

Department of Justice Criminal Division



Performance Budget
FY 2025 President's Budget Submission

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Overview of the Criminal Division

Mission Statement

The Criminal Division's mission is to protect the American people from serious criminal activity, including transnational criminal organizations, violent gangs, drugs, cybercrime, child exploitation, corruption, fraud, and money laundering. The Criminal Division's specialized prosecution units develop and enforce federal criminal laws that target complex, international, and multi-district crime. The Division responds to critical and emerging national and international criminal threats and leads a coordinated, nationwide response to reduce those threats.

To accomplish its mission, the Division joins with domestic and foreign law enforcement partners to pursue criminal investigations and prosecutions. The Division often partners with U.S. Attorneys' Offices in investigating and prosecuting criminal matters, particularly in complex multi-jurisdictional or international cases. The importance of the Division's centralized expertise and coordination has been recognized for decades: former Attorney General Robert H. Jackson noted that it is necessary "to promote uniformity of policy and action, to establish some standards of performance, and to make available specialized help." Attorney General Jackson emphasized a balance that "avoid[s] any lessening of the prestige and influence of the district attorneys," while proceeding "with that uniformity of policy which is necessary to the prestige of federal law."

The Division also plays a critical and unique role in fighting transnational crime. As the designated Central Authority for U.S. law enforcement interactions with other countries, the Division secures evidence critical to solving crimes against Americans and obtains the extradition of criminals from foreign countries to face justice in U.S. courts. No other organization within the Department of Justice or the United States Government is authorized to fulfill this critical international role.

To sustain mission needs, the Criminal Division requests a total of 783 permanent positions (487 attorneys and 5 agents), 783 direct Full-Time Equivalent work years (FTE), and \$239,349,000 in its Salaries and Expenses appropriation for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.

Division Priorities

The Criminal Division has identified the following key strategic goals to address our country's most critical justice priorities:

- Disrupting and dismantling domestic and transnational criminal organizations and networks that threaten our country through violence, drug trafficking, human smuggling and immigration offenses, and computer crime;
- Ensuring trust and confidence in government institutions, by reducing public corruption at every level of government;
- Ensuring the stability and security of domestic and global markets, as well as the integrity of government programs, by reducing fraud, money laundering, and other economic crimes committed by both corporations and individuals;
- Combating cyber threats and attacks while assuring that agents and prosecutors across the country can obtain digital evidence critical to every sort of investigation;
- Protecting our children from exploitation and defending human rights;
- Securing evidence located abroad that is essential for successful U.S. prosecutions, and seeking international enforcement of U.S. asset forfeiture orders abroad;
- Assisting foreign law enforcement authorities to obtain evidence in the United States, thereby empowering them to interdict criminal actors on foreign soil before the threat can migrate to the United States;

- Ensuring accountability through extradition for criminals who seek safe haven abroad, while removing violent criminals and other fugitives from our communities to face justice in foreign courts;
- Strengthening justice-sector institutions in countries throughout the globe; and
- Supporting crime-fighting efforts across federal, state, and local governments.

The Criminal Division engages in several program activities to achieve its mission:

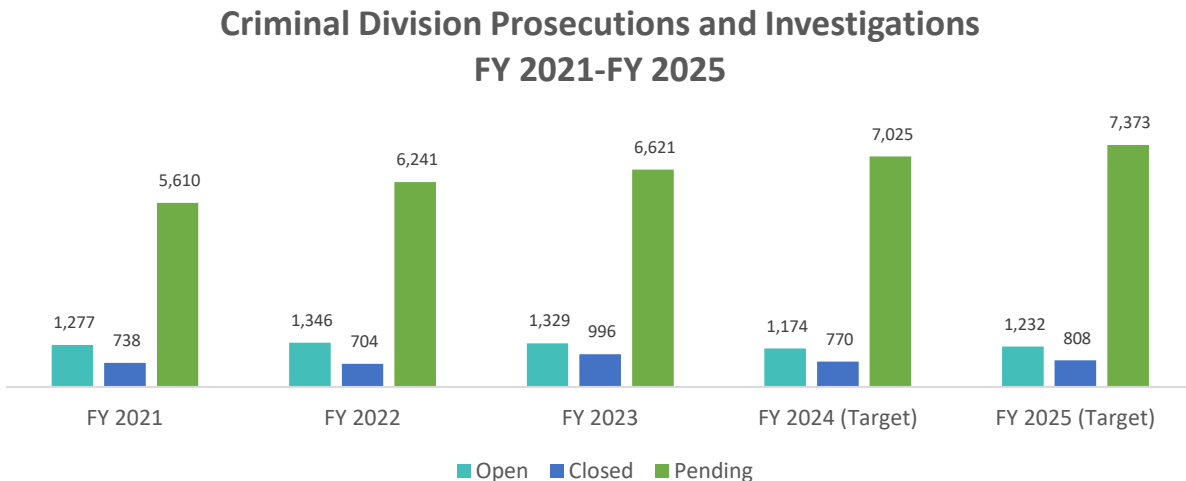
- Investigating and prosecuting cases;
- Providing expert guidance and advice to our prosecutorial and law enforcement partners;
- Authorizing the use of sensitive law enforcement tools; and
- Engaging with domestic partners and foreign counterparts to enforce the law, advance public safety, and achieve justice.

Every day, the Criminal Division performs these functions at the forefront of federal criminal law enforcement.

Program Activities

Investigating and Prosecuting Cases

- Investigating and prosecuting the most significant cases and matters; and
- Coordinating a wide range of criminal investigations and prosecutions that span jurisdictions and involve multiple law enforcement partners.



The Criminal Division supports its mission through the responsible and thorough investigation and prosecution of crime. The Division undertakes complex cases, including cases involving multiple jurisdictions and those that have an international component. In addition, for certain criminal statutes, the Division approves all federal charging instruments filed throughout the United States to ensure a consistent and coordinated approach to the nation’s law enforcement priorities. The Division has a bird’s-eye and comprehensive view of violent crime, organized crime, narcotics, money laundering, white-collar crime, public corruption, cybercrime, and other criminal activities. Consequently, the Division is uniquely able to ensure that crimes that occur, both in the United States and abroad, do not go undetected or ignored.

Select Recent Criminal Division Accomplishments in Investigating and Prosecuting Cases

Appellate Section (APP) – APP handles many of the most important and high-profile appeals in federal criminal cases involving fraud and other white-collar offenses. Among the highlights during FY 2023 were *United States v. Rafoi-Bleuler and Murta* (5th Cir.), in which APP prevailed in two government appeals seeking to hold accountable the perpetrators of a massive scheme to bribe Venezuelan officials; *United States v. Ayvazyan and Dadyan* (9th Cir.), involving an elaborate fraud and money laundering scheme that targeted the federal government’s Paycheck Protection Program; and *United States v. Underwood et al.* (4th Cir.), a public corruption and civil rights prosecution against an elected county sheriff who abused his office to enrich himself and settle personal scores.

Fraud Section (FRD)

- On April 19, 2023, the former National Treasurer of Venezuela, Claudia Patricia Díaz Guillen and her husband, Adrian Jose Velasquez, were each sentenced to 15 years in prison for their roles in a multi-billion-dollar bribery and money laundering scheme. Guillen and Velasquez accepted and laundered over \$136 million in bribes from co-conspirator Raul Gorrin Belisario, a Venezuelan billionaire businessman who owned Globovision news network. Gorrin allegedly paid bribes to Diaz, including through Velasquez, to obtain access to purchase bonds from the Venezuela National Treasury at a favorable exchange rate, resulting in hundreds of millions of dollars of profit. The conspiracy involved bulk cash hidden in cardboard boxes, offshore shell companies, Swiss bank accounts, and international wire transfers allegedly sent by Gorrin for Díaz and Velásquez’s benefit, including to purchase multiple private jets and yachts, and to fund a high-end fashion line started by Diaz and Velásquez in South Florida. Diaz and Velasquez were each convicted after trial in December 2022 of money laundering offenses. Gorrin is currently a fugitive residing in Venezuela.
- On March 1, 2023, an indictment was unsealed representing the first time that the Department of Justice has brought criminal insider trading charges based exclusively on an executive’s use of 10b5-1 trading plans. Terren S. Peizer, the CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ontrak Inc., a publicly traded health care company, allegedly engaged in an insider trading scheme in which he used Rule 10b5-1 trading plans to trade Ontrak stock. Peizer allegedly avoided more than \$12.5 million in losses by entering into two Rule 10b5-1 trading plans while in possession of material, nonpublic information concerning the serious risk that Ontrak’s then-largest customer would terminate its contract. Peizer is charged with one count of engaging in a securities fraud scheme and two counts of securities fraud for insider trading.

Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS) – On August 29, 2023, the Backpage.com trial, *United States v. Michael Lacey, et al. (D. Ariz.)*, began, and it concluded on November 16, 2023. Michael Lacey was convicted of one count of international concealment money laundering. Scott Spear was convicted of a conspiracy to violate the Travel Act by facilitating prostitution, and multiple separate violations of the Travel Act, along with a conspiracy to commit money laundering and multiple separate money laundering violations. John “Jed” Brunst was convicted of a conspiracy to violate the Travel Act by facilitating prostitution, along with a conspiracy to commit money laundering and multiple separate money laundering violations. Co-defendants Andre Padilla and Joye Vaught were acquitted on all charges. These charges arose from defendants’ ownership, control, and operation of the website Backpage.com. Backpage.com was, until it was shut down in 2018 by the federal government, notorious for being the internet’s leading source of prostitution advertisements, including those involving minors.

Narcotic and Dangerous Drug Section (NDDS) – On March 8, 2023, Raul Flores-Hernandez pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute five kilograms or more of cocaine for unlawful importation into the U.S. Between approximately the 1980s through 2017, Flores-Hernandez led a large-scale drug trafficking organization in Mexico that transported substantial quantities of cocaine from Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia to Mexico, from which they were transported across the U.S. border.

Public Integrity Section (PIN) – On March 24, 2023, a federal jury in Los Angeles convicted Ian Diaz, a former United States Deputy Marshal, for conspiracy to commit cyberstalking, cyberstalking, perjury, and obstruction of a federal matter. According to court documents and evidence presented at trial, Diaz and his then-wife, an unindicted co-conspirator (CC-1), posed as a person with whom Diaz was formerly in a relationship (Jane Doe). In that guise, they sent themselves harassing and threatening electronic communications that contained apparent threats to harm CC-1; solicited and lured men found through Craigslist advertisements to engage in so-called “rape fantasies” to stage a purported sexual assault on CC-1 orchestrated by Jane Doe; and staged one or more hoax sexual assaults and attempted sexual assaults on Diaz’s former wife. Diaz and CC-1 then reported this conduct to local law enforcement, falsely claiming that Jane Doe posed a serious threat to Diaz and CC-1. Their actions caused local law enforcement to arrest, charge, and detain Jane Doe in jail for nearly three months. On June 30, 2023, Diaz was sentenced to ten years and one month imprisonment.

Providing Expert Guidance and Advice

- Developing and supporting effective crime reduction strategies and programs;
- Driving policy, legislative, and regulatory reforms; and
- Providing expert counsel and training in criminal enforcement matters to state, local, and federal and foreign enforcement partners.

The Criminal Division serves as the strategic hub of legal and enforcement expertise in the fight against national and international criminal threats. Consequently, its expert guidance and advice are crucial to the successful application of criminal law throughout the country. The Division leads the national effort to address emerging criminal trends, including the increasingly international scope of criminal activity. The guidance provided to U.S. Attorneys’ Offices (USAOs) and other federal law enforcement partners promotes coordination, consistency, and the efficient use of resources while leveraging expertise and furthering the Department’s mission to ensure justice.

Expert Guidance and Legal Advice FY 2021-FY 2025



Select Recent Criminal Division Accomplishments in Providing Expert Guidance and Advice

Capital Case Section (CCS) – In FY 2023, CCS established a first-of-its-kind litigation group focused on mental health claims in criminal cases. The Division did not have a section devoted to mental health litigation, yet such litigation is often complex and requires expertise to identify and adduce testimony from multiple mental health professionals, including psychologists, neuropsychologists, and psychiatrists. Through their capital case work, CCS attorneys have developed in-depth knowledge of many aspects of mental health litigation. This unit now provides that expertise to USAOs nationwide, including representation in cases involving competency and insanity claims.

International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP) – In February 2023, ICITAP’s Trafficking in Persons (TIP) team, in partnership with the Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT), conducted a TIP Investigative Techniques and Human Rights training seminar for ICITAP-certified Host National Instructors (HNIs) that serve in various units within the Bangladesh Police. The ICITAP-OPDAT team invited Dhaka’s Anti-Human Trafficking Tribunal Judge to speak during the training. He provided an overview of the TIP Tribunal Court, spoke about the common mistakes made by arresting officers, the collection and presentation of evidence, and the importance of informing the victims of their rights and potential for compensation. He also stated that the low rate of TIP-related convictions could be attributed to several factors, including improper charges, faulty

evidence procedures, and lack of ability to distinguish between Human Smuggling and Human Trafficking. Course participants suggested that a potential remedy for these issues could involve future TIP training for the Sub-Inspectors and border area police officers who are mainly responsible for preparing the “charge sheets”. The Judge agreed with this idea and offered to assist ICITAP and the Bangladesh Police in delivering these trainings.

Office of Policy and Legislation (OPL) – OPL is the Department’s ‘think tank’ for federal sentencing policy, handling tasks such as maintaining, analyzing, and reporting on sentencing data; representing the Department before the U.S. Sentencing Commission; and collaborating with Department leadership, the U.S. Attorney community, other Department components, and occasionally other agencies, to identify and develop better federal sentencing policy, whether in the form of sentencing guidelines issued or amended by the Commission, congressional legislation, and/or internal Department sentencing policies and guidance to the field. OPL led a Sentencing Policy Group, with members from across the Department, that developed initial drafts of the Attorney General’s new charging and sentencing policy ensuring that sanctions are proportional to the gravity of the offenses committed and that mandatory minimum sentencing statutes are only used when necessary.

Fraud Section (FRD) – In March 2023, the Department of Justice and the Securities and Exchange Commission released a Spanish edition of the *Resource Guide to the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, Second Edition*. The Spanish Edition represents the first time the *Guide* has been published in a foreign language, and is meant to serve as a resource for law enforcement partners, companies, practitioners and the public in the collective fight against corruption. The contents of this version of the *Guide* are the same as the Second Edition, which was published in July 2020.

Reviewing the Use of Sensitive Law Enforcement Tools

- Approving and overseeing the use of the most sophisticated investigative tools in the federal arsenal

The Criminal Division serves as the Department’s “nerve center” for many critical legal and operational matters. It is the Division’s responsibility to ensure that investigators are effectively and appropriately using available sensitive law enforcement tools. These tools include Title III wiretaps, electronic evidence-gathering authorities, correspondent banking subpoenas, and the Witness Security Program. Internationally, and as the designated Central Authority for the United States, the Division manages the Department’s relations with foreign counterparts and coordinates all prisoner transfers, extraditions, and mutual legal assistance requests. Finally, the Division handles numerous requests for approval from U.S. Attorneys’ Offices to use sensitive law enforcement techniques in conjunction with criminal statutes. For example, the Division reviews every racketeering indictment that is brought across the nation and is involved in every Foreign Corrupt Practices Act case. In these ways, the Division serves a critical and unique role in ensuring consistency across districts and continuity over time, as well as the even-handed application of statutes.



Select Recent Criminal Division Accomplishments in Reviewing the Use of Sensitive Law Enforcement Tools

Office of Enforcement Operations (OEO) – In FY 2023, OEO continued to expand and diversify its robust training program. To educate Federal prosecutors and agents about the availability and use of the tools in OEO’s portfolio, OEO conducted approximately 125 trainings that reached approximately 5,922 attendees. Trainings focused on statutory and Department requirements for electronic surveillance, the Department’s News Media Policy and the statutory and Department requirements for various other law enforcement tools including witness immunities, attorney search warrants, attorney subpoenas, S Visas, and Special Administrative Measures.

Engaging with Domestic Partners and Foreign Counterparts

- Helping international law enforcement partners build capacity to prosecute and investigate crime within their borders by providing training and assistance; and
- Coordinating with international criminal enforcement authorities to foster operational cooperation.

The Criminal Division’s prosecutors and other personnel are in countries around the world. Posts in nine countries are maintained to foster relationships and participate in operations with international law enforcement and prosecutors. The Division also has personnel who assist foreign governments in developing and maintaining viable criminal justice institutions. Two of the Division’s sections, the International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP) and the Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT), promote cooperation in transnational criminal matters and build the capacity in partner nations to provide modern professional law enforcement services based on democratic principles and respect for human rights.

The Office of International Affairs (OIA) also plays a critical role in strengthening U.S. partnerships with foreign countries, which is essential to ensuring justice in individual criminal cases and protecting our national security. In the past few years, OIA has given increased attention to requests from foreign counterparts seeking electronic records. Attorneys from OIA’s specialized Cyber Unit provide critical support to partner countries seeking electronic records from the United States by training prosecutors and investigators on applicable U.S. legal standards.

Select Recent Criminal Division Accomplishments in Engaging with Domestic Partners and Foreign Counterparts to Enforce the Law, Advance Public Safety, and Achieve Justice

Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section (HRSP) – *United States v. Felipe Diego Alonzo, et al.* This case represents one of the most significant prosecution achievements of Joint Task Force Alpha (JTFA) since its creation and announcement by Attorney General Garland in June 2021. This case, led by HRSP personnel assigned to JTFA, and with critical contributions from a broad coalition of attorneys, agents, support staff and others across DOJ and Homeland Security Investigations’ (HSI) domestic and international offices, disrupted and dismantled an international smuggling ring. Like many of the Task Force’s investigations, this one began with a tragic series of events that ended in the senseless death of a young indigenous Guatemalan migrant. After her body was found on the side of a rural road in the West Texas desert, the team worked to build a case against domestic smugglers operating in Texas, while simultaneously pursuing those responsible in Guatemala. A partnership was formed with law enforcement counterparts in Guatemala to pursue this investigation and those responsible for the high-volume and pernicious human smuggling scheme. The investigation culminated in the indictment and swift extradition of four leadership targets from Guatemala, and the coordinated arrest and prosecution of an additional fifteen Guatemalan co-conspirators by Guatemalan authorities. These extraditions, which were handled by the Division’s Office of International Affairs, marked the first time any defendants had ever been extradited from Guatemala for the charge of human smuggling resulting in death.

Fraud Section (FRD) – In August 2023, Corporación Financiera Colombiana S.A., a Colombian financial services institution, agreed to pay over \$80 million to resolve parallel bribery investigations by criminal, civil, and administrative authorities in the U.S. and Colombia stemming from the company’s involvement in a scheme to pay millions of dollars in bribes to high-ranking government officials in Colombia.

Office of International Affairs (OIA) – On September 15, 2023, Mexico extradited Mexican citizen Ovidio Guzman Lopez to stand trial in the Northern District of Illinois for drug trafficking, money laundering, engaging in a continuing criminal enterprise, and firearms offenses. Extradition was also granted for Guzman Lopez to stand trial in the Southern District of New York for engaging in a continuing criminal enterprise, conspiracy to import fentanyl, firearms offenses, and money laundering. Guzman Lopez is the son of Joaquin Archivaldo Guzman Loera, alias “El Chapo,” and was identified by law enforcement authorities as a high-ranking leader of the Sinaloa Cartel. As a leader of the cartel, Guzman Lopez was responsible for importing significant quantities of fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine, and marijuana into the U.S.

Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT) – In Paraguay, the Treasury Department’s Office of Foreign Assets Control—with assistance from OPDAT and the interagency—was able to impose financial sanctions under the Global Magnitsky Act on former Paraguayan President Horacio Cartes and his business interests and current Vice President Hugo Velazquez for corruption and bribery and links to Lebanese Hizballah.

Notable Accomplishments in Priority Areas

In FY 2023, the Division made significant impact in several priority areas for the Department, to include:

- Violent Crime
- War Crimes Accountability Team Indictments and Task Force KleptoCapture
- Ransomware
- Health Care Fraud

Violent Crime and Racketeering Section (VCRS) – In September 2022, DOJ announced a violent crime initiative to surge law enforcement tools and resources to investigate and prosecute violent crime nationally and apply those tools to gangs terrorizing communities in Houston, Texas. This initiative is led by the Division’s Violent Crime and Racketeering Section. Federal prosecutors from VCRS and investigative

officers, analysts and others from local, state, and federal agencies use a data-driven approach to strategically identify and prosecute the worst criminals and gang members who are responsible for a disproportionate amount of violent crime in these communities. Within one year, the initiative was able to make a difference. In September 2023, federal charges were brought against 39 individuals by VCRS and the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Southern District of Texas. Law enforcement seized 79 firearms, including six machine guns, a silencer, three ghost guns, an inert hand grenade, and body armor. Inspired by the successes in Houston, in November 2023, the Division, in partnership with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Tennessee and local, state, and federal law enforcement partners, began surging tools and resources to investigate and prosecute violent crime in Memphis.

Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section (HRSP) – *United States v. Suren Mkrtchyan, et al.*

To address crimes committed by the Russian Federation during the unprovoked and unlawful invasion of Ukraine, the Attorney General created the War Crimes Accountability Team (WarCAT) in June 2022, which is based in and led by the Division's Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section (HRSP) and coordinated with the FBI and Homeland Security. In December 2023, these investigative efforts resulted in the indictment of four Russian or Russian-affiliated military officers and soldiers on charges of conspiracy, torture, inhuman treatment, and unlawful confinement of a U.S. national who was living in Ukraine. The defendants are alleged to have interrogated, severely beaten, and tortured the victim, threatening to kill the victim and conducting a mock execution. This prosecution made the U.S. the only country to date, other than Ukraine itself, to bring war crimes charges arising out of Russia's invasion and is the first time anyone has been charged under the U.S. war crimes statute that went into effect in 1996.

Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section (MLARS) – MLARS' International Unit, in partnership with the National Security Division and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Florida, led the Task Force KleptoCapture investigation and successful prosecution of John Can Unsalan, the president of Metalhouse LLC, and his conspirator Sergey Karpushkin, for conspiracy to commit money laundering to promote violations of U.S. sanctions. Unsalan and Karpushkin intentionally concealed from U.S. banks and government officials the ultimate source of the goods they sought to acquire, knowing they did not have the necessary authorization or license to transact with Sergey Kurchenko, a sanctioned oligarch, and his company. In spring 2023, Unsalan and Karpushkin were charged with money laundering, violating the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), and conspiracy. In Fall 2023, Unsalan pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit money laundering to promote violations of IEEPA and agreed to forfeit over \$160 million, and Karpushkin pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit money laundering and violate IEEPA and agreed to forfeit over \$4.7 million.

Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section (CCIPS) – In January 2023, the Department revealed CRM and the FBI's months-long disruption campaign against the Hive Ransomware Group (HRG). As part of the campaign, CRM, FBI, and NSD conducted extensive relationship building within the computer security research community, which provided referrals when they found new variants. HRG targeted more than 1,500 victims in over 80 countries, including hospitals, school districts, financial firms, and critical infrastructure. Since late July 2022, the FBI has penetrated HRG's computer networks, captured its decryption keys, and offered them to victims worldwide. CRM and FBI provided over 300 decryption keys to Hive victims who were under attack and distributed over 1,000 additional decryption keys to previous Hive victims. These efforts prevented victims from having to pay \$130 million in ransom.

Fraud Section (FRD) – In December 2023, Elizabeth Hernandez was sentenced to 20 years in prison for her role in a scheme to defraud Medicare by submitting over \$192 million in claims for genetic tests and durable medical equipment that patients did not need and telemedicine visits that never occurred. According to court documents and evidence presented at trial, Hernandez signed thousands of orders for medically unnecessary orthotic braces and genetic testing for Medicare beneficiaries she never spoke to, examined, or treated. Hernandez personally pocketed approximately \$1.6 million in the scheme, which she used to purchase expensive cars, jewelry, home renovations, and travel.

Criminal Division Overseas Presence Map – All Sources¹



Challenges to Achieving Outcomes

Many factors, both external and internal, affect the Criminal Division's capacity to accomplish its goals. While some of these factors are beyond its control, the Division strives to navigate these obstacles successfully, with an effort to minimize the negative impact these factors have on the Division's critical mission.

External Challenges

Globalization of Crime: The Criminal Division has included the globalization of crime in its challenges discussions for multiple budget cycles, and it continues to do so because transnational criminal activity has grown to be the new norm. The ability to successfully prosecute global crime is at the very heart of the Division's mission of investigating complex cases and ensuring a consistent and coordinated approach to the nation's law enforcement priorities, both domestically and internationally. The Division's national perspective on white collar crime, public corruption, cybercrime, organized crime, narcotics trafficking, violent crime, and other criminal activities makes it uniquely positioned to meet the demand for global crime work.

The Criminal Division's transnational work has consistently increased, with recent examples to include: the Division's extensive support of Task Force KleptoCapture,² an interagency law enforcement task force dedicated to enforcing the sweeping sanctions, export restrictions, and economic countermeasures that the United States has imposed, along with allies and partners, in response to Russia's unprovoked military

¹ Includes direct- and program-funded in-country federal positions or active programs as of December 31, 2022.

² <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/attorney-general-merrick-b-garland-announces-launch-task-force-kleptocapture>

invasion of Ukraine; JTFA,³ created to investigate and prosecute the international networks responsible for dangerous and prolific human smuggling activities that exploit and victimize migrants; and the Northern Triangle Anticorruption Task Force,⁴ committed to combatting official corruption in countries in Central America where conduct violates U.S. law and to consistently engage in the region to address the root causes of migration.

The Division has recognized and worked to address the complexities posed by global crime. In October 2021, Deputy Attorney General Monaco announced the creation of the Criminal Division's National Cryptocurrency Enforcement Team (NCET)⁵ to combine and coordinate expertise across the Department to tackle complex investigations and prosecutions of criminal misuses of cryptocurrency, particularly crimes committed by virtual currency exchanges, mixing and tumbling services, and money laundering infrastructure actors.

Global crime investigations and prosecutions typically require significant resources, including expert witnesses and investigators; coordination and communication across the Department, the federal government, and foreign countries; and specialized technology. While the Division has devised methods to overcome some aspects of the challenges that the globalization of crime has posed, it continues to work on overcoming challenges in this area.

One of the challenges that the Division continues to face is the capacity to manage the ever-increasing demand for the return of evidence, assets, and fugitives worldwide.⁶ While the Division has previously highlighted specialized and mandatory functions that OIA conducts in support of the entire federal government (as well as state and local partners), other sections within the Division are also confronted with this challenge. MLARS and CCIPS frequently partner with OIA on several fronts. For example, MLARS's International Assistance Team, working closely with OIA, assists U.S. prosecutors in the restraint and forfeiture of assets located abroad, litigates in U.S. courts to assist foreign governments seeking restraint and forfeiture of assets in the United States, and authorizes certain actions to forfeit funds held in correspondent accounts. The International Assistance Team also represents the Department in multilateral organizations to raise international standards for combating financial crime and provides technical assistance to foreign governments on legislation and best practices in anti-money laundering and forfeiture. Additionally, MLARS's Kleptocracy Team is responsible for implementing the Department's Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative through investigation and litigation to recover the proceeds of foreign official corruption, including assets located outside the United States. The Kleptocracy Team also collaborates closely with OIA to coordinate with foreign law enforcement authorities.

Frequently, press releases involving global crime include acknowledgment that "the Office of International Affairs provided substantial assistance to the investigation."⁷ OIA is indispensable to the success of the Department in many facets of its work. As the designated Central Authority for the United States under mutual legal assistance treaties and a central coordination point for international criminal law enforcement more broadly, OIA carries out many responsibilities. These include seeking the apprehension and lawful return of international fugitives and the transborder gathering of evidence for national security and criminal

³ <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/attorney-general-announces-initiatives-combat-human-smuggling-and-trafficking-and-fight>

⁴ <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-anticorruption-task-force-launches-new-measures-combat-corruption-central>

⁵ <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/deputy-attorney-general-lisa-o-monaco-announces-national-cryptocurrency-enforcement-team>

⁶ For example, JTFA has a dedicated OIA attorney that works with HRSP leadership, numerous other participating Criminal Division components, and the Southwest Border USAOs on the Task Force to pursue increased extraditions and evidence from Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador to build and prosecute significant cases. Numerous JTFA extradition requests have been filed with these countries against leadership targets during this initiative and are awaiting action by foreign authorities.

⁷ <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/international-cybercrime-malware-service-dismantled-federal-authorities-key-malware-sales>

cases on behalf of all U.S. prosecutors, federal law enforcement agencies, and state and local authorities. OIA also ensures that the United States meets its reciprocal extradition and mutual legal assistance obligations to foreign countries by responding to foreign requests for the extradition of fugitives and the production of evidence located in the United States. OIA's work is an essential element in the fight against transnational crime in the United States and abroad.

As the Criminal Division continues to seek solutions for OIA's workload challenges, the United States has begun to negotiate executive agreements authorized by the Clarifying Overseas Use of Data Act (CLOUD Act) to expedite access to data in the control of companies operating overseas. To date, the United States has signed executive agreements with the United Kingdom and Australia, with ongoing discussions with additional countries. CLOUD Act Executive Agreements aim to apply a privacy and civil liberties-protective approach to ensure efficient access to electronic data that lies beyond a country's reach due to the revolution in electronic communication, recent innovations in the way global technology companies configure their systems, and the legacy of 20th century legal frameworks. OIA serves as the U.S. Designated Authority to implement CLOUD Act Executive Agreements. This new mission and role have required OIA to shift personnel and resources that would normally support other operations to a new CLOUD Act team. At the same time, and without additional personnel, OIA must maintain sufficient staffing on its traditional work streams – mutual legal assistance, extradition, and international prisoner transfer – thereby stretching existing resources. The addition of the CLOUD mission to OIA's responsibilities is yet another example of the ever-expanding requirements the globalization of crime has put on the entire Criminal Division, especially OIA.

The combined effects of a broad and demanding mission, new and competing requirements, and rising transnational workloads will continue to slow down the United States's response to the globalization of crime. This issue remains a major priority for the Criminal Division, which is fully engaged in finding ways to address this growing challenge.

Rapidly Evolving Technology: The Criminal Division's CCIPS leads the Department's work on cybercrime, ransomware, cybersecurity, intellectual property theft, and obtaining electronic evidence. No other Department component works on more computer intrusion cases, ransomware cases, cryptocurrency cases, or botnet cases than the Criminal Division. CCIPS's groundbreaking prosecutions provide an evidentiary basis for other federal agencies, such as the Treasury, Commerce, and Defense Departments, to deploy their authorities – including sanctions against malicious actors – in furtherance of a whole-of-government strategy. In addition, CCIPS builds the Department's capacity to handle more cyber cases: it develops operational support around the world on cybercrime and digital evidence to better protect Americans from foreign-based crime; develops and coordinates electronic evidence legislation, policies, and litigation; and promotes public-private cybersecurity partnerships at the highest levels of the country's most important industries. The demand for these functions continues to grow as technology and technology-enabled crime continue to evolve.

Addressing rapidly evolving technology requires significant resources to meet growing workloads across cybersecurity, cryptocurrency, intellectual property, and ransomware efforts. Resource-intensive work in these evolving areas is necessary to move the Department toward addressing many of its most pressing priorities. Meeting these demands without planned resource growth over time in these areas remains the largest challenge in this space. Additionally, while the demand for cyber-skilled professionals in the Criminal Division is growing quickly, so too does competition for such talents. While Congress has now provided the Department with additional authority to provide incentive pay for highly skilled professionals, the Criminal Division has not received additional appropriations to use that authority.

The Criminal Division's CCIPS and MLARS sections work collaboratively and in partnership with other DOJ components and international partners alike to thwart ransomware threats and will be critical to the success of the March 2023 National Cybersecurity Strategy, specifically Pillar Two: Disrupt and Dismantle

Threat Actors.⁸ Specifically, Strategic Object 2.5 of the new Strategy ‘Counter Cybercrime, Defeat Ransomware’ requires four lines of effort: (1) leveraging international cooperation to disrupt the ransomware ecosystem and isolate those countries that provide safe havens for criminals; (2) investigating ransomware crimes and using law enforcement and other authorities to disrupt ransomware infrastructure and actors; (3) bolstering critical infrastructure resilience to withstand ransomware attacks; and (4) addressing the abuse of virtual currency to launder ransom payments. Additionally, the Strategy approach also includes “targeting the illicit cryptocurrency exchanges on which ransomware operators rely and improving international implementation of standards for combatting virtual asset illicit finance.” CCIPS and MLARS will be central players in these lines of efforts.

New and rapidly changing technologies continue to present challenges to the Criminal Division on several fronts:

- Cybercriminals use infrastructure located around the world. A cyber actor may use a server in one country to disseminate ransomware, a server in a second country to hold stolen victim information, an email account in a third country to negotiate with victims, and infrastructure in a fourth company to receive and hold ransom payments. To obtain relevant information, law enforcement investigators often need to make multiple requests for assistance from foreign law enforcement agencies, a process that can be cumbersome and time-consuming.
- Cybercriminals use sophisticated means to conceal their identities and criminal activities. Many criminal groups host their websites on the dark web, allowing them to communicate anonymously and resist efforts to take down their sites.
- Some countries provide safe havens for actors to engage in cybercrime abroad, so long as they remain “on call” for those countries’ intelligence services.
- Criminals take advantage of web hosting services, e-mail accounts, online storage accounts, and other services offered by American companies, but those companies sometimes fail to meet their obligations when criminal investigators serve them with search warrants or preservation requests. Federal law requires companies to produce information when the government serves them with a search warrant. For example, if the government obtains a warrant to search a house, agents must search that house within days of when the magistrate signs the warrant, and usually can. But when the government serves a search warrant on a tech company, it often takes weeks, if not months, to return data. And sometimes these companies do not produce any data because they failed to preserve the relevant account. These issues hinder investigations significantly and are a major factor in criminals’ ability to escape detection and apprehension.
- Cryptocurrency technology plays a role in many of the most significant criminal and national security threats the United States faces. Cryptocurrencies are used by an increasing array of bad actors to profit from their crimes and conceal their ill-gotten gains. The success of many investigations and prosecutions of crimes and seizure of criminal proceeds involving cryptocurrency often hinges on the government’s ability to trace transactions. However, some types of cryptocurrencies and blockchain-related technologies make it more difficult to trace transactions and recover assets for victims and forfeiture. As a result, effective tracing of cryptocurrencies requires increasingly sophisticated blockchain analysis tools.

Keeping Pace with Department Workload: Two of the Division’s offices, OIA and OEO, provide examples of how the Division’s work is directly affected by the work of other components. Seventy-four percent of OIA’s pending U.S. requests for evidence and extraditions are from the USAOs across the

⁸ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/National-Cybersecurity-Strategy-2023.pdf>

country. Increases in USAOs' prosecutions results in increased requests for evidence and extraditions to OIA.

Likewise, OEO's work comes exclusively from the USAOs and federal investigative agencies, which rely on OEO to review Title III (wiretap) applications for Criminal Division approval in a timely manner so they can conduct electronic surveillance and gather evidence that will be admissible in court. As the investigations reviewed by OEO have become more complex and involve a greater number of issues, the resources necessary for OEO to ensure a thorough and timely review have increased, with no additional personnel to review them. The average turnaround time, which USAOs and investigative agencies require to be as quick as possible due to the nature of the work, is closely tied to the number of applications each OEO employee must review. A third Division office, the Appellate Section, is also impacted by the work of other components, such as post-conviction litigation and compassionate release litigation.

Gaps in Legislation: As the Criminal Division fulfills its mission of investigating and prosecuting cases and providing expert guidance and advice, it identifies gaps in legislation that limit its ability to seek justice for the American people. For example, some human rights-related statutes are jurisdictionally or temporally limited, and the United States still lacks a crime against humanity Title 18 statute. Efforts to enact "CEJA" (the Civilian Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act), legislation that would provide jurisdiction when U.S. Government civilian personnel who are not covered by the Military Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Act ("MEJA") commit crimes overseas, have stalled in Congress. Immigration crimes often have short statutes of limitations, which is challenging in matters that can take many years to come to light. In the context of human smuggling crimes, the Criminal Division has expended substantial effort to work with the USAOs and interagency partners to pursue enhanced sentencing and statutory tools for pernicious smuggling activities.

A second example is the Division's work on the Administration's legislative package to close key loopholes and expand penalties for those who engage in trafficking deadly fentanyl into our communities. Addressing the fentanyl epidemic – which accounts for some two-thirds of the more than 110,000 drug overdose deaths each year – is a top priority for this Administration. Efforts to date include an unprecedented increase in enforcement operations, global leadership, and a sustained focus on public health.

The Administration has developed a series of legislative proposals to give the Nation the additional tools it needs to better detect and defeat illicit fentanyl. This legislation would close key loopholes that drug traffickers exploit and expand penalties for those who engage in trafficking deadly drugs into our communities. Key proposals that will enhance the Criminal Division's efforts to combat illicit fentanyl trafficking include, but are not limited to:

- Permanently Scheduling Fentanyl Related Substances (FRS) - This legislation would permanently schedule all illicitly produced FRS, making them Schedule I drugs consistent with the Administration's 2021 recommendations to Congress, ensuring that traffickers are unable to evade regulation and prosecution by altering the chemical structure of fentanyl.
- Making Xylazine a Schedule III Drug – This legislation would address the growing threat of fentanyl mixed with xylazine – a non-opiate sedative that is currently approved only for veterinary use in the United States.
- Increasing Penalties on the Manufacturers, Distributors, and Importers of Deadly Drugs – These provisions would increase penalties on those who unlawfully manufacture and distribute fentanyl and require an increase in the sentencing guidelines for, among other things, those who make or sell large numbers of fake pills or who knowingly distribute controlled substances to minors.
- Ensuring that Illicit Drug Traffickers Can be Held to Account - These provisions would give the Department of Justice additional tools to bring drug traffickers to justice. In particular, these provisions will allow prosecutors to bring money laundering charges against drug traffickers who have violated certain drug trafficking-related sanctions; make those who manufacture or distribute

precursor chemicals and related equipment with the intent or knowledge that they will be used to manufacture illicit drugs imported into the United States accountable for their acts; and make clear that anyone who knows or intends to distribute controlled substance analogues – which are unscheduled substances that are similar to, and often as deadly as, scheduled controlled substances – is held liable for their acts.

Achieving many of the Department and Division’s priorities depends on legislation being enacted; new legislation can take significant time to pass in Congress and requires significant resource expenditure by the Department, including its leadership offices. Therefore, one persistent external challenge that the Division faces is limited statutory tools.

Internal Challenges

Managing Information Technology and Network Risk: Demands on the Division’s information technology systems and staff are ever-increasing. These requirements include (1) meeting the critical growing cybersecurity needs, (2) funding key federal positions, contractors, and needed software to modernize and address e-litigation requirements, (3) funding the upgrade of mission-critical, antiquated legacy systems that pose a cybersecurity risk, (4) managing the end-state cybersecurity issues through a robust and mature privacy program, (5) enhancing and expanding service capabilities, and (6) maintaining existing systems. Meeting all these growing demands has become increasingly difficult due to the limited resources, the significant costs, and the difficulty in recruiting and retaining experienced and high-performing professionals. Balancing the need to meet legal, regulatory and policy requirements to keep the Division’s IT systems safe and secure has become an exercise in risk management.

Enhancing cybersecurity is listed as a strategic objective in both the Department’s [Strategic Plan](#) (Objective 2.4) and the Department’s [Information Technology Strategic Plan](#) (Objective 2.1). The Strategic Plan notes that protecting our national security also requires countering cyber threats from foreign and domestic actors – whether nation states, terrorists, or criminals – who seek to conduct espionage, invade our privacy, attack our elections, steal our intellectual property, damage our financial and physical infrastructure, or extort ransom payments. According to the IT Strategic Plan, components should seek to strengthen their security posture against complex cybersecurity attacks, improve and fortify internal remote access for our mobile workforce, and streamline our identity and access management.⁹ To meet these Department objectives, the Division is continually working on reasonable strides towards achieving better cybersecurity.

In early 2023, CRM conducted a comprehensive review of its IT systems as part of a Department-wide effort to identify previously uncatalogued or unmanaged IT systems that were storing or managing DOJ data. During this review, CRM identified a significant need to assess and mitigate vulnerabilities at the CCIPS and CEOS information technology forensics labs. These labs play a critical mission for CRM but have previously not undergone the same level of comprehensive IT security review as other IT systems. The Division has also reviewed all existing legacy systems to develop a replacement plan to ensure the most vital, high-impact systems are the priority and are replaced by systems that will be more dynamic, cost-effective, and able to respond to changing requirements and help meet mission objectives. This is critical to the Division, as several antiquated legacy systems must be replaced in the coming years. The capabilities of these systems are increasingly divergent from the needs of the Division and the agencies with which its sections and offices work, resulting in increasingly complex data management, excessive problem resolution times, delays in service provisioning, and insufficient ability to modernize and respond quickly to mission and business requirements.

In addition, maintaining and securing outdated systems requires intensive resources, thus leaving fewer resources to pursue new systems. The Division has had successes in this area, completing and implementing a new Division-wide case management system in FY 2022. The Division is also in the

⁹ [DOJ IT Strategic Plan 2022-2024 \(justice.gov\)](#)

process of replacing the 20-year-old Office of International Affairs Oracle-based system, which no longer meets basic mission needs. These two systems provide recent examples of the significant cost and time investment that is necessary to keep mission-critical systems relevant to rapidly changing requirements and to meet security requirements. However, securing the significant resources needed to fund these large-ticket, critical system upgrades is a significant challenge and likely not limited to the Criminal Division within the Department of Justice. The ever-increasing IT modernization and security needs from several sources is an additional complexity in this space. These growing costs are consistently at odds with the FTE needed for critical IT infrastructure projects to meet the Department's cybersecurity objectives.

One of the initiatives promoted in the IT Strategic Plan is the effort to expand adoption of cloud-based technology and conduct modernization of mission-critical applications to ensure the most effective software and hardware portfolio across the Department. Technology and cybersecurity costs are ever-increasing and continually in demand to successfully achieve the Divisions mission, while at the same time, existing IT systems are quickly becoming antiquated and needing to be replaced. The Division continues to evaluate existing resources and authorities to address the modernization needed to ensure that mission-essential systems are updated in a strategic and long-term oriented approach. CRM's presence in government and commercial clouds is currently limited to software-as-a-service applications. As part of the Government's "cloud first" approach to infrastructure and platform services, CRM will be making significant investments in cloud computing over the next several years. This is further necessitated by the fact that the data center in which most of CRM's data is currently located is shutting down in 2025. CRM will have to make significant investments in securing, monitoring, and managing cloud services, as many of these were previously handled by the data center contractor or by the Department's Office of the Chief Information Officer.

The demands of significant legal requirements, regulations, and policies from multiple sources has become almost unsustainable, and meeting these requirements competes with other risk-based challenges, such as insider threats. With the added challenge of maintaining a professional IT workforce and the ever-increasing costs of information technology and modernization efforts, this area has become a significant concern for the Division. Ensuring resources to fulfill these plans remains a challenge and will likely remain a challenge moving forward. However, the Division will continue to manage its resources to address these issues to the best of its ability and strives to make as much progress in this area as possible.

Hiring, Retention, and Increasing Diversity: Human capital, the people who make up our workforce, is the Division's most valuable asset. However, the Division has recently faced significant challenges in this critical area that affect recruitment, employee retention, and diversity. The Division has invested significant time into addressing these challenges to ensure that its workforce is the best it can be to accomplish its mission. The issues the Division is experiencing are consistent with those highlighted in the [Department of Justice Top Management and Performance Challenges 2023](#).

The Criminal Division uses the variety of tools at its disposal, including various hiring authorities and innovative recruitment programs, to maintain a competitive posture in the market for top quality, diverse employees across all its sections. The Division, however, has limited pay authorities to bring its pay on par with not only the private industry but with other federal agencies that are on higher pay scales and/or have specialized pay authorities. The Division is considering options to best recruit and retain skilled employees, especially in the information technology and cyber sectors, with the available hiring authorities. However, the costs associated with these recruiting and retention options are estimated to be significant and may limit what options the Division is able to use. The costs of the authorities associated with more effective recruitment and retention is proving to be a limiting factor for their use. In the limited circumstances where we do have authorities, such as the authority for Cybercrime Incentive pay, the cost severely limits the Division's ability to use it.

The Division continues to strive to find quality candidates in the non-attorney category, although filling Information Technology Specialists, Digital Investigative Analysts, and Government Information Specialist positions has proven to be somewhat challenging. As it is difficult to fill all non-attorney

vacancies using solely USAJobs, CRM continues to enhance its proactive recruitment efforts and leverage other non-competitive hiring opportunities such as Schedule A, Peace Corps, VRA, Cyber Scholar, and Boren to find candidates outside the normal vacancy posting process. The Division has partnered with state governments and universities to bring details on through the Intergovernmental Personnel Act Mobility Program (IPA), which allows the Division to gain valuable talent from state governments and universities. There are complicated regulations and policies that dictate the federal hiring process. Working within these regulations and policies adds a layer of complexity to functions that already have many other challenges. CRM HR regularly attended OPM’s Talent Team Community of Practice to keep up to date with changes in assessment strategies and government wide hiring initiatives such as shared certificates.

Additionally, the Division takes recruiting a diverse workforce very seriously. This can be seen in the Division’s support of its Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Committee, which includes representation across the Division and job types, and participates in outreach and recruitment activities. The Division also partnered with the Department on the Urban Alliance Internship Program, an initiative focused on building a diverse next-generation workforce by providing job skills training, mentoring, and paid work experience to young adults primarily in communities of color. This program looks to level the playing field for young people in the workforce by equipping them with the tools to overcome the systemic barriers that prevent equal access to economic opportunity. The Criminal Division has committed to hosting a second year of Urban Alliance interns.

Similarly, the Division must devote resources to remaining an attractive place for existing employees, particularly those with significant experience and who are most marketable in the private sector. The Division has recently implemented several internal retention initiatives, such as student loan repayment for non-attorney employees. The Division continues to generate additional approaches to maintaining a high-performing and diverse workforce. The Division will continue to work towards improving hiring, retention, and increasing diversity to mitigate these challenges.

Summary of Program Changes

Item Name	Description	Positions	FTE	Amount (\$000)	Page
N/A	N/A				

The Criminal Division is not requesting any program changes for FY 2025.

Appropriations Language and Analysis of Appropriations Language

The Criminal Division is part of the General Legal Activities (GLA) sub-appropriation in the Department of Justice’s appropriation. General Legal Activities language is displayed in the GLA rollup budget submission.

Performance Budget

This budget demonstrates how the Criminal Division’s resources directly support the achievement of the Department’s priorities, both nationally and internationally. It is intended to meet the requirements of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-11, Part 6, Section 240 *Annual Performance Planning*. The Division reports all resources under its only decision unit, “Enforcing Federal Criminal

Law.” Total costs represent both direct and indirect costs, including administrative functions and systems. The performance/resources tables in this section provide further detail on the Division’s performance-based budget.

<i>Enforcing Federal Criminal Law</i>	Direct Positions	Estimated FTE	Amount (\$000)
2023 Enacted	808	787	\$228,042
2024 Continuing Resolution	783	783	\$228,042
Adjustments to Base and Technical Adjustments	0	0	\$11,307
2025 Current Services	783	783	\$239,349
2025 Program Increases	0	0	\$0
2025 Request	783	783	\$239,349
Total Change 2024-2025	0	0	\$11,307

<i>Enforcing Federal Criminal Law – Information Technology Breakout</i>	Direct Positions	Estimated FTE	Amount (\$000)
2023 Enacted	23	17	\$40,566
2024 Continuing Resolution	23	21	\$45,546
Adjustments to Base and Technical Adjustments	0	2	N/A
2025 Current Services	23	23	\$44,650
2025 Program Increases	0	0	\$0
2025 Request	23	23	\$44,650
Total Change 2024-2025	0	2	-\$896

FY 2024 and FY 2025 amounts are projected estimates based on currently available information.

Enforcing Federal Criminal Law

Program Description

The Criminal Division’s mission is to protect the American people from serious criminal activity, including transnational criminal organizations, cybercrime, child exploitation, fraud, gangs, corruption, and money laundering. The Criminal Division’s specialized prosecution units develop and enforce federal criminal laws that target complex, international, and multi-district crime. The Division responds to critical and emerging national and international criminal threats and leads a coordinated, nationwide response to reduce those threats. The Criminal Division is situated at headquarters in Washington, D.C. to work in partnership with both domestic and international law enforcement. While U.S. Attorneys and state and local prosecutors serve a specific jurisdiction, the Criminal Division addresses the need for centralized coordination, prosecution, and oversight.

The Division complements the work of its foreign and domestic law enforcement partners by centrally housing subject matter experts in all areas of federal criminal law, as reflected by the 17 Sections and Offices that make up the Division’s Decision Unit “Enforcing Federal Criminal Laws:”

- Office of the Assistant Attorney General (OAAG)
- Office of Administration (ADM)
- Appellate Section (APP)
- Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section (CCIPS)

Capital Case Section (CCS)
 Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS)
 Fraud Section (FRD)
 Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section (HRSP)
 International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP)
 Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section (MLARS)
 Narcotic and Dangerous Drug Section (NDDS)
 Office of Enforcement Operations (OEO)
 Office of International Affairs (OIA)
 Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT)
 Office of Policy and Legislation (OPL)
 Public Integrity Section (PIN)
 Violent Crime and Racketeering Section (VCRS)

The concentration of formidable expertise, in a broad range of critical subject areas, strengthens and shapes the Department’s efforts in bringing a broad perspective to areas of national and transnational criminal enforcement and prevention. To capture this range of expertise, the Division’s Performance and Resource Table is organized into three functional categories: prosecutions and investigations; expert guidance and legal advice; and the review of critical law enforcement tools.



The Criminal Division’s work contributes significantly to the Department’s FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan. As demonstrated in the chart, the Division’s FY 2025 Congressional request supports four of the five strategic goals. While the Division’s support of the Department’s Strategic Plan is extensive, it does not include each strategic objective in the plan. The discussion below includes only the strategic objectives that the Division directly supports.

Strategic Goal 1: Uphold the Rule of Law

The Criminal Division’s mission is to protect the American people from serious criminal activity. To accomplish its mission, the Division joins with domestic and foreign law enforcement partners to pursue criminal investigations and prosecutions and promote the Rule of Law.

In addition, the Department has vowed to take a strategic and innovative approach to updating its management structure, training, and collaboration; to modernizing its technology; and to promoting diversity and ensuring equal employment opportunity. The Criminal Division has taken steps to address infrastructure capability gaps by attaining secure information technology, modernizing legacy systems, enhancing and expanding service capabilities, and maintaining existing systems. The Division will continue to work to ensure that antiquated legacy systems are replaced by systems that will be more dynamic, cost-effective, and able to respond to changing requirements and help meet organizational demands. In addition, the Division’s Office of Administration will continue to focus its efforts on recruiting and retaining a talented and inclusive workforce, as well as cultivating a fair, flexible work environment.

Goal 1 Resources

Strategic Goal	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Uphold the Rule of Law	\$48,152	\$48,152	\$52,068

Program Changes Affecting This Goal

- None

Objective 1.1 – Protect Our Democratic Institutions

Relevant Strategies to Achieve Objective 1.1

- Strategy 1: Reaffirm and Strengthen Policies Foundational to the Rule of Law
- Strategy 2: Protect the Justice Department from Improper Influence
- Strategy 3: Protect Public Servants from Violence and Threats of Violence
- Strategy 4: Protect the Public Fisc from Fraud on Government Programs
- Strategy 5: Combat Foreign Interference in Democratic Processes
- Strategy 6: Ensure Effective Oversight and Public Accountability

Objective 1.1 Resources

Strategic Objective	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Protect Our Democratic Institutions	\$19,628	\$19,628	\$20,319

Key Performance Measures

- The number of criminal government program fraud cases where the proactive use of data led to the opening of an investigation by the Criminal Division.

This performance measure is targeted at 50 cases. The Criminal Division developed baseline data for this measure in FY 2022, and the targets are based on this baseline data. The Division achieved 31 cases in FY 2023. Target numbers for FY 2023 were based on government program fraud investigations opened based on proactive data leads that included investigations as part of the COVID-19 fraud enforcement task force.

- The number of U.S. Attorneys’ Offices that received proactive data leads in criminal government fraud cases from the Criminal Division.

This performance measure is targeted at 45 cases. The Criminal Division developed baseline data for this measure in FY 2022, and the targets are based on this baseline data. The Division achieved 53 cases in FY 2023.

Objective 1.1 Accomplishment

In June 2023, the Fraud Section, together with federal and state law enforcement partners, oversaw a strategically coordinated, two-week nationwide law enforcement action that resulted in criminal charges against 78 defendants for their alleged participation in health care fraud and opioid abuse schemes that included over \$2.5 billion in alleged fraud. The defendants allegedly defrauded programs entrusted for the

care of the elderly and disabled, and, in some cases, used the proceeds of the schemes to purchase luxury items, including exotic automobiles, jewelry, and yachts.

Objective 1.2 – Promote Good Government

Relevant Strategies to Achieve Objective 1.2

- Strategy 1: Achieve Department Management Excellence Through Innovation
- Strategy 2: Foster a High-Performing Workforce that Represents the Public We Serve
- Strategy 3: Implement Department-wide Data and Technology Modernization

Objective 1.2 Resources

Strategic Objective	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Promote Good Government	\$28,524	\$28,524	\$31,749

Objective 1.2 Accomplishment

The Criminal Division’s Office of Administration (ADM) worked intensely on improving recruitment across the Division and increasing diversity. ADM increased attendance at career fairs, to include the National Federation of the Blind, Equal Opportunities Publications, Government and Non-Profits, National Veteran Virtual Fair and Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The Division hosted its first Summer Law Intern Program participants, closing out a successful year of Historically Black Colleges and Universities mentorship, and hosting the Division’s first class of Urban Alliance interns. Additionally, ADM developed new capabilities to implement Executive Order 13932, Modernizing and Reforming the Assessment and Hiring of Federal Jobs Candidates, through implementing several types of new assessments. To achieve hiring efficiencies, ADM partnered with industrial and organizational psychologists to build a structured interview series that can be used for any ADM position.

Strategic Goal 2: Keep Our Country Safe

Protecting our national security from both foreign actors and insider threats remains one of the highest priorities of the Department of Justice. From combating the threat of international terrorism to prosecuting and coordinating complex money laundering and asset forfeiture cases, the Criminal Division plays a critical and substantial role in furthering this Department goal.

The Department recognizes that the most efficient and effective means of fighting terrorism is to communicate, coordinate, and cooperate with our partners, including foreign partners and multilateral organizations. The Division directly supports these efforts through the work of its international programs, ICITAP and OPDAT, which work with foreign governments to develop professional and transparent law enforcement institutions and to reform their justice systems, with the goals of building the capacity of our foreign partners to combat transnational crime and terrorism before those threats reach our shores.

Beyond the Division’s two international programs, a large portion of the Division’s work has a strong national security nexus. OIA, the nerve center for international criminal law enforcement coordination, is vital to the Department’s ability to fight terrorism in cooperation with our partners. Other sections in the Criminal Division share a national security nexus given the globalization of crime.

As technology rapidly develops, the digital threats our nation faces are more diverse, more sophisticated, and more dangerous. These threats require the Department to leverage our unique authorities and expand our capabilities, resources, and collaboration with partners to counter threat actors and enhance cybersecurity. In direct support of the Department’s plan to develop investigations, prosecutions, and policy that complement and strengthen efforts to disrupt cyber threats, MLARS and CCIPS together have led the Department’s efforts to respond — through criminal enforcement as well as proposals for legal and regulatory reform. The sections’ work has been critical in bringing to justice those malicious cyber actors who commit digital attacks, as well as in dismantling the online infrastructures that facilitate those attacks.

Goal 2 Resources

Strategic Goal	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Keep Our Country Safe	\$145,370	\$145,370	\$148,846

Program Changes Affecting This Goal

- None

Objective 2.1 – Protect National Security

Relevant Strategies to Achieve Objective 2.1

- Strategy 1: Combat Foreign Malign Influence
- Strategy 2: Counter Foreign Espionage
- Strategy 3: Prevent the Theft of Technology and Intellectual Property
- Strategy 4: Protect Sensitive Assets

Objective 2.1 Resources

Strategic Objective	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Protect National Security	\$6,632	\$6,632	\$9,014

Objective 2.1 Accomplishment

On April 26, 2023, OIA secured the extradition of United Kingdom national James O’Connor from Spain to the U.S. where he is wanted for prosecution in the Northern District of California and the Southern District of New York. In the California case, O’Connor is charged in a ten-count complaint with conspiring to access protected computers to obtain protected information and to extort, substantive counts of extortive and threatening communications, and stalking. O’Connor allegedly conspired with others to operate a scheme to exchange illegally obtained access to online Twitter accounts for cryptocurrency payments. In the New York case, O’Connor is charged in a four-count indictment with engaging in conspiracies to access protected computers and commit wire fraud and money laundering, and a substantive identity theft count. O’Connor allegedly participated in a cellphone subscriber swap scheme which stole approximately \$784,000 in cryptocurrency from customers of a technology company headquartered in Manhattan that provides wallet infrastructure and related software to cryptocurrency exchanges around the world. O’Connor and his co-conspirators then allegedly laundered the cryptocurrency through dozens of transfers

and transactions and exchanged some of it for Bitcoin. On May 9, 2023, O'Connor pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 5 years for cybercrime offenses.

Objective 2.2 – Counter Foreign and Domestic Terrorism

Relevant Strategies to Achieve Objective 2.2

- Strategy 1: Deter, Disrupt, and Prosecute Terrorist Threats
- Strategy 2: Strengthen Federal, State, Local, Tribal, and International Counterterrorism Partnerships

Objective 2.2 Resources

Strategic Objective	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Counter Foreign and Domestic Terrorism	\$12,165	\$12,165	\$8,974

Objective 2.2 Accomplishment

On December 11, 2022, due to significant assistance provided by OIA, Libyan authorities expelled dual-Libyan and Tunisian national Abu Agila Mohammad Mas’ud Kheir Al-Marimi (Mas’ud) to the U.S. to stand trial for terrorism charges in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. The charges stemmed from the December 21, 1988 bombing of civilian aircraft, Pan Am Flight 103, which killed 270 people, including 190 Americans, 43 citizens of the United Kingdom, including 11 people on the ground in Lockerbie, Scotland, and citizens from the following countries: Argentina, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Philippines, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and Trinidad and Tobago. Mas’ud built the bomb that destroyed Pan Am 103. Mas’ud’s lawful return was the culmination of decades of work by the U.S. Government. OIA worked closely with the prosecutors, FBI, and the State Department to submit an extradition request and related mutual legal assistance request to the Libyan government in March 2021. OIA also coordinated extensively with the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia prosecutors, FBI, State Department, Department of Defense, National Security Council, and other parts of the U.S. Government to facilitate Mas’ud’s return to the U.S. from Libya. Furthermore, OIA continued to provide guidance to the prosecution team in response to international legal questions about Mas’ud’s expulsion posed by Scottish authorities which must be addressed to secure necessary evidence for the U.S. prosecution from Scotland.

Objective 2.3 – Combat Violent Crime and Gun Violence

Relevant Strategies to Achieve Objective 2.3

- Strategy 1: Target the Most Significant Violent Crime Problems
- Strategy 2: Enhance Partnerships with Federal, State, Local, and Tribal Law Enforcement
- Strategy 3: Invest in Community-Based Programs to Prevent Violence

Objective 2.3 Resources

Strategic Objective	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Combat Violent Crime and Gun Violence	\$46,196	\$46,196	\$49,302

Key Performance Measure

- Percent of Federal violent crime defendants’ cases favorably resolved.

This performance measure is targeted at 90%. In FY 2023, the Division achieved 100% of this target.

Objective 2.3 Accomplishment

In March 2023, VCRS and the USAO for the Southern District of Texas secured an indictment against Shaquile O’Neal Richards, Alexandra Elizabeth Nicks, Deandre Watson, Marcus Dewane Christopher, Marquis Juwan Erskin, and Mertroy Harris, for aiding and abetting the use of a firearm to commit murder in aid of racketeering. The defendants are alleged members of the 100% Third Ward (103) Gang, which operates in and around the Third Ward of the Houston area. This was the first indictment returned as part of the Division’s Violent Crime Initiative conducted in partnership with USAO for the Southern district of Texas and local, state, and federal law enforcement, and several other components of DOJ.

Objective 2.4 – Enhance Cybersecurity and Fight Cybercrime

Relevant Strategies to Achieve Objective 2.4

- Strategy 1: Deter, Disrupt, and Prosecute Cyber Threats
- Strategy 2: Strengthen Interagency, Intergovernmental, International, and Private Sector Partnerships
- Strategy 3: Safeguard Justice Department Systems
- Strategy 4: Enhance Cyber Resilience Outside the Department

Objective 2.4 Resources

Strategic Objective	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Enhance Cybersecurity and Fight Cybercrime	\$31,788	\$31,788	\$31,143

Objective 2.4 Accomplishment

CCIPS and OPDAT collaborated in an international operation centered at Eurojust to support a multinational operation at the judicial level, to take down the Genesis Market. The effort was headed up by the ICHIP Cybercrime Liaison Prosecutor, who formed and chaired the coordination mechanism at Eurojust, and supported by CCIPS attorneys and other law enforcement partners. As a result of this work, in April 2023, DOJ seized various web domains associated with the operation of Genesis Market, one of the largest and most popular cybercrime forums. The Genesis Market was a criminal online marketplace that advertised and sold packages of account access credentials stolen from malware-infected computers worldwide.

Objective 2.5 – Combat Drug Trafficking and Prevent Overdose Deaths

Relevant Strategies to Achieve Objective 2.5

- Strategy 1: Disrupt and Dismantle Drug Trafficking Organizations
- Strategy 2: Reduce Deaths and Addiction Driven by Drug Crime
- Strategy 3: Expand Access to Evidence-Based Prevention and Treatment

Objective 2.5 Resources

Strategic Objective	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Combat Drug Trafficking and Prevent Overdose Deaths	\$31,753	\$31,753	\$32,610

Objective 2.5 Accomplishment

On April 24, 2023, a jury sitting in the District of North Dakota convicted Marie Um of drug-trafficking and money laundering offenses related to a conspiracy to use the darknet and other methods to distribute fentanyl and fentanyl analogues. The leaders of the conspiracy operated the darknet vendor sites and coordinated shipments to U.S.-based distributors while incarcerated in Canada on separate charges. The conspiracy led to multiple overdose deaths in North Dakota and elsewhere. This conviction is the most recent conviction of more than 28 defendants who have been convicted at trial or who have pleaded guilty in this case. NDDS partnered with the District of North Dakota and District of Oregon U.S. Attorney’s Offices in this case.

Objective 2.6 – Protect Vulnerable Communities

Relevant Strategies to Achieve Objective 2.6

- Strategy 1: Promote and Improve Programs for Victims of Crime
- Strategy 2: Combat Gender-Based Violence
- Strategy 3: Protect Children from Crime and Exploitation
- Strategy 4: Fight Elder Fraud, Abuse, and Exploitation
- Strategy 5: Promote Safety and Justice in Indian Country
- Strategy 6: Protect Communities from Hate Crimes

Objective 2.6 Resources

Strategic Objective	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Protect Vulnerable Communities	\$16,836	\$16,836	\$17,803

Objective 2.6 Accomplishment

United States v. Tatiana Power, et al. (M.D. Fla.). The “Newstar” websites were a series of nearly 100 commercial websites that, while claiming to be dedicated to “child modeling” and to advancing the careers of child “models,” were in fact marketing to pedophiles sexually exploitive images of children, including child sexual abuse material (child pornography). The images and videos available for sale through the Newstar websites primarily depicted partially clothed children (some as young as six-years-old) who were often being caused to engage in highly sexual poses that emphasized the child’s scantily clad pubic areas for the camera. Through a sprawling, multi-year, international investigation, Homeland Security Investigations and CEOS’s High Technology Investigative Unit identified numerous conspirators involved in the websites, including individuals located in Florida, Nevada, Washington state, the Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Switzerland, Moldova, and Russia. The investigation also revealed that the Newstar websites were hosted on servers located in the Netherlands and Cyprus. Investigators determined that much of the content on the Newstar websites was produced in Eastern Europe—primarily in the Czech Republic and Moldova—and that the child victims often came from impoverished or disadvantaged families. The investigation also revealed that the conspirators made nearly \$10 million in sales and subscriptions during the time the websites were active, and that this money was laundered through fraudulently obtained bank

accounts and credit-card merchant accounts that were opened in the name of sham, nonexistent companies. As a result of the investigation, every Newstar website was taken down and seized, and images and videos depicting more than 125 child victims were removed from circulation. In addition, through sophisticated computer forensic and financial investigation and extensive international cooperation, many of the conspirators behind the websites have been indicted and/or convicted in the Middle District of Florida on child pornography conspiracy and money laundering charges. Seven conspirators have been charged. Four have been convicted and sentenced to terms of incarceration of up to 25 years, two died before trial, and one has been arrested and is pending extradition from Germany.

Strategic Goal 3: Protect Civil Rights

Goal 3 Resources

Strategic Goal	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Protect Civil Rights	\$9,330	\$9,330	\$9,749

Program Changes Affecting This Goal

- None

Objective 3.1 – Protect the Right to Vote

Relevant Strategies to Achieve Objective 3.1

- Strategy 1: Enforce Federal Laws that Protect Voting Rights
- Strategy 2: Safeguard Fair Elections
- Strategy 3: Increase Ballot Access for Eligible Voters

Objective 3.1 Resources

Strategic Objective	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Protect the Right to Vote	\$4,243	\$4,243	\$4,303

Key Performance Measure

- Percent of cases prosecuting threats of violence and intimidation against election officials that are favorably resolved.

This performance measure is targeted at 75%. The Criminal Division developed baseline data for this measure in FY 2022, and the targets are based on this baseline data. In FY 2023, the Division achieved 100% of this target.

Objective 3.1 Accomplishment

United States v. Douglass Mackey. On March 31, 2023, a federal jury in Brooklyn convicted Mackey, a social media influencer, for his 2016 scheme to deprive individuals of their constitutional right to vote. As proven at trial, in 2016, Mackey established an audience on Twitter with approximately 58,000 followers.

A February 2016 analysis by the MIT Media Lab ranked Mackey as the 107th most important influencer of the then-upcoming Presidential Election. Between September 2016 and November 2016, Mackey conspired with other influential Twitter users and with members of private online groups to use social media platforms, including Twitter, to disseminate fraudulent messages that encouraged supporters of presidential candidate Hillary Clinton to “vote” via text message or social media which was legally invalid. For example, on November 1, 2016, in or around the same time that Mackey was sending tweets suggesting the importance of limiting “black turnout,” the defendant tweeted an image depicting an African American woman standing in front of an “African Americans for Hillary” sign. The ad stated: “Avoid the Line. Vote from Home,” “Text ‘Hillary’ to 59925,” and “Vote for Hillary and be a part of history.” On or about and before Election Day 2016, at least 4,900 unique telephone numbers texted “Hillary” or some derivative to the 59925 text number, which had been used in multiple deceptive campaign images tweeted by Mackey and his co-conspirators. Several hours after tweeting the first image, Mackey tweeted an image depicting a woman seated at a conference room typing a message on her cell phone. This deceptive image was written in Spanish and mimicked a font used by the Clinton campaign in authentic ads. The image also included a copy of the Clinton campaign’s logo and the “ImWithHer” hashtag.

Objective 3.2 – Combat Discrimination and Hate Crimes

Relevant Strategies to Achieve Objective 3.2

- Strategy 1: Enforce Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws
- Strategy 2: Deter and Prosecute Hate Crimes
- Strategy 3: Leverage Resources to Prevent Hate Crimes
- Strategy 4: Support State and Local Partners in Combating Discrimination and Hate

Objective 3.2 Resources

Strategic Objective	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Combat Discrimination and Hate Crimes	\$3,272	\$3,272	\$3,485

Objective 3.2 Accomplishment

CCS attorneys were part of the trial team in the Western District of Pennsylvania that successfully obtained civil rights-related murder convictions and a death sentence against this defendant (*U.S. vs Bowers*), who committed the deadliest antisemitic attack in U.S. history when he murdered 11 Jewish worshippers at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh.

Objective 3.3 – Reform and Strengthen the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems

Relevant Strategies to Achieve Objective 3.3

- Strategy 1: Promote Trust Between Communities and Law Enforcement
- Strategy 2: Improve Law Enforcement Transparency and Accountability
- Strategy 3: Reform Charging and Sentencing Practices
- Strategy 4: Promote Innovation and Reform in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice System

Objective 3.3 Resources

Strategic Objective	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
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Reform and Strengthen the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems	\$1,815	\$1,815	\$1,961
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Strategic Goal 4: Ensure Economic Opportunity and Fairness for All

One of the Department’s top priorities is to ensure that all people living in the U.S. deserve safe communities and a fair economy free from unlawful corporate conduct. The Division furthers this Department goal by prosecuting financial and corporate crime. The Fraud Section, which investigates and prosecutes complex white-collar crime cases throughout the country, is a national leader in the Department’s fight against sophisticated economic crime.

Goal 4 Resources

Strategic Goal	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Ensure Economic Opportunity and Fairness for All	\$25,190	\$25,190	\$28,686

Program Changes Affecting This Goal

- None

Objective 4.1 – Reininvigorate Antitrust Enforcement and Consumer Protection

Relevant Strategies to Achieve Objective 4.1

- Strategy 1: Investigate and Prosecute Violations of the Antitrust Laws
- Strategy 2: Promote Competitive Markets
- Strategy 3: Reininvigorate Consumer Protection

Objective 4.1 Resources

Strategic Objective	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution (\$\$\$)	FY 2025 Total Request (\$\$\$)
Reininvigorate Antitrust Enforcement and Protect Consumers	\$971	\$971	\$1,018

Objective 4.2 – Combat Corruption, Financial Crime, and Fraud

Relevant Strategies to Achieve Objective 4.2

- Strategy 1: Deter and Prosecute Corporate Crime
- Strategy 2: Combat Public Corruption
- Strategy 3: Combat Corporate Corruption and Advance International Anti-Corruption Efforts

Objective 4.2 Resources

Strategic Objective	FY 2023 Enacted (\$\$\$)	FY 2024 Continuing Resolution	FY 2025 Total Request
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		(\$\$\$)	(\$\$\$)
Combat Corruption, Financial Crime, and Fraud	\$24,219	\$24,219	\$27,668

Key Performance Measures

- Percent of corporate criminal resolutions containing compliance reporting obligations that are evaluated by DOJ at least annually.

This performance measure is targeted at 95%. The Criminal Division developed baseline data for this measure in FY 2022, and the targets are based on this baseline data. In FY 2023, the Division achieved 100% of this target.

- Percent of corporate criminal cases in which individual responsibility was evaluated.

This performance measure is targeted at 95%. The Criminal Division developed baseline data for this measure in FY 2022, and the targets are based on this baseline data. In FY 2023, the Division achieved 100% of this target.

Objective 4.2 Accomplishment

On April 19, 2023, the Fraud Section secured Sterling Bancorp, Inc.’s guilty plea to securities fraud for making materially false statements in public securities filings in connection with Sterling Bancorp’s 2017 Initial Public Offering (IPO) and subsequent annual securities filings. Sterling issued a false and misleading public offering statement regarding its marquee lending program, the “Advantage Loan Program” (ALP). In its filings, Sterling Bancorp touted this program as a significant driver of increased and sustained revenue; however, most of the loans issued through the ALP were the product of fraudulent documentation. The bank’s subsequent annual filings in 2018 and 2019 reiterated the false statements. Also included in the plea agreement, Sterling Bancorp will be required to serve a term of probation through 2026, submit to enhanced compliance reporting obligations to the Department, and pay more than \$27.2 million in restitution to its non-insider victim-shareholders.

Performance and Resource Tables

PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES TABLE											
Decision Unit: Enforcing Federal Criminal Law											
RESOURCES		Target		Actual		Projected		Changes		Requested (Total)	
		FY 2023		FY 2023		FY 2024		Current Services Adjustments and FY 2025 Program Changes		FY 2025 Request	
Total Costs and FTE¹		FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
		1,229	\$228,042	1,104	\$223,435	1,232	\$228,042	0	\$11,307	1,232	\$239,349
TYPE	PERFORMANCE	FY 2023		FY 2023		FY 2024		Current Services Adjustments and FY 2025 Program Changes		FY 2025 Request	
Program Activity	1. Prosecutions and Investigations	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
		610	\$113,109	548	\$110,824	590	\$109,232	0	\$5,405	589	\$114,409
Workload	Prosecutions Opened	363		479		405		20		425	
	Prosecutions Closed	220		177		223		11		234	
	Prosecutions Pending	3,048		3,242		3,424		169		3,593	
	Appellate Work Opened	1,060		1,855		1,970		97		2,067	
	Appellate Work Closed	1,060		2,358		1,970		97		2,067	
	Appellate Work Pending	1,404		786		786		39		825	
	Investigations Opened	794		850		769		38		807	
	Investigations Closed	616		819		547		27		574	
	Investigations Pending	3,514		3,379		3,601		178		3,779	
¹ FTE includes direct and reimbursable positions.											

PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES TABLE											
Decision Unit: Enforcing Federal Criminal Law											
RESOURCES		Target		Actual		Projected		Changes		Requested (Total)	
		FY 2023		FY 2023		FY 2024		Current Services Adjustments and FY 2025 Program Changes		FY 2025 Request	
Program Activity		FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
	2. Expert Guidance and Legal Advice	473	\$87,796	425	\$86,022	496	\$91,901	0	\$4,606	502	\$97,495
Workload	Number of Legislative and Policy Analysis Matters Completed	10,569		14,071		11,454		574		12,028	
Workload	Number of Programmatic Coordination Activities	25,727		29,786		26,211		1,314		27,525	
Workload	Number of Legal Advisory Matters Completed	31,103		25,945		25,560		1,281		26,841	
Workload	Number of Training Sessions/Presentations	4,392		7,752		4,860		244		5,104	
	3. Law Enforcement Tools	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
		146	\$27,137	131	\$26,589	145	\$26,909	0	\$1,297	141	\$27,445
Workload	Number of Mandatory Reviews Completed	42,490		48,622		47,144		2,272		49,416	
Workload	Favorably Resolved Criminal Prosecutions	90%		98%		90%		0%		90%	
Workload	Favorable Resolved Civil Prosecutions	80%		100%		80%		0%		80%	
<p>Data Definition, Validation, Verification, and Limitations: Definitions: Prosecutions and Investigations: This program activity includes cases or investigatory matters in which the Criminal Division has sole or shared responsibility. The case breakouts include cases from the following Sections/Offices: Fraud Section, Public Integrity Section, Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section, Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Violent Crime and Racketeering Section, Narcotic and Dangerous Drug Section, Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section, Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section, and Capital Case Section. Appeals: Appellate Section. Expert Guidance & Legal Advice: This program activity includes oral and written advice and training to federal, state, local, and foreign law enforcement officials; coordination and support of investigations, prosecutions, and programs at the national, international and multi-district levels; and oral and written analysis of legislation and policy issues, development of legislative proposals, advice and briefing to Departmental and external policy makers, and participation in inter-agency policy coordination and discussions. Law Enforcement Tools: This program activity includes the work the Division does in specific areas of criminal law in reviewing and approving the use of law enforcement tools throughout the law enforcement community. Validation: The Division's management quarterly validates performance information to ensure data integrity.</p>											

PERFORMANCE MEASURE TABLE

Decision Unit: Enforcing Federal Criminal Laws

Performance Report and Performance Plan Targets		Applicable Strategic Objective(s)	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023		FY 2024	FY 2025
			Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Target
Performance Measures	Number of Legislative and Policy Analysis Matters Completed	1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.1, 4.2	8,269	9,607	11,773	12,439	11,454	14,071	11,454	11,454
	Number of Programmatic Coordination Activities		17,149	17,646	28,442	29,848	26,211	29,786	26,211	26,211
	Number of Legal Advisory Matters		36,996	41,235	32,501	30,549	25,560	25,945	25,560	25,560
	Number of Training Sessions/Presentations		4,525	7,187	5,799	5,074	4,860	7,752	4,860	4,860
	Number of Mandatory Reviews Completed		29,227	35,360	38,166	39,210	47,144	48,622	47,144	47,144
	Favorably Resolved ¹ Criminal Prosecutions		99%	96%	100%	90%	90%	98%	90%	90%
	Favorable Resolved ¹ Civil Prosecutions		100%	100%	100%	80%	80%	100%	80%	80%
Key Performance Indicators	The number of criminal government program fraud cases where the proactive use of data led to the opening of an investigation by the Criminal Division.	1.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	50	N/A	31	50	50
	The number of U.S. Attorney's Offices that received proactive data leads in criminal government fraud cases from the Criminal Division.	1.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	45	N/A	53	45	45
	Percent of Federal violent crime defendants' cases favorably resolved	2.3	100%	97%	100%	97%	90%	100%	90%	90%
	Percent of cases prosecuting threats of violence and intimidation against election officials that are favorably resolved.	3.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	75%	90%	75%	75%
	Percent of corporate criminal resolutions containing compliance reporting obligations that are evaluated by DOJ at least annually.	4.2	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	95%	100%	95%	95%
	Percent of corporate criminal cases in which individual responsibility was evaluated.	4.2	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	95%	100%	95%	95%

¹Defendants whose cases were favorably resolved include those defendants whose cases resulted in court judgments favorable to the government, such as convictions after trial or guilty pleas. Favorable resolution is measured at the defendant level and reported at the conviction stage of the case.

Performance, Resources, and Strategies

The Criminal Division utilizes a number of strategies and resources to achieve its mission of enforcing federal criminal law, detecting criminal misconduct, obtaining restitution for victims, and strengthening the rule of law. To evaluate the Division’s progress toward achieving its mission, it utilizes output and workload measures across its three primary activity areas – prosecutions and investigations, expert guidance and legal advice, and law enforcement tools. These metrics track performance in categories such as criminal and civil litigation, appellate work, legal and policy advising, training events, and mandatory reviews.

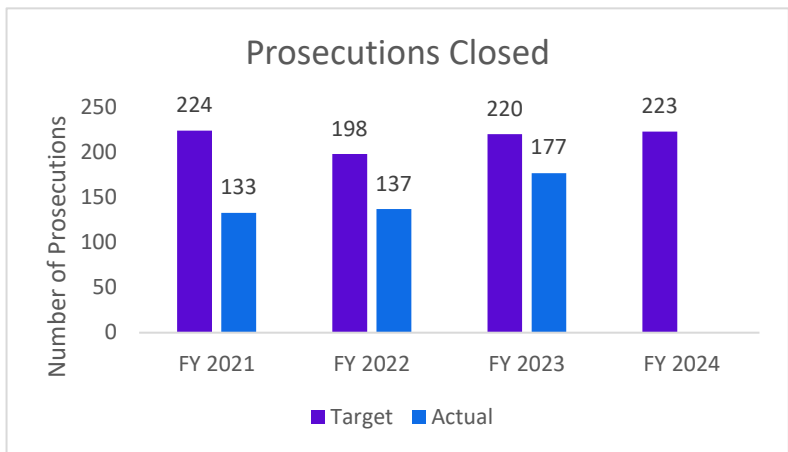
Performance Plan and Report for Outcomes

Prosecutions and Investigations

The Division leads complex investigations and brings and tries significant prosecutions. Many of these prosecutions are of national significance, require international coordination, have precedent-setting implications, and involve the coordination of cross-jurisdictional investigations.

Workload Measure: Number of Prosecutions Closed

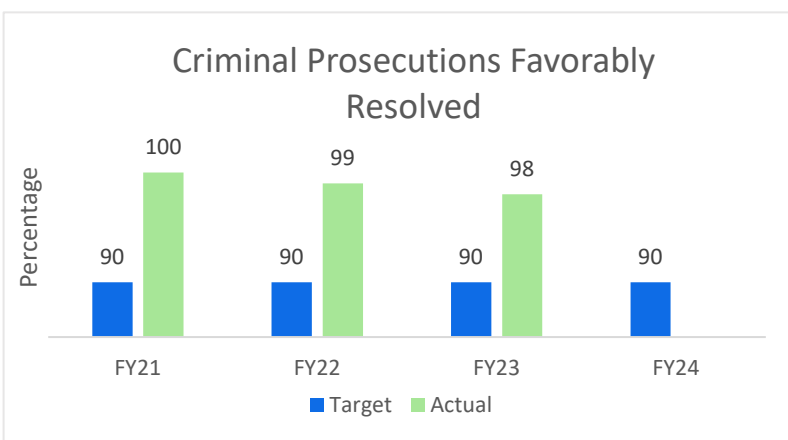
The Division prioritizes resolving prosecutions efficiently and favorably, considering all facts and circumstances, including the scope of criminal misconduct and an offender’s history and characteristics. This metric illustrates the number of open prosecutions that are closed during each fiscal year and provides a snapshot of the Division’s workload. While the Division has experienced fluctuations in its number



of prosecutions in recent years, its prosecutors have handled increasingly complex cases that often involve multiple jurisdictions and international conduct, factors that are not accounted for by the mere number of cases. In FY 2023, the Division did not meet its target.

Outcome Measure: Criminal Prosecutions Favorably Resolved

The Department’s long-term outcome goal for its litigating divisions, including the Criminal Division, is the percentage of criminal and civil prosecutions favorably resolved during the Fiscal Year.¹⁰ This measures the effectiveness of the Division’s core law enforcement efforts. The goals are 90 percent for criminal cases and 80 percent for civil cases. The Division has consistently



¹⁰ Favorable resolution is measured at the defendant level and reported at the conviction stage of the case.

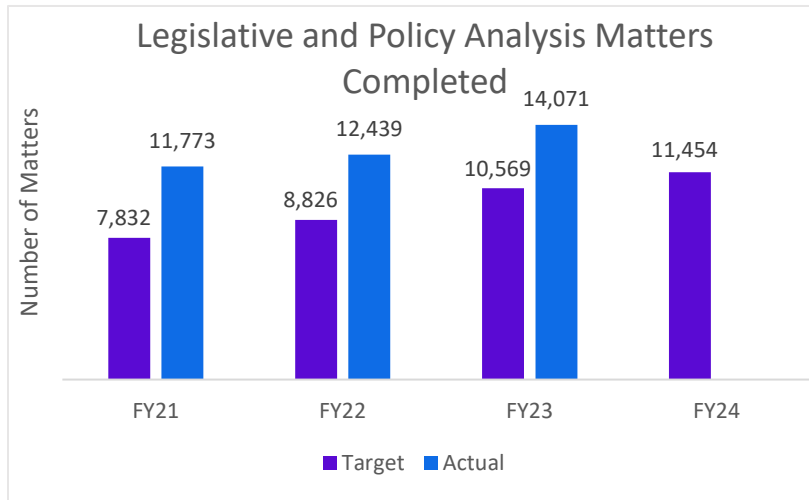
met or exceeded these goals. In FY 2023, the Division exceeded both outcome goals (98% for criminal and 100% for civil).

Expert Guidance and Legal Advice

The Division also provides expert guidance and legal advice on significant legislative and criminal rule proposals, analyzes Department-wide and government-wide law enforcement policy, conducts training for prosecutors and agents, and engages in programmatic coordination across the country.

Workload Measure: Legislative and Policy Analysis Matters Completed

This measure includes legislative reviews, policy and data analysis projects, policy guidance provided, and other activities completed by the Division on behalf of partners such as the U.S. Attorneys’ Offices. The target is determined annually based on the number of requests for assistance expected and consideration of Division resources. Between FY 2021 and FY 2023, the Division has exceeded its target each year.

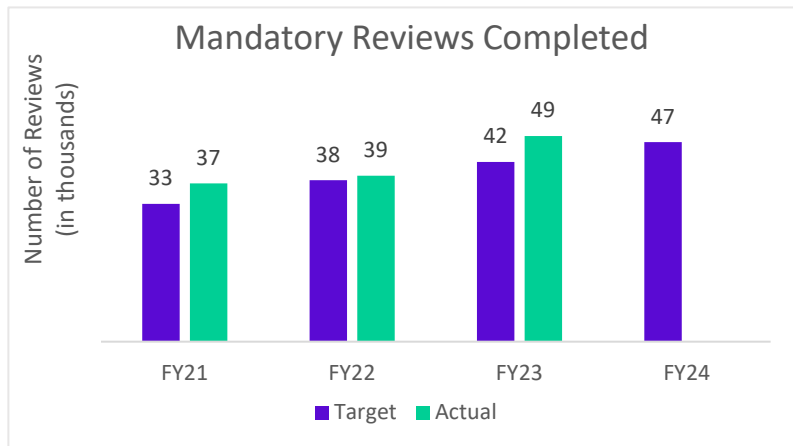


Law Enforcement Tools

The Division plays a central role in the Department’s mission by approving and overseeing the use of the most sophisticated and critical law enforcement tools. This includes the approval of all requests for Title III surveillance, securing the return of fugitives from abroad, and obtaining evidence from other countries integral to criminal prosecutions and investigations.

Workload Measure: Mandatory Reviews of Law Enforcement Tools Completed

The Division serves as the Department’s “nerve center” for many critical operational matters. It is the Division’s responsibility to ensure that investigators are effectively and appropriately using available sensitive law enforcement tools. This is done by reviewing the proposed use of tens of thousands of law enforcement tools on behalf of the Department each year. From FY



2021 to FY 2023 the Division exceeded its target number of mandatory reviews, that is, investigations or prosecutions in which federal review is required, such as Title III surveillance, each year.



Strategies to Accomplish Mission

The Criminal Division’s mission is to protect the American people from serious criminal activity, including transnational criminal organizations, cybercrime, child exploitation, fraud, gangs, corruption, and money laundering. To meet this mission and the performance goals described above, the Division plans to leverage its resources strategically to maximize the impact of its investigative, prosecutorial, advising, and law enforcement activities.

The Division will employ several strategies:

- Utilize centralized headquarters to promote favorable case resolutions and ensure cost savings: The Division’s role as a centralized hub for critical law enforcement functions allows it to support law enforcement partners in offices throughout the U.S. and foreign counterparts across the world. This structure allows the Division the flexibility necessary to quickly mobilize staff and provide guidance to address criminal threats as they develop. As its workload shifts in response to the changing nature and globalization of crime, the Division plans to leverage this structure to continue resolving complex prosecutions and investigations favorably and efficiently.
- Directing resources toward law enforcement priorities and expert guidance areas: While prosecuting and investigating cases comprised an estimated 50% of the Division’s work in FY 2023, expert advising and law enforcement activities were also significant, comprising 38% and 12% respectively. Several of the Division’s pressing internal and external challenges and the backlog of mutual legal assistance requests inhibit the Division’s effectiveness in these important areas. Maintaining OIA’s capacity to continue reducing the mutual legal assistance request backlog and OEO’s resources for reviewing Title III applications for electronic surveillance in a timely manner will assist the Division in meeting its performance targets.

Priority Measures

The Criminal Division contributes to activities that support one of the Department’s FY 2024 – FY 2025 Agency Priority Measures.

Strategic Objective 2.4: Enhance Cybersecurity and Fight Cybercrime

The Department’s FY 2024 – FY 2025 Agency Priority Measures are under development. However, they will focus on the same areas as the previous cycle. A discussion about the previous cycle is provided below.

Combat Ransomware Attacks: Ransomware attacks cause financial losses and other harms to target governments, critical infrastructure, and industry. The Department will enhance its efforts to combat ransomware attacks by: (1) increasing the percentage of reported ransomware incidents from which cases are opened, added to existing cases, conducted investigative actions, or resolved within 72 hours to 65%; and (2) increasing the number of ransomware seizure and forfeiture orders by 10%.

The Division plays a critical role in the Department’s efforts to combat cyber threats and identify, disrupt, and prosecute malicious cyber actors. CCIPS leads the Department’s work on cybercrime, cybersecurity, intellectual property theft, and obtaining electronic evidence. The Section’s work enhances the Department’s ability to keep pace with four explosive growth areas– cybercrime, cybersecurity, intellectual property theft, and obtaining electronic evidence. MLARS, meanwhile, is at the forefront of the



Department’s efforts to trace, seize, and forfeit the proceeds of crime—including cybercrime—and to hold to account the money launderers who assist criminal actors, cyber and otherwise, in moving and secreting their illicit gains. MLARS and CCIPS together have led the Department’s efforts to assess and respond—through criminal enforcement as well as proposals for legal and regulatory reform—to the explosive growth in the use of cryptocurrencies by criminal actors of all stripes, including the most significant ransomware actors.