

17TH JUDICIAL OF COLORADO DISTRICT ATTORNEY

2007 ANNUAL REPORT



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A MESSAGE FROM

DISTRICT ATTORNEY DON QUICK

2007 was another busy year at your District Attorney's Office. The population of Adams and Broomfield Counties continues to grow. Our Judicial District now has nearly 500,000 residents. In response to population and caseload increases, the State Judicial Department asked for 7 new Judges to be added in 2007 to 2009 - the most new judges for any Judicial District in the State.

Adams County - through the support of its citizens - is adding a new wing to the Justice Center to accommodate these new Courtrooms. The construction will start in 2008 and will be completed by the end of 2009. There are also plans for a future jail facility at the justice center. This facility will help alleviate jail overcrowding and reduce transportation costs and safety risks. In addition, the City and County of Broomfield is also planning an expansion to their Court House/ Justice Center to accom-

modate their growth in population and case load.



**DON QUICK,
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

We continue to be both "tough on crime" and "smart about crime." Since taking office in January, 2005, we have prosecuted 10,000 felonies and nearly 100,000 misdemeanors and traffic cases.

We continue to use rackeering laws and the grand jury to go after meth and check fraud rings. We partner with our law enforcement agencies for improved case filings and information systems.

We target fraud schemes which prey on our senior community.

At the same time, we have continued to send first-time non-violent offenders to our Diversion Program.

The most effective way to provide public safety is to prevent crimes from occurring in the first place. The goals of the Adams County Youth Initiative are to help our kids graduate high school—without a criminal history or a substance abuse problem. In 2007, our Adams County Youth Initiative partnered with our school districts to receive an \$8 million grant to establish prevention and after school programs to help our kids stay in school and out of the justice system.

The City and County of Broomfield has the Broomfield County Collaborative, which focuses on the needs of kids and their families in Broomfield.

MANAGEMENT TEAM:

DON QUICK,
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

MICHAEL GOODBEE, ASSISTANT
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

CINDY ALLEN,
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

DEBBIE CARNAHAN,
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

TINA JACHETTA,
HUMAN RESOURCES

TOM QUAMMEN,
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE DEPUTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

DAVE YOUNG,
CHIEF DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

PETER STUMPF,
CHIEF DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

CYNTHIA KOWERT,
CHIEF DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JILL STRAUS, CHIEF DEPUTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY, JUVENILE

TIMOTHY MCCORMACK,
CHIEF DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JP MOORE,
CHIEF DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

KATE HORN-MURPHY,
VICTIM/WITNESS PROGRAM

FRANK SPOTTKE,
CHIEF INVESTIGATOR

MARY K. SHOBE,
ADULT DIVERSION DIRECTOR

DEANNE KOPP,
JUVENILE DIVERSION DIRECTOR

MIKE QUIRK,
IT/BUSINESS SYSTEMS ANALYST

DISTRICT COURT

Our outstanding District Court Deputies prosecute the felony cases in Adams and Broomfield Counties. Their caseload includes crimes that range from lower class felonies like criminal impersonation to the most serious crimes like first degree murder. In 2007, this dedicated crew of 20 attorneys prosecuted over 3,200 felony cases, and nearly 6,000 felony charges. One unfortunate but notable increase in caseload for District Court was in the occurrence of vehicular homicides (up from 2 in 2006 to 8 in 2007). Conversely, first degree murder cases dropped (from 15 in 2006 to 10 in 2007). Court records indicate that our dedicated crew tried over 70 felony cases to jury trial in fiscal 2007.

A case of note- In a first degree murder prosecution William Gladney was convicted of Murder in the First Degree in the execution style shooting of the victim Marlow Earl Johnson. Gladney was also prosecuted federally and his will be serving three consecutive life terms in prison.

Part of succeeding at the trial level requires the ability to appeal rulings that harm the case, and that the prosecutors believe should be studied more closely by a higher court. When we were dealt rulings in Court that we believed needed to be reviewed or contested, that task fell to our Appeals unit. This unit is manned by a career prosecutor with over 25 years experience and 69 published cases. The Appeals unit produced 60 briefs on cases and appeals in 2007.

We are very proud of the talent, experience and knowledge of our District Court attorneys. The lawyers handling District Court matters and appeals have an average of over 9 years of prosecution experience. These attorneys do not simply handle the most complex cases and grand jury investigations. They also play an important role in teaching the next generation of lawyers in the office. The District Court attorneys teach our County Court attorneys in a variety of in-office trainings throughout the course of the year.

TOTAL FELONY CHARGES FILED IN
2007- **5,975**

VEHICULAR HOMICIDE CASES IN
2006- **2**

VEHICULAR HOMICIDE CASES IN
2007- **8**

ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT

Michael Heinz is a career prosecutor in our office with 26 years experience. He was a decorated officer in the Marines and served in Vietnam before becoming a prosecutor.



COUNTY COURT

County Court prosecutors are responsible for the prosecution of all misdemeanor and traffic offenses in Adams and Broomfield Counties. Frankly, these are a dozen of the hardest working attorneys in the state. According to court records, these attorneys applied their legal skills and honed their talents working on nearly 19,000 traffic cases in fiscal 2007. The same statistics indicate the filing of over 3,500 DUI/DWAI cases as well as 550 misdemeanor cases. These attorneys tried 190 jury trials in fiscal 2007. A new Chief Deputy for County Court was appointed in 2007 as well.

In order to deal with the dangerous dynamics of domestic violence, the county court attorneys, along with the critical assistance of victim services run a “fast track” program in order to intervene quickly and enhance victim cooperation and offender accountability. This program was originated by District Attorney Don Quick when he served as a chief deputy in this office over a decade ago. According to Court records, this office handled more than 1,200 domestic violence cases in the county court alone in fiscal 2007.

Training

We are proud to offer a vigorous series of in-house trainings for our newest attorneys. In addition, we present monthly trainings for all attorneys, investigators and victims advocates during lunch hours on a variety of topics, from technology for trial presentations, victim witness protection, methamphetamine cases, felony sentencing, DNA and prosecution, and victims compensation. 15 presenters from this office and statewide agencies offered 17 such training in 2007 in both Adams and Broomfield Counties. In addition, because the District Attorney realizes that the long-term future of the DA’s office lies in the enhancement of our county court attorneys, these attorneys received trainings on trial stages like jury selection (taught by the District Attorney), direct examination, cross examination, closing argument, motions pleadings, etc. Finally, our county court attorneys are asked to serve a rotation in the Appeals Unit which requires then to sharpen their written advocacy skills.



**“VIGOROUSLY
TRAINING THE
NEWEST ATTORNEYS
IN THE CRAFT OF FAIR
AND ETHICAL
PROSECUTION
CREATES REAL
PROMISE FOR
TOMORROW”.**
DON QUICK

ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT

Toni Wehman is a County Court Deputy hired in 2007. She was a law clerk for a Colorado Supreme Court Justice before choosing to serve as a prosecutor.



ADAMS COUNTY YOUTH INITIATIVE—ACYI



CREATING PARTNERSHIPS AT AN ACYI MEETING

District Attorney Don Quick knows crime prevention is a critical component and your district attorney is committed to and passionate about this issue. In 2005, he initiated the Adams County Youth Initiative (ACYI) by bringing together a consortium of partners involving the schools, public and private sectors, non-profit service providers, and faith-based communities in a collaborative environment to further the county's efforts to provide coordinated evidence-based programs to families and youth.

The goals of the ACYI is to help kids graduate high school—without a substance abuse problem or a criminal history. In 2006, the ACYI developed a resource manual compiling the programs that serve youth in our district.

ACYI aims to engage and mobilize multiple community sectors in Adams County from the bottom-up through the top-down by organizing and supporting community collaborative partnerships in the following areas: Early Childhood, Education, After School, Social Service System, Justice System, Local Youth and Parent Initiatives, Faith Based, Non-Profits, Mental Health, Community Health, and Substance Abuse. In sectors where partnerships already exist

in the county ACYI is providing support and coordination by linking those efforts towards a unilateral strategy for families and youth.

This year, the ACYI began formalizing its efforts, recognizing the value and power of collaboration. An example of the strength of the collaborative is the 4 year, 7.8 million dollar Safe Schools Healthy Students grant that was received by Adams County School District 12 to support and enhance youth services in the county. This was the only grant of its kind awarded in Colorado and one of 27 in the country. The partnerships established through the ACYI enhanced the credibility of the grant and was key to its success.

“EVERY CHILD IS AN
ARTIST, THE
PROBLEM IS HOW TO
REMAIN AN ARTIST
ONCE THEY GROW
UP”.

PABLO PICASSO

SAFER COMMUNITY PROJECT- CASE



Crime prevention efforts are key. One great example is our CASE project. The Communities Against Senior Exploitation (CASE) partnership is a community project of the District Attorney's Office. CASE provides crime prevention information and tools to Adams and Broomfield county citizens to minimize their risk of becoming victims of financial exploitation (ID Theft; Sweepstakes Fraud; Charitable-Giving Fraud; Home-Improvement Fraud; Investment Fraud and; Care-Giver Fraud).

The target audience for CASE is primarily seniors as they are the fastest growing population and sadly, the also most vulnerable to fraud.

CASE originally began as a partnership with faith communities. Significant number of "seasoned" adults are active in their places of worship and it is where they receive both information and social support.

Additionally, many have a high level of trust and respect for clerical authority. Due to the success of the outreach through faith partnerships, many other civic organizations, businesses, and schools have expressed interest in receiving information. From April to December 2007, 47 Power Against Fraud presentations were made to over 1,150 people through the faith community, neighborhood associations, senior groups, schools, rotaries, medical providers, and financial planners.

In order to succeed, the program is comprised of three components: 1) The "Power Against Fraud" seminar; 2) A monthly "Fraud Alert" of information to remind participants of the need to be diligent or to provide information on a fast-moving scheme in the community; 3) An information line to ask questions, to report contact with an economic scheme, or to discuss whether criminal activity may be a part of one's life.

"A COMMON DEFINITION FOR FAILURE IS REPEATING THE SAME ACTIONS OVER AND OVER AGAIN, EXPECTING DIFFERENT RESULTS. THIS WILL NOT WORK ANYMORE WHEN IT COMES TO THE PROBLEM OF PRISON OVERCROWDING" DISTRICT ATTORNEY DON QUICK

INVESTIGATION SERVICES

Our Investigators assist the prosecutors in many ways, e.g., conducting witness interview, tracking down and hand serving key witnesses. This unit is headed by Chief Investigator Frank Spotke and Deputy Chief Investigator Dan Michals. Between the two of them, they have amassed 70 years of law enforcement experience.

INVESTIGATOR SPOTLIGHT

Michael Bueno is a Senior Investigator in our office. He came to work for the DA's office after a career in Corrections in New York.



JUVENILE/CHILD VICTIM UNIT

Chief Deputy Jill Straus oversees the combined Juvenile and Child Victim Unit for the District Attorneys office. Jill is a state leader in juvenile law, and a valued teacher who lectures at the national level. She brings 25 years prosecution experience to her role in managing six attorneys whose passion is dedicated just to these unique and challenging types of cases.

In 2007, the Juvenile unit reviewed over 1,000 cases and filed over 625 juvenile cases in the Courts. The crimes prosecuted in juvenile court run the

spectrum from simple possession of marijuana to first degree murder.

Out of 625 cases, a total of 19 cases were selected to be charged as adults. In order to insure that a fair and just decision is made regarding who should be charged as an adult, the District Attorney himself reviews all requests for juveniles to be charged as adults. He then personally decides whether the juvenile will be charged as an adult. In addition, most of these cases are sentenced to the Youth Offender system.

The Child Victim Unit

(CVU) has been in existence for a nearly decade now. The CVU is staffed with three full time attorneys who are specially trained to handle crimes involving child victims. These attorneys carry a smaller caseload than felony deputy DA's because of the complexity of these cases, and the likelihood of trial.

In the CVU for 2007, the attorneys prosecuted 19 cases of felony child abuse, and 212 cases alleging sexual assault on a child.

**JUVENILE CASES
REVIEWED IN 2007**

1,168

**TOTAL JUVENILE
CASELOAD**

**DOWN 18% SINCE
2004**

I.T. DEPARTMENT

Information and Technology is an ever moving, ever improving field. Last year was no different.

Some highlights of the 2007 year for IT included:

- Office-wide upgrade of software for word processing, email and presentations;
- Conducted a Video-Teleconferencing pilot project- early results

are promising. This will enable remote meeting attendance with police agencies for filing cases.

- 2007 marked the first year that case file archives have been digitally scanned rather than microfilmed.
- The AdamsBroomfieldDA.org website was materially enhanced adding Youth

Initiative Resource Guide, as well as a CASE webpage.

- Audio/Visual presentations were enhanced for trials through new software
- A federal grant has been secured for Coplink which will enable all law enforcement agencies in the District to share data.



DEB CASIAS
INTAKE UNIT
COORDINATOR

I.T. SPOTLIGHT

Mike Quirk heads our I/T Department. Mike spent a career supervising the IT department for the 200 plus attorneys at the Attorney General's office before coming to our District Attorney's office.



JUVENILE AND ADULT DIVERSION PROGRAMS



**DIVERSION COUNSELOR
DIONNE VOSS**

The DA's office has a thriving diversion program for both adult offenders and juveniles as well. The juvenile and adult units have 13 counselors with a wealth of experience. Diversion offers minor offenders the opportunity to avoid a criminal record if they strictly comply with the monitored terms of their diversion contract. This program is extended primarily to 1st time non-violent offenders who exhibit a sincere commitment to changing their lives for the better.

Another strategy employed by diversion in 2007, was utilizing a clinical consultant to advise our counselors on clients with mental health issues.

Having applied for and secured a grant to reduce truancy as a crime reduction strategy, we are continuing a strong juvenile diversion program on reducing truancy in our high school clientele.

The staff at diversion work hard to refine their training and certification to better serve their clients. In 2007, one diversion counselor received his Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) certification, while another counselor is taking courses to complete her Certified Addictions Counselor (CAC) certification.

In 2007, 49% of all cases accepted in adult and juvenile diversion were property crimes. The unit succeeded in collecting over \$140,000 in restitution for victims of crime.

Our diversion clients also completed close to 3,300 hrs of community service as part of their diversion contracts.

**THE DIVERSION
PROGRAM
SUCCESSFULLY
COLLECTED OVER
\$140,000 IN
RESTITUTION FOR
VICTIMS IN 2007.**



**DIVERSION COUNSELORS
PAT AND SANDY**

JUVENILE DIVERSION STATISTICS

71.30%	Complete Diversion Successfully
74.6%	Clients are Male
25.4%	Clients are Female
40.7 %	Clients are Caucasian
39.7%	Clients are Hispanic
40.7 %	Clients are in School full-time

CRIME VICTIM SERVICES

Colorado has been blessed with a progressive Victim's Rights Amendment (VRA) as part of the state Constitution since 1992. Under the (VRA), victims of certain crimes have important rights at certain critical stages of the justice process. Serving crime victims must be a priority for all law enforcement agencies, not just to comply with the VRA, but more importantly, because it is the right thing to do.

At the DA's office, we are proud of the work our victims advocates do in helping and supporting victims as they wind through what can be a confusing and complicated criminal justice process.

This office has seven full-time victims advocates to aid victims, and assist the prosecutors.

Some highlights from Victim Services in 2007:

- DA volunteers for domestic violence cases logged 2,143 hours helping 778 victims of domestic violence
- We trained 13 volunteers to assist with domestic violence cases. We currently have 11

volunteers and three interns who assist the handling of cases free

- Over \$1.3 million in victim's compensation funds were processed by this unit to crime victims in 2007;

Working in conjunction with the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, this unit conducted an office wide training on Victims Rights. On the training front, our Assistant Director, Kelly Block provided training to 40 doctors, nurses, and physician assistants on the dynamics of domestic violence in November of 2007. In addition, our Director Kate Murphy provided training to 50 volunteers over 2007 on the Victims Rights Act.



VICTIMS COMPENSATION

**IN COLORADO,
VICTIMS OF CERTAIN
CRIMES HAVE KEY
CONSTITUTIONAL
RIGHTS.**

ADVOCATE SPOTLIGHT

Shelley Traphagan has been a crime victim advocate for the office for 26 years. She has helped thousands work through the justice process.





CHIEF DEPUTY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
JILL-ELLYN STRAUS

**“THE DUTY OF A
PROSECUTOR IS TO
SEEK JUSTICE, NOT
MERELY CONVICT.
THAT IS PRECISELY
WHAT PROSECUTORS
IN COLORADO DO
EVERY DAY.”
DA DON QUICK**

District Attorney **Don Quick** served his term as President of the Colorado District Attorneys Council (CDAC) from 2006-2007. Governor Ritter appointed Don to serve on two critical criminal justice commissions in 2007; the DNA State Task Force Committee as well as the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Commission. Don was one of only two District Attorneys across the state to be asked to serve on these committees.

Assistant Chief Investigator **Dan Michals** was part of the team to be recognized nationally as the best insurance fraud investigator.

NOTEWORTHY

Assistant District Attorney **Michael Goodbee** was asked and served a second year as President for COVA, the largest crime victim advocate non-profit organization in the state. Goodbee was also selected to chair the criminal law section of the Colorado Bar Association and was selected to serve as the DA’s representative on the Governing Board for the State Bar association.

Chief Deputy **Thomas J. Quammen** was appointed, along with Goodbee, to spearhead the special prosecution involving a review of the Tim Masters conviction in Fort Collins.

Together, the two spent months on the case and weeks in court. They reviewed thousands of pages of reports in trying to insure that the matter was handled in a fair and just way.

Chief Deputy DA **Jill Straus** was recognized as the 2007 Prosecutor Teacher of the Year and Jill also worked with Goodbee to assist in the preparation of an \$8 million grant to benefit programs for Adams County Schools. This grant was the only one awarded in the state of Colorado.

BROOMFIELD OFFICE

2007 BROOMFIELD STATS

325	Felony Cases
2,282	Traffic Cases
156	Juvenile Cases
126	Domestic Violence cases
460	DUI Cases
575	Misdemeanor cases

The Seventeenth Judicial District was a one county (Adams) jurisdiction until 2001. That year, the city of Broomfield became a city and county, as well as a welcome addition to the Seventeenth Judicial District.

The District Attorney’s office provides coverage

for both County and District Courts located in Adams County (Brighton) as well as Broomfield County (Broomfield). The Broomfield office is serviced by earnest staff including four attorneys, an investigator, a victim witness coordinator and two support staff. Both County and

District Courts in Broomfield are serviced by full-time judges.



17TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

1000 Judicial Center Drive
Brighton Colorado

Phone: (303) 659-7720

WEBSITE

www.adamsbroomfieldda.org



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

District Attorney's Office

Adams County 303.659.7720

Broomfield County 720.887.2199

Help for ID theft victims

Ron Miller, Investigator 303-835.5633

George Mathias, Investigator 303.835.5405

Help for Domestic Violence Victims

Victim-Witness Office 303.659.7735

Alternatives to Family Violence 303.289.4441

Adams County Sheriff's office 303.659.6400

Arvada Police Department 720.898.6900

Aurora Police Department 303.739.6000

Brighton Police Department 303.655.2300

Broomfield Police Department 303.438.6400

Commerce City Police Department 303.287.2844

Federal Heights Police Department 303.428.8538

Northglenn Police Department 303.450.8865

Thornton Police Department 303.538.7441

Westminster Police Department 303.430.2400