

2011

ANNUAL
REPORT



NICK COX
STATEWIDE PROSECUTOR

Introduction

The Office of Statewide Prosecution (OSP) had a very successful year in 2011. With the new administration led by Attorney General Bondi and Statewide Prosecutor Nick Cox, our first goal was to clarify those cases we should continue to accept and prosecute with an emphasis on the priorities established by the Attorney General. We then looked closely at our office's members, structure, and relationships within the law enforcement community and with the State Attorneys. A new focus has been brought to the office to emphasize this as a trial litigation unit and that although our cases are typically more complex and time-consuming than most criminal matters, we will unhesitatingly take a case before a jury. Finally, in 2011, we brought the force of the office to bear upon the scourge of prescription drugs with significant success.

Realizing that the legislative intent in the creation of this office in 1985 was to attack complex, multi-circuit criminal organizations, and given that this office has historically prosecuted a variety of fraud cases, one goal of ours was to bring a more specific direction to the types of cases that this office should handle. With between only 30 and 35 lawyers statewide, and an even smaller legal staff, we needed to focus our attention on the types of cases and crimes we should handle in order to have the most significant impact. The priorities pursued by the Attorney General have given us this opportunity and have provided us the basis of a focused battle against prescription drug abuse, gangs, consumer fraud and modern day slavery.

The best example of this effort is clear in our battle against the "pill mills" and prescription drug crimes. At the urging of the Attorney General and Governor Scott, we dedicated significant resources to investigating and prosecuting prescription drug cases, resulting in a 57% increase in filed charges, 360% increase in charges disposed of, and a 600% increase in the number of convictions obtained. Recognizing this to be a true war on prescription drug abuse, we reached out to our State Attorney partners and

offered to assist them in this effort in any way we could regardless of jurisdictional or venue based concerns. A crisis was evident and our response and focus showed a sense of urgency and collegiality like we have not experienced before. The word was out that OSP was among the experts in handling these matters along with our State Attorney partners, and we were requested with increasing frequency by law enforcement to handle these cases. The results have been significant, the results positive, and the lessons valuable.

The OSP continued on its mission to prosecute cases involving gangs. While RICO should always be a last resort to prosecuting these cases given their legal and factual complexity, it has also proven a valuable weapon in dismantling large, long-established gangs preying on local communities. By focusing on the gang leadership, and eliminating the bulk of the gang by treating them as a criminal enterprise, we have found that an entire generation of the gang can be removed from the streets through long term prison sentences. This prosecutorial strategy has proven to be a method which leads to the destruction of the structure of the organization. This can be a dangerous proposition, as we learned in an OSP West Palm Beach gang case, where a gang member, who had become a key witness, was tragically murdered hours before he was to testify. Despite the potential for danger, RICO is clearly an effective method for ridding the streets of these violent criminals. In fact, our office has become a leader in this type of prosecution as demonstrated by the honor of having two of our own Assistant Statewide Prosecutors (ASP) recognized as Gang Prosecutors of the Year. Further, according to Manatee Sheriff Brad Steube, gang activity has been reduced significantly by our team effort. So much so, that he requested that an Assistant Statewide Prosecutor be dedicated to the 12th Judicial Circuit to assist in the handling of these gang cases. As a result of our efforts and with the use of this new team approach, we have also developed a significant relationship with the Office of the State Attorney, Earl Moreland, who we now work side by side with in the courtroom.

Another major goal in 2011 for the OSP was to improve our communications with the State Attorneys. Historically the OSP has struggled with the State Attorneys who had often resisted legislation supported and pursued by the OSP. They have opposed any expansion of OSP jurisdiction through legislation or otherwise and have taken issue with any proposals as to the OSP budget. At times, the State Attorneys have even gone as far as calling for an end to the agency. However, beginning in January, 2011, the Statewide Prosecutor spent significant time meeting face to face with each State Attorney and his or her top staff. The mission and goal was to determine the source of the problem and set the course for this office to move forward as a unified front. After numerous meetings, the picture began to become clear. We, OSP, needed to increase our communications with the State Attorneys. When we are in “their backyard” on a case, they should be notified. If an opportunity presents itself to work together or assist the local State Attorneys, we should. It became apparent that, in order to obtain the best results in criminal cases, our assistance and cooperation with the State attorneys was imperative. Throughout the course of these meetings, communication was sent back to the ASPs that “all hands are on deck”. When called upon, we would assist the local State Attorneys by providing our expertise and experiences and work alongside of them. It has worked extremely well, and honestly, was an easy fix.

In the mid-1990’s, the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association (FPAA) voted to dismiss the Office of Statewide Prosecution from the association. Since that time, efforts had been made to re-gain our seat at the table, but to no avail. The current Statewide Prosecutor, Nick Cox, set a goal of two years to see the OSP back in the membership of the FPAA. Fortunately, it did not take that long. In October, 2011, the OSP was unanimously voted back into the association ex officio. While the membership was important, the message it sent was much more critical. The OSP was gaining back the trust of the State Attorneys. The OSP was elected to, once again, becomes a member of an important law enforcement

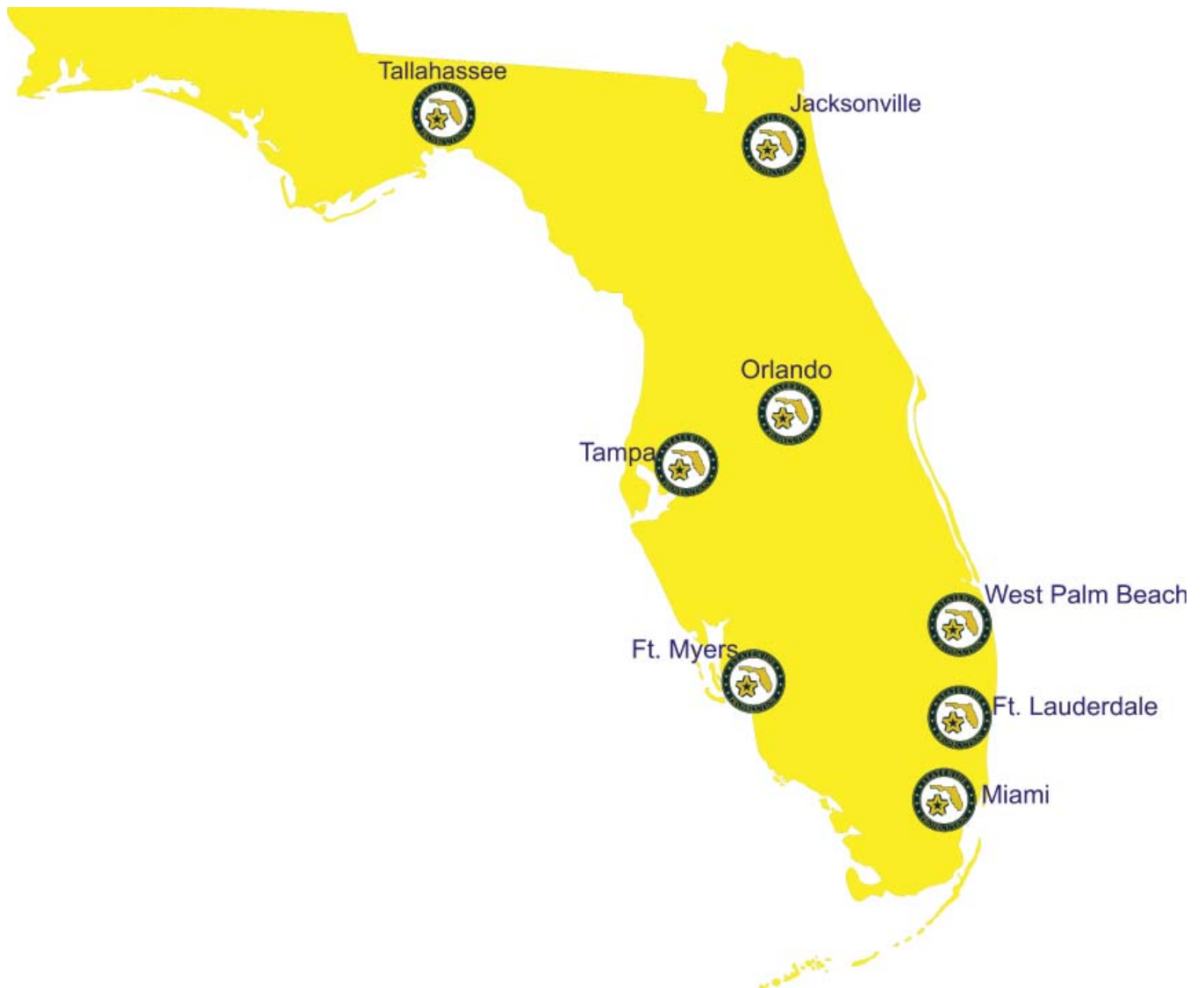
team. When the call went out that we were to work with the State Attorneys, and not independent of them, our attorneys and staff responded. Now we enjoy being a member of that team, and the distrust of the past has dissipated.

Finally, upon taking office, Statewide Prosecutor Nick Cox reviewed the staff and structure of the agency. Steps have been taken to assign attorneys and staff based upon local need, and not geography or the need to maintain office locations. Attorney resources have been reassigned to areas of the State with more need for multi-circuit prosecutors. This has essentially led to the closing of one office. The number of local bureau supervisors was reduced by over one-third and a Deputy Chief, Julie Hogan was appointed to not only act statewide, but to also operationally oversee the 4 southern offices. Additionally, we saw an approximate 25% attorney turnover in 2011. This was followed by a hiring process focused on employing experienced trial litigators.

In 2011, OSP has seen a great deal of success on many levels, including a conviction rate of over 95% and a very successful, targeted response to the prescription drug crisis. But overall, we have seen it’s perception in the legal and prosecutorial community improve, it’s long protected sense of independence from other agencies removed, and significant progress towards a renewed focus on our statutory mandate and responsiveness to the State’s prosecutorial needs.

The following sections were authored by several members of our office to more specifically highlight the progress of our office in 2011. While it will show some numbers, we are trying to highlight our initiatives and goals for the future.

Statewide Prosecution Offices



The Attack on Prescription Drug Trafficking: Saving Lives

In 2011, the Office of Statewide Prosecution was a leader in charging “pill mills.” Pain management clinics which operate as “pill mills” should be aggressively prosecuted and those who are responsible should be held accountable. Our office recognizes that unscrupulous physicians and clinic owners who operate pill mills are creating a culture of addiction to oxycodone that is destroying families in the State of Florida and beyond. According to the American Medical Association Code of Medical Ethics, physicians should prescribe drugs “based solely upon medical considerations and patient need.” Florida Statutes section 893.05 requires a physician to prescribe drugs only in “good faith and in the course of his or her professional practice.” However, it is all too clear that physicians in this state who are prescribing extraordinarily large quantities of dangerous narcotics at “pill mills” are motivated by greed and are not prescribing in good faith or based upon the patients’ needs. Clinic owners motivated by vast profits want patients to be seen quickly with little concern for the potential of addiction and do very little to ensure the patients are not “doctor shopping” or illegally diverting the controlled substances. When this occurs, clinics need to be shut down and those responsible should be prosecuted.

For example, in 2011 the Office of Statewide Prosecution prosecuted with success several pain management clinics which operated as “pill mills.” Racketeering or RICO charges are frequently used to prosecute these clinics. Prosecuting a “pill mill” as an illegal enterprise results in a complex and time consuming investigation, but leads to a case which shows the entire nature of the illegal activity. The complexity of these cases is also heightened due to the fact that the controlled substances involved are legal if prescribed and obtained properly. In addition, patients who are addicted to these controlled substances pushed on them by “pill mills” often end up in jail, rehab, or dead.

In one case, a physician and office manager who operated “pill mill” clinics in Pinellas and Lee counties were charged with RICO, Conspiracy to Commit RICO, and Money Laundering. The investigation took over a year and was assisted by the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office, the Lee County Sheriff’s Office, and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). According to an expert review of the physician’s files in this case, the physician never provided individualized treatment for her patients and treated them all simply by prescribing oxycodone and other controlled substances. On several occasions the physician pre-signed prescriptions and allowed her office manager to hand out the prescriptions to the individuals seeking her services on her behalf without the physician ever seeing the patients.

Similarly, in Hillsborough County, the Office of Statewide Prosecution filed Racketeering (RICO) and conspiracy charges on eight individuals associated with a “pill mill” investigated by the Tampa Police Department. In this case a physician, clinic owner, employee, and five “sponsors” were prosecuted. “Sponsors” are those who finance and otherwise assist patients in their efforts to obtain oxycodone in exchange for a return on their investment in the form of prescription pills. In this case, the sponsors typically drove the patients from Manatee to Hillsborough counties, provided the patients with fraudulent medical records, scheduled the patients’ visits, and provided the cash for both the office visits and the filling of the prescriptions. This clinic knowingly permitted fraudulent medical records to be utilized to provide justification for the physician’s prescribing powerful narcotics to drug addicts and dealers.

An example of the success our office has had in this area is illustrated by the successful investigation and prosecution of Osceola County physician Dr. Jose Carlos Menendez Campos, M.D. done in conjunction with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Osceola County Investigative Bureau, the Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office and the Sarasota Police Department. Dr. Menendez Campos worked at a Kissimmee clinic. He repeatedly provided

multiple prescriptions for oxycodone and other controlled substances made out in various names to two individuals who would come to his clinic from Sarasota County. The two individuals would purchase the envelope full of prescriptions for cash and then return to Sarasota County, fill the prescriptions, and proceed to distribute the oxycodone on the streets of Western Florida and to buyers from out of state. Dr. Menendez Campos and one of the distributors were each sentenced to 25 years in state prison and assessed a \$500,000 fine for the Conspiracy to Traffic in Oxycodone. The other distributor is awaiting sentencing.

The Office of Statewide Prosecution is committed to prosecuting the public safety hazard associated with “pill mills” and will continue the fight with great partners in this effort from around the state, to include the twenty elected State Attorneys and their offices. Most recently our office partnered with the Honorable Mark Ober, State Attorney for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Hillsborough County, in the prosecution of a Tampa “pill mill” utilizing the RICO statute. Additionally, our office works hand in hand with various law enforcement agencies around the state and regularly conducts training on “pill mill” investigations and prosecutions. In 2011, the Office of Statewide Prosecution has received a 40% increase in the number of requests for assistance from law enforcement. The Office has seen a 57% increase in the number of charges filed against 53% more defendants in cases involving illegal diversion or prescribing of controlled substances when compared to 2010. There was also a 600% increase in the number of defendants convicted and a 360% increase in the number of charges disposed of during 2011.

Fortunately, state legislation enacted in 2010 and 2011 has helped slow down the illegal activity of “pill mills”; however, the danger posed by “pill mills” to the lives of the citizens and families of this state continues. In 2011, the fight against the illegal diversion and prescribing of controlled substances was assisted by Governor Rick Scott’s call for a Statewide Task Force and the passage of the prescription drug

monitoring program. The call for a Statewide Task Force has improved communication among local, state, and federal agencies which is resulting in a more coordinated attack on this problem. The enforcement and prosecution of “pill mills” and those who divert controlled substances in this state remains a priority of the Office of Statewide Prosecution and will not be abated until “pill mills” cease to operate.

Michael Schmit and David Gillespie

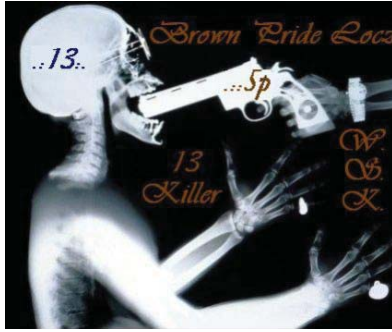
OSP’s Continued War On Gangs

The Office of Statewide Prosecution began its initiative to tackle Florida’s growing gang problem in 2007 and fighting gang violence remains a top priority for the office. Through our partnerships with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), Sheriff’s Offices, Police Departments, as well as the U.S. and State Attorney’s Offices, we have continued our efforts to identify, investigate, prosecute and dismantle the most violent criminal gangs in our state. Our combined successes have resulted in numerous arrests and convictions throughout the state, causing a significant decrease in violent crime in affected areas and making our communities safer places to work and live.



Major initiatives this year took out gangs in Sarasota, Manatee, Hillsborough, St. Lucie and Palm Beach counties where prosecutions utilizing the state’s Racketeering (RICO) laws have proven to be a valuable legal tool. In Manatee County, prosecutions commenced against a second generation of “Brown Pride Locos” and “SUR 13” members, following the office’s initial prosecution which eliminated 23 members of those gangs in 2007. Prosecutions also commenced or continued against “SUR 13” members in Palm Beach County, as well as members of the following gangs throughout the state: “2nd Line,”

“Cross-Fletcher Hot Boys,” “Zoe Pound,” “Latin Kings” and “Top 6.” Each case has resulted in the removal of some of the most violent gang members from the streets, and keeping them behind bars, in order to bring relief to the communities in which those gangs once thrived.



Manatee County Sheriff Brad Steube and 12th Circuit State Attorney Earl Moreland have credited the Office of Statewide Prosecution’s efforts in working with them to prosecute these RICO cases that have had a devastating impact on gang activity which was once far out of control in that county. At their request, our prosecutors are now sitting side by side in court with Assistant State Attorneys as important allies in the ongoing war against gang activity in Manatee County.

In August 2011, a jury in Palm Beach County convicted Futo Charles, the leader of Top 6 – a gang referred to by the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office as the most violent gang in that county’s history. Adding to the challenges inherent in any gang prosecution was the violent murder



of one of the state’s key witnesses hours before he was scheduled to testify. Despite that tragedy and major setback, the prosecution team of Brian Fernandes and Diane Croff, assisted by Lisa Cushman, persevered and secured a sixty-five year prison term for the leader of this violent gang, sending a strong message to members and associates of criminal gangs that our efforts to hold them accountable for their crimes will not be deterred.

As gang members wage war on our communities, the Office of Statewide Prosecution continues to respond

in force with its law enforcement partners, proactively developing strategies to combat the evolving problems. While we often rely on RICO charges to fight gangs, we only utilize such powerful charges only when necessary to destroy the entire criminal organization as opposed to individual offenders. Each case requires the commitment of our entire office operating under a “team based” approach, and working countless hours to ensure successful prosecutions. Two of our prosecutors – Dan Weisman and Diane Croff – were formally recognized as the 2011 Gang Prosecutors of the Year by the Florida Gang Investigator’s Association, but in reality, those awards are a reflection of the dedicated work of our entire office.

The war against gang activity will continue to be a major priority for the Office of Statewide Prosecution and we will continue to utilize the Assistant Statewide Prosecutors who have become experts in these specialized prosecutions.

Diane Croff and Brian Fernandes

Fraud and Theft

The Office of Statewide Prosecution (OSP) continues to be a leader in the investigation and prosecution of fraud and theft. This past year, attorneys in the Office took part in the investigation and prosecution of numerous categories of fraud including but not limited to: identity theft rings, burglary rings, check cashing stores illegally laundering funds for criminal enterprises, insurance fraud related cases and workers’ compensation fraud. In fact, as a result of the OSP’s leadership and experience in the prosecutions of workers’ compensation fraud, a request was made for our assistance, and the Attorney General encouraged the OSP to assist in the “Money Service Business Facilitated Workers Compensation Fraud Work Group” which was put together for the purpose of addressing the inequities that result from, and solutions for putting an end to, this type of fraud.

During the meetings of the working group, The Office of Statewide Prosecution took part in analyzing how Money Service Businesses, e.g. check cashing

stores, in Florida were being used to facilitate massive workers' compensation fraud. Through the prosecution experiences conveyed by the OSP along with Division of Insurance Fraud detectives, the work group was able to focus on the nature of the fraud which includes shell corporations who obtain workers' compensation coverage by submitting false applications, which includes misstating the number of employees, usually 4 – 5. They also report their annual payroll to be nominal, usually under \$250,000. Workers' compensation premiums are typically calculated on the amount of annual payroll and risk category of the work being performed. This calculation based on the falsified employee information would amount to much less premiums to the insurance company. Once the insurance is issued, the shell company manager 'rents' the certificate to subcontractors who do not want to obtain workers compensation coverage because they cannot afford it and/or because many of their workers are undocumented aliens. The certificate 'rent' is calculated as a percentage on the face value of every check then issued to those subcontractors by the general contractors. The checks are issued in the name of the shell company name. The individuals 'renting' the shell company insurance certificates then cash those business-to-business checks at complicit check cashing stores. The rental fee ranges from 10% to 4% of the face value of the check.

Mar Jo Lexa, Assistant Statewide Prosecutor, along with Maj. Geoffrey Branch of the Division of Insurance Fraud made the opening presentation to the work group in August outlining the crime, how it has been prosecuted, and the financial impact on Florida and the United States. Both also presented the working group's final report to the legislative panel on November 2, 2011.

The fraud as described above is calculated at over a billion dollars over the last two years. The amount was calculated by analyzing checks which had been cashed throughout Florida in 2010 and 2011 at check cashing stores by shell construction companies. Based on that dollar amount, it was estimated the Insurers lost over \$200,000,000 in uncollected premiums, the

State of Florida lost over \$27,000,000 in uncollected unemployment taxes, the Federal government lost in excess of \$8,000,000 in uncollected unemployment taxes and \$50,000,000 in uncollected income taxes, Medicare lost \$29,000,000 in uncollected taxes, and the Social Security Trust Fund lost \$124,000,000 in FICA taxes - - - all of which should have been collected.

As a result of the working group's recommendations, two bills are pending before the legislature to stop the fraud and the use of the check cashing stores who are violating the regulations governing their businesses. Representative Daniel Davis is sponsoring HB1277 and Senator John Thrasher is sponsoring SB1586.

The Office of Statewide Prosecution is committed to and continues to prosecute this type of illegal activity. Not only are there currently cases pending within the office, but there are additional cases forthcoming. The actions of those committing this type of fraud, cause harm to legitimate sub-contractors who follow the rules because they are at a competitive disadvantage with the sub-contractors committing the insurance fraud.

Margery Lexa

Office Of Statewide Prosecution's Continued Partnership With North Florida High Intensity Drug Trafficking Program

December 2011 marks the fifth successful year of the Office of Statewide Prosecution's (OSP) partnership with North Florida High Intensity Drug Trafficking Program (NF HIDTA). Each of the nation's 28 HIDTAs are federally funded law enforcement coalitions coordinating, combining and leveraging the resources and capabilities of federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies. These coalitions fight drug trafficking and drug-related crime. There are three HIDTAs in Florida: North Florida HIDTA, Central Florida HIDTA, and South Florida HIDTA. The NF HIDTA successfully integrates 40 federal, State and local law enforcement agencies in a ten

county foot print, which includes Alachua, Baker, Columbia, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Marion, Nassau, Putnam, and St Johns Counties.

In 2006, OSP partnered with the NF HIDTA to create this unique-in-the-nation Prosecutorial Initiative. Unlike the model used by other HIDTAs where prosecutors are assigned to particular initiatives, the stated mission of the independent Prosecutorial Initiative is to assist all NF HIDTA initiatives in the development of sound, effective, prosecutable cases against major Drug Trafficking Organizations. This successful grant-funded one person initiative has been staffed since its creation by Shannon MacGillis, a member of Florida's Attorney General's Office of Statewide Prosecution, Jacksonville Bureau. Ms. MacGillis, an Assistant Statewide Prosecutor since 2003, and former Assistant State Attorney, is an experienced attorney with expertise in the development and litigation of electronic surveillance cases, specialized knowledge of search and seizure, including the use of wiretaps, and proficiency in research of complex, nuanced legal issues. The NF HIDTA Prosecutorial Initiative produces and provides training, memorandums or analysis of legal concepts, tailored to the current needs of the NF HIDTA investigative Initiatives. The Initiative annually produces several CLE accredited course topics open to law enforcement officers, including prosecutors, throughout the State including the Interception of Wire, Oral and Electronic Communications, the Seizure of Stored Communications, the use of Mobile Tracking Devices, and the Protection of Confidential Informants in Florida. This Initiative also participates in the development of new laws and/or amendments to existing laws that directly impact efforts by law enforcement to control drug trafficking in the State of Florida.

The OSP partnership with NF HIDTA directly promotes and fulfills the stated and intended directive of Florida Statutes Section 16.56(1) (C), for OSP to, "Upon request, cooperate with and assist state attorneys and state and local law enforcement officials in their efforts against organized crimes." The Prosecutorial Initiative has established and continues

great relations with numerous State Attorneys' Office throughout the State, providing assistance to prosecutors in the areas of the lawful use of technology surveillance, including wiretaps. This partnership provides OSP with an excellent source of well developed, complex cases for prosecution of organized crime affecting the State of Florida and provides opportunities for the OSP and the Attorney General's Office of Florida to participate in national drug strategy and policy making. For example, the Prosecutorial Initiative participated in the Pharmaceutical Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) strategy meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, on August 4, 2011. The purpose of the meeting was to bring together representatives from the HIDTA regions with the hardest hit pharmaceutical crimes areas: North Florida, South Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Iowa, Georgia, South Carolina, West Virginia, and California, to discuss and plan the implementation of PDMP by various states, PDMP interconnectivity, PDMP output, 5 year PDMP forecast, the current national and regional trends in pharmaceutical drug crimes, and future strategies in the continuing fight against the illegal diversion of prescription drugs.
Shannon MacGillis

Human Trafficking

"The Office of the Statewide Prosecutor constitutes a vital Florida resource in the prosecution of trafficking cases in Florida." – Florida Strategic Plan on Human Trafficking, Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reports that human trafficking is the second-largest and fastest-growing criminal industry in the world. Unfortunately, Florida is no exception to this disturbing trend— garnering a top position in the United States for human trafficking activity.

We understand that in its most prevalent manifestation, victims of human trafficking in Florida are subjected to labor exploitation such as domestic servitude,

hospitality/tourism work, janitorial work, and agricultural labor. The Center for the Advancement for Human Rights submits that sex trafficking of American minors comprises the second most prevalent, and yet most underreported and under-prosecuted, human trafficking offense in Florida. The burgeoning recognition that thousands of our own children are victims of sex trafficking is deeply disturbing and yet vital to our efforts to locate and identify victims and perpetrators of this heinous crime.

At the urging of the Attorney General, the Office of Statewide Prosecution has begun using the legal tools at its disposal—namely the racketeering act—to attack this problem. In addition, our Office continues to actively assist the Attorney General’s Legislative Director and the Florida Legislature in passing the pending human trafficking bill drafted by Representative William Snyder and Senator Anitere Flores. These efforts have included the Statewide Prosecutor testifying before several committees.

Although currently limited by its jurisdictional boundaries, Statewide has nonetheless begun forging meaningful relationships with law enforcement and social service agencies that are working on human trafficking issues throughout Florida and the Nation. To date, these relationships span local, state, and federal levels. For example, in the Tampa Bay area, we have developed relationships which include, but are not limited to, on-going contacts with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Tampa Police Department, Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office, Clearwater Police Department, Gulfcoast Legal Services- Immigration Division, the Polaris Project, the Hillsborough County State Attorney’s Sex Offender Division, the Manhattan District Attorney’s Sex Crimes Unit, the Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking, the Tampa-Clearwater Human Trafficking Task Force, and Kristi House—a Miami-based children’s advocacy center.

Because of these relationships, the Office of Statewide Prosecution has opened several multi-circuit sex trafficking investigations. While these investigations

are each in their very early stages, they have opened the door to our Office’s appreciation for the way sex trafficking is manifesting in our home towns. Although we cannot be certain that these investigations will result in prosecutions, we can be certain that our work drafting subpoenas, reviewing search warrants, and providing on-going legal advice to law enforcement has provided meaningful force behind the investigations of these targets.

Our Office is also exploring ways to financially support our efforts utilizing federal and other funding. We recognize that proper financial resources will be particularly important in sex trafficking cases involving children, where we must work hard to ensure that victims are stabilized and provided necessary services— including treatment for physical, mental, emotional, and substance abuse issues. This intense victim stabilization component is one of the most significant items that sets human trafficking prosecutions apart from other prosecutions.

In addition, the Office of Statewide Prosecution has taken steps to educate its staff and attorneys on human trafficking— including both the legal and social components of this issue. During its December 2011, annual meeting, Statewide provided training regarding the state of the law in Florida on human trafficking, our office’s current jurisdictional options regarding prosecuting human trafficking crimes, domestic and international sex trafficking, labor trafficking, and available social service resources in our communities. Individually, a number of our attorneys have sought out relevant trainings, certified legal education courses, reading materials, documentaries, and news articles to better understand the human trafficking crimes that our State, and Nation, are facing.

With the help of the pending legislation drafted by Representative William Snyder and Senator Anitere Flores, and championed by Attorney General Pam Bondi, the Office of Statewide Prosecution is confident about its potential to use its communal and individual knowledge, experience, and flourishing contact base to investigate and prosecute those who seek to use Florida

as a den of iniquity to traffick our most vulnerable citizens.

Sasha Lohn-McDermott

Conclusion

This past year has seen significant positive strides for the Office of Statewide Prosecution. The pill mill initiative has provided a positive direction, along with the lesson that we can have a greater impact when we focus on particular needs of the State of Florida, its local communities and our law enforcement partners... not to mention a huge increase in prescription drug convictions.

The continued work against gangs has had a significant impact in targeted areas of Florida. Our approach not only promotes teamwork with prosecutors from other agencies, but advances positive relationships with our State Attorney colleagues. Most importantly, this united front sends a strong message to gang members.

Our work thus far on Human Trafficking brings a high level and strong response to a truly despicable crime, one that often sees helpless and vulnerable victims. As we proceed with these cases, we are becoming more educated as to how to respond to the needs of victims. This includes protecting the victim's well being and assisting in insuring that needed services are available. It is apparent that we will be more involved with social service agencies and non-governmental organizations in order to provide the necessary aid. These challenges will lead to a new form of prosecution for OSP, one focused on victim assistance not only to preserve our cases, but to rescue individuals whom have fallen into harm's way.

Yet, while we have taken very positive steps, we must maintain our efforts to continue to improve. Prescription drug prosecution and gangs will remain as our top priorities for 2012. However, as we continue to focus our prosecutorial efforts, we will expand our response to Human Trafficking, both sex and labor trafficking, with a renewed vigor as we see legislative

changes championed by the Attorney General take effect this summer. Additionally, we will attempt to renew the anti-fraud efforts of this office to include more health care and Medicaid Fraud, in addition to our ongoing fight to end Mortgage Fraud.

The Office of Statewide Prosecution is an agency made up of highly experienced lawyers and staff dedicated to fighting crime. The experience of the attorneys within this office ranges from 3 to 30 years. The combined average is 10 years. With such complex litigation taking place in our office, this type of experience and knowledge is critical to our success. While our attorneys and staff made last year's progress happen, much of our success in 2011 was attributed to three things: focusing our priorities, a revitalized relationship with the State Attorneys, and an Attorney General who understood our job, appreciated the impact we could have, and provided us with the weapons and resources needed to close pill mills, fight gangs, and to vehemently pursue justice for those who have fallen victim to human traffickers.

Nick Cox
Statewide Prosecutor

Appendix

Below is a list of the Assistant Statewide Prosecutors assigned to each Office as of December 31, 2011. All Office Chiefs report directly to the Statwide Prosecutor.

Jacksonville	Orlando	Tampa	Ft. Myers	Ft. Lauderdale	Miami	West Palm Beach
John Wethington Office Chief	John Roman Office Chief	Diane Croff Office Chief	Brian Fernandes Office Chief	Julie Hogan Deputy Statewide Prosecutor	Carlos Guzman Office Chief	Office Chief
Kelly Eckley	Diane Checchio	Sasha Lohn- McDermott	Michael-Anthony Pica	Jim Cobb	Stephen ImMasche	David Aronberg
Shannon MacGillis	Robert Finkbeiner	Cathy McKyton		Oscar Gelpi Special Counsel		Stephanie Tew
	David Gillespie	John Maceluch		Kathleen George		Sarah Willis
	Anne Wedge-McMillen	Michael Schmid		Margery Lexa		
	Dan Mosley	Joseph Spataro		Priscilla Prado		
	Jim Schneider General Counsel	Daniel Weisman		Ed Pyers		
		Michael Williams				

Below is a list of support staff assigned to each Office as of December 31, 2011.

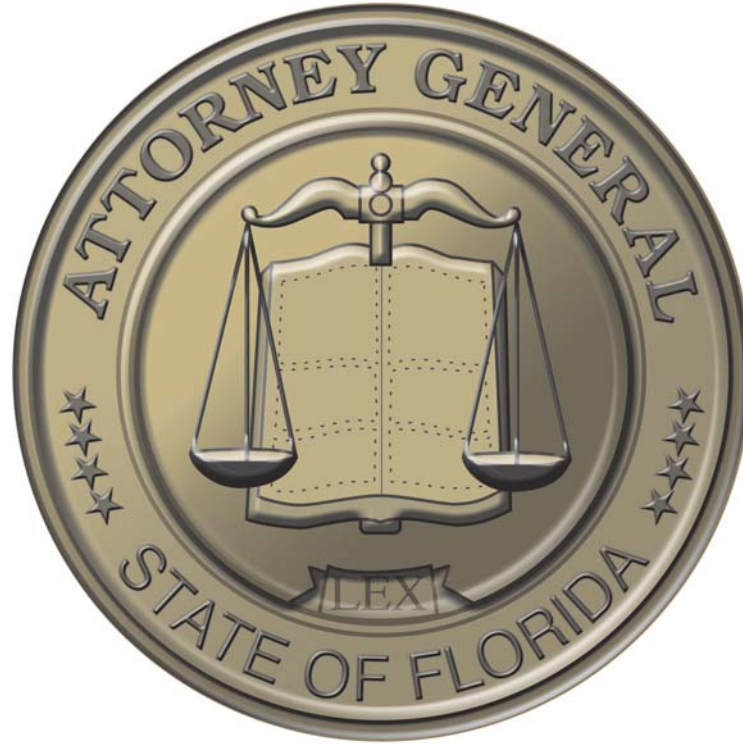
Tallahassee	Jacksonville	Orlando	Tampa	Ft. Myers	Ft. Lauderdale	Miami	West Palm Beach
Jacqueline Perkins- McDaniel Executive Director	Christopher Floyd Criminal Financial Specialist	Sherrie Cheeks Criminal Financial Analyst	Delores Funes Sr. Criminal Financial Analyst	Dawn Andrews Executive Secretary	Barbara Goodson Sr. Criminal Financial Analyst	Georgina Clinche Sr. Executive Secretary	Lisa Cushman Administrative Assistant
Tammy Wade Sr. Criminal Financial Analyst	Connie Bland Sr. Executive Secretary	Amy Romero Admin Assistant	Virginia Caswell Admin. Assistant		Thelma Alvarado Research Associate		
		Carla Eccleston Executive Secretary	Debra Kersting Executive Secretary		Noemi Hernandez Admin. Assistant		
		Shirley Moton Executive Secretary	Michele Stano Executive Secretary		Rhonda Greene Executive Secretary		
					Omarelis Jimenez Executive Secretary		

Of the defendants reaching disposition, 95.5% were convicted through either jury trials or guilty pleas. Collectively, the sentences obtained in these cases were as follows:

Sentencing Data 2011

Annual Report Data	2011
Total Number of Years in Prison	1,283
Total number of Days in Jail	8,652
Total Number of Years on Probation	1,161
Total Number of Years on Community Control	45
Total Number of Hours on Community Service	5,675
Total Number of Defendants Charged	394
Total Number of Cases Filed	193
Total Number of Citizen Victims	295
Total Number of Government Victims	14
Total Amount of Restitution Ordered	\$13,766,386
Total Amount of Fines Ordered	\$ 3,702,033
Total Amount of Court Costs Ordered	\$ 106,378
Total Amount of Costs of Prosecution Ordered	\$ 857,737
Total Amount of Costs of Investigation Ordered	\$ 2,782,066
Total of All Monies Ordered	\$21,214,600

The caseload of the Office includes legal and operational assistance to law enforcement offices. The OSP received 291 requests from law enforcement to assist in their investigations of multi-circuit organized criminal activity. The total inventory of active investigations was 780.



ATTORNEY GENERAL
PAM BOND
FLORIDA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL