

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



MADISON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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A message from...



Tom Haine

MADISON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

To: Honorable Chris Slusser, Chairman, Madison County Board
Honorable Members of the Madison County Board
Citizens of Madison County

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my privilege to present our 2025 Annual Report of the Madison County State's Attorney's Office.

I am proud of the professionalism, dedication, and sense of purpose our team brings to serving this community. Every case handled reflects our responsibility to protect public safety, support victims, and administer justice fairly. This year brought continued progress in pursuing justice for victims, seeking accountability in serious and complex cases, and strengthening partnerships with law enforcement.

Notably, 2025 marked our 5th consecutive year of operating under budget. We achieved that milestone while also concluding the year with a full staff of prosecutors who are highly qualified. We are prepared to take any case to trial, no matter how difficult or complex.

None of these accomplishments happen in isolation. I am grateful for the continued support and collaboration of the Madison County Board, whose commitment to public safety and responsible governance helps ensure our office has the resources needed to serve the public effectively. I am equally grateful to the voters of Madison County for the confidence they placed in me. That trust strengthens our resolve to lead with integrity, transparency, and accountability.

While challenges continue to evolve, our mission remains clear: to protect public safety, support victims, and pursue justice with fairness and integrity.

Thanking you again, I remain,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas A. Haine".

Thomas A. Haine,
Madison County State's Attorney

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2025: ADVANCING JUSTICE



For the Madison County State's Attorney's Office, 2025 marked a year of meaningful progress: advancing justice, building on our strengths and laying the groundwork for continued excellence.

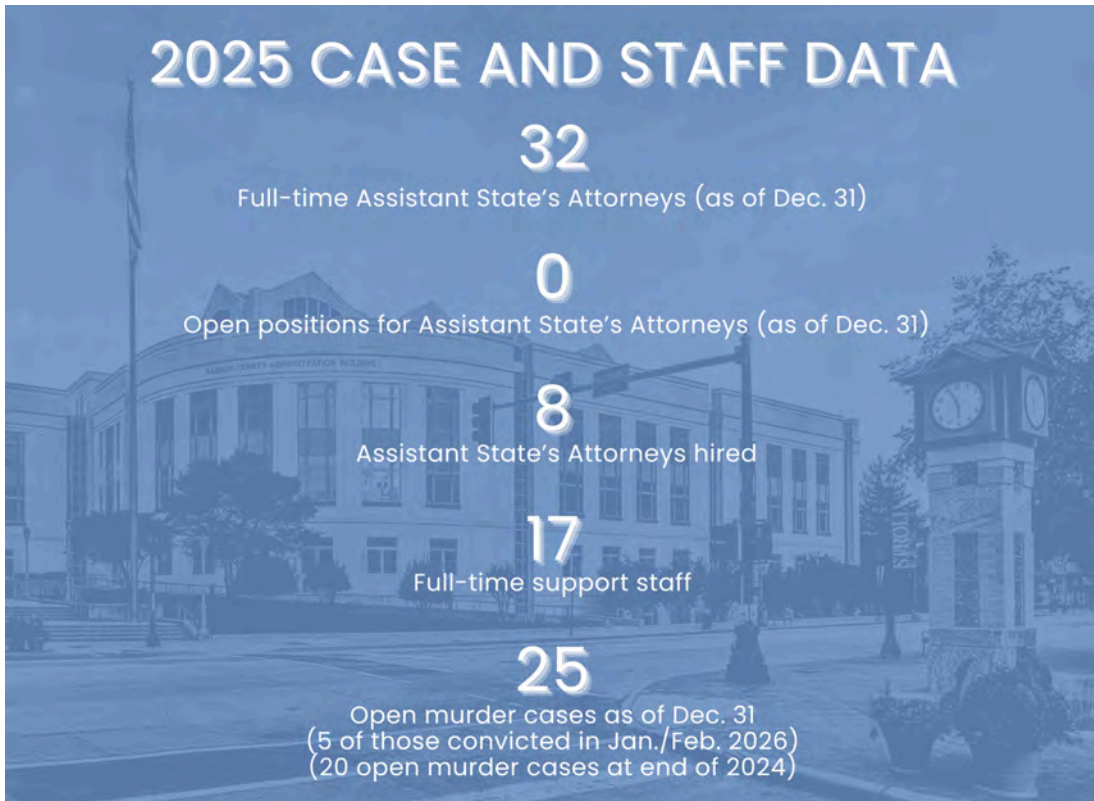
Our attorneys and staff continued to adapt to evolving demands while maintaining a steadfast commitment to justice. Felony filings increased to 3,229, signaling a growing caseload that will require sustained effort and coordination. But our office is well-positioned to meet that challenge. In 2025, we invested in both recruitment and retention — bringing new

prosecutors into the office while supporting and retaining the experienced staff whose knowledge and dedication form the backbone of our work. Our team of prosecutors possesses the skills and dedication to ensure we remain ready to address the needs of our community.

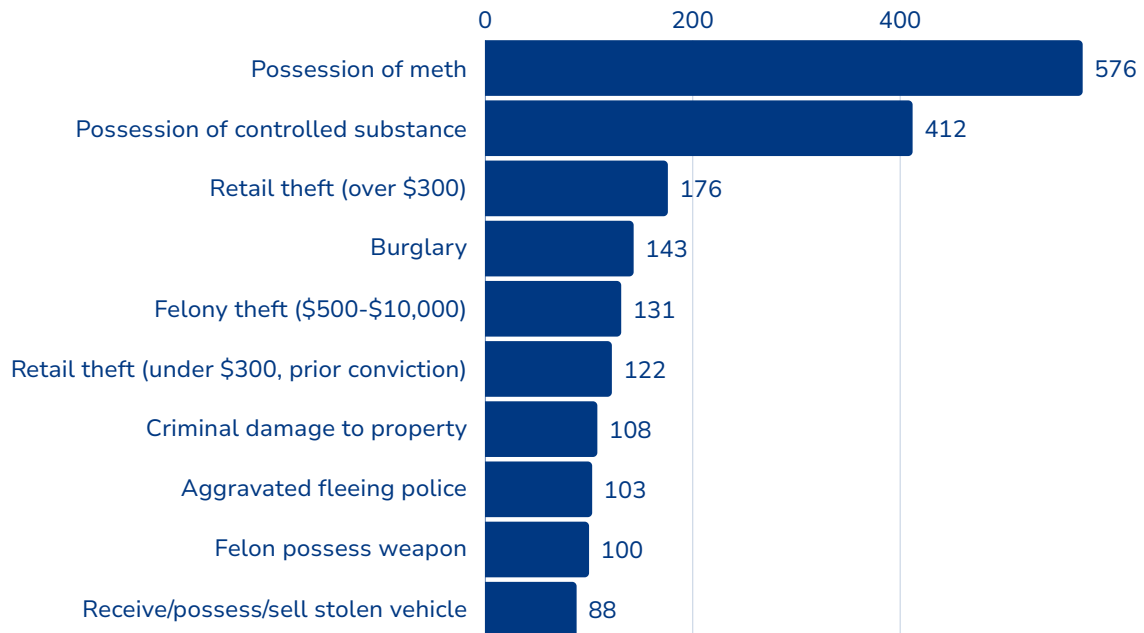
As we move forward in our mission, we are thankful for the assistance and cooperation from other stakeholders in the Criminal Justice System, including: the Judiciary, Madison County Board, Law Enforcement Agencies, Circuit Clerk and Public Defender.

2025: By the numbers

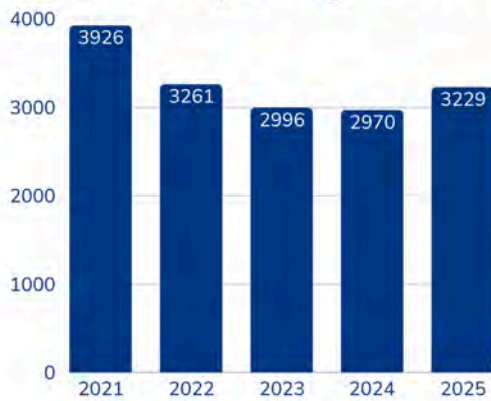
\$4,678,779	Total budget (including contracts)
\$179,288	Amount under budget (5 th consecutive year under)
21,794	New Misdemeanor, Traffic, DUI charges filed
5,300	Felony cases open at end of year
3,229	New Felony charges filed
2,561	Felonies prosecuted to conclusion
696	Detention Petitions filed (562 in 2024)
501	Hearings held on Detention Petitions
359	Detention Petitions granted after hearing
268	Average daily County Jail population (230 in 2023 and 192 in 2024)
55	Full-time employees (including attorneys)
32	Assistant State's Attorneys (full-time)
5	First-degree murder convictions (5 additional convictions in Jan. 2026)
11	Defendants charged with first-degree murder (6 in 2024)
1	Wonderful support/comfort dog named Fitz, to assist crime victims



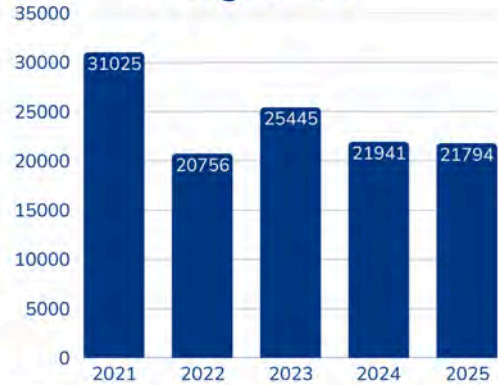
2025 Top felony charges



Total felony charges filed

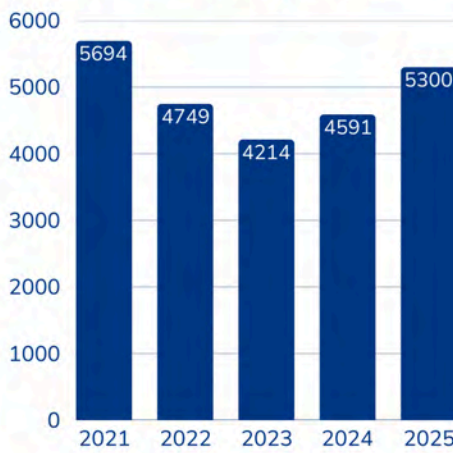


Traffic/DUI/misdemeanor charges filed*

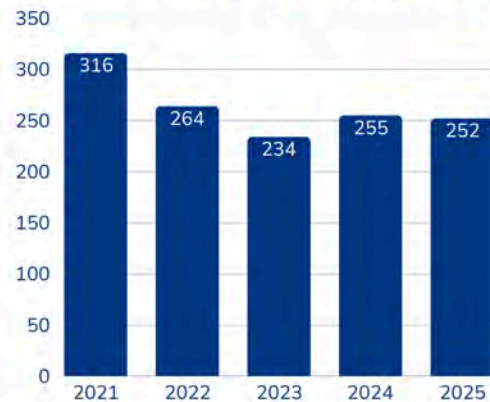


*In 2021 and years prior, a separate case was filed for each ticket/charge issued to a motorist

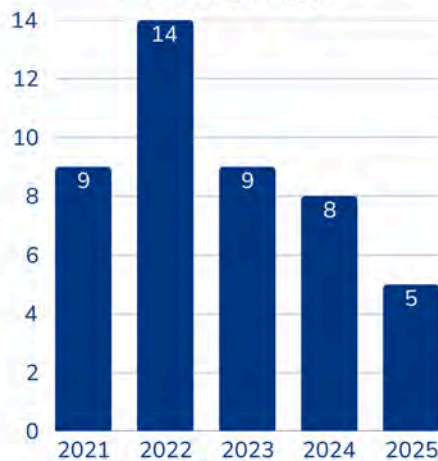
Felony cases open at end of year



Average open felonies per full-time felony prosecutor



Defendants convicted of murder



NOTE: 5 defendants convicted of murder in January 2026

Defendants charged with murder



NOTABLE CONVICTIONS



- **60 years for murder:** Deundrea S. Holloway sentenced to 60 years in prison for first-degree murder, intentional homicide of an unborn child and concealment of a homicidal death. Convicted of decapitation murder of woman.
- **30 years for murder:** Neil Howard convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to 30 years in prison. Strangled mother with bungee cord.
- **Life sentences for double murder:** Bryce V. Andrews sentenced to life in prison for murder of his adoptive father and another man. Stabbed victims a combined 115 times and set fire to home in attempted coverup.
- **30 years for murder:** Chauncy D. Lucas Jr. convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to 30 years in prison. Lucas confronted victim and fired multiple shots outside a home.
- **14 years for shooting at home:** Rondell L. Sanders convicted and sentenced to 14 years in prison for firing shots toward a home in Alton. A bullet nearly hit a 3-year-old girl.
- **35 years for role in girl's murder:** Raysean M. Colvin convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to 35 years in prison in connection with shooting death of Ra'Niya Steward, 13. Provided guns used in the shooting.
- **Murder conviction:** Jury finds Stanford Stokes guilty of first-degree murder and home invasion in shooting of romantic rival. Awaiting sentencing.

NOTABLE CONVICTIONS

- **4 years for educator:** Erin Hamilton-Foley, an assistant principal at high school, convicted of aggravated criminal sexual abuse of 17-year-old and sentenced to four years in prison.

- **Sexual predator convicted:** Nathan J. Welch convicted of predatory criminal sexual assault of a child (class X enhanced felony) and two counts of child

pornography (class X felony). Sexually assaulted an infant; produced and disseminated pornography involving same infant. Awaiting sentencing; faces up to 90 years.

- **Conviction for attack on doctor:** Jury finds Timothy P. Rodgers guilty of home invasion (class X) and aggravated battery of a person 60 or older for violent attack on retired doctor. Awaiting sentencing.

- **10 years for arson:** Larry D. Greer Jr. sentenced to 10 years in prison for residential arson, 5 years for aggravated domestic battery and 2 years for aggravated animal cruelty. Set fire to home of ex-wife, resulting in death of cat.

- **18 years for carjacking:** George Garcia-Flores sentenced to 18 years in prison for aggravated vehicular hijacking (class X). Stole car with two girls inside.



Assistant State's Attorney Luke Yager, Violent Crimes Unit

NOTABLE CHARGES

- **3 charged in alleged murder-for-hire:** Three defendants charged with first-degree murder and/or solicitation of murder for hire in connection with fatal shooting of woman in Collinsville on Jan. 21. (Sammy J. Shafer Jr., Gary D. Johnson, Marty D. Shaw)

- **Man charged with attempted murder:** Class X felony charges of attempted murder and armed robbery filed against defendant. Allegedly fired more than 40 rounds at occupant of vehicle with intent to kill, and took victim's purse, on Feb. 16 near Staunton. (Christopher L. Haug)

- **Predatory criminal sexual assault:** Couple charged March 3 with multiple felonies, including predatory criminal sexual assault of a child (class X enhanced felony). Offenses alleged to have taken place on multiple dates in Bethalto. (Blake M. Clemons, Ashley L. Rusk)

- **Adult, juvenile charged with shooting at bus:** Two defendants, ages 18 and 16, charged with aggravated discharge of firearm (class X) and related felonies for allegedly shooting at occupied school bus on Feb. 26 in Alton. (Daniel G. Coalan and juvenile)

- **2 charged with first-degree murder:** Two defendants charged with first-degree murder in shooting of man on April 20. Victim's body was discovered in an area of Granite City on April 24. (DeWayne Franklin, Brittany D. Howard)

- **Predatory criminal sexual assault:** Defendant charged May 6 with multiple counts of predatory criminal sexual assault of a child (class X) and related offenses. (Andrew S. Masiero)

- **First-degree murder:** Defendant charged with first-degree murder and other felony offenses. According to charges, was fleeing police on Illinois 143 and caused a crash that resulted in the death of a couple on July 3. (Miko D. Martin)



Assistant State's Attorneys Lauren Maricle (Chief of Violent Crimes Division, seated), Audrey Paulda, Ryan Kemper (Chief of Warrant Division) and Sean Williams.

NOTABLE CHARGES

- **Pair charged with first-degree murder:** Two defendants charged with first-degree murder in shooting death of 17-year-old girl on July 4. She was in her Alton apartment and was unintended victim of gunfire outside. (Joshua L. Glen-Colley, Tamadrey C. Ballinger)
 - **First-degree murder:** Defendant charged with first-degree murder in connection with shooting death of 16-year-old boy in Madison. (Rayontae M. Pearson)
 - **First-degree murder:** Defendant charged with first-degree murder in fatal shooting July 14 of man outside bar on Fosterburg Road in unincorporated Madison County. (Joseph A. Torres II)
 - **Attempted first-degree murder:** Class X felony charge of attempted murder filed against defendant who allegedly cut and stabbed a co-worker in the neck at a Collinsville retail store on July 23. (Kelvin F. Fuller)
 - **Predatory criminal sexual assault:** Couple charged March 3 with multiple felonies, including predatory criminal sexual assault of a child (class X enhanced felony). Offenses alleged to have taken place on multiple dates in Bethalto. (Blake M. Clemons, Ashley L. Rusk)
 - **Aggravated DUI causing death:** Defendant charged with aggravated DUI causing death (class 2 felony). Defendant allegedly drove motor vehicle while under the influence in a crash Oct. 3 in Alton that resulted in death of 17-year-old girl. (Zachary A. Shewmake)
 - **Attempted first-degree murder:** Defendant charged with attempted first-degree murder (class X). Defendant allegedly hit victim with motor vehicle, causing serious injury. (Adam E. Walters)
 - **Attempted murder of police officer:** Defendant charged with attempted murder (Enhanced class X felony) in shooting of a Granite City Police officer on Dec. 5. (DJ W. Marshall)
 - **Aggravated battery of officer:** Defendant charged with aggravated battery (class 1). Allegedly struck Brooklyn Police Officer with vehicle while officer was deploying spike strip to stop vehicle. (Kendall Brown)

DETAINING DANGEROUS OFFENDERS

The State's Attorney's Office in 2025 continued prioritizing pretrial detention of dangerous offenders. The SAFE-T Act, which requires our office to file Detention Petitions to keep dangerous defendants in custody until trial, has now been in effect for two full years.

We filed 562 Detention Petitions in 2024, compared to 696 Detention Petitions filed in 2025 – a 24 percent increase.

In 2024, there were 426 Detention Hearings held; of those, our Detention Petitions were granted in 325 cases (77 percent).

For 2025, there were 501 Detention Hearings held; of those, our Petitions were granted in 359 cases (72 percent).

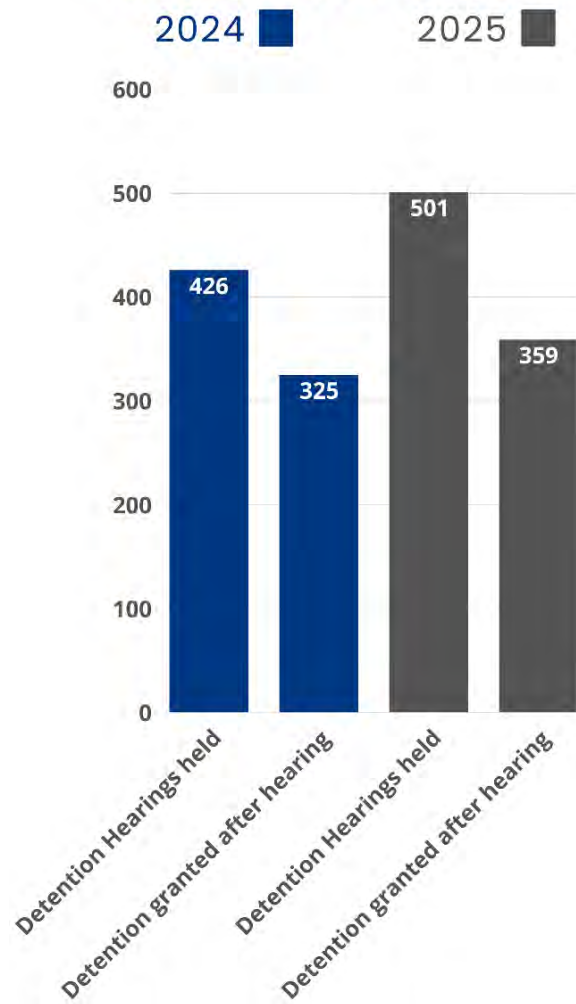
We believe these percentages reflect an aggressive approach to seeking detention.

This rate of success is a result of the outstanding efforts by law enforcement agencies in providing us with the information we need, early in the case, to proffer to the Court the facts and circumstances supporting detention.

Our prosecutors, in turn, have succeeded in making persuasive arguments in support of detention.

We've continued efforts to reduce unfavorable effects of the SAFE-T Act. For example, we plan to appeal the pretrial release of a defendant who we believe poses a threat to the public.

Madison County Detention Petitions



We've also revised office procedures so that we can continue to aggressively seek revocation of pretrial release when a defendant violates the terms of his release. In 2025, the State's Attorney's Office filed 133 Petitions to Revoke. We filed 128 Petitions to Revoke in 2024.

RECRUITMENT SUCCESS

A strong State's Attorney's Office depends on the quality, dedication, and integrity of its attorneys. Prosecutors carry enormous responsibility: protecting our community and ensuring justice. In recent years, however, attracting and retaining qualified attorneys for government service has become increasingly challenging. This is true not just in Madison County, but nationwide.

In 2025, the SAO took forward-looking steps to strengthen recruitment efforts and ensure our office remains fully staffed with skilled prosecutors. We worked with a firm to create an innovative, highly-targeted campaign aimed at recruitment of attorneys who are motivated by service, purpose, and the opportunity to make a meaningful impact.

The goal of the campaign was not simply to advertise open positions, but to tell the story of what it means to be a prosecutor in Madison County: why the work matters, who it serves, and the professional fulfillment that comes with public service.

The campaign utilized a modern, multi-platform approach, incorporating digital advertising, targeted outreach, and messaging tailored to law students, recent graduates, and experienced attorneys considering a transition to public service.



The targeted approach made the campaign cost-effective. The campaign was a success, resulting in the hiring of eight qualified Assistant State's Attorneys. In fact, we finished 2025 with a full staff of Assistant State's Attorneys. By comparison, at the end of 2024, we had 5 open positions for prosecutors.

The decision to invest in a professional recruitment campaign reflected a broader commitment to excellence and accountability. A fully-staffed office is not merely an administrative success — it is essential to public safety, fairness, and the proper functioning of the justice system.

As Madison County continues to grow and evolve, the State's Attorney's Office will continue to adapt, innovate, and invest in the people who carry out its mission every day.

PRESERVING THE RECORD

Roughly two years ago, we took on a daunting task: organizing and digitizing thousands of files at our Wood River storage facility.

These files, consisting of roughly 8 million sheets of paper, contained important records from cases prosecuted by this office. They were stored haphazardly in 15 rooms. It became difficult to locate files, and we risked a catastrophic event, such as water damage.

Director of Digitization Ben Hunter, with a team of part-time support staff, began organizing the files and digitizing records. In 2025 alone, the team digitized 17,395 files, which represent roughly 12 percent of the 8 million individual sheets of paper. Our physical files are now stored in an organized fashion and securely preserved. And we've done this work under budget.

State statutes govern the retention periods for our records. Working within those mandates, our managerial team updated our policies. These efforts will contribute to a more efficient and precise file-retention and storage system that allows easy and quick access when files are needed.

Our records are often needed for appeals and research, and it's important that we properly preserve the hard work of prosecutors and support staff in this office.



Files stored properly at Wood River facility



Example of file storage prior to project

JUSTICE IN FOCUS



JUSTICE IN FOCUS



JUSTICE IN FOCUS



PUBLIC SAFETY AND MENTAL HEALTH

One of the purposes of this annual report is to shed light on the many areas of responsibility handled by the State's Attorney's Office — work that often occurs outside the public eye, but is no less essential to the safety, well-being, and dignity of our community.

Among these lesser-known responsibilities is the office's role in the court process for involuntary commitments of individuals experiencing serious mental illness. This work represents a growing and important part of our mission.

Between 2020 and 2024, an average of 250 commitment petitions were filed in Madison County. In 2025, this figure nearly doubled, and the State's Attorney's Office handled 488 cases — a 95 percent increase.

As hospitals in Madison County plan to expand their capacity throughout 2026 and beyond, the SAO expects that even more petitions will be filed in 2026.

The State's Attorney is charged by law to represent the State in civil commitment proceedings, which are unique proceedings to determine whether individuals with severe mental illness should be involuntarily hospitalized or should receive involuntary treatment (such as medication).

In addition to preparing the State's evidence for those cases that proceed



to hearing, the State's Attorney's Office is also responsible for ensuring that all petitions, reports, and orders are properly prepared. In this unique context, the State's Attorney's objective is to protect public safety while safeguarding the constitutional rights of individuals living with severe mental illness. The Assistant State's Attorneys assigned to this docket work closely with mental health professionals, law enforcement, families and the courts.

Every involuntary commitment case represents a person: someone experiencing profound distress, confusion, or crisis. These cases often involve families who are overwhelmed, exhausted, and searching for help. And they involve courts tasked with making decisions that can temporarily limit personal liberty in order to protect the community. Each case requires an understanding of complex medical and legal issues.

Assistant State's Attorney Terry Scudieri and Assistant State's Attorney Warren Benning are assigned to this docket.

TOMORROW'S PROSECUTORS

The State's Attorney's Office is committed to cultivating the next generation of prosecutors by giving students meaningful opportunities to see public service in action.

Throughout the year, the office welcomes high school, college, and law students for job-shadow experiences and structured internships that place them alongside prosecutors in courtrooms, meetings, and day-to-day case preparation. These hands-on opportunities allow students to observe the responsibilities, challenges, and rewards of pursuing justice on behalf of the community, while internships offer a deeper, sustained look at the work that drives the office.



Victim Advocate Maddison Ervin and Assistant State's Attorney Luke Yager speak with criminology students at Lewis and Clark Community College.

Beyond in-office experiences, prosecutors and other staff from the State's Attorney's Office meet with law school students and visit college classrooms to discuss career paths, answer questions, and demystify the role of a prosecutor. These conversations help students understand not only the legal skills required for the job, but also the values that guide the office's work. By engaging directly with students at every stage of their academic journey, we are investing in a strong, ethical, and well-prepared future workforce dedicated to public service. These initiatives not only deepen students' understanding of the law, but also reinforce the office's commitment to fostering civic engagement and inspiring future leaders who reflect the communities they will one day serve.



'My internship at the State's Attorney's Office provided an opportunity to see the daily workings of a prosecutor's office, and make connections with experienced attorneys and legal professionals. I gained hands-on experience in a justice system that protects our community.'

Jenna Scruggs, intern, summer 2025



INTERNSHIPS FOR LAW SCHOOL STUDENTS

MADISON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
MADCOSAO.GOV



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The State's Attorney's Office continued its community role throughout 2025, pairing strong prosecution with community engagement.

Our team worked to ensure that residents across Madison County feel informed, supported, and connected to the justice system that serves them. Strengthening trust remains a central priority, as confidence in the justice system depends on the public knowing that reported crimes are taken seriously and pursued with diligence.

Community outreach this year emphasized prevention, education, and strengthening bonds. Prosecutors and staff met with students, civic groups, educators, church groups, veterans and

local leaders at a wide range of events, offering insight into the justice process and addressing community concerns. We also partnered with the Sheriff's Office, Coroner's Office, Emergency Management Office, and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration to host two Prescription Drug Take-Back events, helping reduce the risk of medication misuse and supporting safer households.



Assistant State's Attorney Warren Benning at 2025 Senior Fair.

PROTECTING CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

In June, the Madison County State's Attorney's office, joined by the State's Attorneys of 34 other Illinois counties, filed an Amicus Brief in the U.S. Court of Appeals' Seventh Circuit, arguing Illinois' ban on so-called assault weapons is unconstitutional.

In the amicus brief, also known as a friend-of-the-court brief, the group of State's Attorneys argued that the ban enacted by Illinois is unconstitutional because it broadly bans entire categories of firearms that are widely owned by law-abiding Illinoisans, and the ban does not follow the historical tradition of firearm regulation in the United States.

Our Civil Division extensively researched and drafted the brief. State's Attorney Haine assembled a broad



coalition of State's Attorneys from across Illinois to join the effort.

In November 2024, the Honorable U.S. District Judge Stephen McGlynn found the ban to be unconstitutional; his ruling resulted in an appeal before the Seventh Circuit.

The Civil Division's involvement in this matter reflects the office's broader responsibility to safeguard the constitutional rights of Madison County residents. Through this amicus effort, the

Madison County State's Attorney's Office reaffirmed its dedication to upholding the rule of law and protecting individual liberties. This work aligns with our mission to ensure that laws affecting our fundamental rights are subject to rigorous judicial scrutiny.

The Civil Division will continue to monitor the case as it proceeds through the federal Courts. We are hopeful that the Courts will agree with our assessment that this ban is unconstitutional.

OFFICE OVERVIEW

Madison County is the eighth-largest county by population in the State of Illinois, and the largest county south of Cook County and the Chicago collar counties. It contains approximately 30 law enforcement agencies that refer criminal cases to the Madison County State's Attorney's Office.

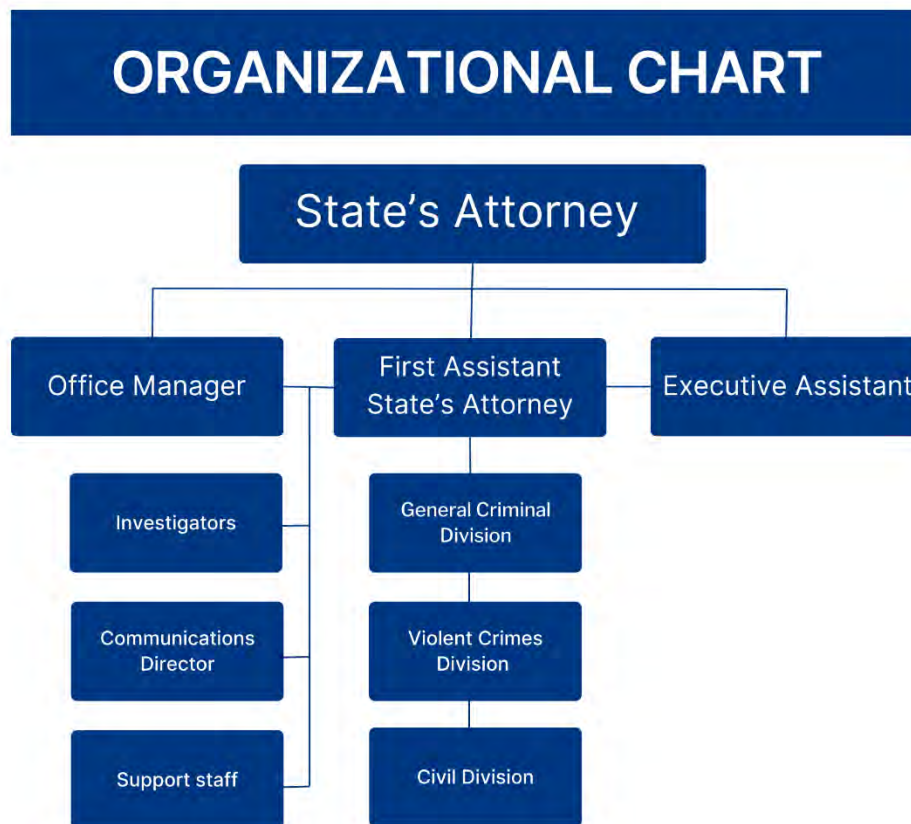
The Madison County State's Attorney's Office touches every facet of County Government as well as supporting the safety and well-being of every community in the County on a daily basis.

The State's Attorney is the legal adviser to County Government and Officials, the parliamentarian of the County Board, and the sole prosecuting authority for almost all state crimes committed in Madison

County and referred by local law enforcement agencies. Assistant State's Attorneys are appointed by the State's Attorney to assist in these duties.

At full staffing, the State's Attorney's Office consists of 32 full-time Assistant State's Attorneys, 17 Support Staff (which includes three Victim Advocates), two Investigators, an Office Manager, an Executive Secretary, a Digitization Director and a Communications Director.

The SAO's annual budget for FY2025 was \$4,678,779 with roughly \$4,433,416 provided by the County Board and the rest provided by grants or contracts. Our General Fund expenditures in fiscal year 2025 were \$179,288 under budget. It was our 5th consecutive year under budget.



OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Our administrative staff keep the office running smoothly by coordinating operations, supporting teams, and ensuring that essential tasks are handled with accuracy and care.

Office manager:
Stephanie Seehausen
Executive secretary:
Carleatha Charleston
First Assistant:
Ali Foley
Digitization:
Benjamin Hunter

Communications director:
Brian Brueggemann
Receptionist:
Renee Tempest

VIOLENT CRIMES DIVISION

The Violent Crimes Division consists of the Juvenile Delinquency Unit (JD), the Intimate Partner Violence Unit (IPV) and the Violent Crimes Unit (VCU).

The VCU focuses on high-level crimes of violence and is staffed by experienced trial attorneys who are focused on some of the most violent and dangerous offenders in our jurisdiction.

The VCU specializes in the prosecution of murder, violent acts and weapons offenses.

VCU prosecutors often respond to the scene of murders and violent offenses and assist in the cases from initial investigation through charging and disposition. VCU prosecutors work

regularly with victims and victims' families.

They are also highly trained in areas of forensics such as DNA and ballistics evidence.

The Juvenile Delinquency Unit works with juvenile offenders and covers the full range of criminal offenses, from misdemeanors to First-Degree Murder. Penalties

can include probation or confinement in the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice. Serious offenses can be transferred to adult court.

The Intimate Partner Violence Unit focuses on cases that involve domestic violence.

Assistant State's Attorneys:
Lauren Maricle (Chief)
Morgan Hudson
Luke Yager
Mike Stewart
Ryan Kemper
Audrey Paulda
Gina McNabney
Cara Mellan
Zac Cato

Support:
Heather McCammack
Taylor Schumacher
Omari McDonald
Tina Tucker



Attorney Lauren Maricle, Chief of Violent Crimes Division.

GENERAL CRIMINAL DIVISION

The General Criminal Division is responsible for the wide range of cases that do not fall within either the Violent Crimes Unit or Children's Justice Division. Its felony prosecutors handle the largest number of felony offenses in the office. These include death cases involving driving under the influence and drug-



Assistant State's Attorney Morgan Hudson, Chief of Criminal Division.

induced homicide and other offenses resulting in great bodily harm or permanent disfigurement, elder abuse, white-collar crime, and all other felony-level narcotics, property, and traffic offenses.

Roughly 85 percent of the felony cases currently pending are prosecuted here.

Assistant State's Attorneys:

- Morgan Hudson (Chief)
- Jim Buckley
- Tracy Baum
- Adrine Krikorian
- Korinne Rolens
- Joe Reames
- Warren Benning
- Tim Forneris
- Terrence Scudieri
- Sarah Voudrie
- Sean Williams
- Rebecca Buettner
- Courtney Scannell
- Amy Gabriel (post-conviction)

JUVENILE ABUSE AND NEGLECT

The Juvenile Abuse and Neglect Division works with DCFS and social services to ensure the safety of children in at-risk situations. They remove children from dangerous environments, offer services to parents to correct issues, and work to find permanent placement for children who have been removed from homes.

Assistant State's Attorneys:

- Kole Covington
- Mike Eberle

Support:

- Joelle Randolph
- Stephanie Nichols

WARRANT DIVISION

The Warrant Division typically handles the initial stage of a prosecution: filing the charge.

The prosecutors assigned to this division evaluate investigations presented by the roughly 30 Law Enforcement agencies that serve

Madison County. This division determines what, if any, charges should be issued.

In addition, the Warrant Division prepares Detention Petitions and presents arguments in support of those petitions during Detention Hearings.

Assistant State's Attorneys:

Ryan Kemper (Chief)
Andrew Thierry

Support:

Stephanie Nichols
Taylor Marshall
Melissa McClusky
Lauren Haffer

TRAFFIC AND MISDEMEANOR

The SAO's Traffic and Misdemeanor personnel are part of a team within the Criminal Division, and handle a high-volume caseload of all traffic and misdemeanor offenses in Madison County.

There were 21,794 misdemeanor and traffic cases filed in 2025 in Madison County. These include, but are not limited to, first and second DUI offenses, domestic battery, retail theft, assault, battery, disorderly conduct, and many others.

These offenses are punishable by up to one



year in jail. This division also handles County ordinance violations.

Traffic and Misdemeanor has court in both Edwardsville and in Alton. Law enforcement agencies handle the filing of most misdemeanor offenses and traffic offenses, after which the SAO takes over the prosecution of these cases.

Assistant State's Attorneys:

Aima Mori (Chief)
John Pirtle
Chris Kenney
Cole Bradshaw
Jillian Fusi-Whitehill

Support:

Bonnie Wilson
LaTina Madison
James Denton
Melissa Yarborough

CIVIL DIVISION

The Civil Division assists the State's Attorney in his role as the chief legal adviser for Madison County.

The Civil Division provides advice and assistance to the County Board on a wide range of matters such as zoning, taxes and environmental issues. The Civil Division reviews Freedom of Information Act requests for legal issues. The Civil Division also assigns certain litigation matters relating to Madison County to outside civil attorneys, while still managing each case.

The Civil Division provides legal advice to the various departments within Madison County government. The Civil Division also provides legal services to certain governmental entities such as Madison County Transit District and Special Service Area No. 1.

Assistant State's Attorneys

David Livingstone – Chief
Paul Evans

Paralegal

Olivia Threlkeld



SECOND-CHANCE COURTS

The Madison County State's Attorney's Office participates in three formal criminal diversion courts. They are the Drug Court, Veterans Court and Mental Health Court.

The State's Attorney's Office has ASAs who are assigned to these courts. These courts are authorized by Illinois Statute and attempt to create a non-adversarial experience in the criminal justice system where treatment is the focus. Participants can be placed into these programs on a diversion track, where charges would be dismissed, or on a conviction track, where they are convicted of the offense and participate in the specialty court as part of their probation. Often, a defendant is facing prison time and is given a "last chance" to avoid prison by participating in the probation track.

Defendants involved in all three courts are placed into appropriate treatment programs. They face sanctions such as community service or jail time for non-compliance with the court's directives. The specialty courts also assist individuals in finding housing and employment.

1. **Drug Court** focuses on offenders whose criminal conduct is attributable to drug use and addiction. These defendants are charged with non-violent offenses,

such as drug possession or theft. They are placed into treatment through Chestnut Health Systems.

- a. Assigned ASA: Tracy Baum

2. **Veterans Court** provides a wide range of treatment for a veteran of a branch of the United States military who has been honorably discharged or discharged under general conditions. No veterans who have been dishonorably discharged are eligible. Treatment is arranged through the VA utilizing benefits the veteran has earned by serving, at no additional cost to Madison County taxpayers.

- a. Assigned ASAs: Mike Stewart, Tim Forneris

3. **Mental Health Court** provides treatment to individuals whose criminal conduct is directly linked to mental health issues. These defendants have a wide range of criminal charges and are in need of specialized mental health treatment. Defendants are linked to treatment providers with Chestnut Health Systems and Centerstone.

- a. Assigned ASA: Korinne Rolens

SPECIALIZED TASK FORCES

In order to provide specialized prosecution and focus on various types of cases, the SAO has several specialized tasks forces in which ASAs receive specialized training on reviewing and prosecuting these types of offenses:

Children's Justice: ASAs Rebecca Buettner and Sarah Voudrie are assigned to the Children's Justice Task Force, which focuses on crimes against children. These prosecutors work hand-in-hand with the Madison County Child Advocacy Center to ensure that investigations are handled swiftly and with children's best interests in mind. They review, charge, and prosecute hundreds of cases a year. They prosecute a wide variety of offenses in which children are the victims, including murder.

Auto Theft Task Force: ASA Sean Williams is assigned to the Metro East Auto Theft Task Force. The position is funded through a state grant and is directly tied to the Metro East Auto Theft Task Force. MEATT Force is a specialized law enforcement unit consisting of officers from police agencies in Madison, St. Clair and Monroe counties. The unit focuses on prevention and prosecution of vehicle thefts and vehicular hijacking. MEATT Force, like similar task forces in other parts of Illinois, receives funding via the Illinois Vehicle Hijacking and Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Insurance Verification Council. The Council is funded by fees paid by auto insurance companies.

Elder Abuse: ASA Jim Buckley is assigned to the Elder Abuse Task Force. This task force works closely with law enforcement agencies to build cases involving physical and financial abuse of elderly people. Elderly people can easily become the targets of financial exploitation or even physical abuse. These are complex cases that require thorough investigation. Having this dedicated task force helps to ensure that such crimes are aggressively prosecuted, and that the elderly are protected from further victimization.

Intimate Partner Violence: ASAs Gina McNabney and Cara Tegel are assigned to the IPV Task Force. The unit focuses on domestic violence between intimate partners. These are difficult cases because the victims in many cases recant their initial allegations – often out of fear. It is important to address the issues of violence between partners to prevent an escalation or possible harm to the individuals in the home.

Asset Forfeiture: ASAs Zac Cato, Joe Reames and Warren Benning are assigned to the Asset Forfeiture Task Force. This task force pursues the seizure of property connected to criminal activity and ensures those cases are handled efficiently and lawfully. It also works to return forfeited resources to local law-enforcement initiatives. The goal of these efforts is to disrupt criminal enterprises and ensure that crime does not pay.



The Victim Advocates at the State's Attorney's Office inform victims of court dates and assist in connecting victims with additional social services. They also accompany victims to Court and provide information to victims about their rights and the Court process. The Victim Advocates are **Tiffany Brooks (coordinator)**, **Maddison Ervin** and **Aubrey Ellinger**. Tiffany is a handler for **Duo-Dog Fitz**, Courthouse Facility Dog.

2025 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Contacted **790** new victims of violent crimes to advise them of their rights in criminal proceedings and provide a direct point of contact for duration of the case
- Contacted more than **1,400** victims of various offenses to aid in seeking restitution, in instances of financial loss



INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

2025 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Completed **3,281** assignments (increase of 1,099 over 2024)
- Conducted **420** Criminal Histories
- Served **270** subpoenas
- Completed **753** witness-locates (increase of 294 over previous year)

The duties of the Investigations Division include locating witnesses, serving subpoenas, ensuring that witnesses appear at trial and interviewing witnesses. The Investigations Division also serves as a liaison with law enforcement agencies. **Chief Investigator Lee Brousseau and Investigator Kim Thornton** serve in the Investigations Division.

OUR MISSION

SEEK JUSTICE,
PURSUE TRUTH,
FIGHT FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME,
PROTECT THE COMMUNITY FROM LAWBREAKERS,
STRENGTHEN THE RULE OF LAW,
SAFEGUARD CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS,
AND
IMPLEMENT INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES
TO REDUCE CRIME,
ALL WHILE ACTING WITH
INTEGRITY AND PROFESSIONALISM.

MADISON COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE