



PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS COORDINATING COUNCIL

FY 2024/2025 HOUSE BUDGET PRESENTATION – FEBRUARY 20, 2024

CHERI L. BRUINSMA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



PACC

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- Autonomous agency under the Department of Attorney General
 - Established in 1972 by MCL 49.101 *et seq.*
 - Statutory mandate MCL 49.109
“The council shall keep the prosecuting attorneys and assistant prosecuting attorneys of the state informed of all changes in legislation, law and matters pertaining to their office, to the end that a uniform system of conduct, duty and procedure is established in each county of the state.”

PACC: CONTINUING EDUCATION

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- Trial Advocacy
 - Newly Elected Prosecutor School
 - Victim Rights*
 - Traffic Safety*
 - Domestic Violence*
 - Sexual Assault*
 - Basic Training for New Assistant Prosecutors
 - Felony Trial Practice for Advancing Assistant Prosecutors
 - Elder Abuse and Financial Exploitation*
 - Forensic Interviewing*
 - Child Abuse*
 - Appellate Advocacy
 - Office Professional Development

*-THESE TOPICS ARE COVERED BY PAAM GRANT FUNDED ATTORNEYS FOR WHICH PACC PROVIDES MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT.

PACC: CURRENT LEGAL RESOURCES & DUTIES

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- 2 Managing Attorneys; 2 Training Attorneys
 - Quarterly Courtroom Manual
 - Quarterly Warrant Manual
 - Monthly Newsletter
 - Placement of over 400 special prosecution cases per year
 - Oversight of 10 PACC trainings per year; assist in development in PAAM grant trainings.
 - Management and oversight of all PACC/PAAM employees and associated grants and budgets.
 - Oversight of PAAM's student intern program
 - Management and oversight of all technical services provided by PACC.
 - Coordination with other state agencies including the Michigan Attorney General's Office, Michigan State Police, State Court Administrators Office, State Appellate Defender's Office and Michigan Indigent Defense Commission on topics and information of importance to prosecutors.
 - Research and legal support for 83 counties, approximately 1,694 prosecution staff on topics not covered by PAAM grants.

PACC: LEGAL SUPPORT

Publications

Newsletter
(Monthly)

Warrant
Manual
(Quarterly)

Courtroom
Manual
(Quarterly)

Brady/Giglio
Manual

Conflict of
Interest Manual

Assistance

Legal
Research

Online
Forums

Special
Prosecutions

Training

Ethical Issues

PACC: GOVERNING COUNCIL

Chair, David Leyton, Genesee County Prosecutor (Representing counties with a population over 400,000)

Michael Wendling, St. Clair County Prosecutor (Representing counties with a population of 75-400,000)

Mark Reene, Tuscola County Prosecutor (Representing counties with a population less than 75,000)

President of the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan (PAAM), currently Jeff Getting, Kalamazoo County Prosecutor

Attorney General Dana Nessel

PACC: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Assist Counties In Implementing “Prosecutor By Karpel”

- Will replace ACT/JCT.
- Can communicate with MSP, MDOC, and other criminal justice partners.
- In 2024 there will be 25 counties transitioned onto the Karpel system, the remaining 39 and the Attorney General will transition in 2025.

PACC: PROSECUTION CHALLENGES

High turnover
in prosecutors'
offices

- Fewer experienced staff to train new attorneys
- Less experienced staff

Increase in
violent crime

- More murders and assaultive crimes
- Increased demand for training

PACC: GOALS FOR 2024/2025

Training and written updates on:

- Juvenile resentencing and life without parole hearings
- Basic and advanced trial practice skills
- Ethics
- Extreme Risk Protection Orders

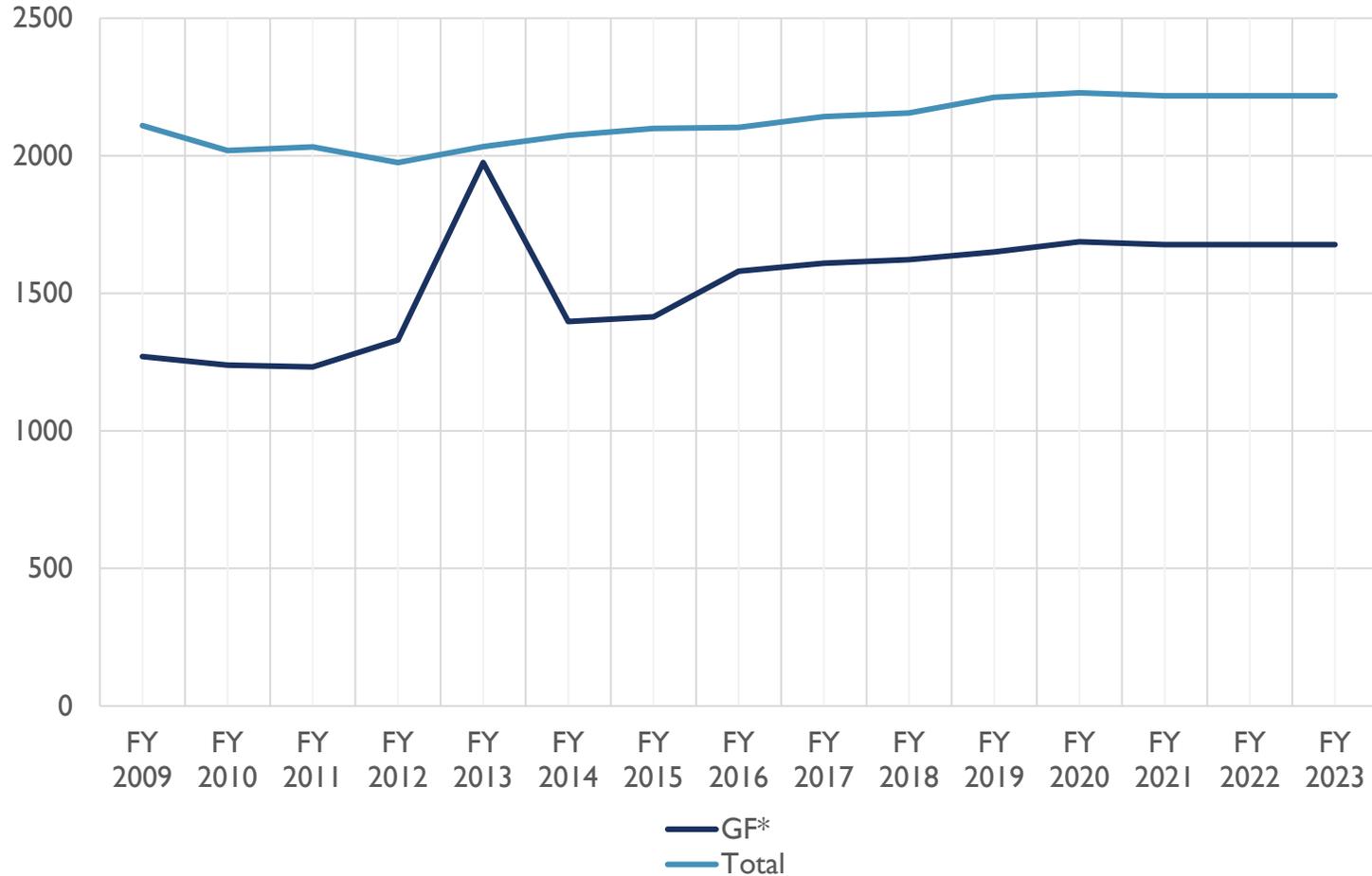
Assist offices with recruitment efforts:

- Law school job fairs
- Expansion of intern program
- Education on the prosecutors' role in the community

Provide legal assistance & research to offices:

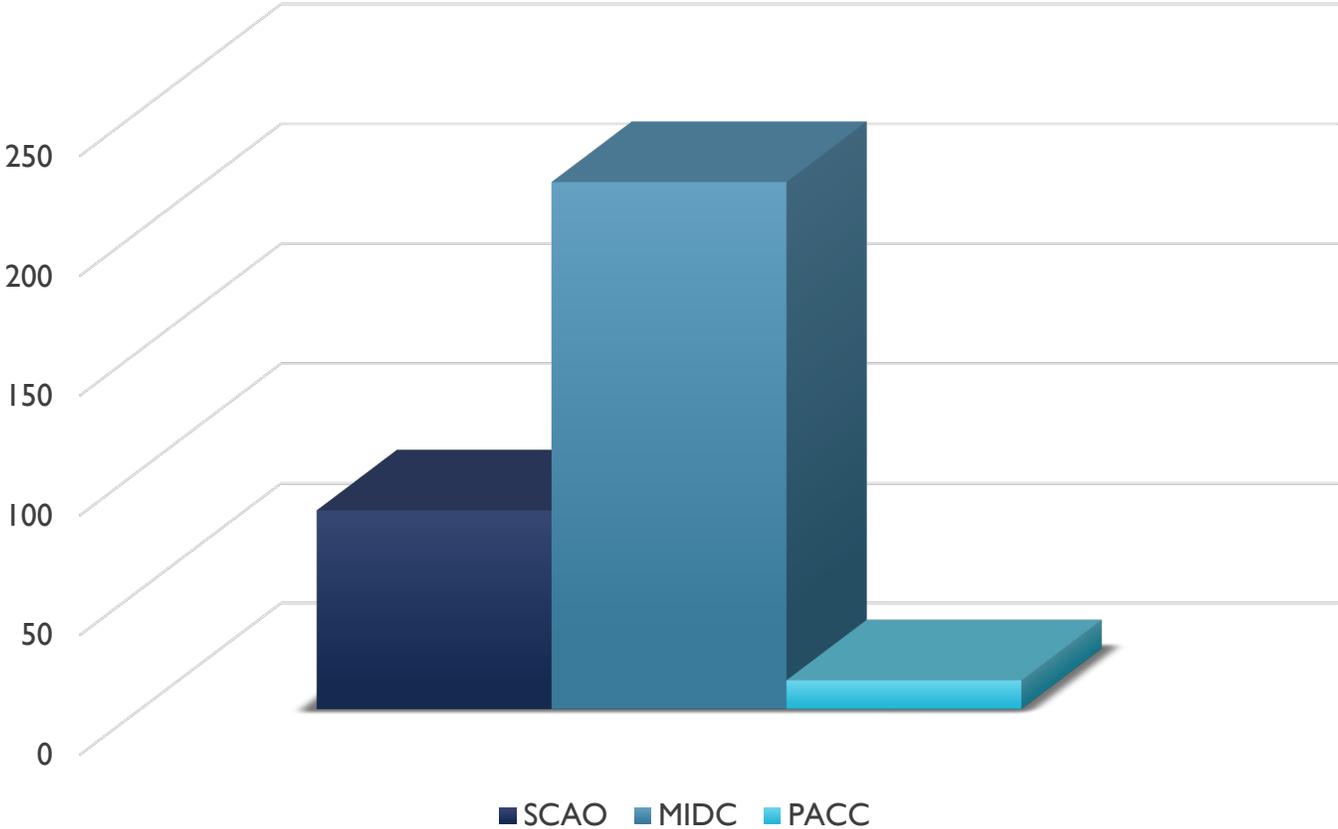
- Trial strategy
- Ethical issues
- Expert witnesses and use of scientific evidence
- Use of technology in criminal cases

PACC: BUDGET HISTORY



*PACC's total budget includes funding from a National Criminal History Improvement grant and money collected from publications and trainings to cover costs.

FY 2023



**PACC:
COMPARISON TO
OTHER BUDGETS**

PACC: BETTER TRAINED PROSECUTORS

- Better trained prosecutors benefit the state:
 - Protect defendants' rights.
 - Ensure justice for crime victims.
 - Process cases moving through the criminal justice system more efficiently, making the best use of available resources.
 - Reduce the chances of a retrial or wrongful conviction.

CHERI L. BRUINSMA
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