SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE

MODERN JUSTICE

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2013

GEORGE GASCIÓN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
A MESSAGE FROM THE
SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Our criminal justice system is at a crossroads. Now more than ever, we must think critically about our approach to incarceration and rehabilitation. We must challenge ourselves to evolve into a modern justice system that values a multidimensional approach – one that balances prosecution, intervention, and prevention.

Our 2013 accomplishments could not have been possible without the dedicated team of prosecutors, investigators, paralegals, victim advocates, and support staff who put in long hours to make San Franciscans safer.

Together, we achieved many successes including:

- Successfully convicting a violent 1976 cold hit DNA murder and rape case.
- Successfully convicting a first degree murder case of a homeless woman who was burned alive.
- Launching the Secure Our Smartphones Initiative and sponsoring SB 962 to address the epidemic of smartphone theft.
- Achieving a 78% felony conviction rate in our Domestic Violence Unit, crimes that are often difficult to prosecute.
- Securing $5.79 million dollars in fines, restitution and penalties through our White Collar Crime Unit.
- Establishing our Neighborhood Courts program as a state model, with Yolo County and soon Los Angeles, creating their own programs.
- Receiving a $1 million dollar Department of Justice Grant to reduce re-victimization in the Bayview.
- Virtually eliminating “blessing scams” in the Chinese community by reducing scams by 96% through prosecution and public education.
- Serving 5,892 victims and witnesses through our Victim Services Unit.

In 2014, we will bring the same zeal to crime prevention and recidivism reduction that we have traditionally brought to investigation and prosecution. We will use restorative justice to repair harm and hold offenders responsible to their victims, their communities, and themselves. We will embrace diversion, and utilize the resources we save through alternatives to incarceration to enhance our efforts, and remove serious and violent offenders from our streets.

It is with this vision that we can make San Francisco the safest big city in America.

GEORGE GASCON
Prosecution—2013 By the Numbers

Drug Prosecutions went from 63% of our felony caseload down to 32% in a 5 year period, allowing us to focus more resources on serious and violent crime.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Felony Caseload 2009</th>
<th>Felony Caseload 2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drugs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gun Theft</td>
<td>Gun</td>
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<tr>
<td>DV</td>
<td>Assault</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>Burglary</td>
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<td>Burglary</td>
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| Total New Felony & Misdemeanor Cases Filed | 8366 |
| Felony Cases Resolved | 3205 |
| Misdemeanor Cases Resolved | 2713 |
| Total Felony Convictions | 2520 |
| Total Misdemeanor Convictions | 2070 |

**Prosecutions from 2012 to 2013**

- Felony Assault Prosecutions: 14%
- Felony Gun Prosecutions: 17%
- Felony Robbery Prosecutions: 9%
Notable Accomplishments

- People vs Sagote—successfully prosecuted defendant of first degree murder for burning a woman alive with gasoline in January 2007. She was sentenced to life without the possibility of parole.
- People vs Mayfield—through cold hit DNA evidence, defendant was sentenced to life without the possibility of parole, after a jury convicted him for a 1976 first degree murder and rape.
- People vs Eunice—defendant was sentenced to a strike and 4 years state prison, after pleading guilty to felony vehicular manslaughter, DUI, and hit and run for causing the death of a woman on December 2012.
- People vs McKnight—defendant was convicted by a jury for first degree murder for shooting a 12-year-old boy at the Alemany Housing projects.

Domestic Violence

In 2013, the Board of Supervisors approved a supplemental budget to address the increase of domestic violence cases. The additional funding went towards boosting staff resources to improve prosecution and better serve domestic violence victims. For the first time, the domestic violence team includes Prosecutors, Victim Advocates, Investigators, and Paralegals. By creating a cohesive team environment, the Domestic Violence Unit increased offender accountability and victim safety.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2013 Domestic Violence Unit Accomplishments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jury Trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Felony Trials from 2012 to 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Felony Trial Conviction Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total DV Victims &amp; Survivors Served</td>
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<td>Services Provided to DV Victims &amp; Survivors</td>
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Special Prosecutions

White Collar criminals felt the full weight of the District Attorney’s Office and were sentenced to a combined 55 years of incarceration in 2013 alone.

The Special Prosecutions Unit secured over $5.79 million dollars in fines, restitution and penalties.

Consumers received over $963,000 through Consumer Mediation, a free informal dispute resolution service designed to help and protect consumers.

Special Prosecutions Notable Case Accomplishments

- Successfully prosecuted Sanjay Sakuja, company owner and CEO of Pre-Press International, and Manager Alick Yeung, criminally, for the death of a pregnant worker who was crushed by a machine at the jobsite on January 29, 2008.

- Successfully prosecuted the “Landlords from Hell,” Kip and Nicole Macy, who were sentenced to 2 strikes and 4 years and 4 months state prison, after pleading guilty to 2 felony counts of residential burglary, 1 felony count of stalking, and 1 felony count of attempted grand theft for crimes committed against their tenants between September 2005 and December 2007.

- Currently prosecuting 6 San Francisco Unified School District employees alleged to have been involved with a $15 million dollar scheme to divert public money over a period of 10 years.

District Attorney Investigations Division

District Attorney Investigators play a critical role in prosecuting offenders. The District Attorney’s Bureau of Investigations (DAI) is composed of sworn peace officers who work closely with our prosecutors to fully develop documentary, physical, and testimonial evidence for trial. They also protect witnesses through relocation and other important efforts. In 2013, District Attorney Investigators orchestrated a rescue mission to Mexico to recover a 5 year old boy who was abducted by his father when the boy was 3 years old. The boy is now back in San Francisco and reunited with his mother, his custodial parent.
Intervention

Alternative Sentencing Program

San Francisco became the first District Attorney’s Office in the nation to hire an Alternative Sentencing Planner to give prosecutors additional information about alternative criminal justice sanctions on realignment cases, as well as other selected cases where an alternative to a pure jail or prison sentence may be possible.

With the goal being to enhance public safety and reduce recidivism, the Alternative Sentencing Program focuses on offenders and their readiness for rehabilitation, through the application of evidence-based practices designed to reduce reoffending and increase individual accountability.

Since the launch of the program in February 2012, the Alternative Sentencing Planner has provided analysis for 273 cases, involving 253 defendants. Cases range from robberies, gun cases and burglaries, to drug cases and theft. 56% of these defendants are 18-25 years old. As a result of this high percentage, the Alternative Sentencing Planner organized a panel discussion with criminal justice partners on how best to serve the 18-25 year old transitional age population.

Collaborative Courts

San Francisco’s Collaborative Courts offer a multi-agency problem-solving approach to specific drivers of criminal activity. These programs are a collaboration of the District Attorney’s Office, Superior Court, Public Defender’s Office, Adult Probation Department, Department of Public Health, Sheriff’s Department, and community treatment providers. All programs are voluntary.

In 2013, 1,891 defendants entered the Collaborative Courts system.

Collaborative Court Admissions 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Defenders</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Back on Track</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral Health</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Court</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Justice Center</td>
<td>1615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1891</td>
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Neighborhood Courts

In its third year, Neighborhood Court is an alternative to the traditional criminal justice process for certain misdemeanor and infraction offenses. Neighborhood Prosecutors refer cases to Neighborhood Court, and a panel of volunteer “adjudicators” hears the case.

- 11 Neighborhood Courts across the city, including the city’s first Night Court located in South of Market.
- 60 adjudicators with a waitlist of an additional 50 community members.
- 652 cases were heard in Neighborhood Court in 2013.
- In 2013, Neighborhood Court heard 449 misdemeanors, saving the County and the State $310,708.
- 2000 community service hours were completed by Neighborhood Court participants – a value of over $20,000 to the nonprofit organizations.
- $12,765 in community restitution went to the District Attorney’s Neighborhood Justice Fund which provided grants to 11 community based organizations in 2013.

For more information about Neighborhood Courts, call (415) 575-6328
Neighborhood Prosecutors

A team of 5 Assistant District Attorneys cover the City’s 10 police districts. Neighborhood Prosecutors work with community stakeholders and City departments to solve problems related to persistent crime and quality of life challenges unique to each neighborhood.

Neighborhood Prosecutors at work:

◊ Facilitated the creation of the Broadway Corridor Safety Plan to decrease crime and create a safer nightlife environment.

◊ Created “Clean Streets” where individuals cited for quality of life offenses report to the Safety Hub on 6th Street to work off their citation by cleaning the streets.

◊ Collaborated with Taraval Police Captain and Community Police Advisory Board to promote education and awareness of distracted walking, specifically targeting 19th and Taraval, one of the busiest intersections in the district.

◊ Participated in over a dozen successful National Night Out Against Crime events in August.

For neighborhood concerns, contact our Neighborhood Prosecutors:

Bayview and Tenderloin Police Districts
Lailah Morris, (415) 553-1845, lailah.morris@sfgov.org

Central and Southern Police Districts
Marisa Rodriguez, (415) 551-9572, marisa.rodriguez@sfgov.org

Ingleside and Taraval Police Districts
Rani Singh, (415) 551-9806, rani.singh@sfgov.org

Mission and Northern Police Districts
Karen Catalona, (415) 551-9503, karen.catalona@sfgov.org

Park and Richmond Districts
Marc Massarweh, (415) 581-9811, marc.massarweh@sfgov.org
Victim Services

The District Attorney’s Victim Services Division provides comprehensive advocacy and support to victims of crime and witnesses of crime. Victim Advocates work to make the criminal justice system humane and accessible for all victims, witnesses and their families. Services are free of cost and are provided in English, Cantonese, Mandarin, and Spanish.

In 2013, the District Attorney’s Office announced new partnerships with the Glide Foundation, Cooperative Restraining Order Clinic, and the Department of Child Support Services to expand victim services to the community and to domestic violence victims.

Community Office Hours are held in the Tenderloin, Mission, Chinatown and the Bayview.

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<tr>
<th>2013 Victim Services</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Victims and Witnesses Served</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Services provide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim Compensation to Crime Victims</td>
</tr>
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Secure Our Smartphones

Secure Our Smartphones (SOS) is an international coalition of state Attorneys General, Mayors, District Attorneys, legislators, Police Chiefs, public safety activists and consumer advocates. SOS is working to encourage the industry to implement meaningful solutions that will end the national epidemic of violent thefts of smartphones and tablets.

Major Accomplishments to Date:

- Met with industry representatives and set theft deterrent technology deployment timeline.
- With the help of the public and media, pressured smartphone manufacturers to introduce solutions to safeguard their customers.
- Exposed efforts by wireless carriers to prevent technological solutions to theft from coming to market.
- Sponsored legislation in California that would require technological solutions to theft to be implemented on all devices sold after January 1, 2015.
- Assisted with legislation introduced in the U.S. Senate that would require technological solutions to theft to be implemented on smartphones manufactured or imported to the United States.
- Got Apple to create and install Activation Lock.
Reversing the School to Prison Pipeline

Keeping Kids in School
When it comes to the issue of school attendance, today’s truant could be tomorrow’s dropout. In 2013, the District Attorney’s Office allocated $130,000 for truancy intervention programs at Ida B. Wells and Burton High Schools through a partnership with the Truancy Assessment and Resource Center/Urban Services YMCA. The funding pays for case managers to provide intensive support to students who were truant in middle school - supporting them to transition to high school before they start to disengage.

Bye Bye Bullying
Kids who are bullied tend to miss school and are apt to drop out altogether. For October’s Bullying Prevention Awareness month, the District Attorney launched the 2nd Annual Bye Bye Bullying video contest for middle and high school students. Over 100 videos were submitted since its inception. 2013’s winners were from Lincoln High School, Galileo High School and Wallenberg High School.

Make it Right
While San Francisco’s juvenile hall population is at historic lows, the city’s system continues to experience disproportionate minority representation. Spearheaded by the District Attorney’s Juvenile Division in the Fall of 2013, the District Attorney’s Office launched a restorative justice alternative to traditional prosecution in partnership with Community Works and Huckleberry Youth Programs. Juveniles, their victims, and their supporters come together to develop a consensus-based plan designed to repair harm, address root causes and make amends. The juvenile has 6 months to complete the plan and if successful, the case is not prosecuted.

Mentoring
Youth who regularly meet with a mentor show improved academic performance and decreased number of unexcused absences. For January’s National Mentoring Month, the District Attorney’s Office launched a citywide mentoring series at Burton High School and held a mentor recruitment event at Marcus Books.
Protecting the Vulnerable

Blessing Scams

San Francisco became the first city in North America to successfully prosecute “blessing scam” cases. These types of scams became widespread all over the country in areas with a large Chinese population. Deceptive by design, scammers target Chinese speaking seniors and trick them into handing over large amounts of cash and jewelry in exchange for a “blessing” or a guarantee their family member would be safe from harm. The District Attorney’s year-long public education campaign resulted in a 96% reduction – from 47 reported cases in 2012 to 2 cases in 2013.

Public Education Campaign Highlights

⇒ Distributed over 8,000 Blessing Scam reusable bags, over 4,000 brochures, and hundreds of posters.
⇒ Held over a dozen community education events, including trainings with banks.
⇒ 1,000 bilingual ads on MUNI buses.
⇒ Presentations, prosecution and investigative support to agencies in the US, Canada, New Zealand and Thailand.

Immigration Fraud

Immigrants are often reluctant to report crime, which makes them more vulnerable to scammers. In October 2013, District Attorney Gascón launched an immigration fraud public education campaign calling on the community to be savvy consumers when choosing an immigration service provider. The multilingual campaign in English, Spanish and Chinese provides tools and tips on how to ensure that an immigration service provider is licensed or bonded.

District Attorney’s Consumer Fraud Hotline: (415) 553-9535
District Attorney’s Community Advisory Groups

Preventing crime involves working with the community to create meaningful partnerships to improve public safety. We are safer when community members and law enforcement work side by side to identify public safety issues and solutions.

In 2013, the District Attorney’s 8 community advisory groups held over 30 meetings resulting in significant achievements and partnerships:

- Established a human trafficking hotline for youth to connect victims under the age of 18 with shelter and direct services.

- Worked with community organizations to denounce and educate the public about harmful effects of Islamaphobic advertisements on Muni.

- Established a mentor recruitment and appreciation program to encourage prosecutors and other professionals to become a mentor.

- Organized the Second Annual Bye Bye Bullying Video contest for middle and high school students focusing on cyberbullying.

- Launched public education campaigns on “blessing scams” and immigration fraud.

- Played a lead organizer role in “One Billion Rising”, a global campaign to end violence against women and girls.
District Attorney Contact Information

For General Information: (415) 553-1751

Consumer Protection Unit: (415) 551-9595

Consumer Fraud Hotline: (415) 553-9535
(available in English, Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, Tagalog, and Russian)

Bad Check Enforcement Unit: (415) 734-3115

Victim Services:

Hall of Justice
850 Bryant Street, Room 320
Monday through Friday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
3rd Friday 9:00am to 2:00pm
(415) 553-9044

Community Partners at the Hall of Justice
La Casa de las Madres, Thursdays, 8:30am – noon
Cooperative Restraining Order Clinic, Tuesdays 1:00 - 5:00p,
Child Support Services, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 9:00 - 11:00am

Office Hours in the Community:
Mission – Mujeres Unidas, 3543 18th St # 23
Wednesdays, 11:00am to 1:00pm

Chinatown – Cameron House, 920 Sacramento Street
Wednesdays, 9:30am to noon

Bayview – YMCA, 1601 Lane Street
Thursdays, 2:00pm to 5:00pm

Tenderloin – Glide Women’s Healing Center, 330 Ellis St
3rd Friday of each month, 10am to 12:30pm

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