

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

BERKS COUNTY DETECTIVES



John T. Adams, District Attorney
Michael J. Gombar, Chief County Detective
Lt. Todd E. Trupp, Criminal Investigations Section
Lt. Nelson Ortiz, Narcotics Section

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The seal of the Berks County District Attorney's Office is a large, circular emblem in the background. It features a central shield with a scale of justice, surrounded by a laurel wreath. The text "DETECTIVE" is arched above the shield, "DISTRICT ATTORNEY" is arched below it, and "BERKS COUNTY PA." is at the bottom. The words "LIBERTY INDEPENDENCE" are also visible in a smaller arc. The seal is rendered in a light, semi-transparent yellow and grey color.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Berks County District Attorney's Detective Unit is to investigate crimes, enforce the law, assist local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, and support quality public safety by delivering respectful, professional and dependable investigative services.

Michael J. Gombar

Chief County Detective

Message from the Chief

As the Chief Detective of Berks County, it is an honor and pleasure to present the 2013 Annual Report of the Berks County District Attorney's Detective Unit. Each year, we strive to improve and evolve as a Detective Unit while strengthening our connection with local, state and federal law enforcement departments, along with the Berks County community that we serve. I trust that you will find this report filled with useful information.

The year was extremely busy and challenging for our Detectives. Statistically we experienced an overall increase in investigations and arrests. Additionally, many of the local police departments of Berks County reached out for our investigative support and assistance.

District Attorney John T. Adams and I are extremely proud of the accomplishments of the Detectives and the successes they achieved during the 2013 year. Our Detectives continue to support quality public safety by delivering respectful, professional and dependable investigative services.

To conclude, I want to express my appreciation and deep pride that I have for the men and women of the Berks County District Attorney's Detective Unit for their endless devotion. I am truly proud to be the Chief Detective of this unit, which I consider one of the finest in our Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Gombar
Chief County Detective



2013 PROGRAMS

Pharmaceutical Drop Box Program

On March 7th, 2013, Berks County District Attorney John T. Adams announces the launching of Berks County Pharmaceutical Drop Box Program in Berks County, at the Berks County AG Center. This program was developed as a cooperative effort between the District Attorney's Office, the Council on Chemical Abuse (COCA), and Berks County Solid Waste Authority.

Currently, the Berks County Solid Waste Authority, in conjunction with the Berks County District Attorney's Detectives, offers pharmaceutical collection twice a year. During these scheduled collections, unwanted and expired medications both prescription and over the counter medicines are collected for incineration.



Medications are collected in many forms including: tablet, liquid, ointment, inhaler, powder or patch.

This pharmaceutical/medication drop box disposal program will allow Berks County residents to discard unused or unwanted medication year round at secure locations.



L-R, Gary Tennis, Secretary of the PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, George Vogel, Executive Director of Berks County Council of Chemical Abuse, Jane Meeks, Director Berks County Solid Waste Authority, John Adams, Berks County District Attorney, Michael Gombar, Berks County Chief County Detective

This program provides numerous benefits to the community. These benefits include:

- An opportunity to educate the community about the dangers these medications pose, if left unwanted in homes or improperly discarded.
- A positive connection between Berks County citizens, the township police departments, the District Attorney's Office, the Council on Chemical Abuse and Berks County Solid Waste Authority.
- A decrease of water contamination due to pharmaceutical medications being flushed down the drains in our homes, or contained in our landfills.
- A reduction of access to addictive medications for accidental or intentional misuse by children or others in the home.

Each drop box is securely placed and locked within a township municipal police building where it can be protected. These drop boxes resemble a United States Postal Service mailbox, whereas there is an open door to collect medications, but once dropped they cannot be retrieved. Each box will also have a separate locked entry for District Attorney Detectives to retrieve the discarded medications. Inventoried medications will be incinerated at the discretion of the District Attorney's Detectives and Solid Waste Authority.



2013 PROGRAMS

Pharmaceutical Drop Box Program

The Pharmaceutical Drop Box Program began in 2013 with 16 Police Departments participating at the following locations:

- Amity Police Department, 2004 Weavertown Road, Douglassville
- Bern Twp. Police Department, 1069 Old Bernville Rd., Bern Twp.
- Birdsboro Police Department, 200 East Main Street, Birdsboro
- Brecknock Police Department, 889 Alleghenyville Road, Mohnton
- Caernarvon Twp. Police Department, 3307 Main St., Morgantown
- Central Berks Regional P.D., 2147 Perkiomen Ave., Mt. Penn
- Berks County Detectives, Berks Co. AG Center, 1238 Welfare Rd., Leesport
- Exeter Twp. Police Department, 4975 DeMoss Rd., Exeter Twp.
- Fleetwood Police Department 110 West Arch St., Fleetwood
- Kutztown Police Department, 45 Railroad St., Kutztown
- Muhlenberg Police Department, 5401 Leesport Ave., Muhlenberg Twp.
- Sinking Spring Police Department, 3940 Penn Ave., Sinking Spring
- Spring Twp. Police Department, 2800 Shillington Rd., Sinking Spring
- Western Berks Regional P.D., 100 N. Reber Street, Wernersville
- Reading Police Department, 815 Washington Street, Reading
- Tulpehocken Police Department, 22 Rehmersberg Road, Rehmersberg



The following locations were added later in 2013:

- Berks County Coroners Office, 1047 MacArthur Road, Bern Township
- Penn State Berks Campus, Tulpehocken Road, Spring Township

The following locations will be added later in 2014:

- Bally Police Department, 425 Chestnut Street, Bally
- Shillington Police Department, 999 East Broad Street, Shillington
- West Reading Police Department, 500 Chestnut Street, West Reading
- Wyomissing Police Department, 22 Reading Blvd, Wyomissing



L-R, Kim Barry, Chief Operating Officer at Penn State Berks, John T. Adams, Berks County District Attorney, Alice Holland, PSU-Berks school nurse.

In 2013, a total of 3364 pounds of pharmaceuticals were collected from the above listed drop boxes. The individual departments are listed below:

Ag	Amity	Bern	Birdsboro	Brecknock	Caenarvon	Cen. Berks	Coroner	Exeter	Fleetwood	Kutz-	Muhlenberg	PSU	RDG	Sink Spring	Spring	Tulpy	Western Berks
154	206.5	68	62.5	41	146	54.5	250	681.5	190.5	129.5	490	52.5	58.5	159	466	25.5	128.5

2013 PROGRAMS

Annual Pharmaceutical Collections



Berks County Detectives assisted the Berks County Solid Waste Authority with the annual spring and fall pharmaceutical collections. The spring collection was held at the Exeter Police Department. The fall collection was hosted at First Energy Stadium. A total of **790** residents participated in the events. **2581** pounds of pharmaceuticals were collected at the events. There was no cost to Berks County residents.

2013 SPECIAL EVENTS



Detectives from the Berks County District Attorney's Office routinely attend special community events to promote the services we provide to the citizens of Berks County. Below is a list of the special events attended by the Berks County Detectives.

- **National Night Out**, Womelsdorf Police Department, August 6, 2013
- **National Night Out**, Central Berks Regional Police Department, August 6, 2013
- **City of Reading Holiday Parade**, Reading, PA, November 24, 2013.

Criminal Investigations Section

In general, the police departments in Berks County are staffed by twenty-five or fewer sworn officers. The majority of these officers are assigned to patrol duties and have limited specialized training. These departments must balance their resources, manpower and finances with the concerns and demands of the community. Often it becomes difficult to stretch their available resources and address community issues.

The Criminal Investigation Section is comprised of two distinct entities, Forensic Services and Crime Unit. Detectives from the Criminal Investigation Section work closely with police officers from over forty local Berks County police departments, state and federal law enforcement agencies. The majority of the Berks County Detectives are seasoned veterans with a vast amount of police experience and expertise, which they acquired from specialized schools and training. The Berks County Detectives offer their specialized services to those departments that do not have the expertise and or resources to successfully investigate a specific crime. The Criminal Investigation Section is led by Lieutenant Todd Trupp.

Sgt. Gerardo Vega is the first line supervisor for the crime unit. The Crime Unit is responsible for the following:



- Auto Theft Task Force
- Bad Check Restitution Program
- Bingo Enforcement
- Child Abuse
- Domestic Violence Unit
- Financial Crimes
- Elderly Abuse, physical and financial
- Megan's Law Enforcement
- Precious Metals Unit

Sgt. Robert Johnson is the first line supervisor for Forensic Services. Forensic Services is responsible for the following:



- AFIS—Automated Fingerprint Identification System
- Computer and Cellular Telephone Forensics
- Crash Reconstruction
- Berks County DUI Processing Center
- Pharmaceutical Drop box Program



Criminal Investigations Section

In late December 2012 and continuing well into 2013, detectives from both the Crime Unit and Forensic Services, initiated the first large scale child pornography investigation in Berks County history. Ten suspects were arrested and charged with possessing and distributing child pornography. One subject, Christopher Mailloux, was indicted federally and if convicted faces up to 80 years in prison, lifetime parole and a \$1 million fine.

Throughout 2013, search warrants were served on an additional 10 residences, and the occupants of these residences were charged with possession and distribution of child pornography. These cases are currently pending in Berks County Court.



Cori J. Merklinger
1400 Blk. Friedensburg Rd.
Mt. Penn
Possession and
Distribution of Child
Pornography



Lewis V. Martinez
900 Blk. Weiser St.
Reading
Possession and
Distribution of Child
Pornography



Hector L. Perez
200 Blk. Arlington St.
Reading
Possession and
Distribution of Child
Pornography



Danny Ray Evans Jr.
300 Blk. Pearl St.
Reading
Possession and
Distribution of Child
Pornography



Christopher M. Mailloux
300 Blk. Pearl St.
Reading
Possession and
Distribution of Child
Pornography



Reinerio Velazco-Mena
1300 Blk. N9th St.
Reading
Possession and
Distribution of Child
Pornography



David A. Crimmins
700 Blk. Tamarack Trail
Cumru
Possession and
Distribution of Child
Pornography



Brian K. Crimmins
700 Blk. Tamarack Trail
Cumru
Possession and
Distribution of Child
Pornography



Brett A. Correll
1500 Blk. Fern Ave.
Kenhorst
Possession and
Distribution of Child
Pornography



Hugo D. Blanco
1400 Blk. Hampden
Blvd. Reading
Possession and
Distribution of Child
Pornography

Berks County District Attorney's Office Sponsored Training



The District Attorney's Office is committed to assisting police personnel in Berks County by hosting several law enforcement related training sessions annually. Lieutenant Todd Trupp, of the Berks County Detectives, was named Chairman of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 71 Training Committee, by District Attorney John T. Adams and FOP President Joseph Brown. In 2013, 96 law enforcement officers from Berks County received free training in the courses listed below.

- February 18-22, 2013 — 40 Hour Evidence Technician—Reading PD only
- March 4-8-, 2013 — 3 Dimensional Diagram Creation Class
- May 8-10, 2013— Blood Spatter Analysis
- September 18-20, 2013—Digital Photography for Law Enforcement
- October 7-11, 2013 — 40 Hour Evidence Technician
- October 10, 2013— Human Trafficking for Law Enforcement



40 Hour 3 Dimensional Diagram Creation

The District Attorney's Office sponsored it's first ever 3 Dimensional Diagram Creation Class on March 4-8, 2013 at the Berks County Forensic Services Center. Fifteen officers from 14 different police departments participated in this training.

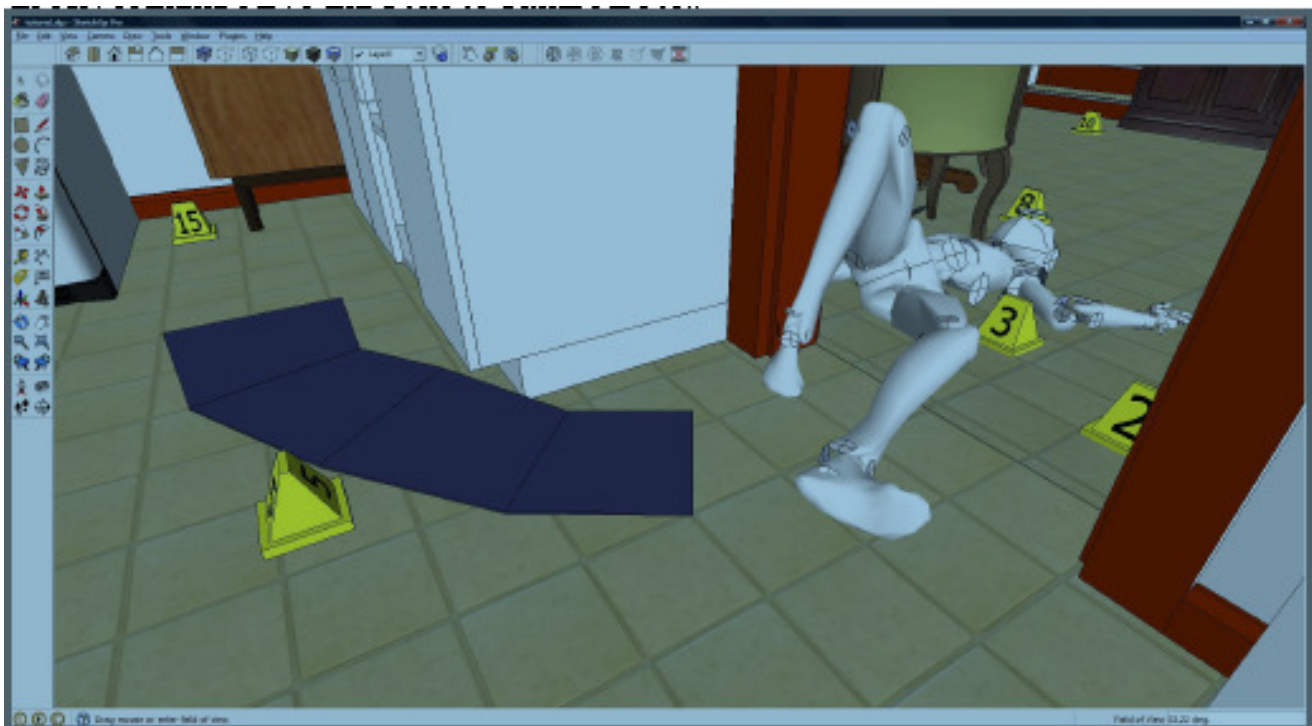


This 40 hour course walked the officers through the creation of a 3D diagram. They were taught how

to build rooms from the ground up, and populate them with furniture, evidence, bodies and other items.

The following departments attended in 2013:

- Berks County DA**
- Bern Township**
- Kutztown**
- Wyomissing**
- Spring**
- Muhlenberg**
- Brecknock**
- PSP Troop L**
- Central Berks Regional**
- Shillington**
- Womelsdorf**
- Reading**
- West Reading**
- Chester County Detectives**





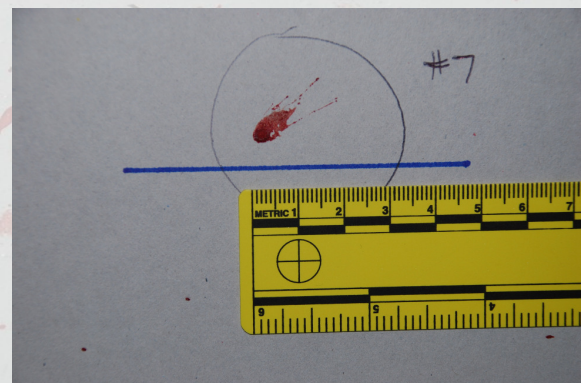
Blood Spatter Identification

The Berks County District Attorney's Office hosted its fourth Blood Spatter Identification Course in 2013. The 2013 course was instructed by detectives from the Berks County Detectives. The course consisted of classroom lecture and hands on practical exercises designed to replicate actual crime scenes.

Blood Spatter Identification is one of several specialties in the field of forensic science. The science of bloodstain pattern analysis applies scientific knowledge from other fields to solve practical problems. Bloodstain pattern analysis draws on the scientific disciplines of biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics. If an analyst follows a scientific process, this applied science can produce strong, solid evidence, making it an effective tool for investigators. Students were taught the accepted means of documenting a blood scene through sketching, stringing, and photography.

The following departments attended the three day course:

- Berks County District Attorney's Office**
- Bern Township**
- Central Berks**
- Kutztown**
- Muhlenberg Township**
- PSP Troop L**
- Reading**
- Robeson**
- Spring**





40 Hour Evidence Technician

The District Attorney's Office with assistance from the Wyomissing Police Department and in conjunction with the Berks County Chiefs of Police Association, sponsored a 40 hour evidence technician course. The course was offered free of charge to police officers in Berks County. This year's course was held at the Forensic Services Center located at the Berks County Agricultural Center. All officers were trained in all aspects of evidence collection and preservation. The course concluded with the investigation of a mock homicide crime scene.

The following departments attended the three day course:

- Bern**
- Tulpehocken**
- Colebrookdale**
- Spring**
- Kutztown**
- Exeter**
- Shillington**
- PSU Berks**
- Cumru**





Digital Photography for Law Enforcement

For the fourth consecutive year, the Berks County District Attorney's Office hosted a Digital Photography for Law Enforcement Course. The course was designed to assist qualified police officers in achieving a level of proficiency to successfully complete essential crime scene, close-up, investigative, and surveillance photographic assignments. This proficiency will come as a result of in depth classroom instruction followed by hands on use of a digital camera package supplied by the Berks County District Attorney's Office. Upon completion of the exercises, the students had the knowledge to properly transfer and save the captured images for evidentiary use and ultimately prepare images for courtroom presentation.

District Attorney John T. Adams provided funding for the equipment utilized in this course. Each two man team retained possession of the photographic equipment for their respective police departments. In many cases, this equipment was a vast upgrade to the photographic equipment they previously used.

The following departments attended the three day course:

Bethel
Central Berks
Cumru
Douglass
Fleetwood
Kutztown
Mohnton
Spring





Cellphone Forensic Kiosk

The Berks County District Attorney's Office has developed a Cell Phone Kiosk which is located in the Forensic Services Center at the Berks County Agricultural Center.

This was developed to assist in alleviating the current cell phone backlog experienced by our Computer Forensic Section.

The goal of the Kiosk is to expedite the examination of cell phones by law enforcement officers in Berks County.

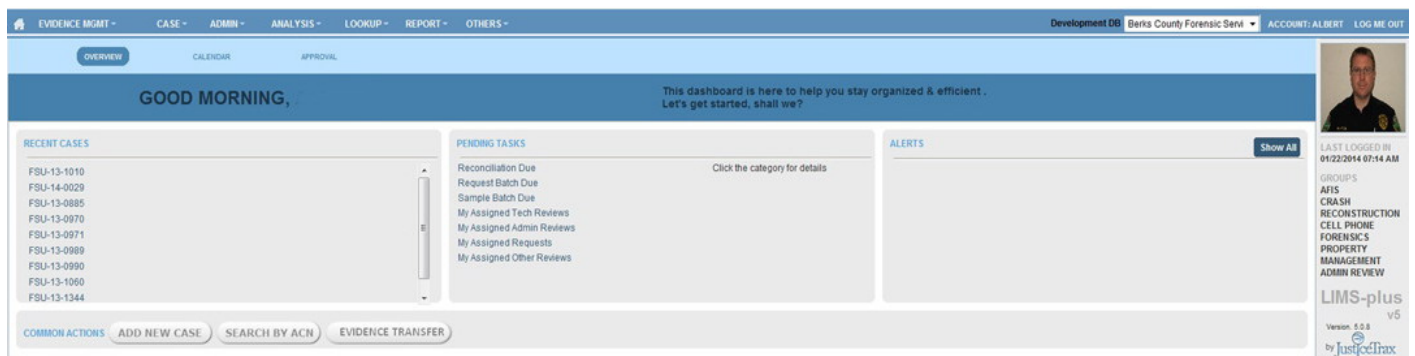


This Kiosk allows users to extract data from a cell phone, put the retrieved data into a report, and copy it to a media storage device for later use.

The Kiosk is modeled after the system currently in use by the Philadelphia Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory. (FBI Philadelphia)

Lab Information System - LIMS

The Berks County District Attorney's Office was again awarded the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant in 2013. Berks County was awarded approximately \$78,000 for the implementation of a Lab Information System, LIMS for short. This system allows for the tracking of all forensic evidence forwarded to our laboratory for further analysis. The LIMS-plus IMUA solution will not only create a more streamlined and efficient process for management of this information, but will also provide security and storage to ensure the integrity of the Berks County Forensic Services Unit's images and other case related assets.





Digital Interview Room

Berks County Detectors utilized the federal Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant to purchase state of the art digital Interview equipment, for use by all county law enforcement officers. This system will enable officers to capture both audio and video while interviewing subjects in criminal cases.

The system comprises of a stand alone computer connected to dual cameras and microphones. Dual redundant hard drives guarantee that data will not be lost in the event of a drive failure. In addition, the interview can be monitored remotely, with constant contact between the interviewers and viewing audience.



Berks County Detectors Harold Shenk and Ivan Martinez participate in a mock interview.



District Attorney staff member Lizabeth Collazo participates in a mock interview.



Criminal Investigations Section Statistical Comparison

FORENSIC SERVICES

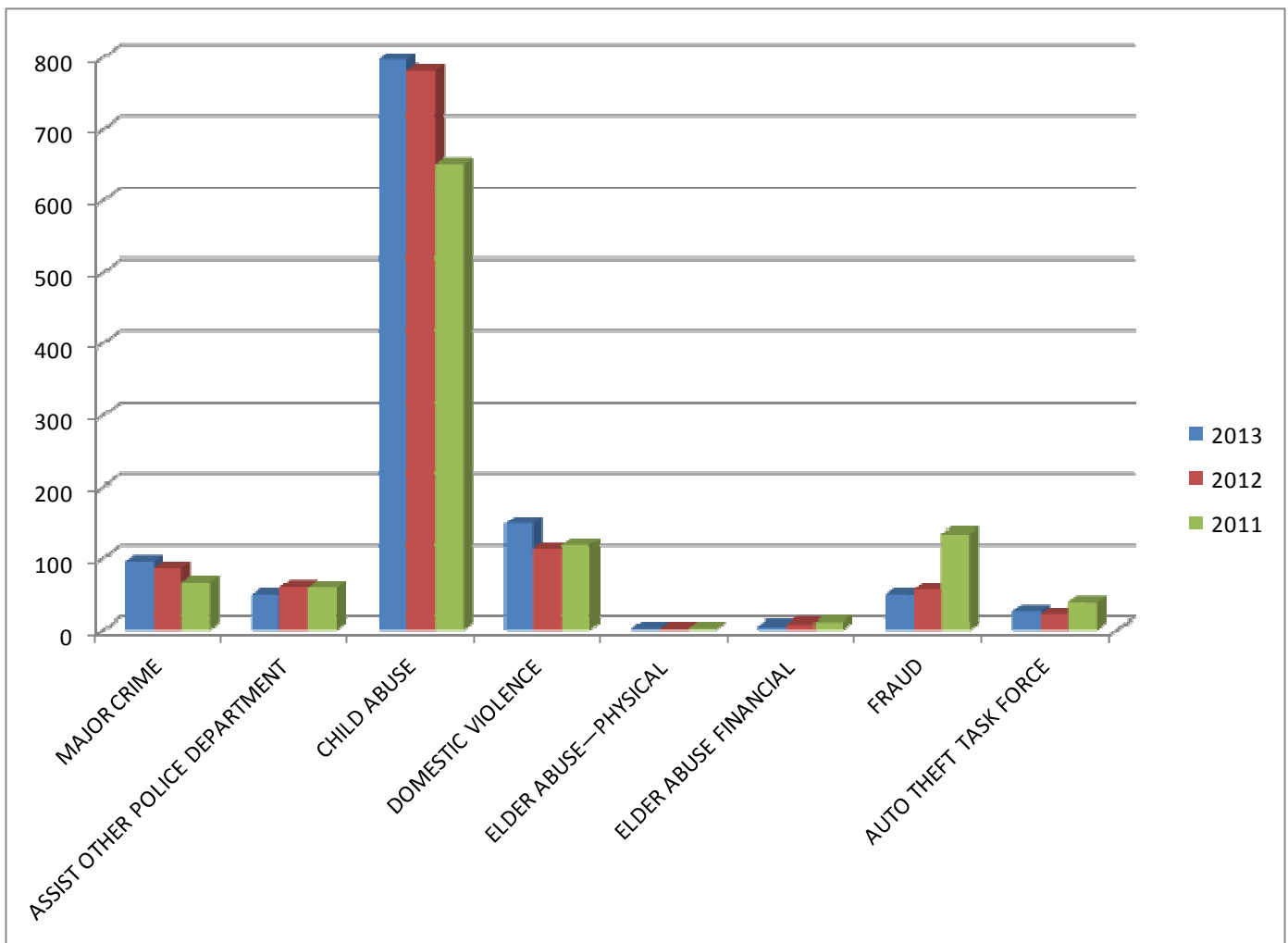
INCIDENT TYPE	2013	2012	2011
CRASH RECONSTRUCTION	15	40	31
AFIS (AUTOMATED FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM)	695	831	352
COMPUTER FORENSICS	111	134	87
DUI BOOKING CENTER	620	587	522
FORENSIC PROCESSING	136	191	135
TELEPHONE KIOSK	13	-	-

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

	2013	2012	2011
MAJOR CRIME	94	84	66
ASSIST OTHER POLICE DEPARTMENT	48	60	59
CHILD ABUSE	796	780	649
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	147	112	118
ELDER ABUSE—PHYSICAL	2	1	2
ELDER ABUSE FINANCIAL	4	7	10
FRAUD	48	56	133
AUTO THEFT TASK FORCE	24	20	37

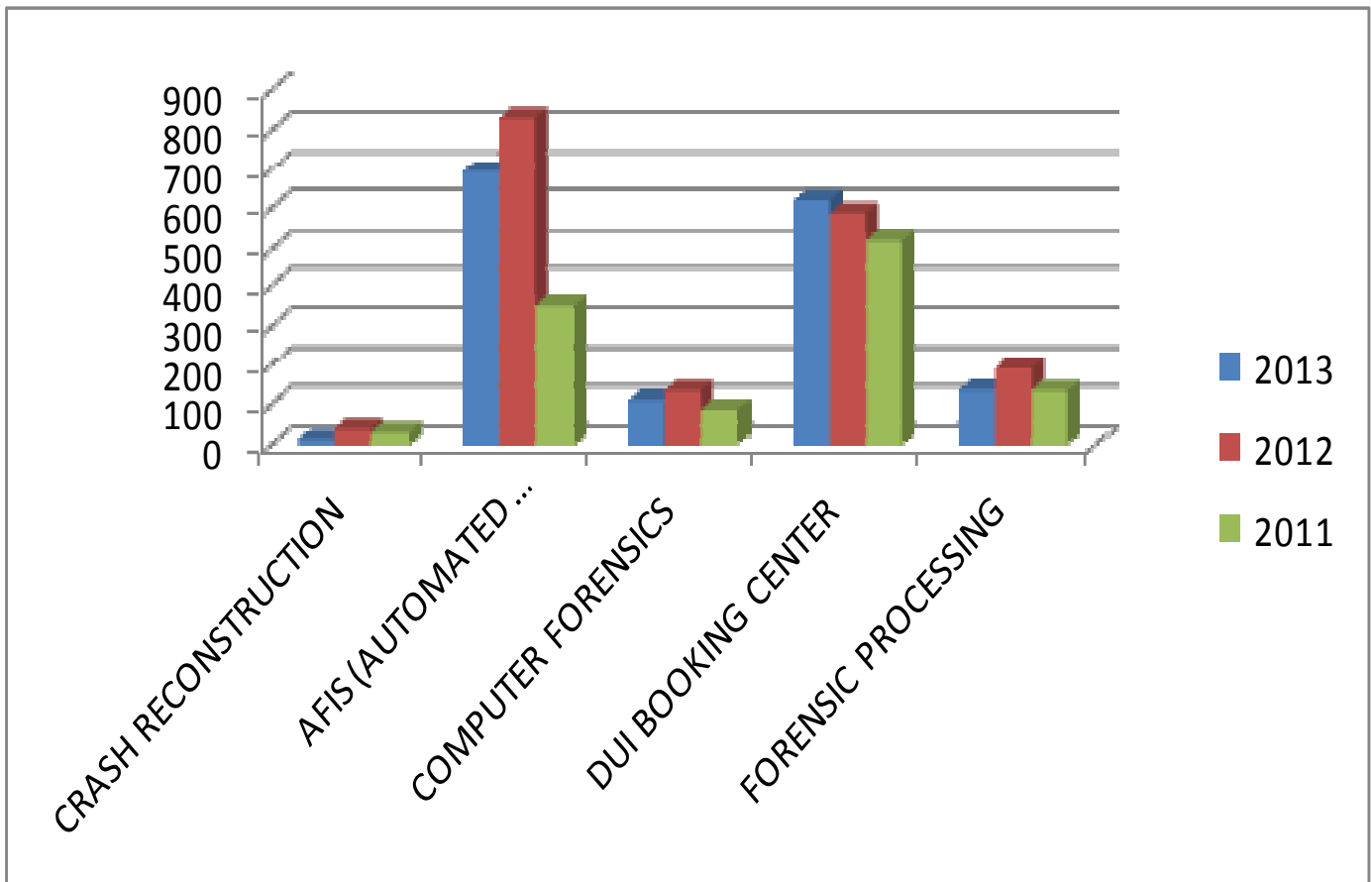
Crime Section Chart

2013 was another challenging year for the Criminal Investigations Section of the Berks County District Attorney's Office. As the chart below shows, child abuse investigations increased for the third consecutive year. Major crime and domestic abuse also increased in 2013. The National White Collar Crime Center ceased sending out complaints for internet related crimes this year, as a result the chart below depicts all fraud related crimes over the past three years, excluding internet related offenses.



Forensic Services Chart

The Forensic Services Section acquired a Lab Incident Management System, (LIMS) in 2013, which assisted greatly in reducing our current backlog in computer and cellphone forensics. The AFIS Unit (Automated Fingerprint Identification System), assisted the Reading Police Department in well over 100 burglary investigations, by identifying unknown suspects using the latest fingerprint identification technology.



Bad Check Restitution Program

The District Attorney's Bad Check Restitution Program was initiated in the spring of 2008 to combat the negative impact of bad checks passed to local businesses. Millions of dollars are lost every year by merchants as a result of this ongoing problem. Bad checks affect everyone. Specifically, bad checks result in higher consumer costs that must be passed on to offset losses and increased taxes to cover the additional costs for law enforcement and prosecution.



In an effort to alleviate this problem, the Bad Check Restitution Program has been organized to assist local merchants with bad check losses. The primary goal of the program is to obtain full restitution for the victim without adding to the financial burden of the criminal justice system.

Accordingly, first time bad check offenders are given the opportunity to avoid criminal prosecution by attending a mandatory intervention class in addition to paying restitution. All of this is accomplished without any cost to the taxpayers.

	2013	2012	2011
Restitution Returned	\$28,820.17	\$ 39, 223.71	\$ 39,295
Checks Filed	568	631	694
Victim Filing	195	204	204
Class Attendance	75	123	115

Total Program Satisfaction Rating in 2013 was 4.1 out of 5

Narcotics Section

The Narcotics Unit is committed to investigating and enforcing local, state, and federal laws as they apply to individuals and corrupt organizations that may be responsible for the distribution and manufacturing of illegal controlled substances, and for the unlawful possession of firearms within Berks County. This unit is comprised of eleven detectives led by Lieutenant Nelson Ortiz.

In 2013, the Narcotics Unit was involved in many investigations with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. The unit continued to work closely with members of the Berks County Drug Task Force to decrease drug activity throughout the County.

Cocaine, Heroin and Marijuana

In 2013, the Berks County Drug Task Force Detectives initiated an investigation into a major drug operation in Berks County. Detectives received information from confidential sources that individuals were distributing cocaine, heroin and marijuana throughout Berks County. As a result, the Drug Task Force joined forces with the FBI, the Pennsylvania State Police, Reading Police Department Vice Unit, Exeter Township and Spring Township Police Departments.

The investigation centered-around suspect, Robert Sanfiel, who resided in Pennside, Berks County. As the investigation progressed, other suspects were developed that formed the Sanfiel Drug Trafficking Organization.

During the investigation, undercover purchases were made from members of the organization and eight (8) search warrants were served at different locations throughout Berks County. As a result of the search warrants, the following items were seized: three (3) kilograms of cocaine (street value \$300,000), two-hundred and fifty (250) grams of heroin (street value \$75,000), drug-related paraphernalia associated with the distribution of controlled substances, \$50,000 in U.S. currency, three (3) handguns, a sawed-off shotgun and one (1) vehicle with a hidden trap to conceal contraband.



Narcotics Section

In May 2013, the Sanfiel Drug Trafficking Organization was dismantled. District Attorney John T. Adams announced that arrest warrants were served for twenty-five (25) mid to high-level individuals with operating a major drug operation in Berks. The individuals were charged with committing the following offenses: Conspiracy to Distribute Controlled Substances (Cocaine, Marijuana & Heroin), Dealing in Proceeds of Unlawful Activity, Corrupt Organizations & Criminal Use of Communication Facility.

"The success of dismantling this drug trafficking operation could only have been accomplished with the cooperative combined teamwork of local, county, state & federal law enforcement agencies. Today, we send a message to the drug dealers of our community that we will use every available law enforcement resource to bring them to justice." ~ DA John Adams, 05/15/2013.

MARIJUANA and GUNS

In May of 2013, Berks County and Montgomery County Drug Task Force Detectives developed information regarding the trafficking of marijuana by Michael Bentz at his residence in Berks County. A joint investigation was initiated between the narcotics detectives from both counties.

Between May and October of 2013, detectives conducted undercover drug purchases from Michael Bentz. On October 24, 2013, detectives obtained a search warrant for Michael Bentz's residence, 24 Power Line Road, Earl Township, Berks County.



Detectives served the search warrant in the morning of October 25, 2013, where Michael Bentz was taken into custody. The following items were seized from Bentz' residence: four pounds of high grade marijuana (street value \$12,000), three (3) grams of methamphetamine, psilocybin mushroom, grow equipment for marijuana, multiple firearms including a loaded SKS assault rifle with high capacity magazines, two (2) handguns, five (5) long rifles, one (1) shotgun and a stockpile of ammunition.

Narcotics Section

CRACK COCAINE

The Berks County District Attorney's Office identified an illegal Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO) being operated in the 1900 block of Centre Avenue Reading, PA. The organization involved Donald Patnelli and associates. Detectives initiated an investigation and during the course of the investigation they were able to make large purchases of heroin and crack cocaine from members of the organization.

During the course of the investigation, detectives learned that DTO members were supplying numerous other individuals with large quantities of heroin and crack cocaine. The Reading based DTO had customers outside Berks County as far as Scranton, PA.

Detectives further learned that Patnelli was utilizing a 2006 Honda Accord, with a secret compartment, to secrete bulk drug quantities. On June 12, 2013, detectives were able to locate and secure the Honda Accord in Reading, PA. Detectives obtained a search warrant for the vehicle and seized approximately 1900 grams (street value \$72,200) of crack cocaine from a secret compartment inside the vehicle.

As a result of this investigation, Berks County Detectives teamed up with the Pennsylvania State Police, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the U.S. Attorney's Office to prosecute Donald Patnelli and nine (9) high level drug dealers. The case is being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Middle District of PA.

THREE STREET ROUNDUP OPERATIONS

In June 2013, the Berks County District Attorney's Drug Task Force and the Pennsylvania State Police conducted a drug roundup of twenty-one (21) suspects from Berks County. The suspects were wanted for various violations of the Controlled Substance Act of Pennsylvania, specifically Delivery of Controlled Substances, which included cocaine, heroin, LSD and marijuana. During the investigation, undercover detectives purchased controlled substances with values ranging from \$20 to \$1,000. The roundup was the culmination of a nine-month joint investigation by the District Attorney's Drug Task Force and the PA State Police. The suspects sold controlled substances in various locations throughout Berks County.

In September 2013, the Berks County District Attorney's Drug Task Force and Reading Police Vice Unit arrested twelve (12) street-level drug dealers for distributing heroin and crack cocaine. Also, twenty-two (22) drug users were arrested. The task force detectives conducted the roundup after a two-month investigation. At that time, undercover detectives purchased small amounts of heroin and crack cocaine from dealers near S. 6th and Chestnut Streets. The purchases ranged from \$20 to \$80.

Narcotics Section

In December 2013, detectives from the Berks County District Attorney's Drug Task Force, Reading Police Vice Unit and the Berks County Sheriff's Department arrested twenty-six (26) mid to low-level drug dealers. They were charged with numerous violations of the PA Drug Device and Cosmetic Act for Possession, Possession with the Intent to Deliver and Delivery of Heroin, Cocaine, Methamphetamine and Marijuana. The operation was the culmination of a year-long investigation, where undercover detectives purchased amounts of heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine and marijuana from drug dealers in Berks County. The drug purchases ranged from \$50 to \$2,870.

The three aforementioned investigations were initiated after receiving complaints from concerned citizens and information gathered from confidential sources. A total of eight-one (81) suspects were arrested during these details.

METHAMPHETAMINE

In October of 2013, Berks County District Attorney John Adams and Montgomery County District Attorney Risa Vetri Ferman announced the arrest of six (6) Mexican Nationals for distributing large quantities of crystal methamphetamine and cocaine in both counties.

The suspects sold crystal meth and cocaine to undercover detectives in Berks and Montgomery Counties. The six arrested were Jose Dejesus Montilla, Hector Hugo Cucuas, Eloy Solorio-Flores, Alder Hernandez-Solorio, Juan Carlos Morales-Soria and Alejandro Ruiz Cabrera. They were charged with Corrupt Organization, Delivery and/or Possession with the Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance, Criminal Conspiracy, Firearms not to be Carried without a License, Criminal Use of Communication Facility and related charges. The detectives were assisted by the Drug Enforcement Agency, the Department of Homeland Security and local police departments.



HEROIN

In October 2013, the Berks County Detectives recovered drugs with a street value of \$275,000 as the result of an undercover investigation. The case started with the arrest of two suspects who sold \$6,500 worth of heroin to an undercover detective. The suspects, Pedro Santos and Eliseo Ramos were arrested for dealing 100 grams of heroin to the undercover detective in Muhlenberg Township. Shortly after the drug buy, the detectives executed a search warrant at Santos' residence. As a result of the search the following seized; 450 grams of heroin (street value \$275,000), 999 oxycodone hydrochloride, a 9mm handgun and related drug paraphernalia.

Narcotics Section

Ramos and Santos were charged with Possession with the Intend to Deliver and Delivery of Heroin, Weapon Violations and Criminal Conspiracy.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

In October of 2013, Attorney General Kathleen Kane and Berks County District Attorney John Adams announced the arrest of Reading Doctor Mohammed Abdul Rahman Kahn known as "Candyman" for allegedly prescribing controlled substances to drug-dependant patients. Dr. Kahn's practice and location was Berks Psychiatry Inc., 146 S. 5th Street, Reading, Berks County, PA.

The investigation began in August 2011 when the Berks County District Attorney's Narcotics Detectives received information from a confidential source that Dr. Kahn was issuing numerous prescriptions for controlled substances, knowing that his patients were reselling the drugs obtained from filling his scripts.

Between January 2012 and October 2012, an undercover Berks County Narcotics Detective and an agent from the Attorney's General's Bureau of Narcotics paid \$160 for initial visits and then \$80 for subsequent visits with Dr. Kahn. The visits lasted less than five minutes each, where Dr. Kahn provided scripts for Adderall, Xanax and Clonazepam, after doing nothing more than a cursory patient history.

Additionally, detectives learned that Dr. Kahn created a scheme to overbill insurance companies by falsifying billing records and patient files.

Dr. Kahn was charged with six felonies which included: Unlawful Prescription of Controlled Substances (Adderall, Xanax and Ritalin) by Practitioner; Acquisition of Controlled Substance by Misrepresentation, Fraud, Forgery, Deception and Subterfuge; Insurance Fraud and Criminal Conspiracy.

SYNTHETICS

In November 2013, Berks County Drug Task Force Detectives and the Reading Police Vice Unit arrested seven (7) members of a Synthetic Marijuana Ring. Eric Cintron the owner of a corner grocery store at 14th Cotton Street, Reading, Berks Co., PA was the central figure of the ring.

Detectives served a search warrant at the corner grocery store and seized the following items: synthetic marijuana valued at \$100,000, large amounts of money believed to proceeds from the sales of the synthetic marijuana, a fully loaded assault rifle and chemicals used to process and produce the synthetic controlled substance.

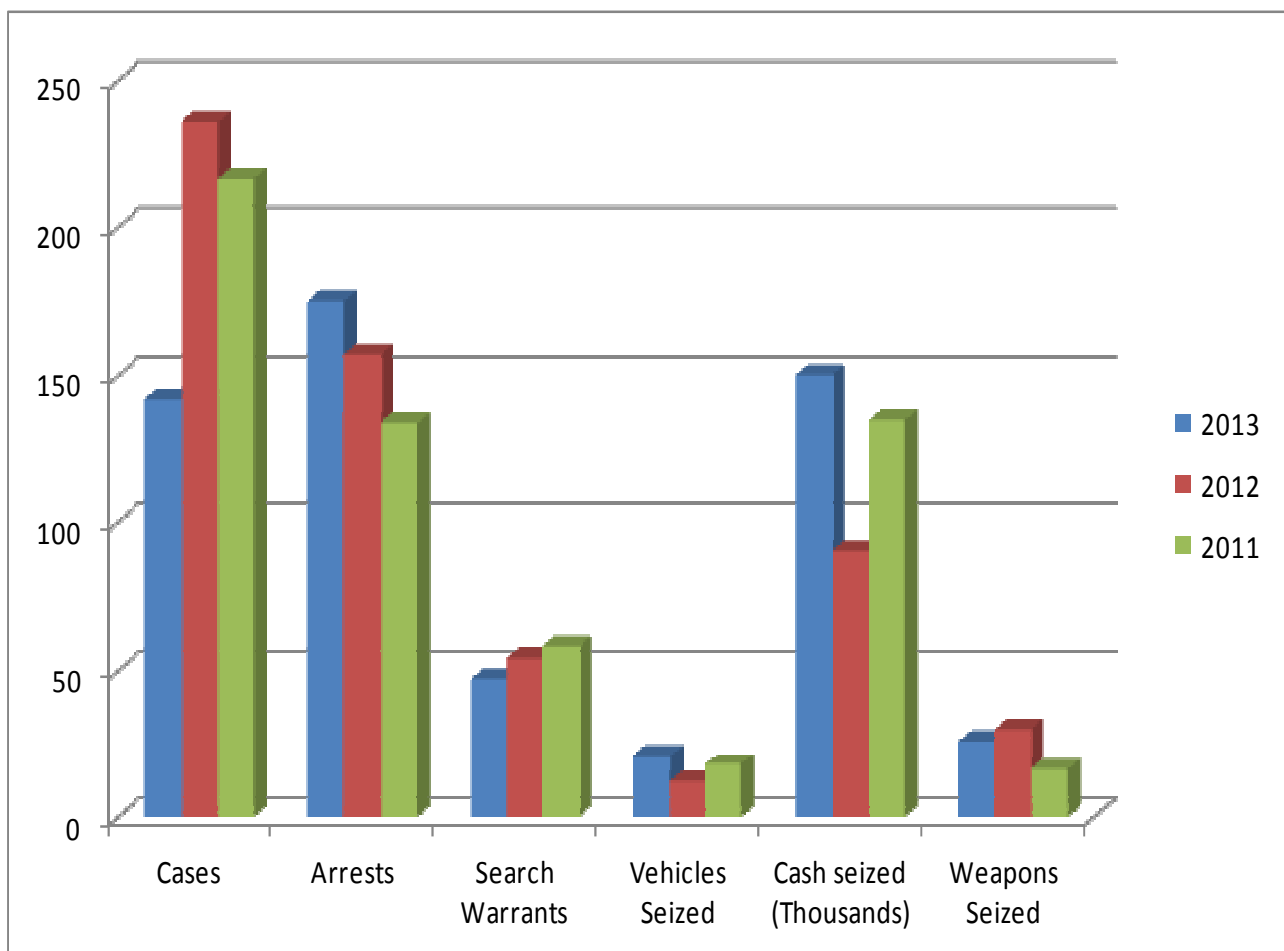
All seven (7) suspects were charged with Possessing Synthetic Marijuana (K-2) and Conspiring to Manufacture and Distribute the Drug, Risking a Catastrophe and other related charges.



Narcotics Section

Statistical Comparison

Type	2013	2012	2011
Cases	142	236	217
Arrests	175	157	134
Search Warrants	47	54	58
Vehicles Seized	21	12	18
Cash seized (Thousands)	150	90	135
Weapons Seized	26	30	16



Operation Nightlight

The thrust of the Operation Nightlight is to combine law enforcement efforts with other prevention and intervention programs. The plan pairs probation officers with police officers who together would make unannounced visits to the homes, schools and workplaces of high-risk probationers during non-traditional hours. By doing this, the officers would not only respond to criminal violations but also take steps to prevent the probationers from violating the conditions of their probation or becoming victims of violence themselves. Operation Nightlight is a joint operation with the Berks County Adult Probation Office, Juvenile Probation Office, Reading Police Department and the Berks County Sheriff's Office. It is the responsibility of Lieutenant Nelson Ortiz to coordinate Operation Nightlight and maintain the scheduling, statistics, and budget. In 2013 another duty was added, bar and after hours business checks were conducted by the team, in an attempt to curb late night violence associated with these types of establishments.

	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of Patrols	53	52	59	43
Bar Checks	0	0	0	630
Number of Home Visits	673	724	724	584
Detained on Parole Violations	6	19	17	66
New Charges	13	16	24	50



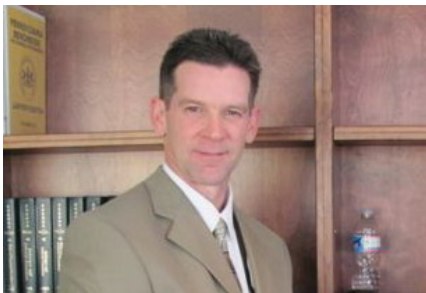
Promotions - Recruitments - Retirements



Sergeant Nelson Ortiz was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant for the District Attorney's Narcotics Unit in May of 2013. He has been a narcotics detective with the District Attorney's Office for the past six years. Prior to joining the District Attorney's Narcotics Unit, he served twenty years with the Reading Police Department. He spent sixteen years as a criminal investigator in the Vice Unit. He was awarded the prestigious honor of Police Officer of the Year in 2001 by the Reading Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #9 for dismantling two major drug organizations in Berks County. We are very proud of Lieutenant Ortiz' accomplishments and congratulate him on his well deserved promotion.



Detective Anthony Garipoli joined the District Attorney's Detective Unit in March of 2013 after serving twenty-seven dedicated years with the Central Berks Regional Police Department. During his career he was a K-9 officer, criminal investigator, hostage negotiator with the Berks County Emergency Response Team and most recently the Chief of Police of Central Berks Regional Police Department. Detective Garipoli is assigned to the Crime Unit, where the majority of his duties will focus on child abuse investigations.



Detective Christopher Santoro joined the District Attorney's Detective Unit in March of 2013 after serving twenty years of dedicated service with the Reading Police Department. In 1999 Detective Santoro was promoted to criminal investigator. He investigated major crimes in the City of Reading, including homicides, assaults and robberies. Detective Santoro is assigned to the Crime Unit, where the majority of his duties will focus on child abuse investigations.



Detective George B. Forsyth joined the District Attorney's Detective Unit in September of 2013 after serving twenty proud years with the Pennsylvania State Police. He spent the last fifteen years of his career with PSP assigned to the Criminal Investigation Unit, Troop "J" Lancaster. He was responsible for conducting investigations in all facets of criminal activity including, but not limited to homicide, rape, burglary, robbery, theft, motor vehicle theft, fraud, ID theft and white collar. Detective Forsyth is assigned to the Crime Unit, where the majority of his duties will focus on investigating child abuse and financial crimes.

Promotions - Recruitments - Retirements



Sergeant John E. Snyder retired from the District Attorney's Detective Unit in June of 2013 after twelve years of outstanding service. He started his law enforcement career in 1978 with the Reading Police Department and served twenty-three proud years with them. The law enforcement community of Berks County will miss Sergeant Snyder. We wish him the best with his well deserved retirement.



Lieutenant Leon L. Domsic retired from the District Attorney's Detective Unit in May of 2013 after twelve years of outstanding service. He was promoted to Lieutenant of the Narcotics Unit in 2008. He started his law enforcement career in 1979 with the Reading Police Department and served twenty-two dedicated and proud years with them. The law enforcement community of Berks County will miss Lieutenant Domsic. We wish him the best with his well deserved retirement.



Detective David B. Wright retired from the District Attorney's Detective Unit in June of 2013 after nineteen years of outstanding service. He started his law enforcement career in 1971 with the Reading Police Department and served twenty-three proud years with them. The law enforcement community of Berks County will miss Detective Wright. We wish him the best with his well deserved retirement.

Grants Awarded

The Berks County District Attorney's Office has applied for all applicable financial grants to supplement our operating budget. The grants listed below were applied for and awarded in 2013. These grants have allowed us to purchase equipment, attend training and pay other associated costs, without effecting the county budget.

Justice Assistance Grant

The Berks County District Attorney's Office was awarded a total of \$11,004 from the Edward Byrne Grant. This grant is used for overtime, equipment, and training for the Berks County District Attorney's Office Crash Reconstruction Task Force, as well as audio/video recording equipment for the newly constructed interview room.

2013 Coverdell Forensic Science Grant

The Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program awards grants to states and units of local government to help improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner services. Among other things, funds may be used to eliminate a backlog in the analysis of forensic evidence and to train and employ forensic laboratory personnel, as needed, to eliminate such a backlog. In 2013, the Berks County District Attorney's Office applied for and was awarded in excess of \$78,000 dollars for software and related components for LIMS, the Lab Information Management System.

Awards

FOP Lodge 71 - Exceptional Duty

Detective Harold Shenk

Detective Harold Shenk was presented with the 2013 Fraternal Order of Police Lodge Number 71, Exceptional Duty Award.

Detective Harold Shenk spearheaded one of Berks County's most infamous murder cold cases in 2013. The Jason Stief was killed October 14, 2004, as he sat in his car at the drive-thru of the McDonald's, located at North Ninth and Spring Streets in the City of Reading. Detective Shenk was a lead investigator on the case when he was a Reading Police Department Criminal Investigator. Detective Shenk initiated the cold case in September of 2011, as a member of the Berks County District Attorney's Office, Berks County Detectives.



Murder victims Jason Stief and Miguel Colon, Courtesy of the Reading Eagle Company

Detective Shenk interviewed hundreds of individuals, seeking information and searched for evidence in an attempt to find who was responsible for the murder. From October of 2011 to July of 2013, Detective Shenk utilized an Investigative Grand Jury. Detective Shenk subpoenaed approximately 25 individuals, that presented sworn testimony.

On July 15, 2013, based on the testimony and evidence, the grand jury issued a presentment, recommending the arrest of Norman Vega Jr. On July 18, 2013, almost 9 years after Jason Stief was killed, Detective Shenk charged Vega Jr. with the murder. Charges included first, second, and third degree murder, robbery, burglary, conspiracy, aggravated assault, and retaliation against a witness. If convicted, Vega Jr. faces the death penalty and or a sentence of life imprisonment.



2013 Table of Organization

CHIEF COUNTY DETECTIVE

Michael Gombar

LIEUTENANT - CRIME

Todd Trupp

LIEUTENANT - NARCOTICS

Nelson Ortiz

SERGEANT - FORENSICS

Robert Johnson

SERGEANT - CRIME

Gerardo Vega

SERGEANT—NARCOTICS

Todd Harris

FORENSIC SERVICES

Albert Schade III

CHILD ABUSE

Donna Tothero
Trevor Ritter
Ivan Martinez
Michael Fick
Christopher Santoro
Anthony Garipoli
George Forsyth

CORPORAL —NARCOTICS

Pasquale Leporace

COMPUTER FORENSICS

Heather Rhoads
Christopher Erb
Stephen Rowe

NARCOTICS

Scott Errington
Camilla Karns
James Gresh
Edwin Santiago
Joseph Walsh
David McQuate
Michael Rowe
John Lackner

CRASH RECONSTRUCTION

Nicholas Bolognese

FINANCIAL CRIMES

Robert Heiden
Justin Morrow
Thomas Weaver

PROPERTY - FORFEITURE

Anthony DeFazio

MAJOR CRIME TASK FORCE

Harold Shenk

AUTO THEFT TASK FORCE

Ronald Linderman