



# 2018

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## Annual Report Executive Summary



*Seeking Justice Through Community Partnerships & Innovation*



## Orange County District Attorney's Office 2018 Annual Report Executive Summary

- Narcotics Enforcement. In 2018, 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 2017.
  - OCDA continued to promote treatment for appropriate offenders.
  - Major investigation into drug-related murder in Middletown resulted in prosecution of members of "Coke Wave" gang for murder and narcotics-related conspiracy.
- City of Newburgh Anti-Violence Efforts. OCDA, the City of Newburgh Police Department, and other partners continued to use innovative strategies to reduce violent crime in the City. In 2018:
  - The Gun-Involved Violence Elimination Initiative continued to use the Group Violence Intervention strategy to target the City's violent groups.
  - The Non-Fatal Shootings Initiative brought non-traditional evidence-based strategies to bear on shootings where victims have refused to cooperate.
  - Only eight bullet-body shootings occurred in the City of Newburgh, as compared to 55 in 2015, a more than 85% reduction.
- The District Attorney's Office sponsored or participated in several programs designed to educate the public about issues surrounding crime. Those programs included:
  - Participation in all of Orange County's community anti-drug coalitions.
  - Presence of OCDA staff at all eight venues of National Night Out.
  - The District Attorney's Office co-sponsored a Narcan training in conjunction with the Town of Wallkill Police Department, the Wallkill Police Community Council, the Tri-County Community Partnership, and the New York National Guard.
- District Attorney's League of Immigrant Affairs (DALIA). In 2018, OCDA continued to participate with eight other New York district attorney's offices, to assist immigrant victims of crime.
- Crimes Against Revenue Program (CARP). In 2018, the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) provided OCDA with an \$84,000 CARP grant, to partially fund the salary of an experienced prosecutor.
  - OCDA recovered nearly \$630,000 in fraudulently obtained state money, representing a **750% return** on the State's investment.
  - Orange County's CARP recoveries reflected the **highest** return on DCJS's CARP investment of any other CARP county in the State.
- Unemployment Benefits Recoveries. In 2018, District Attorney Hoovler and five ADAs were honored by the New York State Department of Labor with its "Certificate of Merit," for "successfully prosecuting unemployment insurance fraud in Orange County, resulting in the return of over one million dollars to the Department of Labor Unemployment Trust Fund."
- Conviction Rate. In 2018, OCDA's conviction rate was approximately 94%, above the State average.