

2012 ANNUAL REPORT



Office of the Prosecuting Attorney

Submitted by:
Ronald J. Frantz
Ottawa County Prosecuting Attorney

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2012 **felony caseload** increased 2% over the 2011 level (1,411 cases in 2012, compared to 1,378 cases in 2011). Our most serious offenses have remained relatively low since reaching a high point of 1598 cases in 2006. Major felony crime categories showing significant increases during 2012 were Criminal Sexual Conduct (up 22%, 60 cases) and Robbery (up 25%, 10 cases). The most significant decreases were Weapons Offenses (down 21%, 41 cases) and Felony Drunk Driving (down 36%, 72 cases).

The total **misdemeanor caseload** rose 7% in 2012 (6,324 cases). **Juvenile crime**, as represented by petitions filed by our office, fell slightly (1%) to 1,182 delinquency petitions filed. **Total criminal caseload** (combined felony, misdemeanor, and juvenile statistics) increased by 5% (8,917 cases in 2012). This total represents a one-year reversal of the downward trend seen over the previous five years and is still significantly lower than crime totals from 2003 through 2011.

There was one **1st Degree Murder** charged in 2012. A Holland township man awaits trial for the murder of his landlord by dousing her with a flammable liquid.

Gang violence and organized gang activity are the subject of active federal prosecutions. Several dozen members of the Latin King gang leadership are in federal custody awaiting trial on numerous charges, including running an Organized Criminal Enterprise. These prosecutions are the result of the investigative work of the Gang Task Force, which includes the Holland Police Department, the Ottawa and Allegan County Sheriffs' Departments, WEMET, federal agencies, the United States Attorney, and the Ottawa County Prosecutor. We expect significant reduction in gang activity in the future.

Our **Domestic Violence caseload** saw a 3% decline in 2012 (525 cases). This follows increases over each of the last four years. The Lakeshore Alliance Against Domestic and Sexual Violence continues to actively promote prevention efforts and improvements in serving Domestic Violence victims and offenders. Our court-based Domestic Violence offender treatment initiative also seeks to reduce recidivism and better serve victims through the court process.

Our District and Circuit **Drug/Sobriety Courts** continue to accept drug and/or alcohol dependent offenders using a treatment court model. The prosecutor is an integral part of an award-winning team that selects offenders for the program and monitors their success.

The **Children's Advocacy Center** has been providing age-appropriate services for sexually abused children for over thirteen years. This nationally accredited center conducted 358 interviews of children suspected of being sexual assault victims in 2012 (as compare to 368 interviews in 2011). Our office continues to work directly with investigators and Center staff to assist young sexual assault victims in seeking justice in the criminal justice system and restoration of their lives.

Our relatively low crime rate contributes significantly to the positive national and regional perception our community enjoys. The Prosecutor's Office is proud to be an integral part of our well-functioning criminal justice system.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald J. Frantz, Prosecuting Attorney

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Ottawa County Prosecutor's Office is to preserve and improve the quality of life for Ottawa County residents by promoting lawful conduct and enhancing safety and security through diligent efforts to detect, investigate, and prosecute criminal offenses in Ottawa County.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PROSECUTOR

The prosecuting attorney is the chief law enforcement officer for Ottawa County. The Office was created by the Michigan Constitution. The responsibilities and authority of the Prosecutor are established by common law, statute, court rule, and appellate case law. In recent years changing attitudes in the courts and state legislature have significantly altered the traditional role of the Prosecutor. While adult and juvenile criminal matters still represent the major portion of the prosecution effort, a growing list of additional responsibilities has placed larger demands on prosecution resources. Nevertheless, we provide all mandated services, maximizing our efficiency by offering specialty services to crime victims and law enforcement. These specialties include the Family Court Unit, Domestic Violence Unit, Victims' Rights Unit, an Appellate Specialist, and a Law Enforcement Training Assistant.

Additional duties of the Prosecutor include serving as the chairman of the Concealed Weapons Licensing Board and Community Corrections Advisory Board. The Prosecutor also serves on the boards or oversight committees of the Children's Advocacy Center, Wrap Around Community Team, West Michigan Enforcement Team, Lakeshore Alliance Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, Ottawa Area Law Enforcement Leadership Committee, C.H.O.O.S.E. underage alcohol initiative, Human Services Council of Ottawa County, U. S. Department of Justice Project Safe Neighborhoods Program, Child Death Review Team, and the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Ronald J. Frantz **Prosecuting Attorney**
Douglas L. Mesman. Chief Assistant Prosecutor
Gregory J. Babbitt. Chief of Appeals Division
Lee F. Fisher. Chief of Holland Division
Karen J. Miedema Senior Attorney/Training Div.
Judy K. Mulder Chief of West Olive Division
Deanna M. Sears. Office Administrator

ATTORNEY STAFF

GREGORY J. BABBITT, Grand Valley State University, B.S.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 32 years of prosecution experience.

JUANITA F. BOCANEGRA, Grand Valley State University, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 2 years of prosecution experience, and 3 years civil experience.

LEE F. FISHER, Western Michigan University, B.S.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 24 years of prosecution experience.

RONALD J. FRANTZ, Kalamazoo College, B.A.; Case Western Reserve University School of Law, J.D.; 36 years of prosecution experience.

JOELLEN HAAS, Indiana University, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 10 years of prosecution experience.

JENNIFER N. KUIPER, University of Michigan, B.A.; University of Toledo College of Law, J.D.; 9 years of prosecution experience.

SARAH F. MATWIEJCZYK, Michigan State University, James Madison College, B.A.; Michigan State University – Detroit College of Law, J.D.; 12 years of prosecution experience.

DOUGLAS L. MESMAN, Calvin College, B.A.; Thomas M. Cooley School of Law, J.D.; 34 years of prosecution experience.

KAREN J. MIEDEMA, Ferris State University, B.S.; Wayne State University Law School, J.D.; 27 years of prosecution experience.

JUDITH K. MULDER, DePauw University, B.S.; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.; 24 years of prosecution experience.

JOHN R. SCHEUERLE, Michigan State University, B.A.; Detroit College of Law, J.D.; 14 years of prosecution experience.

JAY TUBERGEN, Grand Valley State University, B.S.; Michigan State University – College of Law, J.D.; 2 years of prosecution experience.

EDUARDO VELAZQUEZ-HERNANDEZ, Carleton College, B.A.; Notre Dame College of Law, J.D.; 14 years of prosecution experience.

SUPPORT STAFF

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Belinda Coronado Legal Assistant II
Mary Dykstra Legal Assistant II
Cathy Eidson Legal Assistant III
Soonja Hixon Legal Assistant I
Mallory Jewell Legal Clerk
Angie Rogers Legal Assistant II
Dawn Slater Legal Assistant III
Jennifer Vandenberg Legal Assistant II
Sarah VanderPloeg Legal Assistant II

FAMILY COURT DIVISION

Juvenile & Probate Court

Jane Gardner Legal Assistant II

Child Support Unit

Toni Sleutel Child Support Investigator
Becky Visser Child Support Investigator

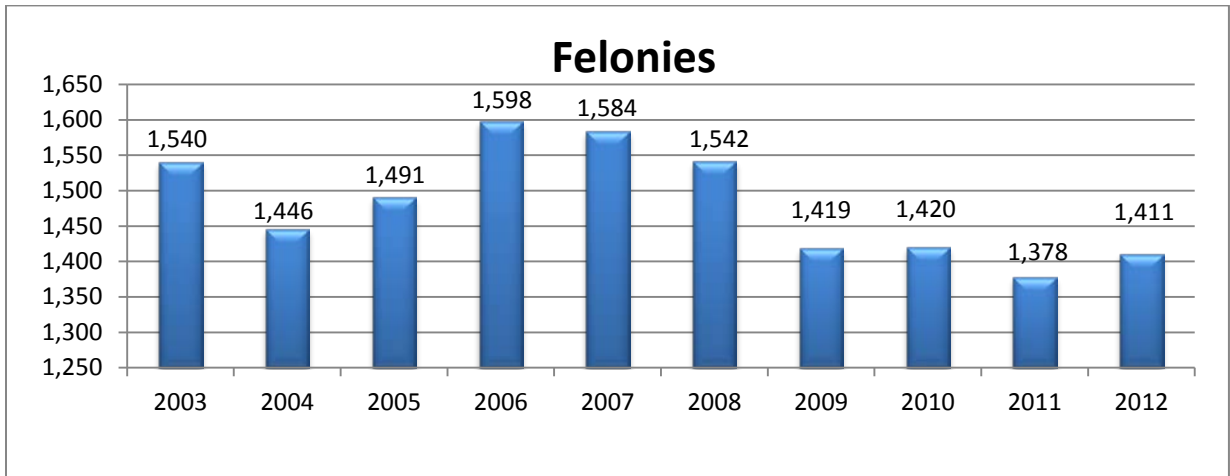
VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT

Joan Grillo Victims' Rights Coordinator
Lesley Morano Victim Advocate
Stephanie Stoddard Victim Advocate

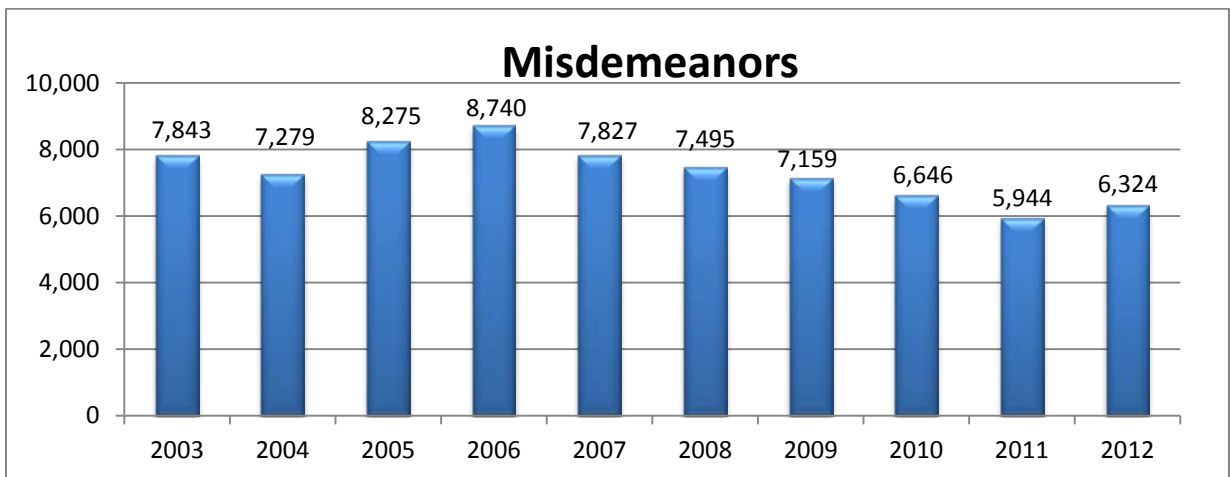
DOMESTIC ASSAULT UNIT

Jennifer Bouwens Violence Intervention Officer

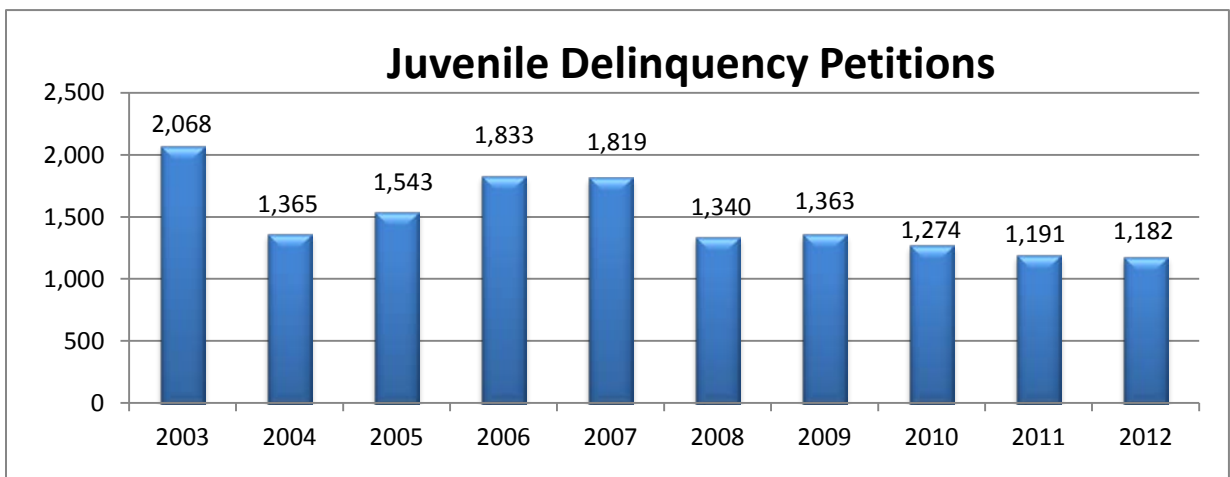
CRIMINAL CASELOAD



Adult Felony Cases: 2011: 1,378 2012: 1,411 2% increase



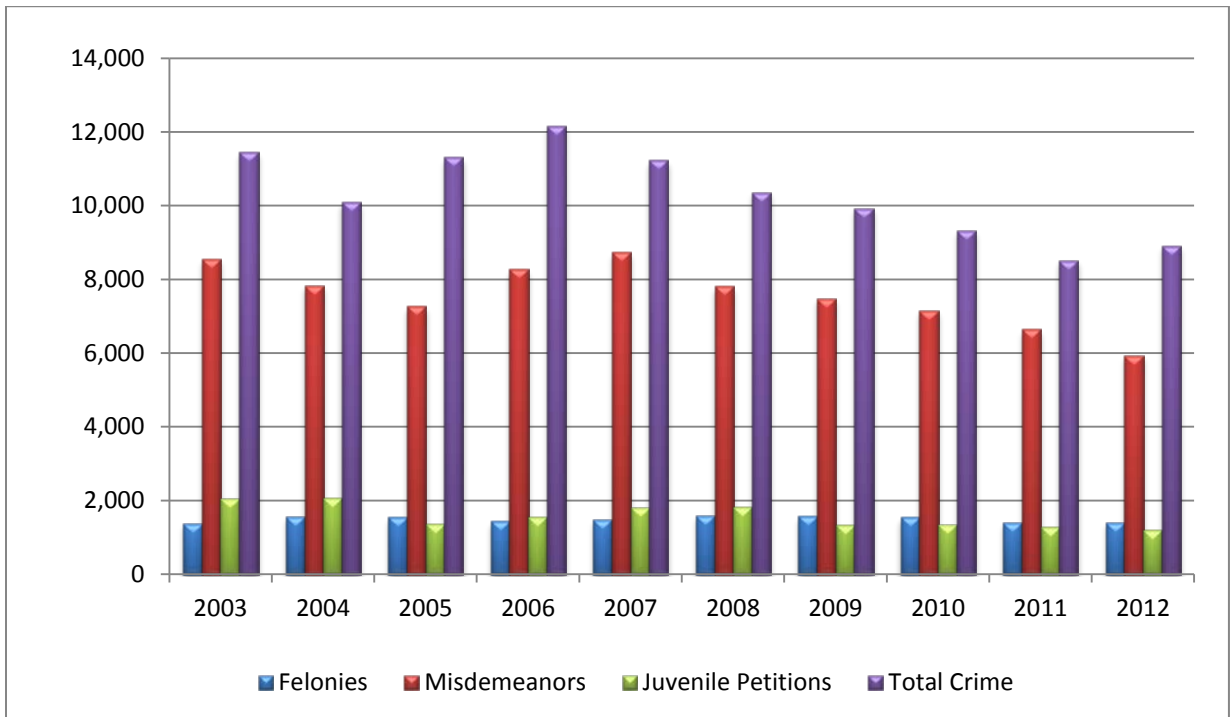
Adult Misdemeanors: 2011: 5,944 2012: 6,324 7% increase



Juvenile Delinquency: 2011: 1,191 2012: 1,182 1% decrease

Note: 33% reduction from 2003 to 2004 due in part to a change in data collection methodology

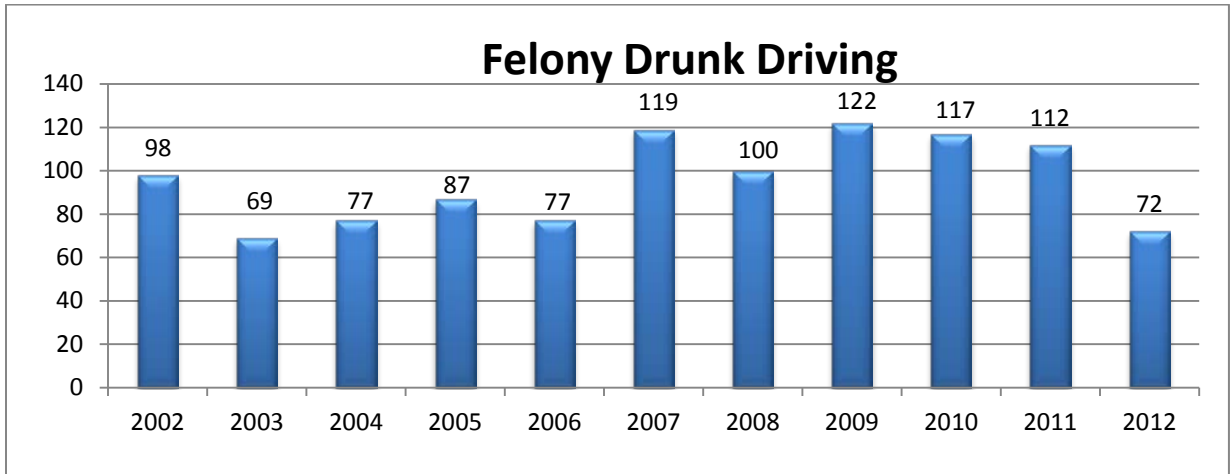
TOTAL CRIME STATISTICS



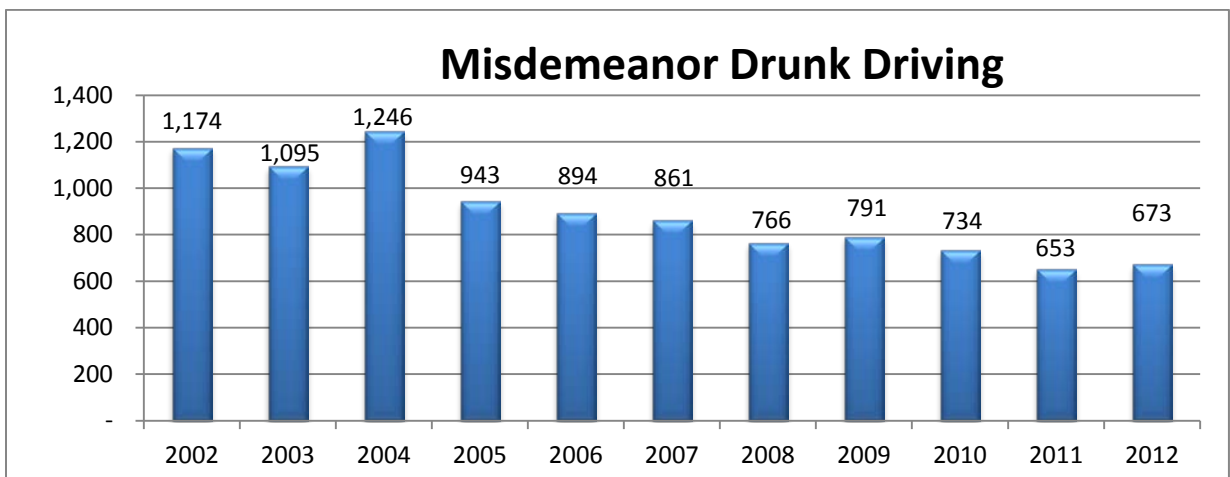
Total Crime (combined): 2011: 8,513 2012: 8,917 5% increase

CRIME CATEGORIES

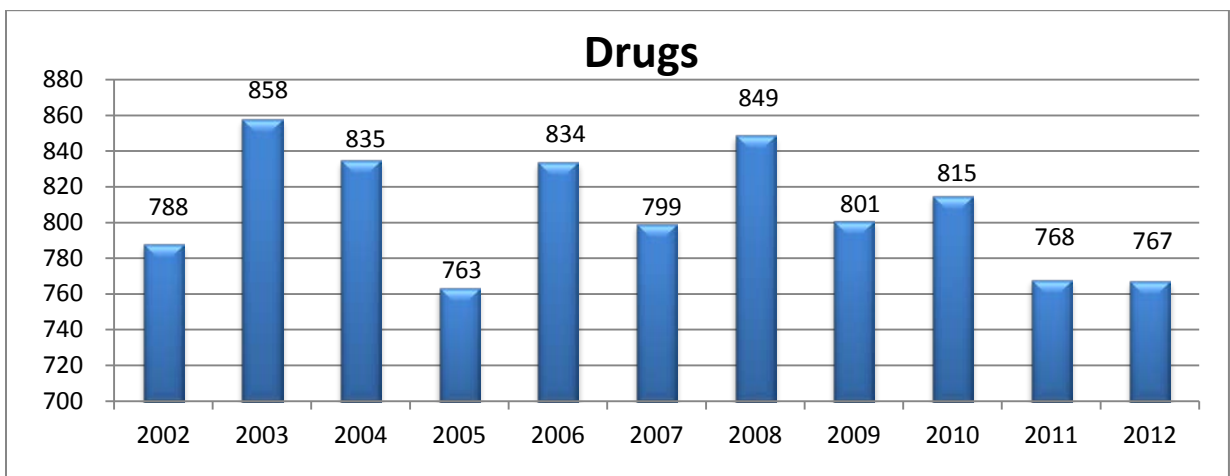
All categories reported for adult crime data only.



Felony Drunk Driving: 2011: 112 2012: 72 36% decrease

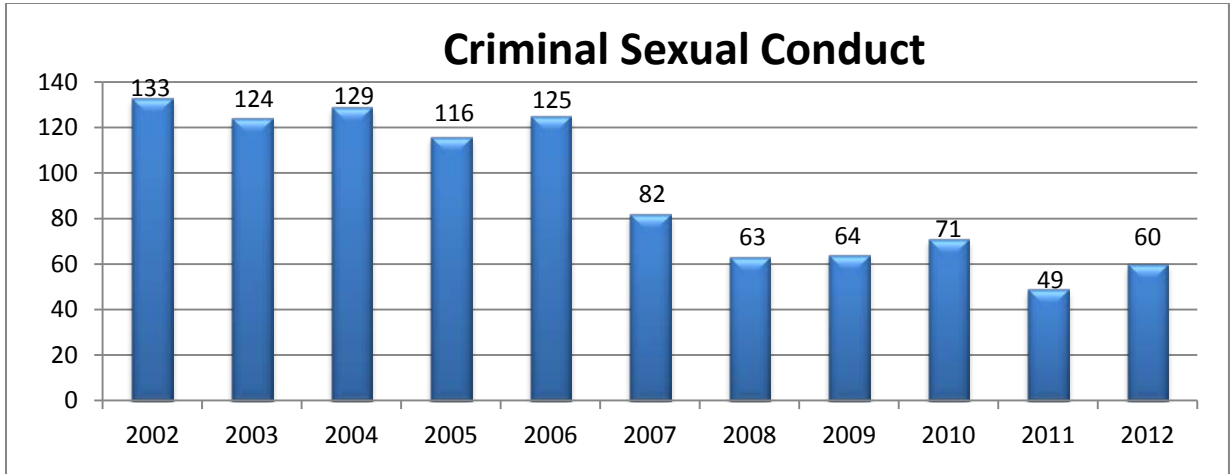


Misdemeanor Drunk Driving: 2011: 653 2012: 673 3% increase

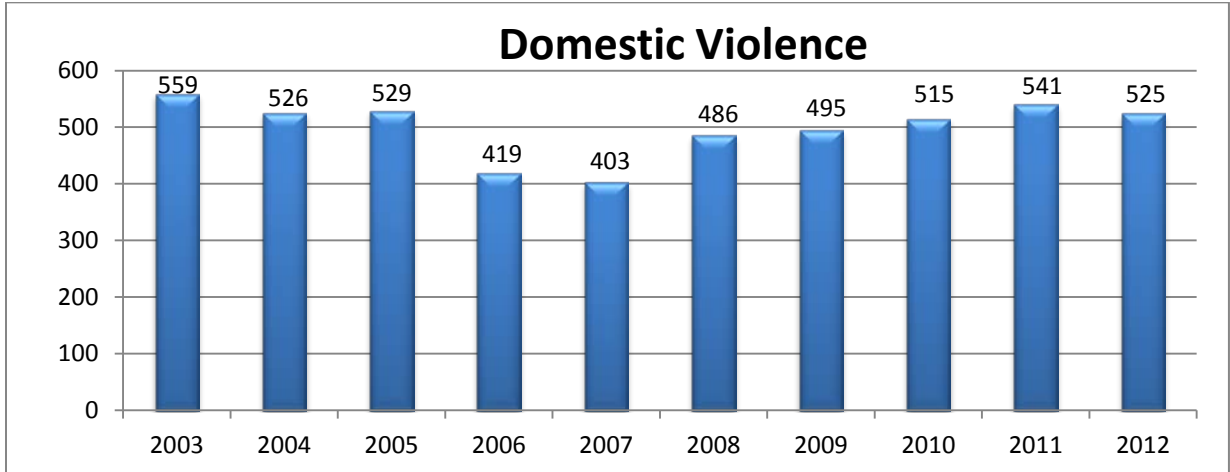


Drug Cases: 2011: 768 2012: 767 <1% decrease

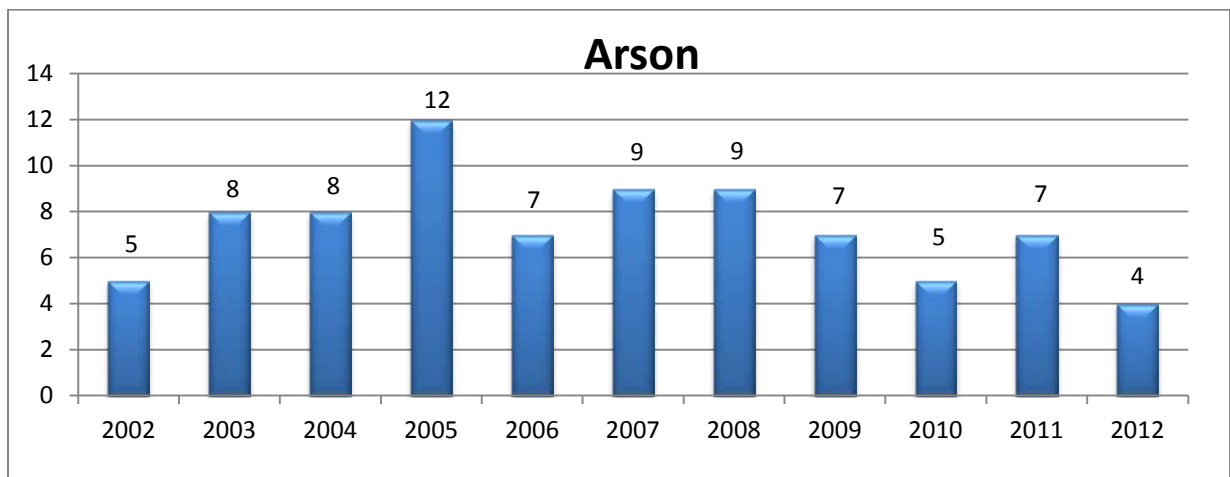
CRIME CATEGORIES CONTINUED



Criminal Sexual Conduct: 2011: 49 2012: 60 22% increase

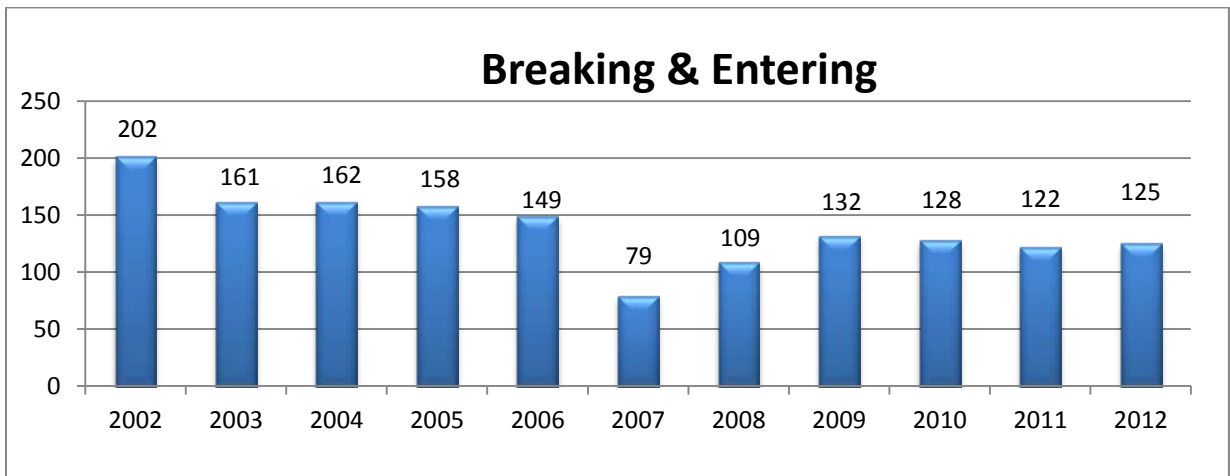


Domestic Violence: 2011: 541 2012: 525 3% decrease

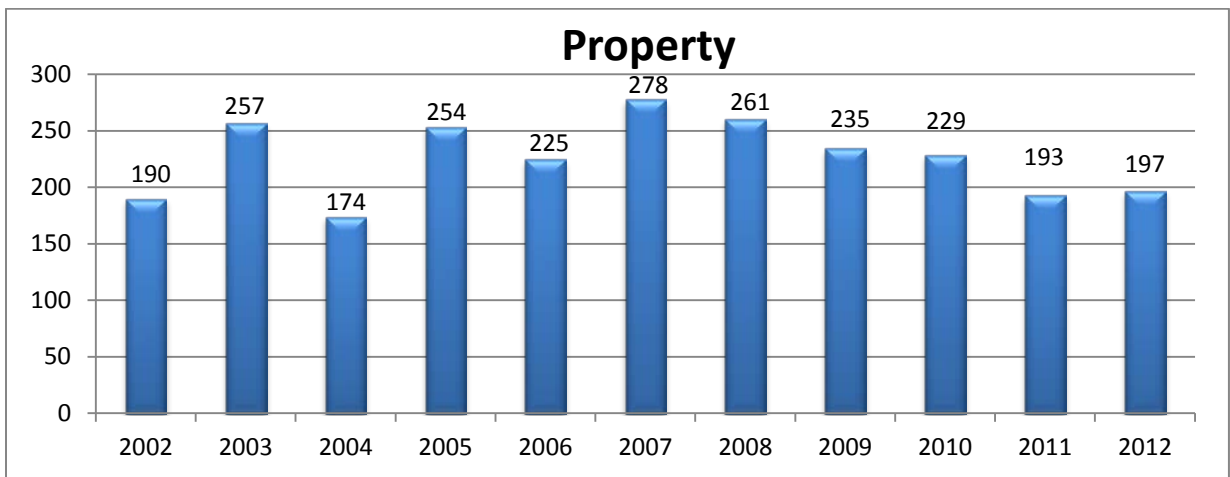


Arson: 2011: 7 2012: 4 43% decrease

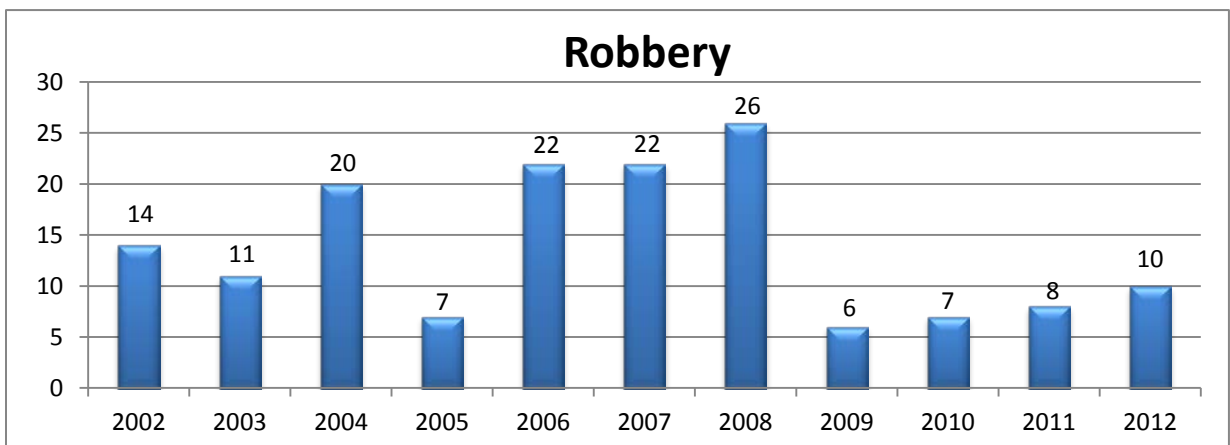
CRIME CATEGORIES CONTINUED



Breaking & Entering: 2011: 122 2012: 125 2% increase

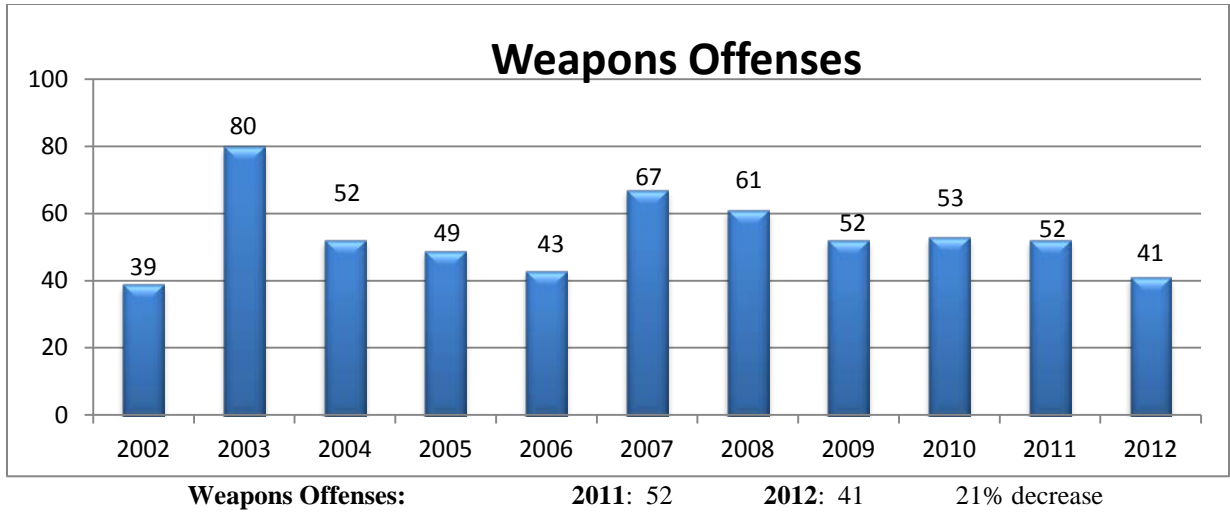


Property: 2011: 193 2012: 197 2% increase



Robbery: 2011: 8 2012: 10 25% increase

CRIME CATEGORIES CONTINUED

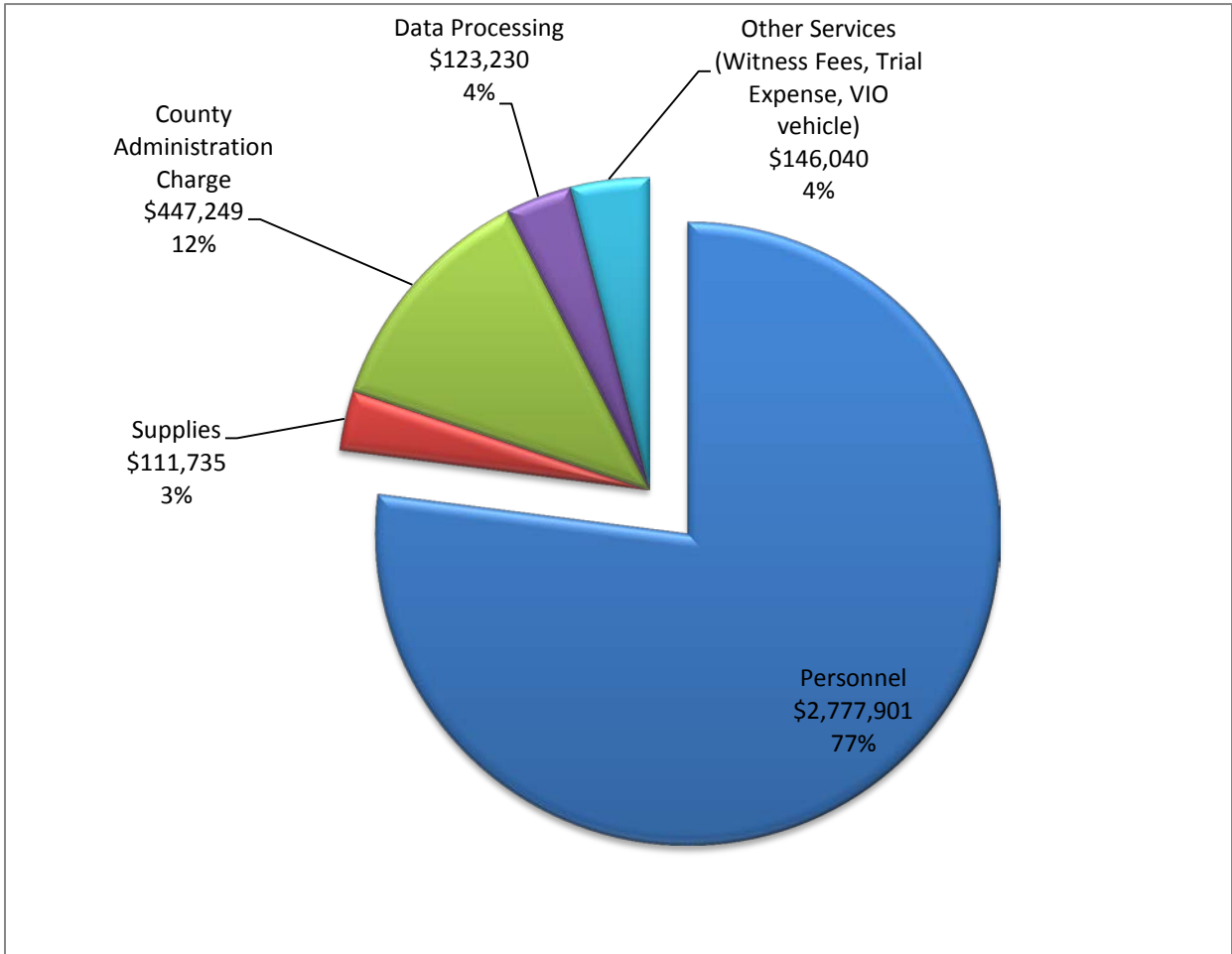


ADDITIONAL STATISTICS

Category	2011	2012	% Change
Felony Trials:			
Jury	20	14	(30%)
Non-Jury	1	2	100%
Misdemeanor Trials			
Jury	8	6	(25%)
Non-Jury	32	28	(13%)
Civil Infraction Non-Jury Trials	800	730	(9%)
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Appeals Filed	10	18	80%
Applications for Leave to Appeal	33	32	(3%)
Appeals Pending Decision	16	18	13%
Parole Reviews	98	102	4%
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Child Abuse & Neglect Cases	83	78	(6%)
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Child Support Cases			
Paternity	133	161	21%
Non-Support	314	347	11%
URESA: Incoming	18	22	23%
Outgoing	41	46	13%
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Concealed Weapons Board:			
Applicant Interviews	1,038	1,221	18%
Reviews (without applicant present)	514	270	(48%)
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Crime Victims Rights:			
Felony	837	836	(1%)
Misdemeanor	949	904	(5%)
Juvenile	555	498	(11%)
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Extraditions (Governor's Warrants)	0	1	100%
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Contested Mental Hearings & Guardianship Hearings	56	51	(9%)
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Civil Infractions	13,455	11,386	(16%)
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Violation of Personal Protection Order Hearings	59	55	(7%)
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Requests for Warrant Authorization (Returned for more investigation or denied)	2,160	2,258	5%

BUDGET

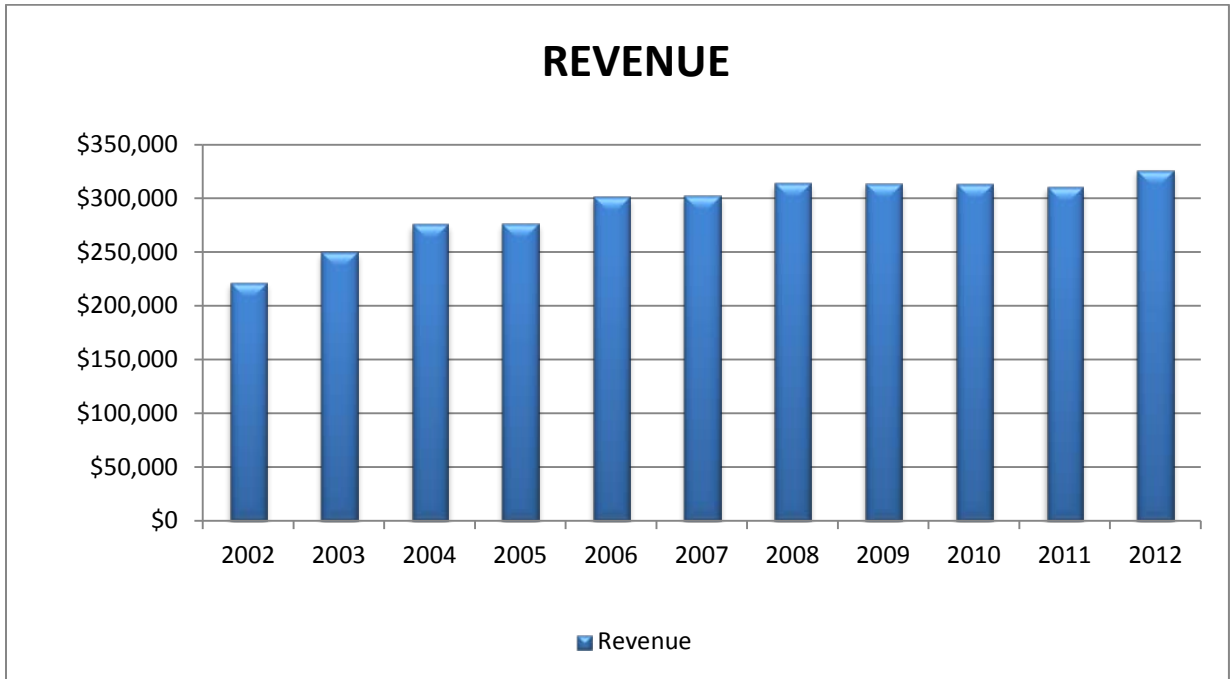
Annual Expenses 2012



Total Budget:	2011	2012	% change
Annual total:	\$3,402,157	\$3,606,155	6%

REVENUE

The Prosecutor's office revenue consists of state funding via grants, contracts and cost reimbursement. Services include Crime Victims' Rights, legal services provided to the Department of Human Service in child abuse and neglect matters, establishment of child support and paternity orders, food stamp fraud prosecution, drivers license hearings for the Secretary of State, and legal services for Allegan County cases pending in the 58th District Court in Holland (venue: Holland City, Allegan County). The County also bills offenders convicted of Operating While Intoxicated and other specified offenses, for reimbursement of prosecution costs pursuant to local ordinance.



47 % Increase over ten year period

Revenue:	2011	2012	% change
Annual total:	\$310,521	\$326,729	6%

2012 Prosecutor Revenue:

Crime Victim's Rights	\$141,022.00
F.I.A. Contract	20,334.25
Cooperative Reimbursement	129,703.12
OWI Reimbursement	21,842.00
Allegan Reimbursement	8,219.00
Driver License Hearings	1,976.00
Food Stamp Fraud	3,510.00
Miscellaneous	<u>122.10</u>
Total Revenue	\$326,728.72

**The activities and programs of this department are brought to you by
the members of the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners.**

District 1	Stu P. Visser
District 2	Joe Baumann
District 3	Donald G. Disselkoen
District 4	Allen Dannenberg
District 5	James C. Holtrop
District 6	Dennis Van Dam
District 7	James Holtvluwer
District 8	Greg J. DeJong
District 9	Philip D. Kuyers
District 10	Roger A. Bergman
District 11	Matthew Fenske