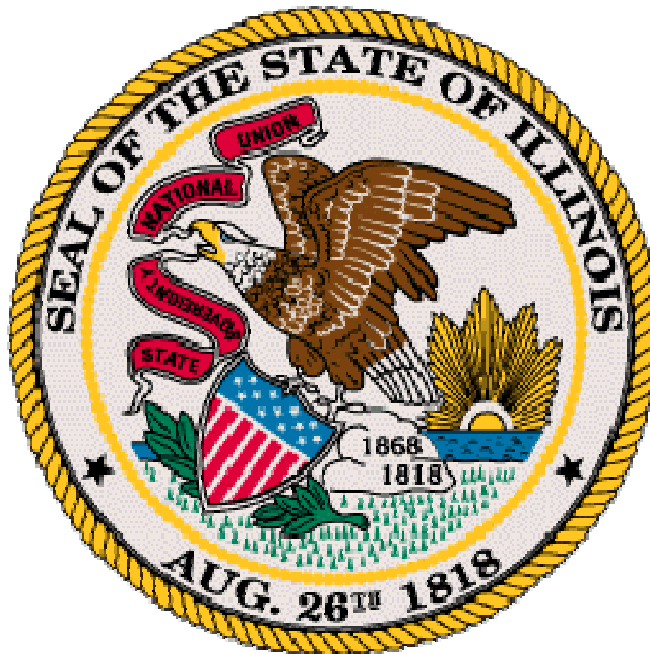


# Office of the State's Attorney Union County, Illinois

## 2009 Annual Report



**Tyler R. Edmonds,  
State's Attorney**

## **A Letter from the State's Attorney**

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as your State's Attorney during the past year and I am pleased to present this 2009 Annual Report for your review. This report is an effort to update elected officials, law enforcement and social service agencies, and the citizens of Union County on the efforts made by this office during 2009.

I would particularly like to highlight the efforts of local law enforcement agencies during the past year. As you review this report, you will see that during 2009, the State's Attorney's Office filed nearly 50 percent more felony cases than during any of the previous 10 years. This is only possible because of diligent police work on the part of officers and investigators. You will also find information in this report regarding the structure, staffing, funding and expenditures of the State's Attorney's Office as well as a breakdown of cases filed, fines and restitution to crime victims.

The services provided by the State's Attorney's Office are only possible because of a dedicated staff and the hard work of law enforcement and other agencies such as the Department of Children and Family Services and the Child Advocacy Center. I hope that this Annual Report will promote transparency and accountability, as well as serve as a starting point to provide even better service to the public during 2010.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tyler R. Edmonds". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Tyler R. Edmonds  
Union County State's Attorney

## **Office Overview**

The Union County State's Attorney's office is responsible for prosecuting all violations of criminal law occurring within Union County on behalf of the People of the State of Illinois. The Office also serves as legal counsel to Union County government including the County Board and all elected officials. The State's Attorney's Office also prosecutes violations of Union County Ordinances and represents the County in civil court proceedings.

The State's Attorney's Office consists of two full-time attorneys and two full-time legal assistants. The Office's Victim Advocate Unit provides services to crime victims and consists of one full-time Victim Advocate and a part-time Victim-Witness Coordinator.

The guiding principle for the Union County State's Attorney's Office is found in Illinois Supreme Court Rule 3.8:

The duty of a public prosecutor . . . is to seek justice, not merely to convict.

In each individual case, the Office seeks to ensure that justice is served for all parties involved and for the People of the State of Illinois.

## **Significant Office Accomplishments**

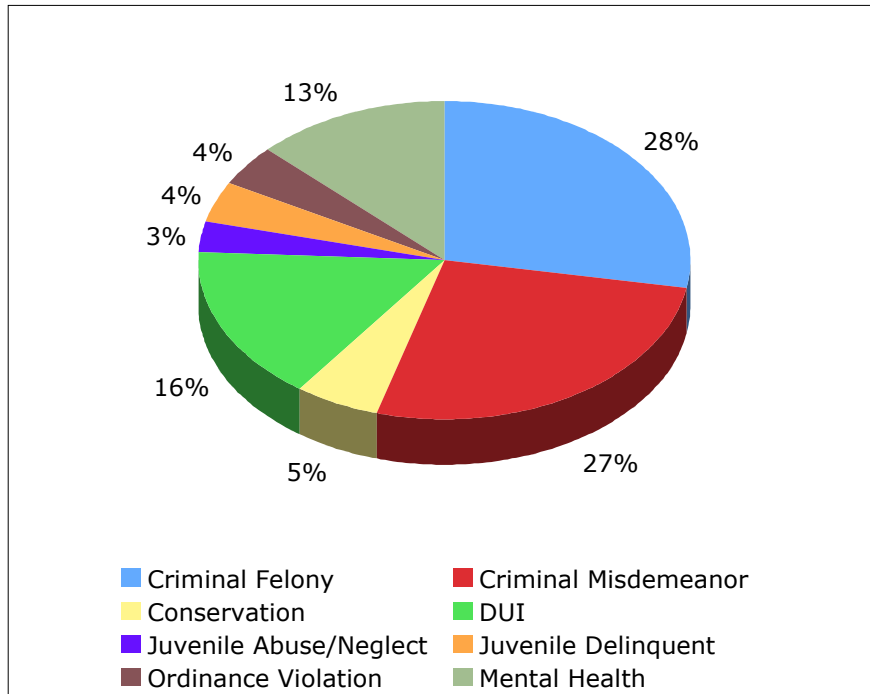
- Anna man convicted of Solicitation of Murder for Hire, a Class X Felony, in two and a half day jury trial
- Dongola man sentenced to eight years for predatory criminal sexual assault
- Indictments returned on 15 individuals for burglary and firearms trafficking related charges as part of Operation FASTEN Initiative (Federal and State Trafficking Enforcement Network)
- New initiative requiring all drunk drivers to attend Victim Impact Panel presentation by individuals who have lost family members in DUI-related crashes
- New policy requiring all underage alcohol offenders to attend three day peer education class providing education and information on making positive choices
- Worked with County Board to implement ethics reform banning use of county property for political purposes
- Drafted new liquor control ordinance for the County to ensure liquor laws are enforced fairly and uniformly
- Applied for and received \$155,000 federal grant to fund full salary and benefits for a third prosecuting attorney

## **Criminal Prosecution**

The State's Attorney's Office is responsible for prosecuting all crimes that occur within Union County and pursuing certain civil matters including Juvenile Abuse and Neglect cases and involuntary mental health commitments. During 2009, 5770 cases were opened with the following breakdown:

<u><b>Type of Charge / Case</b></u>	<u><b>Number filed</b></u>
Criminal Felony	292
Criminal Misdemeanor	279
Conservation	57
DUI	168
Juvenile Abuse/Neglect	30
Juvenile Delinquent	44
Ordinance Violation	43
Mental Health	135
Traffic	4722
<b>Total</b>	<b>5770</b>

Excluding traffic citations, these cases compare as follows:

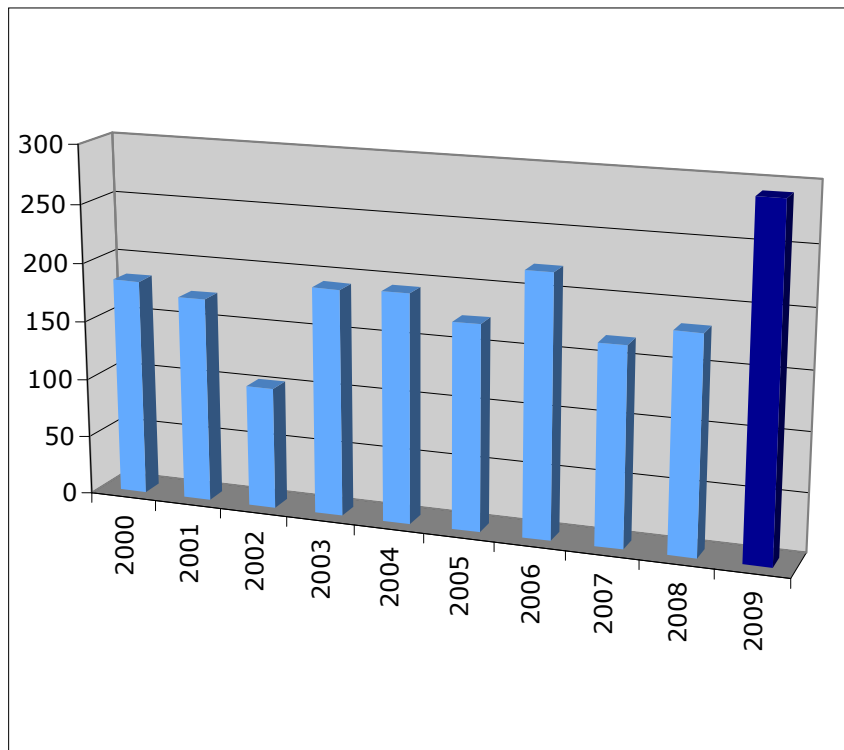


## Felony Cases

During 2009, the State's Attorney's Office filed nearly 300 felony cases. Because of the tremendous efforts of local law enforcement agencies, this number was nearly fifty percent higher than number of felony cases filed within any of the past 10 years in Union County.

Year	Felony Cases Filed
2000	184
2001	174
2002	103
2003	192
2004	194
2005	174
2006	221
2007	168
2008	183
<b>2009</b>	<b>292</b>

These numbers can be compared as follows:

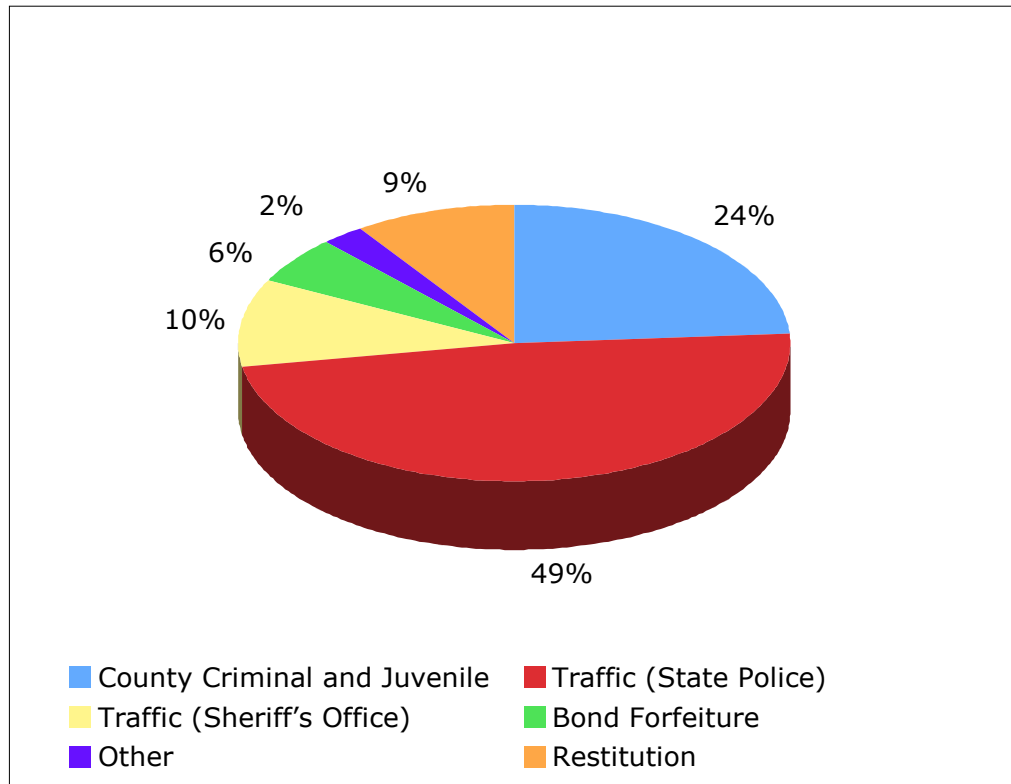


## Fines and Restitution

During 2009, the State's Attorney's Office obtained judgments on over \$360,000 in fines, forfeitures and other costs to criminal defendants. This amount also includes nearly \$35,000 in restitution to crime victims.

<u>Type of Fine / Judgment</u>	<u>Amount</u>
County Criminal and Juvenile	\$86,333.91
Traffic (State Police)	\$175,195.21
Traffic (Sheriff's Office)	\$38,067.31
Bond Forfeitures	\$20,289.00
Restitution	\$34,433.41
Other (Includes Municipal Traffic)	\$8,454.57
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$362,773.41</b>

These numbers can be compared as follows:



## **Funding Sources and Expenditures**

The expenditures of the State's Attorney's Office for fiscal year 2009 were **\$266,508.54**. Of this total, approximately \$47,740.00 came from grant funding and \$120,321.00 came directly from state reimbursement. The remaining \$98,447.54 came from the County. The funding sources and expenditures for 2009 are broken down as follows:

### **Funding Source**

Grants	\$47,740.00
State of Illinois	\$120,321.00
County	\$98,447.54
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$266,508.54</b>

### **Expenditures**

Salaries	\$242,185.93
Office Expenses	\$17,322.61
Appellate Fees	\$7,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$266,508.54</b>