



2017

Annual Report Executive Summary



Seeking Justice Through Community Partnerships & Innovation



Orange County District Attorney's Office 2017 Annual Report Executive Summary

- Narcotics Enforcement. In 2017, the Orange County District Attorney's Office (OCDA) continued to fight the opioid epidemic.
 - County Court felony filings and prosecution of narcotic sales increased over 2016.
 - Street value of narcotics seized by the Orange County Drug Task Force rose from \$168,000 to \$278,000, a 65% increase over 2016.
 - OCDA continued to promote treatment for appropriate offenders.
 - Electronic surveillance and major investigations resulted in prosecution of major narcotics enterprises, including two drug organizations brought down in "Operation Family Ties."
- The Gun-Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Project. OCDA, the City of Newburgh Police Department, and other GIVE partners continued to use innovative strategies to reduce violent crime in the City. In 2017, as compared to 2016, the City saw:
 - A 65% reduction in bullet-to-body shootings.
 - A 15% reduction in total UCR Part I crime.
- The District Attorney's Office sponsored or participated in several programs designed to educate the public about issues surrounding crime. Those programs included:
 - *The Uncommon Athlete*. The District Attorney's Office sponsored this anti-bullying program in six high schools.
 - The "Connect 2 Disconnect" heroin and opioid awareness campaign.
 - Participation in all of Orange County's community anti-drug coalitions.
 - Presence of OCDA staff at all seven venues of National Night Out.
 - Two county-wide heroin forums sponsored by the District Attorney.
- District Attorney's League of Immigrant Affairs (DALIA). In 2017, OCDA continued to participate with six other New York district attorney's offices, to assist immigrant victims of crime.
- Crimes Against Revenue Program (CARP). In 2017, the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services provided OCDA with an \$89,000 CARP grant, to partially fund the salary of an experienced prosecutor.
 - OCDA recovered over \$930,000 in fraudulently evaded taxes, representing a more than **1000% return** on the State's investment, the highest return of any CARP county.
 - Orange County's CARP recoveries were the **sixth-highest** of the 62 counties in the State.
- Fraudulently Obtained Unemployment Benefit Recoveries. In 2017, the Orange County District Attorney's Office had the **eighth-highest** recovery of fraudulently obtained unemployment insurance benefits of the 62 New York State district attorney's offices, recovering more than \$187,000. That statistic is remarkable, in that Orange County is the twelfth-largest county, by population, in New York. Recoveries exceeded those achieved by several counties with much larger populations.
- Conviction Rate. In 2017, OCDA's conviction rate was approximately 96%, significantly above the State average.