



DA Child Abuse Data FY 2015

(July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015)

DISTRICT: NORTHERN DISTRICT/MIDDLESEX

Child Abuse/Neglect Referrals* (per child)	1430
Referrals Closed without Prosecution	1053
Criminal Cases Initiated (per defendant)	216
Criminal Cases Disposed <u>with</u> Conviction**	203
Criminal Cases Disposed <u>without</u> Conviction***	125

**Referrals = reports of child abuse/neglect received from ANY source.*

***Conviction = disposition of guilty plea, guilty verdict, admission to sufficient facts or pretrial probation on any count or charge.*

****Without Conviction = disposition of not guilty, nolle prosequi or dismissal.*

List principal reasons not to prosecute:

Family Unsupportive of Prosecution
 No Case Jurisdiction
 Insufficient Disclosure
 Insufficient Evidence

List resources that would have assisted with investigations and prosecutions:

Increased funding to retain and expand staff is needed. A specialized team of experienced prosecutors, advocates, interviewers and administrative support is required for these unique and time sensitive investigations and prosecutions.
 Increased funding for professional development and support of prosecutors, advocates, investigators and mandated reporters.



DA Child Abuse Data FY 2016

(July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016)

DISTRICT: NORTHERN DISTRICT/MIDDLESEX

Child Abuse/Neglect Referrals* (per child)	1412
Referrals Closed without Prosecution	1170
Criminal Cases Initiated (per defendant)	207
Criminal Cases Disposed <u>with</u> Conviction**	152
Criminal Cases Disposed <u>without</u> Conviction***	158

**Referrals = reports of child abuse/neglect received from ANY source.*

***Conviction = disposition of guilty plea, guilty verdict, admission to sufficient facts or pretrial probation on any count or charge.*

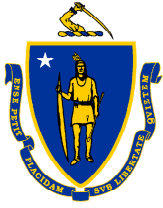
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MARIAN T. RYAN
 DISTRICT ATTORNEY

EXECUTIVE

- ADMINISTRATION
- COMMUNICATIONS
- INTERVENTION & PREVENTION PROGRAMS
- PUBLIC POLICY
- LEGISLATION
- VICTIM WITNESS BUREAU

TRIAL TEAMS

- CAMBRIDGE REGION SUPERIOR COURT
- MALDEN REGION SUPERIOR COURT
- WOBURN DISTRICT COURT

SPECIALTY UNITS

- APPEALS & TRAINING BUREAU
- CYBER PROTECTION PROGRAM
- FAMILY PROTECTION BUREAU
- CHILD PROTECTION UNIT
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT
- ELDER/DISABLED UNIT
- SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT (SIU)

STATE POLICE DETECTIVES

- COMPUTER FORENSICS
- HOMICIDE
- SIU

REGIONAL OFFICES

- CAMBRIDGE
- FRAMINGHAM
- LOWELL

DISTRICT COURT OFFICES

- AYER
- CAMBRIDGE
- CONCORD
- FRAMINGHAM
- LOWELL
- MALDEN
- MARLBOROUGH
- NEWTON
- SOMERVILLE
- WALTHAM
- WOBURN



September 28, 2016

Christopher Marino
 Budget Analyst
 Office of Senator Karen Spilka, Chairwoman
 Senate Committee on Ways and Means
 State House, Room 212
 Boston MA 02133

Kathryn Kendall
 Office of Representative Brian Dempsey, Chairman
 House Committee on Ways and Means
 State House, Room 243
 Boston MA 02133

RE: FY2017 Middlesex (Northern) District Attorney's Office Notice pursuant to MGL c. 94C §47 (d), "...use of the monies in the (Forfeiture) trust fund for the purposes of drug rehabilitation, drug education..."

Dear Christopher and Kathryn:

Pursuant to the filing requirement of MGL c. 94C §47 (d), "...each district attorneyshall file an annual report with the house and senate committees on ways and means on the use of the monies in the (Forfeiture) trust fund for the purposes of drug rehabilitation, drug education , and other anti-drug or neighborhood crime watch programs."

In FY2016 the MDAO continued its tradition of contributing a portion of these funds to the following programs focused on drug education and anti-drug events:

- **Middlesex Partnership for Youth, Inc., (MPY)** - MPY is a private nonprofit organization that has over 25 years' experience in collaborating with the MDAO, educators, public safety personnel, community leaders, mental health professionals and others. In FY16, the MDAO's \$20,000 contribution helped fund key intervention and prevention training for its member school districts and their community partners. Specifically, the MDAO partnered with MPY to co-sponsor a Public Service Announcement and Poster Project titled,

“Write the Story You Want to Tell”; an effort to teach teens to make good decisions that promote healthy, substance-free relationships.

- Year Three of Program to Provide Stipends for Substance Free Post – Prom, Post-Graduation or Other End of the Year Events – in partnership with the School Superintendents of the 54 communities of Middlesex County, District Attorney Ryan offered \$500 stipends to any interested Middlesex School District that certified that these funds would be used to support a substance free school based event during the spring season. As has been well documented, the prom and graduation season is a particularly important time to reaffirm the message to young people regarding safe behavior and safe choices, especially with regard to drug and alcohol decisions. This is an important extension of the safe prom and graduation letter that the District Attorney and School Superintendent co-sign and send to all parents/guardians of junior and senior high school student in Middlesex County. In FY2016, the MDAO contributed \$9,500 for this purpose.
- Provide Community Based Unused Prescription Drug Collection Lock Boxes – In partnership with the Police Chiefs of the 54 cities and towns in Middlesex County, the MDAO purchased a drug collection drop box for any police department that requested one. In FY2016, the MDAO provided one to Newton at a cost of \$995.

The MDAO recognizes the significant benefit that can be provided by contributing forfeiture trust fund dollars to programs and initiatives that are focused on drug rehabilitation, education and other anti-drug programs.

The MDAO is pleased to have the opportunity to use some of its state forfeiture funds in a manner that furthers its partnership with local communities and provides the ability to provide a direct impact to young people. We hope to continue to be able to provide funding to these deserving programs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 781-897-8456.

Sincerely,

Regina Scalley
Chief Financial Officer
Office of the Middlesex District Attorney

Cc: District Attorney Marian Ryan, Middlesex County
Steve Loughlin, First Assistant District Attorney, MDAO
Matt Demerle, Fiscal Policy Analyst, ANF



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- WOBURN



February 6, 2017

Christopher Marino
Office of Senator Karen Spilka, Chairwoman
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State House, Room 212
Boston, MA 02133

Taylor Shepherd
Budget Analyst
Office of Representative Brian Dempsey, Chairman
House Committee on Ways and Means
State House, Room 251
Boston, MA 02133

RE: FY 2016 Middlesex (Northern) District Attorney's Office
Report to the Senate and House Ways and Means Committees
Regarding the CY 2016 Community Based Juvenile Justice Program

Dear Mr. Marino and Ms. Shepherd:

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 12, §32 [each] district attorney, "... shall submit an annual report on each program, including statistics and findings, to (the) House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means...."

On behalf of the Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan's Office, please accept this filing which serves as a summary of the Community Based Justice (CBJ) program activities for the 2016 calendar year.

The Middlesex District Attorney's Office (MDAO) continues to cultivate and maintain effective relationships with numerous local institutions that work daily with at-risk youth to intervene in their lives, prevent their involvement in criminal matters, and divert and remediate when they make bad choices that impact schools, communities and others. Through frequent CBJ meetings, our regular Community Youth Development Collaborative Meetings, the MDAO juvenile diversion program, the Division of Community Partnerships, and involvement with

Middlesex Partnerships for Youth, we have created a comprehensive system to focus on the youth population of Middlesex County and to assist schools in keeping students safe by providing information about court involved youth, training, and crime prevention information and support.

CBJ programs are a critical tool that allows partnering agencies to collaborate on efforts to address youth violence and school safety. The mission of CBJ is to work proactively, collaboratively and consistently with schools, law enforcement officials, social service agencies, probation representatives, court representatives, and where appropriate, Department of Youth Services staff, Department of Children & Families staff, and Department of Mental Health staff to promote public safety and social responsibility among school-aged children.

CBJ Meetings

Approximately **forty** times each month in various communities across the county, prosecutors meet with CBJ partners to collaborate on intervention and prevention initiatives that focus on preventing violence among middle and high school aged youth. In addition to participating personally in some meetings herself, the District Attorney has dedicated the resources of over fifty prosecutors to the CBJ program. Each multi-disciplinary CBJ meeting includes a team of our prosecutors, one from the juvenile court and one from the district court that services that community. Through this collaboration, prosecutors become familiar with the character of each city or town, focusing on the trends of violence, drug use, gang involvement, cybercrimes and other criminal activities particular to that community.

Information learned in the weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or bi-monthly CBJ meetings is used for several purposes. The information learned as it pertains to specific individuals assists the Assistant District Attorneys (ADAs) in crafting disposition recommendations that are informed by school and police input. Importantly, youth-specific information provided to the school by MDAO and law enforcement assists the school and police in determining which students are court-involved, at-risk, or may pose a risk to others. On a larger scale, the CBJ meetings provide particularized data that can be extrapolated into youth community and county-wide trends. For example, juvenile and district court prosecutors summarize the trends and topics that arise within each of the CBJ meetings. This information is then utilized to inform the allocation of resources and efforts around prevention and education initiatives. These meetings also provide a forum to address general questions from the attendees such as obligations pursuant to G. L. Ch. 119, 51A and provide a forum to educate the group on current trends such as the significance of signs, symbols, and clothing that identify gang-affiliated youth and the steps that administrators could take in response.

Youth who are court involved have their cases handled by ADAs who attend the CBJ meeting in their town or city so that ADAs view the cases and their potential community impact in the fullest way possible. A prosecutor's involvement with the youth's community provides a knowledge base to propose individualized sanctions that can deter the offender from further criminal involvement. This focus also provides meeting attendees with pertinent

information on all juvenile and young adult cases that impact the school and community, helping the schools fulfill their statutory mandate under General Laws Chapter 71, §37H and 37 H1/2, to keep children safe.

Community Youth Development Collaboratives

This year MDAO has continued the practice of regular Community Youth Development Collaborative Meetings in the City of Lowell and the Town of Framingham. The mission of the Community Youth Development Collaborations [CYDC] is to bring together a larger group of community stake holders, which expands beyond the partnerships anticipated by CBJ, for larger-scale, community change aimed at the improvement of youth services. The CYDCs first identify the current needs of youth within the community, and then create partnerships between public and private industry community stake-holders targeted at meeting the identified needs.

Participants in these Collaborations include the city or town manager, city councilors town selectpersons, the police chief and officers, school superintendents and principals, area university and college representatives, community service care providers, and MDAO employees. Examples of the product of such collaborations have been applications for and the receipt of funding from state and federal grantors to community service providers, partnerships with private industry donors to provide funding targeted at community needs, and reliance upon the analysis and expertise of professors and graduate students within local universities and colleges to interpret crime statistic data and to generate models for social improvement.

Substance Use Disorders and Related Crime Prevention Initiatives

As information ascertained from CBJ meetings in the Lowell area underscored a trend of opioid addiction and abuse of prescription medication, District Attorney Ryan has worked with community partners in the Lowell region to respond to these concerns about increased youth and young adult substance abuse, addiction and over-dose fatality. Beginning in calendar year 2012, District Attorney Ryan, then General Counsel to the District Attorney, spearheaded the Lowell **Opioid** Task Force, aimed at uniting community stakeholders to address opioid addiction in the greater Lowell youth and young adult community. The aim of the group, which District Attorney Ryan continues to chair, is to mobilize resources and develop a comprehensive approach to address drug misuse and abuse, involving law enforcement, fire and EMS, the medical community, local high schools, colleges and universities, and area service providers.

The Opioid Task Force is a unified approach among the MDAO, the Lowell Police Department, Lowell General Hospital and other area stakeholders. Task Force meetings foster collaboration to ensure the sharing of information, the maximization of resources, and the identification of areas for legislative action, community-based programs and integrated public policy. From this model, District Attorney Ryan created and presides over two additional opioid task forces, which meet monthly in the Mystic Valley (Eastern Middlesex)

and Metro West (Central South Middlesex) areas of the county. Both task forces, the most recent having been launched last May, were developed, in part, out of conversations that began at CBJ meetings.

In 2013, District Attorney Ryan engaged the Administrative Office of the Trial Courts as well as area health care and service providers to work toward the establishment of a **Drug Court session** in the Lowell District Court. District Attorney Ryan worked with the Presiding Justices of the Lowell District Court and the Lynn District Court Drug Court session to provide Lowell District Court partners an opportunity to view a successful Drug Court in action.

In June of 2014, the Lowell District Court Drug Court was launched. The drug court session is held every Tuesday at 2pm at the Lowell District Court with Judge Thomas Brennan presiding. Prior to the session commencing each week, the drug court team, including judges, defense attorneys, assistant district attorneys, probation officers, police officers and clinicians, meets at 1pm to prepare for the upcoming session. In order to graduate from the Lowell Drug Court, participants must complete four phases. This trajectory is approximately 18 months. As of February 2017, ten entrants have graduated. Four of those ten are between the ages of 18 and 25.

Middlesex Juvenile and Young Adult Diversion Programs

The Middlesex Juvenile and Young Adult Diversion Programs are creative and progressive programs which offer an alternative to formal prosecution in the juvenile and district court system to certain eligible young offenders. The diversion program is a *pre-arraignment* model designed to protect eligible young offenders from having a criminal record. The diversion program allows the youth the opportunity to participate in remedial programming, attend counseling and/or perform community service in lieu of prosecution. The goal is to address the root causes of youthful criminal behavior and to work with the youth to make better choices while also minimizing any life altering negative consequences. The diversion program seeks to treat youths, not as criminals, but as children in need of aid, encouragement and guidance.

Under the model, prior to arraignment, the police or court prosecutors refer diversion eligible cases to the Diversion Director for initial review. The Director investigates the case and seeks input from all relevant parties including any victims. The Director assimilates all input and ultimately determines diversion eligibility and terms. The assigned juvenile ADA then receives input from the CBJ participants on suggested terms and conditions of the juvenile's diversion contract, and when a victim is involved, contact is made to receive victim input. It is through our collaboration with the police and the other CBJ partners that the MDAO is able to identify those youth who do not currently pose a risk to schools or community and who may benefit from this intervention process to prevent further criminal involvement.

Once accepted into the program, and after a confidential intake meeting with the youth and their guardian(s), an individualized diversion plan is formulated. The possible diversion conditions are innumerable but typically youth are given the opportunity to complete a remedial program and/or engage in counseling to address issues related to the offense committed and underlying causes of their criminal behavior. Additionally, diversion participants are required to engage in community service, write letters of apology, when appropriate, and to author a reflective essay about the incident and the diversion experience. If the youth satisfies all of the requirements of diversion, there will be no further proceedings in the criminal justice system related to the matter. This program allows participants to compensate for their mistakes, avoid recidivism, and be provided a road map to a successful future without having a criminal board of probation record that may have long lasting adverse effect on the youth's entry into future employment or academic opportunities.

In calendar year 2016, the Diversion Team screened 422 juveniles for diversion and of these cases screened for diversion, 348 juveniles were accepted into the program. Each of these diversion cases is overseen from in-take through conclusion by the Diversion Team. The diversion programs are also sustained by the on-going efforts of the Director of District Courts and seven juvenile District Court ADAs.

In 2016, the MDAO introduced the Middlesex Young Adult Diversion Program (MYADP) available to eligible youths between the ages of 17 and 21. The MYADP was piloted in in Malden District Court on May 1, 2016. On July 7, 2016, the MYADP was expanded countywide. The program goals are identical to those of the MJDP while expanding the outreach of the MDAO diversion program to eligible young adults under 21 years of age. In the calendar year of 2016, the Diversion Team screened 81 young adults for diversion and of these cases screened for diversion, 56 were accepted into the program. The expansion of the diversion program into the district courts has presented a significant resource challenge to the MDAO especially in terms of staffing. With the addition of the MYADP, the diversion staff is required to cover not only the 4 juvenile courts but each of the twelve district courts. Additionally, the increasing diversion caseload (395 referrals in 2015 to 503 referrals in 2016) may require additional diversion case managers to maintain the high quality of the program. Despite these increasing resource demands, the MDAO considers diversion a critical component of our overall prevention efforts.

On an on-going basis, the Diversion Director and Case Manager engage in community outreach to collaborate with existing and new community partnerships with programs that offer services such as mental health counseling, drug addiction services, and youth employment training to generate locally accessible options for diversion conditions. Additionally, the Diversion Director and Case Manager regularly engage in community outreach to educate schools, police and other youth involved agencies about the opportunities offered by diversion program.

The Diversion Director continues to work directly with the MDAO Director of Information Technology to create a diversion case management tracking system that will generate reliable statistics about the diversion program. This diversion case tracking system

will supply information to form the basis for data-driven assessments of the efficacy of the MJDP and its use of community partners, including an analysis of recidivism after diversion as well as an exploration of any corollary existing between MDJP and Juvenile Court statistics. The success of the MJDP and certainly the MYADP depend on our ability to continue to staff this worthwhile initiative. Should the office be forced to absorb budget cuts there would be concern over whether the MDJP and MYADP could continue on this trajectory of law enforcement, school and community engagement across Middlesex County.

Drug Diversion and Treatment Program in Greater Lowell

On November 30, 2016, the MDAO announced the launch of the first pre-arraignment adult drug diversion and treatment program in Middlesex County. This one year pilot program assists communities served by the Lowell District Court.

This program is targeted to provide critical intervention to individuals with substance use disorders at the earliest point in their intersection with the criminal justice system. Lowell House, Inc. has agreed to provide mental health and substance use disorder treatment to program participants for one year.

Eligible candidates must be charged with a possessory drug offense. In some circumstances, other offenses may be considered if the conduct was committed to support substance abuse/ habits. Individuals charged with serious offenses, including violent crimes, will not be eligible. Eligible participants will be identified by the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, probation department, local police departments and /or defense counsel.

This model builds off MDAO's collaborative approach to addressing substance abuse in our communities. By bringing multiple organizations to the table to help identify participants for this program, we are able to get more people into treatment programs. The goal of the program is to provide a psycho-educational experience related to alcohol and drug use and its effect on participant's life. By raising awareness and influencing behavioral changes, it is the ultimate goal of the program to lower participants risk for any future substance related problems including related criminal activity.

The State Police from MDAO responded to 47 fatal overdoses in Lowell in 2016. Piloting this program in Lowell will have a meaningful impact as this region has been one of the hardest hit by the opioid epidemic.

Restorative Justice

District Attorney Ryan continues to be committed to utilizing Restorative Justice partnerships to further the goals of intervening in the lives as at-risk youth to prevent crime, reduce juvenile delinquency, and to provide youth with opportunities for positive change. In Calendar Year 2016, District Attorney Ryan partnered with both Communities for Restorative Justice (C4RJ) of Concord and Our RJ of Lowell to expand the opportunities for

restorative justice practices to be utilized throughout the county. The programs have been welcomed by police and schools alike and participants largely report a substantive learning experience beyond what they had expected of the court experience. The CBJ groups also are generally very supportive of restorative justice practices and are very interested in using the CBJ forum to share information in best practices and outcomes.

Information sessions and trainings about restorative justice practices continue to be conducted throughout Middlesex County. The purpose of these gatherings is to discuss the Restorative Justice program, to familiarize those who work directly with at-risk youth with the opportunities Restorative Justice presents through diversion and juvenile probation, and to begin building opportunities for collaboration in the arena of prevention and intervention for youth.

Project Care

As the opioid epidemic escalated, discussion in CBJ meetings about students who have lost friends and family to overdose has become more frequent. In 2015, the District Attorney's Office began creating trauma-informed interventions and long-term service plans for children who witness a family member overdose. In March of 2016, District Attorney Ryan launched Project C.A.R.E. (Child Assessment and Response Evaluation), a 24-hour, 7-day a week program that provides crisis intervention to children and teens who witness the death or near-death of a parent or loved one from a drug overdose. The program is a cross-sector, interdisciplinary partnership, involving the MDAO, the Lowell Police and Fire Departments, Trinity Ambulance and the Mental Health Association of Greater Lowell (MHAGL). This first-of-its-kind pilot program utilizes first responders to identify children impacted by an opioid-related trauma. Upon doing so, first responders page the clinical supervisor of the MHAGL who triages the immediate needs of the child. From there, MHAGL works with the child's school and with DCF to develop a trauma-informed, age-appropriate service plan.

Child Protection Efforts and Initiatives

During the 2016 calendar year, the MDAO has also engaged in the following efforts and initiatives with respect to child protection:

- Conduct Child Fatality Review Team meetings. Local Child Fatality Review Teams are charged with collecting and reviewing information on individual cases in an effort to understand the causes and incidence of child fatalities and near fatalities in the county. The teams are not looking to assign blame for a child's death. Rather, they are trying to identify factors that may have contributed to the child's death so as to prevent future, similar deaths. The Local Teams advise the State Team by making recommendations for changes in law, policy or practice, which may prevent future child deaths and near deaths.

- Launched updated online training relating to mandated reporter obligations pursuant to G.L. Ch. 119, section 51A. The free, online training program is available in 22 languages and accessible on phones, tablets, and computers. The training is intended to educate mandated reporters in recognizing and reporting child abuse, neglect and exploitation includes “pop quiz” questions and case studies. The program also includes information about DCF’s new protective intake measures.
- Staff and conduct in-person trainings regarding G.L. ch. 119 section 51A requirements as requested.
- In partnership with a team from the Massachusetts Child Welfare Trafficking Grant, held multidisciplinary team (“MDT”) trainings to educate team members about understanding and responding to child victims of commercial sexual exploitation. Community partners included: DCF; DYS; DPH; DMH; juvenile probation; local, state and federal law enforcement; county, state and federal prosecutors; county, state and federal victim advocates; Middlesex Juvenile Court; CPCS Children and Family Law Division; CPCS Youth Advocacy Division; residential youth treatment programs; emergency service providers; community service providers; schools; and My Life My Choice.
- In partnership with a team from the Massachusetts Child Welfare Trafficking Grant, held MDT Leadership meetings to discuss implementing new policies and practices to foster interagency collaboration and improve our ability to prevent, identify, and respond to exploited youth in Middlesex County.

Summer Safety

When the school year ends, children and teens may encounter a number of scenarios that present dangers to their health and safety. The Middlesex Summer Safety Campaign, led by District Attorney Ryan, runs from June through Labor Day and includes a number of events, activities and public communications aimed at preventing summer-related injuries and death. The campaign involves partnerships with municipalities and the private sector to host community-based Summer Safety events. In 2016, Summer Safety events were held in Cambridge (Danahy Park); Newton (The Shops at Chestnut Hill); North Reading (Cowabunga’s); Stoneham (Stone Zoo); Sudbury (Public Safety Building Parking Lot); and Wakefield (Lake Quinnapowitt). These events use different attractions and activities as a way to engage and communicate safety messaging to parents and their children. For younger children, an emphasis is placed on water, window and car safety; for older children, prevention messaging focuses on risks related to water, bicycles and fireworks. In addition,

this year District Attorney Ryan created *Summer Safety Jeopardy*, a game that she hosted in partnership with YMCAs and other day camp programs in Arlington, Concord, Melrose, Stoneham, Sudbury, and Woburn.

Back-to-School Safety Day

On September 11th, District Attorney Ryan hosted the 2nd Annual Back-to-School Safety Day in Woburn. The event, co-sponsored by Lahey Health, attracted over 300 families from across Middlesex County. Families visited numerous health and safety booths ranging from topics on nutrition to safety around railroad tracks. In addition, public safety officials from local, regional, state and federal agencies participated in the *Explore Emergency Vehicles* portion of the event. *Explore Emergency Vehicles* gives children an opportunity to interact with public safety officials in a non-emergency setting, and to learn about the vast professional opportunities that exist in the field of public safety.

Cut-It-Out

In 2016, our *Cut It Out Middlesex* school-based program was held at Keefe Technical High School, Nashoba Valley Technical High School, and Shawsheen Technical High School. The program teaches cosmetology students how to detect and respond to signs of domestic violence presented by clients in a salon setting. The program also works to raise awareness with students *themselves* about the characteristics of an unhealthy relationship, which is intended to educate them about the quality of their own relationships. The 2016 school-based program trained approximately 200 students.

Middlesex Partnerships for Youth, Inc.

Other prevention efforts include the Middlesex District Attorney's Office (MDAO) on-going partnership with Middlesex Partnerships for Youth, Inc. (MPY), a non-profit organization which conducts prevention trainings for schools on issues of 51A mandated reporting, drug and alcohol use, bullying, cyber safety, suicide prevention, teen dating violence, and youth mental health issues.

MPY was established by the Middlesex District Attorney in 1988 as a consortium of school superintendents, police and fire chiefs from a small number of public school communities throughout Middlesex County. District Attorney Ryan has been an engaged and invested participant in MPY planning and programming throughout her career in the MDAO prior to becoming the District Attorney. This partnership has expanded to every city and town in Middlesex County. In addition, several public charter schools, private schools, and youth organizations located in Middlesex County are members of Middlesex Partnerships for Youth, Inc. MPY has become a robust and respected organization, serving a population of approximately 200,000 students. Through its programming, MPY trains more than 10,000 educators, public safety personnel, students and parents each year.

The MDAO collaborates with MPY on a continual basis. MPY works directly with the CBJ Program to identify trends and issues that are a concern to the schools. This assists MPY in selecting relevant topics for conferences and in-service trainings.

The most frequent topic discussed at CBJ meetings continues to be underage substance use, including drugs and alcohol. During prom season, the Middlesex District Attorney's Office hosts "Prom Safety" events at schools throughout the county, with DA Ryan personally speaking to parents about social host responsibility. District Attorney Ryan distributed a total of \$9,500 among 19 high schools in Middlesex County to be used for hosting substance free after-prom and graduation events.

For the 2016-2017 school year, MPY has planned 11 professional development conferences for law enforcement, school personnel, and other public servants. The MPY fall events included the 21st Annual School Safety Summit titled, "Enhancing School Safety by Building Resilience – Complex Trauma as a Challenge and Opportunity." This conference featured Julian Ford, Ph.D. a nationally recognized trauma expert. Dr. Ford is a Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and Director of the Center for Trauma Recovery and Juvenile Justice.

Along with District Attorney Ryan, Dr. Ford examined the impact of trauma on the school community, highlighting the diminished sense of security that youth who have experienced trauma may deal with. Ford stressed that traumatized students can succeed academically in a classroom and they can be leaders in school because they have a lot of potential. By understanding the causes of trauma, its impact on a youth's ability to regulate their emotions, and how stress and other factors can trigger negative reactions, school professionals and law enforcement will be better positioned to not only help students in crisis, but keep the school community safe.

MPY also presented the annual School Attendance Summit on September 28, 2016, as part of the Fall Mental Health Series. This conference took a holistic approach to attendance and truancy and brought together a range of experts to explore the root causes of attendance problems and provide recommendations to combat truancy and tardiness.

Two additional conferences in the Fall Mental Health Series featured clinical experts who spoke on topics including using mindful practices to build resilience and educating high functioning students on the autism spectrum with unique and challenging social, emotional and behavioral needs.

In December, MPY and the MDAO hosted two Empowering Girls Conferences. These annual events – one for middle school girls and one for high school girls – continue to introduce students to positive female role models, engage young women in thoughtful discussions about their future, and empower them to make positive decisions every day. The events, held December 7 and 8, 2016 at the Broad Institute in Cambridge, included speakers who highlighted their own personal successes and failures while encouraging students to

build strong relationships and be eager to learn. Break-out session activities allowed the young women to self-reflect about how to identify and reach their goals.

In January, MPY collaborated with the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association to present two Peer Leadership Conferences which promote healthy, substance-free lifestyle for teens, build leadership skills, and help teens create action plans to improve their own school community. "So You're a Leader" for high school students, was held on January 13, 2017 at Lasell College in Newton and "You Lead" for middle school students was held on January 20, 2017, at Nashoba Valley Technical High School in Westford.

The 19th annual MPY SECURE Conference will be held April 5, 2017. This conference is titled "Unlocking the Power of Mindfulness" and will feature ABC News Anchor for *Good Morning America* and *Nightline* Dan Harris. It will also feature several experts who will provide practical and useful strategies on ways mindfulness and meditation programs can help students and professionals manage their reactions to stress, improve creativity and provide clarity. This conference will be held at the Assabet Valley Technical High School in Marlborough.

Topics for the Spring Mental Health Series include a case study approach to improving absenteeism and whole school approaches to foster trauma-sensitive schools. A Prevention Conference will highlight the impact of social media and technology for schools and law enforcement.

MPY also collaborates with the Middlesex District Attorney's Office to sponsor a Public Service Announcement (PSA) and Poster Project for students who live in or attend school in Middlesex County. Students have been invited to submit videos and posters under the theme Challenge Yourself – Be Resilient. Middle and High School students are invited to submit original work that highlights this theme. Students who create the winning posters are honored by the District Attorney at an awards ceremony and the winning poster is distributed to schools in the county. The winning video is featured on a local news program and is also available on the Middlesex District Attorney's Office and Middlesex Partnerships for Youth's websites.

The Executive Director of MPY, Margie Daniels, is a member of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, as a former public school assistant superintendent. She is also a member of the Administrators of Special Education in Massachusetts. Through her involvement with these state organizations of school leaders, she is able to successfully network with school administrators, including principals and special education administrators, and work closely with the MDAO regarding the very successful CBJ Program. The MDAO relies heavily on this partnership with MPY to engage school officials with the CBJ Program.

District Attorney Ryan serves as the Chair of MPY and the MDAO makes a direct cash contribution to the organization each year. In addition, an in-kind contribution includes

office space and staff resources for MPY. This enhances strong partnerships with the school districts throughout Middlesex County.

District Attorney Ryan not only participates directly in a variety of MPY trainings and presentations, but she also encourages and permits ADAs to volunteer as presenters at a variety of school and community functions on important safety issues. This collaboration and in-kind contribution to MPY serves to further enhance prevention efforts across Middlesex County. MPY, with the expertise from several Assistant District Attorneys, has provided schools and communities with local programming and training on issues including cyber safety, social host liability, school investigations, bullying and teen dating violence. These educational events for parents and educators usually happen in the evenings at local schools.

MPY programming is directly influenced by the trends discussed at CBJ. Continuous dialogue between the CBJ program administrators and the MPY Executive Director enhances the collaboration and effectiveness between CBJ and MPY.

In summary, the collaboration between the Middlesex District Attorney's Office and its prevention partner, Middlesex Partnership for Youth, Inc., has become a proactive and formidable presence in Massachusetts, offering current and state-of-the-art initiatives and training in matters of health and safety for youth. Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan, as District Attorney and Chairman of the Middlesex Partnerships for Youth, Inc. Board of Directors, has engaged MPY to further develop its outreach and programming, all aimed at keeping youth safe.

Growth of CBJ

District Attorney Marian Ryan is committed to working with the public and private schools in the 54 cities and towns of Middlesex County. District Attorney Ryan has executed 115 Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with Middlesex Schools and local police since taking office in April of 2013. The MDAO also executes MOUs with police departments outside of Middlesex County where those towns have youth residents attending Career and Technical Schools within Middlesex County.

In an effort to widen the spectrum of school representatives at CBJ meetings, in March of 2016 District Attorney Ryan brought together the Charter Schools, Collaborative Schools and Special Education Schools in Middlesex County. District Attorney Ryan and her staff discussed the various prevention and intervention initiatives that are available through the MDAO. The CBJ Program, Diversion Program and programs offered through Middlesex Partnerships for Youth were highlighted and discussed. The MDAO also presented on common legal issues in the schools. The MDAO received a positive response to this outreach and we hope to continue to expand our partnerships to include these schools within CBJ on a consistent basis.

The MDAO contributes significant time in these critical, non-core mission areas and unfunded mandates because we believe in the long term value of intervention and prevention. Due in part to the vast size of Middlesex and its unique demographics and geography, it has developed a rich history of progressive minded public service, and a national reputation for excellence with its innovative approach to crime prevention, education and intervention programs. The MDAO has strong, collaborative relationships with the leadership within the Middlesex municipalities, police departments, school districts and with health and human service professionals. Prosecutors play a particularly unique and critical role at the intersection of the following sectors: the challenges facing our health and human service agencies, law enforcement and public safety, public health, and the criminal justice system. Often times, however, when it is time to fund others from these sectors via state and federal funds, grants and other types of discretionary funding, "prosecutors" are overlooked for funding, placing additional burdens on us to deliver our required and expected services to the public.

Current Trends

The illegal use of opioid-based prescription drugs by teens and young adults continues to be identified by school, law enforcement and community service providers as an area of paramount concern. School administrators continue to be concerned about the opioid epidemic in the larger community and how this may affect the schools. Class B substances under General Laws Chapter 94C, s.32A, such as Oxycodone (OxyContin) and Percocet, are highly addictive and often easily obtained by youth, who have only to search their family medicine cabinet for such substances. CBJ discussions have indicated an increase in students stealing parents/family's medication and selling at school.

MDAO first identified this trend through reports made in CBJ meetings, and as described above, MDAO has worked with local law enforcement and community service providers within the context of CYDC meetings to establish medicine disposal opportunities. Additional prevention efforts have included utilization of the MDAO partnership with MPY to educate youth concerning the dangers of the illegal use and distribution of prescription medication.

Middlesex schools also continue to report significant marijuana use among middle school and high school students from students possessing marijuana on school grounds to students being under the influence of marijuana and alcohol on school grounds. This trend, which was identified after the passage of Ballot Question 2 in 2008 decriminalizing marijuana possession in certain instances, has permeated since then.

Recent Marijuana legislation, The Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act, has brought more questions pertaining to the practical effect on schools, juveniles and young adults. This Act, which went into effect on December 15, 2016, was generated by Ballot Question 4 in November 2016. It permits the possession, use, distribution, and cultivation of marijuana in limited amounts by persons age 21 and older and removes criminal penalties for such activities. More specifically, it allows persons age 21 and older to possess up to one

ounce of marijuana outside of their residences but not more than five grams may be in concentrate form; possess up to ten ounces of marijuana inside their residences; grow up to six marijuana plants in their residences; give one ounce or less of marijuana to a person at least 21 years old without payment but not more than five grams may be in concentrate form; possess, produce or transfer hemp; make or transfer items related to marijuana use, storage, cultivation, or processing. Despite the known dangers marijuana poses as a mind and mood altering substance, school officials and school resource officers indicate that marijuana is perceived by youth as harmless and not criminal. School officials and school resource officers report an ongoing frustration over their limited ability to curtail marijuana use in light of these changing perceptions.

One of the activities that continues to be of particular concern in many CBJ communities over the past year has been "sexting" behavior among adolescents as young as 10 or 11 years of age. "Sexting" refers to the dissemination of digital photographs depicting nude or semi-nude youth via digital media (i.e., email, text messages containing pictures, or posting on social networking sites). It frequently arises in the context of a youth photographing him/herself and sending that picture to another youth. In addition to the illegality of the dissemination under our current laws, the equally disturbing issue is that once the image is released it can be easily and widely disseminated, well beyond the intended recipient.

The increasing proliferation of cyber technology and social media access has presented many new challenges for schools as well as law enforcement. The CBJ meetings have been crucial forums to share information about ever-changing technology and youth practices. In response to the new challenges presented by cyber technology, the MDAO has developed and presented various educational curricula targeting a specified affected population such as students, educators, parents and law enforcement. In 2016, the MDAO has seen a dramatic increase in the demand for these educational forums and District Attorney Marian Ryan is committed to continuing to provide these educational and prevention services throughout Middlesex County.

One of the programs developed by MDAO is a Cyber Educational Protection Program (CEPP). This program is offered to Middlesex communities and is targeted at youth who have engaged in sexting. The program is run by our Cyber Enforcement Unit (CEU) and Child Protection Unit (CPU) and focuses on educating youth and parents. The clear preference in addressing these matters is through intervention, prevention, training and education. Our CEU will prosecute, when appropriate, certain cases of sexting.

One item of particular significance has been the volume of threats made against schools over the last year. Threats to harm specific students at school, staff, threats of a school shooting, bomb threats, kill lists and generalized threats have been seen this past year and have been communicated in various ways, including automated phone calls, e-mails, Instagram, Facebook, Yik Yak, and Twitter.

Another item of particular significance has been the presence of weapons on school property. There has been an increase in students bringing knives, and BB guns to school as well as an increase in fights at school. The carrying, displaying and usage of firearms to settle disputes in the community were also discussed. We also saw an increase in incidents of hostile and Anti-Semitic graffiti throughout Middlesex County.

Students with mental health issues continue to be an area of concern that is discussed at each CBJ Meeting. The schools continue to grapple with the various mental health issues that impact their students and the prevalence of youth's attempting and threatening suicide, exhibiting the need for MDAO's progressive programs and partnerships MPY and community stakeholders.

CBJ Highlights from the Past Year

The significant commitment of resources by the MDAO to this program, though for a very worthwhile pro-active initiative, is one that is beyond our core mission. MDAO's ADAs are working outside of their mandated core mission on behalf of the public by taking on the added responsibility to perform these (and other) important and often unfunded mandates.

- Approximately 500 CBJ meetings were held last year in Middlesex County, chaired or co-chaired by Middlesex ADAs. These meetings take place before court starts to accommodate the ADAs who need to be present in court for 9:00 a.m.
- In CY 2016, there were 450-500 participants that regularly attended these CBJ meetings.
- To be effective as directed by G.L. c. 12, §32, CBJ participants must include, "[t]he district attorneys ... schools and local law enforcement representatives, probation and court representatives and, where appropriate, the department of social services, department of youth services and department of mental health."
- The MDAO continues to revise and execute 115 new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) documents about CBJ roles and responsibilities between District Attorney Ryan and our local community partners, including schools and police, to school systems and school districts across our county.
- These CBJ meetings presently serve virtually all of the public high schools, and numerous middle schools in Middlesex County. Although we aim for 100% participation, the MDAO does

understand that some schools have decided for budgetary or other reasons not to participate. The MDAO will continue to work with these school districts in the year ahead to continue to impress upon them the overall value of the program and their participation.

- Given the expansion of our juvenile and young adult pre-complaint diversion program, the CBJ program has become the venue to discuss whether or not a youth is appropriate for diversion. In CY 2016 the MJDP screened 503 juvenile and young adult criminal cases for diversion and of these cases screened for diversion, 98 cases were deemed ineligible. The MDAO considers the feedback and input of the CBJ group in the decision to divert. The group not only provides insight on whether diversion is appropriate in any given case but they provide us with suggestions on appropriate conditions for the juvenile in an effort to change their behavior.
- The CBJ reports that are generated at each meeting by the ADAs not only serve as a confidential record of the matters discussed during the meetings pertaining to priority prosecutions, but the reports also allow us to identify and monitor trends in schools throughout the county. Often times we are able to target a problem in a certain school and or community and assist them in solving the issue. Other times information obtained regarding community trends serves as a basis to develop violence prevention and intervention programs, identification protocol and curricula as mandated by G.L.c.12, s.32.

Attached to this report you will find a chart that illustrates the number of schools that are represented by each CBJ Meeting.

CBJ and other intervention and prevention initiatives are important efforts that this office has developed over the years. While we believe these to be important programs, this office is being required to absorb additional mandates in other areas, which are often unfunded and that go beyond our core function of investigating and prosecuting criminal matters. These mandates are made necessary due to expectations and requests of the public that we protect and serve; legislative statutes, acts and resolves; court imposed mandates; and due to our overall commitment to doing what is necessary and just to carry out our responsibilities. Beginning in September 2012, the MDAO has also dedicated significant resources to litigating pending cases and post-conviction motions about the Hinton State Laboratory and former state chemist Annie Dookhan. As the Commonwealth's fiscal challenges continue and critical fiscal choices must be made, these important but non-core initiatives must be closely scrutinized given the significant resources that they require.

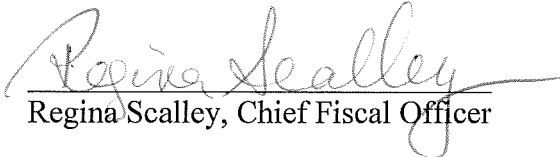
At the present time, the legal assistance provided by the ADAs volunteering their time in the CBJ program has been invaluable to the operation of this office and allows the

Middlesex (Northern) District Attorney's Office
Community Based Juvenile Justice Annual Report to the
Senate and House Committees on Ways and Means
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Page 17

MDAO to continue this important legislatively mandated program. However, as courtroom resources are reduced and criminal caseloads continue to demand more of our time and resources, our ability to continue to carry out the programmatic responsibilities that are above and beyond our mandated core mission must be evaluated.

Thank you for providing the MDAO with the opportunity to share this update on CBJ and related programs with you. We believe that this report demonstrates that the MDAO continues in its commitment and dedication to improve and expand these important programs in this county. If you have any questions regarding this program or the MDAO generally, please contact me directly at 781-897-8456.

Sincerely,


Regina Scalley, Chief Fiscal Officer

Attachment: CBJ Meeting Charts

Cc: DA Marian Ryan
Steve Loughlin, First Assistant District Attorney, MDAO
Alice Casey, ADA & Director of District Courts, MDAO

**Organization of
Community Based
Justice Program**

**Cambridge
Juvenile Court**

Cambridge District Court
Malden District Court
Somerville District Court

CBJ MEETINGS
Cambridge
Arlington
Belmont
Somerville
Medford
Malden
Everett
Melrose
Wakefield
Northeast Voke

**Framingham
Juvenile Court**

Framingham District Court
Concord District Court
Marlborough District Court
Natick District Court

CBJ MEETINGS
Framingham
Ashland
Holliston
Hopkinton
Wayland
Lincoln/Sudbury
Natick
Sherborn
Marlborough
Hudson
Concord/Carlisle
Maynard/Stow
Lexington/Bedford/Lincoln

**Waltham
Juvenile Court**

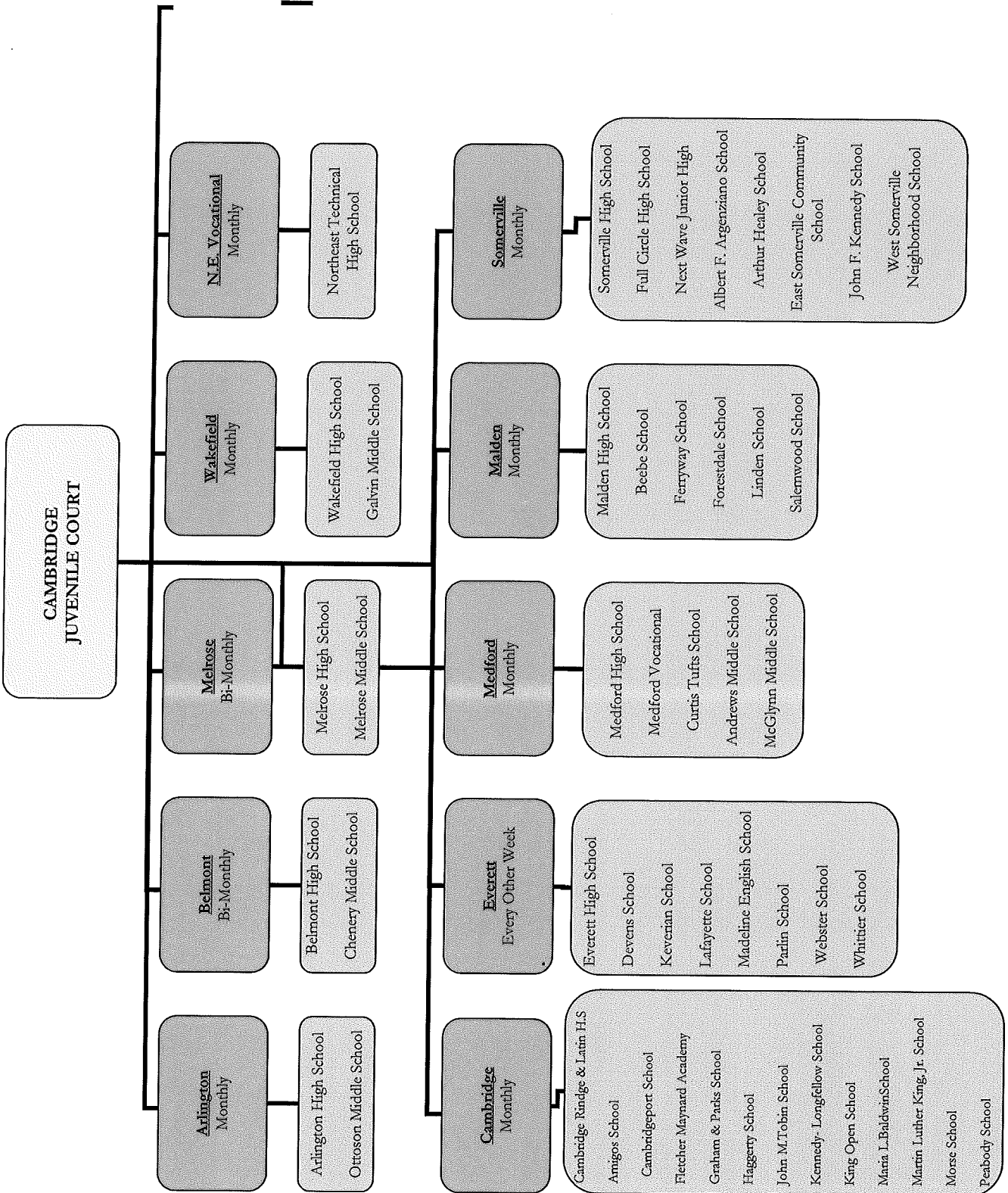
Waltham District Court
Newton District Court

CBJ MEETINGS
Waltham
Weston
Watertown
Newton

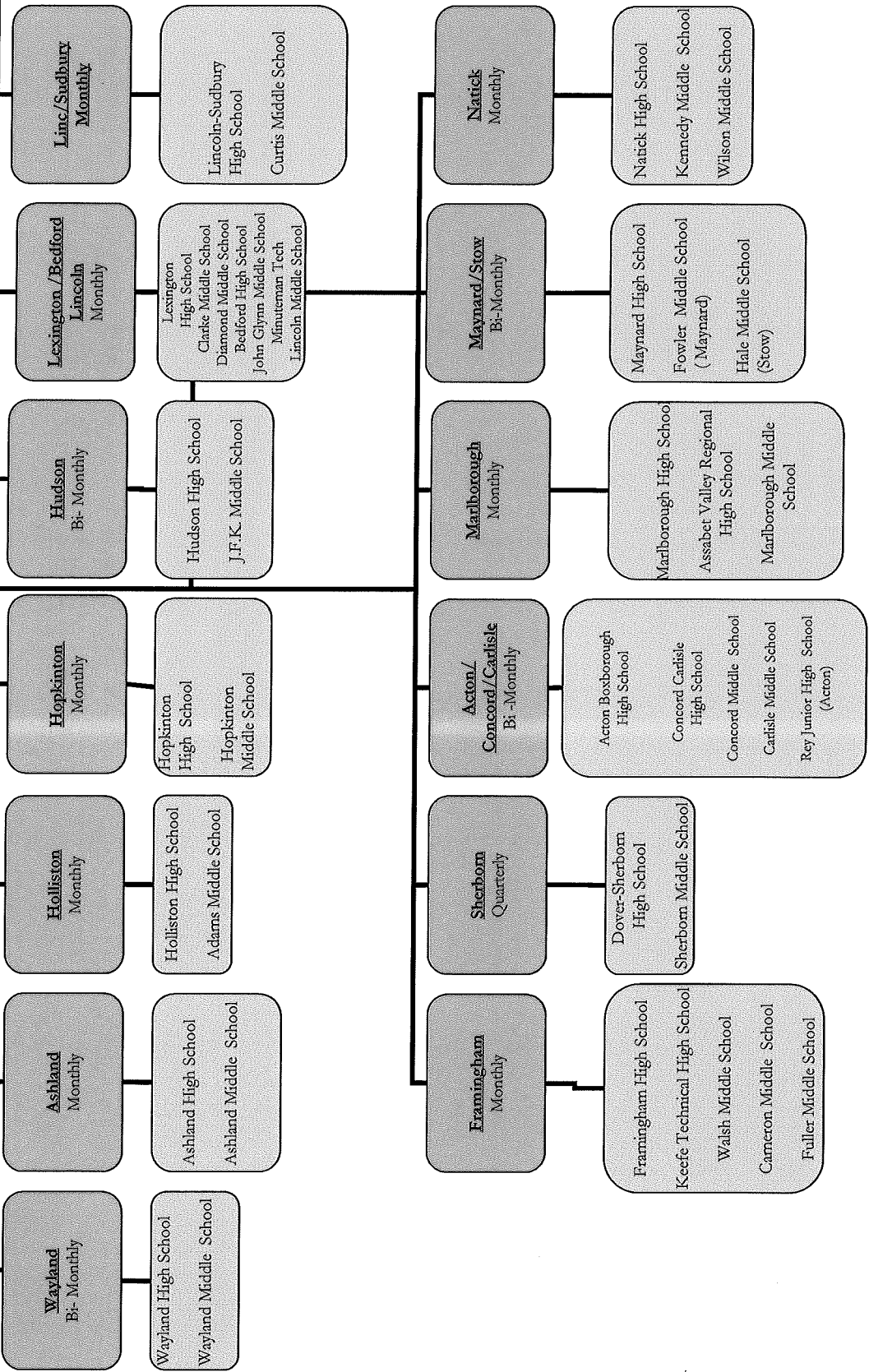
**Lowell
Juvenile Court**

Lowell District Court
Ayer District Court
Woburn District Court

CBJ MEETINGS
Lowell
Billerica
Chelmsford
Dracut
Tewksbury
Tyngsborough
Woburn
Burlington
North Reading
Reading
Stonham
Winchester
Wilmington
Ayer North
Ayer South



**FRAMINGHAM
JUVENILE COURT**



**WALTHAM
JUVENILE COURT**

**Weston
Bi-Monthly**

Weston
High School
Weston
Middle School

**Watertown
Monthly**

Watertown
High School
Watertown
Middle School

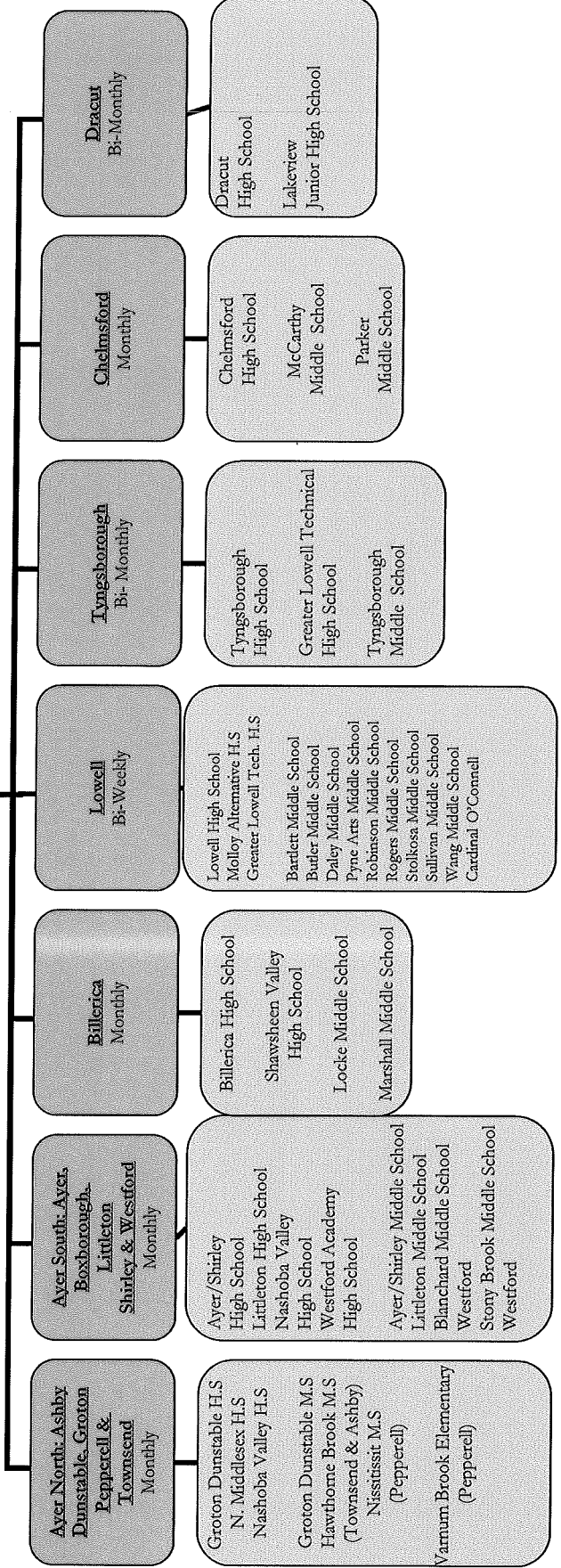
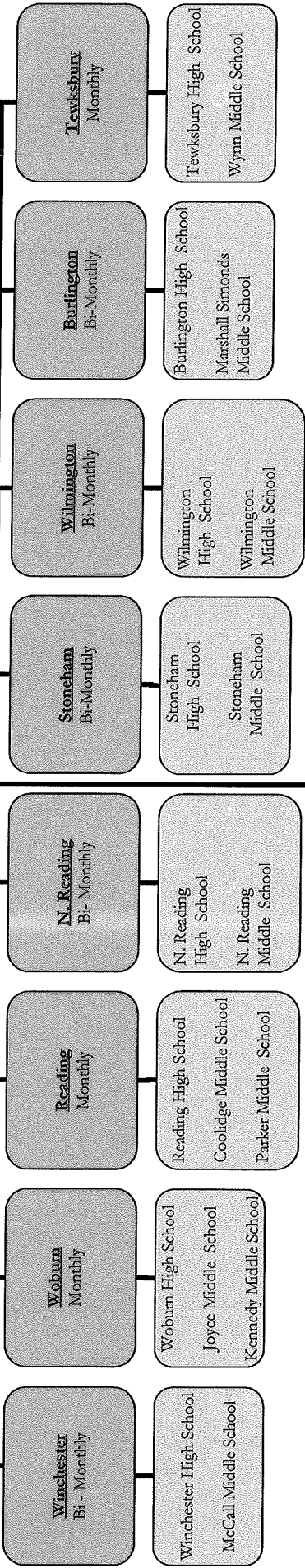
**Waltham
Monthly**

Waltham High School
Kennedy Middle School
McDevitt Middle School

**Newton
Monthly**

Newton North High School
Newton South High School
Bigelow Middle School
Brown Middle School
Day Middle School
Oak Hill Middle School

**LOWELL
JUVENILE COURT**





The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
MIDDLESEX DISTRICT ATTORNEY
15 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE WOBURN, MA 01801
WWW.MIDDLESEXDA.COM



MARIAN T. RYAN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

TEL: 781-897-8300
FAX: 781-897-8301

EXECUTIVE

- ADMINISTRATION
- COMMUNICATIONS
- INTERVENTION & PREVENTION PROGRAMS
- PUBLIC POLICY
- LEGISLATION
- VICTIM WITNESS BUREAU

TRIAL TEAMS

- CAMBRIDGE REGION SUPERIOR COURT
- MALDEN REGION SUPERIOR COURT
- WOBURN DISTRICT COURT

SPECIALTY UNITS

- APPEALS & TRAINING BUREAU
- CYBER PROTECTION PROGRAM
- FAMILY PROTECTION BUREAU
- CHILD ABUSE UNIT
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT
- ELDER/DISABLED UNIT
- PUBLIC PROTECTION, ANTI-TERRORISM, CORRUPTION & TECHNOLOGY (PACT)

STATE POLICE DETECTIVES

- COMPUTER FORENSICS
- HOMICIDE
- PACT

REGIONAL OFFICES

- CAMBRIDGE
- FRAMINGHAM
- LOWELL

DISTRICT COURT OFFICES

- AYER
- CAMBRIDGE
- CONCORD
- FRAMINGHAM
- LOWELL
- MALDEN
- MARLBOROUGH
- NEWTON
- SOMERVILLE
- WALTHAM
- WOBURN

December 19, 2016

Jennifer Franco
Massachusetts District Attorneys Association
One Bulfinch Place
Boston, MA 02114

RE: Middlesex (Northern) District Attorney's Office Report to the Senate and House Ways and Means Committees Regarding Volunteer Attorneys

Dear Ms. Franco:

Pursuant to the reporting requirement of the appropriation for the Massachusetts District Attorney's Association, 0340-2100, in the Fiscal Year 2017 General Appropriations Act, "...shall work in conjunction with the 11 district attorneys' offices to prepare and submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means and the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate no later than January 27, 2017, detailing the total number and use of private attorneys participating in any volunteer prosecutor program; and provided further that the report shall include, but not be limited to: (1) the total number of personnel from private law firms participating in the program at each of the 11 district attorneys' offices; (2) the name and address of the law firms; (3) the duties performed by the personnel; and (4) the benefits and cost savings associated with the program..."

1. The total number of personnel from private law firms participating in the program are:

Goodwin Procter - Exchange Place, 53 State St., Boston, MA 02109; **2 Full Time** Special Assistant District Attorneys

Mintz, Levin, et. al. – One Financial Center, Boston, MA 02111; **1 Full Time** Special Assistant District Attorney

Ropes and Gray – One International Place Boston, MA 02110; **1 Full Time** Special Assistant District Attorney



**Wilmer Hale – 60 State St., Boston, MA 02109; 2 Full Time
Special Assistant District Attorneys**

As part of the volunteer attorney program the MDAO provides extensive training opportunities for these attorneys throughout their tenure as SADAs. Those SADAs assigned to the District Courts receive individualized training from MDAO staff as part of their orientation to their specific assignment; additionally they often attend trainings conducted by members of the MDAO's Leadership Team. While the MDAO does benefit from the many hours that these volunteer attorneys donate to the MDAO, there are significant costs associated with preparing these attorneys for the work that they will perform on behalf of the MDAO. This initial training expense has a much shorter period to be depreciated against for a volunteer as opposed to a staff member since volunteers tend to stay at the MDAO for a significantly shorter period of time.

2. The names and addresses of the law firms:

This information was provided above.

3. The duties performed by these personnel included:

Most of the volunteer private attorneys, sworn-in as Special Assistant District Attorneys, were assigned to one of the district courts in Middlesex County. These attorneys provided invaluable assistance. Examples of duties performed include the following:

- Review evidentiary reports, prepare discovery, identify and interview victims and witnesses
- Represent the Commonwealth in court by presenting evidence and argument at arraignments, preliminary hearings, pre-trial conferences, hearings on motions, trials, sentencing
- Conduct legal research and write legal documents such as affidavits, memoranda and briefs in assigned cases
- Keep abreast of court decisions and legislation affecting Massachusetts law
- Work closely with victim witness advocates, law enforcement, court personnel, the defense bar, criminal justice agencies and the public.

4. The benefits and costs savings associated with the program:

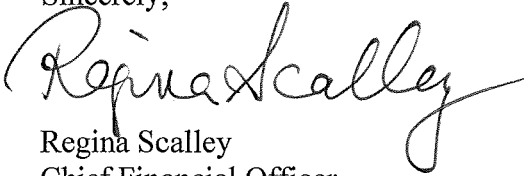
Volunteer Attorney Report
December 19, 2016
Page 3

The volunteer attorney program continues to be a significant resource to this office as we have maintained operations at level funding. These volunteer attorneys have played an important role in helping the MDAO address the level of cases that are annually before us. The additional legal assistance provided by the volunteer attorney participants has been invaluable to the operation of this office.

During the course of the past year, **the most conservative estimated value of the contributions from these 6 full time attorneys was at least \$273,000 to the Commonwealth.** This calculation is based upon the starting salary for Assistant District Attorneys at \$45,500, though many of these attorneys have experience that would place them above that level.

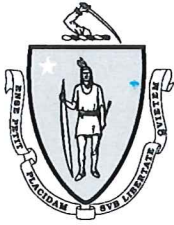
If you have any questions regarding this program or the MDAO generally please contact me directly at 781-897-8456.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Regina Scalley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Regina Scalley
Chief Financial Officer

Cc: District Attorney Marian T. Ryan
Steve Loughlin, First Assistant District Attorney



MARIAN T. RYAN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
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15 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE ♦ WOBURN, MA 01801
WWW.MIDDLESEXDA.COM



TEL: 781-897-8300
FAX: 781-897-8301

December 27, 2016

William F. Welch, Clerk of the Senate
24 Beacon Street – Room 335
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Steven T. James, Clerk of the House
24 Beacon Street – Room 145
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Re: Annual Report of Wiretap Interceptions Pursuant to G. L. c. 272, § 99 R

Dear Sirs:

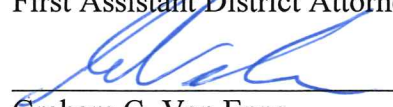
Pursuant to Chapter 272, Section 99 R of the Massachusetts General Laws, we hereby submit this report to the General Court on behalf of the Middlesex District Attorney's Office for the 2016 calendar year.

1. Pursuant to G. L. c. 272, § 99 (R)(1), we report that the MDAO did not apply for any interception (wiretap) warrants during the 2016 calendar year.
2. Pursuant to G. L. c. 272, § 99 (R)(5)(d), we report that the MDAO did not conduct any trials during the 2016 calendar year in which interception evidence or evidence derived therefrom was introduced.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about the above information or if you need any further information from this office.

Very truly yours,


Stephen V. Loughlin
First Assistant District Attorney


Graham G. Van Epps
Assistant District Attorney
Special Investigations Unit

District Attorney and MDAA FY 2017 Reporting Obligations to the Legislature

Filing Date From/To	Topic	Statutory Reference
<p>Every six months DAs file directly with W&M</p>	<p>Commonwealth’s Invocation of G. L. c. 277, § 70C</p>	<p>Upon oral motion by the commonwealth or the defendant at arraignment or pretrial conference, or upon the court’s own motion at any time, the court may, unless the commonwealth objects, in writing, stating the reasons for such objection, treat a violation of a municipal ordinance, or by-law or a misdemeanor offense as a civil infraction. The provisions of this section shall not apply to {exceptions listed}. If a motion to proceed civilly is allowed, the court shall not appoint counsel. If counsel has already been appointed, the court shall revoke the appointment. A person complained of for such civil infraction shall be adjudicated responsible upon such finding by the court and shall not be sentenced to any term of incarceration. The commonwealth shall maintain a copy of all objections filed under this section and shall report the number of such objections, delineated by divisions of the district court, <i>every 6 months</i> to the house and senate committees on ways and means.</p>
<p>September 28, 2016 (90 days after close of fiscal year) DAs file directly with W&M</p>	<p>Motor Vehicle Forfeiture Funds</p>	<p>G.L. c. 90, § 24W(e). There shall be established within the office of the state treasurer a separate Operating Under the Influence Deterrent Trust Fund for each district attorney and for the attorney general. All monies and proceeds received by a prosecuting district attorney or attorney general pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the fund and shall be expended without further appropriation to defray the costs of investigations, to provide additional technical equipment or expertise, to provide matching funds to obtain federal grants, or for such other law enforcement purposes as the district attorney or attorney general deems appropriate. Any program seeking to be an eligible recipient of the funds shall file an annual audit report with the local district attorney and attorney general. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, a listing of the assets, liabilities, itemized expenditures and board of directors of the program. <i>Within 90 days of the close of the fiscal year</i>, each district attorney and the attorney general shall file an annual report with the house and senate committees on ways and means on the use of the monies in the trust fund for the purposes of deterring operating under the influence programs.</p>

District Attorney and MDAA FY 2017 Reporting Obligations to the Legislature

<p>September 28, 2016 (90 days after close of fiscal year) DAs file directly with W&M</p>	<p>Drug Rehab, Drug Education & Neighborhood Crime Watch Trust</p>	<p>G.L. c. 94C, § 47. There shall be established within the office of the state treasurer separate special law enforcement trust funds for each district attorney and for the attorney general. All such monies and proceeds received by any prosecuting district attorney or attorney general shall be deposited in such a trust fund and shall then be expended without further appropriation to defray the costs of protracted investigations, to provide additional technical equipment or expertise, to provide matching funds to obtain federal grants, or such other law enforcement purposes as the district attorney or attorney general deems appropriate. The district attorney or attorney general may expend up to ten percent of the monies and proceeds for drug rehabilitation, drug education and other anti-drug or neighborhood crime watch programs which further law enforcement purposes. Any program seeking to be an eligible recipient of said funds shall file an annual audit report with the local district attorney and attorney general. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, a listing of the assets, liabilities, itemized expenditures, and board of directors of such program. <i>Within ninety days of the close of the fiscal year</i>, each district attorney and the attorney general shall file an annual report with the house and senate committees on ways and means on the use of the monies in the trust fund for the purposes of drug rehabilitation, drug education, and other anti-drug or neighborhood crime watch programs.</p>
<p>February 1, 2017 DAs file to MDAA March 1, 2017 MDAA files with W&M and Clerks</p>	<p>Prosecution Statistics</p>	<p>FY 2017 budget, MDAA 0340-2100. [MDAA] shall work in conjunction with the 11 district attorneys' offices to prepare and submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means and the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate no later than March 1, 2017, detailing by district for calendar year 2016 the following: (i) the number of criminal cases initiated by arraignment; (ii) the number of criminal cases disposed; and (iii) the number of criminal cases actively managed during the year; provided further, that the report shall separately identify the number of criminal cases initiated by arraignment, the number of cases disposed, and the number of cases under active management where the case includes charges for drug offenses under chapter 94C of the General Laws, motor vehicle charges under chapter 90 of the General Laws or firearm offenses under chapter 140 of the General Laws; provided further, that the association shall provide the 11 district attorneys' offices with an agreed upon template for</p>

District Attorney and MDAA FY 2017 Reporting Obligations to the Legislature

<p style="text-align: center;">December 27, 2016 DAs file to MDAA January 27, 2017 MDAA files with W&M and Clerks</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Private Attorney Volunteer Prosecutor Program</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">the report to be filled out. (Use calendar year 2016 data).</p> <p>FY 2017 budget, MDAA 0340-2100. [MDAA] shall work in conjunction with the 11 district attorneys' offices to prepare and submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means and the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate <i>no later than January 27, 2017</i>, detailing the total number and use of private attorneys participating in any volunteer prosecutor program; and provided further that the report shall include, but not be limited to: (1) the total number of personnel from private law firms participating in the program at each of the 11 district attorneys' offices; (2) the name and address of the law firms; (3) the duties performed by the personnel; and (4) the benefits and cost savings associated with the program.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">January 13, 2017 DAs file directly with Clerks</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Wiretap Applications</p>	<p>G.L. c. 272, § 99. <i>On the second Friday of January, each year, the attorney general and each district attorney shall submit a report to the general court stating (1) the number of applications made for warrants during the previous year, (2) the name of the applicant, (3) the number of warrants issued, (4) the effective period for the warrants, (5) the number and designation of the offenses for which those applications were sought, and for each of the designated offenses, the following: (a) the number of renewals, (b) the number of interceptions made during the previous year, (c) the number of indictments believed to be obtained as a result of those interceptions, (d) the number of criminal convictions obtained in trial where interception evidence or evidence derived therefrom was introduced. This report shall be a public document and be made available to the public at the offices of the attorney general and district attorneys. In the event of failure to comply with the provisions of this paragraph any person may compel compliance by means of an action of mandamus.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">February 1, 2017 DAs file directly with W&M and Clerks</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Drug Forfeiture Funds Community Based Juvenile Justice Programs</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>There is no reporting obligation language in the FY 2017 budget.</i></p> <p>G.L. c. 12, § 32(e). The district attorneys operating such programs shall participate in a community based juvenile justice program task force for the purpose of sharing information on the practices and developments of violence prevention and prosecution in their particular programs and such task force shall submit an annual report on each program, including statistics and findings, to the house and senate committees on ways and means on or before <i>February 1 each year.</i></p>

District Attorney and MDAA FY 2017 Reporting Obligations to the Legislature

<p>February 10, 2017 DAs file to MDAA March 10, 2017 MDAA files with W&M and Clerks</p>	<p>DPPC Referrals to the DAs</p>	<p>FY 2017 budget, MDAA 0340-2100. [MDAA] shall work in conjunction with the disabled persons protection commission and the 11 district attorneys' offices to prepare a report that shall include, but not be limited to, the following: (a) the number of abuse cases that are referred to each district attorney's office for further investigation; (b) the number of those referrals resulting in the filing of criminal charges, delineated by type of charge; (c) the number of cases referred to each district attorney's office that remain open as of the date of submission of the report; and (d) the number of cases that resulted in a criminal prosecution, and the disposition of each such prosecution. Provided further, that the report shall be submitted to the House & Senate Committees on ways and means and the clerks of the house of representatives and senate <i>not later than March 10, 2017</i>. (Use FY 2016 data).</p>
<p>Date to be determined DAs file to MDAA Date to be determined MDAA files with required officials/bodies</p>	<p>DCF Referrals to the DAs</p>	<p>G.L. c. 12, § 20D. The [MDAA] executive director shall <i>annually</i> report on the status of child abuse and neglect cases that have been referred for criminal prosecution, including the number prosecuted, the results of those prosecutions, the principal reason for decisions not to prosecute, and what resources would have assisted in those investigations and prosecutions. The report shall be filed with the clerks of the senate and the house, the senate and the house committees on ways and means, the joint committee on children, families and persons with disabilities, the joint committee on the judiciary, the child advocate, and the governor. *Statute does not specify a reporting timeframe, other than "annually."</p>
<p>30 days prior to distribution MDAA files with W&M</p>	<p>ADA Salary Reserve</p>	<p>FY 2017 budget, MDAA 0340-6653. For increases in the annual salaries of assistant district attorneys; provided, that the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association shall transfer funds to the AA object class in each of the 11 district attorneys' offices so that the resulting minimum annual salary for an assistant district attorney shall exceed \$45,000 per year; provided further, that these salary increases shall not take effect until January 1, 2017; provided further, that not less than 30 days prior to the distribution of funds, the Massachusetts District Attorneys' Association shall notify the house and senate committees on ways and means detailing: (a) the methodology used to determine the amount to be dispersed; (b) the amount to be given to each district attorney's office; (c) the reasoning behind the distribution; and (d) the number of assistant district attorneys from each office who would receive funds from this item; and provided further, that no funds from this item shall be</p>

District Attorney and MDAA FY 2017 Reporting Obligations to the Legislature

		<p>expended on the administrative costs of the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association.</p>
<p>60 days prior to distribution MDAA files with W&M</p>	<p>ADA Retention Fund</p>	<p>FY 2017 budget, MDAA 0340-2117. For the retention of assistant district attorneys with more than 3 years of experience; provided, that the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association shall transfer funds to the AA object class in each of the 11 district attorneys' offices; provided further, that the association shall develop a formula for distribution of the funds; provided further, that funds distributed from this line item to the district attorneys' offices shall be used for retention purposes and shall not be transferred out of the AA object class; provided further, that not more than \$100,000 shall be distributed to any 1 district attorney's office; provided further, that not less than 60 days prior to the distribution of funds, the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association shall notify the house and senate committees on ways and means detailing: (a) the methodology used to determine the amount to be dispersed; (b) the amount to be given to each district attorney's office; (c) the reasoning behind the distribution; and (d) the number of assistant district attorneys from each office who would receive funds from this item; and provided further, that no funds shall be expended on the administrative costs of the association.</p>
<p>60 days prior to distribution MDAA files with W&M</p>	<p>Drug Diversion & Heroin Education Fund</p>	<p>FY 2017 budget, MDAA 0340-0203. For the implementation and administration of drug diversion programs and for education programs for students to prevent the use of heroin; provided, that individuals abusing heroin who are arrested for crimes shall be eligible for the drug diversion program; provided further, that individuals charged with violent crimes shall not be eligible for participation in a drug diversion program; provided further, that a district attorney's office may contract with an organization for the purpose of administering a drug diversion program or education program; provided further, that not more than \$100,000 shall be distributed to any 1 district attorney's office; provided further, that <i>not less than 60 days prior to the distribution of funds</i> the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association shall submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means detailing: (a) the amount to be given to each district attorney's office; (b) the reasoning behind the distribution; (c) the administration and cost of the program; and provided further, that no funds shall be expended on the administrative costs of the MDAA.</p>

District Attorney and MDAA FY 2017 Reporting Obligations to the Legislature

January 15, 2017

**DAs file directly with the Victim Witness
Assistance Board, A&F and W&M**

Victim and Witness Program Plan

G.L. c. 258B, § 6. Each district attorney shall submit annually on January fifteenth to the board, the secretary of administration and finance and the house and senate committees on ways and means, a program plan to be implemented within the district attorney's jurisdiction. The program plan shall include, but not be limited to: a description of the services to be provided to victims and witnesses in each judicial district within the district attorney's jurisdiction; the personnel or agencies responsible for providing individual services and related administrative programs; proposed staffing for the program; proposed education, training and experience requirements for program staff and, where appropriate, the staff of agencies providing individual services and related administrative services; and a proposed budget for implementing the program. The district attorney shall include in the annual program plan a detailed report on the operation of the program, as well as a detailed report of deposits and expenditures of all funds made available to said district attorney for the preceding fiscal year and the current fiscal year, and proposed for the upcoming fiscal year, pursuant to section nine.

COUNTY- Date Range Case Type	Superior Court/Youthful Offender			Juvenile Court			
	Arrestment	Disposed	Actively Managed	Arrestment	Disposed	Diversion	Actively Managed
Animal Cruelty	-	-	-	5	1	-	10
Child Abuse	4	12	18	32	202	-	251
Child Pornography	-	-	-	15	46	-	74
Crimes Involving Property	5	2	10	131	559	560	1,261
Crimes Involving Administration of Justice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crimes Against Morality	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crimes Against Person	16	2	19	1,862	7,992	370	10,289
Crimes Against Public Policy	-	-	-	29	120	-	146
Crimes Against Public Order	-	-	-	218	715	141	1,101
Domestic Violence & 209A Violations	-	-	-	182	904	183	1,283
Drugs (c.94C)	-	-	-	282	160	154	618
Elder and Disabled Persons Abuse	-	-	-	8	120	-	134
Firearms (c.140)	10	7	31	41	293	-	348
Homicide	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motor Vehicle-related (c.90)	-	-	-	299	615	-	1,020
Sexual Assault	-	2	6	-	-	-	-
Totals	35	25	84	3,104	11,727	1,408	16,535

Other	Superior Court / Youthful Offender	Juvenile Court	Diversion
Number of Defendants	19	4352	501

COUNTY -Date Range Charge Type	Superior Court			District Court		
	Arrested	Disposed	Actively Managed	Arrested	Disposed	Actively Managed
Animal Cruelty	4	1	6	20	12	11
Child Abuse	279	310	618	790	659	780
Child Pornography	83	100	210	26	23	19
Crimes Involving Property	17	11	34	891	3170	4070
Crimes Involving Administration of Justice	3	5	10	7	15	12
Crimes Against Morality	9	19	35	11	12	9
Crimes Against Person	2364	2101	5603	23280	8764	113652
Crimes Against Public Policy	51	41	109	1742	1654	9701
Crimes Against Public Order	58	69	131	1939	1872	6894
Domestic Violence & 209A Violations	266	298	691	6912	6813	6799
Drugs (c.94C)	1236	2194	3619	9103	9562	36373
Elder and Disabled Persons Abuse	57	246	420	750	609	746
Firearms (c.140)	837	963	1955	1623	1814	5280
Homicide	41	63	107	27	36	109
Motor Vehicle-related (c.90)	74	64	211	30128	31210	73550
Sexual Assault	69	37	109	374	410	310
Totals	5448	6522	13868	77623	66635	258315

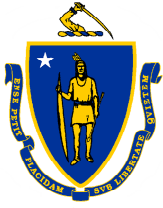
Other	Superior Court	District Court
Number of Defendants	2227	30451

COUNTY- Date Range	Trial Court	Appeals Courts	Supreme Judicial Court	SJC & Appeals Court Single Justice	Other
Review Suppression/Dismissal Orders	-	-	-	-	45
Prepare/Filing of Rule 15 Petitions	-	-	-	1	-
Prepare/Filing Oppositions to Rule 15 Petitions	-	-	-	17	-
Prepare/Filing of c. 211, s. 3 Petitions	-	-	-	1	-
Prepare/Filing of Opposition to c. 211, s. 3 Petitions	-	-	-	2	-
Preparing Position Statements for Post-Conviction Motions (not MNT)	15	-	-	-	-
Preparing Position Statements for Motions for New Trials	31	-	-	-	-
Sentencing Appeals Hearings	-	-	-	-	-
Arguments	-	84	16	-	-
Number of Briefs Filed	-	86	12	-	-
Preparation of Position Statements for Parole Hearings	-	-	-	-	1
Preparation of Position Statements for Executive Clemency Petitions	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	46	170	28	21	46

Other	Total
Direct Appellate Review Applications	16
Further Appellate Review Applications	80
Gatekeeper Petitions	5
Reported Questions	1

COUNTY- Date Range					
Cases Reviewed - Not Charged	Juvenile	District	Superior	Unknown	Total
51A & 51B Reviews	-	-	1,638	-	1638
Bomb Threats/School Threats	-	-	43	-	43
Child Fatality Investigations	-	-	8	-	8
Civil Rights Violation Investigations	-	-	6	-	6
Disabled Abuse	-	-	233	-	233
DV High Risk Assessment	-	-	19	-	19
Elder Abuse	-	-	172	-	172
Grand Jury Investigatons	-	-	2,077	-	2077
Homicide Responses	-	-	13	-	13
SAIN TEAM Interviews	-	-	235	-	235
Sexually Dangerous Person Filings and Investigations	-	-	121	-	121
Unattended Death Investigations	-	-	739	-	739
Other Non-Charged Investigations	-	-	-	-	0
Total	-	-	5,304	-	5,304

COUNTY- Date Range					
Other Work	Juvenile	District	Superior	Appeals	Total
Administrative Warrants	-	-	1,349	-	1349
Bail Reviews	-	-	1,108	-	1108
Civil Litigation Involving Forfeitures	-	-	488	-	488
Coordinate Defense of Civil Suits	-	-	-	25	25
Oppose Summons/Subpoenas	-	-	-	4	4
Post-conviction Hearings	-	-	-	33	33
Rendition and Fugitive Proceedings	-	-	121	-	121
Review/Respond to Public Records Requests	-	-	133	194	327
Search Warrants	-	-	-	468	468
Support Services to Law Enforcement Functions	-	-	645	-	645
Total	-	-	3,844	724	4,568



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 MIDDLESEX DISTRICT ATTORNEY
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MARIAN T. RYAN
 DISTRICT ATTORNEY

TEL: 781-897-8300
 FAX: 781-897-8301

EXECUTIVE

- ADMINISTRATION
- COMMUNICATIONS
- INTERVENTION & PREVENTION PROGRAMS
- PUBLIC POLICY
- LEGISLATION
- VICTIM WITNESS BUREAU

TRIAL TEAMS

- CAMBRIDGE REGION SUPERIOR COURT
- MALDEN REGION SUPERIOR COURT
- WOBURN DISTRICT COURT

SPECIALTY UNITS

- APPEALS & TRAINING BUREAU
- CYBER PROTECTION PROGRAM
- FAMILY PROTECTION BUREAU
- CHILD PROTECTION UNIT
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT
- ELDER/DISABLED UNIT
- SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT (SIU)

STATE POLICE DETECTIVES

- COMPUTER FORENSICS
- HOMICIDE
- SIU

REGIONAL OFFICES

- CAMBRIDGE
- FRAMINGHAM
- LOWELL

DISTRICT COURT OFFICES

- AYER
- CAMBRIDGE
- CONCORD
- FRAMINGHAM
- LOWELL
- MALDEN
- MARLBOROUGH
- NEWTON
- SOMERVILLE
- WALTHAM
- WOBURN



September 28, 2016

Christopher Marino
 Budget Analyst
 Office of Senator Karen Spilka, Chairwoman
 Senate Committee on Ways and Means
 State House, Room 212
 Boston MA 02133

Kathryn Kendall
 Office of Representative Brian Dempsey, Chairman
 House Committee on Ways and Means
 State House, Room 243
 Boston MA 02133

RE: FY2017 Middlesex (Northern) District Attorney's Office Report to The Senate and House Ways and Means Committees regarding the Commonwealth's Invocation of MGL. C. 277 §70C for the period January 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016.

Dear Christopher and Kathryn:

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 277 §70C, "The Commonwealth shall maintain a copy of all objections filed under this section and shall report the number of such objections, delineated by divisions of the district court, every 6 months to the house and senate committees on ways and means."

On behalf of the Middlesex District Attorney's Office (MDAO), please accept this filing which meets the above stated requirement. During the period January 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016, prosecutors from the MDAO made the following number of objections pursuant to this statute:

1. Woburn District Court	0
2. Malden District Court	0
3. Somerville District Court	0
4. Framingham/Natick District Courts	0
5. Waltham District Court	0
6. Ayer District Court	0
7. Lowell District Court	0
8. Marlborough District Court	0

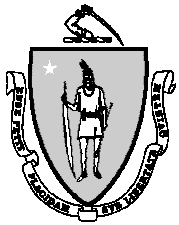
9. Cambridge District Court	0
10. Newton District Court	0
11. Concord District Court	0

If you have any questions regarding this program or the MDAO generally, please contact me at 781-897-8456.

Sincerely,

Regina Scalley
Chief Financial Officer
Office of the Middlesex District Attorney

Cc: District Attorney Marian T. Ryan
Steve Loughlin, First Assistant District Attorney, MDAO
Alice Casey, ADA & Director of District Courts, MDAO
Matt Demerle, ANF Fiscal Policy Analyst



MARIAN T. RYAN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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Memo To: Attorney General Maura Healey
Chair, Victim and Witness Assistance Board
Secretary Kristen Lepore
Secretary, Executive Office for Administration and Finance
The Honorable Karen E. Spilka
Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Honorable Brian S. Dempsey
Chair, House Committee on Ways and Means

From: Middlesex District Attorney Marian T. Ryan
Victim Witness Services Bureau Chief Anne Foley

Date: January 15, 2017

Re: **District Attorney's Program Plan Submitted Pursuant to G.L. c. 258B, § 6**

(1) **Description of Services**

M.G.L Chapter 258B Section 6 DA Report

Description of services

Background

The Massachusetts Victim Rights Laws (M.G.L. 258B), enacted in 1984, established rights and services for crime victims to ensure that they have a “meaningful role in the criminal justice system.” Crime can significantly impact a victim’s safety, emotional and physical health and financial security as they navigate the complex and often intimidating criminal justice system. The Victim Rights Law seeks to address the impact of crime, by ensuring crime victims and witnesses are able to effectively participate in the criminal justice process and access resources to address the short- and long-term impact of the crime. Chapter 258B affords crime victims the right to be informed, present and heard throughout the criminal justice process. Additionally, the statute outlines certain rights and services to address the wellbeing of the victim. Victim rights extend to a victim’s family members when the victim is a minor, deceased, or incompetent. Certain rights within the law pertain specifically to non-victim witnesses subpoenaed to testify in the course of a criminal matter. Serving as a witness in a criminal matter can be an intimidating process and also impact a witness’s safety, emotional and physical health, and financial security.

Victim Witness Programs in District Attorney's Offices

The Victim Rights Law directed prosecutor's offices and other criminal justice officials "to create and maintain a program to afford victims and witnesses of crimes the rights and services" established under Chapter 258B. Although many district attorneys already offered victim services, the law created the opportunity for consistency of services statewide.

In order to effectively serve crime victims and ensure their rights are afforded, district attorneys have created victim witness programs employing **victim witness advocates (VWAs)**. The VWA serves as a member of the prosecution team and works in partnership with prosecutors, police, investigators, and other staff to assist victims and witnesses. They work in the District, Juvenile, and Superior Courts and also in specialized units addressing domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, community violence, solved and unsolved homicides or providing specialized services to children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. VWAs build relationships with both criminal justice and community-based stakeholders to ensure victims' access to information, assistance, and support. VWAs regularly work with individuals and organizations on behalf of victims and witnesses such as:

- Community-based domestic violence, sexual assault, homicide, legal assistance and trauma services
- Probation officers
- Parole Board staff
- House of Correction officials
- Department of Correction officials
- Attorney General Victim Compensation staff
- Department of Children and Families (DCF), Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA), and other state and federal support services
- Disabled Persons Protection Commission and Elder Protective Services

These established relationships and the VWA's understanding of available resources ensure victims access to appropriate services and reduce barriers to receiving information, support, and additional referrals.

Affording Rights to Crime Victims and Witnesses

Right to be informed

- VWAs provide information to ensure crime victims and witnesses understand their rights in the case involving them, the criminal justice process, and their role in it. Advocates help prepare victims to understand the potential outcomes of each step within a criminal matter, the roles that individuals play within it and often serve as the identified liaison for victims and their families. They regularly provide timely information about court dates and hearings to help minimize the impact on victims and witnesses' employment and family obligations (child care, elder care, etc.).
- Once a criminal matter has been resolved, whether an offender is found guilty or not guilty, VWAs ensure victims, witnesses, and their families understand the outcome and any sentence that has been imposed by the court.

- VWAs assist victims and witnesses with gaining access to offender information. Victims are entitled to information about an offenders release from custody and/or conditions of probation or parole. This can include a “stay away” order or electronic monitoring conditions requiring the offender to remain away from the victim.

Right to be present

- VWAs accompany crime victims to all relevant court proceedings and are available to answer questions and address concerns as they arise.
- Victim Witness Advocates strive to create a safer environment for victims at the court house by planning for potential issues that may arise in the court building during proceedings and working to reduce potentially stressful interactions amongst the various parties to the criminal matter. (e.g. defendants, their families and the media.) Additionally, VWAs serve as the entry point to the designated safe and secure waiting areas designated in most courts across the Commonwealth.

Right to be heard

- VWAs regularly guarantee the victim’s right to be heard throughout the criminal justice process. The law recognizes the importance of victim input throughout the process, and advocates help victims achieve these important milestones including:
 - Opportunities to provide input to the prosecutor, the probation department, and the court regarding sentencing;
 - Delivery of a victim impact statement at sentencing detailing the physical, emotional and financial costs of the crime.
 - Ensuring that post-conviction agencies also have access to the victim impact statement and that the victim is registered to deliver a statement to the Parole Board when applicable.

Helping victims in the aftermath of crime

District Attorney Victim Witness Advocate programs play a critical and often lifesaving role for victims outside of the courtroom. They assist victims in addressing the ongoing and evolving impact of the crimes committed against them.

Planning for safety

- VWAs assist victims who live under threat to strategize and plan to protect their safety. They help victims to understand and access court ordered protection when necessary and plan exit strategies for themselves and their children when in danger of further violence.
- VWAs also assist victims and witnesses in a relocating to shelter or a safer community when necessary. This can include applying to the state witness protection fund, when deemed appropriate to keep a witness safe.

Connecting to free resources

- VWAs assist crime victims in applying for the **Victim of Violent Crime Compensation Program** offered through the Attorney General's office pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 258C. This program receives approximately 1500 new applications each year and reimburses victims "out of pocket" costs such as medical, dental, and mental health expenses, funeral/burial costs, security measures, and other costs. A VWA's assistance is often the first step to access this critical resource to ensure the financial impacts of violent crime are addressed.
- Victims are connected to free community based services that have been established to serve victims of all crimes and meet their unique needs. VWAs regularly reach out to programs serving victims of domestic violence, rape, homicide and other crimes to access shelter, counseling or legal assistance for the victims they serve.
- Trauma from violent crime and the court schedule can significantly impact a victim's ability to maintain a regular schedule at school and work. VWAs assist victims in communicating with educators, administrators, and employers about the impact of violence and the rights of victims to attend court proceedings.

(2) Personnel or Agencies Responsible for Providing Individual Services

- a. The Middlesex Victim Witness Bureau (VWB) is comprised of 41 Victim Witness Advocates (VWA) countywide. Although our starting salary for entry level VWAs increased by \$2,000 (from \$28,000 to \$30,000) within the past year, we still struggle to attract qualified applicants. Many cite basic cost of living needs as a determining factor in choosing not to join our staff. During the past few years we have faced an additional dilemma that has greatly affected our ability to retain more senior VWAs. Newly created Victim Service positions at other state agencies that offer a marked increase in salary have proven to be challenging competition.
- b. Of the 41 VWAs, 16 are assigned to the Superior Court. This includes the VWB Chief as well as the VWB Deputy Chief. Nine of the Superior Court VWAs are assigned by region and intake cases from specific District Courts within that region. We currently employ 3 assigned to the Child Protection Unit, which handles investigations and prosecutions of cases involving children countywide. Additional specialized unit assignments include 1 Superior Court Advocate in the Elder and Disabled Unit and 1 Superior Court Advocate who handles Post-Disposition and Sexually Dangerous Person cases. The remaining 19 VWAs are assigned to each of the District Courts with staffing proportionate to need based upon the volume of cases in that jurisdiction.

- c. The VWB consists of a diverse staff with a variety of language skills. This serves to enhance the services provided to the ever increasing diverse communities who live and reside in Middlesex County. These language skills include Cantonese, French, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Ukrainian.
 - i. In order to provide the most comprehensive services possible, the VWAs collaborate daily with police officers from each of the 54 cities and towns located in Middlesex County. We also interact daily with AOTC personnel (clerk's office and probation). We also interact regularly with Middlesex Sheriff's Department (Records Department with regard to Bail Notifications as well as Victim Services Unit for all other matters), Department of Corrections Victim Services Unit, Massachusetts Parole Board Victim Services Unit, Sex Offender Registry Board Victim Services Unit, MOVA, Victim Compensation Division of the Office of the Attorney General, Department of Youth Services Victim Services Unit, Department of Transitional Assistance Domestic Violence Unit and Department of Children and Families. In each Region, the assigned VWAs have ongoing working relationships with many community service agencies in that region. These include, but are not limited to Respond, Inc., REACH Beyond Domestic Violence, Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, Homicide Bereavement Services, Elder Services, Jewish Family and Children's Services, Transition House, Voices against Violence, and Child Witness to Violence Project. To date, there is one SAFEPLAN Advocate in Middlesex County (Ayer District Court). The SAFEPLAN Advocate and MDAO VWA have established a productive working relationship and provide much needed support to victims of domestic violence.
- d. Additionally, the District Court VWAs provide assistance with the civil restraining order and harassment prevention order process, both during the application stage as well as 10 day in court hearings and subsequent extension and/or modification hearings.

(3) **Victim-Witness Advocate Education and Training**

- a. We strive to enable VWB staff to avail themselves of any and all trainings and conferences in an effort to become more proficient in their advocacy. Staff attended these trainings which include the following, offered by MOVA (Massachusetts Office of Victim Assistance):

2016 Victim Rights Conference – Boston, MA

April 22nd

The 2016 Victim Rights Month Conference took place on Friday, April 22th at the Seaport World Trade Center in Boston, Massachusetts. The purpose

of the conference was to empower survivors and service providers through a variety of award presentations, a keynote speaker, networking opportunities and workshop exhibitions. The Victim Rights Conference Keynote Speaker was William Kellibrew. Throughout the rest of the day we held four workshop presentations that were titled: 'Moving Beyond Victim,' 'Beyond Safety: The Five Domains of Wellbeing & Sustainable Change for Survivors of Violence,' 'Leadership: Leading and Managing a 21st Century Workforce' and 'Dynamics of Partner Abuse and the Importance of Screening Including a Brief LGBTQ/T 201'.

- **2016 Massachusetts Victim Assistance Academy – Beverly, MA**
Traditional Academy July 24-29th
Advanced Academy July 27-29th
The annual Massachusetts Victim Assistance Academy (MVAA) was held on July 24 – July 29, 2016 at Endicott College in Beverly, Massachusetts. The traditional academy consisted of 44 students from diverse backgrounds with less than five years' experience. The Advanced Academy was held from July 27 to July 29, 2016. There were 19 students with more than five years' experience who attended. There were a total of 36 faculty members for the Traditional and Advanced Academy this year.
- **New Advocate Training – Weston, MA**
September 13-15th
New Advocate Training is three day training for new Victim Witness Advocates working in District Attorney's Offices or other government based court settings. The training covers a wide array of topics that are pertinent to Victim Advocacy in the courts including but not limited to general overviews of the Criminal Justice System, working with prosecutors, collaborating with community partners, post-conviction information and a survivor's perspective

b. In addition to external opportunities, the Middlesex VWB also provides a comprehensive New VWA Training several times a year contingent upon hiring/staffing needs. The training is conducted by the VWB Chief, Deputy Chief, Regional Supervisors as well as VWAs who possess specific expertise. The New VWA training is 3-4 day training that includes but is not limited to Trauma and Victimization, Case Management and Recordkeeping, the Court Process and VWA Responsibilities, Specialized Victim Services and Domestic Violence. The VWB staff also receives ongoing trainings throughout the year, both at monthly VWB staff meetings as well as specific trainings that are designed for VWA/ Assistant District Attorney cross over. The topics discussed at VWB staff meetings included guest speakers from the following agencies; Department of Transitional Assistance Domestic Violence Unit,

Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence; Boston Area Rape Crisis Center. The VWAs were also trained on the UVISA application process. Although they are not directly involved in these applications they are frequently asked questions regarding the process. The VWAs are invited and encouraged to attend the District Court ADA Trainings that are provided within the office. The topics covered in these trainings include: Using Digital Evidence at Trial, Meaningful Sentencing: Choosing Effective Probation Conditions, Prosecuting Cases with Child Victims and Witnesses, and Working Effectively with VWAs. Additionally, there was also a Sexual Harassment Training mandated for the entire office.