



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL



FISCAL YEAR 2025

*House Appropriations
Subcommittee on General Government
Feb. 27, 2024*





DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW



The Attorney General is a constitutional officer, the chief law enforcement officer of the state, and head of the Department of Attorney General, a department within the executive branch of state government.

The Attorney General's duties are derived from common law, prescribed by statute, court decisions, and tradition.

The Attorney General is the lawyer for the State of Michigan, the Governor, and the People.

When public legal matters arise, she renders opinions on matters of law and provides legal counsel for each officer, department, board, and commission of state government.

She provides legal representation in court actions and assists in the conduct of official hearings held by state agencies.

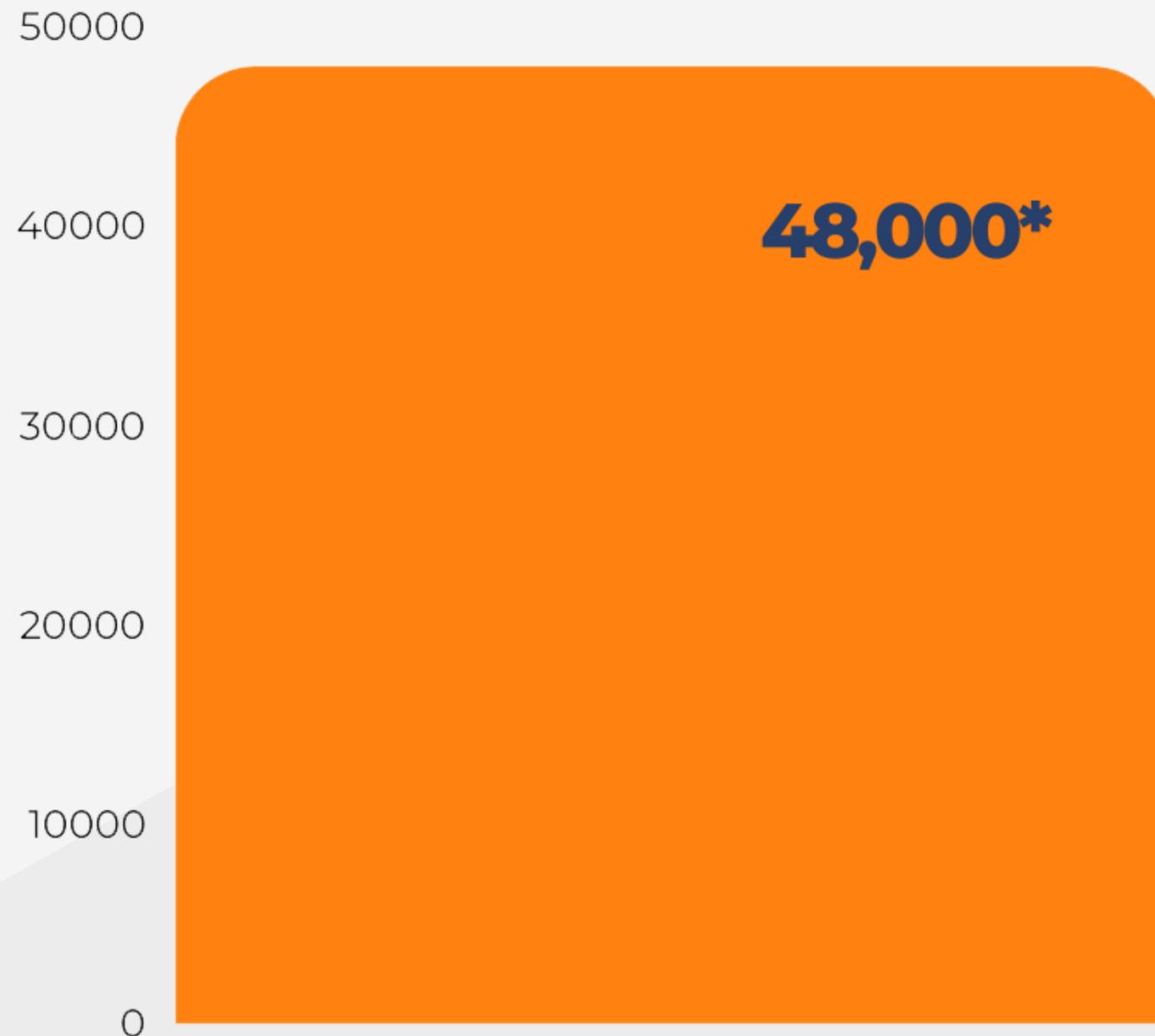
The Attorney General may intervene in any lawsuit, criminal or civil, in the interest of the People of the State of Michigan.

She advises and supervises prosecuting attorneys throughout the state. The Attorney General also possesses certain investigative powers, including the power to investigate allegations of election fraud and complaints for the removal of public officials. She may also request grand jury investigations of crime in the state. By virtue of her office, the Attorney General is a member of various state boards and commissions.

The Department is organized into three bureaus that oversee twenty-three divisions.

Each division represents certain state agencies, boards, or commissions or practices in specialized legal areas.

LITIGATION CASE LOAD

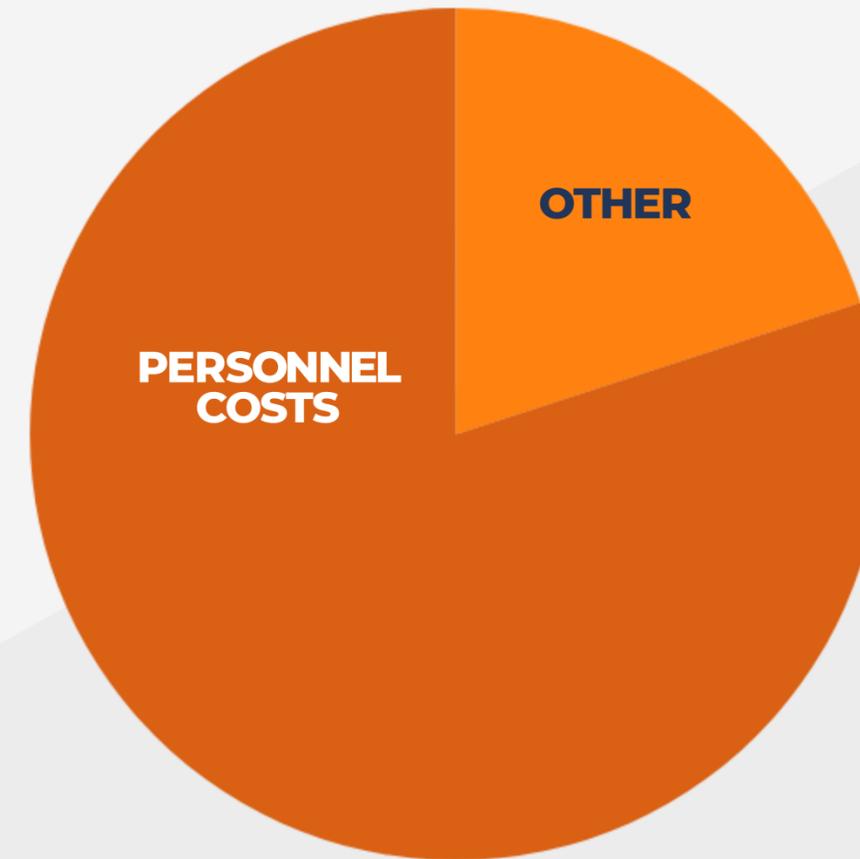


** Anticipated annualized active case load exceeding 48,000 cases for the coming year. This does not include active investigations, expungement application processing, client level advice, and training across the state.*

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL EMPLOYS A STAFF OF:

- Assistant attorneys general
- Legal assistants
- Investigators
- Victim advocates
- Clerical personnel
- Paralegals

*Private sector attorneys charge
between 4 and 5 times the rate
of an Assistant attorney general*



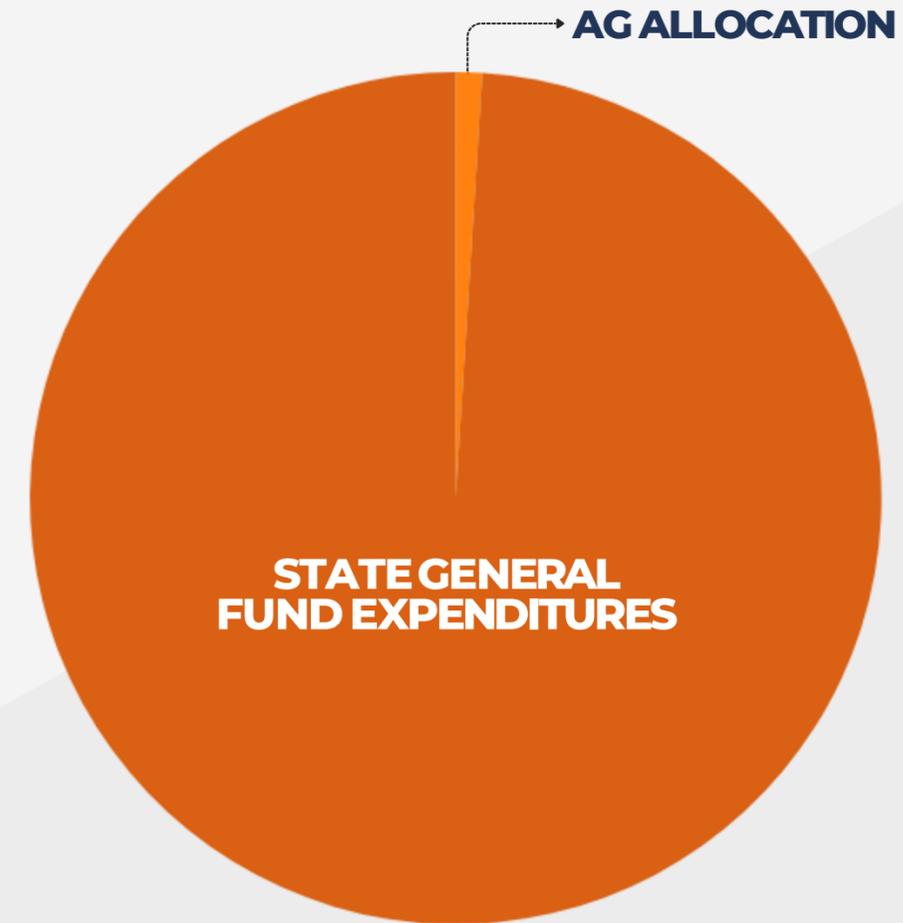
\$600M IN SAVINGS



BUDGETARY IMPACT

The Department operates on approximately **1/3 of 1%** of the State General Fund Budget

- The Department's operational appropriations for FY 2023 was \$108,121,000
- The Department won over **\$425 million in awards** payable to the State and Residents in FY 2023.
- The Department has **averaged over \$400M per year in awards** payable to the State and Residents during the past four fiscal years.
- The Department has brought into the State an average of **more than \$4 for each dollar appropriated** to it every year during the past four fiscal years.



\$425M IN AWARDS



FY 2024 INITIATIVES



Clergy Abuse Investigation

Sexual Assault Prosecution

Consumer Protection

Human Trafficking

Child Support Enforcement

Reducing Utility Rate Increases

Cold Case Homicides

Michigan Identity Theft Support

Job Court

Elder Abuse Task Force

PFAS Accountability

Conviction Integrity Unit

Opioid Litigation

Public Integrity Unit

Robocall Enforcement

Organized Retail Crime

Hate Crimes & Domestic
Terrorism Unit

Expungement Unit

Small Business Identity Theft

Address Confidentiality
Program

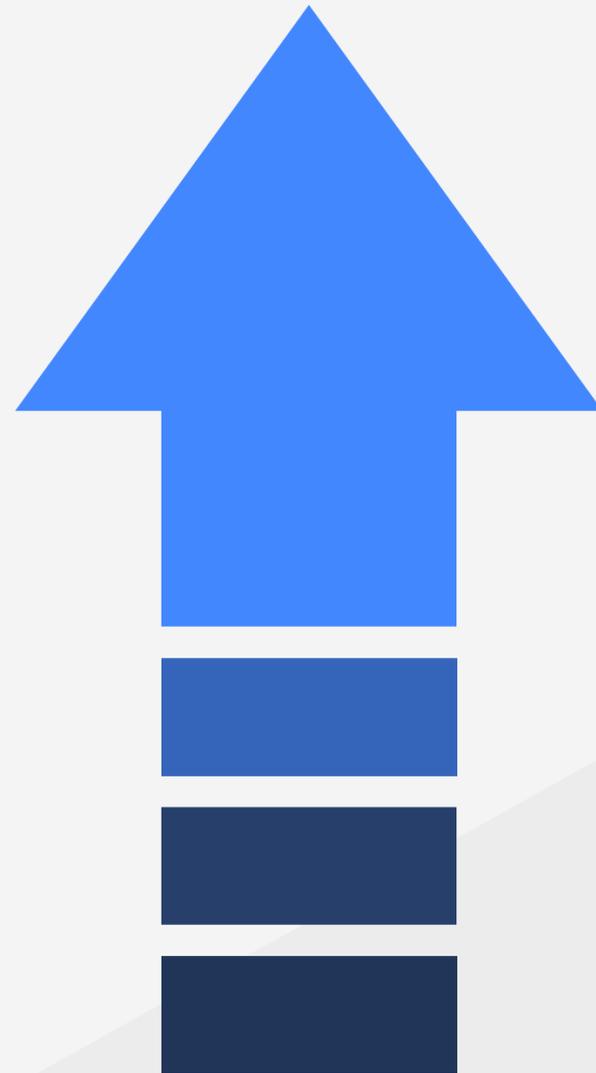
MSU Nassar Records Review

CID Accreditation

CONVICTION INTEGRITY UNIT



The Conviction Integrity Unit (the "CIU") investigates claims of innocence.



6 Exonerations

**Over 154 years
served**

Reviewed and closed over
900 CASES.

This unit currently has over
850 OPEN FILES
with cases that are in
various stages.

This unit receives numerous
new applications from
claimants **on a weekly basis.**

ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM



MICHIGAN ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM

The Address Confidentiality Program (the “ACP”) will help victims of violent crimes, and individuals at risk of being threatened or physically harmed, keep their address confidential.



**121 individuals enrolled
since Sept. 2023**

The ACP has trained
256 people in 38 counties.

ACP has been presented to
nearly **900 stakeholders.**

ORGANIZED RETAIL CRIME



Since April 2023

31 investigations
41 defendants charged
30 prosecutions
Almost \$2M cash seized

Red Bull

7 people charged
8,000 EBT's
compromised

Kitchen Aid

Losses in
excess of \$20K
3-10 year prison
sentence

M-Perks

Nearly \$500K
in cash seized

Sam's Club

Loss of \$20K

Home Invasion Crew

Over \$1M in
theft/losses
to 8 homes

LuluLemon/Ulta

4 people charged
34 stores

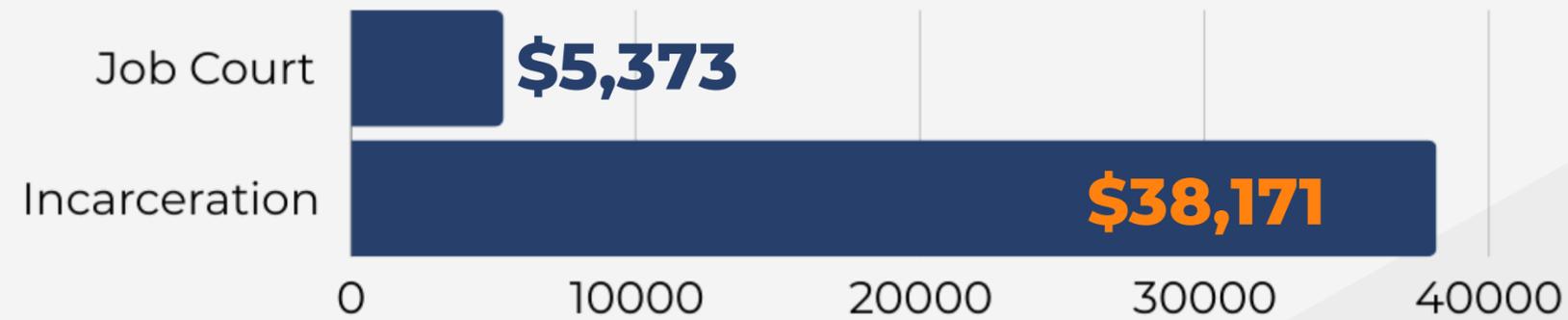
FORCE

Special Agents
MSP
FBI
USPS



JOB COURT

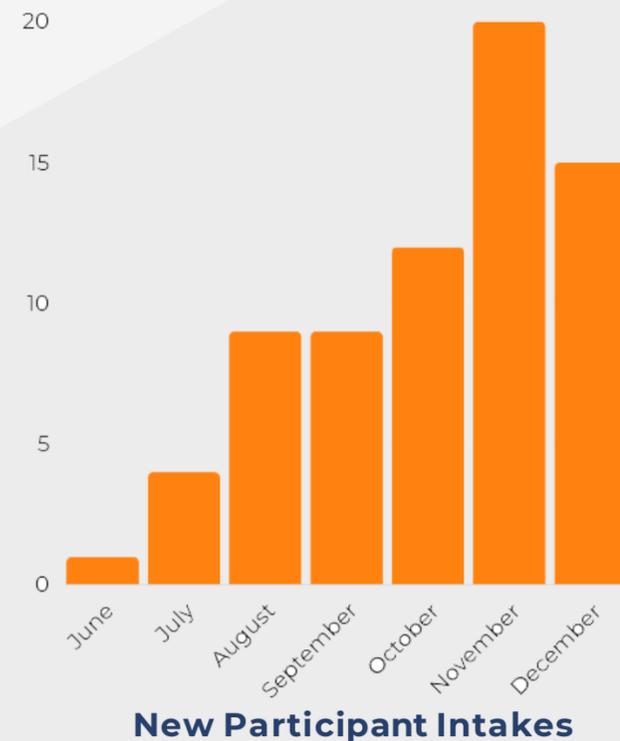
Job Court is a pilot program in Genesee, Marquette, and Wayne counties.



The Job Court *more than doubled its participant count* in the last quarter.

The cost of incarceration for an inmate per year is approximately \$38,171 versus the cost per participant for a year in the program is approximately \$5,373.

JOB COURT WILL SAVE THE STATE REVENUE BY REDUCING THE NUMBER OF INCARCERATIONS



MISSING, MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE



Improving Criminal Justice Response to Sexual Assault,
Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Grant

Meetings

Quarterly meetings
started in February
2024

Task Force

In development with
stakeholders

LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCREDITATION PROGRAM



- Complied with the MLEAC's 108 accreditation standards.
- Developed and implemented more than 54 written directives, policies, and procedures.
- Developed and implemented more than 19 training programs and certifications.
- Invested in infrastructure enhancements
- Introduced law enforcement tools and equipment
- Focused on community engagement activities to foster positive relationships.

MICHIGAN IDENTITY THEFT SUPPORT



Michigan Identity Theft Support (“MITS”) provides identity theft victims with resources and guidance.

Six steps for victims of identity theft.

Twelve educational presentations in 2023.

Handled 1,270 requests in 2023.



SMALL BUSINESS IDENTITY THEFT

Helping Michigan's small businesses



Assistance

Education, mediation, litigation, and legislation.



Presentations

The Attorney General's office is available for presentations in your community



Consumer Protection

CP website provides resources for businesses to identify and protect against business identity theft.



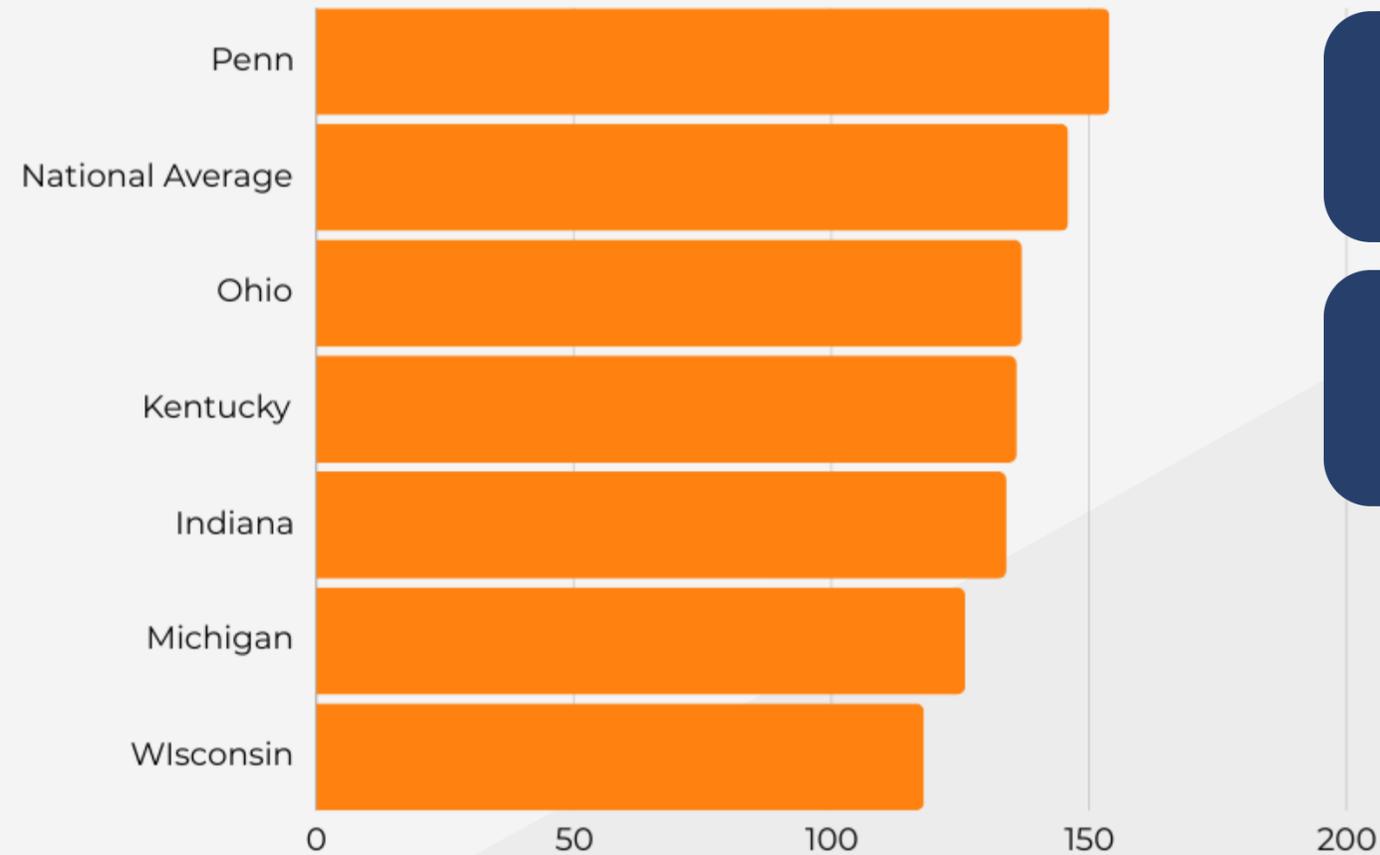
MITs

Directly assisting businesses regarding identity theft

SAVING UTILITY RATEPAYERS MONEY



Average Residential Monthly Electric Bill for September 2023



Saved customers \$117M reducing **Consumers Energy** electric rate increase.

Doubled the number of active cases, opened 36 cases in 2023.

Saved customers \$254M reducing **DTE's** electric rate increase.

Saved over \$250M

- Closing DTE's remaining coal plants
- Increasing distributed generation and renewables
- Obtaining a \$38 million donation for low-income assistance and energy efficiency,
- Obtaining a first-of-its-kind transparency for DTE's political donations

SINCE TAKING OFFICE, AG HELPED SAVED NEARLY \$3B FOR CUSTOMERS

IN 2023, AG HELPED SAVE CUSTOMERS \$668,606,806

ROBOCALL ENFORCEMENT



- Launched in 2019.
- Website updated in 2023.
- Anti-Robocalling Litigation Task Force - Executive Committee
 - Civil investigative demands to 20 VoIP providers
 - May 2023 - Avid Telecom lawsuit
 - November 2023 - Public warning letters to eight providers
- March 2023 - Shut down massive robocall operation based in Texas.
- Numerous educational presentations on illegal robocalls to various groups.
- 1,235 robocall complaints in 2023.
- Since the 2019 launch of the initiative, our Department has received more than 13,129 robocall complaints.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING



Recentring the
Commission to focus
on policy

Supporting HT
Legislation

- Housed within the Department of Attorney General
- Nine members appointed by the Governor to represent various groups representing law enforcement, policy makers and survivors.
- Recommended a new package of roughly 30 human trafficking bills in 2019.
- Reintroduced in 2023 and the Department continues to work with the legislature to ensure passage.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING



- New Human trafficking specialist on staff
- Nine (9) new open investigations since December 2023
- Rebuilding relationships with stakeholders including law enforcement partners and advocacy organizations

Focus on labor trafficking

Developing Task Force committed to labor trafficking

OPIOID ENFORCEMENT



- Settlements with marketers, distributors, and manufacturers - **nearly \$1.6 billion for Michigan** governments, over the next 18 years.
- To date, the **State of Michigan has received over \$120 million**, and Michigan local governments have received over \$82 million.
- In 2023, settlements with additional manufacturers and pharmacies - additional **\$730 million for Michigan governments**.
- Purdue Pharmaceutical bankruptcy - committee representing government claimants.

CONSUMER PROTECTION



**LAUNCHED A NEW
STANDALONE WEBSITE
IN 2023**

(mi.gov/agcp)

Enforces more than 35 state statutes that protect consumers and charities.

Direct consumer and state recoveries totaled over \$8.1M in 2023.

Over 138 consumer alerts.

Registers or licenses over 12,088 charities and professional fundraisers on a yearly basis.

Investigates and enforces charitable trust laws against charities, professional fundraisers, and charitable trustees.

Handles statewide consumer protection and antitrust enforcement efforts and investigations.

Leads and participates in multistate cases and investigations nationwide.



SEXUAL ASSAULT KIT INITIATIVE

- Appropriated \$1.46M in 2022
- Oversees investigation, victim services, and prosecution for cases arising from the previously untested Sexual Assault Kits
- MOUs with Calhoun, Washtenaw, Wayne, Kalamazoo, Ingham, and Jackson Counties

Calhoun County

210 cases with 40 closed, 4 cases pending in court and 8 convictions

Kalamazoo County

226 Cases with 32 active investigations, 12 cases pending in court and 12 convictions

Ingham County

127 investigations, 2 cases pending in court and 3 convictions

Jackson County

67 investigations underway, and 2 convictions

Washtenaw County

159 cases with 20 open investigations, 3 pending in court

Wayne County

Funds approved, awaiting hiring to add to task force with 222 convictions and over 800 serial offenders identified

CLERGY ABUSE INVESTIGATION



Launched in August 2018 - partnership with MSP

**REPORTS PRODUCED FOR THE
FOLLOWING DIOCESES:**

 **Marquette**
Oct. 2022

 **Gaylord**
Jan. 2024

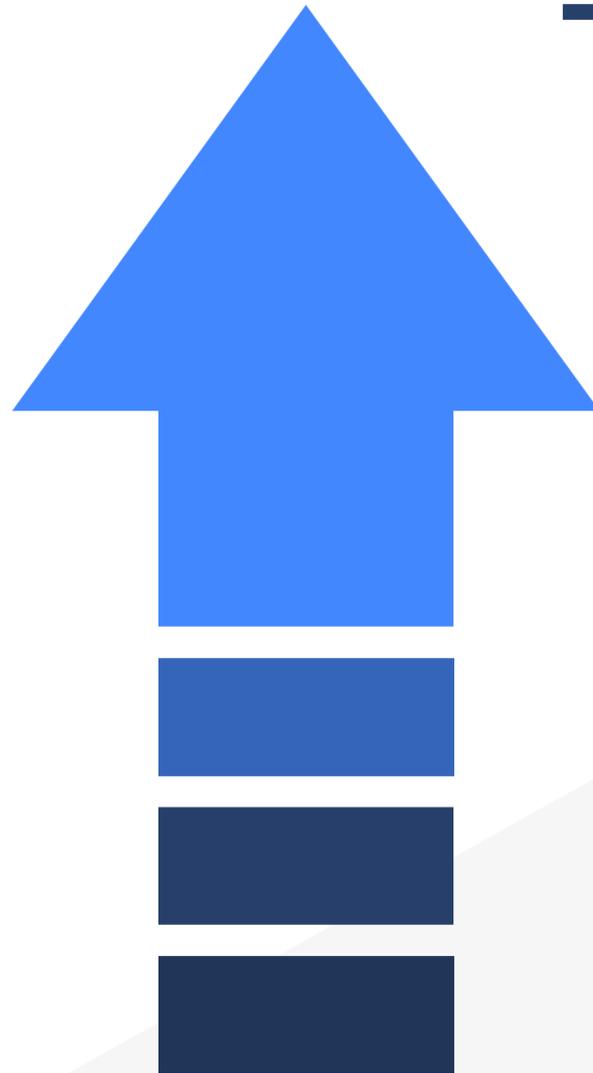
Kalamazoo
Spring 2024

Lansing
Summer 2024

Grand Rapids
Fall 2024

Saginaw
Winter 2024

Detroit
Winter 2025



ELDER ABUSE TASK FORCE



***THE ELDER ABUSE TASK FORCE
LAUNCHED IN 2019***

***AG, MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT, AND
MORE THAN 55 DIFFERENT
ORGANIZATIONS***

***FIVE BILL GUARDIANSHIP REFORM
PACKAGE PENDING***

Elder Abuse Unit

investigates and prosecutes
financial exploitation cases

Statewide Elder Abuse
investigation form

Online trainings

The Financial Exploitation
Prevention Act (FEPA)

PFAS ACCOUNTABILITY



- Multiple lawsuits since January 2020 against PFAS manufacturers, distributors, and users.
- PFAS manufacturers lawsuit - damages, past costs, and remediation for Michigan resources impacted by PFAS other than firefighting foam.
- Two more lawsuits against manufacturers of PFAS-containing firefighting foam - damages and costs
- January 2023 - Asahi Kasei Plastics North America settlement.
- Two new PFAS lawsuits against companies that have released PFAS into the environment in Michigan.
- Oversees implementation of the 2020 Consent Decree with Wolverine Worldwide Inc.
 - \$69.5M to extend municipal water to over 1,000 properties.
 - over 650 homes are already connected, with construction for remaining lines ongoing.
 - Maintain and replace water filters / continue sampling residential wells and monitoring groundwater in the area / investigate impacts to surface waters / undertake response activities at source areas.



CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

Enforces child support orders by prosecuting those individuals who have a history of non-payment and have significant arrearages of at least \$5,000

***IN FISCAL YEAR 2023 OVER
\$24M WAS COLLECTED FOR
CHILD SUPPORT***

OVER 45K CASES GENERATED

Investigators identify parents who can pay support to their children but refuse to do so.

Complaints can be filed online
(mi.gov/agcomplaints)
or by calling the Financial
Crimes Division (517-335-7560).

***Please refer your constituents
in need of help to our office.***

HATE CRIMES & DOMESTIC TERRORISM



Investigates and prosecutes hate crimes and acts of domestic terrorism.

Notable Cases

Wolverine Watchmen
"The Base"

Convictions

At least 28 convictions
for cases involving
threats against elected
officials.

OTHER SPECIALIZED UNITS



Public Integrity Unit

- 104 pending cases
- Prosecutes those that breach the public trust or steal taxpayer dollars.
- Expanded to include in-custody deaths and police-involved shootings.

Payroll Fraud Enforcement Unit

- Strengthening whistleblower protections to shield employees who report wrongdoing and provide incentives when they do.
- Toughening penalties against payroll fraud to make Michigan a leader in protecting workers.

QUESTIONS?



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3030 W. Grand Blvd, Ste 10-200
Detroit, MI



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mi.gov/ag
mi.gov/agcp
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