

**District Attorney's Office  
FY 2009-10 Performance Plan**

---

**I. MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the District Attorney's Office is to enhance the quality of life in Marin County by taking a pro-active role in preventing crime, prosecuting with integrity, equality and excellence, and protecting the community by effectively dealing with those who prey upon our residents.

**II. DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW**

The Office of the District Attorney is the public prosecutor responsible for attending the courts and conducting all prosecutions for public offenses on behalf of the people. The California Constitution mandates that each County have an elected District Attorney. The District Attorney is an officer of the County and also an officer of the State when engaged in the prosecution of crimes defined under State law.

The District Attorney's Office has two operational divisions that provide mandated services in the area of prosecution, protection and prevention: the General Prosecution Division and the Targeted Prosecution Division. The units within the divisions are responsible for conducting the prosecution of public offenses committed within Marin County.

The General Prosecution Division has within its structure five vertical felony trial teams, as well as the Misdemeanor Trial Unit. Vertical prosecution is one of the key organizational components whose construct reduces inconvenience to crime victims and law enforcement personnel.

The Targeted Prosecution Division has a number of operational units that focus on specific activities. The specialized units are the Intake Unit, the Family Violence Unit, the Juvenile Unit, the Sexual Assault Specialist, the Insurance Fraud Unit, the Law and Motion Unit, the Consumer Fraud Unit, and the community justice attorney whose responsibilities include elder financial abuse, the Drug Courts and the Mental Health Court.

As an adjunct and in support of the two prosecutorial divisions of the office, there is an Administrative Unit, an Investigations Unit, and a Victim/Witness Program Unit.

**III. FY 2008-09 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Participated in the Family Court, including the monitoring of defendants in misdemeanor cases who have been determined to be of high risk for re-offending in order to help break the often escalating cycle of violence
- Provided a quality prosecution team despite reductions in Hi-Tech Identity Theft and Vertical Prosecution grants from the State.
- As part of the final year of a three-year grant, worked with criminal justice and community partners in order to train law enforcement and adult protective personnel in the many facets of elder abuse investigation and prosecution
- Continued services and programs at the Jeanette Prandi Children's Center, where over 350 children have been interviewed since its opening in 2000
- Through the office's Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) and Rapid Response Team (RRT), continued to intervene, investigate and prosecute when appropriate those who are abusing or neglecting Marin County's senior citizens

**District Attorney's Office  
FY 2009-10 Performance Plan**

---

**IV. GOALS AND KEY INITIATIVES FOR FY 2009-10**

**Goal 1: PROTECTION: Engage in and support all activities that will aid in continuing to reduce the County's crime rate and stop the victimization of county residents**

Please indicate how goal reflects one of the department's highest priorities and aligns with Countywide Goals and Priorities

Engaging in and supporting activities that help reduce the County's crime rate is in line with the Countywide Goal of Safe Communities.

**FY 2009-10 Key Initiatives**

1. Work with community partners to provide expert assistance on elder abuse cases
2. Work with Marin County Office of Education and other County departments to implement Safe Schools and Prevention Programs to reduce juvenile crime and gang violence

**Goal 2: PROSECUTION: Continue vigorous prosecution efforts toward the serious offender, the violent offender and the sexual predator**

Please indicate how goal reflects one of the department's highest priorities and aligns with Countywide Goals and Priorities

Prosecuting major offences is in line with the Countywide Goal of Safe Communities.

**FY 2009-10 Key Initiatives**

1. Continue to support targeted training for Family Violence Team members
2. Maintain vertical prosecution approach involving attorneys, inspectors, and victim advocates to felony Family Violence caseload
3. Continue to work with the United States Attorney for the Northern District of California in order to cross-designate Marin Deputy District Attorneys as Assistant United States Attorneys for the purposes of federally prosecuting selected Marin-based offenses

**Goal 3: PREVENTION: Increase the District Attorney's Office presence in collaborative programs with community and County family partners in order to build trust and confidence in the justice system and meet the long-term goal of crime prevention**

Please indicate how goal reflects one of the department's highest priorities and aligns with Countywide Goals and Priorities

Participating in collaborative programs is in line with the Countywide Goals of Community Participation and Safe Communities.

**District Attorney's Office  
FY 2009-10 Performance Plan**

**FY 2009-10 Key Initiatives**

1. Continue to assist with the specialty (restorative) courts system
2. Work with partner agencies and the courts to establish protocols and procedures surrounding the new family violence calendar or court

**Goal 4: EXCELLENCE IN MANAGEMENT: Provide excellent customer service, both externally and internally, and strive to continuously improve our stewardship of the department**

Please indicate how goal reflects one of the department's highest priorities and aligns with Countywide Goals and Priorities

This departmental goal is in line with the Countywide Goal of making the County an Employer of choice. It also aligns with the Countywide Goal of Excellent Customer Service.

**FY 2009-10 Key Initiatives**

1. Provide training and resources to employees to improve their job-related skills
2. Work with Human Resources and various unions to provide fair compensation to all segments of staff

**V. KEY CHALLENGES AND ISSUES**

- Providing adequate and meaningful elder abuse prosecution resources with existing or potentially reduced attorney and investigative staffing
- Maintaining the integrity of felony vertical prosecution of Family Violence cases in light of recent appellate court decisions that have increased litigation
- Providing adequate and meaningful attorney coverage of the expanding restorative justice courts
- Maintaining a meaningful Family Violence Court or Calendar that has broad-based acceptance
- Implementing the Parole Advocacy Program supported by the Department's Victim Assistance Unit.
- Maintaining a high quality prosecution program in the face of potentially significant budget reductions

**VI. PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

**PROSECUTION SERVICES**

**Objective: Increase awareness of potential elder abuse with local law enforcement agencies**

<b>Measures</b>	<b>FY 06-07 Actual</b>	<b>FY 07-08 Actual</b>	<b>FY 08-09 Estimate</b>	<b>FY 09-10 Estimate</b>
<b>Workload Measures</b>				
Number of community outreach presentations	n/a	1	5	5

**District Attorney's Office  
FY 2009-10 Performance Plan**

Measures	FY 06-07 Actual	FY 07-08 Actual	FY 08-09 Estimate	FY 09-10 Estimate
Number of patrol briefings attended at local police agencies	n/a	0	3	3
Number of meetings with local policy agency investigation units	n/a	8	6	6
<b>Effectiveness Measures</b>				
Number of elder abuse cases filed	n/a	16	5	5

**Department Comments:** By raising awareness in the community and law enforcement agencies, signs of abuse should become easier to identify and more preventable. When abuse has already occurred, law enforcement will have a better understanding of how to collect important evidence which may be used in prosecuting defendants.

**VICTIM/WITNESS SERVICES**

**Objective:** Obtain high client satisfaction rating from clients using one of the victim-witness outreach centers

Measures	FY 06-07 Actual	FY 07-08 Actual	FY 08-09 Estimate	FY 09-10 Estimate
<b>Workload Measures</b>				
Number of intakes at four Victim/Witness centers	147	100	125	125
<b>Effectiveness Measures</b>				
Number of eligible clients using services	140	90	125	125
Percent increase of clients seen annually per location	n/a	n/a	5%	5%
Client satisfaction rating (1-7 scale)	n/a	7.0	7.0	7.0

**Department Comments:** These measurements are important in order to determine the effectiveness of the Victim Regional Site program and make necessary adjustments in order to best serve the community.