

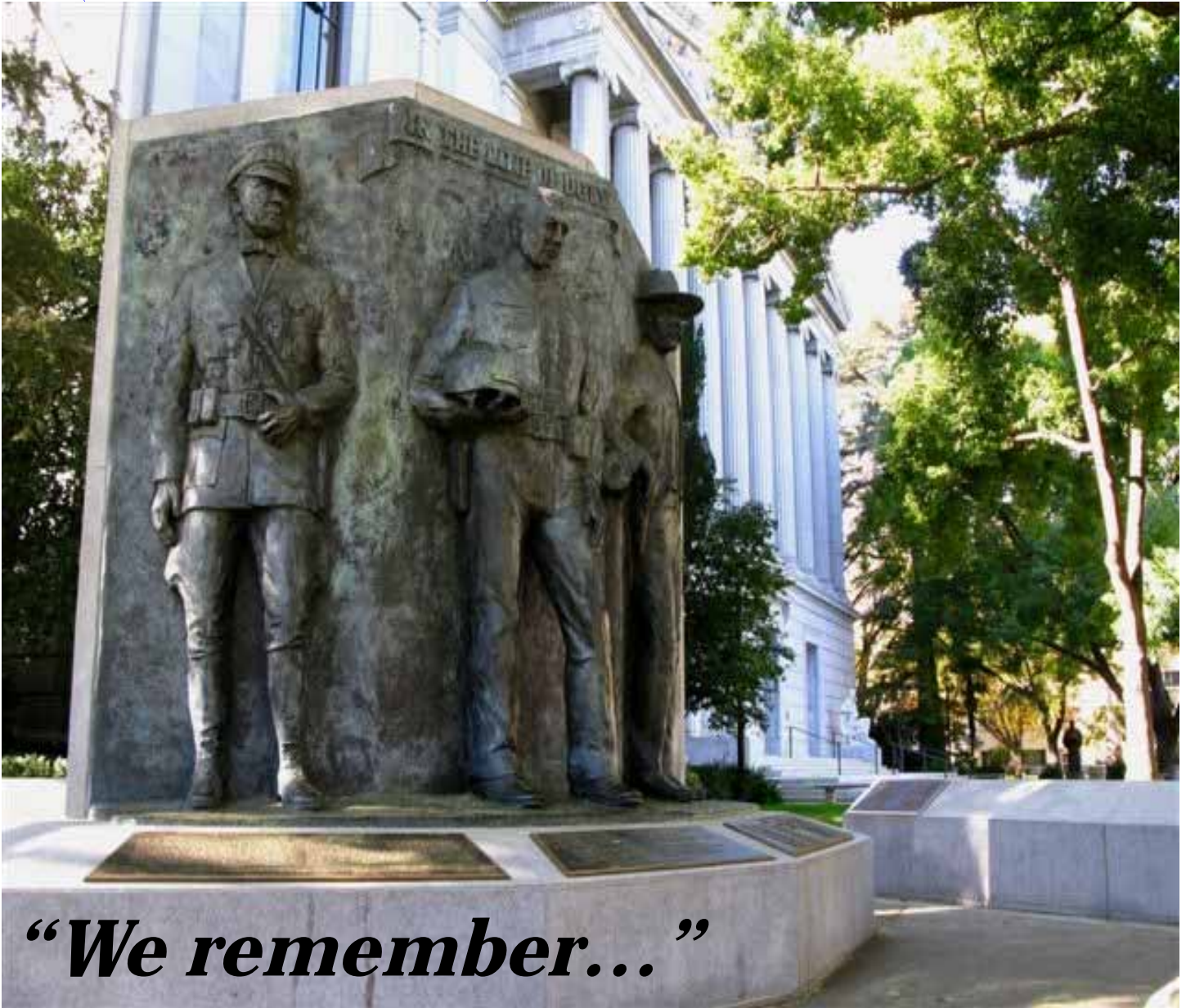
**YOLO COUNTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

2008 - 2009



**BIENNIAL
REPORT**

CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL, SACRAMENTO



“We remember...”

***Deputy Walter J. Leinberger, Yolo County Sheriff's Department
Officers Roy P. Blecher & William M. Freeman, CHP
Officer James Harry McKnight, West Sacramento Police Department
Officer Andrew T. Stevens, CHP
Deputy Jose Antonio (Tony) Diaz, Yolo County Sheriff's Department***

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY



Public safety is the top priority of the Yolo County District Attorney's Office. Over the last two years we have worked hard to keep Yolo County residents safe through tough but fair prosecutions and innovative crime prevention programs.

We have dramatically improved efficiency in the District Attorney's Office and the entire Yolo County criminal justice system. We put a higher percentage of dangerous felons behind bars, fine-tuned the charging of cases and significantly improved services to victims of crime. We did all of this despite across the board budget cuts.

We are especially proud of the fact that felony crime decreased in 2008 and 2009 in Yolo County while conviction rates climbed to their highest level in years.

We created a new division to catch and prosecute child sexual predators, pursued con-artists and identity thieves, especially those who target the elderly, and we have aggressively gone after environmental polluters and held them accountable.

Our "Fraud Alert" program helped local residents learn how to recognize scams and avoid being ripped off and our successful anti-truancy programs have helped keep kids in school and out of trouble.

Additionally, in order to protect our communities, we continued to crack down on gang and gun violence and reinforced our efforts to rid neighborhoods of drug dealers and other predators.

Finally, under the mantra "Justice Finds No Solace in Delay," the District Attorney's Office spearheaded the efforts to make the criminal justice system in Yolo County more efficient by aggressively demanding swift justice for all criminal cases in Yolo County. By dramatically increasing the number of cases taken to trial each year (100% increase in trials in 2008 and 2009) and consistently advocating for victims' speedy trial rights, the wheels of justice in Yolo County are turning more efficiently than ever before. We have delivered some much needed solace to the victims of crime waiting for justice and our expeditious prosecutions have helped eliminate jail overcrowding and saved valuable local taxpayer dollars.

There are many more innovative programs that we accomplished in 2008 and 2009 which are explained in more detail in the pages that follow. As you will see, we take our Mission Statement very seriously at the Yolo County District Attorney's Office and we live by our values every day. We continue to work with our community and all of law enforcement to make Yolo County safe.

Jeff W. Reisig
District Attorney

MISSION STATEMENT

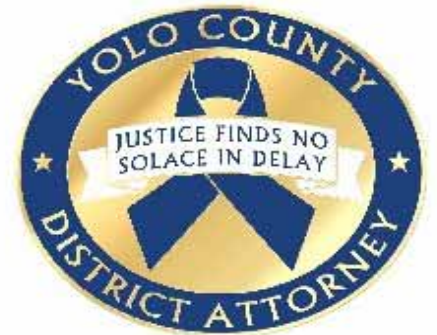
It is the mission of the Yolo County District Attorney's Office to serve the people of Yolo County by: seeking the truth; protecting the innocent; holding the guilty accountable; preserving the dignity of victims and their families; developing innovative and proactive partnerships and programs with law enforcement agencies, allied agencies, schools and communities; educating the public on crime prevention measures and the work of the District Attorney; and ensuring that justice is served while always maintaining the highest ethical standards.

Goals, Beliefs and Values

- To help improve the quality of life for all residents of Yolo County.
- To hire, train and support the most qualified staff to represent the Office of the District Attorney and serve the citizens of Yolo County.
- To assist other state and local law enforcement agencies in the investigation and prosecution of criminal cases.
- To provide assistance, aid and support to those who have been victimized by crime.
- To develop innovative and proactive approaches to public safety issues.
- To ensure that the public is educated on crime prevention measures and kept informed of the work done by the Yolo County District Attorney's Office.

Mission 2008-2009

- *Establish clear expectations for staff performance and provide relevant training in order to better serve our client.*
- *Expand outreach programs to educate the community and prevent crime.*
- *Establish an Internet Crimes and Safety Unit.*
- *Expand the countywide Gang Task Force.*
- *Establish a countywide Truancy Program.*
- *Establish a liaison program with our law enforcement partners.*
- *Expand our staffing and partnerships in Victim Services to provide better outreach to victims.*



DISTRICT ATTORNEY JEFF W. REISIG

Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig has spent most of his entire professional life in the trenches as a prosecutor. As a Yolo County prosecutor since 1997, he has prosecuted thousands of criminal cases ranging from murder, rape and robbery, to white collar crimes, crimes against children and the elderly, and gang crimes.

Reisig's colleagues voted him Yolo County Prosecutor of the Year for three consecutive years in 2003, 2004 and again in 2005.

Under his leadership and the mantra "Justice Finds No Solace in Delay," the District Attorney's Office spearheaded the effort to make the criminal justice system in Yolo County more efficient by aggressively demanding swift justice for all criminal cases in Yolo County. By dramatically increasing the number of cases taken to trial each year and consistently advocating for victims' speedy trial rights, the wheels of justice in Yolo County are turning more efficiently than ever before. He has delivered some much needed solace to the victims of crime waiting for justice and his expeditious prosecutions have helped eliminate jail overcrowding.

District Attorney Reisig is the recipient of numerous awards. California's largest victim advocacy association, Crime Victims United of California, recognized him as a key advocate in the fight for victims' rights and honored his efforts in helping to secure California's passage of Marsy's Law in November 2008, which amended the California Constitution to protect victims' rights. Reisig has also been honored for his work in combating domestic violence and his commitment to ending child truancy. Reisig is a member of the California District Attorneys Association and the National District Attorneys Association.

Education:

University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law - J.D. with Great Distinction and Order of the Coif (1995)

University of California at Davis - B.S. Agricultural and Managerial Economics (1991)



Yolo County District Attorney
(2007 to Present)

Assistant Chief Deputy DA
Yolo County
(2006 - 2007)

Deputy District Attorney
Yolo County
(1997 - 2006)

Private Civil Practice
(1996 - 1997)

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S DUTY



Victim Recognition Ceremony



The District Attorney is empowered by the California Constitution and the California Government Code to serve as the chief law enforcement officer of Yolo County. As the constitutional officer and public prosecutor representing "The People," the District Attorney is vested with the independent power to conduct prosecutions for public offenses, to detect crime and to investigate criminal activity. The District Attorney also has a duty to serve victims of crime. He also advises the Grand Jury in its investigations. By law, the District Attorney also sponsors and participates in programs to improve the administration of justice. In order to fulfill the duties of public prosecutor, the District Attorney employs and relies on the efforts of deputy district attorneys, investigators, and other professional staff.



Deputy District Attorneys
Michelle Serafin and Sara Jacobson

As Yolo County moves into the future, public safety will continue to be at the core of our quality of life. The District Attorney's Office is committed to meeting the new challenges of our growing communities with proactive and innovative approaches, as well as partnerships and programs designed to help keep us safe. This office is committed to a simple guiding principle:

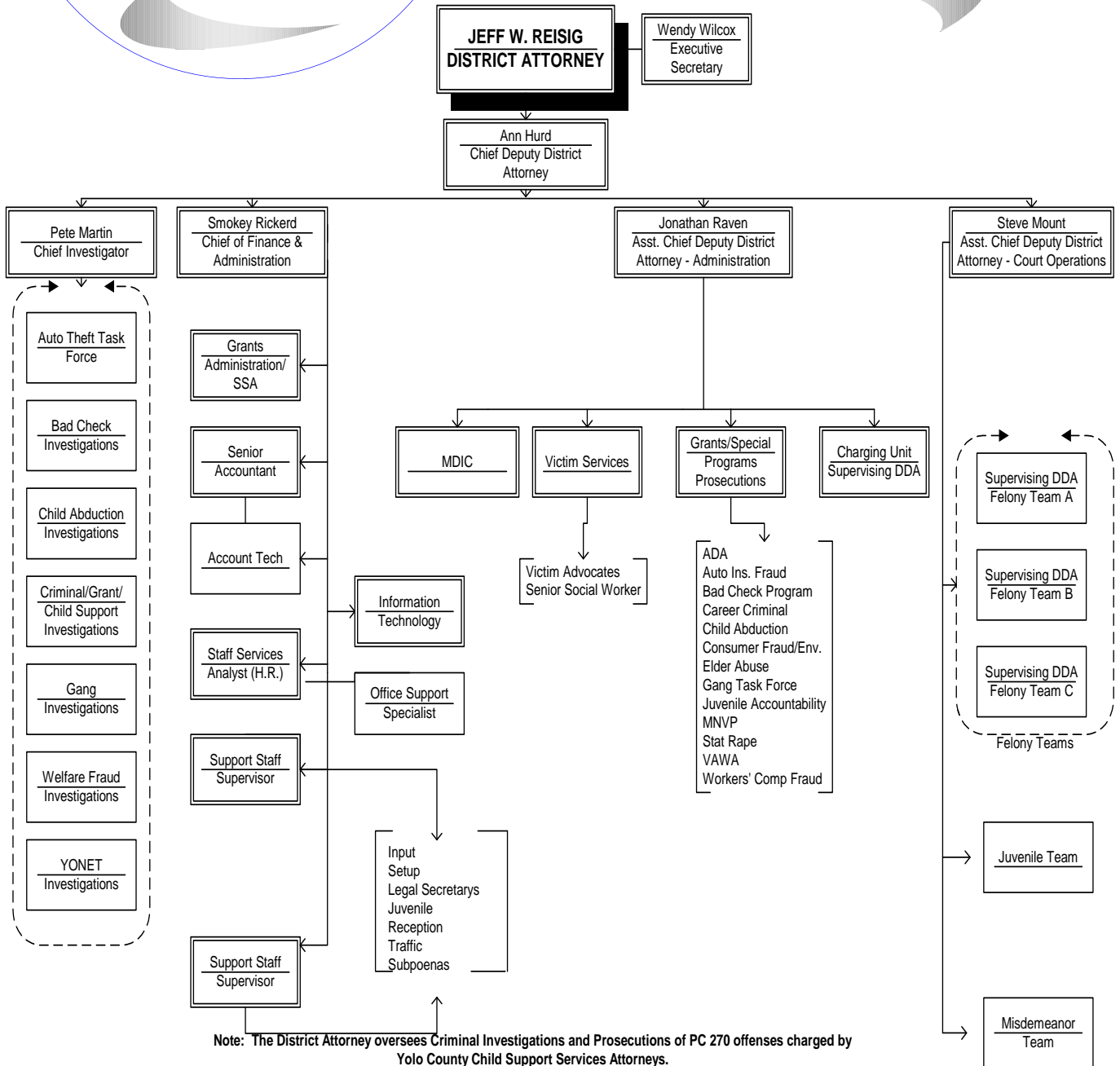
SEEK JUSTICE - DO JUSTICE



Deputy District Attorney Ryan Couzens,
Investigator Tanya Souza and
Enforcement Officer Dave Edwards

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Yolo County District Attorney



EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM



**Chief of Finance
& Administration
Smokey Rickerd**



**District Attorney
Jeff Reisig**



**Chief Investigator
Pete Martin**



**Assistant Chief
Deputy District Attorney
Jonathan Raven**



**Chief Deputy
District Attorney
Ann Hurd**



**Assistant Chief
Deputy District Attorney
Steve Mount**

EXECUTIVE ATTORNEY TEAM



**Chief Deputy District Attorney
Ann Hurd**

In 2008 and 2009, Ann Hurd served as the Chief Deputy District Attorney for Yolo County. The Chief Deputy District Attorney serves as the Acting District Attorney in the absence of the District Attorney. In addition, the Chief Deputy performs the following key functions for the District Attorney: oversight of all District Attorney operations including intake/charging and prosecutions; creates and implements policy with the District Attorney; counsel and liaison with the Grand Jury and all law enforcement agencies; approves and coordinates all extraditions; coordinates and oversees internal investigations and officer involved investigations; responds to California Public Records Act requests; Public Information Officer; liaison with the Attorney General and oversees People's appeals; reviews new/proposed legislation and advises District Attorney; and reviews all petitions for pardons and findings of factual innocence.

Ann Hurd served as an attorney and prosecutor for 24 years. She was promoted to Chief Deputy District Attorney in December of 2006 and retired on August 28, 2009. Hurd supervised the two Assistant Chief Deputy District Attorneys.

California District Attorneys Association Victims' Rights Committee. Mr. Raven oversees the Multi-Disciplinary Interview Center; the Consumer Fraud and Environmental Protection Division; Grants; Charging/Intake; Legal Interns; and Training.



**Asst. Chief
DDA
Jonathan
Raven**

Assistant Chief Deputy District Attorney, Jonathan Raven, was admitted to the State Bar in 1991. He has been an attorney for 19 years and a Deputy District Attorney for 13 years. Mr. Raven started in 1995 with the Yolo County District Attorney's Office, then worked at the Department of Justice for 4 years as a Deputy Attorney General. Mr. Raven returned to the Yolo County District Attorney's Office in 2007 as the Asst. Chief Deputy District Attorney. He is President of the Board of the Yolo County Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center (SADVC). He is a POST instructor, adjunct professor at UC Davis King Hall Law School and co-Chair of the



**Asst. Chief
DDA
Steve
Mount**

Assistant Chief Deputy District Attorney, Steve Mount, was admitted to the State Bar in 1988 and has been with the Yolo County District Attorney's office for 21 years. He was promoted to supervisor in 2005. He prosecuted cases in special grants and narcotics from 1994-1996, Domestic Violence from 2000-2004 & Statutory Rape 2004-2006. Mr. Mount was appointed Assistant Chief Deputy District Attorney in 2007. Mr. Mount is also on the Board of Directors of SADVC. Mr. Mount oversees the Juvenile Unit; Child Abduction Unit; and Court Operations. He has supervisory duties over the Deputy District Attorney Supervisors who oversee all trial deputies.

STATISTICS

Criminal Cases	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Misd Cases	5036	4686	4679	4897	4179
Misd Defendants	5285	4895	4873	5093	4340
Cases with Outcomes	3933	3642	3569	3458	2573
Misd Convictions	2610	2510	2642	2934	2268
Misd Non-convictions	1323	1132	927	524	305
% Misd Conviction Rate	66.40	68.92	74.03	84.85	88.15
Rejected Cases	238	232	356	505	743
%Rejected	4.51	4.72	7.07	9.35	15.10
Felony Cases	2856	2580	2220	1918	1667
Felony Defendants	3384	3155	2682	2308	2030
Cases with Outcomes	2442	2211	1661	1292	896
Felony Convictions	2096	1887	1456	1137	830
Prison Commitments *1	671	646	553	462	336
Total Prison Commitments *2	813	665	628	832	718
Felony Non-convictions	346	324	205	155	66
% Felony Conviction Rate	85.80	85.34	87.66	88.00	92.63
% Felony Conviction w/ Prison Commitment	32.01	34.23	37.98	40.63	40.48
% Total Prison Commitment Rate	28.47	25.78	28.29	43.38	43.07
Rejected Cases	147	142	321	306	417
%Rejected	4.90	5.22	12.63	13.76	20.01

This dataset includes Adult Criminal Cases only and does not include
Traffic or Juvenile Cases

*1 - This dataset includes prison commitments on cases filed in the same calendar year
- from DA Case Management System (CMS)

*2 - This dataset includes total prison commitments on all felony cases in calendar year
- from DA Case Management System (CMS)

Traffic Cases Which Went to Trial	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	1586	1533	1555	2535	2651

Juvenile Cases - 2009	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	95	227	213	380	314

DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

Deputy District Attorneys assist the Yolo County District Attorney with his prosecutorial duties. Depending on their experience level, deputy district attorneys are assigned to one of a number of units and/or special assignments in the office. The office has a misdemeanor division, a juvenile division, a felony division and several specialized prosecution programs that target child abuse, spousal abuse, elder abuse, drug dealers, gangs, career criminals, consumer fraud and environmental polluters. The deputy district attorneys also support education and prevention efforts through intervention and youth programs like the Yolo County Truancy Abatement Committee and the Anti-Tobacco Program.



Deputy District Attorneys Colin Anderson and Deanna Hays

In 2008, Yolo County filed a total of 10,178 cases.

In 2009, Yolo County filed a total of 9,420 cases.



Deputy District Attorneys Clinton Parish, Martha Holzapfel & Michelle Serafin and Investigator Bruce Naliboff

The misdemeanor division prosecutes over 4,000 cases a year. Those cases include crimes such as: driving under the influence, theft, vandalism, battery, prowling, fish and game violations and a plethora of other offenses.

The juvenile division handles criminal matters involving children under 18 years of age.

The general felony division handles approximately 2,000 cases a year, including: burglary, identity theft, embezzlement, grand theft, weapons offenses, robbery and the vast majority of other felony crimes.

INVESTIGATIONS

The Investigations Division assists the District Attorney in investigating crime and preparing cases for trial. During 2008—2009, the Chief Investigator was Peter Martin. The Division includes experienced investigators and enforcement officers. The Division's mission is to assist the District Attorney by:

- Conducting criminal investigations
- Locating uncooperative and reluctant witnesses
- Developing leads to locate additional witnesses and evidence
- Conducting interviews of witnesses and victims
- Preparing and serving search warrants for collection of additional evidence
- Serving arrest warrants and arresting suspects
- Ensuring the safety of witnesses and victims testifying in proceedings
- Preparing exhibits for presentation in court such as photo enlargements, crime scene diagrams, flow charts and Power Point presentations



Enforcement Officer Alicia Martinez



All of the investigators assigned to the unit are sworn peace officers, many of whom came from law enforcement agencies throughout California. These highly experienced investigators are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to assist the District Attorney and respond to investigative requests and law enforcement emergencies.

Investigators assist in many types of prosecutions and investigations, including: murder, sexual assault, governmental misconduct, public assistance fraud, as well as economic and computer crimes. Investigators also assist the Grand Jury and are assigned to the FBI regional Joint Terrorism Task Force.

2008 — 687 Investigations Completed

2009 — 1,664 Investigations Completed

ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL SERVICES DIVISION



Chief, Manager and Supervisors

This Division is responsible for managing the administrative and financial needs of the District Attorney's Office. Chief of Finance and Administration, Smokey Rickerd, along with six managers and supervisors, are responsible for the day-to-day oversight of fiscal matters, legal secretaries and other support staff.



Professional Staff

The District Attorney's Office currently operates on a budget that is approximately \$12 million, and is closely monitored by a fiscal team that includes a Senior Accountant and an Accounting Technician. These individuals conduct daily administrative activities and assist the Chief of Finance and District Attorney with budget preparation and the overall management of finances. A Staff Analyst also assists by supervising and managing fourteen grant programs. The fiscal staff is responsible for reporting and claims preparation of the department's state-mandated SB-90 programs, the management of several special revenue and trust funds, accounts payable & receivable, and purchasing.



Staff Meeting

The success of the District Attorney's Office would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of the legal secretaries and other members of our Professional Staff. This staff provides essential clerical and secretarial support to the attorneys, investigators, managers and supervisors. The Supervisors leading this special group of professionals are Heidi Delfin and Miriam Franco. The various sections that the Professional Staff are assigned to include: Set-Up, Input, Legal Secretaries, Records/File room, Juvenile and Subpoenas. The Professional Staff create the case files and manage them from intake to closing. In addition, they prepare and file court documents, obtain data, handle the receptionist's area, organize all adult and juvenile felony & misdemeanor calendars and prepare necessary exhibits associated with court proceedings.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND LAW SUITE

Craig Walker
I.T. Manager



The District Attorney Information Technology (DAIT) provides the highest quality technology-based services, in the most cost-effective manner, to facilitate the Yolo County District Attorney's mission. Its pledge is to serve the technological needs of the office and its staff. IT staff does so in a timely manner and works around staff schedules so that there is as little down time as possible.



The Award Winning LAWSuite was the brain child of our Departmental Information Technology Manager, Craig Walker. Working with the County Information Technology Division, Craig brought this office into the 21st Century with a new, comprehensive Case Management System. Launched on June 12, 2008, and after an aggressive design completion phase, LAWSuite is fully integrated with the Probation Department and also has a Yolo County Collection Services Component. LAWSuite also provides grant/special program data collection and statistical reporting.

LAWSuite is able to fully track and tabulate data for The Victim's Of Crime Act (VOCA). No other Case Management System or "Consumer Off The Shelf" software can accurately provide for the complex data counting methodologies that VOCA requires. After LAWSuite was demonstrated to her, California Emergency Management Agency representative Diana Mazuka, stated:

"I am very impressed by the LAW Suite data entry system. I came away from the meeting feeling a great sense of pride for your county. KUDOS to everyone who participated in the development of the LAW Suite data entry system."

*Diana Mazuka -
California Emergency Management Agency*

Additionally, several outside private vendors, upon receiving a demonstration of LAWSuite, have stated that the system is excellent and have recommended that we consider marketing it to other small counties.

In 2008, the LAWSuite Team was awarded the Teamwork Award by the County. Currently, Craig is again partnering with County-ITD in order to expand the capabilities of LAWSuite by image enabling the system in order for this office to meet its goal of becoming Paperless by 2011.

AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE FRAUD UNIT

This program was formed in 1994 from funding derived from a monthly surcharge on all California automobile insurance policies. The program is staffed by an investigator who is responsible for identifying, investigating and referring for prosecution all cases that involve fraudulent claims for automobile insurance benefits.

As the economy declines, the rate of automobile insurance fraud increases and there are more and more “creative” schemes.

For instance, one scam involves car owners who do not want to pay off their loan. They stage a car theft which might include setting the car on fire or driving the car into the river. When the insurance carrier determines the car to be a “total loss,” the carrier pays off the debt so the owner no longer has to pay off the loan.

Other scams involve false claims of burglary or “stripping” where the owner has carefully removed high cost items from the vehicle with the intent of submitting an insurance claim for their replacement. Proceeds from these fraudulent claims are oftentimes used to pay off the vehicle loan or to install high performance parts for racing.

Another common crime occurs where someone sustains a legitimate loss when the insurance policy has lapsed and the policy holder then re-establishes coverage and fraudulently post dates the time of loss.

IT IS ESTIMATED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE AND THE NATIONAL INSURANCE CRIME BUREAU THAT FRAUD COSTS AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE POLICY HOLDERS APPROXIMATELY \$300 PER POLICY PER YEAR.

OPERATION “COVER ME”

In 2008-2009 the Yolo County District Attorney’s Office entered into a joint investigation with the California Department of Insurance and four other Sacramento regional counties. The main focus of this operation was the post dating of claims that were sustained during a lapse in insurance to a date when the insurance had been reestablished. Also under investigation were claims where drivers were excluded from the policy and claims where misrepresentations were made about who was actually driving at the time of an accident. This operation resulted in six arrests in Yolo County alone.



CAREER CRIMINAL UNIT



San Quentin



This program was established in December, 2005 and is staffed by one vertical prosecutor with backup provided by the general criminal staff. Cases assigned to this unit involve individuals who have at least one conviction during the preceding ten years for a serious felony, or individuals who have received two convictions during the preceding ten years for other listed felony offenses.

Because of an aggressive approach to prosecution, this program has been very successful in obtaining a high rate of pleas to the most serious crime charged. The caseload for the project prosecutor is closely monitored to maintain the high degree of prosecutorial success with the least amount of trauma to the victims.

People v. Vasquez

On May 5, 2008, Anthony Vasquez, a Norteno gang member, made arrangements to buy marijuana from the victim. When the victim arrived to meet him for the sale, Vasquez grabbed the marijuana and shot the victim in the chest from the back seat. Vasquez then returned to a party he had been at earlier. The victim underwent hours of surgery to repair damage from the bullet that pierced his lung. Authorities looked for Vasquez for six months before finally finding him hiding in a local hotel room.

On July 4, 2009, a correctional officer at the jail found a letter written by Vasquez. The letter was smuggled out of the jail by an inmate who was being released from custody. In the letter Vasquez admitted shooting the victim and he also asked that some of his "homies" let witnesses know that they should not cooperate with authorities.

The jury found Vasquez guilty and the Court sentenced him to 38 years to life in prison.



SME Photographs - J23270
Trapped in Mattress



SME Photographs - J23270
Cards



SME Photographs - J23270
Clown Faces



SME Photographs - J23270
N/A21

CHECK PROSECUTION UNIT

The Check Program has served the merchants and citizens of Yolo County since 1989. The program has maintained a high success rate in the collection of restitution from bad check writers as a result of several factors:

- Accessibility of the Unit
- No Fee for services
- No minimum dollar amount
- Prompt attention given to referrals
- Aggressive prosecution



DA Enforcement Officer
Shelley Abbott

Yolo County merchants lose millions of dollars because of checks written on accounts with non-sufficient funds or closed accounts. Consumers share in these losses through higher prices. The District Attorney's Check Prosecution Unit tracks down the bad check writers at no cost to the victim for using the program, returns the money to the victim or merchant and deters future offenses through a diversion program and possible criminal prosecution.

This program is designed to help protect and seek justice for our communities by removing some of the investigation burden from local law enforcement agencies and providing new methods of obtaining restitution for victims while also educating offenders.

Full restitution is forwarded to the submitting merchants or victims and **NO FEES** are charged to the victims for services.



Yolo County District
Attorney Check
Prosecution Unit

Serving the
Community,
Obtaining
Restitution,
Educating Offenders

Bad Checks—Restitution Program 2008 - 2009

Year	Checks Reported	Loss Reported	Restitution	Cases Forwarded For Prosecution	Cases Filed
2008	1948	\$558,496.60	\$364,941.36	75	117
2009	1310	\$466,233.22	\$189,840.58	2	11

CHILD ABDUCTION UNIT

This unit was formed in 1996 and is staffed by one investigator, one enforcement officer and one prosecutor. The unit has been highly successful in returning children to their custodial parent. However, the services provided are more encompassing and most often require extensive legal transactions with other jurisdictions or countries. The unit's responsibilities include:

Obtaining compliance with court orders relating to child custody visitation.

Enforcement of child custody or visitation orders.

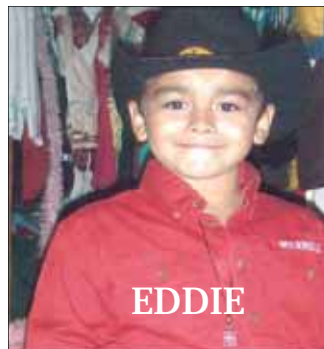
Recover children who have been abducted locally or taken across state lines or international borders.

Mediating or advising involved parties.

Locating missing or concealed offenders and children.

Assisting other jurisdictions or other countries.

The members of the unit are oftentimes called upon to travel great distances to return children to the custodial parent. In past years, members of the unit have travelled to, or had direct contact with, India, Mexico, Japan, the United Kingdom, Spain, Germany, Denmark, Russia, Nepal, New Zealand, Australia, Denmark and Chile, as well as many other jurisdictions within the continental United States.



During a one-year period
the Child Abduction Unit:
Opened 309 new cases
Recovered 46 children
Enforced 28 court orders

In May of 2007, young Eddie and his parents were travelling in Mexico where they were involved in a serious car accident. Unfortunately, his mother was killed and his father was hospitalized due to serious injuries which rendered him comatose. Eddie was also seriously hurt and sustained trauma to his head. Upon being advised of this young boy's plight, his maternal grandmother traveled to Mexico where the authorities released Eddie to her. She has now petitioned the courts and was granted guardianship of Eddie who now lives with her in Woodland. The Child Abduction Unit offered assistance in reuniting this boy with his family and assuring continued communication between him and his father who lives in Mexico.

CHILD SEXUAL ASSAULT UNIT

The Yolo County District Attorney's Child Sexual Assault Unit prosecutes sexual assaults of minors, statutory rape, child pornography and Internet predators. Because children are some of our most vulnerable victims, child sexual assault defendants receive some of the harshest punishments of any crime. These defendants commit violent and serious crimes and at times are subject to the one-strike sentencing law which mandates a life prison term.

The unit consists of a prosecutor and investigator who are experienced and highly trained. The prosecutor is well versed in the intricate legal issues involved in these cases and must also be able to work with experts specializing in the areas of the psychological effects on the child victims, sexual assault examinations, and computer forensics. Also, both the prosecutor and the investigator must be able to develop relationships of trust with the child victims whose lives have been turned upside down.

The unit works very closely with victim advocates for the District Attorney's Office and from the Yolo County Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center. Additionally, the unit works in partnership with the Multi-Disciplinary Interview Center to ensure that the children are not re-victimized and to limit the law enforcement interviews to one video-taped session conducted by a trained child interview specialist, with the team providing support and assistance. The prosecutor attends the interviews, charges the cases, and prosecutes them through trial and sentencing.

Over the past two years, the Child Sexual Assault Unit has prosecuted child predators and sent many of these predators to prison. The prison sentences have been a direct result of aggressive prosecution. Thorough investigation and case preparation has resulted in defendants pleading guilty and accepting lengthy prison sentences which has spared many of the child victims from having to face their abuser in court. Additionally, this unit has prosecuted child predators by going to jury trial, which has resulted in multiple convictions and lengthy prison sentences, some of which include life sentences in prison.



Deputy District Attorney
Tiffany Susz with child victim

People v. Chappale In 2008, a child predator was finally brought to justice after years of sexually assaulting children. This abuser, a convicted murderer, was brought from prison to face trial for sexually abusing his biological daughter and foster child when the girls were between the ages of 12 to 14 for a period of years. The jury convicted this predator for sexually abusing the girls and is now in prison for the rest of his life.

People v. Romano In 2009, a child molester was convicted for violating the 15 year-old daughter of a family friend. The victim's 10 year-old sister disclosed she had been molested by this man as well. The sisters also reported this molester showed them pornography of girls that appeared to be under the age of 18 before he molested them. This child molester was sentenced to prison for 16 years.

COMPUTER AND CELL PHONE FORENSICS



COMPUTER AND CELL PHONE FORENSIC LAB

This digital forensic program was formed during the latter part of 2008 and since that time has evolved into a full-fledged forensic lab with the capability of serving the entire Yolo County law enforcement community. Our newly staffed and equipped laboratory affords us the capability of providing forensic examinations of computers, cell phones and all other forms of digital equipment. The unit is staffed by two forensic experts and two qualified volunteers who offer services ranging from investigation to expert testimony. A close working relationship is maintained with the Sacramento Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC). In 2008 and 2009 the District Attorney was proud to be one of the 47 local, state and federal agencies that were members of the task force. The task force was formed in 1997 and since that time the alliance has been invaluable to Yolo County in the development of digital forensic capabilities. These cooperative efforts have provided additional resources and training in a field that was untapped in this area. Members of this task force have been more than generous in offering their assistance and experience when needed. The ICAC Task Force has provided us with invaluable guidance over the years and has been exemplary in the protection of children. In addition to crimes against children, our services include identity theft, gang-related crimes, intellectual property theft, software theft, video piracy and felony prosecution investigation and technical support.

High-Tech Crimes Unit Statistics

The newly formed High-Tech Crimes Unit has performed the following forensic examinations since July 1, 2009.

- Homicides: 2
- Identity Theft: 4
- Burglary: 2
- Gang related crimes: 15
- Drug related crimes: 20
- Internet Crimes against Children (including possession and distribution of Child Pornography): 15

These digital evidence forensic examinations included computers, cell phones, thumb drives, digital cameras and digital video recorders.

CONSUMER FRAUD & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

This unit is staffed by one full-time prosecutor and one enforcement officer who fulfill two very important functions on behalf of the citizens of Yolo County. They investigate reports of suspected fraud committed by individuals who seek to take advantage of the consumer through product misrepresentation, fraudulent activities or non-compliance with county code requirements. The unit also strives to protect the waterways and land of the county for future generations. The unit has filed cases both criminally and civilly and retains the option to proceed in the manner that best serves to safeguard the public.

This is a “hands on” unit with members ready to assist the County in endeavors such as landfill cleanups and to participate in state-wide actions that are directed to investigating businesses that may be in violation of the law.



“Slack fill” - where there is far more packaging than product in what you buy.



Hazardous Waste After A Fire



Illegal Dumping in Rural Yolo County

2008 Referrals = 553
* 2008 Payments = over \$200,000.00

2009 Referrals = 576
* 2009 Payments = over \$180,000.00

* Payments are deposited in a trust fund to be used only for investigating future consumer fraud or environmental cases.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROSECUTION TEAM



This Domestic Violence Prosecution Team has two specialized prosecutors. The team handles hundreds of cases each year and works very closely with victim advocates from the District Attorney's Office and the Yolo County Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center. Together, the team works with victims to develop the case, obtain protective orders, arrange for shelter, and relocate victims. The prosecutors consult with local law enforcement during the investigations, charge the cases, and conduct the trials and sentencing hearings.

Domestic Violence cases are some of the most challenging to prosecute. Due to the unique relationship the victim has with the abuser, often the victim opposes prosecution, refuses to cooperate, and may even attempt to derail the prosecution. As a result, it is imperative that the prosecutor and advocate have expertise in the psychological dynamics present in these cases which enable them to work with the victims and present their cases effectively to juries.

The District Attorney's goal in these cases is to "break the cycle of violence." Studies show that the children who are raised in homes where there is domestic violence often become perpetrators or victims of domestic violence when they become adults. Victims must be empowered to move forward. Perpetrators must be held accountable but also are required to attend a 52-week anger control course to give them insight and help them address issues which play a role in their criminal behavior.

In 2008-2009, the unit prosecuted one of its most challenging cases in *People v. Ibarra*. The defendant had a violent past and his wife was reluctant to follow through on her calls for help. He assaulted his wife on numerous occasions. However, due to the lack of cooperation of the victim, he was not prosecuted. In May, 2008, Ibarra again assaulted his wife. This time a neighbor witnessed part of the crime and called the police. At trial, the victim, her mother and the defendant all testified. The victim and her mother recanted by stating what they previously told law enforcement was not true. The jury did not believe these statements were credible and found the defendant guilty of all domestic violence charges.

REMEMBERING FALLEN OFFICERS

Walter J. Leinberger

On November 18, 1943, Deputy Sheriff Walter J. Leinberger, a popular deputy in the Broderick area (now known as West Sacramento) was shot to death outside a Bryte cabin where he had gone to arrest a man for burglary. Deputy Leinberger, accompanied by his wife Zetta, was attempting to arrest 38 year old Luis "Ironmouth" Balle. Balle burst out of the cabin firing his pistol, slaying Deputy Leinberger as his wife watched. Mrs. Leinberger, who had never fired a gun before, took her husband's weapon and fired six times at the gunman. She thought she missed him, as he was able to escape, but it was discovered that she wounded him twice in the arm. In less than twenty-four hours, authorities caught up with Balle in a Sacramento alley. During a shoot out with the lawmen, Balle sustained bullet wounds that later proved fatal. In November 1991, Yolo County law enforcement officials gathered to dedicate the Sheriff's new \$3.5 million minimum-security center to the memory of Walter J. Leinberger.

Roy P. Blecher and William M. Freeman

Officer Blecher, a veteran of 21 years with the CHP, and Officer Freeman, who had been with the CHP for 12 years, were brutally gunned down on Interstate-80 in the early morning hours of December 22, 1978 while attempting a routine traffic stop. Officer Blecher was found with his hands handcuffed behind his back and further evidence obtained from the crime scene indicated that there had been a struggle. Officer Blecher had been shot once in the head and Officer Freeman was shot six times. Luis V. Rodriguez was apprehended and tried for the double murder of these veteran officers. He received the death penalty which was later commuted to life in prison.

James Harry Mcknight

Officer James McKnight of the West Sacramento Police Department was shot in the head and killed on June 16, 1990 during the service of a search warrant. Officer McKnight had been a police officer for 15 years and was assigned to the Yolo Narcotics Enforcement Team at the time of his death. The suspect was also shot and killed during the incident. Officer McKnight had been a valued member of both agencies and made significant contributions to the reduction of drug activity throughout the county. Sadly, he left behind three young children.

Andrew T. Stevens

Andrew (Andy) Stevens was shot and killed instantly while making a routine traffic stop on November 17, 2005. The suspect subsequently fled the scene. However, neighborhood residents who witnessed the incident used Officer Stevens' radio to call for assistance. Three suspects were arrested with the assistance of several allied agencies. Stevens was 37 years old and joined the CHP in 1994. His senseless killing was a stunning blow to all who knew him, especially his fellow law enforcement officers. Brendt Volarvich, 22, was convicted of the murder of Officer Stevens in April of 2009 and was given the death penalty, the first death sentence in 30 years in Yolo County. Ironically, the last death sentence was issued in 1978 in a case involving the deaths of two California Highway officers who were shot down on Interstate 80.

REMEMBERING FALLEN OFFICERS

Jose Antonio (Tony) Diaz

Deputy Tony Diaz was shot and killed while making a traffic stop near the intersection of County Road 6 and County Road 99W at 2130 hours on June 15, 2008. After a five-minute high speed pursuit, the suspect exited his vehicle and opened fire on Deputy Diaz. Prior to succumbing to his wounds, Deputy Diaz was able to call for assistance and direct incoming deputies to his location. The suspect, who fled on foot after abandoning his infant in his car, was apprehended a short time later. He is still awaiting trial. Deputy Diaz had served with the Yolo County Sheriff's Department for 4 years.



Walter J. Leinberger



Roy P. Blecher



William M. Freeman



James Harry McKnight



Andrew T. Stevens



Jose Antonio (Tony) Diaz

ELDER PROTECTION UNIT

The District Attorney regularly issues “Fraud Alerts.” The fraud alerts are distributed to seniors to advise them of the latest scams and supply them with a list of available resources.

The Elder Protection Unit is staffed by one deputy district attorney, one investigator and one enforcement officer.

Although there is a common misconception that Florida has the highest elderly population, that distinction belongs to California.



The mission of this unit is to prevent or reduce elder and dependent adult abuse. Abuse can come in many forms ranging from fraudulent schemes and identity theft to physical abuse and neglect. The Elder Protection Unit hopes to accomplish our mission through a proactive program of educational outreach and aggressive investigation and prosecution.

There has been a dramatic increase in the population of people over 65 years of age. Unfortunately, this segment of society did not grow up in the “computer age” or in a time where identity theft and computer “phishing” schemes flourished. They are often “easy marks” and victims of schemes and other questionable business propositions. However, some of the most abhorrent forms of abuse are the cases of neglect, ill treatment or trickery of elders to gain access to their sometimes meager assets.

In an effort to protect our elder population, the Elder Protection Unit endeavors to reach as many seniors as possible to educate them of potential risks and to make them aware of the many resources available. Educational outreach also serves to make the public aware of elder and dependent adult abuse and the need to report suspected abuse.

CONDITIONAL EXAMINATIONS

In those cases in which the victim is too frail to testify in court, special arrangements are made to conduct what is referred to as a “Conditional Examination.” These examinations are conducted in the victim’s residence, care facility or other location in which the victim is comfortable. These examinations include the presence of a judge, bailiff, court reporter, the members of the Elder Abuse Unit, and the defense attorney. Testimony is video taped and is admissible in court proceedings.

GANGS

The Yolo County District Attorney is dedicated to removing dangerous gang members from Yolo County streets and neighborhoods. Studies have shown that a small percentage of offenders are responsible for a large percentage of serious and violent crimes. Gang members are often the worst of the worst.



Law enforcement has documented over 1000 gang members living and operating in Yolo County. The large contingent of gang members is based on several factors, including the fact that two major freeways bisect Yolo County. These roadways (Interstate 5 and Interstate 80) serve as major drug trafficking routes for the gangs that sell and transport narcotics all across the region and beyond. Our local communities serve as the home and “rest stop” for many major gangs.



The District Attorney has a dedicated team of experienced prosecutors who pursue and prosecute gang members utilizing the “Street Terrorism Enforcement Prevention Act” of the California Penal Code. In addition, the District Attorney is a member of the Yolo County Gang Task Force whose mission is to aggressively monitor, contact and arrest gang criminals.

Finally, the District Attorney has also committed resources to pursuing gang injunctions (court orders against gang members) in neighborhoods that have been hit hardest by gang crimes and violence. Studies have shown that gang injunctions are highly effective in reducing crime.



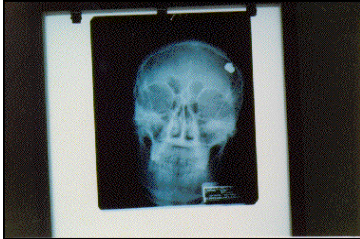
HOMICIDE

Homicides are some of the most serious crimes handled by the Yolo County District Attorney's Office. In 2008 and 2009 the office prosecuted numerous cases involving the unlawful killing of a human being.

HOMICIDES IN YOLO

2008 — 9 Homicide Cases

2009 — 4 Homicide Cases



Homicide cases are handled by experienced prosecutors who are specially assigned by the District Attorney. Modern forensic science has dramatically increased the complexity of such prosecutions.

In 2008, the District Attorney successfully prosecuted two men for the first degree murder of California Highway Patrol Officer Andy Stevens who was gunned down while making a routine traffic stop in Yolo County. California State Highway 16 has since been named in his honor.

The killer received the death penalty and his accomplice received life in prison.



No Body Homicide Cases

Homicide prosecutions are, by their very nature, inherently complex. That complexity is magnified when the prosecution proceeds without the victim's body ever being discovered. In such cases, the prosecution is often built on a mix of direct and circumstantial evidence that completes the puzzle of the crime.

In the last several years, the Yolo County District Attorney's Office successfully prosecuted two no body homicide cases, obtaining first degree murder convictions on both.

The families of these victims often suffer more by not being able to have a traditional funeral.



Stevens family at Highway 16 dedication ceremony

SIGNIFICANT HOMICIDE CASES

People v. Madrigal

Jose David Madrigal, 25, of Sacramento, pled guilty to a charge of First Degree Murder in the stabbing death of a 31-year old woman. The victim, Alexandra Cerda, had attended a party where Madrigal was also present. Ms. Cerda left the party at approximately 10 p.m. Shortly thereafter Mr. Madrigal and a companion drove to Ms. Cerda's location and offered her a ride. After picking her up, Madrigal began a vicious attack upon Ms. Cerda, stabbing her over 100 times with a knife which ended in her death. Madrigal and his friend then drove to Yolo County and dumped her body in some brush on the side of a rural road. The following day her body was discovered by a probation officer who happened to see her lying on the side of the road. Madrigal was sentenced to 25 years to life for First Degree Murder.

People v. Cunningham

The body of murdered University of California at Davis professor John Finley Scott was discovered near his residence nearly two years after his disappearance. Officials unearthed Scott's body after conferring with anthropologists and the District Attorney's Office. Professor Scott was 72 years old and is credited with inventing the mountain bike. He disappeared in June of 2006 and a police inquiry quickly turned into a murder investigation after officers found blood spatter inside Scott's home. His handyman, Charles Cunningham, a parolee, was discovered to have forged one of Scott's personal checks before Scott went missing. Cunningham quickly became a suspect and was subsequently charged. He was convicted of first degree murder and was sentenced to more than 30 years in prison despite the fact that authorities had not found Mr. Scott's body at the time of trial.

People v. Hernandez

On May 26, 2009, the Winters Police Department requested the assistance of the District Attorney's Office regarding the disappearance of Leticia Ramos. It was discovered that Ramos was missing when her employer contacted the Police Department requesting a welfare check. Family members reported that they had not seen or heard from Leticia for some time. Relatives told the police that her wallet, containing a substantial amount of cash and her identification, was left behind. They also reported that she was in the process of divorcing her husband Felipe Cruz Hernandez. Information received from witnesses and the circumstances regarding Leticia's disappearance assisted in developing probable cause for several search warrants. The search of the couple's apartment revealed massive bloodstains beneath the carpet, despite the fact that someone had attempted to thoroughly clean the area. Forensic experts testified that the bloodstains indicated a loss of blood that would surely prove fatal. Evidence collected provided sufficient probable cause to believe Ramos had been murdered in her apartment and to arrest Felipe Hernandez for the murder of his wife. He was tried by a jury less than six months after his arrest. Even though Leticia's body has not been found, the District Attorney's Office was able to prove without reasonable doubt that Felipe did in fact kill his wife. He was found guilty on December 22, 2009, and was sentenced to 15 years to life in prison. This case involved the assistance and cooperation of the Mexican Consulate, FBI, ICE, Homeland Security, TSA, US Marshal's Service, and many law enforcement agencies throughout the U.S.

LIFER UNIT

“District Attorney Jeff Reisig has been proactive in providing information and encouragement to victims’ families. He established the Yolo County District Attorney’s first Lifer Unit to ensure that family members are represented at these traumatic hearings. Our family is very grateful for the involvement and representation of the Yolo County District Attorney. The community of Davis and County of Yolo can rest assured that they have the highest quality personnel committed to their safety.”

*Mary and Don Baxstessor
Family Members of Murder Victim John Manville*



Supervising DDA Kelli Brooksby and
Asst. Chief DDA Jonathan Raven

When defendants are convicted in Yolo County of a serious crime they may receive a sentence of life. The term “life” is not synonymous with “in prison for the rest of the inmate’s life.” These defendants are entitled to a hearing before two commissioners who will then determine if the inmate should be released early. Hearings are scheduled at specific times and are attended by the inmate, the commissioners, representatives of the District Attorney’s Office and inmates counsel. The District Attorney representatives offer statements regarding the serious nature of the crime and the impact that the release of the inmate could have on society. Members of the victim’s immediate family are also allowed to attend these hearings and are given the opportunity to offer comments regarding the release of the inmate and the lasting impact that the crime has had upon their lives. En banc hearings must be held when a parole hearing results in a “split decision” regarding the prisoner’s release. The en banc hearings require that the entire eleven-member Board of Parole Commissioners be present.

2008 Stats

5 Lifer Hearings
0 En Banc
1 Parole Grant
13 More Years Behind Bars

2009 Stats

9 Lifer Hearings
2 En Banc
0 Parole Grants
44 More Years Behind Bars

“I can’t thank you enough for all of your efforts today, and always. Believe me, we are well aware that without all of your support and hard work we would be in a much different position today. Words just can’t express our gratitude that you never give up. I admit I am getting a little beaten down with all of this and you are an inspiration to us all. I know it is your job—but still, you do it fabulously.”

*Tracy Haynes
Sister of Murder Victim Robin Ehlman*

MISDEMEANOR TEAM

The Misdemeanor Division Prosecutors are responsible for all aspects of misdemeanor cases, including intake and charging all the way through contested hearings and jury trial. The misdemeanor attorneys work closely with each other and their lead attorney to ensure that the charging decisions they make are commensurate with the conduct investigated and reflect the public safety obligation of the office and the conscience of the community. They keep assertiveness and sympathy in balance when negotiating plea bargains, and effectively handle defense counsels' differing viewpoints by disagreeing without arguing. The misdemeanor attorneys perform a broad range of assignments with energy and drive, but ultimately, their passion is trying cases. When in trial, they display a true spirit of determination to obtain a just verdict for our client, the People of the State of California. They effectively persuade using strong arguments and display a high standard of professional conduct and values. The Misdemeanor Division attorneys are a talented group who demonstrate a strong personal commitment to the success of the team and the mission of the office.



District Attorney Jeff Reisig swearing in new Deputies Sulaiman Tokhi and Caely Fallini

Deputy District Attorney Rob Gorman providing instruction to his team at the Misdemeanor Training Academy



Misdemeanor team members (L-R) Corrie Roy, Sulaiman Tokhi, Caely Fallini and Alvina Tzang

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY INTERVIEW CENTER (MDIC)



Marie Flores, DA Enforcement Officer and
Juliana Kier, Child Interview Specialist

**ONE IN FOUR GIRLS
AND ONE IN SIX
BOYS WILL BE
SEXUALLY ABUSED
BEFORE THEIR
EIGHTEENTH
BIRTHDAY. LESS
THAN ONE VICTIM
IN TEN WILL
EVER TELL.**



Cameron Handley,
MDIC Director

The MDIC serves all child victims in Yolo County and prevents them from repeatedly disclosing their experience to a multitude of strangers. All services are performed by professionals who are trained to work with child victims of sexual assault. Services, including the forensic interview, are administered in a developmentally appropriate and forensically sound manner.

MDIC coordinates a multi-agency response to child abuse which reduces trauma to victims and increases child protection. MDIC also aids in the successful prosecution of offenders by providing a child-friendly center where the investigation of child abuse can be expedited and where victims and their families receive effective and immediate support.

Yolo MDIC has unique community cooperation and continuity between a multitude of agencies including the District Attorney's Office; local police agencies; Probation and the Sheriff's Department; Yolo County agencies including the Department of Employment and Social Services, Alcohol Drug and Mental Health, the Health Department and County Counsel; the Victim Services Division; and the Yolo County Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center. The program has been held out as a model for other counties who are developing MDIC programs in their communities.



Daisy,
MDIC's
Canine Child
Advocate



TOBACCO PROGRAM

DOING OUR PART TO KEEP YOUTH TOBACCO FREE

In a effort to prevent the sale of tobacco products to minors, the District Attorney's Office has organized sting operations throughout the County that identify businesses that illegally sell tobacco to minors. Citations are issued to the offending clerk and, if found guilty, that clerk can be fined up to \$200.00 per offense and the store can lose its privilege of selling tobacco for ten days.

The "sting" operations are organized and monitored by a District Attorney Investigator who recruits underage minors as decoys who attempt to purchase tobacco products at various establishments throughout the County. Even though the minors are sometimes asked to produce proof of age, their identification cards clearly show that they are underage. Clerks are either careless, choose to overlook the age factor or are not trained to properly check identification cards. For this reason, this office will supply vendors with pamphlets that are published by the Department of Motor Vehicles that clearly demonstrate how to determine the validity of an identification card.

These "sting" operations are funded entirely by the licensing fees collected from businesses that sell tobacco within the County.

- In 2008, 8 clerks were cited for selling Tobacco to a Minor. PC 308(a)
- In 2009, 10 clerks were cited for the same crime. Please note that one such business was cited a second time, which calls for a minimum of 90 days revocation of their tobacco retailer's license.



COUNTY OF YOLO
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
JEFF W. REISIG, DISTRICT ATTORNEY
301 SECOND STREET - WOODLAND, CALIFORNIA 95695 - 530.666.8180 - FAX
530.666.8185

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 25, 2009 **Contact:** Lt. Daniel J. Stroski
Phone: (530) 666-8380

TOBACCO STING RESULTS IN ARREST

(Woodland, CA) – August 25, 2009 Jeff Reisig, Yolo County District Attorney, announced that on August 22, 2009, a Grimes woman, working at Wayside Market, located at 9515 Locust St., Knights Landing, CA was arrested for selling tobacco to a sixteen year old under cover police decoy. Investigators from the Yolo County District Attorney's office continue to conduct sting operations, funded entirely by licensing fees collected from those businesses who wish to sell tobacco within the County.

During the operations, the District Attorney's Office use under age minors as decoys. The decoys are supervised by peace officers, and enter into tobacco selling establishments, for the purpose of purchasing tobacco. At 12:49 P.M., a sixteen year old decoy entered WAYSIDE MARKET and successfully purchased a single pack of cigarettes. The decoy handed his/her ID card after being requested. Despite the card showing that he/she didn't turn eighteen years old until 2011 the sale was allowed to occur.

Lt. Dan Stroski, who supervised the tobacco sting detail said: "This arrest marks the eighth since October of 2008. I really want to emphasize the need for employers to train their employees on how to check ID's and, to explain what the blue and red lines emphasize. It's not enough to merely tell the employees to check IDs, but you have to show them and provide them with the technology and knowledge to do their jobs."

In an effort to help those businesses who sell tobacco and who are licensed, the District Attorney's office is offering free pamphlets published by the Department of Motor Vehicles. The pamphlets will help employers demonstrate to their employees what an ID looks like, what's valid and what's not, and finally what the blue and red lines demonstrate. All of this for the express purpose of helping to eliminate the ability of minors to obtain tobacco products. Those licensed businesses may obtain pamphlets by sending a request and a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Lt. Daniel J Stroski
c/o Yolo County District Attorney's Office
301 Second Street
Woodland, CA 95695

The offending clerk was issued a citation and ordered to appear in court on September 30, 2009 at the Yolo County Superior Court. Should the clerk plea or be found guilty, she could receive a fine of up to \$200, and the store can lose their privilege of selling tobacco for ten days.



VICTIM SERVICES

"We made a commitment that we are going to shift the focus of the criminal justice system back to the victims where it belongs." Jeff Reisig, District Attorney

The District Attorney Victim Services (VS) Program was instituted in 1980. Staff members include a program coordinator, two victim advocates, one senior social worker, one legal secretary and two interns. VS staff advocate on behalf of victims and families of crime victims by helping them understand the court process and also by empowering them to handle the terrible atrocities that the crime has caused. Staff also participate in all community events that honor and support victims of crime and their families. To assure that each advocate provides the victim and victim's family with the most effective support, a Satisfaction Survey is distributed at the conclusion of the case. These surveys have provided a valuable tool in identifying the need for additional services providing us with a better understanding of the needs of victims. To serve the many Yolo County crime victims with limited staffing, the VS Division employs an outstanding and innovative volunteer program. College students assist VS staff with many aspects of the job.



VS staff L-R Linda Rodriguez, Jennifer Binger, Laura Valdes-Virgen, Estela Morales, Linda McCumber and Julia Hernandez-Hill



Six survivors of serious crimes bravely spoke at the Victim Recognition Ceremony held in April, 2009. Crimes included sexual assault, homicide and vehicular manslaughter.



DA Enforcement Officer Bill Fiegen's primary assignment is to locate victims for court. In 2009 he received a special award for demonstrating true humanitarianism. He always goes over and above in an effort to comfort victims of crime.

**Served in
2008-2009**

**1,362
Victims**

**646
Court
Appearances**

**19,524
Individual
Contacts**



WELFARE FRAUD

The District Attorney Investigates and Prosecutes Welfare Fraud

Common Types of Welfare Fraud are Not Reporting:

- A new job or a raise;
- Changes in the family, such as who lives in the home;
- When a person moves in or out of the home;
- Buying a new car or other vehicle

Department of Employment & Social Services Responsibilities (DESS):

Support the DA in providing information necessary in the investigation and prosecution of fraud.

2008 Referrals 553 Payments Over \$200,000

2009 Referrals 576 Payments Over \$180,000

DA Special Investigations Unit Responsibilities include:

- Ensure program integrity through client responsibility
- Investigate referrals of alleged criminal conduct
- Conduct early fraud investigation of applicant information
- Investigate electronic benefit transaction recipient and retailer fraud
- Resolve cases through disqualification agreements
- Serve outstanding arrest warrants on welfare fraud cases
- Provide courtroom testimony
- Respond to security alert requests by DESS staff
- Conduct homeless assistance investigations of housing applications
- Assist DESS with the identification of fraudulent documents



WORKERS' COMP FRAUD

**FRAUD IS NOT A VICTIMLESS CRIME.
FRAUD CAUSES YOU TO PAY MORE
FOR GOODS AND SERVICES.**



WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE FRAUD

Claimant Fraud

Employer Fraud

Medical/Legal Provider Fraud

Capping

Premium Fraud

The Workers' Comp Fraud Unit was established in 1994 and has worked closely with federal, state and local agencies to protect the consumers and employers of Yolo County and to ensure that the laws governing workers' compensation insurance are upheld and enforced. Staffing includes an investigator and prosecutors sufficient to handle complex criminal cases.

Y.O.U.R.A.T.

First of its kind, the **Yolo Unlicensed Rapid Apprehension Team (YOURAT)** was formed in 2005. The team represents the cooperative efforts of local and state agencies and addresses unlicensed contractors and uninsured employers in the construction field in an effort to protect Yolo county consumers.

- Contracting Without a License
- Fraudulent Use of Another Contractor's License
- Uninsured Employers

COLLABORATING AND NETWORKING TO EDUCATE

In recognition of National Fraud Awareness Month, the Yolo County Fraud Fair was organized in 2008 and has since become an annual event.



**YOURAT Officials at the
Fraud Fair 2008**

FRAUD FAIR 2008

Despite the 108 degree weather and the poor air quality as a result of wildfires, 171 people attended the first annual Yolo County Fraud Fair in July 2008. Federal, state and county agencies, law enforcement, fraud investigator associations and insurance companies were represented.

YOLO COUNTY NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT TEAM



Drug Seizures	2007	Street Value	2008	Street Value
Marijuana Plants	6,377	\$25,508,000	15,059	\$60,236,000
Bulk Marijuana	40,291 gr.	\$1,208,730	253,403 gr.	\$8,719,095
Methamphetamine	5,192.9 gr.	\$415,360	3,513.00 gr.	\$281,040
Cocaine	2,383 gr.	\$90,640	93,063.30 gr.	\$7,445,064
Ecstasy	3,521 du	\$70,420	26,629.00 du	\$532,580
Total Value of Drugs Seized in 2007		\$27,459,390		
Total Value of Drugs Seized in 2008		\$77,297,825		

The District Attorney's Office was instrumental in the development and finalization of the Child Endangerment Protocol for Yolo County. This protocol is closely followed in the removal of children from homes where there is illegal drug activity or they are exposed to dangerous precursors.

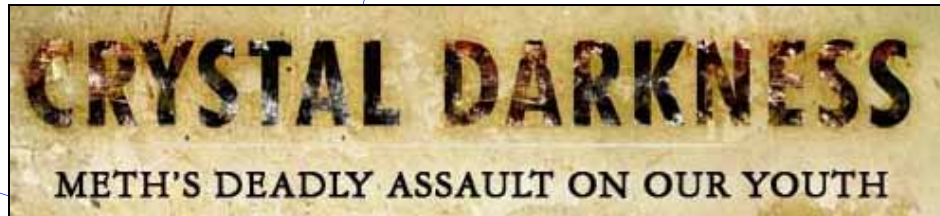
The Yolo County District Attorney's Office was one of the founding participating agencies of YONET when it was formed in 1981. This office has provided two full-time investigators and two enforcement officers to the task force over the years. Other county law enforcement agencies, the Probation Department, Sheriff's Office, California Highway Patrol and the Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement provide support in the form of personnel or monetary contributions, or both. The District Attorney's Office has supplied the clerical assistance and at least one full-time investigator to the task force over the years and contributes 1/7 of the YONET operating budget. We are proud to be a partner in this important endeavor to keep our streets and neighborhoods safe.

Yolo County has been deemed the "drug pipeline" because of the two major free-ways that transect the county, I-5 south to north and I-80 east to the west. Interdiction stops by the California Highway Patrol are frequent and a close partnership between YONET and the CHP prevent large quantities of drugs from being transported into or through Yolo County.

Man's Best Friend,
Dealer's Worst Foe!
Drug Sniffing Dog - Joey



CRYSTAL DARKNESS



In March of 2008 our community experienced the launch of a new prevention effort against the deadly drug methamphetamine. Television stations across the region simultaneously aired a 30-minute documentary called *Crystal Darkness*.



The program targeted youth and their parents, but the message was extended with passion and conviction to the entire community. Those not aware of the seriousness of the methamphetamine problem were shocked with images and stories delivered by young people who have gone through the dark and lonely depths of methamphetamine addiction. With heart wrenching and raw honesty, they spoke to their generation with an unforgettable message of warning, as well as the message of hope brought on by a drug-free life.

Thousands of viewers tuned in to watch this gripping documentary that was the result of a unique collaboration between local media, schools, law enforcement, recovery specialists, faith organizations and the business community.

Local volunteers, including many DA employees, worked the hotline, which took in over 1,000 calls in the hours after the broadcast. There were 263 service referrals and calls came in from 18 surrounding counties.

“Methamphetamine is a drug that destroys everyone and everything in its path.”

District Attorney, Jeff Reisig

Deputy District Attorney
Ryan Couzens working the
phones.



DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIAISON PROGRAM (DALP)

The mission of public safety requires a team effort. Together with our law enforcement partners, the Yolo County District Attorney will continue to *Seek Justice* and *Do Justice* for the residents of Yolo County.

The DALP program was formed in 2007 by District Attorney Jeff Reisig and is structured to closely follow the principles set forth in the National Prosecution Standards.

Each law enforcement agency, including the drug task force, is assigned a DALP team consisting of three to four prosecutors and one investigator. DALP teams are assigned work space at their respective agencies where they are present at least two hours per month. In addition to regularly scheduled “briefing sessions” between the DALP teams and the agencies, at least one training presentation per quarter is required. DALP team members act as liaison between their agency and the District Attorney’s Office and they are encouraged to actively participate in special ceremonies and other activities such as “ride-a-longs.”

Because the program encourages close working relationships and promotes good communication it has personalized the day-to-day interaction between agencies.



Sgt. Sergio Gutierrez
Winters Police Dept.
and Deputy District
Attorney Clinton Parish



DISTRICT ATTORNEY LEGAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



Asst. Chief DDA Jonathan Raven with interns (L-R) Anh Nguyen, Adam Guernsey, Benjamin Levy and Remy Goldsmith

District Attorney Jeff Reisig started the Legal Internship Program shortly after taking office in 2007. His mission was to create a formal program where law students would have an enjoyable, rewarding and educational experience and also provide invaluable legal support to his trial attorneys.

Interns are involved in a wide variety of cases, both misdemeanor and felony. The summer program begins with a two-day training and orientation. A day in the life of a typical intern involves drafting motions and memoranda of points and authorities, conducting research on complicated legal issues, and, if the intern is certified, arguing the People's position in the courtroom. Interns are also encouraged to observe ongoing trials to learn about the criminal justice system and gain better insight into what it is like to be a prosecutor. Ultimately, an intern may have the opportunity to conduct a jury trial in a misdemeanor case.

"Success for us is when the student leaves the office convinced that he or she wants to make a career as a prosecutor. And also, that he or she wants to do so at this office."

Jeff Reisig, Yolo County District Attorney

"The Yolo County District Attorney provides something distinctive in the internship program that few District Attorney offices do. Interns have the opportunity to be mentored by attorneys. I was mentored by a seasoned, experienced and skilled attorney. He was able to give me advice and suggestions on several motions and memos I drafted. As so many interns will attest, the Yolo County District Attorney's office is an invaluable life experience. I enjoyed every moment I was here and would recommend the internship program."

Megan Lee - Lincoln Law School

"I was immediately made to feel welcome into what you will find is a hardworking, but easily approachable group of Deputy District Attorneys. My internship with the Yolo County District Attorney's Office was very rewarding and provided me with lifelong contacts with great people. I had a great experience and would highly recommend this internship."

Kyle Muteff—McGeorge School of Law

"As a practicing deputy district attorney in another county, I am so grateful for all I learned as a legal intern at Yolo County and would encourage anyone considering prosecution as a career to apply. Yolo County is a truly unique office that should not be passed up!"

Kari McFadden—UC Davis King Hall School of Law

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S TRUANCY ABATEMENT PROGRAM

"Helping kids graduate and become successful adults"



The District Attorney's Truancy Abatement Program consists of three essential components:

1. The Mediation Program is an intervention program to try to return families to regular school attendance without going to court.
2. Prosecution of parents who fail to get their elementary /middle school aged children to school.
3. Prosecution of middle school and high school aged children who have excessive non-excused absences.

An essential part of a prosecutor's job is ensuring consequences and accountability of citizens. With the soaring number of dropouts in California, everyone must take greater collective responsibility for our troubled students. The Yolo County District Attorney's Office is committed to meeting this challenge with a proactive and innovative approach. The District Attorney works in conjunction with law enforcement agencies, schools and the community to build partnerships and develop programs designed to keep our cities safe. With the support of parents, teachers and policymakers we hope to build a safer and more prosperous tomorrow for our children and our community.

When District Attorney Jeff Reisig was sworn into office in January, 2007, he had a list of priorities. High on that list was creating a collaborative program to keep kids in school and give them the best possible chance to succeed in life. His theory was if we spend time with them now, we won't see them later. He created the Yolo County Truancy Abatement Committee (YTAC), a collaborative group chaired by the District Attorney and comprised of law enforcement, probation, principals, school district representatives, judges, school board members and community members. In just two years, Yolo County schools have reaped surprising benefits as attendance has increased.



Deputy District Attorney
Vita Mandalla with School Board
and Police Officials

"In Davis schools we have seen a remarkable increase in school attendance. District Attorney Jeff Reisig has shown outstanding leadership in establishing YTAC and dedicating resources to this community effort."

*Gina Daleiden, Trustee
Davis Joint Unified School District*

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S FOCUS ON COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

Mountain and Valley Marijuana Investigative Team (MAVMIT)

The District Attorney's Office is proud to be an active partner in this successful team. During a 17 month period the team generated:

- 154 felony arrests
- 121 search warrants served
- 397,780 marijuana plants eradicated
- 3,307.28 lbs. of processed marijuana confiscated
- 49 kilograms of cocaine HCL
- 15.9 lbs. of methamphetamine seized
- 79 firearms confiscated
- 18 assault rifles confiscated
- \$2,412,599 in currency confiscated
- \$3,000,000 property seized (estimation)

Sacramento County Automobile Theft Suppression (SACCATS)

A full-time District Attorney's Investigator is assigned to this task force to represent Yolo County and to form a partnership with Valley Division of the California Highway Patrol and the Sacramento County Probation Department. This alliance provides Yolo County with additional and the much needed resources to combat the increasing amount of automobile thefts. Formed in 1990, SACCATS has made 493 arrests during the period January, 2008, to December, 2009, and successfully returned 1,257 vehicles to their rightful owner.

Yolo County Gang Task Force

The Yolo County Gang Task Force was created in 2007 by the newly elected District Attorney. Active members include the Probation Department, Sheriff's Office, Davis Police Department, California Highway Patrol, California Board of Parole and the District Attorney's Office. The task force serves as the central point for gathering and recording statistics on gang membership and activity throughout the County. The task force is also present throughout the County and is ready to assist local law enforcement agencies in curtailing illegal gang activity within their jurisdiction. The task force also conducts independent investigations and arrests and closely monitors gang members that have been released from prison back into society.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S FOCUS ON COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

LIFE AND ANNUITY CONSUMER PROTECTION PROGRAM

PROTECTING OUR CITIZENS FROM SCAMS AND MISREPRESENTATION

One of the best forms of protection is knowledge.

1. The District Attorney's Office provides outreach presentations throughout the County and issues Press Releases that inform the citizens of the current scams and illegal practices.

One of the best deterrents to fraudulent activity is penalty.

2. The District Attorney's Office is committed to aggressively investigating and prosecuting fraud.

Unfortunately, insurance swindles and investment schemes have depleted the savings and the retirement funds of many citizens, leaving them with little or no reserve to cover their life span.

**Non-Existent or Illegally obtained Life Insurance Policies
Fake promissory Notes
Money Laundering Schemes.**




HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS

TEDDY BEAR ROOM




Donated by Crime Victims United of California to be used by victims of crime in Yolo County.



Bench press fundraiser for SADVC

By Daily Democrat Staff

Created: 04/18/2009 02:32:52 AM PDT



Pumping up District Attorney Jeff Reising, are, from left, Davis Athletic Club manager Ryan Beede, Probation Chief Don Meyer, Sheriff Ed Prieto, and Davis PD Chief Landy Black. (Courtesy)

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and registration has begun for the 3rd Annual My Strength Bench Press Competition hosted by The Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center, Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reising and the Davis Athletic Club on Saturday, May 2, at 10 a.m.

International Heavy Lifting Champion and special guest Mike Hara will be in attendance and demonstrating mastery of "man vs. metal" as he prepares for his next international competition. Local law enforcement leaders and other local dignitaries will also compete. There are a variety of classes and divisions for all ages and weight ranges. This event is open to the public; men and women ages 15 and up. Registration is \$25 for adults, \$10 for those under 18 and parental consent

is required. All proceeds from the event will go to the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center, a 501c3 charitable organization. SADVC educates more than 3,000 youth in schools throughout Yolo County each year about sexual assault and healthy vs. unhealthy behaviors and relationships.

Space is limited. Register today. For more information, contact Adrienne Monroe, Executive Director for the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center at 661-6336 or e-mail Adrienne.Monroe@sadvc.org

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Employees of the District Attorney's Office participated in the 5K "Fun Run" in support of the Sexual Assault Domestic Violence Center. It was a great day and the event was well attended. All proceeds were donated to the Center to provide much needed services to victims.



VOLUNTEERS IN PUBLIC SERVICE (VIPS)

“Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth.”

Shirley Chisholm



Goals and Objectives of the VIPS Program

The VIPS Program was instituted in July 2009 as a way to offer citizens the opportunity to assist the District Attorney in the performance of his duties. The program allows citizen volunteers to work in the District Attorney's Office in a variety of capacities. Volunteers can help complete many of the day-to-day tasks of the office while becoming more knowledgeable about the criminal justice system at the same time.

Volunteers are needed to:

- Help prosecutors prepare for trial
- Work with the Investigations Unit
- Help in the Multi-Disciplinary Interview Center
- Support management and administrative tasks
- Support the Information Technology Division
- Assist in the Child Abduction Unit
- Assist in the Victim Services Division
- Assist the Volunteer Coordinator
- Assist with special projects
- Assist with on-going programs

The District Attorney welcomes those interested in volunteering to serve the public.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

2008 - 2009 EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARD RECIPIENTS

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
Professional Staff	Lexie Kenyon	Brenda Harrill
Advocate	Laura Valdes-Virgin	Estela Morales
Enforcement Officer	Marie Flores	Angela Smith
Investigator	Rocky Apperson	Rogelio Orozco
Attorney	Colin Anderson	Tiffany Susz
Manager	Vicki Guerrero	Wendy Wilcox
Annie Busta Award *	Nancy Wheeler	Dave Edwards

* The Perpetual Annie Busta Award of Excellence goes to that special person who promotes harmony in our workplace. It is given in honor of Annie Busta, an outstanding employee who has worked in the Yolo County Superior Court and District Attorney's Office since 1968. Annie's positive outlook and presence are always appreciated by her peers and we are very fortunate to have the decades of experience that she brings to our office every day.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY QUICK FACTS

	2008 (2007/2008)	2009 (2008/2009)
Attorneys	36	35
Investigators and Enforcement Officers	33	30
Professional Staff (Support Personnel)	35	35
Total DA Employees	104	100
Felony Cases Filed	1,908	1,659
Misdemeanor Cases Filed	4,896	4,149
County Population Served	197,530	200,709
Cities Served (not including unincorporated areas)	4	4
Local Police Agencies Served	7	7
Total Budget	\$12,877,935	\$12,699,634

EDITORIAL AND DESIGN COMMITTEE

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