

UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS OFFICE

FOR THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA

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SPECIAL THANKS TO THE ANNUAL REPORT TEAM

ANISHA BHATIA
DENISE CLARK
LEIF HICKLING
BRENDA HORNER
SHELIA MILLER

ASHLEY PATTERSON
DARLENA PERRY
MICHAEL RICHARDS
DENISE SIMMONDS





JUDICIARY CENTER

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A LETTER FROM VINCENT H. COHEN JR

Acting United States Attorney for the District of Columbia



Dear Friends,

Since I assumed my current post as Acting United States Attorney for the District of Columbia on April 1, 2015, I have been proud and humbled as a native Washingtonian to have the opportunity to lead the largest and most consequential United States Attorney's Office in the nation.

This U.S. Attorney's Office is unique. Our prosecutors handle federal and, unlike any other U.S. Attorney's Office, local crimes. On any given day, we may be trying a local homicide trial or an international terrorism case originating from across the world. Our Office's location places us at the epicenter of our nation's government — figuratively and literally. It is no exaggeration to say that the criminal and civil work that we do each and every day matters not only to the District of Columbia but to the country.

Prior to leading the Office, I had the pleasure to serve as its Principal Assistant United States Attorney for five years. Due to hiring freezes and sequestrations, we stormed through some difficult economic times during these last few years. We have come out on the other side — stronger and better!

This Annual Report displays many of our successes from 2013 through 2015. During this three year period, the Office adopted some significant changes to better serve our evolving City. Our Superior Court Division underwent a major reorganization to redirect prosecutorial resources from low-level, non-violent drug offenses to violent crimes like street robberies, home invasions, and shootings. We also expanded our diversion programs to better include low-level offenders who pose little risk to our community. By looking to alternatives to incarceration for these offenders, we have tackled the root causes of crime and preserved resources for prosecuting serious offenders.

Our first responsibility is to protect the integrity of the criminal justice system. In recent years, we faced a host of challenges that threatened our pursuit of justice — from flawed FBI hair analysis to problematic DNA analysis by the District's Department of Forensic Sciences to an FBI agent who stole drugs seized in large-scale narcotics investigations. Not only did we respond to these challenges with vigor and an eye toward fairness, we established a new Conviction Integrity Unit to ensure that no one is or has been wrongfully convicted. This proactive approach toward maintaining the public's confidence in our mission has guided our attorneys and support staff at every turn.

Our Criminal Division successfully prosecuted the largest domestic bribery and bid-rigging scheme in the history of federal contracting cases, involving more than \$30 million in bribes and \$1 billion in contracts. The Criminal Division has also obtained \$1.6 billion in recoveries from European banks that have admitted moving money illegally through the U.S. financial system on behalf of sanctioned countries and entities. Our National Security Section is currently prosecuting Ahmed Abu Khatallah on charges related to the 2012 terrorist attack on U.S. facilities in Benghazi, Libya, which took the lives of four Americans, including U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens. The Cyber Unit has expanded to better respond to the ongoing threat to our nation's cyber security. Our Civil Division has seen an increased number of qui tam lawsuits filed under the False Claims Act, including a significant number of health care fraud matters. The Civil Division also recently negotiated a settlement for the largest civil penalty to date under the Lobbying Disclosure Act.



Our focus and commitment has extended far beyond the courtroom. Over the last three years, we have built stronger bonds with the people that we serve. Whether attending a community meeting in a church basement in Southeast, speaking with high school students at our annual Youth Summit, or speaking with our homeless population in shelters throughout the city, our prosecutors understand that the first time a citizen meets a prosecutor from this U.S. Attorney's Office should not be in the courtroom. As an Office, we have developed a comprehensive community prosecution program that is a national model for U.S. Attorney's Offices. Addressing issues from the recent infiltration of synthetic drugs to hate crimes against our LGBT citizens, these programs focus on education, intervention, and prevention. Our Clergy Ambassador Program has partnered with leaders in local faith-based organizations in order to build trust between the community and law enforcement — with the ultimate aim of reducing crime in our city.

I cannot be prouder at what our Office has achieved over the last three years under the toughest of circumstances. We were asked to do a lot more with a lot less, and we excelled at that mission. The coming years offer incredible opportunities for our Office to continue to serve the citizens of the District and the nation. We will do so with the same standard of excellence set by the legal giants that came before us in the Office, humility, and the sense of justice that we have practiced no matter the challenge.

Please join me in recognizing our accomplishments and join us in looking forward to the continued pursuit of justice!

Best,

Vincent H. Cohen, Jr.
Acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report highlights the organization and work of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia from January 1, 2013 through August 31, 2015. During this period, the Office was led by United States Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. and, as of March 31, 2015, by Acting United States Attorney Vincent H. Cohen, Jr.

OFFICE

The Office is unique among U.S. Attorney's Offices in its size and scope. Like other U.S. Attorney's Offices, this Office is responsible for enforcing federal criminal laws and representing the United States in civil actions. Unlike other U.S. Attorney's Offices, this Office is responsible for enforcing local criminal laws, and nearly half of our Assistant U.S. Attorneys work to fulfill that responsibility. The Office is divided into five litigating divisions: the Superior Court Division, which prosecutes local criminal cases; the Criminal Division, which prosecutes federal criminal cases; the Appellate Division, which handles appeals of criminal convictions in local and federal court; the Special Proceedings Division, which handles all post-conviction litigation in local and federal court; and the Civil Division, which represents the United States in civil cases in the District of Columbia.

PEOPLE

This Office is the largest U.S. Attorney's Office in the country and is also one of the most diverse. Across our litigating divisions, Administrative Division, and Victim Witness Assistance Unit, we are privileged to have attorney and support staff employees who reflect the diversity of the community we proudly serve. We are also privileged to have many attorneys and support staff employees who have served this Office and this city for decades. Our attorneys' accomplishments have been widely recognized, including with the Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award and the Anti-Defamation League's Shield Award. The Office boasts many alumni who have gone on to other important roles in public service, including the Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism.

COMMUNITY

Our success as prosecutors depends on the trust of the people of the District of Columbia. Since the beginning of 2010, our Office has rededicated itself to the work of building strong relationships with the people we serve. In 1996, then-U.S. Attorney Eric H. Holder, Jr. pioneered the concept of community prosecution in the District of Columbia, and we continue to honor the Attorney General's legacy. The Office expanded a variety of new programs to engage the community, particularly focusing on at-risk youth, former offenders returning to the community, and our Arab and Muslim neighbors.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Our Appellate Division succeeded in upholding the convictions of defendants who executed a 14-year-old girl to prevent her from testifying about a murder she witnessed and a man near the Supreme Court who claimed to have an appointment with the Chief Justice while carrying a shotgun and sword. Our Special Proceedings Division successfully defended the convictions of the individuals responsible for the brutal 1984 murder of Catherine Fuller. Our Civil Division won 13 victories at trial that ended years of litigation and recovered more than \$50 million in False Claims Act suits. Superior Court held violent criminals accountable, including the men responsible for the series of shootings that culminated in the massacre on South Capitol Street. Our Criminal Division was responsible for the convictions of two D.C. Councilmembers, three operatives in the 2010 D.C. mayoral campaign, and a dozen participants in the largest bribery scheme in the history of federal contracting.

FUTURE

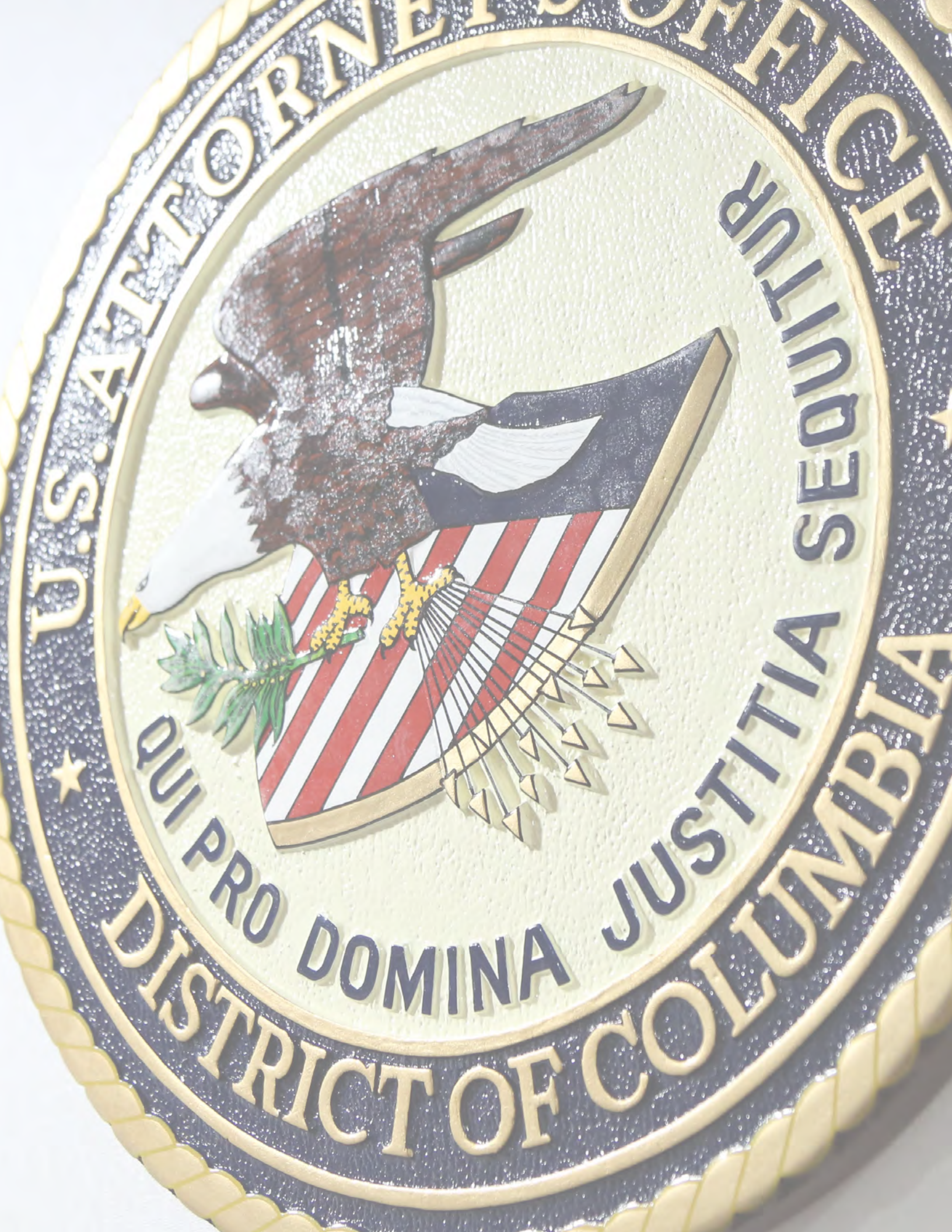
The Office has continued its efforts to strengthen our service to the community and to improve public safety. In 2012 U.S. Attorney Machen launched efforts to use new forensic technologies to unearth wrongful convictions and to solve decades-old cold case murders. This year the Office implemented cutting-edge technology to enhance courtroom presentations and renovated our grand jury space so that our prosecutors could use those technologies to present evidence. The Office also opened a fully staffed child waiting room to care for the children of victims and witnesses interacting with our prosecutors and law enforcement. Finally, the Office continued to expand the training it provides to Assistant U.S. Attorneys and support staff in an effort to continually improve the service we provide to the residents of our District.

OFFICE OVERVIEW

The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia is unique among the 94 U.S. Attorney's offices across the nation by virtue of its size and its varied responsibilities. It is the largest United States Attorney's Office with over 300 Assistant U.S. Attorneys and over 300 support personnel. The size of this office is the result of the breadth of our responsibility for criminal law enforcement and our location in the nation's capital.



We are responsible not only for the prosecution of all federal crimes, but also for the prosecution of all serious local crimes committed by adults in the District of Columbia. We are authorized by statute to prosecute 16- and 17-year-old offenders as adults for certain serious violent crimes. In addition, we represent the United States and its departments and agencies in civil proceedings filed in federal court in the District of Columbia.



U.S. ATTORNEY

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



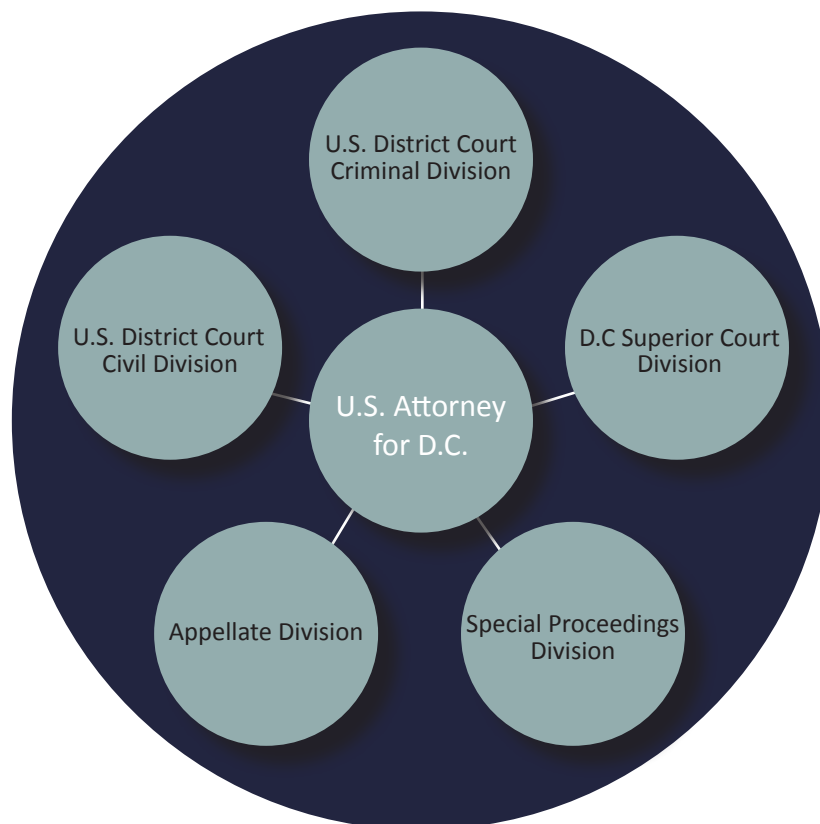
Acting Principal Assistant U.S. Attorney Denise Simmonds with Acting U.S. Attorney Vincent H. Cohen, Jr.

As the principal prosecutor for all criminal offenses in this jurisdiction, and the principal litigator for the United States in the nation’s capital, this Office has an extensive practice before nearly 100 judges in the federal and local courts, and offers unique opportunities for important public service.

**THE UNIQUE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR WAS APTLY DESCRIBED
IN 1935 BY JUSTICE GEORGE SUTHERLAND IN BERGER V. UNITED STATES.**

The United States Attorney is the representative not of an ordinary party to a controversy, but of a sovereignty whose obligation to govern impartially is as compelling as its obligation to govern at all; and whose interest, therefore, in a criminal prosecution is not that it shall win a case, but that justice shall be done. As such, he is in a peculiar and very definite sense the servant of

the law, the twofold aim of which is that guilt shall not escape or innocence suffer. He may prosecute with earnestness and vigor – indeed, he should do so. But, while he may strike hard blows, he is not at liberty to strike foul ones. It is as much his 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.



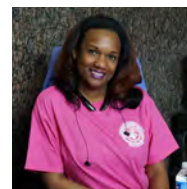
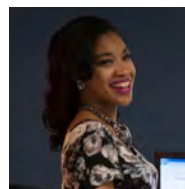
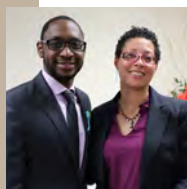
THE FRONT OFFICE



Front Row Right to Left: Jonathan Malis, Richard Tishner, Matthew Jones,
Vincent Cohen, Denise Simmonds, Elizabeth Trosman, Leslie Ann Gerardo

Back Row Left to Right: Daniel Van Horn, Jelahn Stewart, Michael Ambrosino,
Denise Clark, Patricia Riley, Wendy Pohlhaus, Renata Cooper

NOT PICTURED: James Perez

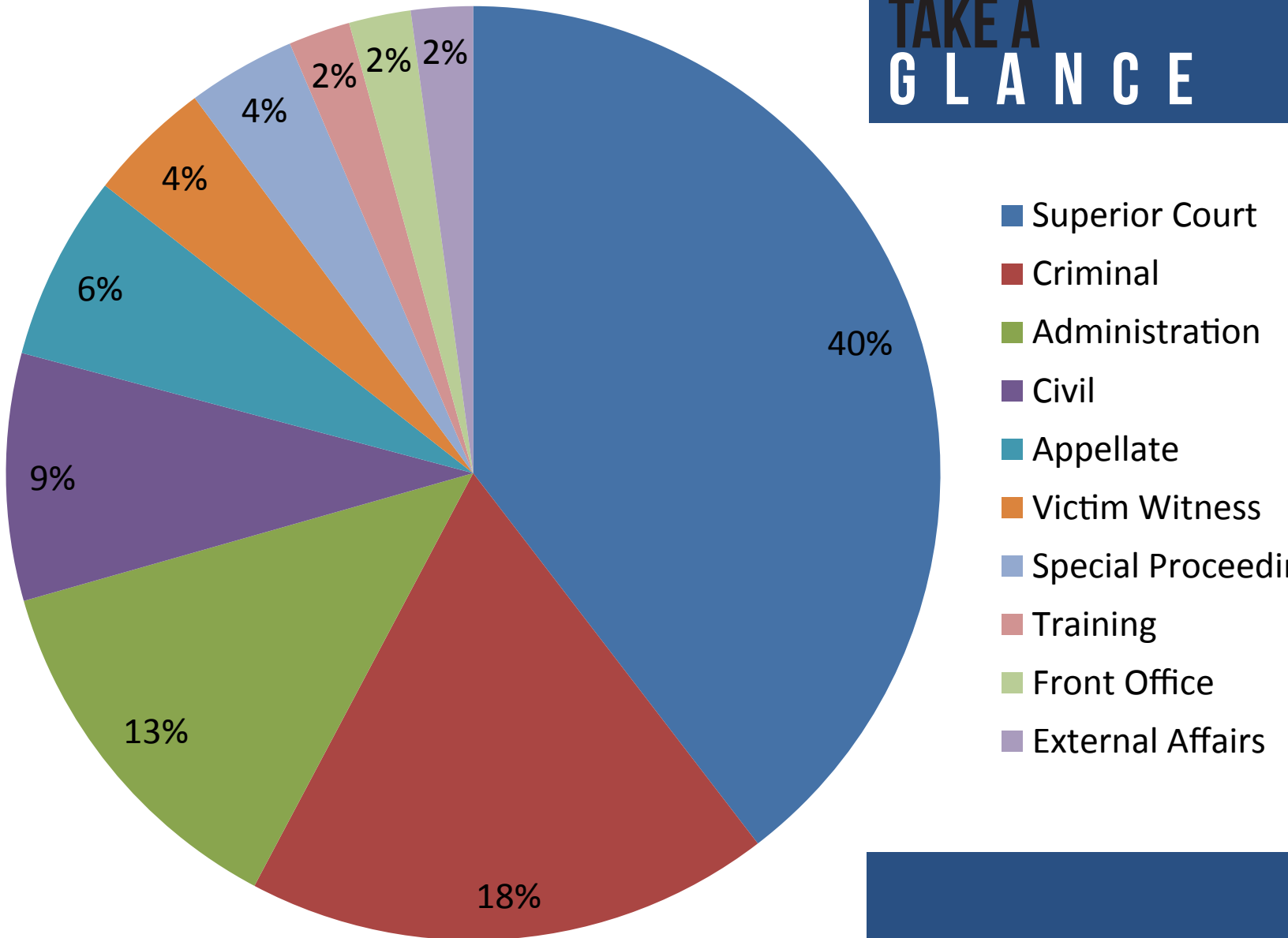


ALLOCATED POSITIONS

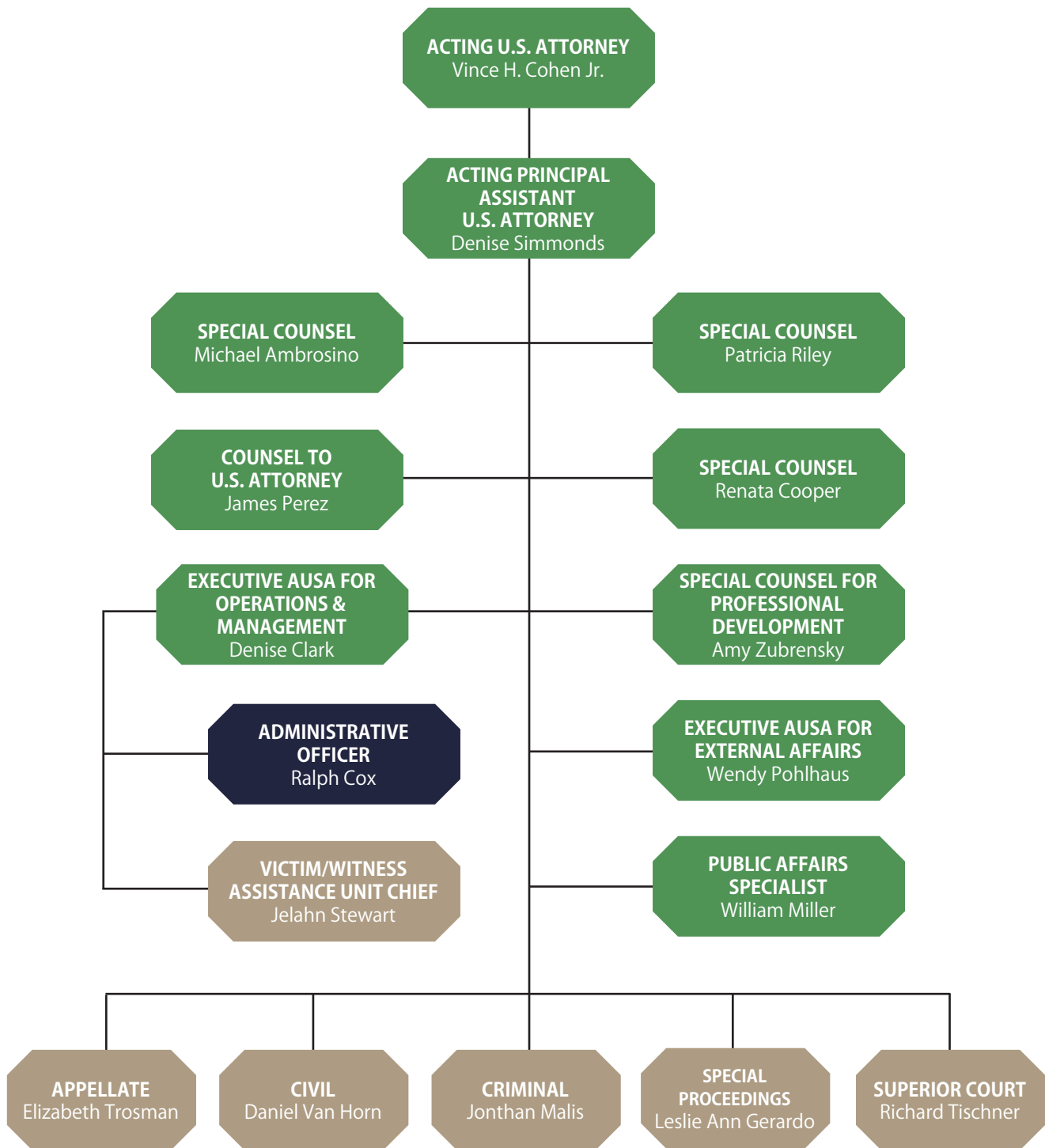


DIVISIONS/SECTIONS	ATTORNEYS	SUPPORT STAFF	TOTAL
Administrative Division		73	73
Front Office	10	3	13
External Affairs	6	8	14
Appellate	29	9	38
Civil	33	17	50
Criminal Division Front Office	2	4	6
Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering	5	1	6
Cyber Unit/MLAT	5	2	7
Fraud and Public Corruption	18	8	26
National Security	18	9	27
Violent Crimes and Narcotics	17	16	33
Special Proceedings	15	6	21
Training, Professional Development and Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee	1	13	14
Victim Witness	1	23	24
Superior Court Front Office	2	4	6
Felony Major Crimes	84	48	132
Homicide	31	11	42
Sex Offense and Domestic Violence	34	11	45
Detailed to Other Agencies	2		2
Pending AUSA Hires	20		20
Pending Support Staff Hires		7	7
TOTAL	333	273	606

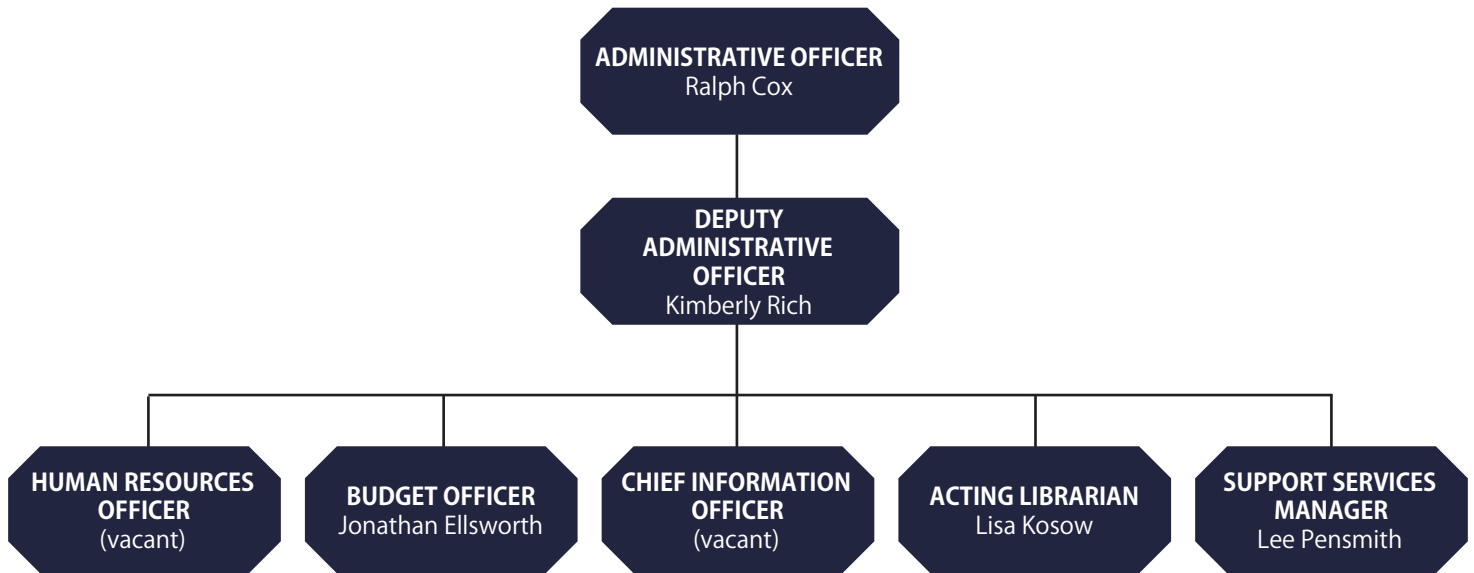
TAKE A GLANCE



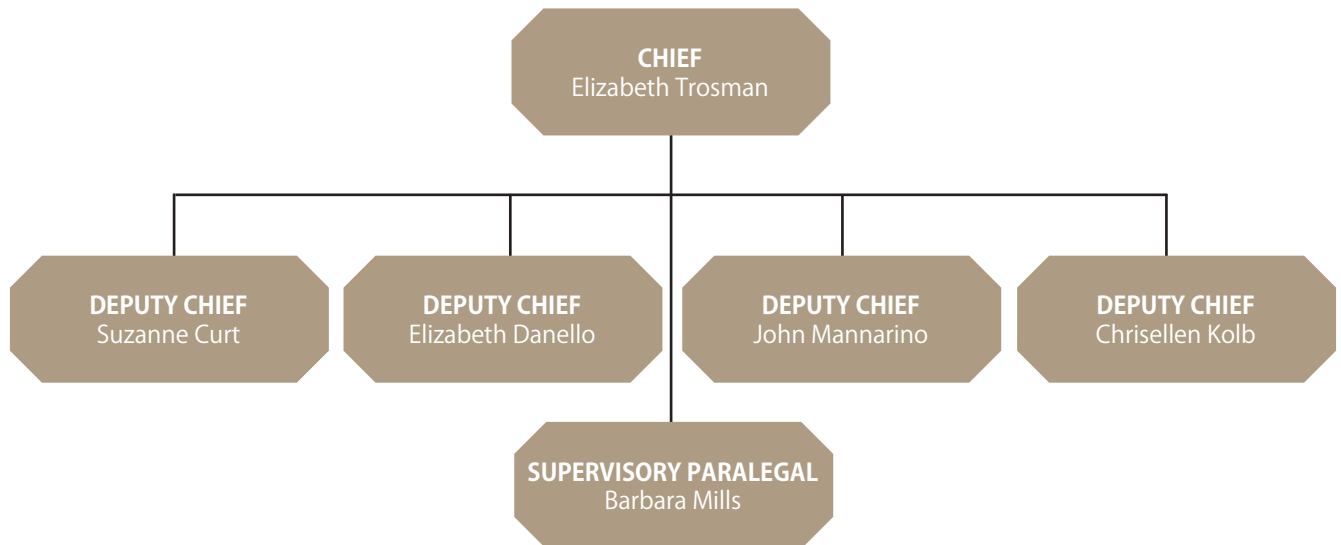
OFFICE ORGANIZATION



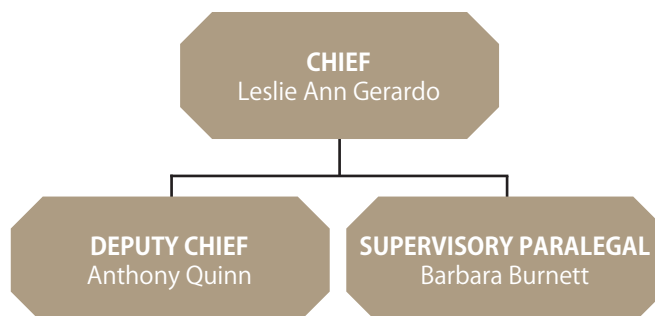
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION



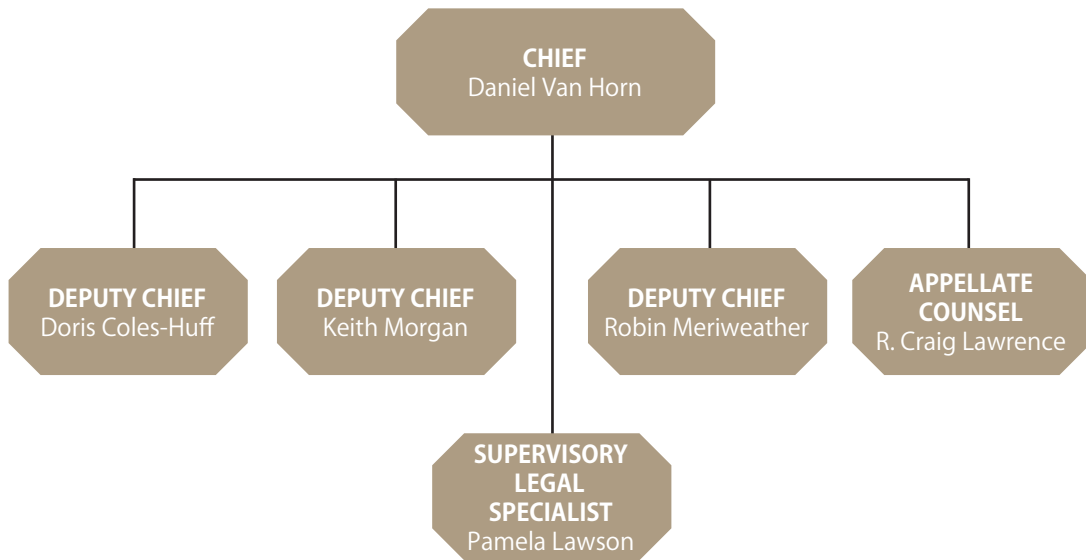
APPELLATE DIVISION



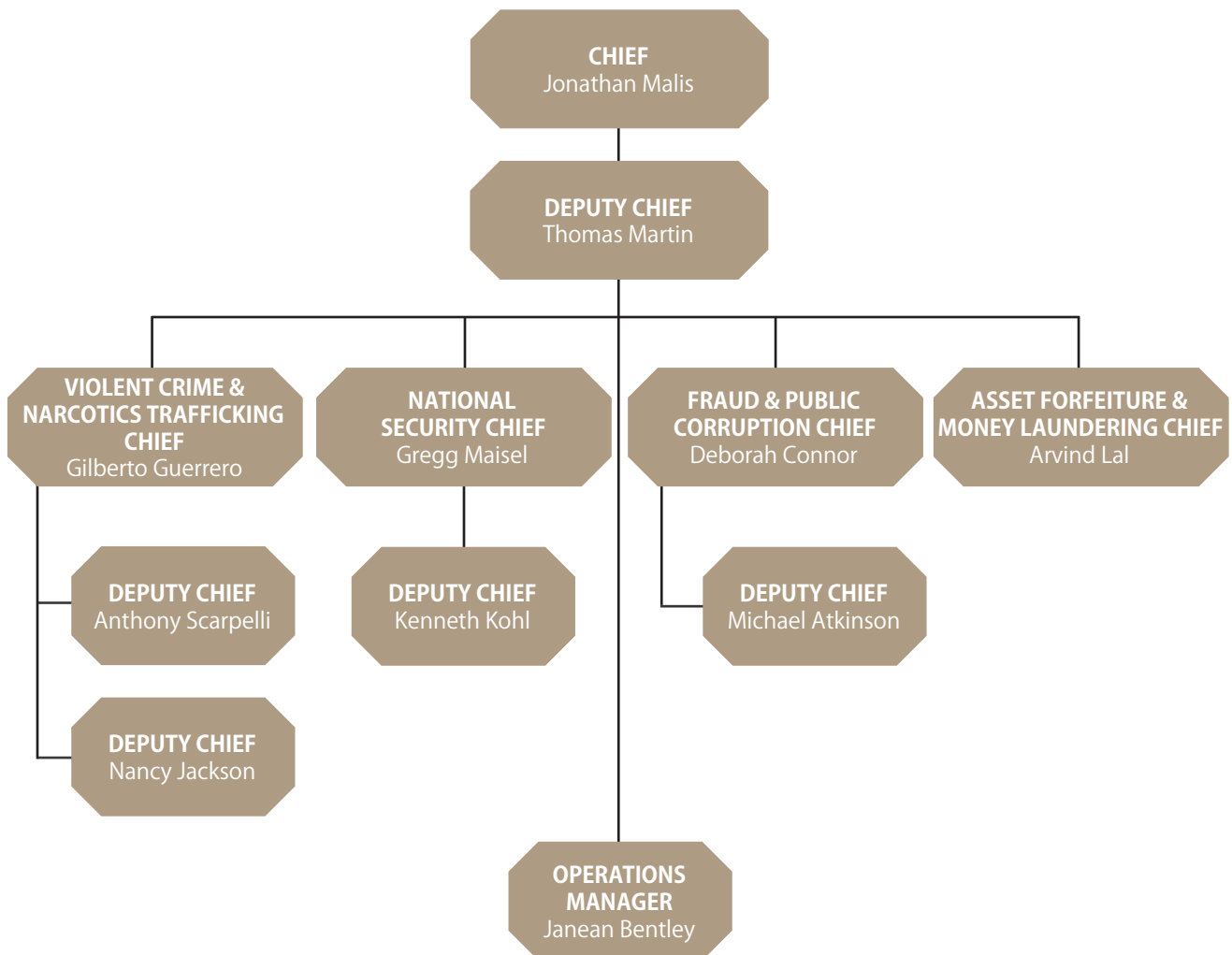
SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS DIVISION



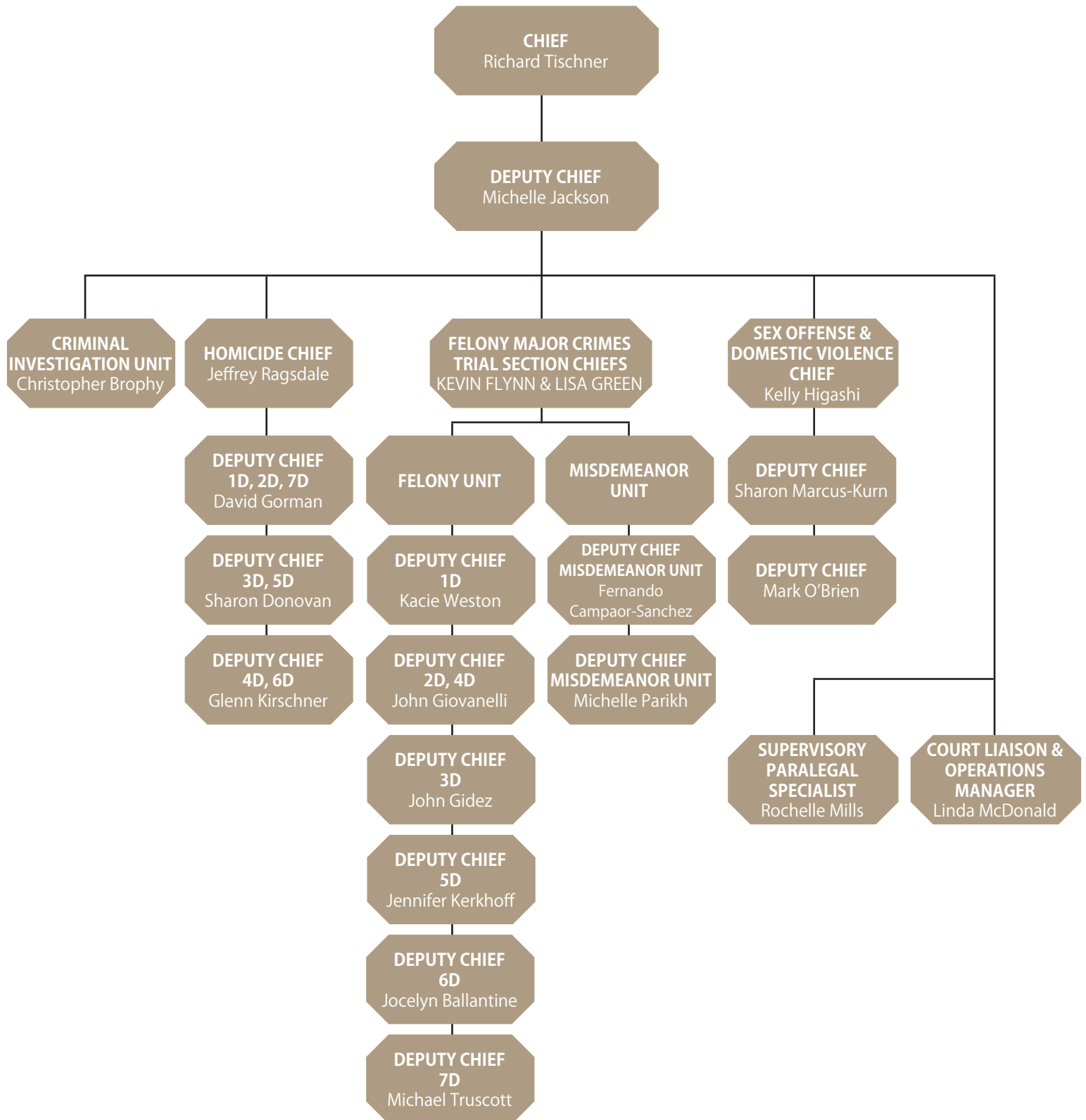
CIVIL DIVISION



CRIMINAL DIVISION



SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION



ORGANIZATION of the OFFICE

To accomplish its broad set of responsibilities, the Office is organized into separate litigating divisions and sections.



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CRIMINAL DIVISION

The Criminal Division has primary responsibility for the prosecution of criminal cases in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. The Division is organized into four sections.

NATIONAL SECURITY

The mission of the National Security Section is to investigate and prosecute criminal activity that threatens our nation's security. The Section is responsible for prosecuting international and domestic terrorism, espionage, export violations, and other criminal matters that have significant national security implications. Our Office performs a unique role in this area because, based on the venue statutes, the District of Columbia is a proper venue for prosecuting most acts of international terrorism or espionage begun or committed outside the United States. In addition, the Section has a nationwide reputation for its expertise in handling violations of export control laws. These matters involve the illegal proliferation of nuclear-related and military-related products and other sensitive technologies and services outside the United States, as well as unlicensed exports of "dual-use" items or exports of goods or services to sanctioned or embargoed countries. Because the District of Columbia is the nation's capital, the Section also has special responsibility for handling threats against the President, Members of Congress, and other high-ranking public officials.

The Section also has primary responsibility within the Office for crisis response and management. The Section's focus on national security cases allows for dedicated efforts by experienced prosecutors on matters that have been designated as our top national priorities. This also

underscores our Office's commitment to give these types of cases the highest level of attention.

FRAUD & PUBLIC CORRUPTION

The Fraud and Public Corruption Section is responsible for the investigation and prosecution of a variety of white collar crimes. These include economic crimes, such as theft, tax violations, identity theft, and embezzlement, as well as a variety of fraudulent activity, including business, banking, securities, telemarketing, credit card, computer, mail, wire, healthcare, and consumer frauds. In addition, this Section prosecutes misconduct by officials of both federal and local governments for violations of the public trust, including improper use of office, improper personal enrichment, police corruption, and fraud in federal programs. It has the responsibility to prosecute private individuals for aiding and abetting government officials in their unlawful conduct and handles allegations of false statements to government agencies, obstruction of justice, and perjury.

VIOLENT CRIMES & NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING

Assistant U.S. Attorneys assigned to the Violent Crime and Narcotics Trafficking (VCNT) Section are responsible for the investigation and prosecution of complex federal cases using conspiracy, continuing criminal enterprise, and racketeering statutes to target and disable the most significant violent gangs and major narcotics traffickers in the District of Columbia. One of the primary missions of this Section is to stop the flow of narcotics into the District of Columbia by eliminating the drug distribution networks at their sources. Assistant U.S. Attorneys in the section also prosecute arrest-generated narcotics offenses that give rise to mandatory penalties under the provisions of the United States Code. These cases generally arise from undercover operations, the execution of search warrants,

or the interdiction of drug couriers at public transportation terminals. The long-term investigations conducted by VCNT utilize a variety of crime fighting techniques, electronic surveillance technology, and covert methods to dismantle large-scale conspiracies and racketeering organizations. In addition, the Section handles a wide range of federally prosecutable violent crimes, firearms offenses, and threats. These include armed robberies of federally insured institutions, extortions, robberies chargeable under the Hobbs Act, kidnapping, possession of firearms by convicted felons, armed career criminals, arson, and threats against private citizens.

ASSET FORFEITURE & MONEY LAUNDERING

The Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section oversees all criminal and civil forfeiture matters for the Criminal Division. Federal law provides authority to seize and forfeit the proceeds of the most serious federal offenses, including terrorism, export violations, drug trafficking, organized crime, child exploitation, human trafficking, fraud, and money laundering. In Fiscal Year 2012, our Office has entered agreements to generate more than \$536 million in forfeiture. The mission of the Section is to enforce compliance with the laws of the United States by using criminal and civil forfeiture, and money laundering charges, to disrupt and deter criminal activity, to dismantle criminal enterprises, and to deprive criminals and criminal organizations of illegal proceeds and instrumentalities of crime.

The Section strives to recover property that can be used to compensate victims. As permitted by law, forfeited funds can be used to provide full or partial restitution to victims of crimes and to support federal, state, and local law enforcement activities.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

The Superior Court Division is the largest division in the Office. It has primary responsibility for the prosecution of criminal cases in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, and handles the highest volume of felony and misdemeanor cases prosecuted by the Office. As of January 2014, the Division is organized into three sections.

FELONY MAJOR CRIMES TRIAL SECTION

The newly formed Felony Major Crimes Trial Section is the largest section in the Superior Court Division, consisting of nearly 90 AUSAs and 150 support staff. It was formed by merging the General Crimes Misdemeanor and Felony Trial Units with the Felony Major Crimes Section in January 2014. As a result of the Metropolitan Police Department's response to a decline in street-level drug trafficking and an increase in robberies and burglaries, the USAO-DC management collected and analyzed data demonstrating the effect of these enforcement changes and other long-term crime trends on AUSA caseloads; the frequency of trials and pleas; the professional development of



AUSAs; and a variety of other measures. Following that analysis, we initiated significant structural changes in the Superior Court Division that were designed to enable a greater number of prosecutors to focus on violent crimes. The new structure, which is based on the seven Police Districts also provides our AUSAs with ongoing, intense involvement with the problems associated with specific areas of the city and allows them to develop an expertise in that area, as well as make connections with community partners involved in addressing street crime. Additionally, a greater number of cases are vertically prosecuted by the new Section and we have created more porous borders between the Districts so that we can shift resources when needed to address spikes in crime in certain neighborhoods.

SEX OFFENSE & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Sex Offense and Domestic Violence Section is responsible for the prosecution of felony and misdemeanor sexual assaults (including child molestation), child physical abuse, child pornography and exploitation, and domestic violence, along with associated crimes such as burglary, kidnapping, robbery, stalking, and weapons charges. The Section prosecutes each case vertically. The Section is divided into three primary units. The Sex Offense Unit, which is staffed with some of the Office's most experienced trial attorneys, handles felony sex offense, child pornography, and exploitation cases. The Domestic Violence Felony Unit handles felony intra-family offenses, including spousal abuse, partner abuse, and intra-family child and elder abuse, ranging from assault to property crimes. The Domestic Violence Misdemeanor Unit handles misdemeanor intra-family offenses.

HOMICIDE

The Homicide Section is responsible for the investigation and prosecution of all homicides committed in the

District of Columbia. Homicide prosecutors are assigned to geographic districts, which correspond to each of the Metropolitan Police Department districts, to maximize the benefit of gathering and utilizing criminal intelligence about a particular area or offender. The Section's newly established Cold Case and Gang Units continue to focus on unresolved homicides that occurred three or more years ago and gang-related murders, respectively.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CIVIL DIVISION

The Civil Division represents the United States and its agencies, officials, and employees in a variety of civil cases. The Division's work includes both defensive and affirmative litigation in both trial and appellate courts in the District of Columbia. Defensive cases handled by the Civil Division include cases brought under the Freedom of Information Act, the Administrative Procedure Act, the Federal Tort Claims Act, the Privacy Act, and the federal employment discrimination laws, as well as cases alleging violations of the United States Constitution that are brought against federal employees in their individual capacities. The Division also brings affirmative actions to recover money owed to the United States by persons who submit false claims or commit fraud against federal agencies, as well as actions to collect unpaid student loans and other debts to the federal government.

APPELLATE DIVISION

The Appellate Division is responsible for handling all appeals of criminal convictions in the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. These duties include preparation of the appellate briefs and presentation of oral arguments. The work of the Appellate Division provides excellent opportunities for new Assistant U.S. Attor-





neys to learn substantive criminal law, hone their oral advocacy skills, and perfect their legal writing.

SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS DIVISION

The Special Proceedings Division handles all post-conviction litigation in both U.S. District Court and D.C. Superior Court. Most commonly, the Division responds to motions alleging ineffective assistance of counsel, prosecutorial misconduct, and newly discovered evidence. The Assistant U.S. Attorneys assigned to this Division often present the testimony of defense counsel or other Assistant U.S. Attorneys at hearings on these motions. The Division also responds to motions for release filed by defendants found not guilty by reason of insanity, habeas petitions challenging the actions of the U.S. Parole Commission or the Bureau of Prisons, motions to seal arrest records, and post-sentence motions filed under the Innocence Protection Act and the Sex Offender Registration Act. The Office's new Conviction Integrity Unit also is part of the Special Proceedings Division.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Office has long believed that a problem-solving approach to law enforcement is essential for reducing crime, enhancing public safety, and improving the quality of life in the District of Columbia. To help accomplish this goal, the Office has adopted a community-based prosecution strategy that enables attorneys and staff to work directly with residents, local businesses, nonprofit organizations, and other stakeholders to identify and solve problems that plague our neighborhoods. The community prosecution teams consist of Community Prosecutors and Community Outreach Specialists who are specially assigned to each of the seven Metropolitan

Police Department districts. Because these teams work directly from offices physically located at the police districts, they serve as vital links between the Office, the police, other District of Columbia agencies, community organizations, victims of crime, and individual citizens.

Community Prosecutors have broad responsibilities and handle a variety of matters, including criminal investigations, intelligence debriefings, nuisance abatement, and proactive law enforcement initiatives. By focusing on specific areas in the District, Community Prosecutors can better address specific public safety issues and become more familiar with the neighborhoods and residents the Office serves.

Like Community Prosecutors, Community Outreach Specialists focus on the particular needs of the districts in which they work. They attend community meetings, listen to concerns of residents, and work in partnership with community stakeholders to address public safety concerns and quality-of-life issues. The Community Outreach Specialists' duties include internet safety presentations for parents and youth, developing and implementing crime reduction strategies, participating in youth development and mentoring initiatives, facilitating meetings with stakeholders, and assisting neighborhood residents with crime victim impact statements.

Building on the success of the community prosecution model, the Office's External Affairs Program focuses on public safety initiatives built on collaborative partnerships with other law enforcement agencies, community-based organizations, faith-based institutions, street-level outreach workers, educators, and local government. Although much of the work, particularly at the neighborhood level, encompasses quality of life

issues (such as street-level drug dealing), the primary focus is to enhance public safety through innovative law enforcement, crime prevention, and intervention strategies. The External Affairs staff works closely with community and faith-based partners on a variety of anti-violence prevention and intervention efforts. This year, together with those and other partners, the staff collaborated on a number of delinquency reduction and truancy prevention programs. The Office also participated in various anti-violence outreach campaigns and chaired a city-wide task force that provided education, outreach, and training on hate crimes.

VICTIM WITNESS ASSISTANCE UNIT

The Victim Witness Assistance Unit (VWAU) is responsible for assisting victims and witnesses of crime by providing a wide range of security and support services. The VWAU oversees witness security programs, including both “non-protective” services (temporarily sheltering or moving threatened witnesses) and “protective” services (short- and long-term witness protection programs). The VWAU

also oversees the victim witness advocate program, which employs advocates to help victims of crime navigate the complexities of the criminal justice system and court process, and to provide referrals for counseling and crisis intervention. Finally, the VWAU, through its Central Services branch, handles travel and lodging arrangements for both out-of-town witnesses and local special-needs witnesses, provides foreign language interpreters for the Office, notifies victims of court proceedings, and helps victims provide impact statements to the court to aid in sentencing.

SPECIAL SECURITY OFFICERS

Special Security Officers (SSOs) are responsible for providing security for the Office. The SSOs, who are former law enforcement officers, monitor the building, control access, screen visitors and packages, and ensure that all security procedures and protocols are followed to help ensure employee safety. The SSOs also respond to all duress alarms and coordinate the reporting of these incidents to the proper authorities



& CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION & INTELLIGENCE UNIT

The Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Unit (CIU) assists with the investigation and prosecution of the cases handled by our Office. CIU is comprised of two components: the Intelligence Unit and the Criminal Investigation Unit. The Intelligence Unit obtains, analyzes, and disseminates information relating to the identification of persons, groups of persons, and organizations committing or supporting criminal enterprises. The Criminal Investigation Unit works closely with Assistant U.S. Attorneys to assist with post-incident investigations of cases needing additional law enforcement resources.



Front Row (left to right): Chris Brophy, Shannon Alexis, Sharon Johnson, Nicole Hinson, Durand Odom
Back Row (left to right): Tommy Miller, Nelson Rhone, William Hamann, Stephen Cohen, Zachary Mcmenamin

Not Pictured: Mark Crawford, Juan Jaurez, John Marsh, Melissa Matthews, Derek Starlipper

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Since October 1, 2011, each of our litigating divisions has accomplished great things on behalf of the people of the District of Columbia and the entire nation. Our Appellate Division succeeded in upholding the convictions of defendants who executed a 14-year-old girl to prevent her from testifying about a murder she witnessed and a man near the Supreme Court who claimed to have an appointment with the Chief Justice while carrying a shotgun and sword. Our Special Proceedings Division successfully defended the convictions of the individu-



als responsible for the brutal 1984 murder of Catherine Fuller. Our Civil Division won 13 victories at trial that ended years of litigation and recovered more than \$50 million in False Claims Act suits. Our Superior Court Division held violent criminals accountable, including the men responsible for the series of shootings that culminated in the massacre on South Capitol Street.





CRIMINAL DIVISION



Jonathan M. Malis, Chief
B.A., Yale University
J.D., Harvard University

Our Criminal Division is unique among its peers throughout the country. It investigates and prosecutes significant and challenging terrorism, white collar, public corruption, narcotics, gang, child exploitation, and cyber cases, among other national priorities. The Criminal Division handles these diverse assignments, with all of the attention and scrutiny that comes from working in the nation's capital. Currently, there are 65 Assistant U.S. Attorneys assigned to the Criminal Division. Senior Assistant U.S. Attorneys selected to serve in the Criminal Division typically have significant trial and investigative experience. The Criminal Division also has a rotational program that affords less experienced Assistant U.S. Attorneys the opportunity to serve in federal court assignments, which provides them with valuable experience in federal grand jury and trial practice.

In 2014 and the first half of 2015, the Criminal Division produced outstanding results across the full range of its responsibilities. Our National Security Section successfully tried to verdict four former security guards for Blackwater USA for charges stemming from the September 16, 2007, shooting at Nisur Square in Baghdad, Iraq, that resulted in the killing of 14 unarmed civilians and the wounding of numerous others. Our Fraud and Public Corruption Section held numerous public officials accountable for their betrayal of the public trust, including former D.C. Council member Michael Brown. Our Violent Crime and Narcotics Trafficking Section successfully prosecuted several sophisticated multi-state drug organizations through the extensive use of Title III wiretaps and other sensitive law enforcement techniques, while also obtaining convictions against armed criminals intent on robbing banks and other commercial establishments. Our Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section skillfully assisted other Criminal Division attorneys with the seizure and forfeiture of substantial assets across a range of significant matters. Our child-exploitation Assistant U.S. Attorneys, while assigned to the Sex Offense and Domestic Violence Section of the Superior Court Division, vigorously enforced federal child-exploitation statutes in federal court with great success, often working on short notice and throughout the night to rescue children from their abusers. In 2014, the Criminal Division also stood up a new Cyber Unit as an independent litigating and consulting component. The Cyber Unit has already assumed responsibility for high-profile data breach and other significant investigations, while providing advice and assistance to Assistant U.S. Attorneys throughout the Office.

Additionally, Criminal Division attorneys have worked across section lines to achieve justice. Attorneys from several sections worked together to achieve extraordinary results in two export control matters – the deferred prosecution agreement in *U.S. v. Commerzbank AG* and the guilty plea in *U.S. v. Schlumberger Oilfield Holdings Ltd.* Together, these matters resulted in the recovery for the U.S. government of \$1.6 billion.

NOTABLE CASES

NATIONAL SECURITY

United States v. Paul Slough, et al: Four Blackwater contractors were convicted for their roles in the September 2007 fatal shooting of innocent civilians at Nisur Square in Baghdad, Iraq, resulting in the deaths of 14 people and injuries to at least 18 others. The landmark verdict followed an 11-week trial during the summer of 2014, for which the FBI brought the largest group of foreign witnesses ever to testify in a U.S. criminal trial. One defendant was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison, and three co-defendants were convicted of multiple counts of manslaughter and attempted manslaughter and a weapons offense and sentenced to 30 years in prison.

United States v. Ahmed Abu Khatallah: In June 2014, the defendant (a Libyan national) was captured overseas and brought to the District of Columbia to face charges arising from the terrorist attack on U.S. facilities in Benghazi, Libya, on September 11-12, 2012, resulting in the deaths of U.S. Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens and three other Americans. The defendant is now pending trial on an 18-count indictment, including multiple capital offenses.

United States v. Donald Sachtleben: In November 2013, a former FBI bomb technician pled guilty and was sentenced to 43 months in prison for unlawfully disclosing national defense information relating to a disrupted terrorist plot to conduct a suicide bomb attack on a U.S.-bound airliner by the Yemen-based terrorist organization Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula and the recovery by the United States of a bomb in connection with that plot. As a result of Sachtleben's disclosure of national defense information to the reporter, the national security of the United States was compromised, a significant international intelligence operation was placed in jeopardy, and lives were put at risk.

United States v. Stephen Jin-Woo Kim: In April 2014, a former federal contract employee was sentenced to 13 months in prison after pleading guilty to the unauthorized disclosure of national defense information concerning the military capabilities and preparedness of North Korea contained in a classified intelligence report. The defendant admitted that he had reason to believe that his unauthorized disclosure could be used to injure the United States or to advantage of a foreign nation.

United States v. Julian Zapata Espinoza, et al: In May 2013, a commander in Los Zetas Cartel, a heavily armed Mexican narco-trafficking cartel and transnational criminal organization, pled guilty to the murder of a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent and the attempted murder of another

ICE agent in February 2011 in Mexico. At the same time, the court unsealed the guilty pleas of three other members of Los Zetas Cartel on related murder, attempted murder, racketeering, and accessory charges.

United States v. Alexander Beltran Herrera: In October 2014, a commander of the Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC) terrorist organization was sentenced to 27 years in prison following his guilty plea to hostage-taking charges stemming from the 2003 capture of three U.S. citizens in Colombia. After their single-engine aircraft made a crash landing in the Colombian jungle, the three Americans were held hostage for five and a half years until they were rescued in a daring operation by the Colombian military.

United States v. Nizar Trabelsi: In October 2013, an alleged member of al-Qaeda (a Tunisian national) was extradited from Belgium to face charges in the District of Columbia stemming from an alleged conspiracy to carry out a suicide bomb attack against Americans in Europe following the attacks of September 11, 2001. The defendant is now pending trial on an indictment that alleges that the defendant personally met in the spring of 2001 with Osama bin Laden to volunteer for a suicide bomb attack against U.S. interests.

United States v. Michael Sestak, et al: In November 2013, a U.S. Foreign Service Officer who worked in the U.S. Consulate in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, pled guilty to conspiracy, bribery, and money laundering charges in a scheme in which he accepted more than \$3 million in bribes to process visas for non-immigrants seeking entry to the United States. Subsequently, three co-defendants pled guilty for their roles in the scheme, which allowed nearly 500 foreign nationals to enter the United States and generated at least \$9 million for the members of the conspiracy.

United States v. Jose Maria Corredor-Ibague: In September 2013, a high-level drug trafficker and supporter of the FARC was sentenced to serve 194 months in prison after he had pled



guilty to narco-terrorism and other related charges. The defendant was the first person in the nation to be indicted under the federal narco-terrorism statute, which became law in March 2006.

United States v. Commerzbank AG: In March 2015, Commerzbank AG, a global financial institution headquartered in Frankfurt, and its U.S. branch, Commerzbank AG New York Branch (Commerz New York), agreed to forfeit \$563 million, pay a \$79 million fine and enter into a deferred prosecution agreement for violations of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) and the Bank Secrecy Act (BSA). Combined with payments to federal and state regulators, Commerzbank paid a total of \$1.45 billion in penalties.

United States v. Schlumberger Oilfield Holdings, Ltd: In April 2015, Schlumberger Oilfield Holdings Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Schlumberger Ltd., entered a guilty plea and was ordered to pay more than \$232 million in forfeiture and fines for conspiring to violate IEEPA by willfully facilitating illegal transactions and engaging in trade with Iran and Sudan. As part of the resolution, the parent company also agreed to maintain its

cessation of its operations in Iran and Sudan, to continue its cooperation with U.S. authorities, and to hire an independent consultant to review its sanctions policies, procedures, and internal sanctions audits.

United States v. Oscar Ortega-Hernandez: In March 2014, a resident of Idaho Falls, Idaho, who used a semi-automatic assault rifle to fire at least eight rounds at the White House in November 2011, was sentenced to 25 years in prison after he pled guilty to terrorism and weapons offenses.

United States v. Floyd Lee Corkins, II: In September 2013, the defendant was sentenced to 25 years in prison after he pled guilty to three felony charges in the August 2012 shooting of a security guard at the Family Research Council in downtown Washington, D.C. This case marked the first time that a defendant was charged with and convicted of committing an act of terrorism under a provision of the District of Columbia's Anti-Terrorism Act of 2002 that covers criminal actions committed with the intent to "intimidate or coerce a significant portion of the civilian population of the District of Columbia or the United States."

FRAUD & PUBLIC CORRUPTION

United States v. Jesse L. Jackson Jr. and Sandra Jackson: In August 2013, the former Illinois Congressman was sentenced to 30 months in prison for conspiring to defraud his re-election campaigns of \$750,000 in funds subsequently used to pay for luxury goods, personal items and expenses. To conceal the seven years of illegal activities, the former Congressman filed misleading reports with the Federal Election Commission (FEC) and the U.S. House of Representatives. These actions were critical to carrying out the conspiracy because they enabled the conduct to continue without question for a lengthy period of time and without the questions from regulators and the public that likely would have ensued had truthful, accurate reports been filed. His wife, a former Chicago alderman, was sentenced to one year for filing false tax returns as part of the scheme. The \$750,000 in funds were used to pay for personal items and expenses, including jewelry, fur capes and parkas, high-end electronics, celebrity memorabilia, furniture, kitchen appliances, and a home renovation project.

United States v. LaFrances Dudley O'Neal: In September 2013, following a two-week jury trial and conviction on four felony charges, including conspiracy and bank fraud, a Maryland woman was sentenced to 48 months in prison for her part in a mortgage fraud scheme that cost lenders more than \$900,000. Four others earlier pled guilty to a charge of conspiracy to commit bank fraud and mail fraud for their roles in the scheme and related schemes.

United States v. Jonathan Womble: In October 2013, a former District of Columbia corrections officer was sentenced to 37 months in prison after pleading guilty to a federal bribery charge and admitting taking money in return for smuggling drugs into D.C. Jail.

United States v. John C. Beale: In December 2013, a former senior policy advisor for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was sentenced to 32 months in prison for carrying out a long-running scheme that cheated the government of nearly \$900,000 in pay and expenses. Among other things, Beale kept collecting pay from the EPA after falsely claiming he was working on a project for the CIA's Directorate of Operations and on other efforts that kept him out of the office.

United States v. Arnold Rojas Rivas: In September 2014, a businessman from San Antonio, Texas, was sentenced to 27 months in prison for a scheme in which he defrauded a federal agency and a private company of nearly \$1.7 million. Rojas was the director of Corporativo Papeleroy De Suministros Basicos, S.A. DE C.V. (COPASBA), a company based in Mexico that produced paper products. The company applied for, and obtained, access to a \$10 million credit facility from a finance company based in Hartford, Conn. The credit facility was guaranteed by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), an agency of the U.S. government which has as one of its missions providing insur-





Recipients received an award in appreciation of their outstanding contribution in U.S. v. Donald Sachtleben

ance, guarantees, financing, and reinsurance for projects in less developed countries and areas. Rojas requested a disbursement of over \$1.8 million for COPASBA, failing, in violation of the credit agreement, to inform the finance company or OPIC of the many problems the company had encountered. Within moments of COPASBA receiving the funds, Rojas transferred nearly \$1.7 million to his personal account and used these funds for his and his family's personal benefit.

United States v. Jeffrey Thompson: In March 2014, the former chairman, chief executive officer, and majority owner of Thompson, Cobb, Bazilio and Associates (TCBA), a corporation that provided accounting, management, consulting, and tax services and also the former chairman, chief executive officer, and owner of D.C. Healthcare Systems, Inc. (DCHSI), an investment holding and for-profit corporation, pled guilty to using funds from those corporations to secretly finance campaign contributions and activities from at least 2006 until 2012. TCBA received millions of dollars under contracts with District of Columbia and federal government entities. DCHSI owned D.C. Chartered Health Plan, Inc. (Chartered), a corporation that contracted with the District of Columbia government to provide managed care services to a substantial number of District of Columbia residents. Chartered's contract with the District of Columbia, paid primarily by the federal government, totaled about \$300 million each year. Eleven other individuals have pled guilty since 2012 to charges involving Thompson's illegal spending.

United States v. Michael Brown: In May 2014, the former

member of the Council of the District of Columbia was sentenced to 39 months in prison for carrying out a scheme in which he accepted a total of \$55,000 in a series of meetings with undercover FBI agents posing as officials of a company that purportedly wanted to win government contracting opportunities. The scheme in which he admitted taking the cash payments in return for his assistance in winning the District of Columbia government's approval for a company that was seeking to be classified as a Certified Business Enterprise, a designation that would create potentially lucrative business opportunities; Brown also agreed to help the company with government contracting opportunities. As part of the plea agreement, Brown admitted to being involved in a scheme to conceal the true source of \$20,000 that was secretly contributed to his failed bid in 2007 for a seat on the District of Columbia Council and another scheme involving over \$100,000 that was secretly contributed to his successful bid in 2008 for a seat on the District of Columbia Council. Brown was the third member of the Council of the District of Columbia to plead guilty within the past three years to federal charges involving crimes committed while they were in office.

United States v. Euphonia Green: In July 2014, a former medical association employee was sentenced to 46 months in prison for embezzling more than \$5 million from her former employer, a nonprofit corporation. From January 5, 1998, through July 15, 2013, Green was employed by the Association of American Medical Colleges as an administrative assistant. The association, located in Washington, D.C., represents all of the accredited medical schools in the United States and Canada and is



responsible for administering the Medical College Admission Test or MCAT. From July 15, 2005, through July 1, 2013, the scheme involved the creation and submission of false invoices to the Association of American Medical Colleges in the name of three entities – The Brookings Institute, FCI, and the University Health System Consortium, also known as UHC seeking payment for services that were never provided and without the association's knowledge that Green would be the actual recipient of the payments.

United States v. Patrick Brightwell: In October 2014, the manager of a water waste treatment business was sentenced to 10 months in prison on charges that he orchestrated the discharge of waste into the Potomac River at East Potomac Park from 2009 through 2011.

Washington Gas Energy Systems: In November 2014, Washington Gas Energy Systems (WGESystems) agreed to pay more than \$2.5 million in fines and monetary penalties for conspiring to commit fraud on the United States by illegally obtaining contracts that were meant for small, disadvantaged businesses.

United States v. Harold Martin: In November 2014, the owner, president, and chief executive officer of a Virginia-based information technology company, Intelligent Decisions, Inc., pled guilty to a federal charge stemming from gratuities that he and his company provided to a former contracting official with the U.S. Department of the Army in return for preferential treatment and government contracts. In a related action, the company, Intelligent Decisions, Inc., agreed to pay a \$300,000 criminal penalty for its conduct.

United States v. Marc England: In December 2014, the former controller of a Washington D.C. law firm was sentenced to 20 months in prison on a federal charge stemming from his theft of over \$960,000 from the firm.

United States v. Forrester Construction Company: In December 2014, a local construction firm agreed to pay \$2.15 million to the United States and implement internal reforms that will be subject to independent review and reporting to resolve a criminal investigation into alleged fraud committed in connection with the use of Certified Business Enterprises (CBEs) in the procurement of more than \$145 million in District of Columbia government contracts.

United States v. Jonathan M. Hargett: In December 2014, a former civilian employee of the Department of Defense was extradited from Germany, returned to the United States, and sentenced to 40 months in prison on charges of health care fraud stemming from a scheme in which this employee collected over \$2.2 million after submitting fraudulent claims for federal health care benefits.

United States v. Neil Rodgers: In March 2015, a former District of Columbia government official who served as the Committee Director of the Council of the District of Columbia's Committee on Libraries, Parks, Recreation and Planning, was found guilty after a two-week trial by a jury of first-degree fraud stemming from his role in channeling \$110,000 in youth and drug prevention grant funds that were used to pay for an inaugural ball.

United States v. Edward Dacy: In April 2015, a settlement attorney was found guilty of 10 counts of conspiracy, bank fraud, and mail fraud stemming from a multi-million dollar mortgage fraud scheme involving 45 properties and \$16 million in mortgage loans used for the purchase of residential real estate in the District of Columbia and Maryland. This trial completed a three-year investigation relating to this mortgage fraud scheme. A total of nine individuals admitted their guilt through guilty pleas.

United States v. Garfield Taylor: In May 2015, a local D.C. business man was sentenced to 13 years in prison and ordered to pay over \$28.6 million in restitution for operating a Ponzi scheme that resulted in investors losing money they invested with Taylor and companies he controlled.

United States v. James Nelson: In May 2015, Nelson was sentenced to serve more than three years in prison for various crimes he committed in a far-reaching identity theft and tax fraud scheme in which he and others filed fraudulent federal income tax returns seeking more than \$1.1 million in refunds. Over ten others have pled guilty to charges in connection with this investigation, one of the largest to date involving the use of stolen identifying information.

VIOLENT CRIME & NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING

United States v. Harold Dorman: In October of 2013, a search warrant was executed at the defendant's residence. The defendant was an associate of a violent Southeast drug gang. Recovered was almost 500 grams of Phencyclidine (PCP), a cache of stolen manufacturer's prescription bottles containing controlled substances, digital scales, Ziploc bags, two illegal fire-

arms, and numerous unused vials used to distribute PCP. The defendant was charged with possession with intent to distribute PCP and firearms offenses.

United States v. Herman Curtis Malone: In March 2014, the defendant pled guilty to a charge of conspiracy to distribute

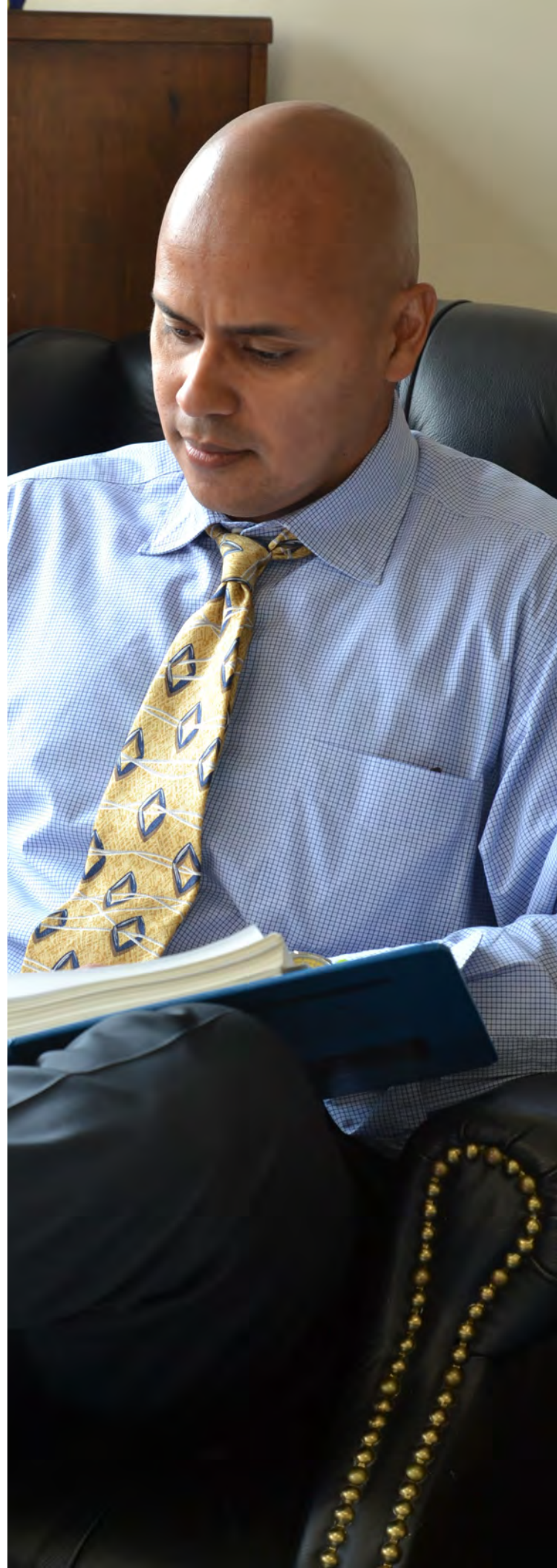
and possess with intent to distribute cocaine and heroin. As a leading participant of the conspiracy, Malone carried out his drug trafficking while also playing a major role in youth athletics and the funneling of talent into college basketball programs. The Court subsequently sentenced Malone to 100 months of imprisonment, followed by five years of supervised release and 75 hours a year of community service.

United States v. Donnell Crews and Antwon Crowder: On September 21, 2011, Donnell Crews and Antwon Crowder, along with each of their respective half-brothers, conspired and attempted to rob an armored car as it was parked outside of a CVS on Georgia Avenue, N.W. As the armored car guard exited the CVS with a bag of money, he exchanged gunfire with the defendants and co-conspirators, who then fled. Donnell Crews and Antwon Crowder were indicted on counts of conspiracy and attempt to interfere with interstate commerce by robbery, and related firearms offenses. In March of 2014, Donnell Crews was convicted & sentenced to 225 months incarceration. In April of 2014, Antwon Crowder pled guilty and was sentenced to 56 months incarceration.

United States v. Alex Alexander, et al: On May 13, 2014, Alex Alexander, and three of his siblings, Allante Alexander, Alvin Alexander, and Allesha Alexander conspired to rob a convenience store at an Exxon gas station in Silver Spring, Maryland, and traveled from Washington D.C. to Silver Spring to complete the robbery. Two days later, on May 15, 2014, the four siblings robbed a Columbo Bank, located on 9th Street, N.W. In the Fall of 2014, all four siblings pled guilty to conspiracy to interfere with interstate commerce by robbery and additional counts related to the bank robbery. In January of 2015, Alex and Allante Alexander were each sentenced to 36 months incarceration. Alvin Alexander was sentenced to 39 months incarceration, and Allesha Alexander was sentenced to 20 months incarceration.

United States. v. Venkata Mannava: Venkata Mannava was a Washington D.C. licensed pharmacist who pled guilty to conspiracy to obtain and dispense oxycodone by prescription fraud and conspiracy to commit health care fraud. The investigation revealed that Mannava had filled 631 forged oxycodone/oxycotin prescriptions, all presented in the course of a year by a single individual (who also pled guilty), at a rate of about a dozen per week, in the names of about 30 different fictitious patients.

United States v. Juan Floyd, et al: From approximately October of 2012 through November of 2013, defendant Floyd led a large-scale narcotics organization based in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. Large quantities of heroin, cocaine, and marijuana were exported from the narcotics supplier in Texas to defendant Floyd. Human couriers were used to transport illegal narcotics from Texas to the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, and to launder the monetary proceeds of the narcotics conspiracy, along with several bank accounts. Thirty-three defendants were arrested and charged in this narcotics and money laundering conspiracy, including 9 defendants from Texas. Law enforcement recovered 19 firearms, over \$500 million in U.S. currency, over 1.5 kilograms of heroin, 16 ounces of phenylclidine, and approximately 16 pounds of marijuana.



United States v. Pablo Lovo, et al: From mid-August of 2013 to September of 2013, five defendants conspired to rob a fictitious narcotics dealer and business owner. The defendants were arrested on the day they intended to execute the robbery. Following their arrests, law enforcement recovered three 9 mm firearms loaded with ammunition, three firearm magazines also loaded with ammunition, two machetes, one large sheath knife, multiple pocket knives, and rope that the defendants planned to use to commit the robbery. Two of the defendants pled guilty to conspiracy to interfere with interstate commerce by robbery and were sentenced to 33 months and 37 months incarceration, respectively. Three of the defendants were convicted following trial and were sentenced to 124 months, 100 months, and 64 months incarceration, respectively.

United States v. Raymond Proctor and Stephanie Ellison: Defendant Proctor participated in a narcotics and money laundering conspiracy with several individuals, including defendant Ellison who, at the time of the conspiracy, was a detective with the Metropolitan Police Department for the District of Colum-

bia. Defendant Proctor sold approximately 418 grams of heroin during several controlled purchases to multiple undercover agents in exchange for U.S. currency and export-only cigarettes. During the course of this narcotics conspiracy, defendants Proctor and Ellison also conspired to launder monetary instruments as well, purchasing a 2006 Maserati, a 2007 Harley Davidson Night Rod, and a 2009 750LI BMW.

United States v. Lance Anderson and Mustafah Muhammad, et al: This long-term investigation started with a series of controlled buys from various targets, leading to numerous Title III wiretaps and 31 search warrants executed in Washington, D.C., Prince George's County and Montgomery County, Maryland, and Delaware. The seizures included approximately \$100,000 in U.S. Currency, heroin, crack cocaine, marijuana, and numerous firearms. As a result, a total of 36 individuals were indicted in four separate indictments charging conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute various narcotics including heroin, cocaine and crack cocaine, and related weapons offenses. Nearly all of these defendants have pled guilty.

ASSET FORFEITURE & MONEY LAUNDERING

The Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section supports Criminal Division attorneys in seizing criminal assets and developing appropriate financial charges; pursues independent investigations involving financial crimes; and brings civil forfeiture actions. The section's attorneys provided assistance in many of the cases described above, including:

United States v. Michael Sestak and Binh Vo: This case involved a conspiracy to bribe a U.S. Foreign Service Officer with millions of dollars in exchange for non-immigrant visas that permitted more than 500 foreign nationals to enter the United States. Vo and other coconspirators would locate people in Vietnam who wanted visas, charge them between \$30,000 and \$60,000 and have them interview with Sestak who approved their visas. These defendants pled guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Bribery, Visa Fraud, Bribery of a Public Official and Money Laundering. In addition to their guilty pleas, Sestak was ordered to forfeit \$3 million and Vo was ordered to forfeit more than \$5 million.

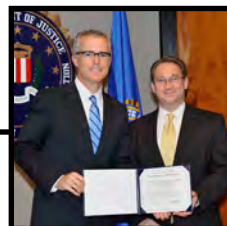
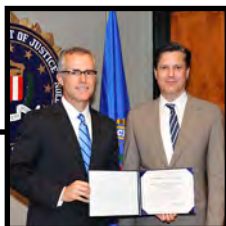
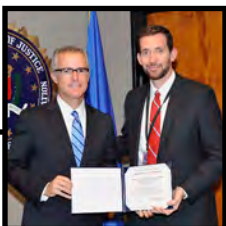
United States v. James Hargett: This veteran, who was serving as a civilian employee of the Department of Defense, carried out a scheme to submit fraudulent health related claims for medical expenses to both his VA health insurance plan and his DOD health insurance plan. The more than \$2.5 million in false invoices claimed that he had purchased prescriptions and re-

ceived medical treatments in Germany. He pled guilty to health care fraud and was sentenced to 40 months in prison. He was also ordered to forfeit \$2.2 million and six gold and silver bars that he had stashed at different locations.

The Capitol Ills Investigation: Uncovered the largest health care fraud in the history of the United States in which thirty-three defendants were charged in a series of cases in which home health care agencies, nurse staffing agencies, office workers and personal care assistants engaged in various schemes to submit fraudulent bills for reimbursement to the government. Most of the defendants have pled guilty. The AFMLS Section obtained 51 seizure warrants, 37 follow up seizure warrants and recovered more than \$12 million worth of assets.

The AFML section has partnered with other sections of the Office to pursue banks and other companies that violate the International Emergency Economic Powers Act by willfully facilitating illegal transactions with Iran and Sudan. These efforts have led to the Office obtaining forfeiture judgments of \$563,000,000 against Commerzbank, more than \$300,000,000 against ING Bank, and more than \$77,000,000 against Schlumberger Oilfield Holdings, Inc. The Section has also successfully obtained a guilty verdict in a case involving money laundering to promote a foreign illegal export scheme.

BLACKWATER CASE HONOREES





Richard Tischner, Chief
B.A., S.U.N.Y at Stony Brook
J.D., Pace University

The Superior Court Division is unique among U.S. Attorney's Offices because of its comprehensive local prosecution responsibilities. The Division prosecutes nearly all local crimes committed by adults within the D.C. There are now 151 Assistant U.S. Attorneys and an additional 6 Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys assigned to the Division (in addition to a number of unpaid Legal Fellows), and 86 support staff members. The Division has three litigating sections – Homicide, Sex Offense and Domestic Violence, and Felony Major Crimes Trial Section (formerly the Felony Major Crimes and General Crimes Section) – that handle everything from simple possession of drugs to complicated gang, sexual assault, and homicide cases. Our Litigation Services Unit supports the Division by managing thousands of transcript, radio run, and drug analysis requests each year. We also have a small cadre of criminal investigators to assist in our case preparation.

During 2014, the Division was presented with approximately 24,500 new cases. Of these cases, we filed or "papered" more than 3,000 new felony cases and over 12,000 new misdemeanor cases, approximately 3,500 of which were domestic violence charges. These numbers do not include the cases that were pending at the beginning of 2014. In 2014, we also took more than 300 cases to jury verdicts, including 39 homicide cases, and secured homicide convictions in 76% of those cases. An additional 1,135 cases were concluded through bench trials. Combining guilty pleas and trial verdicts, we obtained convictions in 6,692 cases, including nearly 2,250 felony matters for a felony conviction rate of 71%. At any given time, the Division is handling approximately 6,000 active, pre-trial cases and several hundred post-conviction matters.

Firearms and violent crimes, particularly homicides, sex offenses, carjackings, and armed robberies, including those committed by 16- and 17-year-olds, remain the top prosecutorial priorities of the Division. These priorities are addressed through our efforts to assign highly skilled and trained supervisors, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, and staff to these cases. The Homicide and Sex Offense and Domestic Violence Sections continued to aggressively and to vigorously prosecute violent and predatory defendants, obtaining astounding results on behalf of the residents of the District of Columbia.

In 2014, the Homicide Section prosecuted some of the most dangerous criminals plaguing the District of Columbia. In addition to the successful prosecution of non-gang related homicides that occurred within the past three years, the Homicide Section's Gang and Cold Case Units had another productive year. The Gang Unit continued its prosecution of multi-defendant, criminal street gang and conspiracy, homicide and violent crime prosecutions contributing to the reduction of crime in historically high crime neighborhoods. Additionally, the Cold Case Unit proved that murderers cannot escape justice by successfully obtaining convictions in decade old murder cases.

Calendar year 2014 was just as successful for the Sex Offense and Domestic Violence Sections. The Section tried a number of notable and challenging cases, including *United States v. Prince Jones* in which the defendant used social media to lure women for the purpose of sexually preying on them. In 2014, the Sex Offense and Domestic Violence Sections' jury trial conviction rate increased from 72% in 2013 to 86% in 2014. Moreover, the Sex Offense Unit had an extraordinary 100% felony trial conviction rate.

The Division's newest tool in combatting firearms and violent crime is the Felony Major Crimes Trial Section that was created in February 2014, in response to the changing crime trends and law enforcement priorities—a decline in drug arrests and an increase in robberies and burglaries. The success of this section is proven by the number of felony trials remaining nearly constant, although drug arrests have declined. In 2014, one of the section's main focuses was the successful prosecution of robbery cases. Prosecutors obtained incredible results, securing convictions in serial robbery cases and lengthy terms of imprisonment for very violent offenders.

NOTABLE CASES

HOMICIDE

U.S. v. Bernard Fleming and Joseph Peoples:

The defendants, convicted drug conspirators operating in the Shaw neighborhood in 2012, were prosecuted for their roles in the Shaw neighborhood July 7, 2012 shooting, in the 1700 block of 7th Street, NW, that left one man dead and another wounded. Earlier in the day, Fleming got into a physical altercation with the decedent's brother. Fleming, Peoples, and a third individual then followed the decedent's brother to his home, banged on the door, threatened him, and demanded that he come outside. They left after the decedent's brother did not come outside, but returned about 90 minutes later—this time standing outside a window, and at one point shining a laser inside. Soon after that, the decedent, the decedent's brother, and two friends set out to try to find Fleming and Peoples to settle the dispute. They encountered Peoples outside an apartment building in the 1700 block of Seventh Street NW, and a shooting followed. Peoples pulled out a gun. Fleming, who was standing on a balcony above the decedent's group, began shooting down on the victims. The decedent and a friend took out guns and fired back in defense of themselves and others in their group. The decedent was shot in the head, killing him almost immediately, and the decedent's brother suffered a non-fatal gunshot. After the shooting, Peoples stashed the guns. Fleming was convicted of Second Degree Murder while armed, two counts of Assault with Intent to Kill While Armed, and related weapons offenses. He received a total sentence of 35 years of incarceration. Defendant Peoples was convicted of carrying a pistol and tampering with evidence and received a total sentence of one year imprisonment.

United States v. Willie Walker and Ricky Donaldson:

In 2008, the defendants were members of a very violent street gang known as the LeDroit Park Crew who sold crack cocaine, among other illicit activities, in the Kelly Miller housing devel-

opment in LeDroit Park. On February 4, 2008, Walker shot a 55-year-old woman multiple times in the legs after an argument. On March 31, 2008, Walker argued with the decedent, another woman, who referenced the February 4, 2008 shooting that Walker had committed, telling him that she would not be treated the same way. In response, Walker shot the decedent multiple times in the torso, and then, as she lay on the ground, multiple times in the face. The decedent survived the attack, and immediately identified Walker as her assailant to law enforcement. For her protection, the decedent was relocated out of the area. After Walker was arrested and detained in July 2008, he and Donaldson, along with the aid of other LDP gang members, began communicating about hunting down and killing the witnesses against Walker. On September 13, 2008, Donaldson located the decedent, who had returned to the area of LeDroit Park, and fatally shot her multiple times in the back and head. Walker and Donaldson were sentenced to 88 and 45 years imprisonment, respectively.

United States v. Anthony Gray:

In July 2000, Gray, a member of a very violent street gang known as Simple City Crew which operated in the area of Alabama Avenue, S.E., and other gang members, learned of the decedent's cooperation with law enforcement in a 1999 murder investigation. Gray and others kidnapped the decedent and took him to some nearby woods where they shot him. In a cold case prosecution, nearly 15 years after the murder, Gray was convicted of First Degree Murder while Armed and Kidnapping and sentenced to 30 years in prison to be served consecutively to an unrelated murder sentence.

United States v. Christopher Holmes:

In the afternoon of October 29, 2008, the defendant entered a busy barbershop in the 3200 block of 22nd Street, Southeast



where the decedent was located. The decedent made a comment to Holmes to the effect of, "There's no one in here for you to rob," which appeared to be a reference to the fact that Holmes had robbed the decedent's childhood friend a few weeks earlier. The argument spilled out into the street, where Holmes pulled out a .40-caliber semi-automatic pistol and pointed it at the decedent. The decedent said to Holmes, "What are you going to do? Shoot me in broad daylight?" Holmes then brazenly shot the decedent once in the chest, causing the decedent to stagger back into the barber shop and collapse to his death. The defendant was convicted of Second Degree Murder While Armed and sentenced to 22 years to be served consecutively to sentences in two unrelated cases.

SEX OFFENSE & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

United States v. Orlando Roberts:

The defendant, a 46-year-old previously convicted sex offender, devised a plan to chaperone a date between a 19-year-old teenager that he referred to as his "son," and a 14-year-old girl whom the "son" had met on Instagram. The defendant took his "son" to pick up the 14-year-old girl at her home in Maryland, spending two hours talking to the girl's foster mother to gain her trust that the defendant would ensure the girl's safety. During the date, the defendant took the "son" and the 14-year-old girl to the defendant's home, where he sexually assaulted the girl in the basement. The defendant was convicted at trial of six counts of First Degree Child Sexual Abuse, and he was sentenced to over 37 years in prison.

United States v. Prince Jones:

Over a three-day period, the defendant sexually assaulted two different women at knifepoint in separate incidents, after answering their advertisements for escort services on an internet website. The defendant, posing as a client, lured each victim to an apartment building, where he led them to a dark basement, held a knife to their throats, and sexually assaulted them. He also robbed them of their cell phones and other personal items. The defendant was linked to the crimes by DNA evidence, the stolen cell phones, and other forensic evidence. The defendant also robbed the cousin of the one of the victims, who had driven the victim to the meeting with the defendant. The defendant was convicted at trial of multiple counts of First Degree Sexual Abuse While Armed With Aggravating Circumstances, Kidnapping While Armed, and Robbery While Armed, and he was sentenced to 66 years in prison.

United States v. Eric Toth:

The defendant, a 3rd grade teacher, was found to have taken photographs and videos of children that constituted child pornography. He took the photos and made the videos while he was a 3rd grade teacher in Washington, D.C. and while he was a camp counselor in Wisconsin, and while he was at a private home in Maryland. When some of the photographs were discovered on a camera in his classroom, the defendant fled the jurisdiction and lived under an assumed name in various places in the United States. After the defendant was placed on the FBI's list of Ten Most Wanted Fugitives, he was apprehended

in Nicaragua, ending his five-year flight from justice. The defendant pled guilty to three counts of Production of Child Pornography, as well as Misuse of a Social Security Number and Identity Theft, and was sentenced to 25 years in prison.

United States v. Demarco Myles:

The victim, a young professional who had recently moved to D.C. after earning an M.B.A. and landing a job at a management consulting firm, was telecommuting from home one day. The defendant, who had gained entry into the victim's secure condominium building, used a ruse to get the victim to open her apartment door. The defendant immediately tried to rape the victim, and when she resisted, the defendant stabbed the victim over 20 times until he believed she was dead. The defendant fled the scene and went to a Halloween party that night with his girlfriend. The defendant was linked to the case by DNA evidence and security surveillance recordings. The defendant pled guilty to Attempted First Degree Sexual Abuse While Armed With Aggravating Circumstances, Assault With Intent to

Kill While Armed, and numerous other offenses for his extraordinarily brutal attack on the victim. He was sentenced to over 43 years in prison.

United States v. Bernard Freundel:

On October 12, 2014, a citizen contacted the Metropolitan Police Department to report her suspicion that the defendant, a world-renowned rabbi, had planted a hidden camera disguised as a clock radio in the shower and changing room of a mikvah, a religious ritual bath, in Northwest D.C. She suspected that the hidden camera would contain naked images of women as they prepared for their immersion in the mikvah. The investigation revealed that the defendant had planted numerous hidden cameras disguised as ordinary objects and had secretly recorded over 150 completely innocent, unsuspecting victims, over a period of five years, and that he had meticulously catalogued and saved those recordings on his computer. The defendant pled guilty to 52 counts of Voyeurism and was sentenced to 6 ½ years in prison.

FELONY MAJOR CRIMES TRIAL SECTION

United States v. Floyd Long & Alonzo Ferrell:

On Christmas Eve and Christmas of 2012, the defendants, cousins, together with two accomplices obtained four handguns and a stolen car, and engaged in an armed robbery spree in the District of Columbia. On Christmas Eve, at around 11:15 p.m., they robbed their first victim at gunpoint in the 200 block of Hamilton Street NW, taking from him an iPhone and an iPad. Next, they drove to the unit block of Webster Street NE, and robbed their second victim at gunpoint, obtaining a cellphone and \$160. They then drove to the 600 block of Jefferson Street NE, and found their third victim bringing gifts into his home. They put guns to his head, and robbed him of \$3 and a cell phone. They committed their fourth robbery at about 12:12 a.m. on Christmas Day, in the 1700 block of Varnum Street NE. This last victim initially resisted, but the men assaulted him and took his wallet, which contained \$15. The police spotted the four in the stolen car and the defendants were apprehended following a brief chase. Long and Ferrell were convicted of conspiracy, armed robbery, receiving stolen property, fleeing law enforcement, and various weapons offenses and sentenced to 19 ½ years and 15 years, respectively.

United States v. Calvin Jenkins:

On January 15, 2013, just after 8 p.m., Jenkins and an accomplice, using a distinctive Tec-9 style handgun, robbed their first victim of \$22 in the 4800 block of 8th Street NE. One minute later and approximately a block-and-a-half away, the men robbed the second victim of approximately \$40 in the 800 block of Buchanan Street NE. The robbers were seen departing the scene of the second robbery in a vehicle that had been stolen two days earlier. Police spotted that vehicle a few minutes later, resulting in a high-speed chase that continued over a mile to the parking lot of a Home Depot on Rhode Island Avenue NE. Both robbers fled from the car. Jenkins was stopped by police on a

ramp adjacent to the Home Depot, and the gun was found on his flight path. Calvin was convicted of two counts of armed robbery and related offenses and sentenced to 22 years imprisonment.

United States v. Rayshawn Clark, Dwayne Hilton, & Pernel Lee:

In the early morning hours of June 17, 2012, Clark and Hilton pistol-whipped, robbed and carjacked the first victim, a man, in the 5600 block of 14th Street NW. An unidentified third co-conspirator got away in the victim's car. A second man, who was walking by while the robbery was in progress, was pistol-whipped and robbed by Hilton, while Clark continued to hold the first victim at gunpoint. After obtaining property from both victims, Clark and Hilton took off in a dark Ford

Explorer. Clark and Hilton returned to the scene after realizing that during the robberies they dropped a cell phone. They found their third victim who they believed had found the dropped cell phone. Clark, while armed with a gun, demanded the dropped phone. The victim, who had found and hidden the dropped phone, pretended to know nothing about it. Clark then robbed the victim of his remaining belongings. In response to a call for the earlier robberies, police arrived and a chase ensued. During the chase, the Explorer flipped over. Lee, who had been driving, ran and was caught after a foot chase. Clark and was extracted from the flipped vehicle with the first victim's property in his pocket. Hilton escaped on foot and was arrested later. Lee was convicted of armed robbery, fleeing a law enforcement officer and related offenses and sentenced to 8 years and 8 months imprisonment. Rayshawn Clark and Dwayne Hilton, were convicted of conspiracy, three counts of armed robbery, armed carjacking, and firearms offenses and sentenced to prison terms of 31 years and 25 years, respectively.

*"The success of this section is proven
by the number of felony trials remaining nearly
constant, although drug arrests have declined."*



APPELLATE DIVISION



Elizabeth Trosman, Chief
B.A., Cornell University
J.D., Northwestern University

The Appellate Division handles all criminal appeals for the Office, in both the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. The Division currently has approximately 1300 appeals pending. Over the past two years, the Division filed over 1500 briefs and substantive motions and handled approximately 300 oral arguments. Most of the Division's case load consists of defendant-generated appeals in which the Appellate AUSAs defend criminal convictions obtained by the Office's trial attorneys. The Division also notes a few government appeals each year, which typically challenge an adverse suppression ruling. The division is staffed by approximately 30 attorneys and 10 support employees. The attorney staff is divided roughly equally between senior attorneys who specialize in handling appellate matters and "rotating" AUSAs, who spend six months in the Appellate Division as part of their training.

In addition to conducting appellate litigation, Division supervisors and senior appellate attorneys spend considerable time – in person, on the phone, and by e-mail – advising trial attorneys on legal issues that arise in their cases. This "preventive appellate advocacy" contributes to the proper resolution of trial-court issues and the creation of better records for appeal. Division attorneys are also frequently asked to comment on policy issues and legislative proposals.

Division supervisors and senior attorneys devote a great deal of time and energy to the training of both Assistant U.S. Attorneys and law enforcement officers. The Division presents Basic, Felony, and District Court training sessions to AUSAs on various substantive legal issues. It also provides training to officers from a number of federal and local law-enforcement agencies on Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendment issues; and discovery, *Jencks and Brady issues*. The Division promptly distributes information Office-wide about pertinent new case law as it is issued, and Division supervisors regularly provide training on recent legal developments to Superior Court judges and to the D.C. Bar.

The Appellate Division sets high standards and all work is closely supervised. Each brief or substantive pleading is carefully reviewed by a supervisor. The Division also conducts multiple moot courts before oral arguments, and a supervisor attends every oral argument and later provides a critique to the attorney.



NOTABLE CASES

United States v. Morris B. Fahnbulleh & Joe O.

Bondo: A jury found two employees of WorldVision, a U.S. Agency for International Development subcontractor hired to perform food aid and other humanitarian work in Liberia, guilty of multiple counts of conspiracy to defraud the United States and related fraud counts. After extensive briefing and argument, the D.C. Circuit rejected, among other issues, appellants' jurisdictional claims (they committed the fraud in Liberia but caused the false claims to be sent back to Washington, D.C.), evidentiary claims (many of the business records were fraudulently created), and sentencing claims (WorldVision reimbursed USAID \$1.9 million, an amount that was used by the trial court to calculate the loss).

Harrell Hagans et al v. United States: The defendants, four members of a drug-dealing street gang, were convicted of first-degree premeditated murder, conspiracy, and related crimes arising out of a long-running violent feud with a rival gang that resulted in the death and wounding of gang members and caused an innocent bystander to be gunned down in front of her children. The D.C. Court of Appeals affirmed the convictions, holding that (1) due to legal developments after the trial, plea proffers of two members of the rival gang should not have been admitted, but the error was harmless; (2) the admission of defendants' out-of-court statements regarding their involvement in shootings was not plain error; (3) the trial court properly admitted limited evidence of an uncharged shooting for the purpose of proving the defendants' possession of certain guns; and (4) the prosecutors' comments references to a witness's grand jury testimony did not improperly bolster the witness's credibility.

United States v. Gerald Eiland & Frederick Miller: A jury convicted the defendants of charges arising from their involvement in a narcotics distribution and RICO conspiracy. Following lengthy appellate briefing and argument, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit found, inter alia, that the government's wiretap applications satisfied federal statutory requirements, and that the district court had properly admitted an FBI agent's expert testimony regarding narcotics-traffickers' operations and law-enforcement investigative techniques.

In a related case decided the same day, *United States v. Frederick Miller & Timothy Thomas*, the Circuit affirmed most of the defendants' convictions, principally ruling that although the district court had improperly admitted some of the FBI agents' opinion testimony, the error was harmless; and that although the district court had erroneously answered some of the jury's factual questions, most of the defendants' convictions were unaffected by those mistaken responses.

Joseph Jenkins, Edward E. Warren, Darnell N. Anderson, & James Bate v. United States: The defendants, members of a "criminal street gang," were collectively charged with a series of violent crimes and related offenses arising from a conspiracy to retaliate against a rival crew. Following a months-long trial, the jury convicted of the premeditated murder of a member of the rival crew (Jenkins, Anderson, and Bates); related firearms offenses (Jenkins, Anderson, and Warren); and assault with intent to kill while armed, aggravated assault, and related gun charges (Bates). Following lengthy briefing and oral argument, the D.C. Court of Appeals rejected the defendants' various challenges to the denial of their severance motions; upheld the exclusion of the proffered third-party perpetrator evidence; upheld the admissibility of recorded jail telephone conversations; rejected a challenge to the trial court's "criminal street gang" instruction; and rejected claims of reversible error with respect to the prosecutors' open statement and closing argument.

United States v. Nicholas A. Slatten: Slatten, a security contractor employed by Blackwater International, was originally charged with manslaughter and related offenses arising from the September 16, 2007, shootings of 32 unarmed Iraqi civilians in Baghdad, Iraq. After the district court dismissed the manslaughter charge against Slatten based on a procedural irregularity, the government charged him with first-degree murder, based on evidence that he deliberately shot and killed the unarmed driver of a car that had stopped in a traffic circle. In this interlocutory appeal, Slatten argued that the district court should have dismissed the first-degree murder charge as a "vindictive" prosecution. The District of Columbia Circuit disagreed and allowed his prosecution to go forward. Following a jury trial, Slatten was convicted of offenses including first-degree murder.



CIVIL DIVISION



Daniel D. Van Horn, Chief

*B.A., Allegheny College
J.D., Duke University*

The Civil Division handles both defensive and affirmative civil litigation at both the trial and appellate levels. The Division is currently responsible for approximately 1,500 defensive cases (including appeals) and approximately 170 affirmative cases and investigations. The Office's Financial Litigation Unit (FLU), which collects restitution and fines imposed in criminal cases and civil debts owed to the United States, is part of the Civil Division.

The Civil Division's staff currently consists of 33 Assistant United States Attorneys and 29 non-attorney staff. Five AUSAs hold supervisory positions: the Civil Chief, three Deputy Chiefs, and the Appellate Counsel. The non-attorney members of the Civil Division's management team are the Support Staff Supervisor, the Paralegal Supervisor, and the FLU Supervisor. One non-supervisory AUSA is designated as the Civil Division's Senior Litigation Counsel and is responsible for coordinating the Civil Division's in-house training program and assisting with or handling particularly challenging or sensitive cases.

Apart from the FLU, the Civil Division has no distinct subcomponents; however, the Division's non-supervisory AUSAs are grouped by the type of assignments they normally receive. In particular: two AUSAs are designated as Assistant Appellate Counsel and work primarily with the Appellate Counsel on civil appeals; five AUSAs are designated as Affirmative Civil Enforcement attorneys and work primarily on affirmative matters; one AUSA is designated as the FLU AUSA and works primarily on financial litigation; and the remaining 20 AUSAs primarily handle defensive matters, including appeals. These designations are not rigidly applied, however, and we maintain flexibility in how work is assigned. Thus, the Assistant Appellate Counsel personally handle some appeals as well as some district court matters; the ACE attorneys are occasionally assigned defensive matters; defensive AUSAs can and do work on affirmative matters; and the supervisory attorneys all maintain a docket of cases that they handle personally.

The Civil Division offers opportunities for attorneys from other federal agencies to work as Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys to develop their litigation skills and to gain greater insight about legal issues affecting federal agencies. There are normally between four and six SAUSAs working in the Civil Division at any given time. There are also a number of other agency attorneys who have

been designated as SAUSAs for purposes of a particular case of type of case but who do not maintain offices in the Civil Division and do not work on Civil Division matters generally. For example, most of the Social Security cases in this District are assigned to attorneys from the Social Security Administration's regional offices in Baltimore, Maryland, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who have been designated as SAUSAs for those cases.

All matters handled by the Civil Division, including those assigned to SAUSAs off-site, are monitored by the Civil Chief and the Deputy Chiefs (for trial court matters) or by the Appellate Counsel and Assistant Appellate Counsel (for appellate matters). All substantive pleadings and briefs as well as all significant procedural motions and submissions in those matters are reviewed by at least one Civil Division supervisory attorney before they are filed and served.

DEFENSIVE LITIGATION

The Civil Division is responsible for the defense of a variety of civil actions filed against the United States, its agencies, officials, and employees. The vast majority of defensive cases are resolved either through motions practice or by settlement. Although civil trials are relatively rare, the Civil Division does have an active civil discovery practice, primarily concerning employment discrimination and tort claims.

More than 70% of the Civil Division's defensive case docket falls into four substantive areas:

Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act (26%)

Congress enacted the Freedom of Information Act to facilitate the public's access to government records and thereby further public understanding of government operations and activities. But the FOIA also includes a number of exemptions from mandatory disclosure (e.g., classified information, information that would intrude upon personal privacy, trade secrets, privileged information) that are often the subject of dispute between FOIA requesters and the agencies from which records are requested. The Privacy Act can generally be characterized as a "code of fair information practices" that regulates the collection, maintenance, use, and dissemination of personal information by federal executive branch agencies. The Privacy Act's imprecise language, limited legislative history, and somewhat outdated regulatory guidelines, however, make it a difficult statute to apply. Under the special venue provisions applicable to FOIA and Privacy Act litigation, any case brought under either statute can be filed in the District of Columbia, regardless of where the plaintiff or the records in question are located. As a consequence of those special venue provisions, more than fifty percent of the FOIA and Privacy Act litigation in the country takes place in this District.

Employment Discrimination (22%)

The Civil Division defends employment discrimination cases brought against federal agencies under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Rehabilitation Act, and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act. These cases primarily involve claims of discrimination due to the plaintiff's race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability or age, and claims of retaliation based on prior protected activity. Both single plaintiff cases and class actions are included among our employment discrimination cases.

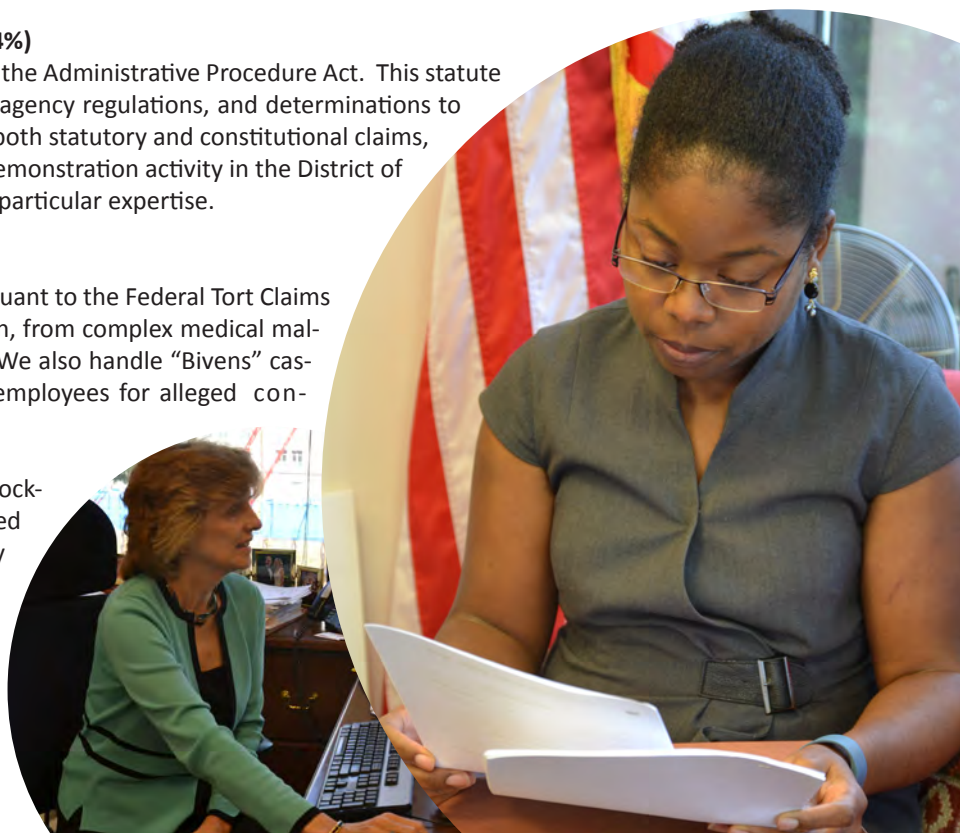
Administrative and Constitutional Law Cases (14%)

We handle a wide variety of cases brought under the Administrative Procedure Act. This statute allows parties to challenge final agency actions, agency regulations, and determinations to grant or deny benefits. These cases can include both statutory and constitutional claims, including First Amendment claims arising from demonstration activity in the District of Columbia, an area in which the Civil Division has particular expertise.

Common Law and Constitutional Torts (9%)

The Civil Division handles tort cases brought pursuant to the Federal Tort Claims Act which span the full spectrum of tort litigation, from complex medical malpractice claims to minor automobile accidents. We also handle "Bivens" cases, which are claims against individual federal employees for alleged constitutional torts.

About 30% of the Civil Division's defensive case docket does not fall into the four categories described above. Those other cases include a wide variety of civil actions, including cases arising under the Indian Self-Determination and Educational Assistance Act, the immigration laws, and third-party subpoenas directed toward federal agencies and employees.



AFFIRMATIVE LITIGATION

The Civil Division has an active and productive Affirmative Civil Enforcement (ACE) Program with approximately 170 open matters primarily in the areas of program and procurement fraud and health care fraud. We currently have five attorneys devoted to handling affirmative cases who are able to work exclusively, or almost exclusively, on fraud matters. We have continued to benefit from refinements in our intake procedures, including enhanced communication and parallel proceedings with our Criminal Division, and closer coordination with investigators, relators, and DOJ Fraud attorneys on jointly-handled cases.

We have built strong working relationships with our client agencies and the qui tam bar. In this regard, agencies returning with subsequent referrals have asked for our ACE attorneys by name and expressed appreciation and praise for the proficient and professional manner in which their referred cases have been handled. Similarly, relators' counsel bring additional cases in this jurisdiction, confident in the experience and professionalism of our ACE team. We received 36 new qui tam actions during the 2014 fiscal year, and 9 in fiscal year 2015 through May 12, 2015. We have the fourth highest number of qui tams in the country since 1987.

ACE matters are closely monitored within the Civil Division, and efforts are coordinated, as appropriate, with the Office's Criminal Division and agents from various Inspector Generals' Offices in the National Capital area. The ACE team and the criminal fraud prosecutors have attended joint training sessions and work closely with other law enforcement agencies to effectively target wrongdoers. Toward that end, the Office initiated a Health Care Fraud Working Group that includes numerous federal law enforcement agencies and compatible local law enforcement components. We have recently redeveloped our meeting structure to include private sector partners at varying meetings throughout the year. Our meetings continue to foster frank and open discussions regarding health care fraud schemes. Further, we now have a vehicle for a coordinated effort to combat fraud and abuse in the public and private sectors.

In recent years the Civil Division has developed a niche fraud practice involving the General Service Administration's multiple award schedule. These cases involve procurement fraud that undermines government-wide acquisition practices. They include "best price cases" where a government vendor fails to disclose the discount it gives to its most-favored customers, and "Trade Agreement Act cases," where a vendor sells products to the government that originate from "non-designated" countries which are not full trade partners with the United States. Few, if any, other districts handle these types of fraud cases.

Another unique aspect of the Civil Division's affirmative practice involves the Lobbying Disclosure Act, which imposes registration and reporting requirements on persons engaged in lobbying activities. If a lobbyist violates those requirements, and fails to remedy the violation after notification from Congress, the Act authorizes our Office to bring a civil action for a monetary penalty. Our Office is the only United States Attorney's Office with authority to bring such civil penalty actions, which are handled within the Office by the Civil Division.





WE EXPECT OUR CASELOAD TO GROW IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS

BANKRUPTCY CASES

For years the IRS had a SAUSA program under which bankruptcy cases involving the IRS were handled directly by IRS attorneys designated as SAUSAs. Indeed, the same IRS SAUSA handled all of that work in this District for 16 years. The IRS has terminated this SAUSA program and Civil Division attorneys will take over that work.

SECTION 2410 LITIGATION

28 U.S.C. § 2410 establishes procedures for actions affecting property on which the United States has a lien. This statute becomes operative most often when a bank or other institutional lender brings an action to foreclose a mortgage on real estate that is also subject to a federal tax lien. Due to a moratorium on foreclosure actions that was imposed by the D.C. Council during the mortgage crisis, the number of 2410 actions in this District was very small in recent years. After the moratorium was lifted, foreclosure actions in D.C. Superior Court skyrocketed. As a consequence of this de-

velopment, Section 2410 litigation in this District increased by over 370% in the first 3 months of 2015.

TUCKER ACT CASES

Several years ago the Department of Justice changed its interpretation of the Tucker Act in a way that would make venue proper in district court, rather than the Court of Federal Claims, for cases arising under the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Equal Pay Act. Although DOJ's new position has been rejected by the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, DOJ has not abandoned its position on venue for such cases, so we are no longer permitted to seek transfers of FLSA and EPA cases filed in District Court and must instead oppose any attempt to transfer those cases to the Court of Federal Claims, contrary to our previously established procedure. We are currently handling one FLSA collective action that involves claims by approximately 45 individuals and has necessitated discovery of nation-wide scope.

CIVIL APPEALS

Generally, the attorneys in the Civil Division handle appeals in their cases themselves. The Division's Appellate Counsel and Assistant Appellate Counsel work collaboratively with the AUSAs on cases that require full briefing, in order to bring multiple perspectives to bear on each case and to conduct rigorous moot courts in preparation for every appellate argument.

The Civil Division has had a demanding appellate practice for the past several years. In 2014, we filed 77 dispositive motions, 35 full briefs, and presented 30 appellate arguments. From January to mid May 2015 we filed 29 dispositive motions, 19 full briefs, and presented 18 appellate arguments (2 more were scheduled but taken off the argument calendar at the last minute). We normally, but not always, appear as the appellee in the Court of Appeals.

FINANCIAL LITIGATION UNIT

The Office's Financial Litigation Unit (FLU) collects restitution and fines imposed in criminal cases prosecuted by the Office and the Department of Justice in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. In fiscal year 2014, the FLU collected approximately \$161 million in criminal cases. Those collections included \$886,000 from a former EPA employee who pled guilty to one count of Theft of Government Property as a result of a pattern of deception that he engaged in over a 10-year period during which he wrongfully received payments and benefits from the government based on lies about a position he claimed he had with the Central Intelligence Agency.

The FLU also collects civil debts owed to the United States and on behalf of federal agencies. These debts include civil judgments or settlements obtained through the ACE program and student loan debts owed to the U.S. Department of Education. In fiscal year 2014, the FLU collected approximately \$13.3 million in civil debts. Those collections included \$2.4 million paid by a Maryland company in settlement of health care fraud claims under the False Claims Act.



TRAINING

The Civil Division's Senior Litigation Counsel for 2014-15 organized a full-day, off-site training program about electronic discovery for the Civil Division's attorneys in February, 2015, as well as various lunch time sessions throughout the past year on current and recurring issues affecting our civil practice.

The Civil Division ACE Team organized and presented a conference in May 2015 that was attended by 28 private attorneys who frequently represent qui tam relators during which best practices for qui tam cases were discussed and ideas and views were exchanged. The conference was well-received by the attendees and may become a regularly-scheduled event.

NOTABLE CASES

Medicare Reimbursement Cases: During 2014, the Civil Division handled nearly one hundred active lawsuits against the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services (CMS). These suits typically involve claims by providers – often hospitals – that seek additional reimbursement under the Medicare program, 42 U.S.C. § 1395 et seq. Among other things, these providers may challenge Medicare statutory interpretations, regulations, or administrative decisions. The Civil Division also addresses constitutional challenges to Medicare actions. Further, the Division presently is participating in mediation with hundreds of providers nationwide, which challenge payments covering thousands of cost years.

In handling CMS matters, the Civil Division has a close working relationship with the HHS Office of General Counsel, several of whose attorneys have been designated as SAUSAs for purposes of this litigation. The Division complements HHS's Medicare area expertise with our strong knowledge of applicable administrative law and general litigation principles. The Division also plays a key role, in appropriate matters, in reaching and securing the necessary approvals for settlements, which, because of the nature of the underlying medical costs associated with the matters at issue, often may involve very large sums, but also potentially even larger savings to the government relative to what an adverse decision in litigation might cost.

In 2014, as in years past, the government repeatedly has prevailed on summary judgment motions filed by the Division in CMS cases. Moreover, even after the District Court rules in a CMS case, the Civil Division continues to offer assistance during the appellate phase, which for CMS matters is usually handled by the Appellate Staff of the main DOJ Civil Division. In 2014, however, for the first time in some time the Civil Division, with the approval of the Appellate Staff, handled a CMS appeal.

Cardiovascular Disease Testing Laboratories Settlement: On April 9, 2015, the Office announced a \$48.5 million settlement with two cardiovascular disease testing laboratories to resolve allegations that the laboratories violated the False Claims Act by paying remuneration to physicians in exchange for patient referrals and billing federal health care programs for medically unnecessary testing. As part of the settlement, the laboratories also agreed to enter into corporate integrity agreements with the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG). The settlement resulted from three related whistleblower actions under the qui tam provisions of the False Claims Act that were jointly investigated by our Office, DOJ's Commercial Litigation Branch, the U.S. Attorney's Offices for the District of South Carolina and Middle District of North Carolina, HHS-OIG, the FBI, OPM's Office of Inspector General, and DOD's Office of Inspector General Defense Criminal Investigative Service.

Attorney's Fees Litigation: For many years the Civil Division has prepared an updated version of the so-called Laffey Matrix of hourly rates used to compute attorney's fees when the government is liable to pay "reasonable" fees to a prevailing plaintiff. A competing version of the updated Laffey Matrix (the "Salazar Matrix") has recently been adopted by several district court judges. The Salazar Matrix produces fee awards that are approximately 30% larger than the U.S. Attorney's Office Matrix. We believe that the Salazar Matrix is fundamentally flawed and that its use is contrary to the goal underlying the fee-shifting statutes, i.e., to insure that there is an adequate supply of competent counsel to undertake potentially meritorious litigation. Accordingly, our Office has and will continue to vigorously oppose the use of the Salazar Matrix when those rates are requested by prevailing plaintiffs in defensive cases. The Civil Division is also actively considering how to improve the methodology used to update the Laffey Matrix.



SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS DIVISION



Leslie Ann Gerardo, Chief
B.A., Allegheny College
J.D., Duke University

The Special Proceedings Division handles a wide variety of post-conviction matters in both United States District Court and D.C. Superior Court. The majority of the Division's workload involves responding to motions to vacate convictions or withdraw guilty pleas, which typically challenge the effectiveness of defense counsel's performance at trial, raise claims that the government failed to disclose exculpatory evidence, or allege the existence of newly discovered evidence. The Division also handles motions for post-conviction DNA testing under the Innocence Protection Act. Division line attorneys litigated by written pleading or at a contested evidentiary hearing 386 such motions in 2014.

The Division responds to motions seeking a reduction in sentence when such motions are filed more than 120 days after sentencing. In recent years, there have been several rounds of amendments to the United States Sentencing Guidelines applicable to criminal cases in the United States District Court and the Division has taken the lead on responding to motions filed by defendants seeking to take advantage of those Guidelines amendments to obtain sentence reductions. The most recent such reduction, known as "Amendment 782," has resulted in several hundred sentence-reduction motions which are presently being processed by the Division. In a similar vein, the Division responds to all requests for pardons or commutation of sentences in cases where our Office obtained the underlying conviction. The President granted one such request in early 2015 based on the Division's recommendation that the defendant, Rudolph Norris, was worthy of a sentence commutation.

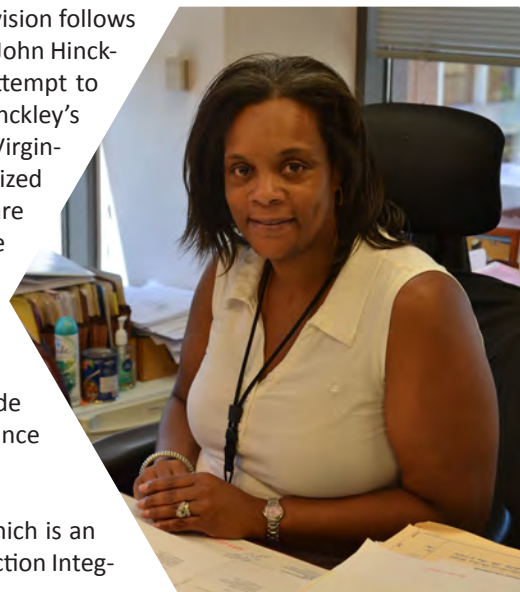
In addition, the Division responds to all habeas petitions filed in United States District Court by defendants challenging the execution of their sentences. Most of these petitions challenge actions taken by the Bureau of Prisons, the U.S. Parole Commission, or the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency.

The Division is responsible for handling all motions for expanded privileges or for community release brought by defendants found

not guilty by reason of insanity and thereby committed to St. Elizabeth's Hospital. The Division follows approximately 450 mental health cases on a yearly basis. The most notable case is that of John Hinckley, Jr., who has been under the supervision of St. Elizabeth's Hospital since his 1982 attempt to assassinate then-President Reagan. In 2015, the Division litigated the conditions of Mr. Hinckley's request for convalescent leave from the Hospital to enable him to reside in Williamsburg, Virginia. The Division also responds to a small number of requests for the return of evidence seized during criminal investigations, and to post-sentence challenges made by defendants who are ordered to register as sex offenders under the Sex Offender Registration Act. Finally, the Division processes all motions to seal arrest records brought in the local or federal courts; Division staff responded to more than 1,200 such motions in 2014 and processed Orders sealing records in hundreds of other matters.

In addition to our litigation responsibilities, Division management and line AUSAs provide advice to trial AUSAs as needed on issues involving competency, insanity, ineffective assistance of counsel, prosecutorial misconduct, and the sealing of arrest records.

Finally, the Special Proceedings Division has a newly formed Conviction Integrity Unit, which is an outgrowth of the U.S. Attorney's Office's multi-year wrongful conviction review. The Conviction Integrity Unit is featured in the Targeted Initiatives section of this Annual Report.

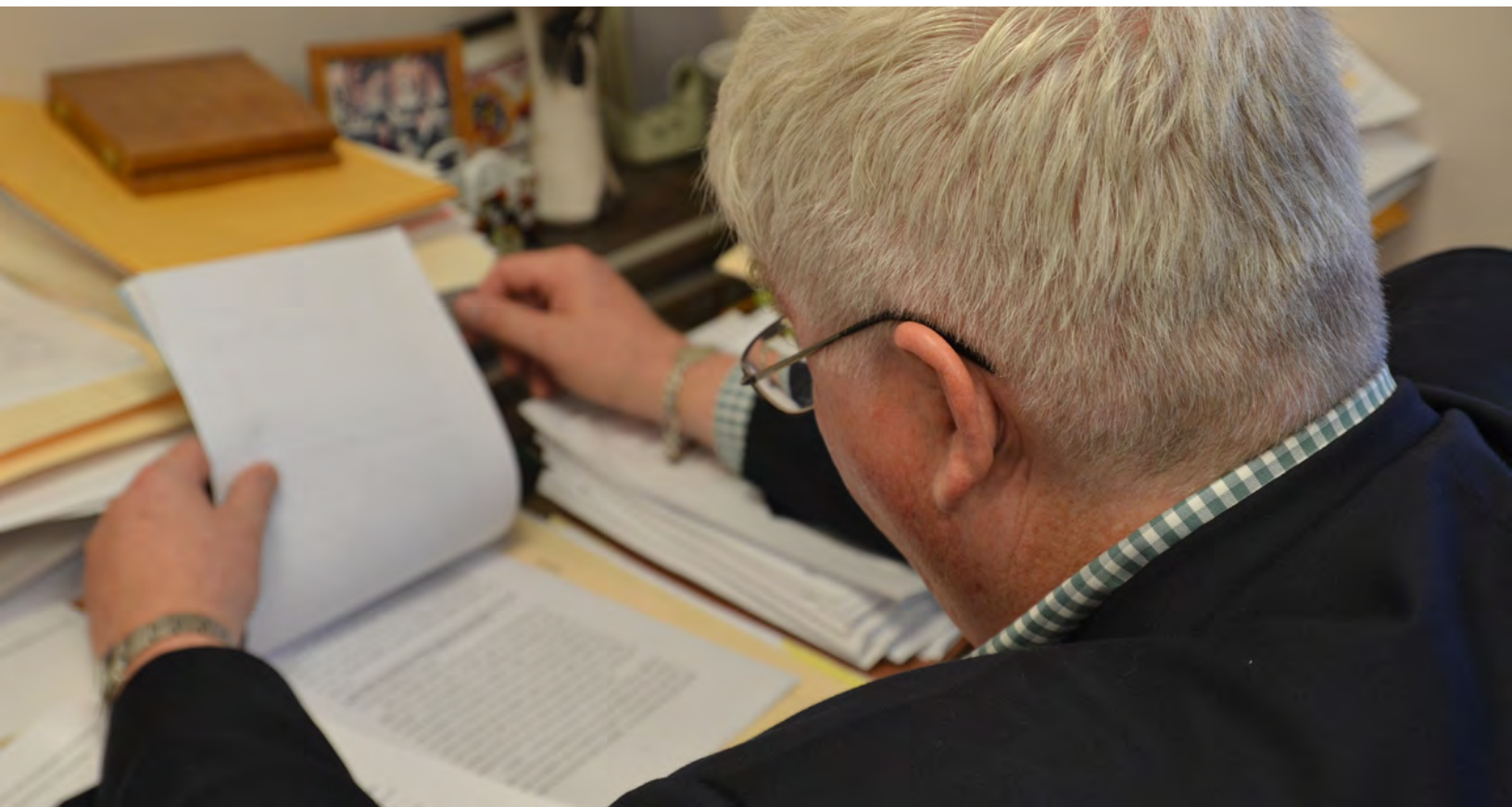


NOTABLE CASES

United States v. Guandique: This is a case involving the high-profile 2001 murder of congressional intern Chandra Levy, in which the convicted defendant contends that the government withheld allegedly exculpatory evidence from him at trial.

United States v. Arrington & United States v. Mahdi: The Division is also involved in these cases in an ongoing litigation of defending the convictions of two gang leaders who were on opposite sides of an ongoing neighborhood "crew" dispute that resulted in a number of violent crimes, including the homicides of gang members and innocent civilians.

United States v. Patrick Andrews: The division recently defended the conviction in this case in a collateral attack brought by a defendant who was seeking to have his D.C. homicide case overturned in order to avoid the death penalty in a later West Virginia case arising from a prison murder.





OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT



Denise Clark ,Executive AUSA
B.A., Harvard/Radcliffe College
J.D., Harvard Law School

The Administrative Division provides support to the Office in all areas of management and administration, including budget and finance, facilities management, litigation support, information management, personnel services, procurement of furniture, supplies, equipment and services, records management, and physical security. The Administrative Division is also responsible for managing the Office's Law Library and the automated legal research systems. The Administrative Division consists of the Budget and Finance Section, the Human Resources Section, the Information Technology Section, the Law Library, and the Support Services Section.

BUDGET & FINANCE

The Budget and Finance Section monitors and administers the Office's multi-million dollar annual budget, including special funding allocations for Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF), Health Care Fraud (HCF), Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), Affirmative Civil Enforcement (ACE), Asset Forfeiture Funds (AFF) and Fees and expenses of Witnesses (FEW). Staff members facilitate the timely compensation of employees and the timely payment of contracted vendors. The Budget and Finance staff also facilitates travel and training and conducts self-audits of all financial

transactions in preparation for annual audits performed by the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, the Justice Management Division, and the Department's Office of the Inspector General.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources Section consists of two units: Operations Unit and Programs Unit. Together, these two teams provide employment-related customer service to the more than 600 employees of the Office. The Operations Unit assists supervisors

and managers with recruiting for and staffing their respective Divisions and Sections as well as processing all employee personnel actions. The Program Unit assists with pre-employment security screenings of candidates as well as advising on employee benefit programs and performance management.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Information Technology Section manages the Office's computing infrastructure, ensuring all employees have the information technology and systems needed to accomplish their duties, and ensuring compliance with Justice Department policies and practices as they relate to safe use of computers and the internet. The Information Technology Section is comprised of four units: the Help Desk, the Litigation Technology Unit, the Software Development Unit, and the Network Administration Unit. The Help Desk assists employees with trouble-shooting problems with their computers, printers, and computer applications. The Litigation Technology Unit provides trial preparation and litigation support including copying and editing audio and video recordings, developing databases for document review, creating demonstrative exhibits, and setting up equipment for courtroom presentation of evidence. The Software Development Unit develops and maintains systems and databases in response to the Office's specific needs, trains users on these systems and databases, and administers application user accounts. The Network Administration Unit is responsible for installing, maintaining, and supporting servers and network infrastructure as well as supporting telecommunication devices, such as the telephones, smart phones, and audio/video conferencing equipment.

LAW LIBRARY

The Law Library ensures that the informational needs of the Office are met. The staff assists with legal research, expert witness searches, and other informational requests. The Library provides Westlaw and Lexis passwords and also coordinates Lexis and Westlaw training for attorneys, paralegals, and interns and provides individualized training on other aspects of legal research.

SUPPORT SERVICES

The Support Services Section ensures that the Office has the facilities and services necessary to accomplish its mission. The Support Services Section has five critical units. The Administrative Support Services Unit is responsible for facilities-related issues such as building access, construction projects, building repairs, housekeeping service, parking, and managing mail service operations. The Information Receptionist Unit provides receptionists throughout the building to assist with the numerous calls and visitors received by the Office each day. The Procurement Unit purchases all furniture, supplies, equipment, and services while ensuring compliance with federal policies, laws, and regulations. The Supply and Property Unit manages the Office's inventory of supplies, equipment, and furniture. The Records Management Unit processes and tracks the approximately 72,000 files closed by this Office annually in accordance with federal regulations and procedures.

MANAGEMENT TEAM



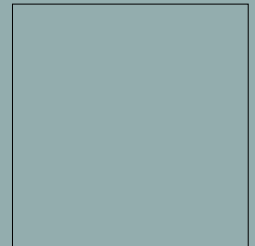
Ralph Cox
Administrative Officer



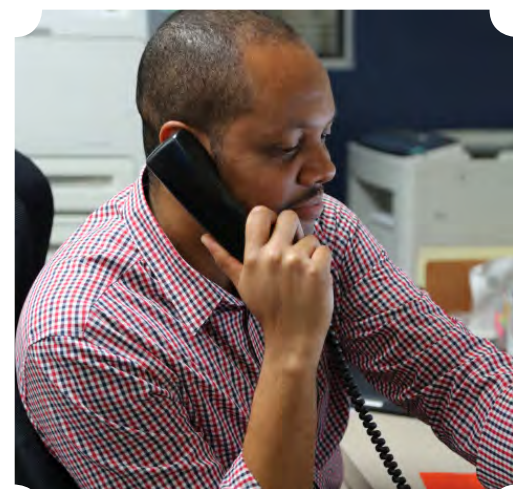
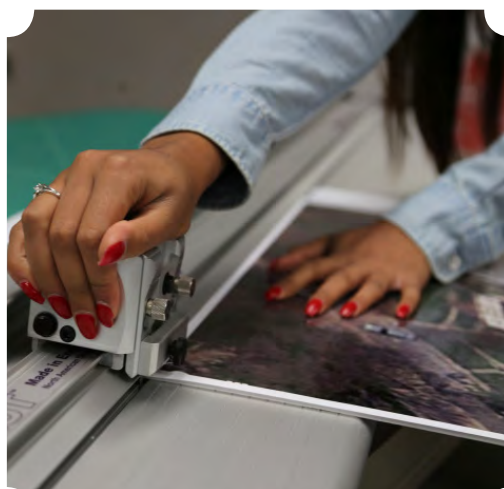
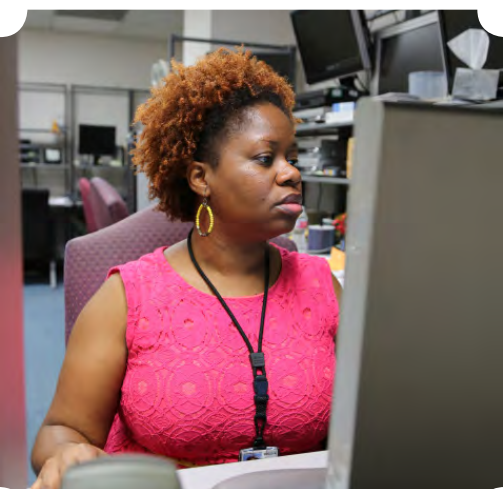
Kimberly Rich
Deputy Administrative Officer



Lee Pensmith
Support Services Manager

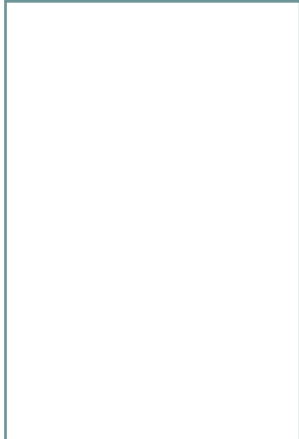


Jonathan Ellsworth
Budget Officer





TRAINING & SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT



Amy Zubrensky

*B.A., Boston University
J.D., Georgetown University*

The Office of Professional Development (OPD) provides extensive one-on-one professional development counseling and formal training for all new Assistant U.S. Attorneys, as well as experienced Assistant U.S. Attorneys, support staff personnel, and managers. OPD also recruits Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys and Legal Fellows to ensure appropriate staffing levels for the Misdemeanor Units of the Felony Major Crimes Trial and Domestic Violence Sections of the Superior Court Division. Additionally, in 2013, OPD merged with the Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee (LECC) to provide specialized training opportunities for local and federal law enforcement officers.

Since January 2013, 75 new Assistant U.S. Attorneys, 51 Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys, and 29 Legal Fellows have completed the mandatory four-week Basic Training program that takes place four times a year; and 38 experienced Assistant U.S. Attorneys have attended the District Court basic training course in preparation for permanent or rotational positions in the Criminal Division. More than 590 Metropolitan Police Department recruits have participated in our twelve court advocacy and familiarization training programs or acted as victims, witnesses, and police officers in our mock trial exercises. Over 185 agents and 400 uniformed officers from 22 federal agencies have attended our one-day Federal Agent Orientation Seminar and the two week-long D.C. Code Training, respectively. Our one-day Legal Issues training program has been attended by over 410 federal and campus police officers. Additionally, OPD organized at least four, one-day court familiarization and trial preparation training programs for local college campus police and arranged two, one and one-half day Investigator Training courses for new Metropolitan Police Department investigators and detectives.

Further, to ensure that all of the Office's employees are aware of available training opportunities, OPD publishes a monthly newsletter entitled "Training Watch." The newsletter informs staff about upcoming training within the Office and the Department of Justice, at the National Advocacy Center (NAC) in Columbia, South Carolina, at local and national seminars and conferences, and on web-based programming and teleconferences.

Further, in response to the increased scrutiny of federal prosecutors' handling of potential Brady material, OPD has increased its

Further, in response to the increased scrutiny of federal prosecutors' handling of potential Brady material, OPD has increased its emphasis and training on Brady and discovery-related issues. It has, for example, added a practical Brady training workshop to its Basic Training program and promoted a yearly Brady update/refreshers training for every trial section in the office. It also has expanded its mentorship program which pairs each new Assistant U.S. Attorney with a more experienced Assistant U.S. Attorney in the office to serve as an informal contact for consultation. Supervisory Assistant U.S. Attorneys also are assigned on a rotational basis to attend court daily to observe prosecutors so that they can provide on-the-spot assistance and valuable feedback on performance.

From 2013 through mid-2015, OPD also provided USAO staff with training on a variety of practical topics, including search and seizure issues, evidence, cross-examination, persuasive courtroom advocacy, presenting opening statements and closing arguments, sentencing guidelines and allocution, criminal history training, cyber issues in federal practice, social media evidence collection, and the Speedy Trial Act. Training was also provided on more specialized legal issues, such as DNA and forensic expert testimony, and mental health issues. In addition, OPD has provided mandatory attorney training on new developments in eyewitness identification cases and significant legal developments in criminal law, as well as monitored employee completion of all mandatory training programs required by EOUSA and the Department of Justice.

OPD also has been fortunate to host several guest speakers to complement its formal training process. Through brown bag lunch meetings, members of the local judiciary who used to work in our office have shared their perspective from the bench on trial work in D.C. Courts. FBI Special Agent Ken LaVictoire made a presentation regarding cell phone historical call detail records and tower information. A board certified forensic psychologist and a nationally recognized expert in false and coerced confessions and competency to waive Miranda rights, Dr. I. Bruce Frumkin, discussed the pitfalls of defense expert testimony on those topics.

Support staff similarly benefited from ongoing training that has helped them to hone existing, and develop new, skill sets. They have been offered opportunities to attend training sessions (such as legal writing seminars) conducted by the Department of Justice and at the National Advocacy Center. Support staff members also have been offered training in team building and communications skills, retirement planning, recruitment and staffing, and the Equal Employment Opportunity laws.

LAW ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE

One of the ways in which the U.S. Attorney's Office seeks to strengthen its working relationship with its law enforcement partners is by hosting monthly Law Enforcement Task Force Meetings. OPD/LECC invites executive officers from more than 50 federal and local enforcement agencies to meet with the U.S. Attorney and his staff to share information and to learn about new initiatives and resources that may assist them in carrying out their mandates and in protecting the public. Guest speakers have educated attendees about new protocols in eyewitness identification, innovative drug prevention programs, virtual currency fraud, search and seizure of electronic and digital evidence, and body-worn camera programs. Other meetings have covered topics ranging from radicalization and extremism in prison to an ethical leadership training program for police officers. By meeting regularly, the Office and its law enforcement partners are not only more informed, but they are also more effective in their respective roles and as a unified law enforcement community.



*The National Advocacy Center located
Columbia, South Carolina*



STAFFING PROGRAMS

Although the Office employs over 600 employees, it has long recognized that the attorneys, law enforcement members, and support staff who are detailed to the Office by other federal agencies, and the attorneys who volunteer their time to work for the Office, are essential to the staffing plan. Indeed, over the past two years, nearly 80 detailed and volunteer attorneys have participated in the Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Program and Legal Fellowship Program, supplementing the number of attorneys available to serve the people of the District of Columbia and the United States.

SPECIAL ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY PROGRAM

Since January 2013, more than 30 federal agencies have allowed attorneys on their staffs to be detailed to the Office as Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys. These attorneys have worked in almost every Division of the Office, including the Appellate, Civil, Criminal, and Superior Court Divisions. Most of these Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys have served with distinction as prosecutors on the front line in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The U.S. Attorney's Office thanks the following agencies for providing detailees to the Office during these past few years



Department of Agriculture



Department of Energy

Department of Housing & Urban Development

Department of Justice (DOJ), Antitrust Division, Litigation Section

DOJ, Civil Division, Office of Aviation & Admiralty Litigation

DOJ, Civil Division

DOJ, Civil Division, Torts Branch

DOJ, Civil Rights Division, Criminal Section

DOJ, Criminal Division, Environmental Crimes Section

DOJ, Criminal Division, Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Section

DOJ, Criminal Division, Public Integrity Section

DOJ, Energy & Natural Resources Division

DOJ, EOUSA, Office of the General Counsel

DOJ, Office of the Attorney General

DOJ, Office of the Deputy Attorney General

DOJ, Office of Inspector General

DOJ, Office of Justice Programs

DOJ, Office of Policy and Litigation

DOJ, Office of Professional Responsibility

DOJ, Tax Division, Criminal Enforcement Section

Department of State

Department of Treasury

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Federal Trade Commission

Food and Drug Administration

National Labor Relations Board

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Securities and Exchange Commission

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

U.S. Patent & Trademark, Office of the General Counsel



LEGAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The attorney ranks have also been increased by participants in the Legal Fellowship Program. Attorneys who participate in this program volunteer to serve as prosecutors in the Misdemeanor Units of the Felony Major Crimes Trial Section or Sex Offense and Domestic Violence Section of the Superior Court Division for a period of at least six months following a month of training. Legal Fellows have come from such diverse schools as American University Washington College of Law, the George Washington University Law School, Rutgers School of Law, DePaul University College of Law, Washington University School of Law, College of William and Mary Law School, and University of Florida Levin College of Law. For some of the Legal Fellows, the fellowship was their first legal sector job after graduation, while for others, the fellowship was their first opportunity to practice criminal law after years of working at a law firm. Regardless of background, each Legal Fellow ably served the people of the District of Columbia and the United States.

VISITING FOREIGN DELEGATIONS

OPD also is the point of contact for law students, law professors, journalists, lawyers, prosecutors, law enforcement, and dignitaries from around the world who want to visit the Office, learn about the American justice system, and observe its practice in the local and federal courts.

From 2013 to the present, USAO-DC hosted delegations from Afghanistan, Algeria, China, Columbia, France, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Mexico, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Somalia, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and Venezuela. In addition to learning about the structure and function of the American adversarial justice system and the operation of USAO-DC, many of our visitors had specific subject-matter interests on which we provided training. Those topics included women's roles as prosecutors, domestic violence and sexual assault, anti-doping prosecutions, jury selection and jury trials, plea bargaining, attorney development and training, asset forfeiture and money laundering, the prosecution of complex financial crimes, human trafficking, forensic science, working with uncooperative victims and witnesses, witness security, civil law and administrative practice, national security and counter-terrorism, the use of GPS (global positioning systems) data as evidence at trial, search and seizure, working with cooperators, case management, sentencing, and the role of child victims and witnesses in criminal trials.

In addition to our robust domestic training program for foreign delegations, a number of USAO-DC prosecutors and support staff traveled internationally to provide training overseas. Our staff provided in-country training from 2013 to the present in Amsterdam, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kosovo, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico City, Morocco, and the Philippines, on a host of subjects, including domestic violence, trial advocacy, human trafficking, violations of the export control laws, counter-terrorism, forensic science, and economic sanctions.



Ukrainian Delegates 2013



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United Kingdom Delegates 2013



Korean Prosecutors 2015



Saudi Arabian Prosecutors 2015



Indonesian Prosecutors 2013



DNA & FORENSIC LITIGATION



Michael T. Ambrosino
Special Counsel

*B.A., University of Hartford
J.D., Hofstra School of Law*

Over the past year, we have continued to endeavor to make our Assistant U.S. Attorney's the best forensic litigators in the country. Under the leadership of the Special Counsel for DNA and Forensics, first appointed by U.S. Attorney Machen in 2010, we have continued to develop office-wide systems and protocols designed to ensure that prosecutors utilize all of the forensic tools at their disposal despite their busy trial schedules. Below are some notable achievements from the past year:

D.C. DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCES DNA INTERPRETATION ISSUES

In the fall of 2014, during routine trial preparation, a world renowned expert contracted for case work alerted the U.S. Attorney's Office to an error in DNA interpretation by the D.C. Department of Forensic Sciences (DFS). The USAO alerted DFS to the problem in this particular case and attempted to work with DFS management to reach a resolution. After it became apparent that DFS management had no intention of seriously addressing these issues, and a cursory review of pending cases involving DFS DNA results revealed widespread and significant errors, the USAO undertook serious action. It was determined that in order to best protect the rights of both victims and defendants, the USAO could no longer send casework to DFS or rely upon the conclusions of DFS DNA experts without

first reviewing their conclusions. In January of 2015, the USAO implemented a plan to outsource pending casework to federal and private DNA laboratories. In each prosecution where DFS had expressed DNA conclusions through the use of statistics, the USAO arranged for the data to be reinterpreted by Bode Cellmark, a private laboratory.

USAO REVIEW OF ALL DFS DNA REPORTS

The USAO also took immediate action to ensure that no defendant had been wrongly convicted and no defendant pending prosecution had been wrongly accused based on faulty science. The USAO assembled a panel of experts lead by world-renown geneticist Dr. Bruce Budowle to conduct a comprehensive review of

every past conviction and pending case in which DFS had interpreted DNA data and performed a statistical calculation. The USAO reviewed over 1300 DNA reports issued by DFS since its inception. The USAO panel of experts subsequently reviewed the DNA results in over 130 cases in which statistics had been issued by DFS, resulting in over 45 disclosures. To maximize transparency, the USAO made these disclosures available to the court and the defense bar in every case in which DFS conducted any DNA testing.

DFS AUDITS

In the spring of 2015, separate audits of the DFS DNA unit were commissioned by the USAO and by the Mayor's office. These audits, conducted by the USAO Panel of DNA Experts and by members of the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board, confirmed what the USAO had unearthed in the fall of 2014. Widespread deficiencies were noted by both groups, and the National Accreditation Board ordered that the DFS DNA unit shut down operations pending substantial retraining. New management was brought in to DFS by the Mayor's Office in the wake of these audits, and since that time the USAO has worked diligently with DFS and the Mayor's Office to correct the noted deficiencies and continue to ensure the accuracy and timeliness of DNA and other forensic results.

COLD CASE REVIEW PROJECT

The USAO continues to use cutting edge DNA testing strategies and platforms to try and solve cold case rape/murders. In the past few months, the USAO has received notice of several DNA matches to convicted offenders in cases tested by the USAO under the Cold Case Review Project. The USAO is now working with the Metropolitan Police Department to follow up on these new and promising investigative leads. In addition, the USAO has begun the process of expanding the review, and is hopeful that this will result in more success.



VICTIM WITNESS UNIT



Jelahn Stewart, Chief
*B.A., University of Southern
California
J.D., American University*

The Victim Witness Assistance Unit (VWAU) is by far the largest victim witness program of all of the U.S. Attorney's Offices. Consisting of highly trained individuals, the Unit is divided into three sections: Witness Security, Victim/Witness Specialists (Advocates), and Central Services.

Each section of the VWAU provides critical support to the Office. The members of the Witness Security Section address security concerns raised by victims and witnesses who are recipients of an actual or perceived threat as a result of their participation in an investigation or prosecution. Members help eligible victims and witnesses with relocation, transportation, and other security-related assistance through the Emergency Witness Assistance Program, and they also assist witnesses who wish to apply to the long-term Federal Witness Security Program. Additionally, the Section addresses inmate and prisoner witness security concerns, working closely with corrections and other law enforcement officials.

The VWAU's Central Services Section is responsible for victim notification in both U.S. District Court and D.C. Superior Court cases, handling over 80,000 notifications per year. Specialists in this Section also arrange for victim and witness travel for court appearances and witness conferences, assisting a significant number of international victims and witnesses. Section members also obtain interpreters, provide victim impact statements to victims and the court, and work with victims and witnesses to ensure that they receive authorized reimbursement for required court appearances. The Victim/Witness Specialist Section employs sixteen victim witness advocates who are stationed in various

trial units within the Office. Several of the advocates are licensed clinical social workers. Victim witness advocates have many responsibilities, including intake, safety planning, lethality assessment, providing referrals to grief and other counseling, helping with crime victims' compensation applications, and accompanying victims to court.

The advocates are assigned cases based on their areas of expertise. Several advocates specialize in domestic violence cases, with one advocate specializing in elder abuse. Others work with family members and friends of victims of homicide, as well as with victims of child abuse, sexual assault, and other violent misdemeanors and felonies, and federal crimes such as fraud, identity theft, child pornography, bank robbery, and terrorism. The VWAU also employs highly trained child forensic interviewers, who work closely with the D.C. Children's Advocacy Center and participate in multi-disciplinary case review sessions to assist law enforcement, prosecution, social service, and mental health professionals in determining appropriate assistance for child victims and wit-



nesses. Several advocates are fluent Spanish speakers and the Office maintains a dedicated telephone line where Spanish-speaking victims can leave messages to obtain assistance. Our Spanish-speaking advocates respond to between four and twenty calls per week from the dedicated telephone line. Additionally, the Unit uses technology to communicate with victims and witnesses and often posts case updates and other information for victims on its public website.

VWAU staff often collaborate with law enforcement and community partners on projects designed to assist victims, such as the human trafficking task force, the Sexual Assault Response Team, the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board, the DC Elder Abuse Committee, the Children's Advocacy Center Multi-Disciplinary Team, and the Domestic Violence Intake Center. They attend training programs to ensure that they are aware of the latest research and victim assistance techniques in the field. Every year VWAU staff members participate in more than 100 training programs, both attending and providing training. Every year the VWAU conducts a ceremony during Crime Victims' Rights Week to honor victims, Good Samaritans, and community partners who have inspired us with their acts of courage and dedication over the previous year.

The VWAU staff is also very active in the community. VWAU staff members deliver hundreds of presentations to both the community and law enforcement partners on topics ranging from elder abuse, domestic violence, the dangers of children exposed to violence, hate crimes, victims' rights, and the criminal justice process. VWAU staff members visited churches, homeless shelters, the D.C. Jail, and commu-

The Victim Witness Assistance Unit in Washington D.C. is largest victim witness program of all of the U.S. Attorney's Offices around the country.

TARGETED INITIATIVES

The Office has continued its efforts to strengthen our service to the community and to improve public safety. In 2012 U.S. Attorney Machen launched efforts to use new forensic technologies to unearth wrongful convictions and to solve decades-old cold case murders. This year the Office implemented cutting-edge technology to enhance courtroom presentations and renovated our grand jury space so that our prosecutors could use those



technologies to present evidence. The Office also opened a fully staffed child waiting room to care for the children of victims and witnesses interacting with our prosecutors and law enforcement. Finally, the Office continued to expand the training it provides to Assistant U.S. Attorneys and support staff in an effort to continually improve the service we provide to the residents of our District.



CONVICTION INTEGRITY UNIT

In 2014, the USAO-DC announced the formation of a Conviction Integrity Unit, housed within the Special Proceedings Division. The Conviction Integrity Unit investigates fact-based wrongful conviction claims presented by defendants who were convicted of violent offenses in the District of Columbia Superior Court or the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, who proffer new evidence capable of investigation and substantiation that would, if credited, support an actual innocence claim. The Unit investigates such claims regardless of any potential procedural bars that exist to formal litigation, and will recommend that the United States Attorney's Office consent to the vacation of a conviction on grounds of actual innocence only when reinvestigation of the case clearly and convincingly establishes the claimant's actual innocence. Decisions as to whether the CIU will re-open the case investigation, how the claim will be investigated, and how the claim will be resolved are made in the exercise of the U.S. Attorney's discretion, and are not reviewable by any court. As of May 2015, the Conviction Integrity Unit is actively investigating four cases and searching for evidence suitable for DNA testing in seven other cases. The Unit has also assisted other Divisions of the Office in addressing situations where systemic issues have potentially called into question the integrity of identifiable categories of closed cases, such as the investigation of evidence tampering on the part of an FBI agent, and concerns raised by the District of Columbia's Department of Forensic Services handling of DNA testing in certain situations. Finally, the Conviction Integrity Unit also recommends training programs and interfaces with other state prosecutors in discussing and developing prosecutorial "best practices."

CYBER UNIT

The Cyber Unit of the Criminal Division was created last year as an independent litigating and consulting unit that reports directly to the Criminal Division front office. Assistant U.S. Attorneys in the Cyber Unit investigate and prosecute a wide variety of cyber-crimes and advise and assist other sections and divisions of the office with issues involving electronic, computer, and internet-related evidence and legal process. The Cyber Unit also works with the Department's Office of International Affairs (OIA) regarding Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) requests from foreign countries that seek electronic evidence in the United States in support of foreign criminal investigations and proceedings.

CLERGY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The mission of the Clergy Ambassador Program (CAP) is to formalize a working relationship between our Office, Washington, D.C. clergy and community leaders. Our goal is to form a partnership that will promote trust and mutual respect between law enforcement and the community and to improve the quality of life of all residents by reducing crime and enhancing public safety.

The CAP is open to all faith-based and community leaders. Each respective leader was encouraged to invite other members from within their organization; but the respective leader of each organization was expected to have involvement in the program. After registration, participants attended an initial training, followed by six bi-monthly meetings, where area scholars and practitioners made presentations to the clergy ambassadors about various topics geared towards fostering dialogue between the community, clergy and law enforcement. The presentations included: getting involved in policymaking; trauma-based care; effective faith-based re-entry programs; assessing clergy privilege under the law; understanding the workings of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA); and a brainstorming forum with the Metropolitan Police Department Commanders.

In addition, given the most recent incidents and tension between some communities and law enforcement, CAP and several community organizations sponsored a forum entitled, "Clergy Against All Killing: All Lives Matter". The goal of the forum was to have a fruitful conversation about violence and the various ways in which violence manifests itself in our community; how to strengthen our community by deterring violence; how to foster a better relationship between the community and the police; and how clergy can play a vital role in healing while bridging divides and resolving conflicts. Recognizing that the "Clergy Against All Killing" forum itself would be insufficient to address violence in our community, monthly community and police partnership programs were scheduled as a follow-up to the forum. To date, there are over forty participants from a variety of faith-based communities in CAP.

HONOR ROLL

Over the last few years, our Office, like many federal agencies, has felt the impact of sequestration. For us, this has meant doing more with less, including fewer employees. Despite this hardship, our Office has been as tenacious as ever pursuing justice for the people of the District and the nation. To recognize the tremendous work that our employees continue to do, often in difficult very circumstances, Acting United States Attorney Cohen instituted the U.S.A. Honor Roll in 2015. Each month, he selects a number of deserving employees (support staff, administrative staff and attorneys) and acknowledges their outstanding contributions by heralding them in an office-wide email and adding them to the honor roll.

SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID TASK FORCE & PROSECUTIONS

Recently, the use of, and overdose by, synthetic cannabinoids in the District of Columbia has attracted significant media attention. For more than three years, however, the USAO-DC has recognized the danger that these drugs pose in the community and it has been actively working on several fronts to address its proliferation. Specifically, in late 2012, as part of its monthly Law Enforcement Task Force meeting, the USAO-DC, the DEA and other law enforcement stakeholders partnered to form a Synthetic Drugs Task Force to examine the issues associated with the testing, scheduling and prosecution of synthetic cannabinoid cases. USAO-DC dedicated a federal AUSA to this Task Force. In 2013, USAO-DC expanded its synthetics-focused programming to include educating our youth about the dangers of synthetic cannabinoids and correcting misinformation about the drugs. For example, at our 2013 Youth Summit - which was attended by nearly 500 youth - we hosted a special presentation about K-2, Spice and other synthetic cannabinoids. And recently, we have made presentations at three of the largest homeless shelters in the District to address a population that has been particularly affected by synthetics overdoses. The Acting United States Attorney, Vincent H. Cohen, Jr., spoke at the presentation that was delivered at Clean & Sober shelter on August 19, 2015. Our Community Prosecution staff will host eight other synthetics presentations throughout the District in September 2015. Finally, we have continued to work with local and federal law enforcement and the DEA to identify viable synthetics cases for aggressive prosecution. Because of the delays involved in testing and scheduling of synthetic drugs, those prosecutions have taken longer to build. However, our recent efforts to expedite testing and the use of our Rapid Indictment Process ("RIP") are now bearing fruit. As of September 2015, we have indicted seven cases in our local court; are poised to go to trial in two additional cases; recently charged two defendants in federal court in connection with the recovery of over 260 pounds of "Bizarro," a street name for a popular synthetic drug; and have several more matters under active investigation. We are hopeful that our efforts to attack this issue from several angles and our continued partnerships with law enforcement on these cases, will result in successful prosecutions and safer streets for the residents of the District.



Community



Prosecution



COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS



The U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia has long believed that a problem-solving approach to law enforcement is essential for reducing crime, enhancing public safety, and improving the quality of life in the District of Columbia. In 1995, the Office implemented the Community Prosecution Initiative, which involves not only prosecuting criminals and litigating cases, but connecting with stakeholders to understand the needs and gaps in services within our local communities. This community-based strategy enables Community Prosecutors and Community Outreach Specialists to work directly with residents, local businesses, nonprofit organizations, and other community stakeholders to develop a comprehensive approach to fighting crime and protecting the rights and interests of city residents. Our present strategy focuses on building bonds of trust between the USAODC and the community; enhancing public safety through education; and increasing community participation in the criminal justice system. This strategy is implemented through community outreach programs, youth engagement, initiatives for returning citizens, and law enforcement partnerships.

Protecting senior citizens from crime and other abuse, is an important priority for our Office. We have developed two important, but distinctly different senior seminars: "Financial Crimes Against Seniors" and "Elder Abuse and Exploitation of the Elderly." We routinely conduct these presentations in senior dwellings and at senior programs throughout the city.

The "Financial Crimes Against Seniors" seminar is presented in partnership with the D.C. Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking and the D.C. Office of the Inspector General. This presentations is designed to educate senior citizens about, and increase their awareness of, fraudulent financial schemes such as advanced fee loan scams, telephone scams, home lending and foreclosure rescue scams and how-to-get-rich-fast scams. We also have expanded this awareness programming to include members of our military, who are frequently victims of various financial scams. The "Elder Abuse and Exploitation of the Elderly and Vulnerable Adults" seminar is designed to empower seniors and vulnerable adults to recognize, prevent, and report physical, psychological and financial abuse and neglect. The USAODC's Victim Witness Assistance Unit and Community Prosecution sections conduct this presentation. During the presentation, participants are provided with information about where they can find help if they become the victim of abuse.

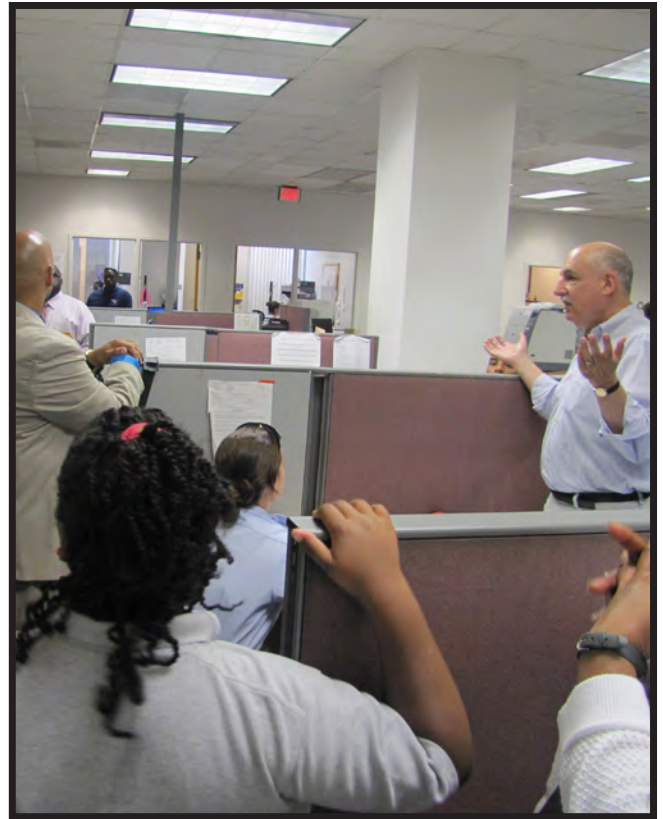


DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PRESENTATIONS

Domestic Violence seminars are designed to reach out to community members in order to educate them about the signs of domestic abuse. The Office also encourages citizens to report domestic violence while providing information about the various resources that the Office and other local agencies provide to domestic violence victims. We have had domestic violence presentations specifically tailored for teens, women, men, senior citizens, and reentrants.

CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS & INFANT FATALITY PREVENTION

Domestic Violence seminars are designed to reach out to community members in order to educate them about the signs of domestic abuse. The Office also encourages citizens to report domestic violence while USAODC has developed a presentation designed to raise child abuse awareness and encourage infant fatality prevention. The presentation was developed to address concerns about conduct against the youngest members of society that are caused by intentional or accidental trauma and that sometimes resulted in death. The topics covered include, but are not limited to, infant trauma such as shaken baby syndrome, bed-sharing-rollover-deaths while under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and generally how to make smart and safe choices in caregiving and creating safe sleep environments. We provide information about the various resources that the Office and other local agencies provide to domestic violence victims. We have had domestic violence presentations specifically tailored for teens, women, men, senior citizens, and reentrants.



HATE - BIAS TASKFORCE

Interacting with the various diverse affinity groups living in the District is an ongoing priority for USAODC. Many of our interactions are facilitated through our Hate-Bias Task Force. The Hate-Bias Task Force is a collaboration of agency and community partners in the District who focus on addressing the needs of the various affinity groups in the city and combating hate-bias crimes. In



addition, the Task Force, in an effort to educate the community about the criminal justice system and to develop bonds of trust between these communities and law enforcement, has conducted various outreach programs. For instance, in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, USAODC and fellow government, community, and academic partners hosted a cross-cultural symposium entitled, "The Diversity We Share". During this symposium, participants were educated about what constitutes a hate crime both on the local and federal level; the impact of hate crimes on various affinity groups; and law enforcement strategies to combat hate crimes. Other symposium topics included transgender cultural sensitivity; wage theft which heavily impacts the immigrant community; visas for non-immigrant witnesses; and the impact of domestic violence on various affinity groups. Finally, in partnership with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and Metropolitan Police Department, USAODC hosted a Child Identification-Halloween Safety Event at D.C. General Hospital Family Homeless Shelter. During

this event, children were able to enjoy a traditional Halloween party while their parents were educated on what to do in the event that their child went missing. Parents also had the opportunity to obtain an identification card for their child. This identification contained crucial information which would assist law enforcement in the event that their child was missing.

MUSLIM OUTREACH



Our Office has also made a concerted effort to establish and enhance a relationship with the local Muslim community. During the past few years, we have provided fraud and senior abuse training at a local mosque for their senior ministries; attended various Iftars and other religious and non-religious events; and invited representatives from the Muslim community to join our Clergy Ambassador Program. Moreover, we recently partnered with a local mosque on a program entitled “Heal the Hurt, Heal the Heart,” which focused on victimization and how the community can help victims through the healing process.

ENHANCING COMMUNITY & LAW ENFORCEMENT RELATIONS

During the past several months and in direct response to a national debate about police-citizen interactions, the USAODC has hosted several community meetings designed to improve the community’s relationship with local police. During these assemblies, USAODC emphasizes the importance of getting to know your local police command staff by attending community meetings; calmly asserting your rights during police encounters; and how to file formal complaints against an officer if citizens believe that their rights have been violated. We generally conducted these meetings with the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department and attendees are encouraged to ask questions and express their concerns about police conduct. We have presented this program to well over 400 adults and children.



COURT REPORTS

The Court Report is a monthly newsletter that USAODC created for the community in each police district. The report contains synopses of significant cases where a defendant has been indicted, pleaded guilty or was sentenced for a crime that occurred in their district. The Court Report also provides a list of adult arrests papered by our Office during the previous month. This report is distributed to the community via email and at community meetings. Community Prosecutors and Community Outreach Specialists encourage residents to review the report to see if any offenses occurred in their neighborhoods and then they assist residents in writing community impact statements to be presented to the court at the time of sentencing.



COMMUNITY MEETINGS & EVENTS

USAODC's leadership team, Community Prosecutors and Community Outreach Specialists attend numerous community meetings and events throughout the District each month. During these meetings and in an effort to improve transparency in the criminal justice system, Community Prosecutors and Outreach Specialists educate the community about our Office and the criminal justice system.



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS

In an effort to foster positive decision-making and to deter youth from criminal behavior, USAODC has implemented various youth engagement programs. It is the goal of our Office to educate young residents about the criminal justice system and to discourage them from engaging in drugs, gangs and violence, especially gun violence. We hope to accomplish this through a variety of programs and events that have been specifically developed for this target audience.

EAST OF THE RIVER YOUTH COURT CLUB

The East of the River Youth Court Club (ERY-CC) was created in partnership with the Friendship Collegiate Public Charter School, Georgetown University Law School and the Metropolitan Police Department. ERY-CC meets twice a month at the Friendship Collegiate Public Charter High School in Northeast Washington, D.C. and serves as a peer-driven tribunal which decides high school student disciplinary cases. Disciplinary cases are referred to the tribunal by teachers and the principal and fellow high school students serve as the judge, defense attorneys, prosecutors and jury in the case.



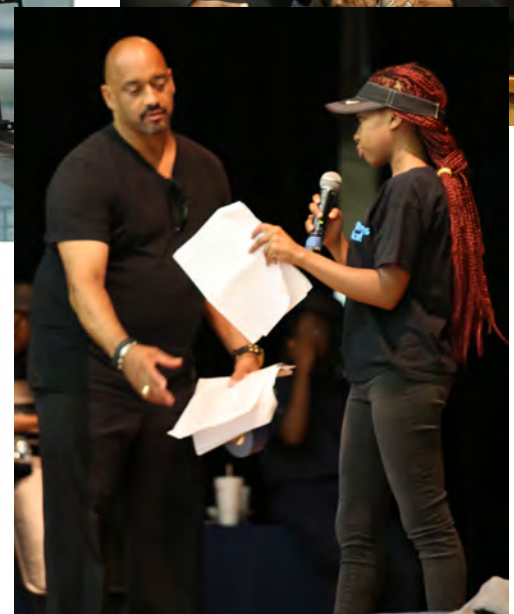
YOUTH MOTIVATION PROGRAM

USAODC Youth Motivation Program is designed to educate at-risk youth about the criminal justice system and discourage them from engaging in gang and gun violence. The program includes a visit to the local courthouse where the students watch a court hearing; meet with a judge for a question and answer session; and hear a presentation by a homicide detective or prosecutor. Our Office has hosted numerous Youth Motivation Programs involving students from middle schools and high schools.



YOUTH SUMMIT

For the past five years, USAODC -- along with Project Safe Neighborhoods Task Force agencies and numerous community based organizations -- has hosted the "Breaking the Silence on Youth Violence Summit." This anti-violence summit has attracted between 300 to 600 youth participants annually. The summits have focused on a variety of topics that impact our young residents such as teen domestic violence and sexual assault prevention; the consequences of gun and gang violence; and drug prevention. During our Youth Summit, participants have been challenged to accept their role in stopping youth violence by making better decisions and are encouraged to cooperate with law enforcement. Each Youth Summit also concludes with special appearances by hip-hop or step team performances, which reinforce the positive non-violent themes of the summit. Additionally, each summit has included a youth informational fair where non-profit organizations provided information on youth development programs, mentoring, and educational youth activities. Our 2015 Youth Summit involved 500 young residents, a number of community leaders and several law enforcement agencies, who gathered to discuss issues related to citizen and law enforcement interactions.



YouTH SuMmiT 2015

PROJECT LEGAL ENRICHMENT AND DECISION MAKING

Project L.E.A.D is an initiative that partners our attorneys and support staff with D.C. Public Schools to provide mentoring and an interactive curriculum to 5th Grade students. The program encourages good decision-making by teaching skills such as conflict resolution, critical thinking and personal responsibility. The mentors meet with students twice a month for an hour to implement an interactive curriculum that is designed for student participation. Approximately twenty attorneys and support staff members from our Office participate as mentors in the program and well over two hundred children participate in Project L.E.A.D.



CAREER EXPLORATION IN LAW

The Career Exploration in Law Explorer's Post started in 2012 at USAODC. The program is designed to provide children ages 11 through 16 with opportunities to learn about careers in law, law enforcement and the military, from guest speakers and through participation in events and field trips. The Post also engages in outreach to the community and its participants created their own principles for being a leader: Leadership, Education, Advancement, Determination, Excellence, and Responsibility.

INTERNET SAFETY PRESENTATION

Because we live in an increasingly digital world and our youth are immersed in a variety of on-line activities, the USAODC decided to undertake community-based training about internet safety. These presentations are designed to inform not only young residents, but parents, educators, senior citizens and other caregivers about the dangers and risks associated with Internet use. Our presentations are designed to create an atmosphere that encourages youth to have a dialogue with trusted adults in their lives about their online behavior while also raising their awareness about the dangers and scams lurking online. We talk to our audiences about a variety of internet safety topics, including sexual predators, cyber-bullying, sexting, online gaming and social networking. Additionally, participants are taught the three rules of internet safety:

1. Tell a trusted adult if anything makes you feel sad, scared or confused
2. Never give out your personal information without parental permission
3. Never meet someone in person that you first met online.

YOUTH MENTORING PROGRAMS

In partnership with the Capitol View Neighborhood Branch of the D.C. Public Library, USAODC hosts a mentoring group for boys twice a month. Some of the topics discussed during these meetings are internet safety, police-youth relationships and gun safety.

Similarly, USAODC, in partnership with the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS), hosts a girls' mentoring group at their secured detention facility. During these meetings, USAODC facilitators present information on a variety of topics including self-esteem, domestic violence, and alcohol and marijuana abuse.

The objective of both mentoring groups is to encourage young people to make healthier choices by illustrating what is acceptable behavior in society.



RETURNING CITIZENS (REENTRY) OUTREACH

USAODC has sought to be a leader in the Justice Department's efforts to support former offenders when they return to the community following incarceration. We recognize that returning citizens face serious obstacles to success, such as obtaining employment and housing, and that reducing recidivism requires community-wide collaboration. To that end, USAODC has partnered with federal and local agencies and community-based organizations to implement a District-wide re-entry strategy. We also have focused our efforts on educating recently released individuals about the negative consequences of violating the terms of their supervision. At the same time, USAODC has hosted forums to educate business leaders and the community-at-large about the importance of supporting citizens as they return from prison, including hosting a job fair which resulted in several reentrants being hired by local businesses. By building support mechanisms for returning citizens, we hope to reduce recidivism, enhance public safety and help returning citizens begin to make positive contributions to our community.



LAW ENFORCEMENT OUTREACH

Because our Community Prosecutors are housed in each of the seven police district stations, they serve as the legal advisors to police officers on matters relating to criminal law. In that regard, they are responsible for developing legal training for officers on a variety of issues which are usually in direct response to our charging declinations, such as constructive possession and 4th Amendment issues. Finally, they also have responsibility for reviewing misdemeanor arrest warrants and narcotics search warrants for patrol and vice police officers, staffing weekend case intake, and debriefing defendants for possible development as cooperators in criminal cases. Finally, they also serve as liaisons between our Office and the Metropolitan Police Department.



USAO



Ademuyiwa Bamiduro
7th District



Melanie Howard

Baretta Fr
4th District



LaToya Davenport
3rd District



Douglas Klein
1st District

Wen



Roger Kemp
3rd District



Brenda Horner

Floyd Cars
6th District

ATTORNEY'S OFF



ancis
ct



Trena Carrington
2nd District



Carolyn Crank
1st District

COMMUNITY



dy Pohlhaus



Kendra Briggs
5th District



Monica Veney
5 District

USAO



on
t



Lenny Lowe
7th District



Leutrell Osborne
6th District

UNITED

ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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THE PEOPLE OF



LE F THE USAO



WELCOME TO OUR NEW AUSAS!

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NOVEMBER 13TH 2012



JULY 16TH 2013



JANUARY 20TH 2015

LENGTH OF FEDERAL SERVICE

2015 has marked a significant carer milestone for many employees in the Office. Below we recognize those employees who have served in the federal sector for 20, 25, 30, 35 & 40 years.

20 YEARS



Jelahn Stewart
Michael A. Hailey

25 YEARS



Kristina L. Ament
Michael C. Liebman
Corbin A. Weis

30 YEARS



Michael V. Tomaselli
Brenda J. Johnson
Cynthia G. Wright
Harvey R. Booker

35 YEARS



Daniel Friedman
Colleen Kennedy
Jeanie A. Latimore-Brown
Charles W. Cobb

NOT PICTURED

20 Years

John D. Crabb
David B. Goodhand
Christopher King
Anita J. La Rue
John P. Mannarino
Robert A. Peeler
Jean W. Sexton

25 Years

Katina A. Washington-Adams
LaTrena D. Carrington
Michelle Mumm Chambers
Kwasi A. Fields
Patricia A. Heffernan
John G. Interrante
Kendra F. Johnson
Theresa D. Jones
Juan C. Juarez
Rochelle L. Mills
Cynthia D. Muhammad
Cynthia D. Walicki-Chan

30 Year

Victoria L. Ashton
Edward G. Burley
Carolyn Carter-Mckinley
Ann S. Hadley
Julieanne Himmelstein
Kenneth C. Kohl
Gwenever A. Quigley
Jeffrey R. Ragsdale
Scott E. Scott
Deborah L. Sines
Richard S. Tischner

35 years

Vincent W. Caputy
Suzanne G. Curt
Lavina L. Fletcher
Ann B. Lawrence

40 Years

Patricia A. Gilbert

2013 AWARDS

2013 U.S. ATTORNEY'S AWARDS

U.S. Attorney's STAR Award for Distinguished Service

Deborah L. Connor, Jeffrey R. Ragsdale, Denise A. Simmonds

U.S. Attorney's Award for Meritorious Service

Marcia L. Rinker, Daniel F. Van Horn

U.S. Attorney's Award for Creativity and Innovation

Michael T. Ambrosino, William C. Miller

U.S. Attorney's Award for Excellence in Management

Michelle D. Jackson, Mary B. McCord, Rochelle L. Mills

U.S. Attorney's Award for Exceptional Performance as a Support Staff Member

Candace L. Battle, Jonathan D. Ellsworth, Melissa S. Milam, Florence L. Pensmith

U.S. Attorney's Award for Exceptional Performance as an AUSA

Michael K. Atkinson, Michael C. DiLorenzo, Sharon K. Donovan, David B. Goodhand

U.S. Attorney's Award for Community Outreach

Lenny M. Lowe, Lance Sumter

U.S. Attorney's Team Award – Children Exposed to Violence Conference: Strategies for Investigation, Prosecution & Treatment

Yvonne Bryant, Lorraine Chase, Jennifer Clark, Karen Giannakoulis, Michael Hailey, Marcia Rinker, Jelahn Stewart, Veronica Vaughn

U.S. Attorney's Team Award – Sachtleben Prosecution Team

Donice Adams, Devron Elliott, G. Michael Harvey, Ashley Kellam, Jonathan Malis, Mona Sahaf

AUSA ASSOCIATION FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 2013 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Outstanding Advocacy Award: Laura Bach

Harold J. Sullivan Award: David Gorman



2014 U.S. ATTORNEY'S AWARDS

U.S. Attorney's STAR Award for Distinguished Service

Chrisellen R. Kolb & Wendy L. Pohlhaus

U.S. Attorney's Award for Meritorious Service

John D. Dominguez & Keith V. Morgan

U.S. Attorney's Award for Creativity and Innovation

Richard S. Tischner

U.S. Attorney's Award for Excellence in Management

Kevin F. Flynn, Jelahn Stewart & Gregg A. Maisel

U.S. Attorney's Award for Exceptional Performance as a Support Staff Member

Shavaka N. Melvin & Reginald D. Rowan

U.S. Attorney's Award for Exceptional Performance as an AUSA

G. Michael Harvey & Jennifer A. Kerkhoff

U.S. Attorney's Award for Community Outreach

Jamila H. Hodge

U.S. Attorney's Team Award – 14th and Girard Street Crew Prosecution

Laura R. Bach, Todd W. Gee, Kendra F. Johnson, Emily A. Miller & Deborah L. Sines

U.S. Attorney's Team Award – Financial Litigation Team

Kristena D. Brown, Patricia A. Gilbert, Lavenia L. Greene, Oliver W. McDaniel & GERALYN C. TRISS

U.S. Attorney's Team Award – Pablo Lovo Prosecution Team

Candace L. Battle, Karla-Dee Clark & Emory Cole

AUSA ASSOCIATION FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 2014 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Outstanding Advocacy Award: S. Vinet Bryant

Harold J. Sullivan Award: Anthony Scarpelli

2014 EOUSA DIRECTOR'S AWARDS

Michael Atkinson (Five Aces)

Michael Harvey (Huaxing)

Michael Brittin, Bruce Hegyi, and Adam Schwartz (South Capitol)

2014 AWARD

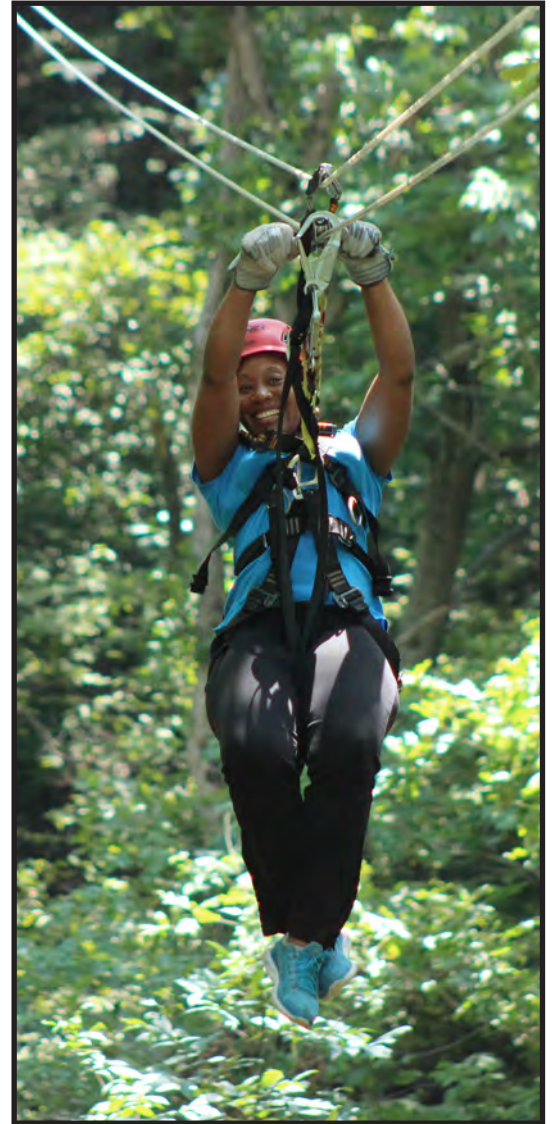


THE USAO FAMILY

OUTSIDE THE OFFICE

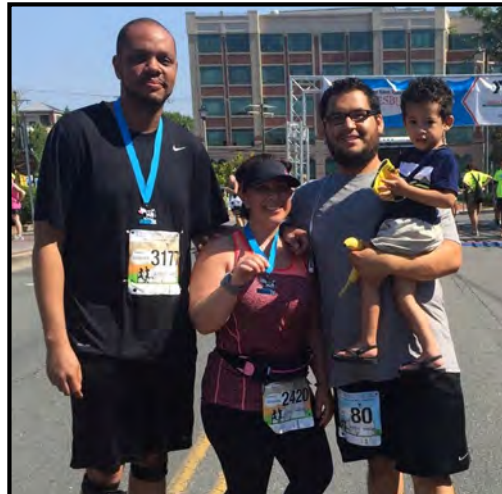
ZIPLINER

Victim Witness Assistant Tonya Jones zoomed on the zipline through Shenandoah State Park



5K & 20K RUNNERS

I.T Specialist Giovanni Harrison and Supervisory Paralegal Taryn McLaughlin ran the Leesburg 20k. I.T Specialist Nelson Flores participated in the Leesburg 5k & his son Landon Flores finished the Kid Fun Run



Paralegal Specialist D'Yvonne Key on her rapids trip in Pennsylvania partipating in the Middle Youghiogheny River Rafting Class



Acting P.A.S.A Denise Simmonds creates stained glass art in her spare time



AUSA Teresa Bowie & her niece at a candlelight ceremony for victims of pancreatic cancer

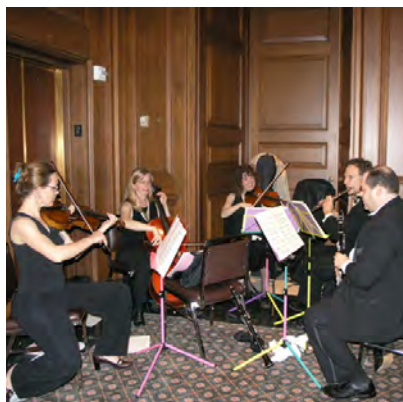
COMPETITIVE ULTRA-CYCLIST

Record setter AUSA Damon Taaffe is a competitive ultra-cyclist on his free time. In 2014's Bike Sebring's 24-hour race, Taaffe set a new course record for his age group by riding 475 miles in 24 hours. He also rode the Alaska Big Wild Ride (2013) & the California Central Coast (2014) each comprised of 750 miles spread over 3 days.



FIRST BLIND IRONMAN RACE CHAMPION

AUSA Krintina Ament trains for endurance events when not in the office. In 2014, Ament was the first blind athlete to complete the IRONMAN Champoinships, with a female guide in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii; a tri-athlon consisting of a 2.4 mile swim, 112 bike ride, & a 26.2 mile in run.



In her spare time, AUSA Ellen Epstein plays violin with her group The Quintessentials which has been together since 1999.



AUSA Peter Pfaffenroth took part in the 4.4 mile Great Chesapeake Bay Swim. He swam from Sandy Point State Park to Kent island.



When AUSA Leslie-Ann Gerardo isn't working, you will often find her with her camera taking photographs with her good friend Silvia Gonzalez Roman.

OUR INTERNS



Ashley Patterson
Internship Coordinator

The United States Attorney's Office has several student programs for which recruiting is done each semester. The Fall Program runs from September through December, the Spring Program runs from January through March, and the Summer Program runs from June through August. Our Office offers volunteer and academic credit internships to undergraduates, graduate students and to law students. We seek out some of the most superb, excellent undergraduate, graduate and law students in the DC, VA, and MD area as well from all over the United States. The internship experience is an endless experience and can become whatever the intern makes it; the sky is the limit. Whatever our support staff or AUSA do our interns are also very likely to be participating in themselves. Our offices rely on our interns for a variety of tasks and initiatives. Interns assist in trial preparation; court legal research; observe court proceedings in D.C Superior Court and U.S. District Court; draft memoranda and other documents; and handle many other tasks.

2013



"After interning at the USAO-DC for the summer, I am now even more committed to public service and pursuing a career in the federal government. My career plans always included the US Attorney's Office, but now I want it even more badly than before because I saw first hand what an incredible job it would be."

Shirin Afsous
Suffolk University Law School
Appellate Division Fall 2014

"The Assistant United States Attorneys treated me as an important part of the team, bouncing ideas off of me, getting my opinion on certain aspects of the cases, and entrusting me with important parts of the investigation. Coming from undergrad with no experience in the law, I had not expected this level of involvement. I really felt like I was making a difference in the lives of the citizens of Washington, D.C."

Nicholas Molayem
University of Maryland University College
Homicide Division Spring 2015

"My time at USAO-DC reaffirmed my desire to become a prosecutor. I recently accepted a job offer as an Assistant State Attorney in my hometown of Miami-Dade County. I know that it would not have been possible without the insight and advice I received from individuals at USAO-DC."

Guillermo Vallejo
UMD Francis King Carey School of Law
Appellate Division Fall 2014

2014



2015



USAO ALUMNI

The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia has a long tradition of producing alumni who go on to important leadership roles elsewhere. The Office is proud to have alumni who have gone on to distinguished careers in private practice, business, the government, and non-profit organizations. These alumni are currently acting in significant public service positions.

Mary Ellen Benson Abrecht

Senior Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Janet E. Albert

Magistrate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Geoffrey M. Alprin

Senior Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Jennifer Anderson

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Robin C. Ashton

Counsel for Professional Responsibility, Office of Professional Responsibility

Judith Bartnoff

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

John D. Bates

Senior Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

John H. Bayly, Jr.

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

James E. Boasberg

District Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

Julie R. Breslow

Magistrate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Patricia A. Broderick

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

John M. Campbell

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

John Carlin

Assistant Attorney General for National Security

Erik P. Christian

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Natalia M. Combs Greene

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Rudolph Contreras

District Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

Laura Cordero

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Harold L. Cushenberry, Jr.

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Marisa Demeo

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

James Dinan

Director, Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force

Michael W. Farrell

Senior Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals

John R. Fisher

Associate Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Paul L. Friedman

Senior Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

Merrick B. Garland

Chief Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit

Henry F. Greene

Senior Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Andrea L. Harnett

Magistrate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Michael G. Harvey

Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

Timothy J. Heaphy

U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Virginia

William J. Hochul, Jr.

U.S. Attorney for the Western District of New York

Craig Iscoe

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Amy Berman Jackson

District Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

Gregory Jackson

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

John Ramsey Johnson

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Alan Kay

Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

John W. Kern, III

Senior Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Warren R. King

Senior Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Kimberley S. Knowles

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Royce C. Lamberth

Senior Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

David G. Larimer

Senior Judge, U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York

Mary Lou Leary

Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs

Lynn Leibovitz

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Cheryl M. Long

Senior Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Neil H. MacBride

U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia

John F. McCabe

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Mary B. McCord

Principal Deputy Attorney General, National Security Division, DOJ

Mary McLaughlin

District Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

Roy W. McLeese III

Associate Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Zinora Mitchell-Rankin

Associate Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Lisa O. Monaco

Deputy National Security Advisor for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism

Thomas J. Motley

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Stuart G. Nash

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Frank Q. Nebeker

Senior Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Florence Pan

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Heidi M. Pasichow

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the

District of Columbia

Channing D. Phillips

Counselor to the Attorney General

William C. Pryor

Senior Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Michael L. Rankin

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Judith E. Retchin

Senior Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Robert I. Richter

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Richard W. Roberts

Chief Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

Deborah A. Robinson

Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

Judith Rogers

Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit

Maurice A. Ross

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Lee F. Satterfield

Chief Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Cynthia A. Schnedar

Director, Office of Compliance, U.S. Food & Drug Administration

J. Michael Seabright

District Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii

Ronald W. Sharpe

U.S. Attorney for the District of the Virgin Islands

J. Patricia Wilson Smoot

Chairman, U.S. Parole Commission

James R. Spencer

Chief Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia

John A. Terry

Senior Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Amul Roger Thapar

District Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky

Reggie B. Walton

District Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

Monty Wilkinson

Director, Executive Office for United States Attorneys

Susan R. Holmes Winfield

Senior Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

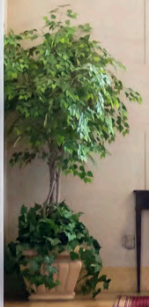
Elizabeth Carroll Wingo

Magistrate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Melvin R. Wright

Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia





RONALD C. MACHEN JR



Assistant United States Attorney: 1/5/1997 - 8/2/2001
United States Attorney: 2/18/2010 - 3/31/2015

THANK YOU

*for your service to the residents of the
District of Columbia and the United States Attorney's
Office for the District of Columbia.*