

United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Michigan



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Welcome to this streamlined overview of the office's work for the past year. While the pandemic persisted through a "fourth wave" on its way at some point in our future to a hopefully more manageable endemic status, the office again successfully navigated the challenges to meet our essential missions.

The following pages present various charts of our efforts on a fiscal year basis, though not the compelling stories behind them. For specifics on the cases and matters we handled in 2021, I encourage you to review the press releases from throughout the full year, as listed on our webpage under the "news" tab. There you can read about some of our many efforts addressing domestic and international terrorism, drug trafficking organizations, drug dealing leading to overdose death, violent crime, child exploitation, health care fraud, False Claims Act recoveries, wire fraud and even bitcoin money laundering.

Our total number of criminal cases was comparable to last year. Violent crime and drug crime represent the largest shares of the criminal cases we bring, and yet complex white-collar frauds were not left unaddressed: Criminal Division attorneys as a group spent nearly 20% of their time on those matters. The drop in the total caseload compared to two and three years ago is largely attributable to a substantially reduced number of immigration offense referrals and charges. Almost as many defendants took their cases to trial as in recent years, but our conviction rate remained around 93%. Just under 90% of those we convicted were sent to prison-- an indication that we successfully focused our resources on the most serious offenders.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY CONT.

Our civil litigation caseload dropped from last year's unusually high level but remained robust. We continued to increase our efforts over prior years in civil rights enforcement and affirmative litigation addressing civil health care fraud and false claims to the government. Tort defense and bankruptcy work again occupied substantial amounts of time for Civil Division attorneys and staff.

Operationally, we enhanced our commitment to the district's Northern Division by appointing a Branch Manager to our Marquette Office. Assistant U.S. Attorney Ted Greeley assumed the role in December.

The pandemic again limited our outreach efforts, which were typically virtual. We met with Tribal leaders to establish first-of-their-kind community response plans for reports of missing or murdered indigenous persons, addressed cyber-threats and ransomware with audiences of lawyers and business representatives, presented to health care professionals on the latest scams and professional pitfalls affecting their industry, and worked virtually with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights on forums to enhance community trust in law enforcement, among other efforts.

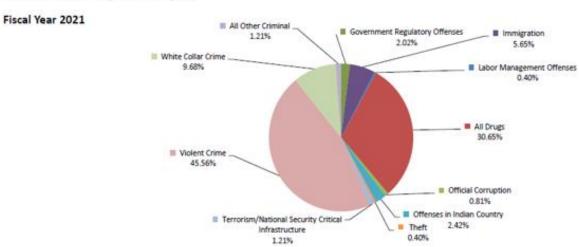
I am confident the office remains as poised as ever to meet the priority needs of the people of the Western District of Michigan.

Andrew Byerly Birge United States Attorney

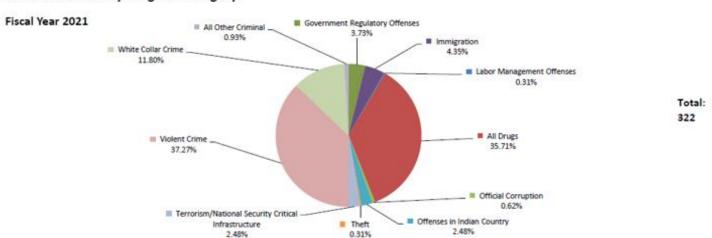


CRIMINAL WORKLOAD STATISTICS

Cases Filed by Program Category



Defendants Filed by Program Category

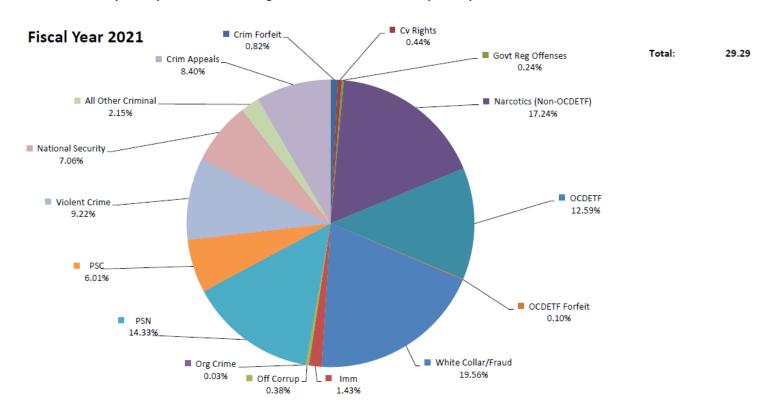


Total: 248



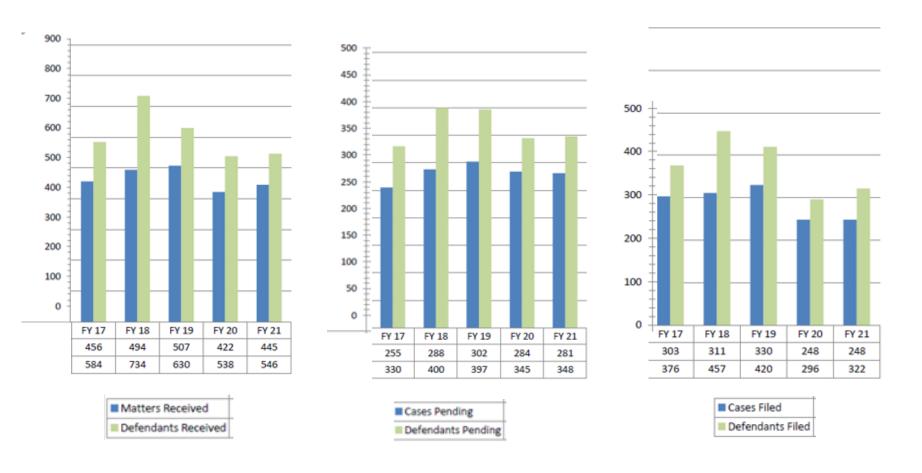
CRIMINAL WORKLOAD STATISTICS

United States Attorneys -- Criminal Workyear Statistics
Western District of Michigan
Criminal Attorney Workyears as a Percentage of Total Criminal Attorney Workyears





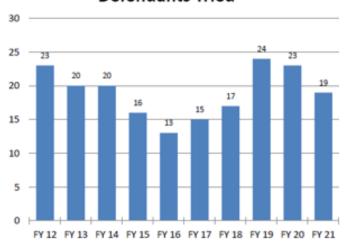
CRIMINAL WORKLOAD STATISTICS





CRIMINAL CASE OUTCOME STATISTICS

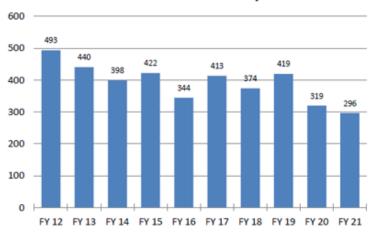
Defendants Tried



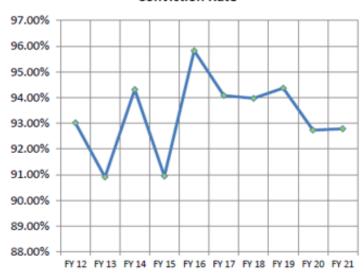
Defendants Disposed of by Trial As a Percent of Defendants Terminated



Defendants Guilty



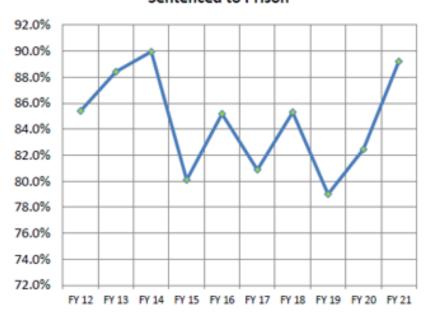
Conviction Rate



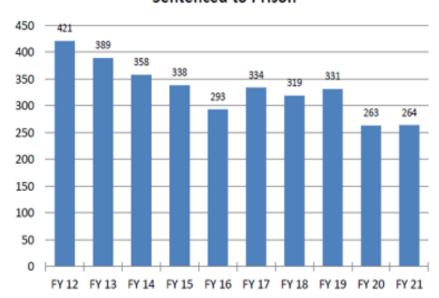


CRIMINAL CASE OUTCOME STATISTICS

Percentage of Guilty Defendants Sentenced to Prison

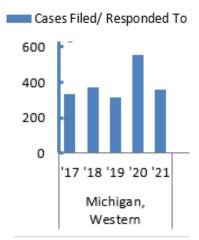


Number of Guilty Defendants Sentenced to Prison



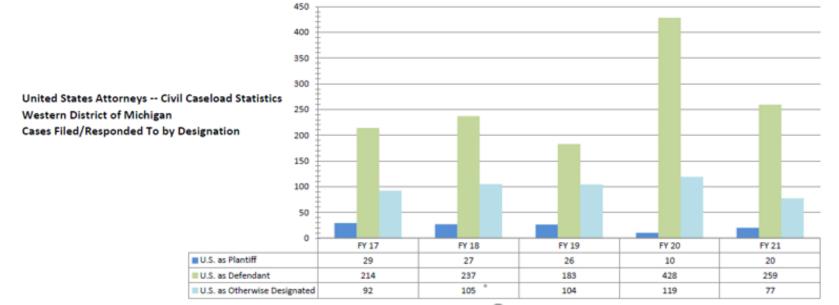


CIVIL CASELOAD STATISTICS



Cases Filed/ Responded To per AUSA Regular Hrs workyear, All Civil

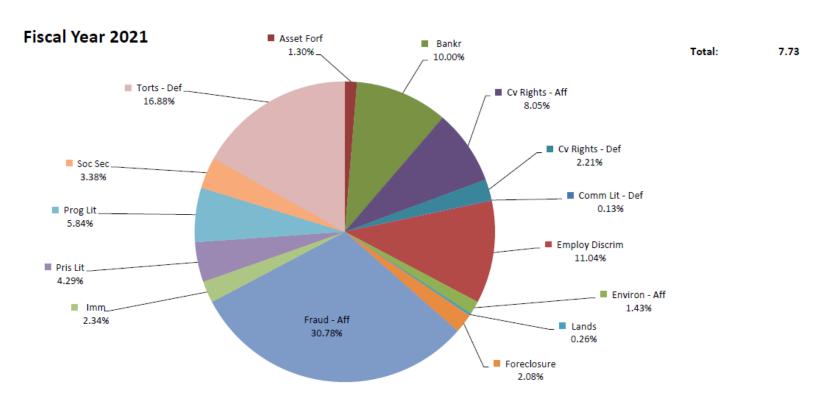






CIVIL CASELOAD STATISTICS

United States Attorneys -- Civil Workyear Statistics
Western District of Michigan
Civil Attorney Workyears as a Percentage of Total Civil Attorney Workyears

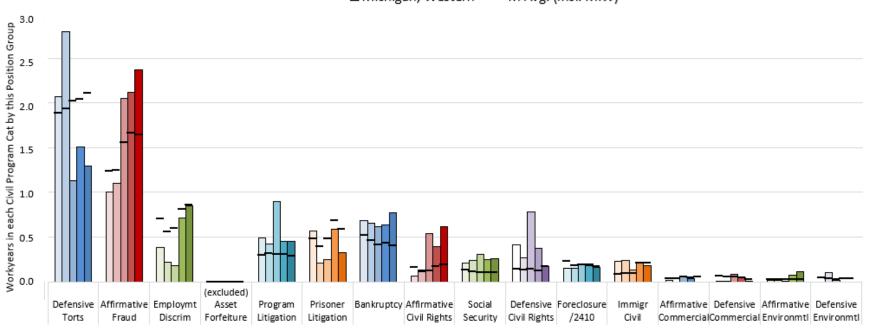




CIVIL CASELOAD STATISTICS

USA-5 workyears logged by AUSA Regular Hrs toward Civil Program Categories







ORGANIZATION CHART

United States Attorney Andrew B. Birge

> Secretary Vacant

First Assistant United States Attorney
Donald D. Daniels

Administrative Division

Administrative Officer Sheryl Brugh

Human Resources

Raphael Trujillo, Supervisor, Human Resources Officer Britni Michael, Human Resources Specialist

Administrative Services Adam Billingsley, Supervisor, Contracting Officer

Kelly Johnson, Administrative Services Specialist

Financial Managemer Melissa Fanko, Budget Officer Anne Ackerman, Budget Analyst

Information Technology (IT) Management Tom Keating, Supervisor, IT Systems Manager Josh Elistal, Utigation Servisos Coordinator Zach Ulckas, IT Specialist Vacant, Office Authoration Assistant Vacant, Contract Receptionist

Civil Division

Chief Ryan Cobb, AUSA

Attomevs

Carolyn Almassian , AUSA Laura Babinsky, AUSA Andrew Hull, AUSA (ACE) Jeanne Long, AUSA Nicole Mazzocco , AUSA Michael Shiparski , AUSA Vacant, AUSA (ACE)

Support Staff Kristen Buskard, Paralegal Specialist

Nisien buskaru, Paralegia Specialis Donna Justice, Paralegia Specialist (Bankruptoy) Jenelle Kroupa, Legal Assistant Jennifer Lehan, Legal Assistant Richard Ptak, Contract Investigator (ACE) Roy Vizcarra, Legal Assistant Vacant, Contract ACE Support

Criminal Division

Chief Stephen Baker, AUSA

Daniel Mekaru, AUSA (SLC)

Violent Crimes Section Deputy Chief Alexis Sanford, AUSA

Lauren Biksacky, AUSA Patrick Castle, AUSA (PSN Coordinator) Erin Lane, AUSA (Tribal P.O.C.) Kristin Pinkston, (Human Trafficking Coordinator) B. Rene Shekmer, AUSA Vacant, AUSA

Financial Crimes & National Security Section Deputy Chief

Deputy Chief Christopher O'Connor, AUSA

Raymond Beckering III, AUSA (HCF Coordinator)
NIS Kessler, AUSA (CHP, ATAC)
Justin Presart, AUSA
Ronald Steta, AUSA (Enics)
Davin Reust, AUSA (Enics)
Davin Reust, AUSA (Corodinator)
R. Clay Stiffler, AUSA (OPDAT Detailed)
Adam Townshend, AUSA
Timothy VerHey, AUSA (TAIR)
Clay West, AUSA
Kate Zet, AUSA (PRO)
Brent Clark, Intelligence Specialist (DOSM)

Organized Drug Crime, Asset Forfeiture & FLU Section Deputy Chief Joel Fauson, AUSA (OCDFTF)

Stephanie Carowan , AUSA Austin Hakes, AUSA Daniel McGraw, AUSA (AF) Jonathan Roth, AUSA (OCDETF) Vito Solitro, AUSA Vacant, AUSA (FLP)

Unassigned

Vacant, AUSA

Support Staff Maya Blade, Supervisory Paralegal Specialist (FLP) Jordan McCullough , Paralegal Specialist (FLP) Robert Tibbitts, Legal Assistant (FLP)

Kirstina Zelaako, Supervisory Paralegal Specialist Ashley Anderson, Legal Assistant Brenda Glass, Paralegal Specialist (HCF) Sydney Gray, Legal Assistant Sarah Hague, Paralegal Specialist (Kristin Kot, Legal Assistant Stephanie Miller, Paralegal Specialist (OCDETF) Kartne Towner, Legal Assistant Clindy Vine, Paralegal Specialist (AF) Emily White, Legal Assistant Heather Wiersma, Paralegal Specialist (AF) Emily White, Legal Assistant

Stephen Corcoran, Contract Investigator (HCF) Wallace Gaunichaux, Contract Clerk (AF) Joel Postma, Contract MMIP Coordinator

LEC / Victim-Witness Services

Kathy Schuette, Supervisor, Victim Assistance Coordinator Daniel McDonough, LEC / WW Support & GJ Coord. Anne Towns, LEC / WW Support

Breane Warner, Victim Witness Specialist (PIO) Katle Campbell, Contract Fact Witness Assistant

Appellate Division

Chief Jennifer McManus, AUSA

Kate Dalzell, AUSA John Bruha, Appellate Contractor

Lansing Branch [Deputy Chief O'Connor]

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Kathy Brooks, Auditor (HCF)

Marquette Branch

Branch Manager Theodore Greeley, AUSA

Attorneys Hannah Bobee, AUSA (Tribal Liaison) Paul Lochner, AUSA

Support Staff
Teresa Kaupplia , Legal Assistant
Mariene Mottes, Tribal Victim Assistant
Deborah Sicotte, Legal Assistant
Kelly Carruth, Contract Legal Assistant

Andrew B. Birge

United States Attorney December 2021