



*Providing quality, innovative and cost effective services that safeguard and enhance well-being*

## 2024 QUARTER 4 | DISTRICT ATTORNEY

### SELECTED PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Criminal Cases Filed (YTD)	<b>Felony:</b>	1,400	1,392	1,326	1,328
	<b>Misdemeanor:</b>	1,047	1,084	1,023	1,259
	<b>Criminal Traffic:</b>	413	451	478	426
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>2,860</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>2,827</b>	<b>3,013</b>
Jury Trials (YTD)	<b>Number:</b>	17	23	23	11
	<b>Result in Conviction:</b>	13	17	15	5
	<b>Conviction Rate:</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>45%</b>
Victim Witness Services (YTD)	<b>Total Case Parties Served</b>	2,099	2,299	1,985	1,953
	<b>Number of Initial Contact Letters Sent</b>	1,752	2,061	1,822	1,768
	<b>Number of Follow Up Contacts:</b>	404	691	282	322

### SUMMARY OF CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- District Attorney Peter Rindal elected in November to four year term as District Attorney
- Received resignation of two Legal Analysts
- Received resignation of two Assistant District Attorneys
- Oversight and management of crisis response program transferred to Bolton Refuge House, effective October 01, 2024. Victim Witness Services has remained committed to helping with recruiting and training volunteers.
- Developed and published remote work policies, procedures, and work-flows
- Developed search warrant and subpoena tracking system with full implementation starting January 01, 2025. The tracking system is designed to help the department better understand the scope and volume of search warrant and subpoena works in addition to assisting with ensuring those documents are provided timely in discovery.

### ISSUES ON THE HORIZON AND SIGNIFICANT TRENDS

- Staffing Shortages
  - Entering 2025, the department faces two Legal Analyst and four prosecutor vacancies with limited applicant interest, reflecting a statewide shortage of prosecutors, especially in Northern Wisconsin. Lower public-sector salaries and location challenges contribute to the issue, forcing existing staff to take on unsustainable workloads.
- Increase in Complex, Time-Intensive Cases
  - A sudden rise in homicide cases over the few years, combined with the growing volume of digital evidence (e.g., body-worn cameras, Ring doorbells, cell phones, CCTV), has significantly increased pre-trial litigation and discovery obligations. Staff must now dedicate more time to case preparation,

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evidentiary hearings, and ensuring discovery compliance, adding further strain to an already short-staffed office.

- Technology Upgrades
  - Axon Justice Deployment (mid-Q1 2025) will enhance digital evidence management with auto-transcription, potentially cutting transcript preparation time by half.
  - Laptops for all staff will improve collaboration, trial support, and remote work options, funded by the State with county assistance.

## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES (GREEN / AMBER / RED)

**Strategic Priority B:** *Quality and Meaningful Relationships*

**Strategic Initiative:** *Identify opportunities to strengthen partnerships and collaboration*

**Action Item:** *Develop communication networks for partnerships with community Non-Profit Organizations with a common mission.*

**Status:** Green

- Collaborating with Bolton Refuge House on on-going support of crisis response program.

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**Strategic Priority B:** *Quality and Meaningful Relationships*

**Strategic Initiative:** *Enhance employment engagement and resilience*

**Action Item:** *Working from home (county staff) and offering a flexible schedule when possible*

**Status:** Green

- Flexible work schedules are available to all DA Office employees
- Technological upgrades are being implemented to allow for remote work
- Department-specific remote work policies, procedures, and work-flows have been published
- Remote work is slated to begin mid-Q1 2025

## GOALS FOR NEXT QUARTER

- DA Office strategic planning and mission, vision, values work sessions
- Recruit for vacancies
- Year-end review

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