suggestions or comments on how we can better assist and serve you.

The accomplishments in this report are the product of enormous hard work of the entire staff of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Nebraska and to all federal, state and local agencies that are vital to our joint success.



CONTACT INFORMATION:

BY MAIL:



U.S. Attorney's Office
1620 Dodge Street
Suite 1400
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-1506



U.S. Attorney's Office
487 Federal Building
100 Centennial Mall North
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3865

BY PHONE & FAX:



OMAHA: (402) 661-3700
(800) 889-9124
FAX: (402) 661-3082

LINCOLN: (402) 437-5241
(800) 889-9123
FAX: (402) 437-5390

ON THE INTERNET:



<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ne/>



“[A PROSECUTOR] MAY PROSECUTE WITH EARNESTNESS AND VIGOR - INDEED S/HE SHOULD DO SO. BUT WHILE S/HE MAY STRIKE HARD BLOWS, S/HE IS NOT AT LIBERTY TO STRIKE FOUL ONES. IT IS AS MUCH HIS/HER DUTY TO REFRAIN FROM IMPROPER METHODS CALCULATED TO PRODUCE A WRONGFUL CONVICTION AS IT IS TO USE EVERY LEGITIMATE MEANS TO BRING ABOUT A JUST ONE.”

(gender references modified)

This is a famous quote regarding the duty of prosecutors. It comes from Justice Sutherland in *Berger v. United States*, 295 U.S. 78, 88 (1935).

“THE FUNCTION OF THE PROSECUTOR UNDER THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION IS NOT TO TACK AS MANY SKINS OF VICTIMS AS POSSIBLE AGAINST THE WALL. HIS/HER FUNCTION IS TO VINDICATE THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE AS EXPRESSED IN THE LAWS AND GIVE THOSE ACCUSED OF CRIME A FAIR TRIAL.”

(gender references modified)

JUSTICE WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To enforce the law and defend the interests of the United States according to the law; to ensure public safety against threats foreign and domestic; to provide federal leadership in preventing and controlling crime; to seek just punishment for those guilty of unlawful behavior; and to ensure fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans.

OUR CORE VALUES

Equal Justice Under the Law
Honesty and Integrity
Commitment to Excellence
Respect for the Worth and Dignity of Each Human Being



WELCOME TO THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA



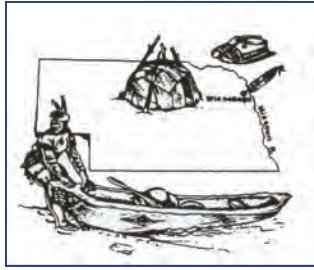
Nebraska, the 16th largest state geographically, became the 37th state to join the Union on March 1, 1867. Its 77,000 square miles encompass 93 counties, and a population of over 1.8 million people. As one of the 26 states with only one federal judicial district, Nebraska boasts a diversity and variety of topography, geography and economy. Nebraska has more underground water reserves than any other state in the continental U.S. The name Nebraska is from an Oto Indian word that means "flat water" (referring to the Platte River, which means "flat river" in French).

The Omaha metropolitan area with a population area of approximately 865,000, accounts for a large majority of the district's population. Lincoln, the state's capital, is home to over 258,000 residents. Much of the state, however, is rural, with over 90% of Nebraska's cities and towns having fewer than 3,000 people.



The state has a mixed economic base with substantial agricultural and agri-business sectors, as well as significant manufacturing, technical and service sectors. More than 96% of Nebraska's land is farm and ranch land, and the state is a national leader in production of beef, pork, corn, and soy beans. Other economic sectors include freight transport by rail and truck, manufacturing, telecommunications, information technology, and insurance. Several Fortune 500 companies, including Berkshire Hathaway, ConAgra, Union Pacific, Mutual of Omaha, and Peter Kiewit & Sons are headquartered in Nebraska, and many others have substantial operations in the District.

The United States Strategic Command is headquartered at Offutt Air Force Base, located just south of Omaha in Bellevue. Various other federal enclaves, including the Niobrara Scenic River, the Missouri National Recreational River, several national monuments, historic sites, National Wildlife Refuges, and U.S. Army Corp of Engineers recreational sites are located throughout Nebraska. The U.S. Department of Agriculture operates several facilities in the District, including research national forests, and a national grassland. Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium is home to the world's largest indoor desert, the largest indoor rainforest in the United States and the largest zoo aquarium in the country.



In addition to the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Omaha, the Department of Veterans Affairs operates outpatient clinics in Lincoln and Grand Island, and the Indian Health Service operates a hospital in Winnebago.

The Omaha, Winnebago, and Santee Sioux tribes have reservations located in northeast Nebraska, and federal criminal jurisdiction has been retroceded to the United States for each. As a result, the United States Attorney's Office works closely with those tribes to address crime occurring on the reservations. It should be noted that the Ponca Tribe, although it does not have a reservation in Nebraska, is federally recognized. This year we have also initiated the 2011 Indian Country Annual Report.

Numerous federal law enforcement agencies maintain offices in Nebraska and work extensively with the United States Attorney's Office. These agencies include the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, U.S. Marshals Service, Secret Service, Internal Revenue Service, Postal Service, Department of Agriculture, Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, National Park Service, Social Security Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, and others. The United States Attorney's Office also works with federal agencies located outside of Nebraska, such as the Department of Education, Environmental Protection Agency, Social Security Administration, and the Department of Health and Human Services.

In addition to its work with federal agencies, the U. S. Attorney's Office works very closely with state and local law enforcement agencies, addressing the needs of the District. For many years, the citizens of Nebraska have benefitted from the very cooperative relationships between federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies throughout the District. A number of multi-agency joint law enforcement task forces have been created to facilitate effective investigation and prosecution of criminal offenses, especially those involving drugs and violent crime, as well as civil enforcement in the areas of health care fraud and environmental enforcement. Some of the accomplishments of those groups are described in this report.





The United States Attorney serves as the chief federal law enforcement officer in the District of Nebraska, and is responsible for coordinating multiple agency investigations within the District. The United States Attorney and her Assistants represent the federal government in virtually all litigation involving the United States in the District of Nebraska, including all criminal prosecutions for violations of federal law, civil lawsuits in which the United States is a party, and actions to collect judgments and restitution on behalf of victims and taxpayers.

Deborah R. Gilg was sworn in as the 32nd United States Attorney for the District of Nebraska on October 1, 2009. She is the first female United States Attorney for the District of Nebraska and a native of Omaha. Ms. Gilg serves on Attorney General Holder's Subcommittees on National Security, Civil Rights Enforcement, and Indian Country issues. She chairs the Attorney General's Task Force on Domestic Violence Against Native-American Women. Ms. Gilg served as the Keith County Attorney from 1987-2002. After relocating to the Omaha area, she worked in the Saunders County Attorney's Office as the chief felony prosecutor until 2009. Ms. Gilg has also served as a Special Prosecutor, Special Deputy County Attorney and/or County Attorney in 21 Nebraska counties as well as maintained a private civil practice. Ms. Gilg taught criminal law and procedure, employment law and wills and trusts at Metropolitan Community College as adjunct faculty from 2004-2009. During several of her years as a county prosecutor, she was on the Board of Directors of the Nebraska County Attorney Association and served as President. She is the recipient of several public service awards including the Nebraska Women's Bar Association Outstanding Contributor to Women in the Law; Nebraska Bar Foundation Award for Outstanding Public Service; the Nebraska State Patrol Award for Exceptional Public Service and the Nebraska County Officials Association Award for Outstanding Public Service. Ms. Gilg received her Juris Doctorate degree in 1977 from the University of Nebraska College of Law, and her Bachelor of Arts degree (major in Latin-American Studies) from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1974.

As United States Attorney for the District of Nebraska, Ms. Gilg oversees a staff of 26 Assistant U.S. Attorneys (AUSAs) and more than 40 support staff working in offices located in Omaha and Lincoln. Five attorneys from the County Attorney's offices, in Douglas, Lancaster, and Hall Counties have offices in the U.S. Attorney's Office, and 22 attorneys from the Northern District of Iowa, Nebraska Attorney General's Office, Internal Revenue Service, Social Security Administration, Small Business Administration, Judge Advocate General's Office and Department of Homeland Security, also serve as Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys (SAUSAs) to assist with criminal and civil litigation in the District.

The Criminal Division of the office, which includes the General Crimes Unit and the Drug Prosecution Unit, prosecutes violations of federal criminal law. The attorneys in the General Crimes Unit are supervised by Jan Sharp, Criminal Chief, while Susan Lehr, Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) Chief, supervises the Drug Unit and Asset Forfeitures. Assistant United States Attorney Robert Sigler is the Appellate Coordinator/Senior Litigation Counsel. The Civil Division is headed by Robert Homan, and Joseph Jeanette coordinates the Law Enforcement and Community Coordination (LECC) Unit, which maintains partnerships between law enforcement agencies, provides services to crime victims and witnesses, and coordinates training conferences. The Administrative Unit, which supports the operations of all components of the office, is supervised by Denise Smith, Administrative Officer. Robert C. Stuart, serves as First Assistant United States Attorney.

STRATEGIC GOALS

Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security

Strengthen Partnerships to Prevent, Deter and
Respond to Terrorist Incidents

Prevent Crime, Enforce Federal Laws and Represent the Rights and Interests of All Americans

Reduce the Threat, Incidents and Prevalence of Violent Crime
Prevent, Suppress and Intervene in Crimes Against Children

Reduce the Threat, Trafficking, Use and Related Violence of Related Drugs

Combat Public/Corporate Corruption, Fraud, Economic Crime and Cybercrime

Vigorously Enforce and Represent the Interests of the United States in All Matters Over Which the Department of Justice has jurisdiction

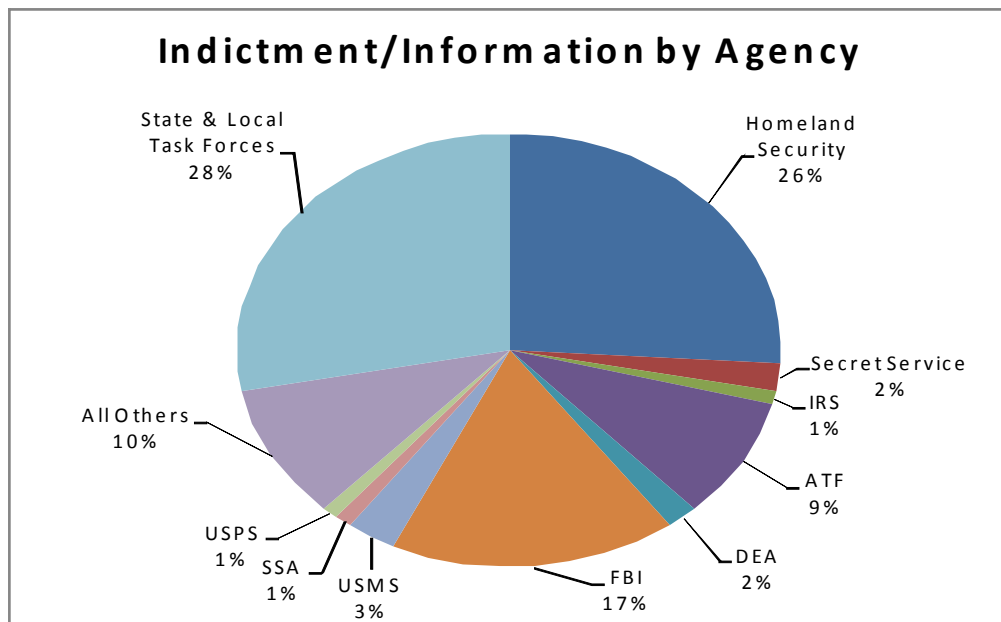
Ensure the Fair and Efficient Administration of Justice

Uphold the Rights and Improve Service to Victims of Crime Ensure Public Safety in Indian Country

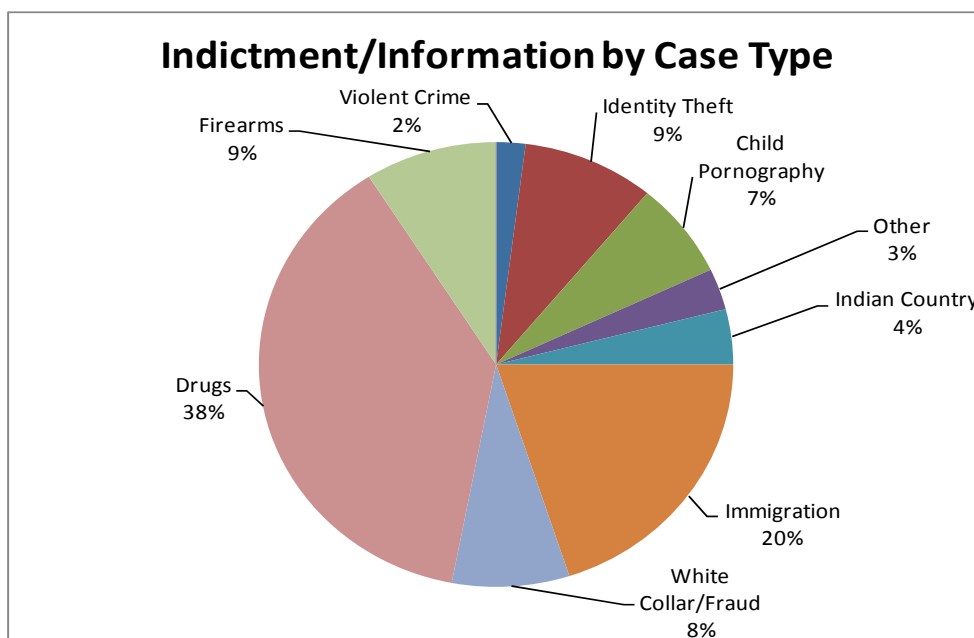
Uphold and Protect our Civil Rights with Special Emphasis on Hate Crimes



In 2011, the Criminal Division continued to focus its efforts on areas identified as national priorities by the Department of Justice; anti-terrorism, assuring the safety of our communities, and drug enforcement. Working closely with federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies, the 26 Assistant United States Attorneys and 5 Special Assistant United States Attorneys in the office's general criminal and drug units prosecuted violations of federal criminal statutes in federal district courts in Omaha, Lincoln, and North Platte.



The number of defendants who faced federal charges in 2011 totaled 643, the majority of these cases related to illegal drugs; however, firearms cases, immigration cases, and offenses involving identity theft and fraud comprised a significant portion of the criminal cases filed.



ANTI-TERRORISM

The fight against terrorism, both international and domestic, continues to be the first priority of the Department of Justice. The United States Attorney's Office Criminal Division, in the District of Nebraska, has committed significant resources to this effort. Working closely with the FBI and other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, office personnel continue their active membership in the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) and the Nebraska Information Analysis Center (NIAC)



to detect indications or warnings of terrorist activities, identify and protect potential targets of terrorist activities within the District, disrupt activities that support terrorism, and prevent, through aggressive prosecution, any crimes that may in some way contribute to terrorism. Other particularly notable efforts include: sponsorship of the United States Attorney's Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council (ATAC), co-hosting the annual Lt. Governor's Nebraska Infrastructure Protection Conference, chairing the multi-agency Suspicious Activity Report Review Team, formation of a Counter Proliferation Task Force (CPTF), and providing training to educators across Nebraska.

The United States Attorney's Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council (ATAC), composed of nearly 70 government, industry and community partners, continues to foster information sharing and networking between various sectors through training presentations and open-source intelligence updates.



This year's Nebraska Infrastructure Protection Conference (NIPC) continued, for the eighth consecutive year under the joint sponsorship of the United States Attorney's Office and the Lieutenant Governor's Office, to provide a forum for representatives from every sector of the infrastructure to recognize and enhance the inter-dependencies between sectors. This year's conference highlighted International and Domestic Threats, Active Shooter/Armed Intruder, Critical Infrastructure Preparedness and Protection Threat, Cyber-Security, Business and Community Plan Development, Nebraska Gang Updates and Lessons Learned from the 2011 Flooding.

This year, our office continued to chair the Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) Review Team. The difference between criminals and terrorists is that criminals' activities are motivated by acquisition of money, whereas, terrorists must have money to further their destructive ideologies. The SAR Review Team is comprised of members from nearly a dozen different federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. Monthly, each member reviews the previous month's SAR(s) through their respective organizational filters and shares information that arises from their investigative efforts. This has been successful in bringing investigative and prosecutorial resources to bear on individuals and entities engaging in violations of the Bank Secrecy Act and de-confliction with ongoing investigations.

We continue to develop relationships through the Counter Proliferation Task Force (CPTF). This effort combines the resources of the United States Attorney's Office, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS) to prevent sensitive weapons of mass destruction and other dual-use technology from falling into the hands of those who wish to harm America. An important aspect of the CPTF is assisting and participating in established outreach programs of our other federal law enforcement partners to assist industry to identify and mitigate attempts to inappropriately obtain such technology.

The United States Attorney's Office also serves as a member of the U.S. Strategic Command Threat Working Group, whose mission is to identify and mitigate threats to the command and its supporting Department of Defense elements, including innumerable private contractors. Attenuation of these threats requires a concerted effort which includes information-sharing and networking among law enforcement personnel at every level. Elimination of a threat for this important partner only serves to protect the entire community.





DOJ PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERS

U.S. Department of Justice The mission of the U.S. Department of Justice is to enforce the law and defend the nation's interests according to the law, ensure public safety against both foreign and domestic threats, provide leadership in preventing and controlling crime, seek just punishment for those found guilty of breaking the law, enforce drug and immigration laws, and ensure fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans.



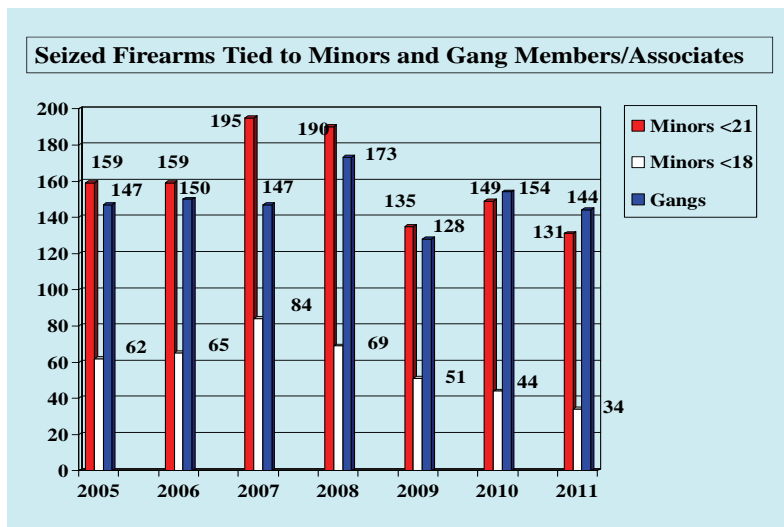
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), a law enforcement agency within the U.S. Department of Justice, enforces the federal laws and regulations relating to alcohol, tobacco products, firearms, explosives, and arson. ATF's Office of Training and Professional Development provides enforcement training courses and specially designed classes tailored to meet the needs of jurisdictions that request training.



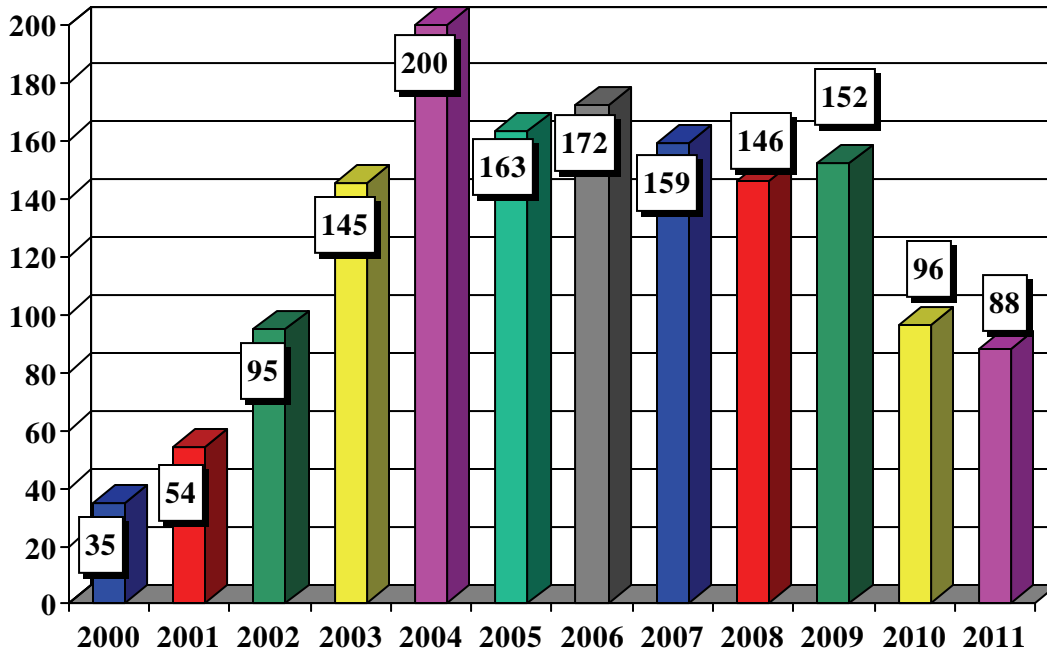
Criminal Division The Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice develops, enforces, and supervises the application of all federal criminal laws except those specifically assigned to other divisions. The Division and the 93 U.S. Attorneys are responsible for overseeing criminal matters under the more than 900 statutes and certain civil litigation. In addition to direct litigation responsibilities, the Division formulates and implements criminal enforcement policy and provides advice and assistance.

Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys The Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA) is the liaison between the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the 93 U.S. Attorneys in the 50 states, District of Columbia, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands. EOUSA provides U.S. Attorneys with general executive assistance and direction, policy development, administrative management direction and oversight, operational support, and coordination with other DOJ components and federal agencies.

Office of Justice Programs Founded in 1984, the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) provides federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, improve the criminal and juvenile justice systems, increase knowledge about crime and related issues, and assist crime victims. OJP's numerous bureaus and offices include the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). It is with the developmental and financial assistance of these organizations that OJP is able to successfully form partnerships among federal, state, and local government officials to address numerous criminal justice issues, including drug abuse and trafficking, neighborhood rehabilitation, gang violence, prison crowding, juvenile crime, and white-collar crime.



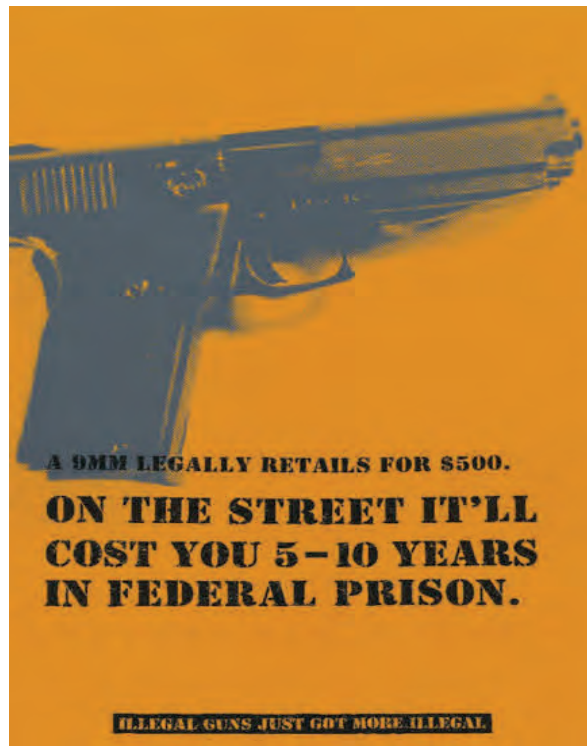
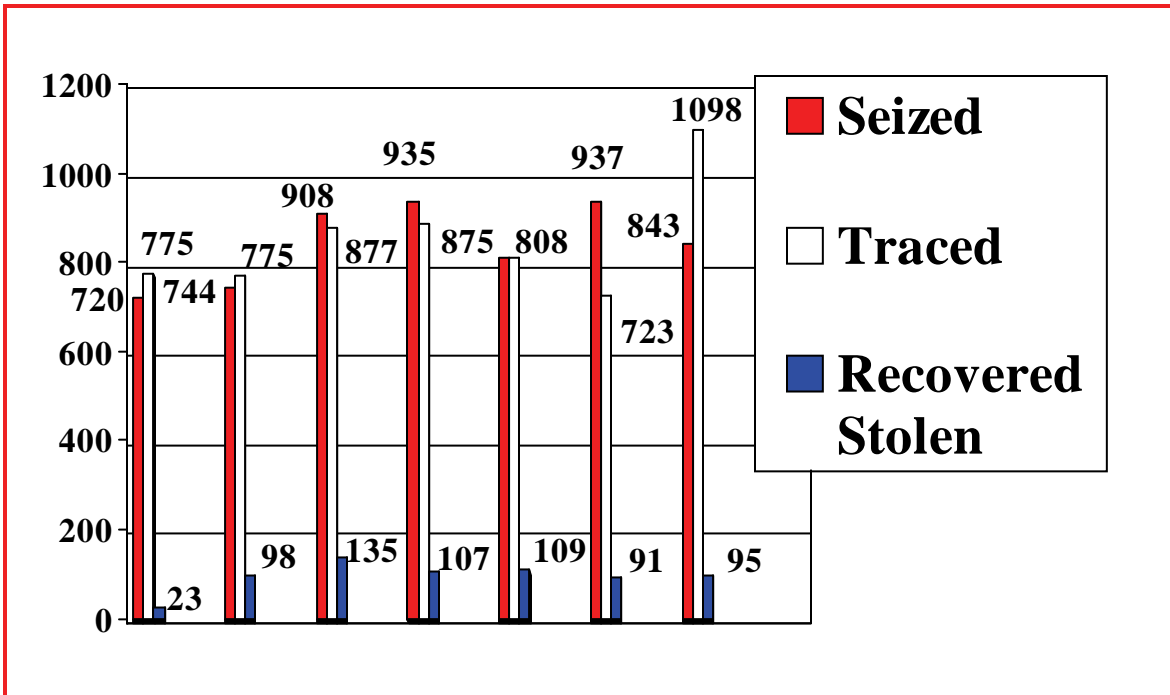
Federal Gun Indictments



PSN Federal Gun Indictments 2011

Date	Omaha PSN Cases	North East Weed Seed Gun Cases	Alien With Gun Cases	State PSN Cases	PSN Cases 2004	PSN Cases 2005	PSN Cases 2006	PSN Cases 2007	PSN Cases 2008	PSN Cases 2009	PSN Cases 2010	PSN Cases 2011
JAN	3	0	2	2	20	16	16	8	8	13	8	5
FEB	4	0	1	2	12	18	23	23	13	13	11	6
MAR	2	0	1	3	16	13	8	19	5	20	6	5
APR	4	2	0	3	15	22	23	12	16	24	12	7
MAY	3	0	1	1	10	11	6	20	13	23	3	4
JUN	1	0	0	3	11	13	20	8	10	16	8	4
JUL	27	0	0	0	23	12	18	14	11	15	3	27
AUG	3	0	1	4	19	10	13	13	19	3	8	7
SEP	2	0	1	4	19	9	11	4	17	4	13	6
OCT	2	0	0	0	16	7	10	12	9	13	9	2
NOV	3	0	0	3	17	15	10	18	8	7	11	5
DEC	3	0	0	6	22	17	14	8	17	1	2	10
Totals	57	2	7	31	200	163	172	159	146	152	96	88

Firearms Seized By OPD for Tracking



Project Safe Neighborhoods Firearms Tracing and Tracking Project 2011

Subject	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Totals
Gun Cases Reviewed	39	30	43	37	29	41	6	34	70	32	50	35	446
Cases Presented to USAO	3	3	7	3	2	5	5	4	3	2	6	6	50
Cases Presented to USAO w/other Units	2	2	2	2	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	1	15
Cases Presented to DCAO	17	15	14	16	10	23	1	9	26	18	18	16	183
Cases Presented to OCPO	9	9	17	13	14	10	0	12	30	11	18	8	141
Juvenile Cases	0	1	3	1	1	0	0	7	11	1	7	4	36
Guns Sent to ATF for Trace	75	74	116	80	66	134	69	55	162	62	97	108	1098

WARNING:
Hard Time For Gun Crime
Illegal Gun Tip—Call 444-STOP
(7867)

PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD CASES

Percy Webster was sentenced to 15 years in prison for being an armed career criminal in possession of a firearm. Webster was found in possession of a 9 mm pistol and a loaded magazine. Webster had previously been convicted of multiple felony offenses to include armed robbery with a firearm, burglary and conspiracy to distribute cocaine base.

Alfred Tucker was sentenced to 188 months in prison for being an armed career criminal in possession of a firearm. Tucker was removed from a vehicle implicated in a "shots fired" incident and a gun was found in the car near where he had been sitting. His fingerprint was found on an ammunition box in the car. Webster had previously been convicted of the felony offenses of assault in the second degree, assault by a confined person and escape.

Brandon Dorsey was sentenced to 21 months in prison following his conviction for unlawful dealing in firearms. Dorsey supplied guns to prohibited persons by purchasing the weapons himself. Dorsey purchased 5 firearms between March of 2007 and October of 2008 that were ultimately found in the possession of other persons involved in criminal activity. In 4 of the instances the guns had been purchased by Dorsey within a matter of days of the guns being confiscated by law enforcement.

William Cook was sentenced to 63 months in prison following his conviction for possession of a short shotgun. Cook was arrested after a high speed chase and a search of the car turned up the sawed-off shotgun.

James Lee Livingston was sentenced to 60 months in prison following his conviction for being a felon in possession of a firearm. Livingston was arrested for firing a gun in the yard of his Omaha home. He was a prohibited person because of prior burglary conviction.



PROJECT SAFE CHILDHOOD

Project Safe Childhood is a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the United States Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims.

In calendar year 2011, thirty individuals were indicted in the District of Nebraska for crimes involving the exploitation of children via the Internet. Those indictments included charges for the receipt and distribution of child pornography, the enticement and manufacture of child pornography and interstate travel to engage in a sexual act with a juvenile. During this same time period 27 defendants appeared before the United States District Court for sentencing on crimes involving the exploitation of children via the Internet.

PROJECT SAFE CHILDHOOD CASES:

Shawn Sinner received a 27 year sentence to be followed by a lifetime of supervised release for producing child pornography. Sinner filmed himself sexually assaulting a three year old child. The video was discovered after Sinner had received a sentence of probation in state court for possessing child pornography. The state court ruled that Sinner could not be prosecuted for sexually assaulting the child as his plea agreement precluded any other charges resulting from the search of his computer.

Michael Tramp of Crofton, Nebraska was sentenced for the receipt and transportation of child pornography. Tramp was sentenced to a 12 year term of imprisonment and a five year term of supervised release. Over an 18 month period ending in May 2010, Tramp exchanged a number of text messages with a 13 year old girl in Southwestern Minnesota. Tramp requested and received a series of visual depictions sent by the teen to Tramp by cell phone. The depictions involved the teen posed in sexually explicit conduct.

Robert Olney was sentenced to 10 years in prison following his conviction for transporting a minor with intent to engage in criminal sexual activity. Olney met a 15 year old girl online and convinced her to leave her Nebraska home and travel with him to Alabama where he intended to engage in a sexual relationship with her.

Noah Brouillette was sentenced to a 10 year term of imprisonment for possession of eighteen videos of child pornography. Brouillette had previously been convicted in Utah for Sexual Exploitation of a Minor - Second Degree. This conviction required him to register as a sex offender. When he moved to Nebraska, he registered his Omaha

PROJECT SAFE CHILDHOOD CASES (CONT)

address with the Sex Offender Registry as required. On September 30, 2010, the Nebraska State Patrol conducted a sex offender compliance check. During the compliance check, Brouillette consented to the search of his computer. The videos of child pornography were found during this search. Because of his prior conviction, Brouillette faced a mandatory minimum sentence of ten years for possessing child pornography.

Daniel A. Nieto received a ten year sentence for possessing child pornography. Members of the FBI Cyber Crimes Task Force served a search warrant at Nieto's residence. Agents seized a computer and two compact discs from a stand near Nieto's bed. Although the computer was clean, the discs contained ten videos of child pornography. At the time of the search, Nieto was on probation as a result of an Iowa conviction for Lascivious Act with a Child. Because of his prior conviction involving sexual abuse, he faced a mandatory minimum ten year sentence for the possession of child pornography.

Robert M. Fast was sentenced to 6 years in prison for receipt and distribution of child pornography. After his release from prison, Fast will be required to serve a 5 year term of supervised release and be registered as a sex offender. Additionally, Fast was ordered to pay \$19,863.84 in restitution to one of the child pornography victims in this case. Investigators with the Lincoln Police Department were able to access child pornography images from computers that were using file sharing software that utilized the Gnutella Network. The investigator was able to identify the Internet Protocol address for the computer that was sharing the images of child pornography on that network. Upon checking with the internet service provider, investigators were able to identify that the residence utilizing that IP address belonged to Fast. A search warrant was executed at the residence in November of 2010. When investigators examined Fast's computers, they found 26 digital images and 23 videos of child pornography.

Daniel Kuca was sentenced to a 96 month term of imprisonment for receipt of child pornography. Kuca was also ordered to serve a five year term of supervised release following the prison term. Kuca came to the attention of investigators of the Nebraska Attorney General's Office and the Lincoln Police Department during the course of an investigation into the distribution of child pornography through peer-to-peer networks, such as Limewire. Investigators were able to access files containing child pornography on a computer of Kuca's which were available to the public through the peer-to-peer network. Investigators then conducted a search of Kuca's residence in Lincoln, Nebraska and seized two computers and related equipment. In all, Kuca had approximately 50 videos of child pornography on the seized computers.

Joshua Louderback was sentenced to 15 years in prison following his conviction for receiving child pornography. This was Louderback's second offense for receiving and possessing child pornography. In addition to the prison term, Louderback was also ordered to be under supervised release for the rest of his life. In a separate

PROJECT SAFE CHILDHOOD CASES (CONT)

proceeding, Louderback also admitted to a violation of the earlier terms of supervised release imposed by the Court as a result of Louderback's conviction in 2006 for possessing child pornography. As a result of these violations, the Court sentenced Louderback to an additional 24 month prison term to be served consecutively to the 15 year prison term. Louderback was under the supervision of the United States Probation Office and during the period of supervision, he was found to have images of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct on his computers.

Kristopher Rowell of Falls City, Nebraska, was sentenced to 72 months in prison for receiving child pornography. In addition to his prison term, Regan will serve five years of supervised release following his release from prison. An investigator with the Nebraska State Patrol, using peer-to-peer software in an undercover capacity, located images of child pornography from a computer using a file sharing program from an internet protocol address traced to a residence in Falls City, Nebraska. Officers of the Nebraska State Patrol executed a search warrant at the residence of Rowell in Falls City, Nebraska. During the execution of the search warrant, computer equipment belonging to Rowell was found in the basement of the house. These items were seized and forensically examined by the Nebraska State Patrol. During the course of that forensic examination, 69 video and graphic image files containing child pornography were found on the computer and hard drive.

Failure to register as a sex offender

The Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) requires individuals who have been convicted of a crime requiring them to register as a sex offender to continue to register as a sex offender once they travel from one state to another for the purpose of residing, working or attending school. The cases are primarily investigated by the United States Marshal's Service, the Nebraska State Patrol and County Sheriff's Offices. During calendar year 2011, the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Nebraska indicted 16 individuals for failing to register as sex offenders.



VIOLENT CRIME

William Buckner was convicted of kidnapping following his abduction of an eight-year-old girl playing at Bosselman's video arcade in Big Springs, NE. Buckner transported the girl to the State of Colorado where he sexually assaulted her. He was arrested when he returned the girl to Nebraska and attempted to drop her off at the truck stop where he had abducted her. Buckner was sentenced to 20 years in prison, followed by a lifetime term of supervised release.

Traves Rush was convicted of bank robbery in connection with the robbery of a Lincoln financial institution. He was sentenced 14 years in prison. Rush testified in his own behalf at trial, and lied regarding his whereabouts at the time of the robbery. He was thereafter prosecuted for perjury committed during the bank robbery trial. He pled guilty and was sentenced to a consecutive 15 month term of imprisonment.

Richard Costanzo pled guilty to various prostitution offenses that occurred during the time period of 1997 to 2009

and two counts of money laundering. The charges relate to his operation of an escort service headquartered in Carter Lake, Iowa, but which dispatched prostitutes to the entire Omaha metropolitan area. The sentencing judge found that Mr. Costanzo knowingly caused a minor to engage in prostitution during his operation of the business. Mr. Costanzo was also convicted of witness tampering in a related case. Costanzo was sentenced to 96 months in prison and was ordered to pay a fine of \$20,000. He also agreed to forfeit his residence and six vehicles, all of which were used to commit the offenses or were acquired with proceeds from the offenses. Co-defendants Janna Wasko, Michael Wasko and Theresa Costanzo all pled guilty and received sentences ranging from probation to six months in jail plus six months of home confinement.

Vincent Gepson was sentenced to 140 months in prison following his convictions for committing six bank robberies in 2008. The robberies occurred in both Nebraska and Iowa.



IMMIGRATION

The United States Attorney's Office prosecutes violations of the immigration laws that occur in the State of Nebraska. These violations can involve simple presence in the country following deportation, possession of false documents, identity theft, human smuggling, possession of firearms and false claims to United States citizenship. Approximately 118 people were convicted in 2011 of illegal reentry into the United States. Scores of other undocumented aliens were convicted of non-immigration offenses such as identity theft, drug trafficking and firearms crimes.



WHITE COLLAR CRIME

Other criminal cases prosecuted in 2011 include:

Gerald and Judith Williams were convicted of participating in a conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud, based on their involvement in a scheme to fraudulently obtain a series of mortgage loans during 2005 to 2006 to purchase ten homes in an upscale housing subdivision in Omaha. All the houses eventually went into foreclosure, resulting in a loss to lenders of just over \$1.3 million. Gerald Williams was sentenced to 36 months in prison. Judith Williams was sentenced to one year plus one day in prison. Both were ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$1,304,000.

Linda Swain Armstrong was convicted of making false statements in her personal and corporate tax returns. By understating the gross receipts and paying certain workers in cash, Swain Armstrong was able to under-report the amount of payroll expense incurred by Swain Construction without alerting the IRS. Swain Armstrong was sentenced to four years of probation with eight months of home detention. She was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$103,880.04.

Timothy Reganis was sentenced to one year probation and ordered to pay a \$30,000 fine and restitution to the Social Security Administration totaling \$44,614, pursuant to his conviction, following a four day jury trial, for defrauding the Social Security Administration. Reganis, for three years, paid one of his top salesmen in the name of the salesman's wife. He paid the employee "under the

table" so the salesman could collect early social security retirement benefits totaling \$51,776 while hiding the fact of his continued employment. The salesman, Gary Steele, pled guilty and testified at trial against Reganis. Steele was sentenced to five years probation and ordered to pay restitution totaling \$44,614.

Nancy Basler was sentenced to 6 months imprisonment and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$196,603.90 following her conviction for theft of government property. Between 1990 and September 2, 2010, Basler defrauded the Social Security Administration by continuing to receive and spend her mother's Social Security benefits after her mother's death. Her mother had died on January 14, 1990, but her mother's Social Security benefits continued to be electronically deposited into a jointly held bank account.

Shirley Piontkowski was sentenced to 5 years probation and ordered to pay \$20,215.08 in restitution following her conviction for embezzlement of public monies. Piontkowski worked as a licensed practical nurse at a Veterans Administration hospital. She submitted falsified claims for benefits purportedly the result of injuries she had suffered on the job.

Alan Feifer was sentenced to 27 months in prison and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$196,000.00 following his conviction for mail fraud. Feifer defrauded restaurant owners by falsely represented that he would help them franchise their restaurants and market the opportunities to investors. In fact, Feifer would take the victims' monies and not follow through with marketing the franchise opportunities.

Dustin Douglass was indicted and charged with making a fraudulent application to the VA, in an effort to obtain benefits from injuries Douglas represented he suffered while deployed in Iraq. Based on his application, the VA provided benefits totaling \$22,148.53. Douglass claimed he suffered various injuries and illnesses as a result of his service in combat. The investigation revealed Douglass had, in fact, been deployed to Iraq, but had served as a computer specialist, had never been in combat, and did not suffer the service-related injuries and illnesses he claimed to have suffered. Douglass was placed on supervised release for 3 years, and required to pay \$22,148.53 in restitution.

Galen Niehues, an inspector for the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, (NDA), was convicted of mail fraud for submitting falsified reports to his employer concerning inspections he was supposed to perform at Nebraska cattle operations. Niehues was tasked with performing inspections of Nebraska ranches, cattle and feed for the presence of neurological diseases in cattle including Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), also known as “Mad Cow Disease”. Niehues was to identify cattle producers, perform on-site inspections of the farm sites and cattle operations, ask producers specific questions about feed, and take samples of the feed. Niehues was to then submit feed samples for laboratory analysis, and complete reports of his inspections and submit them to the NDA and to the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). An investigation by the FDA and NDA revealed Niehues had fabricated approximately 100 BSE inspections and inspection reports. When confronted, Niehues admitted his reports were

fraudulent, and that had fabricated the reports and feed samples he submitted to the NDA. Niehues received a sentence of 5 years probation, a 3-year term of supervised release, and was required to pay \$42,812.10 in restitution.

Karen Adams was sentenced to five years probation and ordered to pay \$19,113.99 in restitution following her conviction for Embezzling social security benefits while she was Executive Director of Safe Harbor, Inc., in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. She withdrew proceeds of social security disability benefits from client accounts and converted them to her own purposes.

Siddiq Talib was sentenced to 51 months in prison and ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$180,664.69 as a result of his involvement in a multi-state credit card and bank fraud scheme. Talib manufactured counterfeit credit cards and then used those cards at various retail locations in multiple states.



DRUG ENFORCEMENT

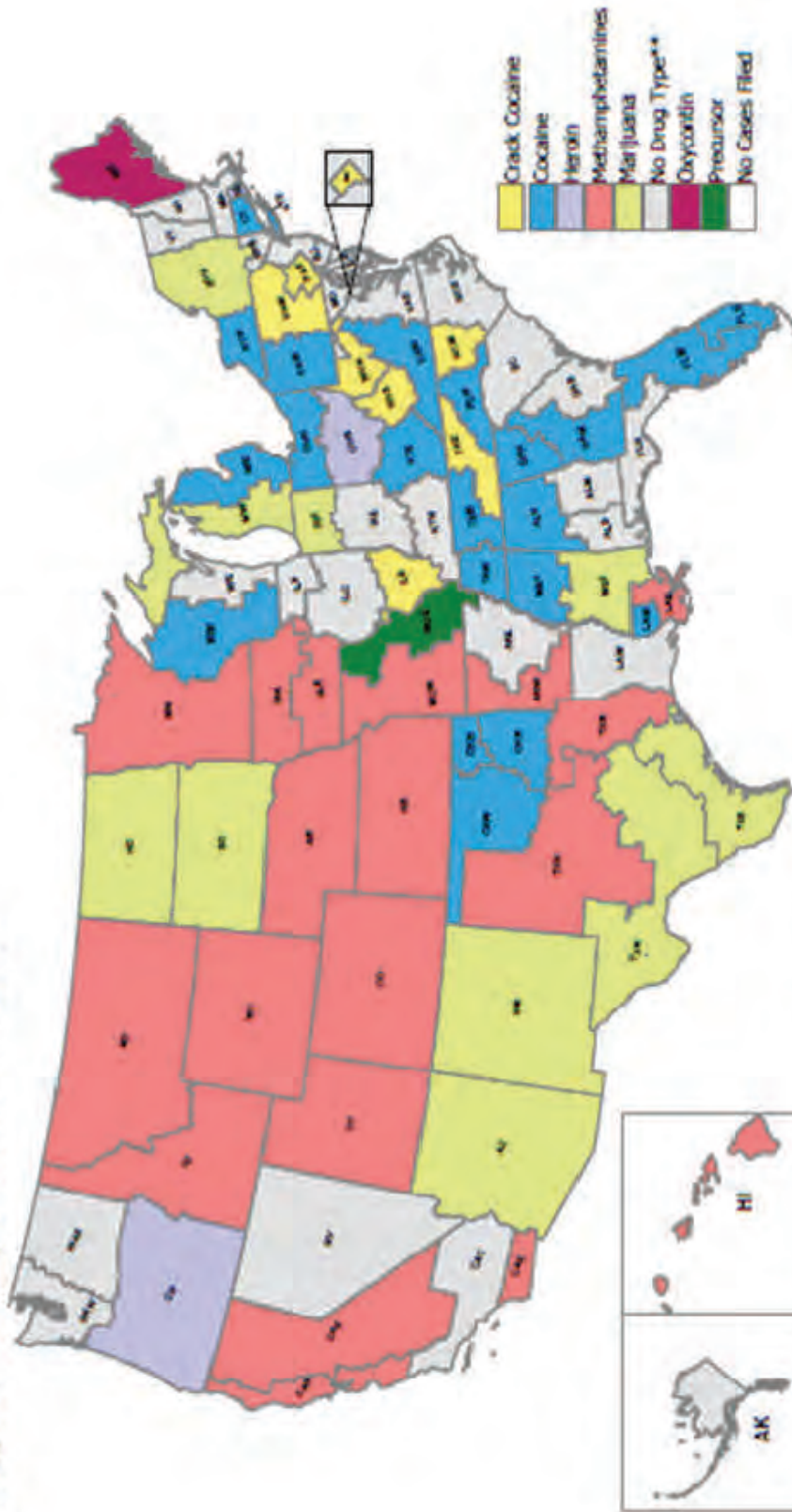
The fight against illegal drug use and distribution continued to be a major priority of the United States Attorney's Office in 2011. Nebraska, with its location in the central United States, between western and eastern drug sources and markets, and with a large number of major interstate and other highways which pass through the State, is a significant trans-shipment area for drug traffickers. Omaha, Lincoln, Grand Island, and other Nebraska cities serve as redistribution points for drug markets within Nebraska and neighboring states and markets, and to smaller rural communities within the District.

The coordinated efforts of Assistant United States Attorneys (AUSAs) and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney's (SAUSAs), addressed the comprehensive threat posed to the United States and the District of Nebraska, by the trafficking, diversion and abuse of illegal drugs. The Drug Unit comprises the largest unit of the office and appointment of SAUSAs from the Douglas, Lancaster, and Hall County Attorney's Offices has greatly expanded the prosecutorial resources dedicated to this effort. Attorneys who prosecuted drug cases were supported by extra-ordinary cooperative investigative efforts of federal, state and local enforcement agencies throughout the District.

To address the issues related to the investigation and prosecution of drug-related offenses, the United States Attorney's Office filed approximately 180 indictments and informations charging 271 defendants in 2011.



**United States Attorneys - Criminal Caseload Statistics
 Highest Percentage of Drug Type in
 Drug Cases Filed per District - FY 2012****



**FY 2012 numbers are illustrative projections based on actual data through the end of December 2011. The U.S. Attorney provides a list for identifying the type of controlled substance involved in a case. However, if data is not available for the case, the case will be classified as No Drug Type. The highest percentage of cases (85%) in FY 2012 were filed in the District of Columbia. The Drug Type Code is always included in the Drug Type.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT CASES

Some of the more significant drug cases prosecuted in the last year include:

US v. Jemaine Sidney. On December 11, 2009, Sidney pled guilty to possessing with intent to distribute over 50 grams of crack cocaine on March 12, 2009. In 2010, Congress passed the Fair Sentencing Act (FSA). A key component of the law reduced the crack cocaine to powder cocaine disparity from 1:100 to 1:28. On January 12, 2011, Sidney was sentenced to 120 months imprisonment. This case was appealed to the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals on the issue of whether the FSA was retroactive to individuals whose criminal activity was prior to the amendment but they were sentenced after passage of the FSA. This case was the first time the 8th Circuit held the FSA is not retroactive under these circumstances. The case has been cited by a number of other circuits, including the 7th and 2nd, in support of their rulings that the FSA is not retroactive. It has been cited in 26 appellate decisions and six research articles (ALR, Federal Practice Procedure).

US v. Aaron Polk. Defendant was convicted by a jury of conspiracy to grow 1000 or more marijuana plants. Defendant continued to insist he was innocent arguing there was no evidence he ever potted a plant or plucked a bud. Unfortunately for Polk, conspiracies involve many people in many different roles, including people who use their real estate brokering background and contacts to find and rent houses for grow operations and get paid many thousands of dollars to do so. Prior to sentencing, Polk argued he truthfully provided to law enforcement all information he had regarding the conspiracy and his involvement when he provided a written statement saying the people that testified against him were liars but he really didn't know anything else because he was innocent and his hands were clean. Incidentally, he was arrested in a house containing almost 800 marijuana plants. Judge Kopf called his statements "ridiculous, at best." Although Polk was counting on getting the safety valve and being sentenced to probation, Judge Kopf imposed the mandatory 120 month minimum sentence. Polk has appealed.

Operation Pure Breed - Eighteen defendants were indicted as the result of a multi-agency investigation involving the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Nebraska State Patrol, the Fremont Police Department, the Madison County Sheriff's Office, the West Point Police Department, the Blair Police Department, and Homeland Security Investigations. The investigation involved using confidential informants to make controlled buys, search warrants, analysis of phone records, and cooperation statements of co-conspirators. The arrests resulted in the disruption of a major methamphetamine drug trafficking organization in the Fremont and Norfolk areas. Most of the defendants in the case proffered and pled with most of them receiving 10 year sentences, however 3 have yet to be located and the case remains open. Over \$20,000.00, three kilograms of methamphetamine and one firearm were seized as part of this operation.

Operation Sheepdog - This multi-agency investigation involved the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration, Bellevue Police Department, Omaha Police Department and Homeland Security Investigations. The year long investigation resulted in four wiretaps, in part because the target kept acquiring new phones, along with numerous undercover buys from numerous targets. As a result of the investigation, 13 defendants were indicted and arrested in December. Over 5000 pages of discovery material have been produced as a result of the investigation. A couple of the defendants have indicated they want to cooperate and the investigation continues.

Pier Pressure - This investigation in the Grand Island area involved the East Side Locos gang. Most of the defendants were arrested in late 2010 and their prosecution continued into 2011. Of the 11 federal defendants who had some association with the gang, 8 received sentences of 10 years or more. The longest sentence was for Jose Espinoza, who was sentenced to 27 years and ordered to pay \$14,000 in restitution to the Central Nebraska Drug and Safe Streets Task Force. He earned an obstruction of justice enhancement, and was denied any reduction for acceptance of responsibility despite having pled guilty, after it was discovered that he spearheaded an effort, while confined in jail when his federal case was pending, to attempt to hire someone to have the main informant in the case killed. The Hall County Attorney's Office also assisted by obtaining state search warrants and prosecuting other defendants connected to the gang.

Manufacturing Methamphetamine in Lincoln: On Tuesday, February 22, 2011, Lancaster County Deputy Guthard contacted Steven Barga sitting in a vehicle at 13900 O St. Initial observations made by Deputy Guthard led him to believe that he stumbled upon a methamphetamine lab. Other deputies were called to the area to make initial assessments, to include Deputy Schwarz, a member of the Lincoln Lancaster County Metro Clandestine Laboratory Team. Deputies contacted the property owner, who advised that the suspects Steven Barga and Mark Skoda did not have permission to be on the property. A search of the vehicles belonging to Steven Barga and Mark Skoda in the surrounding area revealed all of the components needed to manufacture methamphetamine. The methamphetamine lab was processed and many of the items were sent to the Nebraska State lab. Lab results revealed the presence of methamphetamine and ephedrine/pseudoephedrine.

On February 22, 2011, Steven Barga was arrested for manufacturing a controlled substance. Based on information provided by Barga and evidence collected at the scene, a broadcast was made for Mark Skoda, since Skoda fled the scene upon officers' arrival. The discovery of the methamphetamine lab kicked off an investigation by Deputy Schwarz that included a wide range of investigative techniques to include monitoring of jail phone calls, directing recorded conversations by cooperating individuals, obtaining pseudoephedrine logs dating back to February 2009, obtaining store video surveillance, and utilizing interviews with conspirators. The pseudoephedrine logs compiled by Deputy Schwarz documented 328 purchases of pseudoephedrine from February 2009 to February 2011.

The investigation led to nine defendants being federally indicted, including Mark Skoda. Skoda went to trial and was convicted of conspiracy to manufacture over 500 grams of methamphetamine. Because he has a prior felony drug conviction, Skoda faces a mandatory minimum 20 years imprisonment when he is sentenced.

Jeff Sprowls – owner of the Omaha Beef Arena Football Team. United States postal investigators received information from different Beef staff members that Sprowls was receiving packages containing narcotics. Postal investigators ultimately identified several dozen packages over the previous year suspected of containing narcotics. A federal search warrant was executed on a package in St. Louis, Missouri in coordination with the United States Attorney's Office in St. Louis. A small amount of crack cocaine was discovered in the package. The package was transported to Omaha and a controlled delivery was done. Postal inspectors and the Omaha Police Department then executed a federal search warrant on Sprowls and he was arrested for possessing crack cocaine. The case is being prosecuted by the Douglas County Attorney's Office.

Jerome Bass – Jerome Bass was convicted on September 26, 2005, after a jury trial of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute more than 50 grams of cocaine base. Following the verdict, Defendant filed a Motion for New Trial. At the scheduled sentencing, the District Court granted the Motion for New Trial. The United States appealed the District Court's Order granting Defendant's Motion for New Trial and the Eighth Circuit reversed and remanded for sentencing. United States v. Bass, 478 F.3d 948 (8th Cir. 2007). After the guilty verdict was reinstated, Jerome Bass was sentenced to 120 months in prison and 5 years supervised release. Jerome Bass appealed his conviction based on the insufficiency of evidence. The Eighth Circuit affirmed the conviction, noting the overwhelming evidence presented against Jerome Bass. United States v. Bass, 270 Fed.Appx. 467 (8th Cir. 2008).

On June 29, 2009, Bass filed a Motion under Title 28, United States Code, Section 2255, challenging his conviction on the basis of ineffective assistance of trial counsel. Following a hearing on the matter, the District Court, in March 2010, granted Jerome Bass's motion finding his trial counsel was ineffective and ordered Bass released from prison. The United States appealed the District Court's Order granting Defendant's Motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255. The case was argued before the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals in April 2011 and on September 9, 2011, the Court reversed the district court yet again, which meant Bass' conviction was upheld and he had to serve the remainder of his sentence.

Thomas Carodine – On December 18, 2009, members of the Omaha Metro Area Fugitive Task Force went to the residence of 1611 N. 144th avenue in an attempt to locate two parties with state arrest warrants, one being Thomas Carodine. Task Force members were able to gain entry, and in doing so Carodine was found and detained. During a protective sweep of the residence, Task Force members observed in plain view a large bag of marijuana in the main bedroom and numerous large bags of raw marijuana in an attached garage. Narcotics officers with both the Douglas County Sheriff's Office and the Omaha Police Department were notified. A search warrant was obtained and executed. During the search of the residence, over 25 lbs of marijuana were located along with \$2933 in U.S. currency and a firearm. During a subsequent Mirandized interview of Carodine, he stated that he had been selling marijuana for one year in amounts of 30-50 lbs every month to every other month.

Thomas Carodine was subsequently indicted, and officers again went to 1611 N. 144th Avenue in order to serve his federal arrest warrant. Officers were given permission to enter the house by Carodine, and during a protective sweep officers observed evidence indicative that Carodine was again dealing. A search warrant was obtained, and \$35,089 in U.S. currency and two more firearms were discovered. Carrodine pled guilty to conspiring to distribute marijuana, was sentenced to 95 months imprisonment, and the forfeiture of \$38,022.00

John Vandry – Vandry, who was on supervised release following his release from prison for a 2006 conviction for being a felon in possession of a firearm, was being investigated for his role in distributing methamphetamine. In addition to 8 grams of methamphetamine found at Vandry's residence following a search warrant, and 7 grams that Vandry sold during a controlled buy, coconspirators gave information attributing over 1 kilogram of methamphetamine to Vandry. Vandry pled guilty and was sentenced to 151 months total for the violation of his supervised release and the conspiracy.

Terry Howard and Victor Zuniga – Nebraska State Patrol road patrol came across Zuniga and Howard parked in a dark alley outside a storage shed in Kearney in January 2011. A K9 was deployed and hit on Zuniga's vehicle. A subsequent search netted 5.8 ounces of methamphetamine. Zuniga stated he had been dealing 2 ounces of methamphetamine per week since July of 2010. Howard stated that Zuniga was his source and that since September of 2010, had purchased more than 600 grams of methamphetamine from Zuniga. Zuniga and Howard were federally indicted for conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine and both pled guilty. Zuniga was sentenced to 135 months imprisonment and Howard 120 months.

Steven Sullivan - In 2011, the DEA scheduled three synthetic stimulants used to make products marketed as "bath salts" and "plant food". In October 2010, prior to DEA making their designation, Steven Sullivan was arrested by an Otoe County deputy sheriff for possessing a similar product. The Controlled Substances Act was amended in 1986 by enactment of the Controlled Substance Analogue Enforcement Act. This law provides for controlled substance analogues, to the extent they are intended for human consumption, to be treated as Schedule I controlled substances for purposes of criminal prosecution. To federally convict someone with a structural analogue drug, the prosecution must prove it has a substantially similar chemical structure (as the drug it is mimicking) and it has either the same pharmacological effect on the central nervous system as the Schedule I or II it is mimicking or it is represented (such as by the supplier or in a post-arrest interview) to have the same effect on the central nervous system as the Schedule I or II drug it is mimicking (that it is meant for human consumption).

In December Sullivan took his case to a jury having been charged with possessing "bath salts" or the structural analogue to MDMA. While the deputy was waiting to verify license and other information from dispatch he asked Sullivan if he had anything in the vehicle. Sullivan admitting to having some "bath powder." The deputy walked his drug dog around the vehicle and it indicated. Sullivan's vehicle was searched and the deputy found 397 net grams of 4-methylmethcathinone, a controlled substance analogue to methcathinone, a Schedule I controlled substance, and 3, 4-methylenedioxymethcathinone, a controlled substance analogue to MDMA, a Schedule I controlled substance. Deputies also found 100 2" X 2" plastic baggies, and sheets of labels, saying, "bath powder, not meant for human consumption". Mr. Sullivan said he had ordered the substance off the internet and didn't know it was illegal. A Lincoln Police Department Narcotics Unit investigator testified to his experience with amounts, price and effect of bath salts. The jury didn't believe Mr. Sullivan, found him guilty and he was sentenced to 92 months imprisonment.

Operation Tat-Man-Do -

In 2011, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), began using a confidential source who had strong contacts within various and diverse gangs in the Omaha area. Part of the popularity of the confidential source was his talent as a tattoo artist. As a result of this successful infiltration, ATF set up a storefront tattoo parlor and installed the confidential source as proprietor.

The storefront was equipped with 8 cameras, each with their own audio, a two way mirror, also with a camera. The mirror had a scantily clad centerfold strategically placed nearby to draw the eye, and the "customer," near. There was a stack of chrome rims and wheels, seized from another investigation, that were ultimately used as a bargaining tool in several of the undercover transactions. The tattoo shop also

had a backroom with monitoring equipment in which ATF agents spent many hours in surveillance of the undercover transactions. Over the course of several months, the confidential source was successful in making undercover purchases of guns and drugs from gang members and their associates in the white, black and Hispanic communities at the tattoo shop.

As of January 2012, seventy individuals have been arrested and seventy-one guns seized. Additionally, methamphetamine, crack cocaine and marijuana, with a combined street value of \$50,000, was seized along with approximately \$3,000. Thirty defendants were federally indicted on gun and drug charges and the remainder of the felony and misdemeanor cases are being prosecuted by the Douglas County Attorney's office in Omaha, Nebraska.

United States v. Shannon Williams, etal -

On April 28, 2011, after a three and a half week trial, a federal jury returned guilty verdicts against Shannon Williams, Deshawn Hernandez and Sara Jarrett on conspiracy counts of marijuana distribution and money laundering. At Williams' sentencing hearing the court found that Williams was responsible for between 3,000 to 10,000 kilograms of marijuana and sentenced him to 40 years imprisonment.

The evidence at trial showed that in the summer of 2006 Williams had been released from a federal prison facility and was sent to live in a halfway house in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Williams was at this half way house from the summer to December of 2006. While Williams had been in prison, he met contacts from Arizona who could supply him with marijuana. When he got released to the half way house, if not before, he used those contacts to start getting marijuana transported from Arizona to Omaha.

Over the course of the next three years Williams moved from the half way house to residences in Omaha and the Phoenix area. He had two main associates that ran his organization from the Omaha area: Richard Conway and Christopher Parrott.

While Williams was at the halfway house in 2006, he met Conway. Shortly thereafter Conway began getting marijuana from Williams. Parrott had already started working for Williams in 2006. At some point in 2007, Williams moved to Arizona and he recruited Conway to handle his business in Omaha. Conway talked to John Oglesby who got Steve Kisseberth. Kisseberth was arrested October 5, 2008 with 329 pounds of marijuana. From Kisseberth's first involvement with Conway around July 3, 2008 until his arrest he made 6 trips that each contained at least 300 pounds of marijuana. Other than the first time when he went to Denver only, the remaining 5 times he flew to Arizona and drove loads back to Omaha.

In 2007, Conway would get Williams the money from the customers by either giving it to him directly or giving it to Deshawn Hernandez, Williams' girlfriend. Conway would get the marijuana - again, either from Williams or Hernandez. In the spring of 2008, Williams had become increasingly frustrated with Parrott and began relying on Conway more. In exchange for being able to buy a larger amount of marijuana, Conway became responsible for getting drivers. He wanted an older white person. Oglesby, a friend of Conway's who had recruited Steve Kisseberth, introduced Conway to Daniel Bouquet. Bouquet flew to Tucson 3 times. Each time he would check into a hotel and the next morning he would drive a red Ford 150 to a Denver hotel. When he would get to Denver, he would check into a hotel and the next day or a couple days later, he would get a phone call telling him to go to the parking lot and get into the grey F-150 and drive that to Omaha. He was paid \$3500 per trip.

On April 23, 2008, Laura Adler was traffic stopped with 470 pounds of marijuana near the Utica exit, west of Seward, Nebraska that she had received from Williams. She was driving the grey truck registered to Mark Felix. Her instructions were similar to those that Kisseberth, Yvonne Ackerly (another driver) and Bouquet had. Go to a specific hotel in Denver and await further instructions. Adler testified that she went to Denver approximately 7-8 times and brought similar loads of marijuana back to Omaha each time.

In early March 2009, Tyrese Hernandez, Deshawn's father, recruited Kara Stahlecker to drive for the conspiracy. On her first trip Stahlecker and Tyrese Hernandez drove a rented car to Tucson. They picked up about 150 pounds of marijuana. When she got back to Omaha after the first trip, she saw Desahwn at her father's house near the Bohemian café, breaking up the marijuana and packaging it for sale. About a week later, on March 26, 2009, Stahlecker and her boyfriend, Christopher St. John headed towards Arizona to pick up another load. They were stopped in Oklahoma and found to be in possession of a small amount of methamphetamine and marijuana. They told the authorities they were on their way to Tucson, AZ, where they were supposed to pick up a load of marijuana and bring it back to Omaha. They agreed to cooperate by meeting up with the people in Tucson. Once they arrived in Tucson, Stahlecker contacted Tyrese Hernandez. The following day, Deshawn Hernandez called Stahlecker and told her a man would be coming with a car. That morning, Luis Lopez, came to their hotel room. They waited with him for a couple of hours. Eventually, Arcadio Pesqueira showed up in the parking lot driving a Hyundai Sonata. Lopez and Pesqueira left the Sonata in the parking lot and drove off in another vehicle. In the Sonata they left for Stahlecker and St. John were 3 bales of marijuana weighing about 70 pounds.

During this same time that Bouquet and Adler were driving for Williams, so was Joe Mark Felix. Felix was told he needed to get veteran plates on his vehicle and that when he drove, he needed to dress in a suit. Felix testified during the trips he took for this organization involved delivering marijuana or picking up money or both. A review of the hotel records shows he went to Denver 24 times from March 6, 2008 until July 30, 2009. On September 6, 2009, Felix was stopped by officers of the Peoria, Arizona Police Department, in a red Ford pickup and officers seized \$189,824 in cash.

On October 23, 2008, Julio Cesar Chiquette was stopped by the Arizona Department of Public safety and had \$174,990 in a bag in the truck. Chiquette had the truck because Williams told Felix to give it to him. That money was seized and forfeited.

On January 16, 2009, Williams was arrested in Peoria, Arizona, falsely identifying himself as Donald Jarmon, and had 297 pounds of marijuana at his residence.

In February 2009, Williams had been arrested in Minnesota on a supervised release violation and was brought back to Omaha on April 1, 2009. At that time, he was placed at the Douglas County Correctional Center. From April to December 2009, he paid Terry Haddock \$1,000 a month to bring a cell phone into the attorney/clergy visiting rooms so Williams could continue his marijuana enterprise. Williams used Haddock's status as a lawyer to bring a cell phone to the jail. After 10 days of pretrial motions hearings, the court ruled that Haddock was not operating as Williams' lawyer and the government had not committed "outrageous conduct" by using this investigative strategy. During the 63 visits Williams had with Haddock, Williams would call his coconspirators and discuss drug trafficking and what to do with the money they made from it. Mango Creek was a business account set up by Haddock as a way to funnel Williams' drug money. Cash would be deposited and then withdrawn and used to purchase real property. Often the money was withdrawn from the Mango Creek account, deposited into another account held by Hernandez, and then the money withdrawn.

Sara Jarrett was involved in transporting money and was given the money by Conway or Parrott. Airline records show that from June 11, 2008 to February 26, 2009, she flew one-way from Denver or Phoenix to Omaha 19 times. She would drive the money from Omaha to Arizona or Denver and fly back.

In addition to the currency listed above, 10 real properties in Omaha, one in Atlanta, over \$104,000 in U.S. currency, and 12 vehicles were forfeited.

In all, the U.S. Attorney's office in Omaha indicted and convicted 15 people in this conspiracy. Their sentences ranged from time served (a couple months) to 40 years. As a result of the Nebraska part of the investigation, the U.S. Attorney's office in Arizona indicted 12 others. This investigation involved the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Internal Revenue Service, Drug Enforcement Administration, Omaha Police Department, Bellevue Police Department and the Nebraska State Patrol. Of great assistance throughout the investigation and trial were Arizona agents of the FBI, DEA, Homeland Security, and Peoria, Arizona police departments.

(Photos of evidence obtained in re: U.S. v. Shannon Williams.)



In December, 1996, the Office of National Drug Policy (ONDCP) designated counties in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and South Dakota as the Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA). In February, 1999, designated counties in North Dakota joined the Midwest HIDTA. The goal of the Midwest HIDTA is to enhance and facilitate the coordination of regional drug-control efforts among local, state, and Federal law enforcement agencies in order to reduce drug trafficking and its harmful consequences in critical markets in the region.



Co-located with the United States Attorney's Office's LECC Unit is the Nebraska Office of the Midwest HIDTA Initiative. The Midwest HIDTA focuses on decreasing the importation, distribution, manufacture, and demand for illegal drugs within the Midwest Region, which includes Nebraska and neighboring states. Intelligence information on drug activity is compiled and disseminated through the Nebraska Law Enforcement Intelligence System (NELEIS), maintained by the State Patrol. The HIDTA Initiative, in addition to supporting law enforcement and prosecution, has developed a number of drug abuse prevention programs.

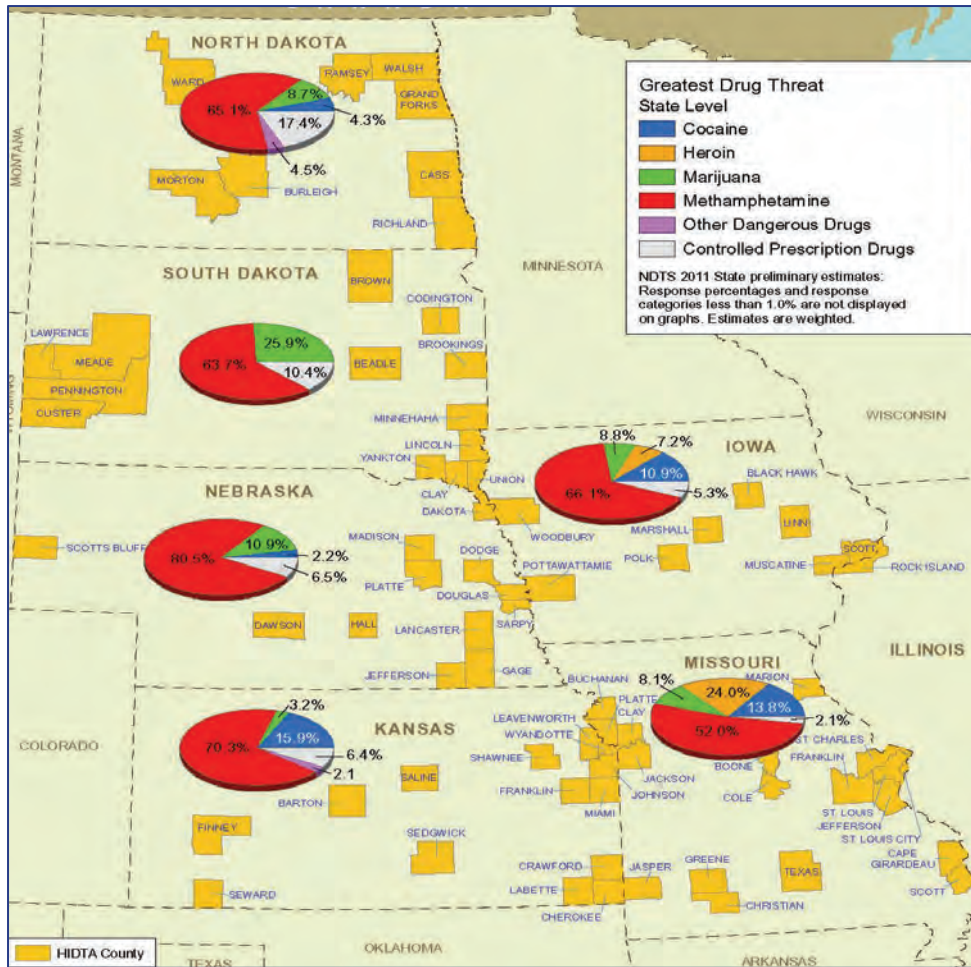
According to the Midwest HIDTA's 2011 Drug Market Analysis, the overall drug threat to the Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area remained fairly consistent from 2009 through 2010. Methamphetamine remains the foremost drug threat to the HIDTA region because of high levels of availability and abuse, overall negative societal impact, and increased local production. Other drug threats vary throughout the region. Crack cocaine poses a significant threat because of its close association with violence in urban areas. Mexican black tar and brown powder heroin, controlled prescription drugs (CPD's) and marijuana are typically available and widely abused in most drug markets. While the drug threat level has remained relatively consistent over the past year, several key issues have developed, compounding the drug threat facing the HIDTA region.

Key issues identified in the Midwest HIDTA region are as follows:

- Steady supply of Mexican methamphetamine, along with close cooperation among local methamphetamine users and producers, is sustaining high levels of methamphetamine availability and abuse that exceed those of all other drugs except marijuana in Midwest HIDTA counties. As such, methamphetamine is the drug that consumes the most law enforcement and social services resources.
- Widespread heroin trafficking and demand of oxycodone users who substitute heroin for prescription opioids have increased the prevalence and abuse of heroin.
- Trafficking of cocaine, particularly crack cocaine, is a persistent threat to the Midwest HIDTA region's urban area.
- CPD distributors and abusers in the Midwest HIDTA region are acquiring their drugs with relative ease.
- Sustained high demand for marijuana promotes high levels of marijuana availability and abuse in the region. Local demand for high-potency marijuana has increased during the last three years - fueling both increased indoor hydroponic grows and importation from California and Colorado.

(The following pages are charts from the Midwest HIDTA's 2011 Drug Market Analysis.)

Greatest Drug Threat as Reported by Law Enforcement Agencies in the Midwest HIDTA 2011



Midwest HIDTA Transportation Infrastructure



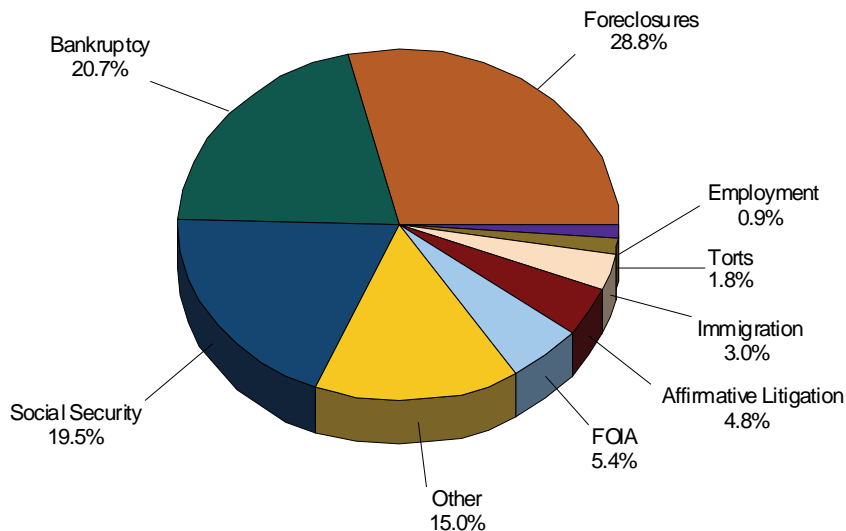


Attorneys in the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office represent the United States, as well as federal agencies, officers, and employees, in civil litigation in federal and state courts throughout Nebraska. Civil Division AUSAs work closely with lawyers from the federal agencies involved in each case to develop and present the position of the federal parties to the suit. Attorneys from the Department of Justice also assist in some civil litigation in the District of Nebraska.

Work on 333 civil cases and matters was completed in 2011. Included in that number were defensive cases in which the validity of federal laws, or the acts of federal agencies and employees, were challenged. Also included were affirmative cases brought to enforce federal statutory and regulatory requirements, and to collect debts owed to the United States. The chart below depicts the types of civil cases and matters completed during 2011.

Civil Cases Closed

By Cause of Action



The Internal Revenue Service, Social Security Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture continued to be the agencies involved in the largest number of civil cases in the District during 2011. The number of foreclosure and affirmative litigation cases decreased slightly in 2011, while the number of bankruptcy cases has remained consistent in recent years. A variety of cases involving the agencies within the Department of Justice also made up a significant portion of the overall civil workload. The number of cases completed for various federal agencies is reflected in the chart on page 40.

Civil Litigation

A primary function of the Civil Division is to provide quality representation to the United States and its agencies and officers in defensive litigation in federal and state court. During 2011, Civil Division AUSAs defended a number of cases brought in federal court to set aside or modify the actions of federal agencies and officers. Civil Division AUSAs also handled several cases seeking damages for alleged negligence or other wrongful conduct by federal employees, as well as cases alleging discrimination in federal employment.

In the area of affirmative litigation, the Civil Division continued its Affirmative Civil Enforcement (ACE) program, which involves various initiatives designed to collect civil monetary penalties and damages for violations of federal law, to recover costs incurred by agencies as a result of violations of federal statutes and regulations, and to obtain compliance with the requirements of federal law through civil litigation. In calendar year 2011 ACE cases resulted in monetary recoveries of more than 23 million dollars. ACE cases also led to court orders directing various defendants to comply with federal laws and regulatory requirements.

The United States Attorney's Office ACE program includes an active Health Care Fraud Task Force made up of civil and criminal AUSAs, Special AUSAs from the Nebraska Attorney General's Office, investigators from various state and federal agencies, and representatives of insurance providers and intermediaries. The task force approach enhances communication regarding the investigation of health care fraud in the District of Nebraska, and allows oversight agencies to pursue cases in the manner most effective to deter fraudulent activity and recover losses.

Another major area of emphasis in the ACE program is environmental enforcement. In 2011, the United States Attorney's Office worked with attorneys from the United States Department of Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency on civil environmental cases brought to recover civil penalties as well as response costs, and to obtain judgments requiring polluters to comply with environmental laws. Our case involving litigation on the Omaha Lead Superfund Site resulted in a fine of approximately 22.5 million dollars.

An interesting aspect of the ACE program in 2011 was the monitoring of the construction of the TD Ameritrade Baseball Stadium in Omaha to ensure compliance with the American With Disabilities Act.

As in most years, Civil Division AUSAs also conducted a significant amount of litigation in 2011 to collect debts owed to the United States. Suits to obtain judgments for unpaid balances of delinquent loans made by agencies such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services comprise a significant portion of the Office's civil workload. Those cases are litigated in federal district court, in bankruptcy court, and in state courts throughout Nebraska.

CIVIL LITIGATION CASES

The civil cases litigated in 2011 include:

IMMIGRATION LITIGATION

Jose Chavez Hernandez v. Eric Holder, et.al. (District Court - Nebraska) and Jose Chavez Hernandez v. Eric Holder; (Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals) - This case was originally brought by the petitioner Hernandez as a *Habeas Corpus* case in the District Court to halt his removal to Mexico. Petitioner claimed that his removal was premised on a constitutionally deficient criminal conviction. Petitioner relied on a recent Supreme Court case, Padilla v. Kentucky, which held that a defense counsel's failure to advise his client that entering a plea of guilty could result in his deportation was contrary to defendant's Sixth Amendment rights. The District Court dismissed Petitioner's *habeas* case on the grounds that it was, in effect, a request to review an order of removal, and action which may only be brought to a Circuit Court. Petitioner then commenced an action on the same facts in the Eighth Circuit. On November 21, 2011, the Eighth Circuit ruled in favor of the United States by dismissing the Plaintiff's petition. The Court's summary opinion does not extend the Supreme Court's decision in Padilla, and Petitioner was found removable by Immigration Customs Enforcement.

CIVIL RIGHTS INVESTIGATIONS

Westlake ACE Hardware - The U.S. Attorney's Office addressed a complaint that the Westlake ACE Hardware store chain often placed its seasonal merchandise in the designated handicap accessible parking spaces. At the Omaha location complained of, the retailer removed the merchandise from the accessible parking stalls, added accessible signage, and repainted the parking stalls. Additionally, the retailer implemented a policy, transmitted to its 88 stores in 7 states, communicating its commitment to Americans with Disabilities Act compliance and ensuring that this type of violation would not be repeated.

City of Friend - The Office investigated a complaint that people with disabilities could not participate in the town's services, programs, and activities at the library and town hall because the entrances were not accessible, there was no accessible parking, and the restrooms were not accessible. The town agreed to make its library programs and services available at an alternative location, the town hall, which it agreed to make fully accessible. The town has undertaken and continues to implement a variety of measures such as installing ramps, accessible parking, and accessible restroom features as well as providing internet service, on-line card catalogue access, and curbside delivery and pick-up of books.

ENVIRONMENTAL LITIGATION

U.S. v. Union Pacific Railroad Company and Union Pacific Corporation and U.S. v. Gould Electronics, Inc. - In response to the complaint of the United States alleging violations of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, ("CERCLA"), the District Court in Nebraska entered two consent decrees providing for more than \$25 million to address contamination at the Omaha Lead Superfund Site, a 27-square-mile area in Downtown Omaha. Pursuant to the settlement the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Department of Justice's Environment and Natural Resources Division negotiated with Union Pacific (UP), UP agreed to pay \$21.75 million in response costs, \$3.15 million for community health education, and \$100,000 for natural resource damages. UP owned the land under a lead smelting and refinery facility which was the largest in the country from the end of the 19th century to 1946. (The smelter operator subsequently bought the property which it owned through 1997, and for which it previously paid \$235 million through bankruptcy to resolve its CERCLA liability.) The second defendant, Gould Electronics, owned and operated a small downtown smelter between 1963 and 1982, and agreed to resolve its liability for a response cost payment of \$1.15 million.

U.S. v. Swift Beef Company - Swift Beef, a subsidiary of JBS S.A., the world's largest beef producer, paid \$1.3 million in civil penalties to the United States and state of Nebraska to settle alleged violations of the federal Clean Water Act and Nebraska state law at its Grand Island, Nebraska, beef processing plant. Swift had already spent over \$1 million at its Grand Island plant in implementing measures to reduce pollutants in its wastewater. Swift discharged pollutants in excess of the permitted limits, which resulted in an estimated 10,000 fish killed along the Wood and Platte Rivers. Swift's Grand Island beef processing plant slaughters, fabricates, and packages approximately 5,800 head of beef per day. The plant also conducts blood drying, rendering, and hide pickling, and has approximately 2,700 employees.

PROGRAM LITIGATION

Barika African Market v. U.S. - The owners of a Lincoln, Nebraska grocery store brought an action for judicial review of an administrative decision by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), to permanently disqualify the grocery store from participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program SNAP, formerly known as the Food Stamp Program. USDA's investigation revealed that Barika repeatedly violated the program by trafficking in food stamps by trading food stamps for something other than eligible food products. The evidence utilized in this case was, for the most part, statistical evidence gathered from an analysis of patron's electronic card usage, compared against the store's proffered inventory records and other physical evidence. The District Court, in its written opinion granting the government's summary judgment motion, stated that "the government's brief painstakingly parse[d] the evidence" and explained in detail how Barika's evidence did not sufficiently explain or account for all 404 instances of suspicious activity documented by the government. This case provides important support to investigative methods being employed by USDA to stop fraudulent activities within the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Central Platte NRD v. USDA and FSA - In 2010, The U.S. Attorney's Office successfully defended an action brought by an NRD seeking disclosure of Geospatial Data (GIS) found in certain farm records maintained

by USDA of landowners within the NRD district boundaries. Plaintiff had sought the disclosure of such records under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) but were denied access to the records by USDA on the basis of a statutory exemption prohibiting disclosure of such records. Due to recent changes in the 2008 Farm Bill, explicitly prohibiting disclosure of the GIS data sought by Plaintiff, USDA argued it was prohibited from providing the records. USDA's motion to dismiss and motion for summary judgment was granted. In 2011, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the lower court's determination that the FOIA did not require the disclosure from the agency's GIS data, as the 2008 Farm Bill qualified as a withholding statute under Exemption 3 of the FOIA. The Circuit Court also determined that Plaintiff's claim under the Administrative Procedures Act was also barred because the FOIA provided an adequate remedy for review.

City of Omaha v. R&B Excavating, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, et al. - The City of Omaha sued the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by bringing an Interpleader case in state court in for the purpose of depositing HUD funds in the approximate amount of \$96,000.00 into the Court for distribution to competing construction creditors. The United States removed the case to federal court for the reason that the City had not demonstrated it was entitled to draw HUD's funds for the underlying construction project. This case is significant because the City relies on endowed grant funds to pay for work associated with approved projects. In addition, had the City been found to have failed to justify the use of HUD funds for the designated project, possible disgorgement and penalties could have resulted. Ultimately, HUD was able to obtain through discovery documentation justifying the City's use of HUD grant funds, and was dismissed from the case.

U.S. v. Hernandez, Meyer, Nesvara, and Spencer - The U.S. Attorney's Office returned approximately \$65,000 to the Railroad Retirement Board in cases filed against four railroad employees who submitted false claims to the government for compensation of unemployment insurance while they were employed.

U.S. v. Riverside Cattle - The Office secured a \$7,480 civil penalty to address the livestock dealer's failure to timely file mandatory annual reports. While the penalty provision of the relevant act is relatively small, the importance of the annual reports is significant: such reports are used to assess the size, type, and financial stability of livestock businesses, and to calculate an appropriate bond amount (to protect against future failures of payment to livestock producers). The livestock dealer also agreed to timely file future reports.

COMMERCIAL/REAL ESTATE LITIGATION

Minnechaduza, LLC v. U.S., et al. - Plaintiff filed suit against the United States in an attempt to obtain a declaratory judgment and quiet title regarding a restrictive use clause in a 1968 deed conveyed by the United States to Plaintiff's predecessor-in-interest. The deed stated that the land was conveyed for the sole purpose of developing and operating a golf course for use by the general public. Plaintiff purchased the property in order to develop the property for commercial use. The parcel is contingent to the Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has a significant interest in insuring that the property be maintained as a golf course to support the habitat of the wildlife population in that area. The U.S. Attorney's Office was successful in obtaining a dismissal of the case. The government successfully argued that it had not waived sovereign immunity to be sued under the various theories raised in Plaintiff's complaint. The government's position was that only the Quiet Title Act applies in cases where the United States claims an interest in property. Under the Act, Plaintiff's action must be brought within 12 years of the underlying conveyance and the deed at issue clearly exceeded the statute of limitations provided for in the Act. As a result, the Court found it lacked jurisdiction over Plaintiff's claims.

Harold Hill - This Chapter 12 Bankruptcy case was referred to the U.S. Attorney's Office by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the purpose of protecting the agency's secured interest in farm real estate. The confirmed plan failed, and the United

States was able to recover the agency's full claim amount in the sum of \$1,360,942.09.

U.S. v. Anderson - After more than 3 years of litigation in connection with a foreclosure action brought by the U.S. Attorney's Office on behalf of the Rural Housing Service, the District Court granted the government's motion for summary judgment finding there were no material facts in dispute and that the agency could proceed with foreclosure. Defendant had raised several defenses and attempted to include counterclaims sounding in tort and employment discrimination claims. Defendant then filed an appeal to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals but the Circuit Court denied the appeal and affirmed the lower court's decision.

FEDERAL TORT CLAIMS ACT (FTCA) LITIGATION

Wrongful Death - In 2010, a wrongful death case was successfully defended by the U.S. Attorney's Office in District Court as the action was dismissed because Plaintiff failed to provide proof of her status as legal representative of her husband's estate, despite numerous requests by the Veterans Affairs (VA) during the administrative process. Plaintiff appealed the ruling to the Eighth Circuit which reversed and remanded the lower court in a 2 to 1 decision. In essence, the Circuit Court found substantial compliance with the notice requirements of the FTCA. The Government then sought, and was granted, a rehearing *en banc* by the Eighth Circuit. In 2011, the Eighth Circuit, in a split decision (7 to 5), reversed the panel decision and affirmed the District Court decision. Sitting as a full panel, the Eighth Circuit found that Plaintiff had failed to exhaust her administrative remedies, which was a jurisdictional bar to her federal court action. The decision noted that Plaintiff concealed from the government that she lacked the requisite authority to file a claim with the VA or file a wrongful death action against the United States in federal court.

Tort Claim - Plaintiff sued the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) alleging a equal protection violation, a tort claim for intentional infliction of emotional distress, and retaliation due to the screening procedures at Omaha's Eppley Airport. Plaintiff is an African-American woman who owned

and operated a shoeshine stand at the Omaha Eppley Airfield. The United States Attorney's Office succeeded on a motion to dismiss in the case. The Court found that Plaintiff did not state a plausible claim for relief, and she failed to exhaust her administrative remedies for her tort claim.

Personal Injury - The United States Attorney's Office and the Plaintiff were able to reach a settlement that was fair and reasonable to both parties in a case where the Plaintiff had fallen at a hospital owned and operated by the federal government.

EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION LITIGATION

Homeland Security Title VII Case – Plaintiff sued her employer, the Department of Homeland Security, after she was disciplined for misconduct. She alleged the actions were retaliation for her EEO-related activities, and that her employer created a hostile work environment. With the aid of a mediator, the United States Attorney's Office and the Plaintiff were able to

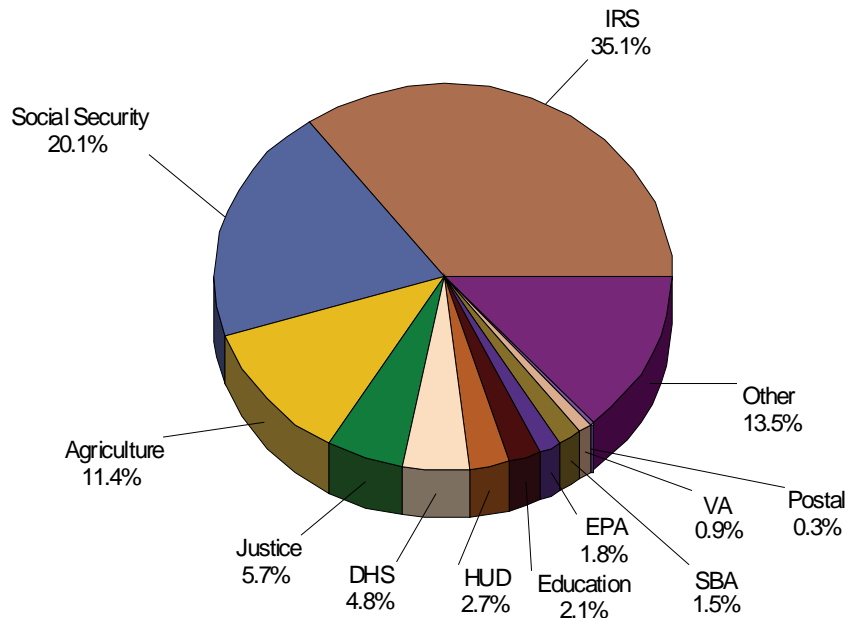
reach a settlement that was fair and reasonable to both parties.

VA Title VII Case - Plaintiff sued the Veterans Affairs after he was terminated and was not selected for another position. Plaintiff was a probationary employee with the Agency. He filed his suit under Title VII, alleging discrimination and a hostile work environment based on his race/national origin. Plaintiff voluntarily dismissed his case after initial discovery and his deposition had been taken.

Postal Service Title VII Case – Plaintiff was hired to be a mail carrier with the United States Postal Service in Omaha. During her first month on the job, Plaintiff was terminated after she had a minor motor vehicle accident, striking a mailbox while driving a USPS vehicle. Plaintiff alleged she was terminated because of her physical and mental disabilities. The Court dismissed Plaintiff's case, finding that Plaintiff had abandoned her claim in the administrative process, and the Court did not have jurisdiction over the case due to Plaintiff's failure to exhaust administrative remedies.

Civil Cases Closed

By Agency

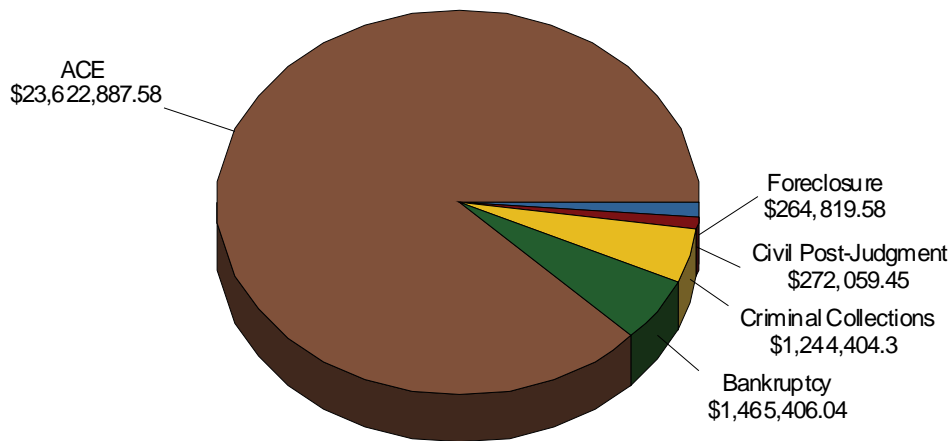


Collection of Judgments

A major function of the United States Attorney's Office Civil Division is to collect debts owed to the United States as a result of judgments entered in civil cases, and fines and restitution orders imposed as part of the sentence in criminal prosecutions. In calendar year 2011, the Office collected approximately \$26,869,575.

Collections 2011

By Type



A breakdown of collection activity in the United States Attorney's Office show that a variety of civil cases, including bankruptcy and foreclosure, resulted in approximately \$1.7 million in recoveries in 2011. ACE cases accounted for approximately \$23.6 million in collections. Total collections by type are reflected in the chart above.

A large percentage of the money collected by the United States Attorney's Office is forwarded to federal agencies for repayment of loans and other federal program obligations. Some of the recoveries, such as those obtained for the Environmental Protection Agency, are used to pay costs expended in implementing and enforcing federal programs. Criminal restitution collected is delivered directly to the crime victims, and criminal fines and special assessment recoveries are used to fund federal programs for the benefit of victims of crimes.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND COMMUNITY COORDINATION



The mission of the United States Attorney's Office Law Enforcement and Community Coordination (LECC) Unit is to assist law enforcement and criminal justice agencies throughout the District of Nebraska, and to facilitate community-based efforts on issues related to criminal justice and community restoration. The LECC Unit manages or facilitates a number of programs designed to support and coordinate the objectives of the criminal justice system at various levels, provides services to witnesses and victims of federal crime, conducts training, and apprises the community at large about issues related to the criminal justice system. In 2011, the LECC Unit continued its work to maintain strong collaborative partnerships among federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in order to improve the effectiveness of law enforcement in the District.

The United States Attorney, Law Enforcement Coordinator and the Intelligence Specialist in 2011 embarked on a 2011 "Road Tour" of Nebraska, visiting with prosecutors and law enforcement officers in about 90% of the counties. The purpose of the visits were to talk about the mission of the office, the cooperation and coordination of efforts and to discuss significant cases and issues impacting communities.

The LECC staff works with the Nebraska Sheriff's Association, the Police Officers' Association of Nebraska, the Police Chiefs' Association of Nebraska, Nebraska Coalition for Victim's of Crime and the Nebraska County Attorneys Association to develop and present training on subjects related to criminal justice and victim assistance. A three-day criminal justice conference hosted by the United States Attorney's Office and cosponsored by the Nebraska County Attorneys Association is held in Kearney each year. Awards recognizing accomplishments in law enforcement presented at the 2011 conference are described in the following section of this report.

Trainings and conferences are held throughout the year across the state at various venues. The trainings hosted by the U.S. Attorney's Office in 2011 focused on a number of topics, many of which were held more than once and at several venues across the district.

- Spanish for Law Enforcement and Probation
- VALOR Training
- Protect Our Children Regional Annual Conference
- Nebraska Infrastructure Protection Conference and Meta-Leadership Summit
- Federal Case Development
- Cyber-Crime Training
- Gang/Sovereign Citizen
- Domestic Violence Training
- Victim Services Training
- Issues in Indian Country

The District of Nebraska co-hosted the 8th annual *Protect Our Children Conference*, held in Wichita, Kansas in September 2011. This annual conference focuses on child sexual assault, child pornography and on-line/internet sexual enticement of children. The conference drew over 500 criminal justice and social service professionals, and is co-hosted by nine United States Attorney's districts from Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Illinois. The 2012 conference will be held in Omaha, Nebraska, and will feature Ms. Elizabeth Smart as our keynote speaker.

The Victim Witness staff is an integral part of the LECC Unit, and provides victim and witness services related to federal prosecutions in the District. The Victim Witness staff works with victims of federal crime from the time of the occurrence of the crime through the completion of the prosecution. The Victim Notification System (VNS) notifies victims of the status of investigations, as well as developments in cases accepted for prosecution.

In 2011, the VNS provided 17,102 notices to victims of federal crime in Nebraska. There were 125 new victim cases involving 320 new victims of federal crime identified and entered into the system. There are currently 140 active victim cases providing notice and services to 1,207 victims. Services include information and assistance with travel and lodging related to court appearances, courtroom support, and referrals to other agencies for counseling, shelter, and other assistance. The Victim Witness Staff provides oversight and coordination to the Multi-disciplinary Child Abuse Investigation Teams located on the three federally recognized Tribal reservations.

During Crime Victim's Rights Week in April 2011, the Victim Witness Staff, along with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Nebraska Coalition for the Victims of Crime, provided training for victim service providers, mental health professionals, and law enforcement and corrections personnel on coordinating and enhancing services to victims. The 2011 CVRW Conference focused on Human Trafficking and the unique needs surrounding victims in such cases.

The Victim Witness Unit partnered with the University of Tennessee Law Enforcement Innovation Center to bring training to Nebraska on "Domestic Violence in Rural Areas." A team of trainers presented a 1½ day training to law enforcement, prosecutors, and advocates in the communities of Scottsbluff, Fairbury, Holdrege, and Wayne, NE.

The United States Attorney's Office in partnership with Creighton University and University of Nebraska, Kearney is developing a State Victim Assistance Academy (SVAA). Creighton University, the OVC grant award recipient, will house the academy director and provide in-kind services. Nebraska was one of 10 states which did not have an academy focused specifically on the needs of crime victims. The overall goal of this project is to create a comprehensive, basic-level victim assistance curriculum with a focus on victimology, victims' rights, and victim services that reflect the laws and practices of the state, specifically a SVAA for Nebraska. The SVAA for Nebraska will be made available to victim service providers and allied professionals who routinely assist crime victims.

Another effort coordinated by the United States Attorney's Office LECC Unit was the Weed and Seed program. Weed and Seed was a community-based, multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and neighborhood restoration. The Weed and Seed strategy

brought federal, state, and local agencies together with prosecutors, social services providers, representatives of the public and private sectors, business owners, and neighborhood residents to further the common goal of weeding out crime while seeding in social services and economic revitalization. Due to budgetary constraints, the Weed and Seed program funding, nationally was discontinued. The City of Omaha was one of the first three sites designated by the Department of Justice and was an officially recognized and funded site since 1991.

The Victim Witness Unit partnered with the Northern District of Iowa and the District of Kansas to host the 2011 Indian Country Conference: Protecting and Empowering Families. The conference began with a Listening Session with the U.S. Attorneys from each district available to listen regarding concerns from the members of the audience about crimes against families from their perspective. Service providers, law enforcement, and prosecutors from Nebraska, Kansas and Iowa tribes had the opportunity to learn together about best practices in the field to reduce violent crimes against families.

Co-located with the United States Attorney's Office's LECC Unit is the Nebraska Office of the Midwest HIDTA Initiative. The Midwest HIDTA focuses on decreasing the importation, distribution, manufacture, and demand for illegal drugs within the Midwest Region, which includes Nebraska and neighboring states. Intelligence information on drug activity is compiled and disseminated through the Nebraska Law Enforcement Intelligence System (NELEIS), maintained by the State Patrol. The HIDTA Initiative, in addition to supporting law enforcement and prosecution, has developed a number of drug abuse prevention programs.





Training Calendar
United States Attorney's Office - District of Nebraska
Deborah R. Gilg, United States Attorney

Please contact Joe Jeanette, LEC Manager, at joe.jeanette@usdoj.gov for more information concerning the below training.

March 2012		
Date	Event	Location
27 th – 28 th	Nebraska Infra-Structure Protection Conference	Embassy Suites in La Vista
April 2012		
Date	Event	Location
11 th – 13 th	Crime Victim's Rights Week Conference	Tip Top Conference Center
May 2012		
Date	Event	Location
23 rd -25 th	LECC Conference	Holiday Inn, Kearney
September 2012		
Date	Event	Location
12th - 14th	Protect Our Children Conference	Omaha, Nebraska (TBD)

2010 LECC AWARDS



Lt. Russell Zeeb
Sary County Sheriff's Office



In 1993, The Nebraska Law Enforcement Memorial project was conceived by a group of law enforcement officers, survivors of officers killed in the line of duty, and concerned citizens. Since that time, Committee members have met diligently to determine what kind of memorial would best serve the State of Nebraska, and honor those officers who have died in the line of duty. Another important function of the group was to raise the necessary funds to build the Memorial.

Over the past 18 years Russ has served as a committee member, Secretary and President of the Association. Recently Lt. Zeeb was elected to his 3rd term as President of the Memorial project, a position he has held since 2004. Countless hours of his own time and resources have been spent on this project which culminated with the Dedication of the Memorial on May 11, 2009. Each year Lt. Zeeb continues to orchestrate the annual memorial event in Grand Island, involving many hours of selfless work.

Many individuals and organizations deserve thanks for this project, such as the Fraternal Order of Police, Police Officers Association of Nebraska, State Troopers Association of Nebraska, Nebraska Sheriff's Association and the FBI National Academy. However, at a critical juncture of the fundraising, Lt. Zeeb stepped up and brokered a deal with a new fundraising company that has raised over \$106,000 for the project. Total cost of the Memorial design and construction was over \$400,000. To date over \$500,000 total has been raised. The Foundation now has funds in the bank to continue perpetual care of the memorial.

The dream of many has become a reality due to the hard work and diligence of Lt. Russ Zeeb.



Inspector Eric Mayo United States Marshal Service

As the Sex Offender Investigations Coordinator for District of Nebraska, Inspector Mayo works closely with the National Sex Offender Targeting Center and National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Inspector Mayo has coordinated and obtained funding for several United States Marshals Service Sex Offender Initiatives. The purpose of these initiatives is for law enforcement to ensure compliance of sex offenders currently registered within the identified counties and to initiate investigations of those sex offenders who are in violation of the Nebraska Sex Offender Registry.

For these operations, Inspector Mayo coordinated with the Nebraska State Patrol, the Douglas, Sarpy, Otoe, and Johnson, Nemaha Counties Sheriffs' Offices, the Omaha and La Vista Police Departments, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Probation Office, Winnebago Bureau of Indian Affairs Police, Macy Tribal Police, and the Thurston County Sheriff's Department. Coordination of such diverse group, over a large geographic area is immensely difficult. These operations established a strong relationship between the United States Marshals Service, local law enforcement agencies and tribal agencies.

In all, Inspector Mayo has coordinated with the United States Marshals Service Headquarters (Washington DC), and with 14 other state, local, Indian, and federal agencies. Through these joint operations alone, 350 sex offenders have been checked which netted several arrests of those in violation of the conditions of release. In the last 12 months, Inspector Mayo made 64 arrests of sex offenders who failed to register, most of which were indicted on additional charges. These arrests included eight federal child pornography charges and 25 violent offender warrants. Inspector Mayo's proactive approach and outreach for collaboration between federal, state, and local agencies has made a major contribution and substantial impact on keeping the community safer.

Operation Green Thumb

Operation “Green Thumb” was an investigation of a sophisticated, well organized, indoor marijuana grow drug trafficking organization (DTO) in Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska. Through the application of a number of investigative strategies, partnerships with a variety of government organizations, and the valuable assistance of the public in general this DTO was effectively dismantled.

The investigation originated with a call to CrimeStoppers detailing suspicious activity associated with a residence located in a Northwest Lincoln neighborhood. A subsequent search warrant from this tip led to the discovery of an active indoor grow operation with 685 live marijuana plants, the arrest of two conspirators and the seizure of truckloads of associated grow equipment. This initial complaint and search kicked off an investigation over the following seven weeks that resulted in the serving of 25 search warrants, the discovery of eleven active indoor grow houses, eight abandoned grow operations and ultimately the termination of a multi-million dollar DTO responsible for growing thousands of pounds of marijuana.

The investigators working on this case utilized numerous investigative strategies including suspect interviews, surveillance details, background investigations, property/parcel research, and untold hours of evidence collection and examination.

To-date, the Task Force has seized 7,290 live marijuana plants (estimated value 14-21 million dollars), \$78,871 dollars in U.S. currency, one stolen gun, two vehicles and an estimated \$178,985 dollars in marijuana grow equipment. This is certainly a low number as there was clear evidence of past grows and harvested crops that puts the overall value of the operation much higher. The operation’s success was due to the work of over 25 individuals working within the Lincoln/Lancaster County Drug Task Force. We honor each and every one of these individuals responsible for this operation. Accepting this award on behalf of this task force tonight are:

Captain Brian Jackson, LPD, Lincoln/Lancaster Co Drug Task Force
Sergeant Michael Garnett, LPD, Lincoln/Lancaster Co. Drug Task Force
Investigator Jason Mayo, LSO, Lincoln/Lancaster Co. Drug Task Force
Sergeant William Koepke, LPD, Lincoln/Lancaster Co. Drug Task Force
Jan Lipovsky, Special Assistant United States Attorney, District of Nebraska



FBI Cyber Crimes Task Force



The FBI Cyber Crimes Task Force is a unique example of federal, state and local resources working together, under the same roof, assisting with each other's cyber investigations. The Nebraska agencies participating in the Cyber Crimes Task Force include:

- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Nebraska State Patrol
- Douglas County Sheriff's Office
- Sarpy County Sheriff's Office
- Nebraska Attorney General's Office
- Omaha Police Department
- LaVista Police Department
- Bellevue Police Department
- Lincoln Police Department

The Cyber Crimes Task Force has been especially productive in Internet cases involving the sexual exploitation of children. The Task Force has been an invaluable member of the U.S. Attorney's Project Safe Childhood Initiative.

In 2010 alone 30 individuals were indicted in the District of Nebraska for crimes involving the exploitation of children via the Internet. Those indictments included charges for the receipt and distribution of child pornography, the enticement and manufacture of child pornography and interstate travel to engage in a sexual act with a juvenile. During the calendar year 2010, twenty-seven defendants appeared before the United States District Court for sentencing on crimes involving the exploitation of children by way of the Internet.

With one or two exceptions, the defendants faced mandatory minimum sentences. The mandatory minimum sentences ranged from five years, for the receipt and distribution of child pornography; ten years, for possession of child pornography after having been convicted of a prior sex offense; fifteen years, for the manufacture of child pornography; or ten years, for traveling in interstate commerce for the purpose of engaging in sexual relations with a minor.

Members of the Cyber Crimes Task Force either generated the lead, obtained the search warrant, made the arrest or assisted local ICAC and police officers in these cases. What is most impressive about the Cyber Crimes Task Force is how they work together. They assist each other on investigations and warrants without regard to turf battles or jurisdictional constraints. This entity serves as a consummate example of cooperation and coordination.

Accepted the award on behalf of the Cyber Crimes Unit:

- Special Agent Jim Craig - FBI
- Investigator Scott Haugaard - NSP
- Investigator Nathan Malicky - NSP



The Award of Valor Nebraska State Patrol Investigator Terry Kenny

This award of valor was last presented in 2003.

Investigator Kenny is a 21 year veteran of the Nebraska State Patrol, currently assigned to Troop B Investigative Services Division as a member of the Tri-State Drug Task Force.

On September 17, 2010, Nebraska State Patrol Investigator Terry Kenny was the case agent for a reverse drug deal. He had developed a Confidential Informant (CI) that made contact with an individual wanting to purchase a large quantity of marijuana. The CI, under Investigator Kenny's direction, made the arrangements for the suspect to purchase 50 lbs of marijuana for \$700.00/lb. The CI was positioned in a motel with Investigator Kenny and other agents from the Tri-State Drug Task Force in a second room. The suspect stated he would return with the money for 25 lbs of marijuana and left.

Surveillance followed the suspect to a couple residences and the suspect picked up a second individual. These two proceeded to the motel where the CI was waiting. The first person exited the car outside the motel and the original suspect entered the motel room with the CI. Outside surveillance showed the suspect outside the room was wearing latex gloves and was heading toward the motel.

Monitoring the close circuit video in the motel, agents observed the first suspect enter the motel room, remove a handgun, work the action and point it at the CI. The suspect then ordered the CI to kneel on the ground.

Investigator Kenny and the other agents had developed a rescue plan and were prepared for a potential entry. Investigator Kenny and the other agents exited their motel room. While approaching the CI's room, he noticed the second suspect in the hallway. While this potentially armed suspect was being secured by fellow agents, Investigator Kenny proceeded past and stopped at the door of the room where the CI was being held at gunpoint inside.

Investigator Kenny calmly knocked on the door, instead of announcing a police presence, in an attempt to trick the armed suspect inside into believing it was his accomplice knocking. As the suspect opened the door, Investigator Kenny immediately rushed the armed suspect, dislodging the loaded pistol from his hand and knocking him to the ground.

Investigator Kenny stated he knew the suspect was armed, but thought only that he must reach the CI to protect him from execution. Both suspects were secured and the handgun recovered. The suspect in the hallway was found to be wearing latex gloves and had a roll of duct tape with him. Under extreme conditions, with no time for detailed planning, Investigator Kenny and the other agents initiated a rescue through decisive and purposeful actions.

The exceptional conduct of Investigator Kenny, which included, preplanning a react/rescue operation, quickly deciding to implement a rescue, and calmly knocking on the door, provided him with the opportunity to quickly disarm the suspect. His actions may well have saved the life of the CI.

Investigator Kenny disregarded his safety while placing himself in harm's way to ensure the safety of the CI. Tonight we honor Investigator Kenny with the award of valor, an honor bestowed only one other time at LECC.

Weinstein Investigation

Greg Goltz
Nebraska State Patrol

Russ Lewis
Nebraska State Patrol

Brandon Sorgenfrei
Nebraska State Patrol

Mike Garnett
Lincoln Police Department

Andrea Belgau
United States Attorney's Office

Nancy Svoboda
United States Attorney's Office

Russ Mayer
United States Attorney's Office

Matt Kessler
Drug Enforcement Administration

Tim Kasun
Internal Revenue Service

On June 19, 2008, Nebraska State Patrol Trooper Greg Goltz conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle associated with a drug check-point at the Aurora interchange on Interstate 80 in Hamilton County, Nebraska. Trooper Goltz, assisted by Nebraska State Patrol K-9 Trooper Russ Lewis, discovered 273 pounds of marijuana in a false compartment of the trailer.

The driver agreed to make a controlled delivery of the load to its destination in Omaha, NE. The two individuals waiting on the delivery were arrested upon its delivery. Two other residences in Omaha were searched, resulting in a seizure of an additional 353 pounds of marijuana and \$33,286.00, cash. The cash, trailer and pick-up truck were forfeited with the help of the DEA.

The driver of the vehicle also provided information that Lee Weinstein was the leader/organizer of a marijuana drug trafficking organization moving thousands of pounds of marijuana from Ontario, California and Phoenix, Arizona into the Omaha area.

In May, 2009, an informant in Lincoln, Nebraska provided information about the Weinstein drug trafficking organization ("DTO") which led to federal charges against three other individuals. Over the next two years, Individuals were proffered by investigators which led to other defendants, seized drugs, cash and other property.

The traffic stop set off a chain of events of proffers, search warrants, arrests, and indictments that culminated in the federal convictions of 15 people, and the investigation is still ongoing.

Weinstein Investigation (Cont.)

Proving a traffic stop is never really “routine”, Greg Goltz’s enforcement action on June 19, 2008, led to a drug investigation that crossed international borders and resulted in indictments and federal drug convictions on fifteen people.

A June, 2008 traffic stop led to the arrests of fifteen individuals, the seizure and forfeiture of five vehicles, one airplane, \$490,116.00, cash, and an estimated involvement of 13,000 pounds of marijuana worth approximately \$2,400,000.00. The following officers and agents also played a substantial role in this investigation:

Deborah Welling
Internal Revenue Service

Kevin Jimerson
Internal Revenue Service

Paul Milone
Omaha Police Department

Edie Andersen
Omaha Police Department

Joe Breazier
Drug Enforcement Administration

Frank Feden
Drug Enforcement Administration

Leonard Hiltner
Schuyler Police Department

Keith Bigell
Nebraska State Patrol

C. Jo Peterson
Hamilton County Attorney’s Office





Detective Robert “Bobby” Branch

In February of 2010, twenty-one defendants were indicted by the United States Attorney’s Office, and six defendants were charged in the Douglas County District Court of Nebraska for Methamphetamine Conspiracy and Delivery charges, as well as Firearms-related offenses. These twenty-seven people were indicted or charged as a result of an eight-month-long narcotics investigation. The investigation, led by Detective Robert Branch of the Omaha Police Narcotics Unit, yielded approximately 13 pounds of methamphetamine “ice,” 340 grams of cocaine, and five firearms.

This case was developed as a result of an observant citizen who provided information to the Omaha Police Narcotics Unit about narcotics trafficking and firearms possession occurring at a residence in Omaha, Nebraska. That investigation led to the identification of numerous individuals involved in the distribution of methamphetamine. Officer Branch, assisted by other members of the Omaha Metro Drug Task Force, began making controlled purchases of methamphetamine “ice” from the various subjects involved.

Over the eight-month period of time, multiple drug transactions involving each defendant were conducted and documented. During the month of February 2010, the investigation led officers to a second address in Omaha, which was the primary local source of the methamphetamine in the Omaha area. After two separate search warrants and a consensual search, four of the primary suspects in this investigation were arrested within a 24-hour period.

Throughout this investigation, various investigative techniques were utilized, to include: surveillance, cooperating sources, search warrants, consensual searches, phone intercepts, and phone record analysis conducted by the Omaha Metro Drug Task Force’s HIDTA Analyst. These phone records indicated that this investigation had a direct connection to many of the source states, to include Arizona and California, and the Country of Mexico.

This investigation, dubbed “*Dollar for Dollar*” could not have been accomplished without the combined efforts of the following agencies: United States Attorney’s Office (District of Nebraska); Douglas County Attorney’s Office (Nebraska); Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA); Bureau of Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE); Sarpy County Narcotics Unit; and members of the Metro Area Drug Task Force.

This eight-month investigation resulted in the following statistics:

\$35,000 U.S. Currency	(21) Federal Indictments
13 pounds of Methamphetamine ‘Ice’	(6) State Arrests
340 grams of Cocaine	(5) Firearms
(1) House seized	(5) Search Warrants



Sergeant Eric Rice – Nebraska State Patrol

Sergeant Rice has been the CODE Task Force Coordinator for the past 20 years. The CODE Task Force is comprised of a 22-county area in west central/southwest Nebraska. It uses its combined strength to work against drug dealers and users; it is funded by a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, administered by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.

Sergeant Rice's perseverance, dedication and commitment to CODE has guided a struggling task Force into a fully-functioning effective and efficient Task Force. This effectiveness is most notably evidenced by the recent execution of 39 arrest warrants by the Task Force resulting from Task Force undercover investigations.

These investigations and warrants were the culmination of the effort of task force agencies which members included Nebraska State Patrol; North Platte, Cozad, Lexington, Gothenburg, and Ogallala Police Departments; Dawson, Lincoln and Red Willow County Sheriff's offices; Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Department of Homeland Security - all working together as an efficient and effective law enforcement team.

Sergeant Rice's vision of what the CODE Task Force could accomplish has created a law enforcement team that is capable of combating the ever-increasing threat of drugs in our communities. His ability to create this effective of a team through the cooperative efforts of so many city, county, state and federal agencies makes him most deserving of this award.

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Other U.S. Attorney's Offices: <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/>

Department of Justice: <http://www.usdoj.gov/>

Federal Bureau of Prisons: <http://www.bop.gov>

Federal Bureau of Investigation: <http://www.fbi.gov/>

Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services: <http://www.uscis.gov/>

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement: <http://www.ice.gov/>

U.S. Marshals Service: <http://www.usmarshals.gov/>

U.S. Department of Homeland Security: <http://www.dhs.gov/>

Extensive list of official Federal Government web sites: <http://www.usa.gov/>





Photo courtesy of Nebraska Tourism Bureau

**U.S. Attorney's Office
District of Nebraska
2011**