



Morris County Prosecutor's Office 2022 Annual Report



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About the Morris County Prosecutor's Office

The Morris County Prosecutor is the Chief Law Enforcement Officer for Morris County, New Jersey. The Prosecutor maintains The Office of the County Prosecutor, which is located in the Morris County Administration and Records Building at 10 Court Street in Morristown, as well as the Special Operations Division at an offsite location.

The Morris County Prosecutor's Office (MCPO) is staffed by approximately 153 members in legal, investigative, and support functions. In addition to the Prosecutor, the staff consists of assistant prosecutors, sworn law enforcement officers who serve as investigators, prosecutor's agents, victim/witness counselors, and clerical employees. In 2022, the MCPO opened 1,749 prosecutions and reviewed 2,456 criminal matters. That same year, 456 cases were concluded by plea, and eight jury trials were held.

Morris County is a jurisdiction of close to 500,000 residents living in an area of nearly 482 square miles. There are 39 municipalities in Morris County, ranging in population size from Parsippany-Troy Hills Township (population of approximately 56,162 residents) to the Borough of Victory Gardens (approximately 1,582 residents). Within the county, 37 municipalities maintain an independent police department. It is also home to the Morris County Sheriff's Office, under the leadership of Sheriff James Gannon.

Morris County was created on March 15, 1739, when it split from Hunterdon County by an act of the colonial legislature. The county – which included modern-day Sussex and Warren counties and consisted at the time of four townships - was named for Colonel Lewis Morris, the first governor of the Royal Province of New Jersey. The village of New Hanover, in Morris Township, was selected as the county seat and renamed Morristown.



Morris County Courthouse 1913

Known as “the military capital of the American Revolution,” Morris County has consistently been an emblem of the founding principles of the United States and the freedoms that continue to drive its identity. Morristown, once home to General George Washington and his Continental Army, has been a location for unwavering honest government and order. In fact, it was Morris County that was home to the Continental Army for two different winters; a safe location just the right distance away from British-occupied New York. Although the land may not look the same as it did during the times of Washington, historical sites such as the Ford Mansion (Washington's Headquarters) and Jockey Hollow work in tandem with newer structures to uphold Morris County's timeless values and charm.

The first Morris County court met on March 25, 1740, in Jacob Ford's tavern in Morristown. In 1776, Jacob Ford and Samuel Tuthill were appointed the county's first judges.

There were very few lawyers in the 1700s. People often went to court without representation and were subject to only the judge and jury. The prosecuting officers were court employees who drafted indictments and sent them to the Grand Jury. The Attorney General acted as the Prosecutor of the Pleas, representing the State in county trials. A County Court of Common Pleas heard cases between two people, as opposed to cases involving the state and an individual. At this time, the court was held in the tiny Morris County Court House located on the Morristown Green close to the First Presbyterian Church (a marker stands on the site today).

In 1822, the State General Assembly of the State of New Jersey created the role of the Prosecutor of the Pleas. The Court of Quarter Session appointed a Prosecutor of Pleas to each county once every five years. On December 20, 1824, George K. Drake became the first Prosecutor of the Pleas for Morris County. Years later, the Governor of the State of New Jersey, rather than the Court of Quarter Sessions, was designated to appoint the Prosecutor of Pleas.

Throughout the nineteenth century and into the early twentieth century, the Prosecutor dealt with crimes ranging from petty theft, to murder and robbery. The title and role of the Prosecutor of Pleas continued until 1948 when a statutory change modified the title to County Prosecutor. John D. Collins, the twenty-third Prosecutor, is the first in the line of our modern idea of the County Prosecutor. Changes to the law by the Legislature during the mid-twentieth century reclassified many criminal offenses, which generally left the more serious crimes for the attention of the County Prosecutor and lesser crimes to the municipal courts.

Robert J. Carroll is the 34th Morris County Prosecutor.

A Message from Prosecutor Robert J. Carroll



On behalf of the people serving in the Morris County Prosecutor's Office, I welcome you to this introduction of our office. For many citizens, this may be your first time reviewing the annual report, as suggested by the New Jersey Attorney General. County Prosecutors will now post the document on their websites. I hope you find this report to be enlightening and informative about what role my office plays in the Justice System, and what steps my staff and I are taking to ensure fairness, equality, and citizen safety in our complex and multi-faceted world.

Recognizing the impact that mental health issues have on all aspects of society, the Morris County Prosecutor's Office expanded the use of alternative dispositions, partnerships with mental health professionals and other community resources, all while remaining highly sensitive to the victims of crime, be it through our Crisis Intervention Training, Mental Health Diversion Program, Veterans Diversionary Program, Recovery Court, or other such programs that carefully evaluate the causation of criminal conduct and deploy the most effective remedies against recidivism. We also have prioritized community outreach, student safety programs, and continuing education for law enforcement personnel.

In addition to introducing innovative approaches to addressing criminal conduct and its societal origins, our office is also dedicated to overseeing law enforcement team building by coordinating multi-agency task forces that respond to violent crimes and to any escalation in particular criminal conduct, such as internet crimes against children, human trafficking, burglaries, and vehicle thefts. Utilizing the newest technologies available to law enforcement and understanding that networking in law enforcement operations enables enhanced protections for our citizens and communities, we always strive to ensure the most effective methods through communication, coordination, and logistical management among all our State, County, and Municipal law enforcement partners. We thank our citizens for their continued support.

Mission Statement

The Morris County Prosecutor's Office commits its resources in partnership with the law enforcement community and citizens of Morris County to promote a safe and secure environment, free from the fear of crime. The members of this office serve to minimize the impact of the criminal justice system upon the lives of victims, witnesses, and their families by helping them overcome the effects of crime, to help them navigate their involvement in the criminal justice system, and to help them support successful prosecutions.

The Morris County Prosecutor's Office, as the chief law enforcement agency in Morris County, provides leadership and supervision over the chiefs of police and municipal prosecutors with a view to ensure the effective, efficient, and uniform enforcement and prosecution of the criminal laws throughout Morris County.

The Morris County Prosecutor's Office is tasked with using all reasonable and lawful thoroughness for the detection, arrest, indictment and conviction of offenders against the laws of the State of New Jersey, as well as strengthening the relationship between law enforcement and the public it serves and improving the quality of life in Morris County. The Prosecutor has overall command of the agency and is the final authority in all matters of policy, procedure, special orders, discipline and promotion. In line of authority after the Prosecutor are the First Assistant Prosecutor and the Chief of Detectives.



(L-R) First Assistant Prosecutor Maggie M. Calderwood, Prosecutor Robert J. Carroll, and Chief of Detectives Robert M. McNally.

Prosecutor Robert J. Carroll

Morris County Prosecutor Robert J. Carroll is a veteran attorney, having held numerous, sensitive law enforcement positions in New Jersey state and county government during his over four decades of public and private service. Starting as an Essex County Investigator in the early 1970s, Carroll later went to law school and became an Essex County Assistant Prosecutor. He initially worked in the Trial and Appellate sections, and later served as Assistant Prosecutor/Supervisor of the Organized Crime and Special Prosecutions section in that agency. In 1980, he was selected to become a Deputy Attorney General in the elite Special Prosecutions section of the NJ Division of Criminal Justice, a unit he later headed. As a Deputy AG Section Chief, Carroll investigated and prosecuted major illegal drug operations, public and governmental corruption and Organized Crime enterprises and specialized in electronic surveillance and undercover operations.

Thereafter, Carroll was appointed in 1986 to a Supervising Deputy Attorney General, in the Statewide Organized Crime and Racketeering Task Force (OCRTF) in the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General. He was later promoted to task force Chief/Assistant Attorney General in 1989. In that capacity, Carroll investigated and prosecuted major New Jersey criminal enterprises and public corruption. The OCRTF successfully investigated and prosecuted hundreds of organized crime members, associates and their criminal “crews.” Among the convictions of major figures, Carroll’s unit investigated, tried and secured a conviction of the infamous “Iceman” killer, Richard Kuklinski, for several brutal murders. This case has been popularized in pop culture and media. He also led investigations into five La Cosa Nostra Crime families and personally prosecuted the hierarchy of the New Jersey Lucchese Crime Family, achieving a major RICO-murder conviction.

Throughout his career, Carroll focused on developing investigational harmony and avoiding conflicts in prosecutions and field level operations. For his leadership role in organized crime cases and his efforts to create effective interagency team building, he has received numerous outstanding performance awards from many agencies, including the FBI, NJ State Police, Secret Service, N.J. Division of Criminal Justice, U.S. Marshals Service, U.S. Attorney’s Office, ATF, the Federal Organized Crime Strike Force, and numerous Prosecutor’s Offices.

Carroll has acted as an instructor for a number of law enforcement institutions, including the New Jersey State Police Academy, the Essex County Police Academy, and has educated hundreds of state and tribal leaders in law enforcement and anti-corruption methods. Before his current appointment as Morris County Prosecutor, Carroll served as Director of the Law Department for the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, the largest toll road authority in North America. He previously also served as Acting Sussex County Prosecutor. He also supervised thousands of individual and corporate background investigations while serving as a Chairman of a Gaming Commission and Compliance Officer for major Native American Gaming Facilities.

Carroll earned a Bachelor’s Degree from Wake Forest University, where he was a scholarship football player and Dean’s List student. He holds a J.D. from the Seton Hall University School of Law and is a member of the New Jersey State and Federal Bars. He also holds an Executive Certificate for Leadership Development from Rutgers University School of Management and Labor Relations where he also taught a course on labor ethics and preventing corruption in labor unions.

Prosecutor

First Assistant Prosecutor

Chief of Detectives

Chief of Staff

Office Manager

Deputy Chief of Detectives

Finance

Executive Assistant (2)

PIO/OPRA

Courts & Administration Division

General Investigations
Unit,
Pre-Trial
Services/Diversion/
Firearms Regulations
Unit,
Intake Unit,
Appellate,
Mental Health Diversion
Unit,
Victim Witness Unit,
Evidence Custodian,
Firearms Regulations,
Support Services

17 Assistant Prosecutors
14 Investigative Staff
31 Support Staff

Family Division

Domestic Violence Unit,
Firearms Returns,
Juvenile, Missing Persons
Unit,
Bias Crimes Unit,
Community Outreach &
Recruitment,
Firearms & Training,
Humane Law
Enforcement

7 Assistant Prosecutors
10 Investigative Staff
3 Support Staff

Tactical Division

Major Crimes Unit,
Sex Crimes/Child
Endangerment Unit,
Megan's Law/ICAC Unit,
Administration & Policy
Development

8 Assistant Prosecutors
17 Investigative Staff
7 Support Staff

Specialized Crimes Division

Professional Standards
Unit,
Insurance
Fraud/Financial Crimes
Unit,
Expungements, OPRA

5 Assistant Prosecutors
10 Investigative Staff
1 Support Staff

Special Operations Division

Intelligence/Homeland
Security Unit,
Special Enforcement
Unit,
Hi-Tech Crimes Unit,
Fugitive Unit,
Arson/Environmental
Crimes Unit,
Asset Forfeiture Unit

4 Assistant Prosecutors
17 Investigative Staff
7 Support Staff



COURTS/ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

General Investigations Unit

The General Investigations Unit (GIU) of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office continues to execute the Office's primary mission of preparing cases for the Grand Jury and Petit Jury while simultaneously providing material and investigative support to the Office's other units and functions.

The General Investigations Unit is responsible for the review, pre-trial preparation and prosecution of cases from their inception, until their final disposition. The General Investigations Unit consists of the three Trial Teams, as well as the Grand Jury, Bails, Evidence, and Pre-Trial Intervention (PTI) functions. The General Investigations Unit's Trial Teams handle most of the cases in the Office. Specifically, in 2022, GIU handled 1,124 cases.

After a case is screened by the Supervising Assistant Prosecutor of the Pretrial Services Unit and a determination is made to retain for prosecution, the case is then forwarded to the assigned Detective or Prosecutor's Agent in the General Investigations Unit. Investigative personnel review the cases and order any outstanding discovery from the local municipalities. A discovery packet is then prepared by unit Detectives and support staff. Once completed, the file and discovery are turned over to the assigned Assistant Prosecutor who will make a plea offer in advance of the scheduled Pre-Indictment Conference (PIC) date. In 2022, with the increase in submissions of mandatory Body Worn Camera footage, investigative and support staff personnel were faced with a significant and overwhelming surge in the volume of digital media that needed to be reviewed and appropriately redacted.

If the case is not resolved at the PIC level, it is referred to the Grand Jury for Indictment. The assigned Assistant Prosecutor will determine if a case should be presented to the Grand Jury. All defendants that are subject to pretrial detention as ordered by the Court must have their case presented to the Grand Jury within ninety days, following the date of the defendant's commitment to jail, not counting excludable time for reasonable delays.

The Assistant Prosecutor and the Detective or Prosecutor's Agent assigned to the case will review the file prior to Grand Jury presentment to address any additional investigative and legal issues. Detention files will take priority. The file review will address the necessity of any subpoenas that may be required to obtain additional information and determine which witnesses should be subpoenaed to testify along with confirming their availability. The Assistant Prosecutor and Detective or Prosecutor's Agent will meet with victims and/or witnesses prior to the presentment of a case to the Grand Jury if necessary.

If an Indictment is returned, the Detective or Prosecutor's Agent will prepare Arraignment Discovery. The Assistant Prosecutor will formulate a plea offer in accordance with the Attorney General's Directive on the Escalating Plea Policy. The final proposed offer will be reviewed and require the approval of a Supervising Assistant Prosecutor. In appropriate cases, additional approvals will be required of the Division Chief Assistant Prosecutor, and/or the First Assistant Prosecutor and Prosecutor. If unresolved, the Assistant Prosecutor, Detective or Prosecutor's

Agent will conduct trial preparation meetings with witnesses and victims if the case is scheduled for a hearing or trial.

In 2022, the General Investigations Unit participated in three Jury Trials and resolved several other noteworthy cases.

In State v. Tyrone Ellison, a Morris County jury convicted defendant of 1st degree Kidnapping, 3rd degree Criminal Sexual Contact, Disorderly Persons Offense Simple Assault, 2nd degree Possession with Intent to Distribute a Controlled Dangerous Substance and 3rd degree Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance. Defendant was sentenced to 69 years New Jersey State Prison subject to the No Early Release Act.

In State v. James Fletcher, a Morris County jury convicted defendant, after 9 minutes of deliberations, of 2 counts of 4th degree Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License. Defendant was sentenced to the Morris County Correctional Facility.

In addition to these jury trials, the General Investigations Unit had several notable resolutions.

In State v. Selvin Hernandez, defendant pled guilty to 2nd degree Attempted Kidnapping after attempting to take a child from his mother at the Salvation Army in Dover. Defendant was sentenced to 6 years New Jersey State Prison subject to the No Early Release Act.

In State v. Daniel Lind, defendant pled guilty to 1st degree Robbery and 2nd degree Unlawful Possession of a Handgun after holding up a car rental business owner at gunpoint. He was ultimately sentenced to 8 years NJSP subject to the No Early Release Act.

In State v. Noel Nieves, defendant pled guilty to an amended 2nd degree Robbery after carjacking a woman at the Rockaway Mall to flee a shoplifting offense. Nieves is currently awaiting sentence.

The General Investigations Unit was able to effectively cover Trial Team related duties while simultaneously maintaining the normal operations of Grand Jury, Pre-Trial Intervention (PTI), Bails and the Evidence function. Additional responsibilities include NCIC Terminal Operator training/certification, LiveScan training, establishing eCDR user accounts, NJSP eDiscovery Portal Access, ensuring CODIS/DNA submission compliance, MCPO Detective candidate interviews and the MCPO Field Training and Evaluation Program. All the above was achieved in conjunction with the daily follow-up investigations and case preparation.

Over the course of 2022, the General Investigations Unit successfully trained six Detectives pursuant to the Police Training Commission (PTC) Mandated Training Program as well as the Morris County Prosecutor's Office Field Training and Evaluation Program. Most Detectives that are hired by this Office, whether a recent academy graduate or a lateral transfer, start their career in the General Investigations Unit. The focus is to remain committed to providing the proper training and guidance to those individuals along with ensuring that the General Investigations Unit operates at an optimum performance level. The General Investigations Unit will also continue our ongoing efforts to provide a variety of training and investigative assistance office-wide.

Several members of the General Investigation Unit were instrumental in the office-wide rollout of Evidence.com. They trained Detectives, Assistant Prosecutors, and support staff members on how to use the system, which enabled the office to make a smooth transition to disseminating media discovery.

The General Investigation Unit will seek to develop opportunities for its Detectives and Assistant Prosecutors to work with members from other units as well as experienced local officers to widen their the job knowledge and practical operational experience, such as in proper investigative, interviewing, arrest/search/seizure and evidence handling procedures. The unit will also attempt to develop enhanced communication with the local municipalities and will re-introduce the local officers to Grand Jury post Covid-19. Finally, the unit will continue to seek out various ways to streamline the voluminous flow of cases through Infoshare, Promis-Gavel and other related technology such as AXON/Evidence.com while focusing on over goal lists and early issue identification.

Pretrial Services Unit

The Pretrial Services Unit (PTS) of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office was created to handle cases in accordance with Criminal Justice Reform (CJR) on January 1, 2017. The Pretrial Services Unit is responsible for the investigation and initial prosecution of indictable criminal charges for all non-tactical unit cases from the time of arrest through the First Appearance Hearing and any Pretrial Detention Hearing if a motion for same has been filed. PTS also oversees Intake, Screening, Central Judicial Processing (CJP), subpoena requests from the local municipalities, and review of indictable Citizen Complaints for determining probable cause.

According to CJR, when a defendant is charged with a crime, the charges will be placed on a complaint-summons or a complaint-warrant. In the event a defendant is placed on a complaint-warrant, they are automatically remanded to the Morris County Correctional Facility pending a First Appearance before the Court. Assistant Prosecutors in PTS are responsible for approving or declining complaint-warrants or complaint-summonses during daytime hours, and reviewing decisions made after-hours by the on-call Assistant Prosecutors. Where a complaint-warrant issues, the PTS Unit will make an assessment whether to recommend a defendant's release with appropriate conditions, or whether the State should file a motion for pretrial detention. In doing so, the PTS Unit discusses legal and investigative issues and conducts appropriate follow up if needed. Where a determination is made to move for pretrial detention, the PTS Unit obtains and ensures that discovery is provided in a timely manner to defense counsel, and the PTS Assistant Prosecutors appear in court to argue the State's position. In the event the court denies the motion, the unit assesses whether to file an appeal and assists in writing same. In 2022, PTS reviewed approximately 306 warrants, and argued 127 detention motions.

In addition, PTS is responsible for screening complaint-summons cases to determine if the case should remain at the Superior Court level or be remanded to Municipal Court. The PTS Intake Staff is responsible for the creation of all criminal complaint case files presented to this office for prosecution and the processing of cases that have been remanded or administratively dismissed. Investigative Staff is responsible for reviewing all files assigned to them and prepare the files for

prosecution. All members of PTS work together seamlessly to ensure effective prosecution of all defendants.

Further, in accordance with the Administrative Office of the Courts Directive #26-19, on January 1, 2020, prosecutorial review of Citizen Complaints took effect for indictable crimes. The PTS Assistant Prosecutors screen these complaints to determine if there is sufficient probable cause for the charges. Should the Assistant Prosecutors request any further investigation, a PTS Detective and/or Agent is assigned to the case to assist. In 2022, PTS handled approximately 144 Citizen Complaints.

Review of Citizen Complaints require constant interaction with the local Municipal Courts, police departments, and complainants, to ensure that each complaint received is fully reviewed and properly screened. Careful consideration is given to each complaint, and the assigned PTS Assistant Prosecutor speaks with each complainant to review the decision to either approve or decline the complainant's proposed charges.

Moving forward into 2023, PTS will focus on providing training updates with respect to Criminal Justice Reform, as well as continuation of training all newly assigned personnel to include Assistant Prosecutors, Detectives, Agents and support staff with respect to the new mandates relating to Body Worn Cameras for uniformed law enforcement in New Jersey. PTS will continue to work with the local municipalities to ensure compliance with the timeframes set out in the Office Directives and Policies for receipt of reports and necessary documentation needed for First Appearance and Detention Hearings.

Mental Health and Veterans Diversion Programs

Recognizing the impact that mental health issues have on all facets of society, the Morris County Prosecutor's Office (MCPO) expanded the utilization of alternative dispositions, partnerships with community resources, and education of law enforcement to ensure the best treatment and disposition for those who are dealing with mental illness that leads to involvement with the criminal justice system.

In an important effort to enhance law enforcement interactions with the mental health special needs populations, and augment relationships between law enforcement and mental health providers, the MCPO introduced the initial Morris County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training in 2021 and presented three additional classes in 2022. The 40-hour course provided instruction on a variety of topics, including the identification and overviews of mental illness, Autism, Alzheimer's and Developmental Disabilities, as well as Tactical Talking, Impacts of Medication and Legal Issues for the Mentally Ill. The course also featured site visits to Saint Clare's Hospital, the Morris County Correctional Facility, and a group home to help the attendees better understand the different situations and circumstances that a person with mental illness may be subjected to. Going forward, the MCPO will present the training four times per year to train as many law enforcement officers and mental health professionals as possible.

Additionally, the Supervising Assistant Prosecutors of the Diversion Unit co-chair the Morris County Mental Health Working Group. Founded in 2021, the Working Group was established in

accordance with Attorney General Directive 2020-14, entitled “Countywide Working Group to Address Mental Health and Special Needs Populations and Creating a Framework for Coordination with State Partners,” and meets quarterly to ensure and encourage communication between law enforcement and mental health providers and advocates. Further, both supervisors and the Recovery Court Assistant Prosecutor are members of the Morris County Mental Health and Addictions Advisory Board, helping to identify and address issues relating to the special need’s populations.

The MCPO Diversion Unit continues to work to ensure that defendants whose mental illness are addressed in a manner that is appropriate. Previously, the MCPO reviewed and assessed cases involving individuals whose mental health issues caused them to become involved with the criminal justice system. Depending on the charges, the defendant’s diagnosis, their willingness to obtain treatment, and their status as either a civilian or Veteran, cases could be diverted to the Veterans Diversion Program, which would allow for dismissal of certain charges, or towards the Mental Health Program, which, in appropriate cases, would allow for more serious charges to be amended, and for treatment and probation sentences in lieu of incarceration in jail or state prison.

In 2021, the MCPO enhanced the previously existing Mental Health Program by adding the possibility to divert defendants suffering from mental illness towards treatment and assistance in lieu of charges and/or a criminal record. From the initial contact with a subject, whether it is on the street or in the Morris County Correctional Facility, efforts will be made to identify individuals who are suffering from a mental illness that is causing or impacting that person’s involvement with the criminal justice system, and where appropriate, divert them to services to address their needs. Based upon the circumstances and timing of the interaction, along with a full review of the facts of the case, the individual’s medical and psychological history, their willingness to participate, and a consideration of their safety and the safety of others, a decision will be made to decline or approve charges.

In cases where charges are declined, recommendations will be made to refer the individual to appropriate services through community partners such as the Morris County Sheriff’s Office Hope Hub or Community Connections initiatives.

In cases where charges are approved, a team that includes a legal supervisor from the MCPO, clinician from the Mental Health Association, and experienced Probation Officers will assess the individual and the facts to determine whether the individual is legally appropriate, clinically appropriate and case management appropriate to participate in the Mental Health Program. Depending on the information received, a decision will be made to either divert charges towards a dismissal; recommend a case resolution that calls for supervision on the mental health probation caseload or other course of supervision that will address a defendant’s individual needs; or if an individual is not appropriate, to prosecute the case in the normal course of business. Defendants whose cases are recommended for the Diversion Program will be connected to services and closely supervised to ensure that the defendant does not present a risk to self or others before charges will be considered for dismissal. A past conditional discharge, prior participation in PTI, or prior participation in the Veteran’s Diversionary Program will not be a legal bar to participation in the Mental Health Program.

As part of the Diversion Initiative, the MCPO is participating in a pilot program with the Morris

County Courts which provides a designated Probation Officer to supervise any defendant whose case is recommended for diversion, and a designated Judge to review defendants on the caseload.

In 2022, the Diversion Unit reviewed 27 applications to the programs. Six defendants were accepted to the program. There were 8 denials. Of that number, 6 were legally rejected, 1 was deemed not to be clinically eligible and 1 was remanded to Municipal Court. Three defendants withdrew their applications to pursue their case through traditional prosecution. Ten applications were pending decision at the end of 2022, either due to their applications being incomplete, or awaiting final decision from the team.

Going forward, the Diversion Unit will seek to expand the number of CIT trained individuals, ensure enhanced communication with the shareholders in the mental health community, and actively connect those suffering from mental illness with appropriate services. The Diversion Unit will continue to train on its program to make sure that defense attorneys are fully aware of the opportunities that the program presents to help their clients.

Firearms Regulation Unit

The Firearms Regulations Unit (FRU) was created in April of 2022, after being separated out from the DV Weapon Return Unit. The FRU is responsible for the proper disposition of all confiscated, surrendered and recovered firearms which come into the possession, control, or custody of law enforcement agencies within Morris County in situations not involving domestic violence. The FRU also provides legal advice to local law enforcement officers regarding the issuance of permits to purchase, permits to carry, and the seizure of weapons under the Duty to Warn Law. Additionally, to help ensure public safety, the FRU assists in applications and hearings for orders of protection and seizure of firearms from those who exhibit a significant risk of harm to self or others under the 2019 Extreme Risk Protection Act.

In each of these cases, the unit personnel gather and assesses information to make a determination that best ensures a safe and appropriate return, or permanent seizure, of firearms. FRU Assistant Prosecutors appear in Superior Court to argue against appeals of the denial of the return of firearms. The FRU also represents the State of New Jersey on appeals stemming from denials of Firearms ID Card applications and permits to purchase and /or carry handguns. In preparing for those appeals, the FRU reviews the investigations conducted by the local police departments, which include a background check, and a check for a valid firearms ID card to determine if the person has the proper paperwork and is not subject to any disabilities under New Jersey Statute N.J.S.A. 2C:58-3. Once the court schedules a motion/hearing date, the assigned personnel will forward all information related to the investigation provided in discovery to the judge assigned to the hearing, as well as the attorney representing the appellant, prior to the hearing taking place.

During the Summer of 2022, the landscape of the law changed with the issuance of the US Supreme Court opinion in New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc. v. Bruen, which represented a sea change for the world of firearms regulations. The FRU had to pivot quickly to learn the nuances of the new legal landscape and adjust to rapidly changing laws to be able to assist local law enforcement in reviewing applications for both permits to purchase and permits to carry.

The FRU handled several Extreme Risk Protection Order applications and hearings in 2022. Two notable cases were school related: one involved an 18-year-old student at a local high school who made threats and alarming comments to other students and staff after a school shooting occurred in Texas. In another incident, a young adult posted a comment regarding Juneteenth on the high school's Facebook alumni page, while displaying what appeared to be a black handgun and three high-capacity magazines. Ensuing investigation by the respective towns established concerns for the mental health of the young adult. Temporary Extreme Risk Protective Orders were sought with the assistance of the FRU and granted. The FRU Assistant Prosecutors appeared on behalf of the State at virtual Superior Court hearings and were successful in convincing the Court to issue Final Extreme Risk Protective Orders against each individual, preventing them from owning or possessing weapons.

The Firearms Regulations Unit is committed to excellence and professionalism. The primary objective of the Firearms Regulations Unit for 2023 is to continue to help the local Chiefs of Police in navigating the ongoing changes to the law surrounding firearms. The FRU will provide timely legal updates to the Chiefs and their firearm liaisons and will work to issue a directive once the law becomes more settled.

Appellate Unit

In 2022, the Appellate Unit continued to research and write Superior Court, Appellate Division, N.J. Supreme Court and Federal briefs and motions. The Unit prepared oppositions to defendants' briefs, interlocutory appeals, pretrial detention appeals, stays and any other relief. For those cases where oral argument was requested, members of the Appellate Unit argued the appeals before the appropriate court. In addition to appeals to the higher courts, the Appellate Unit was also responsible for coordinating, researching, writing briefs and oral arguments on all municipal appeals and *de minimis* motions to Superior Court, Law Division. The Appellate Unit also handled the assignment of Motions for Post-Conviction Relief.

The unit successfully prosecuted several appeals. In State v. Mims, the Appellate Division affirmed defendant's convictions for 1st degree Human Trafficking, 1st degree Promoting Child Prostitution, 2nd degree Sexual Assault, 3rd degree Endangering the Welfare of a Child and 3rd degree Distribution of a Controlled Dangerous Substance. In State v. Essner, the Appellate Division affirmed the findings of the Law Division after it denied defendant's motion for a new trial or resentencing based on newly discovered evidence which defendant argued were scientific studies pertaining to the development of the adolescent brain. In State v. Tung, the State filed an emergent interlocutory appeal challenging the trial court's decision to confine the State's evidence to the facts included in the amended bill of particulars. The State briefed the issue and the Appellate Division agreed with our argument, granting leave to appeal and summarily vacating the Trial Court's order.

The unit also briefed, filed and argued a significant case before the New Jersey Supreme Court. In State v. A.M., the Supreme Court concluded that the Compassionate Release Act affords judge's discretion to deny relief in exceptional circumstances, even if the law's medical and public safety conditions are satisfied.

The Appellate Unit will continue with its duties and responsibilities stated above. Appellate Unit Assistant Prosecutors will ensure the legal staff is continuously and timely notified of current case law and ensure notification to local law enforcement is made in cases that affect police policy and procedure.

Victim Witness Advocacy Unit

The primary role and mission of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office, Victim Witness Advocacy Unit is to ensure that victims and witnesses of crime are treated with fairness, compassion, and respect and that all the rights defined in the New Jersey Constitutional Amendment for Victims' Rights (N.J. Const., art. I, para. 22); the Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses (N.J.S.A. § 52:4B-36); and the standards set forth by the Office of the Attorney General are adhered to.

Victim Witness Advocates can assist police officers in making death notifications, and respond in person to police agencies, hospitals, and victims' homes. Victim Witness Advocates provide crisis intervention, conduct needs assessments, help victims contact family and friends during a crisis, explain the criminal court processes, explain the investigative procedures, assist in filing claims with the Victims of Crime Compensation Office (VCCO), assist in preparing Victim Impact Statements and register victims with Victim Information Notification Everyday (VINE). Correspondence concerning parole release eligibility and parole notifications is generated and sent to victims. Emergent funding for funeral expenses is often needed, as well as contacting funeral directors, in major crimes and homicide cases. The Victim Witness Advocacy Unit notifies victims and witnesses of all judicial proceedings by mail and often by telephone and email and further establishes as many personal contacts with victims as possible given the small number of staff in the Victim Witness Advocacy Unit.

Victim Witness Advocates make referrals to appropriate social service and mental health agencies that provide counseling. Non-profit agencies, as well as government and social services, help victims to recover from problems created by their victimization. Victim Witness Advocates routinely make welfare calls to victims. Victim Witness Advocates regularly revise referral lists when new agencies or new programs become available within the county. Victim Witness Advocates often work with other Advocacy Units throughout the State of New Jersey to find appropriate services for those who may have been victimized in Morris County but live and/or work in another county where service providers would be more easily accessed.

Victim Witness Advocates attended many committee meetings such as Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings for Child Abuse and Domestic Violence that took place via Zoom and Microsoft Teams to provide updates on cases. Other agencies such as Audrey Hepburn Children's House and the Division of Child Protection and Permanency are members of these teams and provide updates regarding telehealth visits, psychological evaluations, medical exams, etc.

The Victim Witness Coordinator, in addition to overseeing the unit, has the responsibility of writing and managing grants, and writing the narratives and statistical reports that are due on a quarterly basis for grants. In addition, to the Coordinator's many administrative duties, she carries

a caseload of sex crimes, child endangerment and major crimes cases. The Supervising Victim Witness Advocate, in addition to being the primary Sex Crimes, Child Endangerment and Major Crimes Advocate, has additional responsibilities of the daily operations of the unit which include, but are not limited to, supervising the caseloads, and overseeing the work product of the remaining Victim Witness Advocates.

One of the Victim Witness Advocates is the point person for working with victims in Domestic Violence cases while maintaining a caseload from the Major Crimes Unit, General Investigations Unit, and Sex Crimes/Child Endangerment Unit. This Victim Witness Advocate collaborates with the Morris County Family Justice Center to provide services as needed. The Morris County Family Justice Center provides a community wide approach to delivering services to victims and their families through a comprehensive and coordinated effort among agencies, county government, law enforcement, social service agencies and the court. This facility is a center for victims of domestic violence, dating abuse, sexual assault, and human trafficking. Some services offered are counseling, legal and immigration assistance (restraining orders, housing, etc.), children services, and culturally specific services.

Another Victim Witness Advocate is the point person for working with victims on cases from the Juvenile Unit but also carries a caseload from the Major Crimes Unit, General Investigations Unit, and the Sex Crimes/Child Endangerment Unit. Victim Witness Advocates have been trained in Parole Eligibility and Parole Notifications and have direct contact with the New Jersey State Parole Board. The Victim Witness Advocate notifies victims by telephone, email, and/or mail that the inmate is going to max out their sentence on a particular date and that the individual will be released from prison.

On April 18, 2022, a commendation was presented by the Morris County Prosecutor Robert J. Carroll, First Assistant Prosecutor Maggie Calderwood, and former Chief of Detectives Christoph Kimker to the Supervising Victim Advocate for her work and tireless efforts with the victim on State v. Briggs. The Supervising Victim Advocate continually remained in contact with the victim and her family providing assistance and support and answering questions to keep them informed as the case progressed through the criminal justice system and the trial. The Supervising Victim Advocate was commended for her compassion and concern for the victim and her family and bringing them comfort during a very traumatic time of their life.

Each year, Congress declares one week in April as Crime Victims' Rights Week to honor and recognize crime victims. National Crime Victims' Rights Week was observed from April 24-30, 2022. The theme was "Rights, Access, and Equity for all victims." The theme underscored the importance of enforcing victim rights, expanding access to services, and ensuring equity and inclusion for all victims.

On April 19, 2022, the Morris County Prosecutor's Office held a dedication ceremony of a steppingstone in honor of victims of crime. Morris County Prosecutor Robert J. Carroll, Morris County Sheriff James Gannon, New Jersey State Police Colonel Patrick Callahan, and Morris County Commissioner Deputy Director John Krickus made remarks. The dedication was recorded and later played during the Morris County Prosecutor's Office virtual Recognition and Remembrance event in observance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week on April 28, 2022. The steppingstone was placed near the victims' tree as a symbol for victims taking the first step to

healing. The victims' tree was lit during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, to serve as a beacon of hope. In addition, a wreath adorned with a "2022 in Recognition and Remembrance" ribbon was placed next to the victims' tree.

On April 28, 2022, the Victim Witness Advocacy Unit held a virtual event in recognition of National Crime Victims' Rights Week 2022. Members of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office joined leaders of the law enforcement and the victim advocate community. Morris County Prosecutor Robert J. Carroll was master of the ceremony and introduced all speakers including the victim speaker. Speakers included Anthony DeVincenzo, M.A., a retired Lieutenant from the Morris County Prosecutor's Office, who is currently a Training Specialist with the Northeast Regional Children's Advocacy Center and Morris County Commissioner Deputy Director John Krickus. He presented the Proclamation approved by the Morris County Board of County Commissioners to Morris County Prosecutor Robert J. Carroll. Additionally, a victim speaker spoke about her domestic violence experience so that her story may provide courage for others.

The Victim Witness Advocacy Unit staff posted daily resources on the Morris County Prosecutor's Office Facebook page with information for victims and survivors of crime each day during National Crime Victims' Rights Week. This included resources, links, hotline telephone numbers, and contacts for victims and survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, homicides, mental health, suicide prevention and other related topics.

The cases listed below are examples of the quality of victim witness advocacy in 2022, which went above and beyond the normal caseloads and responsibilities.

In State v. John Formisano, the defendant was charged with the homicide of his ex-wife and attempted murder of the ex-wife's boyfriend. The Victim Witness Advocate continuously met with family members of the deceased victim and discussed VCCO and counseling referral information for all involved including the two young children. Additionally, the Victim Witness Advocate immediately reached out to the surviving victim to discuss VCCO and counseling referrals. The Victim Witness Advocate worked extensively with the family of the deceased victim to make sure they understood the criminal justice system process. The Victim Witness Advocate assisted on numerous conference calls and was present for meetings with the family of the deceased victim and with the surviving victim where the Assistant Prosecutor explained and answered questions on how the case was proceeding. The Victim Witness Advocates accompanied the deceased victim's family and surviving victim to all court proceedings, including the detention hearing, Family Court proceedings and each day of the jury trial.

After the guilty verdict, the Victim Witness Advocate worked extensively with both the deceased victim's family and the surviving victim to help them prepare their victim impact statements for sentencing. The Victim Witness Advocate also collected and organized all the letters non-immediate family members and friends sent in for the judge to read before sentencing. Multiple family members attended the sentencing, and two Victim Witness Advocates accompanied them to the sentencing due to the amount of people and the high level of emotion during the hearing. Family members were able to read their victim impact statements in court and the Victim Witness Advocates assisted in keeping the order of everyone reading their statements organized so the proceeding could move smoothly. It was very upsetting for the family, but the Victim Witness Advocates used de-escalation techniques to help the family get through the sentencing. The

surviving victim sent in a victim impact statement but decided not to attend the sentencing, so the Victim Witness Advocate contacted him after the hearing to provide an update and to answer any questions. The Victim Witness Advocate registered the surviving victim and a designated family member of the deceased victim with the New Jersey State Parole Board. The Victim Witness Advocate will remain in touch with both the deceased victim's family and the surviving victim to assist in any manner they may need.

In State v. Dilver Hernandez, the Victim Witness Advocate assisted the victim in a case in which the defendant sexually assaulted the victim over several years when she was child. The defendant is the cousin of the victim's father and was living with the victim and her family during the time he was assaulting her. The victim gathered the courage to report the assaults when she was twenty years old and after an investigation, the defendant was arrested.

The Victim Witness Advocate began working with the victim early in the case. The Victim Witness Advocate provided the victim with information on counseling, VCCO and help with lost wages the victim suffered due to the crimes. The victim often did not feel comfortable coming to court for hearings but wanted to remain involved, so the Victim Witness Advocate spoke to the victim before and after every court date, first explaining and answering questions about what was expected to happen and then giving updates after the hearing as to what occurred.

At one point during the criminal court process, the victim reached out to the Victim Witness Advocate and expressed that she had heard the defendant's family was talking negatively about her and possibly spreading naked pictures of her around. The Victim Witness Advocate made sure the victim connected with the case Detective so they could investigate the rumors the victim heard and address her concerns.

The Victim Witness Advocate participated in conversations the Assistant Prosecutor had with the victim regarding the case. The Victim Witness Advocate worked closely with the victim so she could feel safe about attending court amongst the defendant's family members and she was ultimately able to attend and observe the defendant admit his guilt. The Victim Witness Advocate assisted the victim in preparing her victim impact statement for sentencing. The victim expressed fear in attending the sentence; however, several Detectives accompanied her to the sentencing, and she was able to read her statement. After the sentencing, she expressed thanks to everyone who was there and explained how helpful it was to be able to come in and express what she had been through to the Judge. The Victim Witness Advocate will continue to assist the victim as needed.

In 2023, the Victim Witness Advocacy Unit will continue to use coordination, collaboration, and unique problem-solving abilities to provide excellence in victim services to the community of Morris County. The Victim Witness Coordinator and the Supervising Victim Witness Advocate continue to explore emerging ideas of methods to assist all victims of crime. Expanding access to services and ensuring equity and inclusion for all victims is a priority. The standards set forth by the Office of the Attorney General will be adhered to without interruption as they have been since they were defined in the New Jersey Constitutional Amendment for Victims' Rights (N.J. Const., art. I, para. 22), and the Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses (N.J.S.A. § 52:4B-36).

TACTICAL DIVISION

Major Crimes Unit

It is the responsibility of the Major Crimes Unit to investigate homicides; potential homicides; carjackings; suspicious or unnatural deaths; suicides; fires or explosions involving a fatality or serious bodily injury; bank robberies; kidnappings; suspicious or unnatural deaths in psychiatric facilities; barricaded subjects and hostage situations; sudden or unexpected deaths of infants or children less than fourteen years of age and fetal deaths occurring without medical attendance; any violent crime that involves the discharge of a firearm; home invasions; discovery of any human remains; vehicular pursuits involving serious personal injury or property damage; any incident requiring the Morris County Sheriff's Office SERT; and any incident wherein the services of the New Jersey State Police TEAMS Unit are required.

In addition, the Major Crimes Unit will investigate any matter that has a significant impact on the public or is deemed appropriate by the Prosecutor, Chief of Detectives, or their designee.

Several cases investigated by the Major Crimes Unit were tried to Morris County juries in 2022.

In State v. John Formisano, the defendant, an off-duty Newark Police Officer, shot and killed his estranged wife, and shot and seriously injured her male friend. Following an eight-day trial, the defendant was found guilty of all charges, including first degree Murder, and he was sentenced to 79 years in state prison and subject to parole ineligibility pursuant to the No Early Release Act. The successful verdict was the result of tireless efforts by the Major Crimes Unit in investigating and prosecuting the July 2019 case.

As part of the Vehicular Homicide Function, it is the responsibility of the Major Crimes Unit to investigate any motor vehicle crash involving death; any crash involving serious bodily injury which may reasonably result in death; any crash involving injury occurring during a police pursuit or police response to any emergency; any crash where there is clear and reasonable evidence that a conflict of interest exists for the investigating police agency (i.e. police personnel or municipal agency employees involved in a serious injury crash); any crash involving bodily injury in which a hit-and-run situation is involved; any crash involving serious bodily injury in which intoxicated driving is involved; and any crash involving the purposeful use of a motor vehicle to inflict injury and in which injury results.

In State v. Yulia Raynova, the Major Crimes Unit (Vehicular Homicide Function) responded to a fatal motor vehicle crash in Chatham Township to further investigate the crash. As a result of this investigation, the at-fault operator of the vehicle, Yulia Raynova, was charged with first degree Vehicular Homicide, among other charges. She was subsequently sentenced to six years in state prison and subject to parole ineligibility pursuant to the No Early Release Act.

As part of the Cold Case Function, it is the responsibility of the Major Crimes Unit to investigate unsolved homicides, equivocal deaths, and suspicious missing persons cases that have occurred in Morris County. An investigation is turned over to the Cold Case Inventory when all leads have been exhausted without an arrest. In 2022, the Major Crimes Unit joined the New Jersey Attorney General's Cold Case Network and made significant progress with several Cold Case investigations involving death. Utilizing scientific advancements, the Major Crimes Unit was able to identify and

further investigate several suspects related to these Cold Cases. These investigations remain ongoing with the goal of coming to a successful resolution in 2023.

In response to the opiate epidemic, the Major Crimes Unit continued to make fatal overdoses a priority. When an apparent fatal overdose is reported to the Major Crimes Unit, a supervisor conducts a thorough screening. If there is any indication that a strict liability case can be pursued, the Major Crimes Unit responds to investigate. At times, the Major Crimes Unit will call on other units to assist, to include the High-Tech Crimes Unit, the Intelligence Unit, and the Special Enforcement Unit. Using this methodology, the Major Crimes Unit was successful in investigating and criminally charging an individual with 2C:35-9a (Strict Liability for Drug-Induced Death) in the case of State v. David Pezak. This investigation utilized witness interviews, phone record analysis, confidential informants, and tenacious work by Major Crimes Unit Detectives and Assistant Prosecutors to bring criminal complaints against the suspect. This prosecution is ongoing.

The Major Crimes Unit facilitated the 2022 Effective Death Investigation Course at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy. Presenters for the course included Major Crimes Unit Assistant Prosecutors and Detectives. This course provided the Major Crimes Unit an opportunity to expand upon the information and investigative techniques offered to investigators in the field of death investigation, vehicular homicides, and forensic interviewing. This course was attended by 43 individuals from 28 different agencies throughout the state. The course allowed the Major Crimes Unit the opportunity to complement the ongoing initiative taken by the Morris County Prosecutor's Office, in conjunction with surrounding counties, in addressing the opiate epidemic through the investigation of overdose deaths and strict liability investigations.

The Major Crimes Unit continued to expand its high-tech capabilities. Focusing on training and equipment upgrades, several members of the Major Crimes Unit attended training specific to Call Detail Records and Geolocation Analysis of cellular phones and learned to use new and upgraded software. This training provided valuable insight into the analysis of electronic evidence, which ultimately allowed Major Crimes Unit Detectives the ability to analyze the call records in reference to a 2021 murder investigation, State v. Tyrell Lansing. Unit investigators in that case also utilized the science of photogrammetry to accurately reconstruct the circumstances of the shooting through measurements, photographs, and video. This criminal prosecution is ongoing.

In conjunction with the investigative and legal functions of the Major Crimes Unit, members of the unit actively participate in the New Jersey Child Fatality and Near Fatality Review Board and the Morris County Overdose Fatality Review Team. The purpose of the Child Fatality and Near Fatality Review Board is to review fatalities and near fatalities of children in order to identify their causes, relationship to governmental support systems, and methods of prevention. The purpose of the Overdose Fatality Review Team is to review and identify preventable overdose deaths and make recommendations for interventions and prevention strategies.

The Major Crimes Unit will continue to expand on the following objectives: to provide superior training in both the legal and investigative aspects associated with death investigations; to continue to expand the high-tech capabilities of the Major Crimes Unit, modernizing the methods and tools used for the successful investigation and prosecution of cases; to continue to vigorously pursue

and prosecute those responsible for deaths caused by opiates; and to continue to partner with local, state, and federal agencies in an effort to make our communities safer from gun violence.

The Major Crimes Unit remains committed to its history of investigative excellence and professionalism. The unit members' high standards and superior work ethic are reflected in the quality investigations that took place during 2022 and will continue forward into the coming years.

Sex Crimes/Child Endangerment Unit

The Morris County Prosecutor's Office Sex Crimes/Child Endangerment Unit is responsible for conducting primary investigations in coordination with Municipal Police Departments, County, State, and Federal Agencies, for crimes of sexual violence committed against adult and child victims, physical abuse and neglect of children, human trafficking, clergy abuse and internet crimes against children. With respect to crimes of sexual violence, the unit investigates criminal activity including sexual assaults, statutory rape, the production and possession of child pornography, the use of the internet to lure children, stalking, and acts of lewdness, as well as abuse reported by the Archdiocese of Paterson. The unit also investigates crimes of physical abuse and neglect of children, acts of assaultive behavior, and failure to adequately care for and supervise a child. When a child is maltreated, physically harmed, or neglected by a caretaker, members of the unit will work in tandem with the Department of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) to ensure the safety of the child and investigate the allegations of abuse to bring the abuser to justice.

Both Detectives and Assistant Prosecutors assigned to the unit participate in an on-call schedule and are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to assist with investigations and legal advice. This includes having Detectives respond to interview victims, witnesses and suspects and secure evidence, and having Assistant Prosecutors provide legal input on investigative and charging decisions, search and arrest warrant affidavit preparation and execution.

Detectives assigned to the Sex Crimes/Child Endangerment Unit receive specialized training in the forensic interviewing procedures for interviewing children aged 12 and under who are victims of sexual assault. This training enables Detectives to interview children without the use of suggestive, leading, or coercive interview techniques, thereby eliciting from the child what happened to them. The legal staff is also trained in these interview techniques. Children are interviewed by the unit Detectives/Agents at Deirdre's House, the Morris County Child Advocacy Center. Deirdre's House is an off-site, child-friendly environment designed to lessen the stress and trauma for children who will be forensically interviewed regarding the abuse they have suffered.

The unit maintains a high level of training and education to support the investigation and prosecution of all abuse and neglect allegations, to include allegations involving internet crimes against children, handled by our ICAC Unit. The Detectives and Assistant Prosecutors have attended seminars and received on-the-job training with regards to investigating ICAC cases. Regarding overall unit training, investigative members are in compliance with training mandates set forth by the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General.

Members of the unit are also active and participate in the New Jersey Human Trafficking Task Force. In addition, members of the unit are available and have provided training to various groups, including police academy recruits and in-service law enforcement personnel, regarding human trafficking. In 2018, the New Jersey Attorney General's Office formed a statewide task force pertaining to allegations of abuse perpetrated by members of the clergy, known as the Clergy Abuse Task Force. Members of the MCPO investigative and legal staff have been sworn in as Special State Investigators to participate in this ongoing long-term statewide investigation.

The unit is also committed to the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) program. The SART is comprised of Law Enforcement, Confidential Sexual Victim Advocates from the Morris County Sexual Assault Center (MCSAC) and Forensic Nurse Examiners (FNEs). The Morris County Prosecutor's Office maintains a full-time FNE/SART Coordinator. The SART function is managed through the Sex Crimes/Child Endangerment Unit.

The responsibilities of the FNE/SART Coordinator include recruiting, training, and managing the FNEs, assisting in grant preparation and management, and training law enforcement agents, Confidential Sexual Victim Advocates, hospital and medical staff and the staff at our local colleges and universities. The FNE/SART Coordinator also serves as an intermediary between the Morris County Prosecutor's Office, Victim/Witness Unit, medical sites, and MCSAC to facilitate services to victims of sexual assault. The FNEs are responsible for providing services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

During 2022, the Morris County SART was activated and completed 48 Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Kits. In addition to medical care and forensic evidence collection, victims of sexual assault are provided a multitude of follow up services within our community, including contact and service information for the Morris County Sexual Assault Center (MCSAC), Morris County Victim/Witness Unit, Jersey Battered Women's Shelter (JBWS), DCP&P, Deirdre's House, Planned Parenthood, Zufall Health, and the HIV Counseling Center. During 2022, the FNE program stayed consistent with the prior year of 11 FNEs acting in an on-call capacity and responding to cases as necessary.

Medical treatment and care for a child who is physically assaulted or sexually abused is provided through the Northern Regional Diagnostic and Treatment Center at the Audrey Hepburn Children's House, located in Hackensack, New Jersey. Specially trained pediatricians conduct medical examinations related to physical and sexual abuse of children. These exams can be scheduled to take place at Deirdre's House, thus enabling the child and family to remain in County and at a facility they have utilized before. The use of such experts helps to minimize any further trauma to these child victims. The FNEs are also trained and available to address the immediate medical concerns of pediatric sex assault victims, in the event a pediatrician is not immediately available.

For 2022, the Sex Crimes/Child Endangerment Unit remained statistically similar to past years, receiving and investigating approximately 570 referrals. The unit assisted in affecting approximately 37 arrests of offenders for crimes involving sexual and/or physical abuse of a juvenile or adult. The ICAC function of the unit accounted for an additional approximately 185

referrals and several arrests of individuals for crimes involving the possession and/or distribution of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM).

The year 2022 saw the creation and formalization of the ICAC Task Force within the Sex Crimes/Child Endangerment Unit. The ICAC Unit had been staffed with one Detective, one Detective Supervisor, and one Assistant Prosecutor. In 2022 the unit added several Municipal Officers as Task Force Officers (TFOs). Unit Standard Operating Procedures were created and implemented. These Detectives and TFOs receive, analyze, and investigate cyber tips generated from the New Jersey State Police (NSJP) ICAC Task Force of alleged cybercrimes occurring within Morris County. These crimes include the possession, distribution, and creation of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM). Detectives and TFOs prepare and execute Search Warrant operations in conjunction with the Morris County Sheriff's Office Emergency Response Team (SERT), which have resulted in numerous adult and juvenile arrests.

The Sex Crimes/Child Endangerment Unit held its annual four-day Sex Crimes Investigation Course at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy. The course is designed to train municipal officers both in and outside of Morris County on the topics of adult, adolescent and child sexual assault, internet crimes against children, and child physical abuse and maltreatment. Presenters included members of the unit as well as outside professionals from DCP&P, medical personnel specializing in child abuse and the New Jersey State Police.

The following are some notable cases from 2022.

In State v. Kyriakos Serghides, the 40-year-old defendant was charged with several sexual crimes committed against three minor victims (ages 10, 5 and 5) at separate times. After the trial, a jury found the defendant guilty of second-degree Sexual Assault, two counts of third degree Endangering the Welfare of a Child, second degree Attempted Kidnapping, second degree Luring, and second degree Attempted Sexual Assault. The defendant was sentenced to an aggregate term of 18 years New Jersey State Prison with parole ineligibility in accordance with the No Early Release Act (NERA), Megan's Law, Parole Supervision for Life (PSL), and no contact with the victims.

In State v. Kelvin Briggs, the 61-year-old defendant was charged with multiple sexual offenses against a 13-year-old victim including Endangering the Welfare of a Child (production of sexually explicit images and video of a child engaged in a sexual act), Sexual Assault, Endangering the Welfare of a Child (distribution of sexually explicit images of a child), Endangering the Welfare of a Child (engaging in sexually explicit conversations with a child), Invasion of Privacy, and Stalking. After the trial concluded in 2022, a jury found the defendant guilty of all charges. The defendant was sentenced to an aggregate sentence of 24 years New Jersey State Police, with the first 16 years subject to parole ineligibility in accordance with the No Early Release Act (NERA), Megan's Law, Parole Supervision for Life (PSL), and no contact with the victim.

In State v. Ruben Gonzalez, the 19-year-old defendant was initially charged with sexual assault offenses against four females. At the time of defendant's arrest, his cell phone was seized and following an examination of his phone, it was learned that he conspired with others to lead a child pornography network, using the Telegram Application to communicate and coordinate the distribution of child sexual abuse material. Based on a subsequent investigation conducted by the

Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Detectives, defendant was ultimately charged with several first and second-degree offenses involving multiple additional victims. The defendant pled guilty in April 2023 to various sexual crimes and is facing an aggregate sentence of 20 years NJSP with 10 years of parole ineligibility, Megan's Law, and Parole Supervision for Life. The sentencing is pending.

The Sex Crimes/Child Endangerment Unit supervisors have been meeting bi-annually with municipal Sex Crimes Liaison Officers to facilitate communication between agencies and to pass on information set forth by the Morris County Prosecutor's Office and the Attorney General's Office. The unit hopes to expand these meetings into possible training sessions for the Liaisons as well as municipal detective bureaus in order to aid in their understanding and handling of cases involving sexual assault or child abuse.

The Sex Crimes/Child Endangerment Unit remains committed to excellence and professionalism. The unit members' high standards and superior work ethic are reflected in the quality investigations that took place during 2022 and will continue forward into the coming years.

Megan's Law Unit

The Megan's Law Unit processes the registrations of sex offenders residing, attending school, or working in Morris County, as set forth in New Jersey law. The unit supervises all Megan's Law Registrants in the County and ensures their compliance with the various laws associated with registration and community supervision for life.

Members assigned to the unit prepare the paperwork needed to determine the risk registrants pose to the residents of Morris County. This procedure is completed by conducting a thorough investigation of the registrant's criminal and social history, a review of their underlying sexual offense(s), a review of psychological evaluations, as well as a review of any parole or probation information. Once all required documents are prepared, the Assistant Prosecutors draft motions to be filed in Superior Court and the case is scheduled for a Tier Classification hearing in front of a Superior Court Judge.

Registrants are classified as either Tier One offenders, Tier Two offenders, or Tier Three offenders. Tier One registrants are deemed to pose a low risk of re-offending to the community. Notification on Tier One offenders is limited to law enforcement personnel with jurisdiction in an area the registrant resides, is employed, or frequents. Tier Two registrants are at a moderate risk to re-offend. They are relatively more likely to re-offend in comparison to Tier One offenders and therefore warrant expanded notice to schools and community groups in the public for their protection. Tier Three offenders encompass those who are found to be at a high risk of re-offending and therefore warrant the highest level of notification. The Tier Three notification includes an in-depth door-to-door notification of all residents, schools, and business within a half (½) mile radius of where the registrant lives and works. A second notification goes to all schools and community groups, including all parents of students enrolled in schools within a 2-mile radius of where the registrant lives and works. This process of registration, classification, and notification must be repeated each time a registrant changes his/her residence, place of employment, or school.

All Tier One and Tier Two classification notifications are made by the members of the unit. Tier Three notifications are made in conjunction with the local police department(s) with jurisdiction over the area(s) to be notified, and typically requires the utilization of at least 75 police officers.

The unit prosecutes any person who fails to register, fails to notify local law enforcement of a change of residence, and any person who violates a sentence of community supervision for life. The unit also provides educational programs upon request to schools, public and private organizations, the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy and any other organization. The unit is available to the local police departments to answer questions regarding any Megan's Law issue.

The unit is responsible for ensuring that all regulations pursuant to Attorney General Guidelines for Law Enforcement for the Implementation of Sex Offender Registration and Community Notification Laws are adhered to by all Municipalities in the County.

Regarding registrant statistics, in 2022 Morris County had a total of 311 registrants. Of the 311, 32 are new Megan's Law registrants. This data is essentially consistent to the previous year, which had 310 registrants.

In 2022, the Megan's Law Unit had five total complaints filed, with three registration violations. None of the registrants that were in violation were on Community Supervision, therefore, there were no Community Supervision Violations filed for 2022.

In 2023, the Megan's Law Unit will continue to protect our communities through the effective and efficient monitoring of the compliance of all registrants residing and working in Morris County, thus, ensuring registrants that are released from prison or who move into Morris County continue to get tiered in a timely fashion.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

Special Enforcement Unit

The Special Enforcement Unit (SEU) operates as part of the Special Operations Division (SOD) and is responsible for conducting covert and overt investigations into criminal activities involving controlled dangerous substances and other abused substances; money laundering; firearms trafficking; and illegal activity as it relates to organized crime and criminal street gang activity.

The focus of the Special Enforcement Unit is to provide an expertise in the above-mentioned fields; train and deploy undercover agents; assist municipal, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies with cooperative investigations and focus the investigative and prosecutorial efforts on targeting high level offenders of the above-mentioned crimes. The unit consists of legal, investigative and analytical personnel and utilizes municipal, county and state law enforcement officers as Task Force Officers (TFOs) who are temporarily assigned to the Narcotics Task Force within the Special Enforcement Unit, to supplement, assist and partner with the Unit Prosecutor's Detectives.

Individuals of investigations are identified through both proactive and reactive police methods. The resulting intelligence is either forwarded to the municipalities for their action or pursued directly by SEU by applying investigative resources and utilizing proactive and undercover/covert investigative strategies to develop the best possible evidence. Once arrests are made, a strong prosecution model follows to obtain maximum sentences for the offenders.

Additional responsibilities of the Special Enforcement Unit include an assignment of an SEU member to the FBI Transitional Organized Crime Western Hemisphere Task Force, Newark, NJ. A Tactical Narcotics Team (TNT) in 2022 consisted of seven members, including one commander and one Tactical Emergency Medical Technician (TEMS). The team is responsible for tactically entering structures to execute high-risk search warrants and arrest warrants, providing officer rescue personnel for undercover operations; and conducting vehicle takedowns/high risk arrests. SEU members also provide education through lectures and training pertaining to controlled dangerous substances and drug enforcement investigations to law enforcement officers, academy recruits, civil groups, and legal staff. This includes providing faculty members for the Top Gun and Undercover Narcotics Investigation Training.

During 2022, the unit successfully recruited several Task Force Officers from municipal and county agencies, enhancing the unit's capabilities and increasing partnerships with other agencies.

During an investigation in October 2022, in State v. Tyson McCoy and Maurice Nobles, law enforcement executed two search warrants and arrested two individuals. Multiple undercover buy operations were conducted, resulting in the seizure of close to a quarter kilo of cocaine and first-degree charges on both defendants. One defendant was not present when the warrant was executed, resulting in a month-and-a-half-long fugitive investigation, with the ultimate arrest occurring in North Carolina. This case is pending prosecution.

In July of 2022, in State v. Ismael Lorenzo, the Special Enforcement Unit prosecuted a defendant for weapon offenses, money laundering, possession with the intent to distribute and distribution of

CDS. As a result of a jury trial, a verdict was returned for guilty on all counts, with a sentence of twenty years. This verdict was a direct result of the skilled and dedicated work by the Assistant Prosecutors and Detectives/Task Force Officers assigned to the Special Enforcement Unit.

During the month of August 2022, in State v. Ludwin Luna-Grande, an investigation into the distribution of CDS was conducted. As a result of the investigation, an operation occurred for the ultimate buy/bust of approximately 500 grams of cocaine. During the operation, one defendant was arrested, and a half a kilo of cocaine was seized.

During 2022, the Special Enforcement Unit conducted numerous Operation Helping Hand details, inclusive of arrest, proactive enforcement, and non-arrest/outreach in order to assist persons saved by Narcan into the recovery process.

In 2023, SEU will continue to pursue high-level narcotics investigations and money laundering investigations, in addition to pursuing lower-level narcotic investigations, to build larger cases while also assisting local departments. SEU will also continue its unrelenting focus on the opioid crisis, by conducting Morris County Operation Helping Hand operations to offer drug users assistance from Peer Recovery Specialists, while also focusing on for-profit dealers. The unit will continue to advance the Tactical Narcotics Team (TNT) and recruit new members utilizing a new recruiting and training plan. The unit will also solicit local municipalities to send officers to the MCPO SEU as Task Force Officers. SEU will continue to work with addiction assistance programs such as Morris County Prevention is Key (MCPIK) and the Center for Addiction and Recovery Education and Success (CARES) Group to assist persons struggling with addiction within Morris County. Lastly, the unit will seek to create and implement a training program, taught by the MCPO and MCPIK, to aid law enforcement in assisting individuals contacted by officers with the help they may need through CARES.

Fugitive Unit

The Fugitive Unit is responsible for locating and apprehending fugitives wanted by this agency and, when necessary, extraditing them from asylum jurisdictions. This unit also investigates escapes from the Morris County Correctional Facility, the Morris County Youth Detention Center, and Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital. It is the responsibility of the Fugitive Unit to process and investigate all pre-sentence and failure-to-appear sentencing warrants issued by the Morris County Superior Court Judges in the Criminal and Family Part Sections. The unit processes all Governors' Warrants for fugitives wanted by the Morris County Prosecutor's Office who have refused to waive extradition from asylum states. Additionally, the unit handles all Interstate Agreement on Detainers (IAD) requests and processes all interstate witness and subpoena requests in accordance with the Interstate Witness and Subpoena Act. The Fugitive Unit facilitates the return of fugitives in custody in Morris County who are wanted by other states.

During 2022, the Fugitive Unit members continued to assist local police departments with the extradition of subjects from states surrounding New Jersey on complaint warrants not served. The unit continued a bench warrant review process in order to review warrants from older, less

violent/serious charges, that could be cleared through case review. This resulted in over thirty-six warrants being dismissed.

The Fugitive Unit will continue with the bench warrant review project, in order to allocate time and resources to fugitive investigations of a more serious and violent nature. The unit will identify those cases where a Communications Data Warrant (CDW)/Cell Phone Tracking Warrant will assist the unit in locating and apprehending subjects on more serious/violent charges. Additionally, the unit will work with Assistant Prosecutors and Detectives to file bail jumping complaints for defendants who repeatedly fail to appear for their court dates which results in multiple warrants issued and repeat extraditions carried out.

Forfeiture Unit

The main function of the Forfeiture Unit is to coordinate all seizures and potential forfeiture of assets seized in Morris County. This includes seizures made by the Morris County Prosecutor's Office, the thirty-eight Municipal Police Departments in Morris County, and the New Jersey State Police. The unit also monitors the expenditure of forfeited assets by all law enforcement agencies within Morris County.

In addition to monitoring the municipalities, the unit monitors and reports all expenditures made from the Morris County Prosecutor's forfeiture accounts. During 2022, the Morris County Prosecutor's Office spent \$9,792.24 in expenses relating to the operation of the forfeiture program. These funds were taken from the Asset Maintenance Account (AMA). Non-forfeiture program expenditures made with forfeited funds totaled \$108,579.81. These funds were acquired from the County Law Enforcement Trust Account (CLETA), Federal Law Enforcement Trust Account - Treasury (FLETA-T), and the Federal Law Enforcement Trust Account – Justice (FLETA-J). All expenditures made from these accounts comply with the New Jersey Attorney General's Guidelines.

The Asset Forfeiture Unit also oversees the distribution of forfeited funds and property to the participating Law Enforcement agencies. The Forfeiture Distribution Committee is comprised of the Morris County Prosecutor or their designee, the Morris County Prosecutor's Chief of Detectives or their designee, the Assistant Prosecutor in charge of forfeitures, the President of the Morris County Police Chiefs Association, and the President of the Morris County Detectives Association. The committee approves the distribution of forfeited assets to the participating agencies every year.

Thirty-eight forfeiture investigations were opened during 2022. Twenty-six forfeiture cases were closed in 2022. Three forfeiture case reports were reviewed by this unit and either did not meet the criteria established to open a forfeiture file or were not opened because of weak proofs.

The following assets were **seized** by law enforcement in Morris County during 2022:

United States Currency	\$266,915.96
13 Vehicles, 1 Motorcycle	\$80,625.00 (approximate value)

The following assets were **forfeited** to the Morris County Prosecutor's Office in 2022:

United States Currency	\$347,722.53
4 Vehicles, 1 Motorcycle	\$56,686.00 (value)

In 2022, the Asset Forfeiture Unit continued its effort to keep this office in full compliance with the New Jersey Unclaimed Property statute. Currently there are no funds to be returned from 2022 regarding unclaimed property.

Recent legislation has required that all reporting regarding forfeiture be done through the Infoshare module. This has required extensive in-house training, implementation of new procedures, and technical assistance to municipal law enforcement agencies by this unit. It will also require that the Standard Operating Procedures and Forfeiture Directive of this unit be revised to reflect the new reporting requirements as issued by the Office of the Attorney General when they are approved.

During 2022, an independent auditor presented a favorable 2021 audit report after reviewing the Asset Forfeiture Unit accounts. The audit for calendar year 2022 by an independent auditor has been completed and the report concluded there were no discrepancies or policy violations found.

Lastly, two members of the unit have continued their positions as members of a sub-committee formed by the Office of the Attorney General regarding new forfeiture legislation that is being implemented statewide.

The unit will continue to review its present procedures to effectively increase its efficiency and productivity. As soon as the new Standard Operating Procedures for Forfeiture are implemented by the Office of the Attorney General, this unit will begin to update our own SOP and Forfeiture Directive.

This office has been completely compliant with the Unclaimed Property statute for a sixth successive year. The unit will continue its efforts to comply with the New Jersey Unclaimed Property statute in 2023.

Arson/Environmental Crimes Unit

The Arson/Environmental Crimes Unit (A/ECU) is responsible for investigating crimes related to suspicious fires as well as violations of New Jersey Environmental laws. The unit investigates all fires, regardless of cause, involving a fatality, suspected fatality or serious bodily injury; all fires known to be intentionally set or considered suspicious in origin; all fires causing damage to government buildings, schools or colleges, churches, synagogues or other houses of worship, health care facilities, multiple family dwellings (more than three units), industrial complexes, shopping

centers, malls or other commercial properties (i.e. places of public assembly, restaurants, etc.) and ethnic social clubs; and significant explosions. In addition, the unit investigates the release, discharge, abandonment, or dumping of any suspected hazardous or toxic materials; any hazardous or toxic material incidents resulting in death or serious bodily injury or resulting in the damage to a substantial quantity of property; and any violations of the environmental statutes.

During 2022, A/ECU Unit was relocated from the Specialized Crimes Division to the Special Operations Division. The Detectives assigned to A/ECU are also responsible for handling assignments within the Special Operations Division. The Special Operations Division coordinated with the A/ECU to equip all division personnel with protective respirators (APR) and members of the A/ECU obtained new SCBA.

In 2022, the New Jersey Special Investigators Association recognized the MCPO A/ECU for the Association's Investigation of the Year for State v. Gilmar Tejada. The investigation involved arson-related fraud, specifically, the filing of false insurance claims involving five different insurance policies. The investigation ultimately resulted in the arrest, prosecution, conviction, and sentencing of Gilmar Tejada for second degree Aggravated Arson and two counts of third-degree Insurance Fraud. Tejada was sentenced to seven years New Jersey State Prison and ordered to pay \$304,764 in restitution. As part of the investigation, it was uncovered that Tejada and family members were involved with insurance fraud. Tejada also pled guilty to hindering, a disorderly person's offense, as a result of that investigation.

The A/ECU provided in-service training to police, fire and emergency services agencies in Morris County regarding Fire and Arson related topics. A/ECU conducted periodical test burns similar to products discovered at scenes at the Morris County Public Safety Academy.

For 2023, the A/ECU will ensure that all members of the unit attend the DCJ Basic Arson Investigators Course, International Association of Arson Investigators Certified Fire Investigator trainer courses and obtain training to the Hazardous Material Technician Level. The A/ECU will focus on Environmental Crimes investigations and continue to train police, fire and emergency services.

The A/ECU will continue to provide in-service training to the police, fire and emergency services agencies in Morris County in the subject of Fire and Arson related topics.

Intelligence Unit

The Intelligence Unit gathers useful and relevant information from an array of public and law enforcement sources and databases for the purpose of identifying patterns of crime and the individuals associated with the criminal activity. The information can also be utilized to predict and prevent crime, ensure an efficient use of law enforcement resources and assist law enforcement agencies in determining similarities or patterns that can assist with investigations. The mission of the Intelligence Unit is to use these tools to reduce crime, thereby improving the quality of life in Morris County. The Intelligence Unit also works closely with other units within the Morris County Prosecutor's Office and assists with providing valuable information through subject profile background reports and at times operating as a real time crime center.

The Intelligence Unit is also responsible for the collection of all documentation for the 52 consensual intercepts that were requested in 2022, to include cataloging and recording each document for the year end Attorney General Report. To accompany these requests, the equipment needed for the intercepts is inventoried, tested, and improved throughout the year.

During 2018 through 2022, Morris County Law Enforcement identified a significant increase in motor vehicle burglaries and thefts within Morris County. In total, there were 1,200 motor vehicles stolen in Morris County - or one vehicle stolen every day and a half - during this four-year period (2018 had 225 stolen MVs; 2019 had 217 stolen MVs; 2020 had 198 stolen MVs; 2021 had 240 stolen MVs; 2022 had 274 stolen MVs). As a result of this crime increase, the Morris County Auto Theft Task Force began in March of 2020 and was a function of the Intelligence Unit. During 2022, the Morris County Auto Theft Task Force, in conjunction with the Intelligence Unit, arrested at least six individuals for the theft of high-end motor vehicles.

During 2022, the Intelligence Unit was actively involved in the Statewide Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) initiative in cooperation with our colleagues in the Morris County Sheriff's Office and the Office of Emergency Management. As part of our involvement, we worked closely with the New Jersey State Police to ensure compliance with all Morris County Law Enforcement Agencies. As the County representative, we were responsible for drafting a County Directive and reviewing each Municipal Policy. Additionally, we conducted a Countywide Audit on all ALPR systems in order to create an indexed file of all fixed ALPR devices throughout the County. These were added to both a spreadsheet, as well as a map, which could be used by Detectives throughout the County. Lastly, the County of Morris was awarded \$372,000 in state grant funding to install ALPRs throughout the County that will benefit our mission of crime reduction and the location of missing persons.

The Intelligence Unit will continue to not only be an asset to the Special Operations Division, but also to all Units within the Morris County Prosecutor's Office and a resource for the local municipalities we serve. The investigative focus for the unit remains high-end auto theft and organized burglary groups.

Homeland Security Unit

The primary mission of the Homeland Security Unit is to protect the citizens, government, and infrastructure of Morris County and the State of New Jersey against any attack, foreign or domestic. This mission is accomplished by maintaining readiness, conducting investigations to identify and disrupt a potential attack, planning and preparing to respond to an incident to defend against an ongoing attack, and to investigate any terrorism related incident to ensure the prosecution of the responsible parties and to protect the citizens of Morris County and the State of New Jersey.

The unit is responsible for counter-terrorism planning, preparation, response, and investigative efforts. The unit strives to identify potential threats, coordinate available resources for the preparation and response to large-scale criminal incidents, develop plans and work with local, county and regional agencies to increase the Morris County preparedness and ability to protect the

government and infrastructure of Morris County, the State of New Jersey, and cooperate to protect the New York Metropolitan Area.

Additionally, the unit investigates all potential threats to educational facilities and healthcare facilities. The Homeland Security Unit works closely with the MCPO Juvenile and the Pre-Trial / Mental Health Diversion Units, as well as several state agencies, to ensure (1) the threat against the educational facility is mitigated; and (2) the student, oftentimes a juvenile, receives all necessary services to ensure they receive the help they may need.

In January 2023, the MCPO Juvenile and Homeland Security Units, Morris County Sheriff's Office, and the Morris County Executive County Superintendent hosted a symposium at the Morris County Police Safety Academy for Morris County superintendents, SROs, and other school administrators, for the purpose of reviewing the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement and to improve school safety coordination. Matters such as school drills, campus mapping, threat assessments, reporting guidelines, Juvenile Justice Reform, mental health issues, and other topics were discussed.

According to the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (NJOHSP), Morris County has 66 recognized assets that meet National or State Assets criteria.

The Homeland Security Unit staffs a Director of County Critical Infrastructure. The primary responsibility of this position is to coordinate all activities as they relate to critical infrastructure and the security of the residents within the County of Morris, while maintaining open lines of communication between Federal agencies, State agencies, County agencies and departments such as the Office of Emergency Management, the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, and the Office of Health Management. The Director also serves as a member of the County Multi-Disciplinary Working Group with respect to the allocation of federal, state, and county Homeland Security funding that is used within the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) Region and the County of Morris. Additionally, the Director is a County representative to the Morris County Chamber of Commerce and the Infrastructure Advisory Group.

In addition to the fifty-one investigative cases opened during the reporting period, the Homeland Security and Intelligence Units generated 52 Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) to the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness. Of those, 19% of Morris County SARs were pursued federally.

During 2022, the Homeland Security Unit completed fourteen security assessments of government facilities, educational facilities, and houses of worship. Additionally, numerous trainings were provided to faith based and educational communities.

In 2022, the Homeland Security Unit revamped their Directive with a specific focus on threats of violence to educational facilities. During this period, the unit worked closely with the Juvenile Unit and the NJOHSP to formalize a process to ensure all necessary tasks are appropriately distributed and documented. Although the unit has been dealing with these types of threats, the formalization of a process ensures the local police departments have a clear understanding of what we are looking for so the juvenile receives all the necessary help they may need.

In 2023, the Homeland Security Unit will continue to take proactive and reactive roles in Homeland Security investigations, working with our Municipal, County, State and Federal law enforcement partners to combat homegrown violent extremism. The unit will work cohesively with the Juvenile Unit and NJOHSP to ensure school threats are handled according to prescribed protocols and Directives to ensure the safety of our educational facilities. Similarly, we will continue providing our evaluation services to our faith based facilities and provide threat assessments and remedial recommendations as appropriate.

High Tech Crimes Unit

The High Tech Crimes Unit is responsible for investigating crimes related to computer crimes, as well as providing an investigative service in the field of computer/mobile device forensics, which includes the processing and analysis of electronic evidence, report writing, and testifying in court. The High Tech Crimes Unit is also a participating member of the NY/NJ United States Secret Service Electronic Crimes Task Force (USSS-ECTF) and a participating member of the New Jersey State Police Cyber-Terrorism Task Force (NJ-CTTF).

The High Tech Crimes Unit assists all Divisions within the Morris County Prosecutor's Office, Morris County Municipal Police Departments, and various State and Federal law-enforcement agencies with computer-related forensic examinations, technical assistance requests, and investigations, many of which overlap into several jurisdictions. Many of these investigations are complex and time consuming due to the ever-evolving technology of computers, cellular phones, and electronic storage devices.

The High Tech Crimes Unit performs "Technical Service" requests that include, but are not limited to, duplication/enhancement of audio for trial and discovery purposes; the recovery and enhancement of evidence from Digital Video Recorder (DVR) security systems; and the redaction of audio and video from digital media.

During 2022, the unit maintained all software and equipment to maintain its capabilities, as well as upgraded software enabling the exploitation of electronic devices. This included the addition of vehicle forensics. The unit utilized funding to install a backup evidence server located off site, in order to maintain evidence and the integrity of digital forensics. Additionally, a re-design of the forensic laboratory increased workspace, evidence storage/security and server access. This allowed for all forensic examiners to have their own workspace and bench space for larger devices. A guest review station was also incorporated into the redesigned space in order to accommodate visiting Detectives to review large electronic files jointly with HTCUC examiners.

In addition, the Morris County Prosecutor's Office has developed a close, working relationship with the United States Secret Service Newark Division, and jointly, in 2022, initiated a quarterly meeting with High Tech Crimes Investigators from all over New Jersey.

The unit will continue to give presentations at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy for the Morris County Law Enforcement Community. These training courses will include a two-hour "Internet Investigations" segment for newly promoted detectives and a one-day "Introduction

to Computer Crime Investigations” that will be provided to all members of law enforcement. This class gives first-responding officers basic strategies for dealing with computer-related evidence.

All members of the unit will maintain their forensic examiner certifications and obtain additional training as deemed necessary. Particularly, at least one additional member of the unit will seek certification in computer (laptop/desktop) forensic examinations.

In 2023, the High Tech Crimes Unit personnel will continue to work closely with the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force in providing assistance during the execution of search warrants, identifying forensic devices and ensuring proper collection of hardware. Also, personnel will provide on-scene previews and continue with full forensic examinations of any suspect devices.

SPECIALIZED CRIMES DIVISION

Professional Standards Unit

It is the responsibility of the Professional Standards Unit (PSU) to conduct investigations and work in conjunction with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies on investigations involving criminal violations committed by elected or appointed public officials and public employees, when such conduct is related to their public duties. The unit is also responsible for investigating violations of Perjury, N.J.S.A Title 19 (Election laws), N.J.S.A. Title 40 and 40A (Municipalities and Counties); and conflicts of interests involving Public Officials and N.J.S.A. Title 18 (Education). In addition, the Professional Standards Unit will conduct any investigation that the Prosecutor, First Assistant Prosecutor, or Chief of Detectives designates as sensitive or confidential in nature, which includes office Internal Affairs investigations. Members of the unit also conduct pre-employment background investigations for all legal, investigative, support staff, and intern applicants. Early Warning System, Extreme Risk Protection Orders involving Police Officers, Use of Force and Brady/ Giglio checks are also reviewed within the Professional Standards Unit.

When necessary, Detectives of the Professional Standards Unit are available to aid and assist all other units of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office, either in their assigned capacity or otherwise, as a situation may require. Members of the Professional Standards Unit maintain good working relations with all law enforcement and governmental agencies. When appropriate, Detectives will prepare or assist in the preparation of reports necessary for the functioning of this unit or the Morris County Prosecutor's Office as a whole.

Along with the other members of the Specialized Crimes Division, the PSU detectives were responsible for conducting thirty-five pre-employment background investigations, examining the criminal, personal, professional and educational background of the candidates. These investigations involve a concentrated effort on the part of the assigned Detective to conduct personal interviews and obtain, review and confirm pertinent information/documentation that is provided by the candidate. All information is memorialized in a detailed report which is reviewed and signed-off through the office's chain-of-command up to the Prosecutor. All the positions within the Morris County Prosecutor's Office require either a full or limited background investigation.

In 2022, the Professional Standards Unit continued to maintain productive communication with various state, county and municipal law enforcement agencies either by way of referral or acceptance of new investigations. Specifically, the Professional Standards Unit provided guidance and assistance by way of personnel, investigative advice, or legal/technical advice to the municipal police departments in their efforts to conduct their internal affairs investigations. These types of investigations are normally sensitive in nature and therefore, it is crucial that an amicable relationship exist between the municipal police departments and this office. The Professional Standards Unit strives daily to maintain permissible lines of communication and demonstrate confidentiality and absolute integrity when interacting with the local agencies in order to demonstrate the highest standard of law enforcement professionalism that is vital in these sensitive investigations.

On September 22nd and 23rd of 2022, members of the MCPO PSU conducted a successful two-day Basic Internal Affairs training course at the Morris County Public Safety Academy. In attendance were approximately twenty-nine internal affairs investigators from within Morris County area.

In 2023 the Professional Standards Unit will continue to provide leadership and guidance to the law enforcement community regarding Internal Affairs investigations. In 2023, the Professional Standards Unit will again host a two-day Basic Internal Affairs seminar, as well as provide a block of instruction on Internal Affairs to the new police recruits attending the police academy. The unit will continue to train departments on the InfoShare Internal Affairs module as new Internal Affairs officers are assigned. The unit will also ensure that Morris County police departments comply with the use of the IA Module within InfoShare as per MCPO Directives. The unit will also adhere to the Attorney General Guidelines on implementation of the Early Warning Systems, Use of Force Reporting and Random Drug Testing, and ensure compliance from the local police departments.

The philosophy of the personnel assigned to the Professional Standards Unit is that education is important for personal and professional growth. As such, members of the Professional Standards Unit will continue to attend training opportunities in specialized areas often addressed by the unit, to include interviewing techniques, Miranda issues, leadership, supervision, evidence processing, new technologies, ethics in law enforcement and Internal Affairs policy and procedures.

A continued objective of the unit will be to make certain that regular inventory meetings are held to ensure the active caseload is maintained efficiently. Investigations that are initiated in PSU need to move expeditiously through the internal acceptance and review process while maintaining the highest integrity level in completing a proper and thorough investigation.

The Professional Standards Unit is unique in the fact that it only investigates violations of specific statutes where certain elements must be met to substantiate a charge; however, it also investigates “improper behavior” on the part of public officials. The unique nature of these investigations separates the Professional Standards Unit from other units in the office. In some cases, the findings often reveal an “appearance of improper behavior,” even though a specific violation of a criminal statute cannot be substantiated. As a result of this appearance of “improper behavior,” recommendations are made for corrective action to prevent such conduct from occurring in the future and the results of the investigation are sent to the proper authority for any corrective action deemed appropriate.

In addition, often the targets of these investigations are either high-ranking public officials or law enforcement officers, and the investigations are therefore highly sensitive. As noted above, the Unit Detectives must make a concentrated effort to ensure the integrity of all of the investigations and maintain the high level of professionalism that this office established. In those instances where a public official or law enforcement officer may not have violated a specific criminal statute, the Professional Standards Unit is committed to ensure that the public trust is not broken and that the matter or allegation is appropriately addressed administratively.

Brady/ Giglio reviews are conducted by the Professional Standards Unit as it relates to court-related matters. Brady/Giglio material is any information favorable to the accused which may

reduce a defendant's potential sentence, go against the credibility of an unfavorable witness, or otherwise allow a jury to infer against the defendant's guilt.

The following is an example of a case handled by the PSU in 2022 and is highlighted based on significant outcome, investigative effort, and resources dedicated to same.

In State v. Tung, on May 2, 2019, a 17-year-old female high school student in Mount Olive Township reported to police that a teacher at Mount Olive High School was harassing her. The PSU detectives conducted a comprehensive investigation that resulted in the defendant, Tajinder Tung, being indicted for official misconduct and stalking. On September 6, 2022, a jury trial began and lasted until September 22, 2022, at which time the defendant was found guilty of stalking. On October 31, 2022, the defendant was sentenced to 60 days at the Morris County Correctional Facility as a condition of a 3-year probation term. The defendant was also ordered to forfeit his public employment at the time of sentence.

In 2023, it is the objective of the Professional Standards Unit to educate and train the municipal police departments within Morris County regarding the assessment of a Professional Standards/Internal Affairs complaint. Municipal police department's internal affairs units will be directed on how to assess and differentiate allegations directed against their officers, that are internal administrative alleged violations compared to potential criminal misconduct allegations. The goal and objective is to educate the municipal internal affairs officers to identify an internal administrative violation and conduct an appropriate administrative investigation. The municipal internal affairs officers will be capable of assessing an allegation of potential criminal misconduct and refer that specific complaint to the Morris County Prosecutor's Office for review. The objective is for the Morris County Municipal Police Departments to be more informed and thus, better able to make independent evaluations in assessing the elements and substance of a professional standards allegation.

Insurance Fraud Unit

It is the responsibility of the Insurance Fraud Unit to conduct investigations within the purview of the New Jersey Insurance Fraud Prevention Act, N.J.S.A. 17:33A-1 through 17:33A-15, and the New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice – Title 2C, specifically: Chapter 20 (Theft and related offenses); Chapter 21 (Insurance Fraud and related Fraudulent Practices); Chapter 25 (Perjury and other Falsification in Official Matters); and Chapter 17 (Arson and property related crimes including, fraudulent residential burglaries and auto related crimes where potential insurance fraud is indicated).

In 2022, the members of the Insurance Fraud Unit continued to conduct investigations that the Prosecutor, First Assistant Prosecutor, Chief of Detectives, or their designee, as well as the New Jersey Office of the Insurance Fraud Prosecutor (OIFP) deemed appropriate. As of 2021, the investigative members of this unit were available to assist all units of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office, as well as other Federal, State, County, and Municipal agencies as required.

Members of the Insurance Fraud Unit have maintained and will continue to maintain positive working relationships with all law enforcement and government agencies. Detectives will prepare

or assist in the preparation of reports necessary for the functioning of this unit or the Morris County Prosecutor's Office.

The Insurance Fraud Unit has two detectives assigned to the unit, who are also responsible for conducting Financial Crimes and C.A.R.E. (Crimes Against the Retired and Elderly) investigations.

In 2022, the Insurance Fraud Unit opened twenty new criminal investigations of insurance fraud claims, insurance application fraud, rate evasion, health care fraud and identity theft. After the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (NJMVC) implemented facial recognition software in their computer systems to detect/prevent identity theft and make New Jersey driver licenses more secure. The MCPO detectives assigned to the Insurance Fraud Unit are responsible for investigating any identity theft allegations regarding the NJMVC facial recognition system.

The Insurance Fraud Unit will continue to combat insurance fraud by identifying trends in the industry through media and intelligence. When warranted, the unit will continue to empower the local municipalities to conduct investigations with our guidance, expertise and assistance. The unit will continue to work closely with special investigations units within private sector insurance companies to identify cases which are worthy of additional investigation. In addition, in 2023 the Insurance Fraud Unit will be working with the Automobile Insurance Plan Service Office (AIPSO) regarding the allegations of significant financial loss to AIPSO from commercial trucks committing rate evasion. The Insurance Fraud Unit will continue to work with the New Jersey Office of the Insurance Fraud Prosecutor (OIFP). OIFP will continue to reimburse the MCPO Insurance Fraud Unit regarding the allocated hours dedicated to OIFP referrals, including AIPSO investigations.

Financial Crimes Unit

It is the responsibility of the Financial Crimes Unit to conduct investigations and work in conjunction with local, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and financial institutions involving criminal violations that are contained within the New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice, Title 2C, specifically, Chapter 20 (Theft and related offenses), Chapter 21 (Forgery and Fraudulent Practices) and Chapter 28 (Perjury and other Falsification in Official Matters). The Financial Crimes Unit also coordinates investigations which may overlap several jurisdictions. These investigations vary in their degree of complexity in and of themselves; therefore, they are generally time consuming, requiring some degree of financial investigative expertise, and present jurisdictional problems to local authorities. In addition, members of the Financial Crimes Unit provide their expertise in financial matters to other units within the Morris County Prosecutor's Office (MCPO). It is noteworthy that members of the Financial Crimes Unit on a regular basis provide advice, guidance and direction to municipal police officers who are conducting investigations into financial crimes.

The members of the Financial Crimes Unit also conduct any investigation that the Prosecutor, First Assistant Prosecutor, Chief of Detectives or their designee deem appropriate. Members of the Financial Crimes Unit conduct background investigations for all personnel employed by the

MCPO. The members of the unit also assist all other units of the MCPO as circumstances may require. Members of the Financial Crimes Unit maintain positive working relations with all law enforcement and government agencies. In addition, members of the Financial Crimes Unit continue to stay abreast of the latest trends and developments in fraudulent schemes and organized scams, which have continued to proliferate with increasing levels of sophistication.

The Financial Crimes Unit continued to be available to other law enforcement agencies throughout the County and State for investigative, technical, and legal support for issues such as: Search Warrants, Financial Statement Analysis, Grand Jury subpoenas, Credit Histories, FinCEN Queries, Bank Seizure Orders, and investigative direction and guidance. Unit members were also available for general guidance in conducting fraud investigations. The Financial Crimes Unit continues to utilize the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCen) to initiate and further investigations. On October 27th, 2022, the Financial Crimes Unit hosted a one day “Basic Financial Crimes Investigations” course at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy.

In 2022, the Financial Crimes Unit opened forty-one criminal investigations and provided guidance to law enforcement agencies and/or civilians regarding 59 financial crimes inquiries. The following is an example of a 2022, Financial Crimes Unit investigation.

In October 2019, the Hanover Township Police Department (HTPD) notified the Financial Crimes Unit of an allegation of financial fraud. The victim reported she had received an email on October 16, 2019, requesting an electronic transfer of money that was associated with “closing fees” regarding the purchasing of a residential home. The victim then “wired” \$142,082.43 to a bank account not associated with her attorney. Further investigation revealed that on October 16, 2019, Gary J. Lewis received the \$142,082.43 in his bank account. Surveillance video was collected from the date in question and an individual consistent with Gary J. Lewis’s appearance is observed accessing the money/account. Once Mr. Lewis had access to the money, he disseminated it to five other individuals, keeping approximately \$10,000.00 for his own personal use. Mr. Lewis was charged for his involvement in the theft. The defendant was a resident of Indiana and on December 12, 2022, he was arrested and subsequently extradited to New Jersey by the MCPO Fugitive Unit where he provided a statement post Miranda. During the interview, the defendant admitted to his involvement with the \$142,082.43 theft. The defendant was charged with 2nd degree theft and his prosecution is pending in court while efforts to continue to investigate the remaining recipients of the theft proceeds.

Since the date of charging, further efforts were made to identify and locate other persons believed to be involved in the scheme. After making diligent inquiries with financial institutions and other law enforcement agencies, it was determined that no viable case could be built against any of the other potential suspects. In addition, the defendant has been unwilling to cooperate with the State’s investigation. As a result, the matter is now proceeding towards trial.

The Financial Crimes Unit will continue to provide assistance and guidance to all Morris County law enforcement agencies on a daily basis, in both legal and investigative matters. These include but are not limited to the preparation of search warrants, Grand Jury Subpoenas with a loss greater than \$75,000.00, credit histories, financial analysis, FinCen inquiries and other inquiries/requests regarding current types of frauds and scams. The Financial Crimes Unit will continue to provide

training and lectures to the various community groups in the areas of Identity Theft, Financial Scams and Elderly Fraud. In addition, the Financial Crimes Unit will again host a “Basic Financial Crimes Investigation” course at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy on October 6, 2023. Financial Crimes Unit members will continue their efforts to attend new training program which will ensure that all members of the Financial Crimes Unit receive basic and advanced training in the methods of financial crimes, related to law enforcement. This training includes programs offered by the National White Collar Crime Center; the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy; MAGLOCLEN; the Northeast Counterdrug Training Center at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA; the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners; the Association of Certified Anti Money Laundering Specialists; and other area police training academies. Members will also continue to work with the Department of Homeland Security and other agencies regarding training programs concentrating on Cryptocurrencies and learning the investigative process in conducting Cryptocurrency investigations. The Financial Crimes Unit will encourage its assigned staff to take the CFE (Certified Fraud Examiner) exam and the CAMS (Certified Anti Money Laundering Specialist) exam, the two premier certifications in the Financial Crimes Industry. In 2022, two detectives assigned to the Financial Crimes Unit started the process for obtaining their Certified Fraud Examiner certifications and one assistant prosecutor initiated the process for obtaining his CAMS certification. The goal is to have these certifications completed in 2023.

Crimes Against the Retired and Elderly (C.A.R.E.) Unit

The C.A.R.E. Unit was created with two purposes. First, to educate senior citizens about the types of crimes they may be targeted for, in hopes that they will be able to recognize them, and thereby prevent their own victimization. Second, to investigate and vigorously prosecute those who commit financial crimes against the senior citizen community. A proactive and a strong commitment towards C.A.R.E. investigations will send a strong message to those who have chosen to victimize one of the most vulnerable segments of society that their activities will not be tolerated.

In 2022, the C.A.R.E. Unit opened six criminal investigations, regarding crimes against the elder community. With the increase of cyber communications, the elder community have become primary targets of predators worldwide and are increasingly becoming victims of cybercrimes.

An example of such a case occurred in July 2021. The Santa Maria Police Department (SMPD, California) notified the Specialized Crimes Division (SCD) of an allegation of fraud involving a Publisher’s Clearing House (PCH) scam. According to the SMPD, an elderly resident (75 y.o.f.) of their jurisdiction reported she was contacted by a female, who she believed was an employee of PCH informing her she had won a vehicle worth \$1.5 million dollars. The PCH employee advised the vehicle would be delivered to her residence, however, she would need to pay the taxes on the prize. The victim was directed to send check payments for the taxes to Mr. William Henne (defendant), a Morris County resident. Between March 2021 and June 2021, the victim mailed Mr. Henne seven checks totaling \$127,000.00.

During 2022, the C.A.R.E. detectives conducted an investigation which led to the charging of Mr. Henne with Theft and Conspiracy to Commit Theft. This prosecution is currently pending court.

In 2023, the C.A.R.E. Unit intends to present various educational/awareness programs to senior groups throughout Morris County. The purpose of these presentations is to ensure that the senior population and law enforcement agencies are made aware of criminal organizations, unsavory or questionable contractors, the latest lottery scams, phone scams and cybercrimes scams, which are the most prominent crimes targeting seniors.

Community Outreach and Recruitment

The Community Outreach and Recruitment Unit is pro-active, placing a strong emphasis on prevention, early identification and timely intervention to deal with issues before they become potential problems. By collaborating with community leaders, religious and civic organizations, business communities, and schools, the unit has helped to create solutions to trending issues (i.e., cyber-bullying, school violence, human trafficking and child safety.) The Community Outreach and Recruitment Unit initiatives have become an integral part of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office strategy to raise community awareness through outreach and public service programs.

In 2022 the Community Outreach and Recruitment Unit conducted several initiatives inclusive of the Bias Education and Outreach to the Morris County Law Enforcement Community and the Morris School District educational programs. These were designed to train law enforcement and school administrators to identify and investigate bias-related incidents, increase awareness of bias incidents versus bias crimes, and discuss legal ramifications. The Morris County Prosecutor's Office completed 14 of these programs in 2022.

Additionally, Operation Take Back – DEA Partnership is a national initiative that encourages individuals to bring unused or expired prescriptions, controlled substances, and over-the-counter medications to predetermined locations for safe disposal. In 2022, the Morris County Prosecutor's Office, on two separate occasions, in partnership with the Morris Plains, Randolph, Hanover Township and Morris Township Police Departments co-hosted collection sites for medications disposal. These efforts resulted in the recovery of 501 pounds of surrendered medications that will never be in circulation and subject to misuse.

The Community Outreach and Recruitment Unit also participated in the career fairs at Seton Hall University, Caldwell University, and Kean University. The unit participated in National Night Out, which enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. This event provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

The Morris County Prosecutor's Office also participated in the Turkey Give Away at the County College of Morris where we donated 80 turkeys and assisted in giving them out to the community to enjoy at the Thanksgiving holiday. We also participated in the Backpack Giveaway, where we handed out backpacks and school supplies to members of the community with the Table of Hope Organization and the Bethel Church of Morristown.



In 2022 the Morris County Prosecutor's Office after a 13-year absence, and with the assistance of the County Sheriff's Office and the Mt. Olive and Parsippany Police Departments, initiated an enormously successful Gun Buy Back Program, which resulted in the safe surrender of 674 firearms.



The Buy Back program was funded with forfeiture funds, and with funding support from the Morris County Commissioners, the NJ Attorney General's Office and the Morris County Crimestoppers Program.

A clergy outreach program was formed, to defuse potential confrontations between police and citizens. The goal of this program is to establish relationships between law enforcement and community leaders so there can be a constructive, friendly and positive dialogue if problems should arise. Moreover, the Community Outreach and Recruitment Unit arranges meetings throughout the year with MCPO Administration and the Executive members of the Morris County NAACP to foster open communication and to discuss local issues of mutual importance.

The Morris County Prosecutor's Office also hosted its 1st Annual Community Unity Festival to Combat Bias, Hate, and Violence. In 2022, the Community Outreach and Recruitment Unit and other members of the MCPO staff presented 102 educational programs as listed above to various audiences in and out of our County.

One such program is the annual Morris County National Coming Out Day, co-hosted by the MCPO LGBTQ+ liaisons, MCSO, and the Morris Township Police Department, along with 2022 sponsors Atlantic Health System, edge (end discrimination gain equality), and gaamc (gay activist alliance in morris county). National Coming Out Day is coordinated to encourage and support LGBTQ+ individuals to "come out", and is the unconditional commitment by law enforcement to build bridges with the LGBTQ+ community, and to foster interaction between law enforcement and those in attendance.

In 2023, the objective of the Community Outreach and Recruitment Unit is to continue to educate citizens of Morris County and develop relationships with community partners. Through positive interaction, we can continue to build rapport with local citizens and agencies, making it possible to better utilize their assistance in future investigations and events and strengthen their trust in Morris County Law Enforcement.

Bias Crimes Unit

The mission of the Bias Crime Unit is to eliminate crimes motivated by prejudice against others based on race, color, religion, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity, gender identity or expression and national origin.

The unit ensures compliance with the New Jersey Attorney General's Bias Incident Investigation Standards-Policy and Procedures for New Jersey Law Enforcement (1991); with all applicable supplemental directives; as well as with the Office of the Morris County Prosecutor's Standard Operating Procedure regarding Bias Crime Investigations.

The unit ensures that all Bias Incidents and Bias Crimes that occur within Morris County are properly investigated and reported to the Attorney General's Office and State Police for review via NJ Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR).

The legal and investigative staff of the unit review all bias reports and/or complaints forwarded to the unit. After each review, all reports are maintained in the office's Infoshare computer system.

The Bias Crimes Unit is available to inform local police departments regarding the way bias related crimes should be handled. The unit is always available to answer questions or review bias related

situations. Assistance with bias investigations is offered to municipal police departments or agencies located within the County of Morris.

In 2022, there were eighty-one Bias Incidents reported. The unit assisted municipal police departments within the County of Morris with these bias investigations. Although no one was charged with a Bias crime, each complaint was thoroughly investigated prior to any charging decision. Most of these bias incidents involved juveniles that were charged with Harassment due to the absence of any bias intent at the time the offense was committed. Those Juveniles received a Station House Adjustment (SHA). As part of the SHA, each juvenile involved was required to participate in the Bias Class provided through Morris County Youth Services.

The Bias Crimes Unit kept abreast of all active investigations and provided both legal and investigative guidance when appropriate. All statistical data and reporting requirements to the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General were completed.

As noted above, in 2022 the Morris County Prosecutor's Office hosted its 1st Annual Community Unity Festival to Combat Bias, Hate, and Violence. The Bias Crimes Unit conducted Bias Crimes Education and Outreach to the Morris County Law Enforcement Community and the Morris County School Districts.

Members of the Bias Crimes Unit received a Distinguished Service Award, from the New Jersey Bias Crimes Officers Association for their work, commitment, and dedication to bias crimes.

In 2023 the Bias Crime Unit will continue to monitor bias-related incidents occurring within Morris County. Research shows that many bias incidents go unreported and of the ones that do get reported, often witnesses or victims are hesitant to have law enforcement involved in handling these situations. In 2023, our efforts will continue to focus on enhancing this office's community outreach programs to provide the public with information and a safe environment to report bias incidents. Through education in community-based programs, we hope to enhance the public's trust in reporting these incidents to law enforcement resulting in those individuals willing to participate in the prosecution of these crimes. Members of the unit will attend advanced training opportunities relevant to the Bias Crimes Unit and attend all updates given by the Division of Criminal Justice. The Morris County Bias Crimes Unit will also conduct a train the trainer for the 21 County Prosecutor's Office on how to conduct bias crimes presentations in the school.

Firearms Unit

The Firearms Unit is responsible for conducting the firearms training for the investigative staff of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office and to ensure that the training complies with the New Jersey Attorney General's Directive concerning firearms qualifications. The unit also maintains a list of all weapons owned by the Morris County Prosecutor's Office and personally owned weapons of the Investigative Staff. Additionally, the Firearms Unit assists other law enforcement agencies within Morris County regarding their firearms qualification program and their annual firearms report, as mandated by the New Jersey Attorney General.

The personnel who comprise the Firearms Unit do so on a part-time basis and are assigned to other areas of responsibility within the Morris County Prosecutor's Office full time.

The Supervising Firearms Instructor oversees the following: firearms training, maintenance of firearms, ammunition, and ballistic vest purchases, MCPO Armory, non-lethal and chemical weapons and defensive tactics while an Assistant Prosecutor provides Use of Force updates.

Members of the Firearms Unit are responsible for MCPO investigative personnel firearms training and qualifications, as well as recruits in the Basic Police Class, Basic Corrections Class and the Division of Criminal Justice Basic Course for Investigators. Additionally, MCPO Firearms Instructors teach two blocks of Tactical Handgun at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy. All Police Training Commission (PTC) Certified Instructors successfully completed the three-year required forty hours of firearms instruction to maintain their respective certifications.

The 2022 Firearms Qualifications Program was conducted in accordance with the New Jersey Attorney General's Directives. The Spring Firearms Qualification Program was conducted with Nighttime Qualifications and Tactical Training, at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy while the 2022 Daytime Firearms Qualifications/Defensive Tactics Training was conducted at the Florham Park Police Department Range. The Fall Firearms Qualification Program was conducted with Daytime, Nighttime Qualifications and Tactical Training, at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy. The 2022 Defensive Tactics Training was conducted at the Florham Park Police Department Range. The Defensive Tactics Program was completely revised to increase officer safety and to address the imminent Police Training Commission (PTC) Police Licensing requirements.

In 2022, members of the Firearms Unit participated in the firearms orientation for the new Grand Jury panels. Members of the unit lectured on basic weapon nomenclature and ballistics as well as answered questions the panel members had regarding firearms and other types of cutting weapons and instruments. In 2022, members of the Firearms Unit assisted with the firearms training and qualifications of the recruits in the Basic Course for Investigators at the Division of Criminal Justice Academy in Sea Girt, New Jersey. Additionally, members of the Firearms Unit taught two sessions of the Tactical Handgun Course at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy. The Firearms Unit experienced a successful completion of semi-annual qualifications for all members of the sworn investigative staff.

The assigned weapons and qualifying scores were reviewed by members of the Firearms Unit for accuracy. The Firearms Unit Supervisor maintained the weapon inventory and updated the inventory for retired/newly hired and resigned personnel. The weapon inventory is dated, to reflect the chronology of the inventory review.

In 2022, the Armory was cleaned and re-organized. The ammunition and targets are labeled with the respective year and rotated to avoid languish. All weapons have been inventoried and properly tagged in accordance with New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP) Accreditation standards.

The Firearms Unit has in the past and will continue in the future, to meet and exceed the minimum qualification standards set forth by the New Jersey Attorney General and to provide additional training that is

both innovative and contemporary. This training program will remain committed to meeting the needs of the sworn investigative personnel and the office.

Training Unit

It is the responsibility of the Training Unit to carry out the Prosecutor's goal of ensuring that all legal and investigative personnel of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office receive the mandated in-service training required of them by statute, Attorney General's Directives or Prosecutor's Directives, as well as any training necessary to perform the primary function of the office at the highest professional level possible. Additionally, the Training Unit schedules and maintains records of all in-service training received, to include training mandated by the Attorney General's Office, as well as training given by members of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office. The Training Unit identifies and addresses areas of necessary training specific to the various sections and units within the Prosecutor's Office, as well as assists any individual training needs. The Training Unit continues to support the Prosecutor's function concerning Law Enforcement training in Morris County. The unit will continue to address training needs within the office, as well as the training needs of the Morris County Law Enforcement community.

In 2022, the Training Unit handled all forms related to newly hired Detectives. These forms were provided to the State of New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice and the New Jersey Police Training Commission. The unit also provided the mandatory Agency Training as required by the New Jersey Police Training Commission, as part of the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice Training Academy's Basic Course for Investigators (BCI) and the Modified Basic Course for Investigators (MBCI). The unit enrolled new Detectives into the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice Training Academy when required. The Training Unit also worked with newly hired Detectives to complete the requirements of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office Field Training and Evaluation Program which the Unit implements and supervises.

During 2022, the Training Unit ensured that all investigative personnel completed annual mandatory training as required by the New Jersey Attorney General's Office Directives pertaining to Firearms Qualifications, Domestic Violence, Bloodborne Pathogens and Bi-annual Use of Force/Vehicular Pursuit. In addition, the unit ensured that training in the areas of the Incident Command System-100, 200, 300 & 700, Right to Know, Counter-Terrorism Parts 1 through 9, HAZMAT and CBRNE Training were completed as needed. As part of the Attorney General Initiative, the C.L.E.A.R. Institute required 2022 Mental Health & Special Needs, De-escalation & Crisis Stabilization Training, which the Training Unit Supervisor facilitated for all investigative MCPO staff and disseminated the training material to all Morris County law enforcement. There were additional requirements for training on Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) and the Integrating Communication and Tactics (ICAT) Training, Resiliency training as well as Use of Force revisions.

Members of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office were called upon as instructors for both In Service training and the Basic Course for Police Officers at the Morris County Public Safety

Training Academy. Members instructed on Community Affairs, Baton Training, Youth Relations, Missing Persons, Cultural Diversity, Firearms, De-Escalation, and Defensive Tactics. All sworn law enforcement officers within the county were taught Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (A.B.L.E.) and Integrative Communications and Tactics (I.C.A.T.) as per A.G. Directive 2020-7.

The Training Unit has the responsibility of implementing the Prosecutor's initiative in local law enforcement training programs, policy standardization and development. The Training Unit Supervisor is the regional training coordinator for the web-based Domestic Security Preparedness training, also known as NJ Learn, established by Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive No. 2004-2. The Training Unit Supervisor coordinated that training for the Prosecutor's Office, as well as aided local law enforcement in meeting their training requirements and updating officers' accounts.

The Firearms Unit operates as part of the Training Unit. In conjunction with the Firearms Unit, the Training Unit ensured that all members of the investigative staff completed their bi-annual firearms qualifications as required as well as all mandated training as directed by the Attorney General's Office. In 2022, members of the Training Unit, provided instruction for the Basic Course for Investigators at the Division of Criminal Justice Academy for the weeklong firearms training for recruits. In addition, as in previous years, members of the Training Unit supervised the Body Armor Replacement Program, which ensured all sworn investigative staff receives new body armor every five years. All members of the investigative staff received their new vests in 2022.

The Prosecutor's Office continues to educate and/or support the legal staff on a variety of different levels and does so in conjunction with the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy, Division of Criminal Justice, CPANJ, On-Line courses, as well as unit driven training within the Morris County Prosecutor's Office. The Training Unit also works closely with the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy in scheduling office personnel to instruct courses for local law enforcement and legal staff on various topics.

The Morris County Prosecutor's Office has received accreditation by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP). The Training Unit Supervisor acts as a back-up Accreditation Manager for the Office. The Supervisor attended the NJSACOP Re-Accreditation hearing and fielded training questions by the NJSACOP Executive Board. The MCPO was successfully Re-Accredited by NJSACOP in 2022.

In March 2020, the Training Unit Supervisor attended and became the Morris County Master Resiliency Trainer and was selected as the North Region Master Resiliency Liaison to the Office of the Attorney General. In 2022, as in the previous year, the Training Unit Supervisor crafted the Master Resiliency Training Cadre and spearheaded Attorney General Directive 2020-6, Law Enforcement Resiliency Program. This was a two-day training and was conducted in accordance with Attorney General guidelines. Morris County was one of the first counties to conduct the training statewide which garnered positive attention by the Division of Criminal Justice and COP2COP and has continued to be the model for the State.

Due to the changes in both 2022 case law and New Jersey Statutes, the Morris County Prosecutor, Chief Assistant Prosecutor and Supervising Firearms Instructor initiated a revision to the 2017

Police Training Commission, AP/DAG Firearms Carry Certification. The personnel began a coordinated effort with members of both the Police Training Commission and the Director of the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy, to develop the new program through the Police Training Commission in 2023.

Animal Cruelty Unit

It is the responsibility of the Animal Cruelty Function to ensure that all animal cruelty complaints that occur within Morris County are properly investigated and later reported to the NJ Attorney General's Office. The MCPO's Chief Humane Law Enforcement Officer is responsible for the training of municipal police departments within Morris County and coordinates the efforts of personnel during animal cruelty investigations. The Assistant Prosecutor assigned to the function is responsible for the ultimate charging decisions and prosecutions of indictable crimes charged under Title 4.

In 2022, the Animal Cruelty Function, handled five cases which were adjudicated in Municipal Court. Each of these cases were initially reported to the local police department and were forwarded to the Chief Humane Law Enforcement Officer. Assistance was provided to the local departments, which included both investigative and charging advice.

The Animal Cruelty Unit will continue to work cooperatively with outside agencies to ensure that timely and thorough investigations are carried out. The unit will also work to enhance its communication with outside agencies to ensure that proper protocols are being followed. Finally, the unit will continue to practice fair and effective prosecutions of offenders who violate the laws set forth in Title 4.

FAMILY DIVISION

Domestic Violence Unit

The Domestic Violence Unit's mission is to provide maximum protection to victims of domestic violence and hold perpetrators accountable for their abuse. The Prevention of Domestic Violence Act Legislative declaration provides that domestic violence is a serious crime against society and that there are thousands of people subject to abuse, beaten and often murdered by their spouses, significant other or household members. Domestic Violence are crimes that should not be tolerated or treated differently because they occur in a domestic context. Law enforcement investigation of these crimes and the response to protect the victim is critical to these investigations. To accomplish our mission of enforcing the laws and providing the maximum protection to victims, the Domestic Violence Unit Detectives and Assistant Prosecutors work collaboratively to investigate these cases and provide victims with a voice to end the abuse inflicted upon them. The focus of domestic violence investigations is evidence-based prosecutions, which includes interviewing victims and witnesses, gathering evidence and obtaining any documentary evidence that is relevant and that will support a successful prosecution of these crimes or offenses.

Additionally, the Morris County Prosecutor's Office is a partner and works collaboratively with the Morris County Family Justice Center to provide survivors of domestic violence and their children with the services that they will need to support them through the civil and/or criminal justice process. The Morris County Family Justice center provides a safe place for survivors to access counseling, legal, financial and law enforcement services all in one place. This collaboration allows law enforcement and the community to come together to provide support to domestic violence survivors and their families.

The Domestic Violence Unit is responsible for the vertical prosecution of indictable criminal complaints and all contempt of court charges arising from a violation of a domestic violence restraining order. Responsibilities include the initial screening review process, pre-indictment case preparation, presentation to the Grand Jury, post indictment motion practice and trial preparation for the prosecution of domestic violence cases. Although most of the cases handled by the Domestic Violence Unit generally originate from municipalities within the County of Morris, there are circumstances where the unit originates their own investigations and complaints.

The Domestic Violence Unit continued to handle a high volume of cases which often involved very serious incidents of assaults, terroristic threats, the use of deadly weapons and other criminal activity. In 2022, the DV Unit handled approximately 889 cases, which was 153 more cases from 2021. Over the past several years, there has been a steady and sharp increase in the number of Aggravated Assault Strangulation cases. In response to the increased number of strangulation cases, the Morris County Prosecutor's Office has implemented strangulation training as part of the annual domestic violence training and continues to develop trainings in this area. The trainings focus on how to identify the signs and symptoms of strangulation, how to document those injuries in police reports and photographs and to encourage victims to seek medical attention. Moving forward in 2023, the Morris County Prosecutor's Office along with our Sexual Assault Forensic Nurse Examiner are implementing the Non-Fatal Strangulation Forensic Nurse Examination Program. This new program, which resembles the Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Program, allows for victims to be seen at the hospital by a Forensic Nurse Examiner who will perform a

forensic examination of the victim and document any internal and external signs of injury and symptoms of strangulation. The forensic nurse examiner will also be utilized as an expert witness in the criminal prosecution of non-fatal strangulation cases. The implementation of Non-Fatal Strangulation Forensic Examinations will be a critical piece of evidence in the prosecution of strangulation cases.

State v. Chancelle Young was a significant case that the Domestic Violence Unit prosecuted in 2022. This case involved a defendant indicted on charges of 2nd degree Arson; 2nd degree Possession of a Weapon for Unlawful Purpose (handgun); 2nd degree Unlawful Possession of a Weapon; 2nd degree Certain Person not to have Weapons; 3rd degree Terroristic Threats; 3rd degree Aggravated Assault Pointing a Firearm; 3rd degree Aggravated Assault on Domestic Violence Victim; 2nd degree Endangering the Welfare of a Child; 3rd degree Criminal Mischief and a Disorderly Person's Offense of Simple Assault. The defendant engaged in an argument with his girlfriend/mother of his 4-year-old child. During the argument, he punched her repeatedly in the head and threw a bicycle at her striking her in the body. When police arrived, the defendant was armed with a silver handgun and engaged in a two-hour standoff with police, during which time he threatened to kill the police multiple times and refused to put down his weapon. During the standoff with police, the defendant set the victim's mother's car on fire exposing the community to danger. Police officers utilized de-escalation techniques and safely arrested the defendant. Defendant pled guilty to 2nd degree Arson with a recommended sentence of 8 years NJ State Prison subject to No Early Release Act (NERA) concurrent to a plea to 2nd degree Certain Persons Not to Have Weapons with 5 years NJ State Prison with a 5-year mandatory parole disqualifier.

Domestic Violence Weapon Return Unit

In domestic violence cases, the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act (PDVA) authorizes the search and seizure of firearms, weapons, ammunition, and firearms paperwork for safekeeping. Under the PDVA safekeeping statute, when firearms and weapons are seized for safekeeping, the State has 45 days to determine whether to seek civil forfeiture of the firearms and weapons or authorize the return of said weapons. The DV Weapon Return Unit is responsible for conducting the background investigations on these cases to determine if an individual is subject to any of the firearm's disabilities under New Jersey Statue N.J.S.A. 2C:58-3. These investigations include obtaining all police reports associated with the domestic violence incident, any domestic violence restraining orders issued in the case, checking for a valid firearms purchaser identification card or firearms permit to purchase a handgun, confirming that the firearms are legally compliant with New Jersey law, obtaining a criminal case history, a check of the domestic violence central registry and contacting the victim regarding any prior unreported domestic violence history or other pertinent information that may make it unsafe for the defendant to have access to firearms. When a decision is made by the Assistant Prosecutor to file for civil forfeiture, a Notice of Motion is filed in Superior Court, Family Part where a hearing may be held within 45 days for the court to decide whether to re-arm that individual.

In 2022, the Weapon Return Unit handled approximately 168 weapons return cases. Over the past several years, the number of new cases each year has remained the same. However, in the last year we have seen an increase in the number of testimonial hearings being conducted where the individual challenged the State's position on revocation.

Among those testimonial hearings, these two cases highlight the types of issues raised in the hearings. The State was successful in opposing the return of firearms to individuals who were subject to disabilities under the firearms statute.

In the first case, we objected to the return of the defendant's firearms and Firearm's Purchaser Identification Card (FPIC) due to a psychiatric defect pursuant to law. The Court heard testimony from the victim and the unit's Agent regarding the domestic violence incident and prior DV history. The Court granted the State's motion and revoked the FPIC and ordered that the legally owned weapons could be sold through a licensed NJ firearms dealer.

In the second case, a testimonial hearing was heard where the State was opposing the return of defendant's weapons due to a substance abuse and psychiatric disorder. At the hearing, the Agent assigned to the Weapon Return Unit, testified concerning the State's investigation and his communications with the victim to establish the defendant's history of drug use and mental health concerns. The Court granted the State's motion and revoked the FPIC and allowed for a sale of the legally owned weapons through a licensed NJ firearms dealer.

Juvenile Unit

The Juvenile Unit's mission is to rehabilitate youth and stop delinquent behavior prior to them becoming adults. We have implemented several educational programs to try and educate our youth about dangerous online behaviors. Currently, we have a Cyber-Harassment Class, Sexting Class, Fire-Setters Program, and a Bias Education class. In keeping with the Juvenile Justice Reform Directive that was implemented in 2021, we continue to divert juveniles away from formal court proceedings towards rehabilitative and familial support options. In this regard, we are increasingly using the SmartLink at Home Detention Application, in lieu of detention whenever the Juvenile can safely be supervised within the home.

The Juvenile Unit is responsible for the preparation and prosecution of all juvenile delinquency cases presented in the Superior Court, Chancery Division-Family Part. Juvenile cases are received from local law enforcement and the Supervising Assistant Prosecutor reviews all juvenile delinquency complaints signed in Morris County, including those scheduled to be heard by the Juvenile Conference Committee (J.C.C.) or the Intake Services Conference (I.S.C.) to decide as to which venue the charges will be heard. The Juvenile Unit is responsible for providing investigative assistance to local and state law enforcement agencies, as well as assisting other units within the Morris County Prosecutor's Office. The Juvenile Unit works closely with the Family Case Manager's Office, the Family Court Judges, the Probation Department, the Morris County Juvenile Detention Center and the Morris County Youth Shelter. In 2022, the Juvenile Unit handled 135 cases for 106 juveniles, totaling 339 charges.

The Juvenile Unit also maintains all records pertaining to Stationhouse Adjustments that occur in each municipality within Morris County. A Stationhouse Adjustment is a mechanism that allows for law enforcement agencies to resolve a juvenile's unlawful conduct without formal court

proceedings. This information is required to be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office on a quarterly basis. The Juvenile Unit maintains a cooperative relationship with all area schools and police agencies using the "Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Education and Law Enforcement Officials." This agreement provides a detailed protocol in dealing with criminal activity by juveniles in and out of school. There were 612 Stationhouse Adjustments in Morris County in 2022.

The vast majority of juvenile delinquent cases stem from on-line behavior, school threats, sexting, and cyber-harassment. The Community Affairs Unit presents at almost every middle school and high school in Morris County regarding these behaviors. They educate the students on the consequences of engaging in these types of behaviors as well as reinforce with the school administration the need to communicate with law enforcement to follow the MOA. There has been a positive correlation with the incidents decreasing at the schools where they have presented this information.

As school threats continue to be a constant issue, a main goal for the Juvenile Unit, in conjunction with the Morris County Prosecutor's Office Homeland Security Unit, our County Sheriff's Office, our municipal police departments and with the cooperation of the county and local school superintendents and school administrators is to ensure everyone's safety. We generally achieve this by requiring any juvenile who makes any sort of school threat to have a mental health evaluation and to follow the recommendations. The Juvenile Unit works closely with school personnel to ensure that the juvenile is not permitted to return to school unless and until a medical professional has deemed them safe. Once the immediacy of the threat has been addressed, the Juvenile Unit handles the charging decisions and prosecution of these cases.

In 2022, the Juvenile Unit handled a case involving a 17-year-old juvenile who was charged with 2 Counts of 1st degree Armed Robbery, 2 counts of 2nd degree Kidnapping, two counts of 2nd degree Unlawful Possession of a Weapon, two Counts 2nd degree Possession of a Weapon for an Unlawful Purpose and two counts of a Disorderly Person's Offense of Theft. After a lengthy investigation involving numerous police agencies throughout the state, the juvenile plead guilty to 3rd degree Theft, and 4th degree Unlawful Possession of a Weapon (Firearm). He was sentenced to 3 years Juvenile State Prison.

Missing Persons Unit

The Missing Persons Unit is responsible for coordinating missing person investigations with local law enforcement agencies. There is an on-call Missing Persons detective and supervisor available 24 hours a day, to assist with missing person cases. These joint investigations involve those reported missing under suspicious circumstances, missing juveniles, Interference with Custody cases, mentally and physically disabled individuals and reported missing and unidentified living victims. Local police agencies are required to make immediate notification to the

Morris County Prosecutor's Office Missing Persons Unit when: the missing person is age 13 or younger; the missing person is suspected of being a victim of foul play; or if the victim is disabled or endangered.

In 2022 several local police departments were assisted by the Missing Persons Unit with conducting missing persons investigations and advised on the proper procedure regarding NCIC entries, AMBER and SILVER alerts. In 2022, the Missing Persons Unit conducted approximately 114 missing persons investigations, which was 16 more investigations than from 2021. Due to the uptick of missing juvenile cases within the county, the Missing Persons Unit requested that each police department designate a Missing Persons Liaison.

In 2022, the Missing Persons Unit worked with the Morris Township Police Department, NYPD, NJSP and the FBI on a four month long missing persons investigation. The two juveniles, ages 15 and 16, absconded from the Morris County Youth Shelter and information received was that they were heading into New York. Both juveniles were entered into NCIC as missing as well as wanted since they were court ordered to be in the Youth Shelter. Numerous investigative tasks were completed with assistance from the NJSP and NYPD. One juvenile was located in New Jersey while the other was located in New York.

The Missing Persons Unit will continue to work with local municipalities to educate them on Child Abduction Response Team (CART) activations and Amber Alerts. The Missing Persons Unit is responsible for updating the CART plan and in certain circumstances activating a CART response in cases involving missing children aged 13 and younger. The Missing Persons Unit continues to teach an in-service missing person training that is held at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy.