

**Office of the State's Attorney  
Union County, Illinois**

**2016 Annual Report**



**Tyler R. Edmonds,  
State's Attorney**

## **A Letter from the State's Attorney**

It continues to be my honor and privilege to serve as your State's Attorney and I am again pleased to present our Annual Report for your review. Publication of the State's Attorney's Annual Report is an important means to promote transparency and accountability while also updating elected officials, law enforcement and social service agencies, and the citizens of Union County on efforts of the State's Attorney's Office during the past year.

This Annual Report provides information regarding the structure, staffing, funding and expenditures of the State's Attorney's Office as well as a breakdown of cases filed, fines and restitution to crime victims.

The services provided by the State's Attorney's Office are only possible because of a dedicated staff and the efforts of law enforcement and other agencies such as the Department of Children and Family Services and the Child Advocacy Center. I hope this Annual Report increases public awareness of the hard work of these individuals while also providing important information regarding the efforts of this office in 2016.

Sincerely,



Tyler R. Edmonds  
Union County State's Attorney

## **Office Overview**

The Union County State's Attorney's Office is responsible for prosecuting all violations of criminal law occurring within Union County on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois. Additionally, the office serves as legal counsel to Union County government including the Board of County Commissioners and other elected officials. The State's Attorney's Office also prosecutes violations of Union County ordinances and represents the County in civil court proceedings.

The State's Attorney's Office consists of three full-time attorneys and three full-time legal assistants. The office's Victim Advocate Unit provides services to crime victims and consists of one full-time Victim Advocate and a part-time Victim-Witness Coordinator.

The guiding principle for the Union County State's Attorney's Office is found in Illinois Supreme Court Rule 3.8:

*The duty of a public prosecutor . . . is to seek justice, not merely to convict.*

In each individual case, the office seeks to ensure that justice is served for all parties involved and for the People of the State of Illinois.

## **Significant Office Accomplishments**

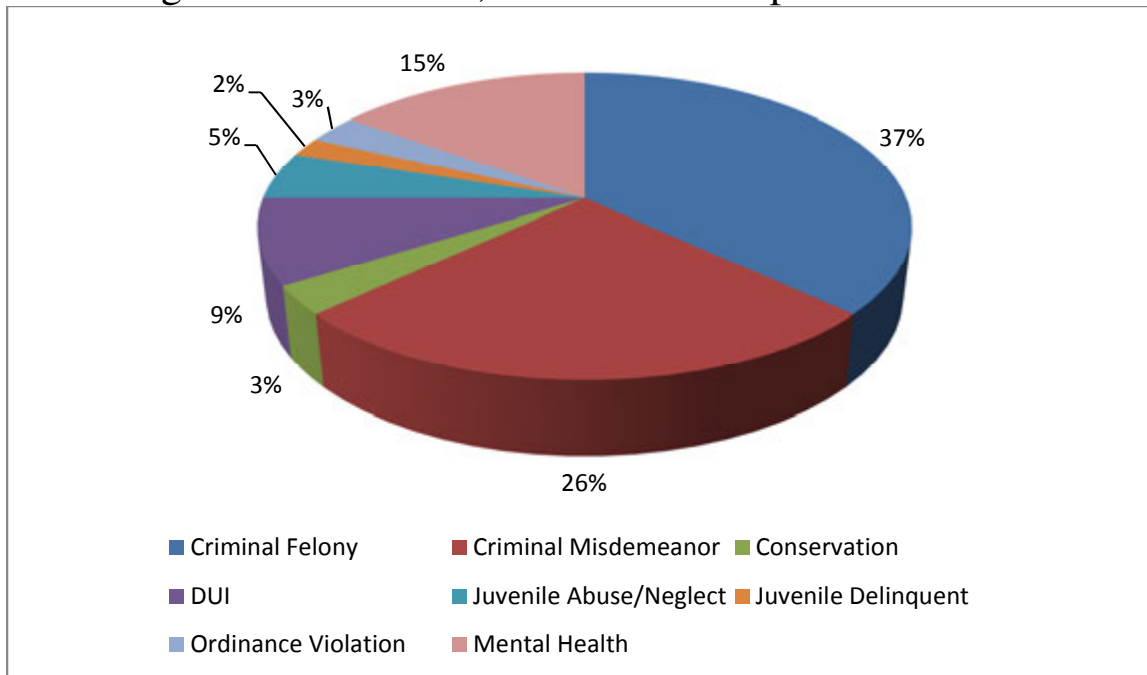
- Olive Branch man sentenced to 20 years for Manufacture of Child Pornography
- Union County man sentenced to 10 years for Sexual Assault
- Jonesboro man sentenced to 8 years for Residential Burglary
- Grand Tower man sentenced to 66 months for Domestic Battery
- Thebes man sentenced to 5 years for offering bribe to police officer
- Anna man sentenced to 5 years for Aggravated Stalking
- Dongola man sentenced to 44 months for Domestic Battery

## Criminal Prosecution

The State's Attorney's Office is responsible for prosecuting all crimes that occur within Union County and pursuing certain civil matters including Juvenile Abuse and Neglect cases and involuntary mental health commitments. During 2016, **3376** cases were opened with the following breakdown:

<u>Case Type</u>	<u>Filings</u>
Criminal Felony	251
Criminal Misdemeanor	176
Conservation	23
DUI	57
Juvenile Abuse/Neglect	32
Juvenile Delinquent	16
Ordinance Violation	17
Mental Health	103
Traffic	2701
<b>Total</b>	<b>3376</b>

Excluding Traffic Citations, these cases compare as follows:



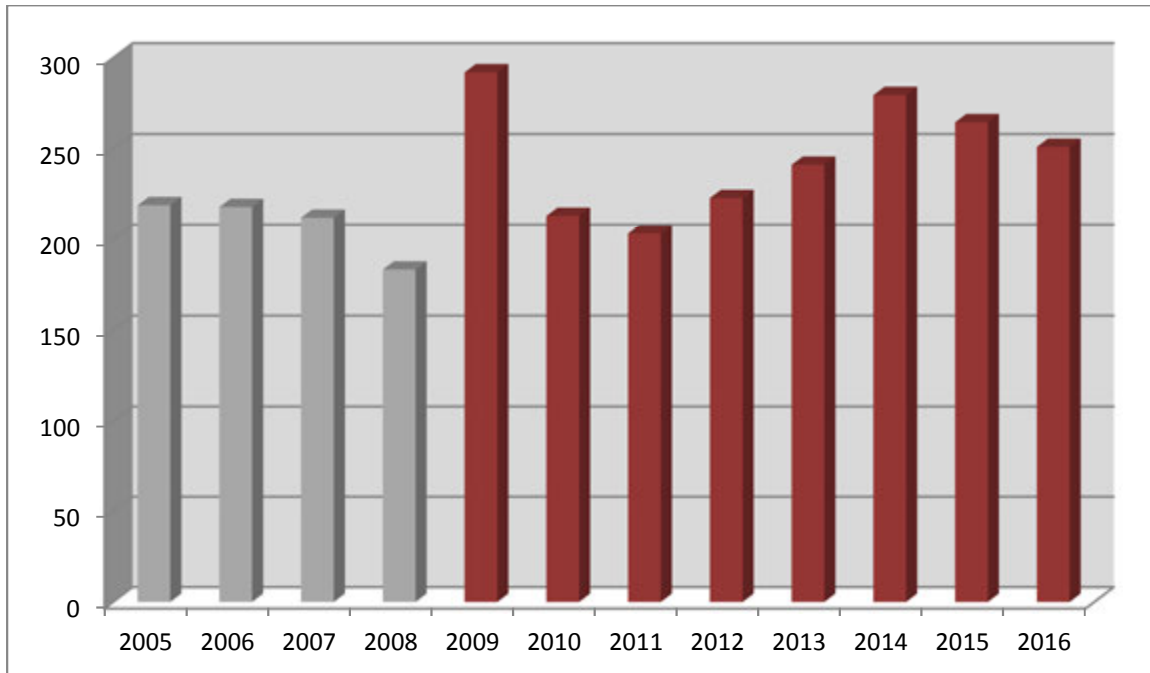
## Felony Cases

### Felonies Filed

During 2016, the State's Attorney's Office filed 251 felony cases.

Year	Felony Cases Filed
2005	219
2006	218
2007	212
2008	183
<b>2009</b>	<b>292</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>213</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>203</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>223</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>241</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>280</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>265</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>251</b>

These numbers can be compared as follows:

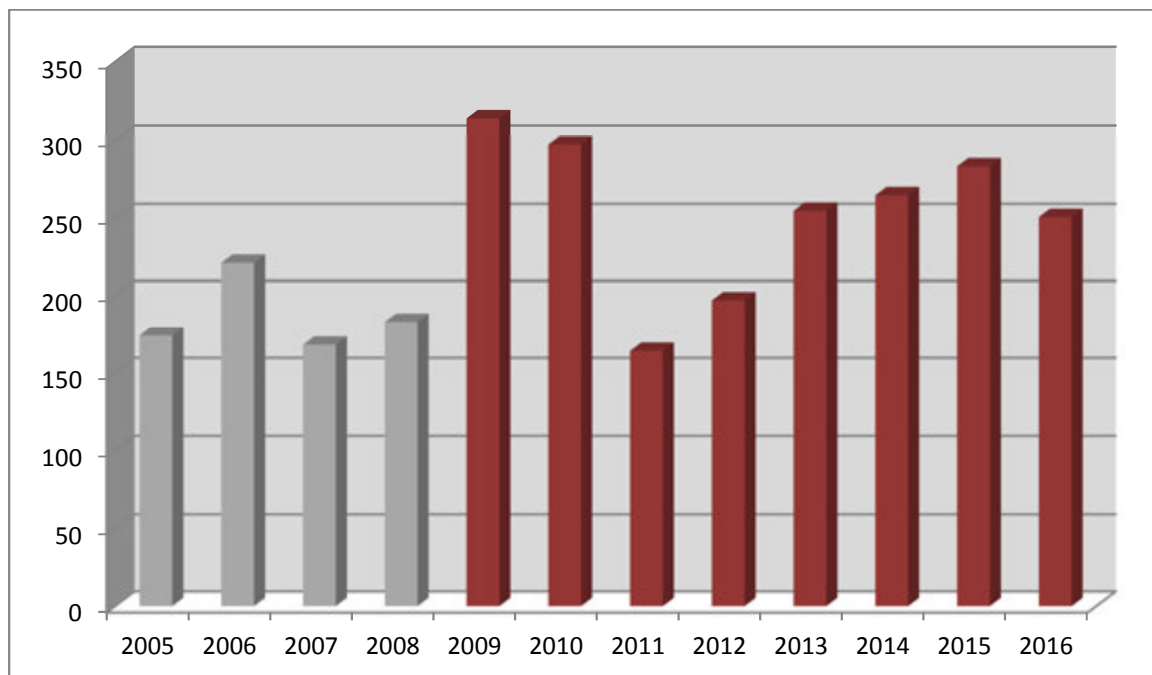


### **Felony Dispositions**

Beginning in 2009, the State's Attorney's Office undertook a concerted effort to reduce the backlog of open cases and achieve dispositions in as timely a manner as possible. Moving cases quickly and efficiently through the court system results in better outcomes at trial, protects the public from repeat offenders and provides certainty and closure for victims and the community. During 2016, dispositions were achieved in **251** felony cases, a number again significantly higher than the pre-2009 average.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Felony Dispositions</b>
2005	174
2006	221
2007	168
2008	183
<b>2009</b>	<b>314</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>297</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>164</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>255</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>265</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>283</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>251</b>

These numbers can be compared follows:

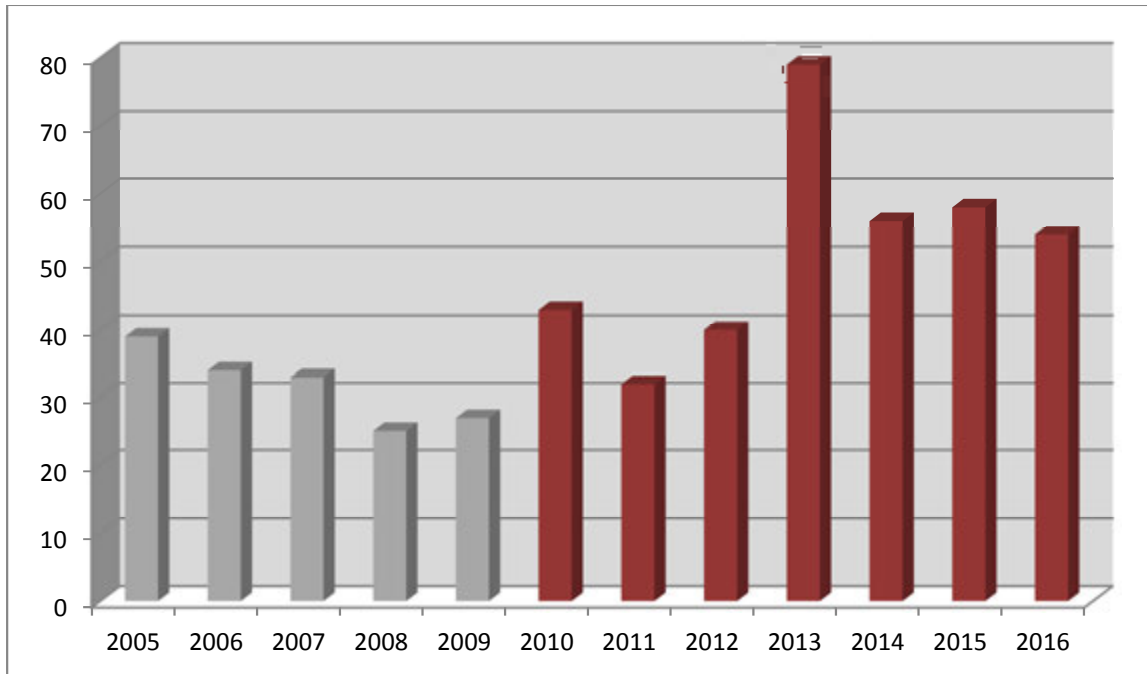


**Department of Corrections Sentences**

In certain felony matters, sentences to the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) are necessary to protect the public. In 2016, the State’s Attorney’s Office obtained convictions resulting in 54 IDOC sentences.

<b>Year</b>	<b>IDOC Sentences</b>
2005	39
2006	34
2007	33
2008	25
<b>2009</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>54</b>

These numbers compare as follows:



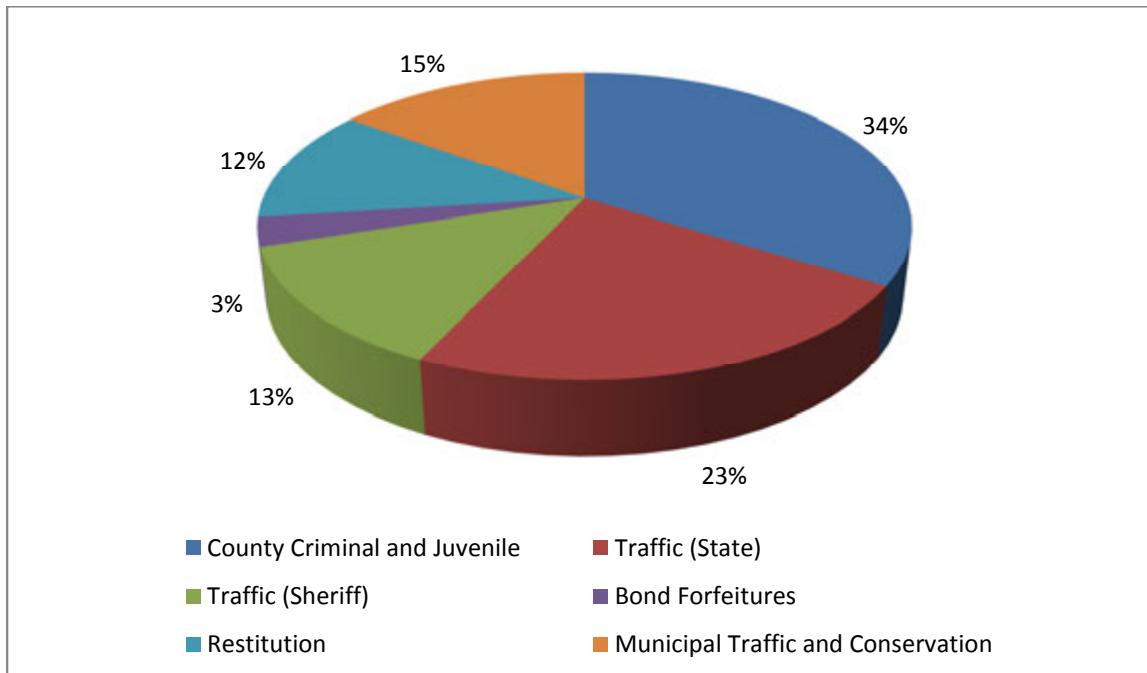


## Fines and Restitution

During 2016, the State's Attorney's Office collected over \$300,000 in fines, forfeitures, and other costs to criminal defendants. This amount includes over \$37,000 in restitution to crime victims.

Type of Fine / Judgment	Amount
County Criminal and Juvenile	\$101,013.35
Traffic (State Police)	\$68,317.93
Traffic (Sheriff)	\$40,773.77
Bond Forfeitures	\$8,335.00
Restitution	\$37,828.38
Municipal Traffic and Conservation	\$44,868.51
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$301,136.94</b>

These numbers can be compared as follows:



## **Victim's Advocate Unit**

The State's Attorney's Office's Victim's Advocate Unit (VAU) provides a variety of services to crime victims to help lessen the trauma associated with victimization. The VAU consists of one Victim's Advocate and one Victim-Witness Coordinator providing a variety of services including:

- Assistance in seeking orders of protection
- 24-hour crisis intervention
- Orientation to court process and procedure
- Regular updates regarding case status and disposition
- Personal, legal, and medical advocacy as well as emotional support
- Referrals to appropriate social service agencies
- Assisting in applying for victim compensation through the Illinois Attorney General's Office.
- Enrollment in Illinois Automated Victim Notification System providing victims with automatic updates regarding case and custody status.

During 2016, the VAU provided services to **571** crime victims.

## **Civil Practice**

The State's Attorney's Office is responsible for legal representation of the County of Union as well as Union County elected officials. The office provides a variety of services in fulfilling these obligations including pursuing and defending civil litigation, negotiating collective bargaining agreements, real property transactions and contracts, and representing the County in grievance and administrative proceedings.

## **Budget and Expenditures**

During Fiscal Year 2016, expenditures of the State's Attorney's Office were **\$12,955.61 under budget** with total expenditures of \$433,824.39 and total budget of \$446,780.



**Office of the State's Attorney  
Union County, Illinois**

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