2021

YEAR IN REVIEW

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
Fiscal Year 2021

Total: 248

Defendants Filed by Program Category
Fiscal Year 2021

Total: 322
Criminal Workload Statistics

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

Fiscal Year 2021

Total: 29.29
CRIMINAL WORKLOAD STATISTICS

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<th>FY 17</th>
<th>FY 18</th>
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<th>FY 20</th>
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CRIMINAL CASE OUTCOME STATISTICS

Defendants Tried

Defendants Guilty

Defendants Disposed of by Trial
As a Percent of Defendants Terminated

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

United States Attorneys -- Civil Caseload Statistics
Western District of Michigan
Cases Filed/Responded To by Designation

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<tr>
<th>FY 17</th>
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<td>U.S. as Otherwise Designated:</td>
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United States Attorneys -- Civil Workyear Statistics
Western District of Michigan
Civil Attorney Workyears as a Percentage of Total Civil Attorney Workyears

Fiscal Year 2021

Total: 7.73

- Fraud - Aff: 30.78%
- Asset Forf: 1.30%
- Torts - Def: 16.88%
- Soc Sec: 3.38%
- Prog Lit: 5.84%
- Pris Lit: 4.29%
- Imm: 2.34%
- Bankr: 10.00%
- Cv Rights - Aff: 8.05%
- Cv Rights - Def: 2.21%
- Comm Lit - Def: 0.13%
- Employ Discrim: 11.04%
- Environ - Aff: 1.43%
- Lands: 0.26%
- Foreclosure: 2.08%
USA-5 workyears logged by AUSA Regular Hrs toward Civil Program Categories

- Michigan, Western
- M Avg. (incl. MIW)