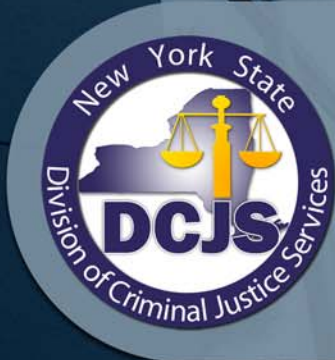


Juvenile Justice  
Re-entry  
Crime Analysis Centers  
Fingerprint Processing  
Victim Services  
DNA  
Crime Trends  
Sex Offender Management



# Enhancing Public Safety and Improving Criminal Justice

New York State  
Division of Criminal Justice Services

## 2006 - 2010

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## Message from Acting Commissioner Sean M. Byrne

In simplest terms, the mission of the Division of Criminal Justice Services is to “enhance public safety and improve criminal justice” – a task we embrace every hour of every day.

DCJS is a multi-function criminal justice support agency with a variety of responsibilities, including collection and analysis of statewide crime data; operation of the DNA Databank and criminal fingerprint files; administration of federal and state criminal justice funds that support both prosecution and defense services; support of criminal justice-related agencies across the state; and administration of the state’s Sex Offender Registry.



As Governor David A. Paterson’s Administration concludes, I thought it would be interesting to reflect on the past four years and put together a report card that would provide the citizens of New York State with a perspective on what has been accomplished in criminal justice since 2006, and how well this agency has served the public. The numbers tell a story that gives me great satisfaction.

Between the end of 2006 and the end of 2009, Index crime in New York State declined 6 percent. Violent crime dropped nearly 11 percent. Property crime was down 5 percent. In fact, every single Index crime category – murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft – declined. The number of DNA samples awaiting processing dropped from 49,542 to 3,377. We process well over a half million arrest fingerprints annually, and report back to law enforcement and courts in an average of 23 minutes. Last year, there were 6.4 million searches of the Sex Offender Registry that we maintain at DCJS. We opened Crime Analysis Centers in four major upstate cities – Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Albany – expanded re-entry programs and made advances in juvenile justice and sex offender management. Operation IMPACT, our flagship crime-fighting initiative in the 17 upstate and Long Island counties that account for 80 percent of the crime outside of New York City, remained a vital, vibrant and robust program, and the strategic law enforcement partnerships that IMPACT was designed to foster truly took hold. A few years ago, cooperation and coordination between different law enforcement agencies, even in the same county, was relatively rare. Today, in the IMPACT zones it is standard operating procedure.

Internally, we streamlined staff and cut our overtime expenses by 90 percent. We ensured that our vendors were paid on time and cut the amount of interest paid on late vouchers by 94 percent.

As the Acting Commissioner of DCJS, I beam with pride over all that we have accomplished, especially in an unusually difficult fiscal environment. As a taxpayer, I nod in approval, knowing that my tax dollars were well-invested to make New York State a safer and better place to live, raise our families, work and operate our businesses.

I hope you will take the time review this report, as it presents an objective, statistical perspective on criminal justice in the State of New York. The report is divided into two main sections. The first part addresses our core mission of “enhancing public safety and improving criminal justice” and includes data on crime trends and our response to those trends. The second part, which we refer to as “value-added public service,” is an introspective look at the performance of this agency – a glance in the mirror. I believe you will find that this agency has well-served the law enforcement and criminal justice communities, as well as the citizenry of New York State.

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# Criminal Justice by the Numbers

## Crime

- **6 percent:** Reduction in overall statewide Index crime 2006-2009
- **10.7 percent:** Reduction in statewide violent crime 2006-2009
- **5 percent:** Reduction in statewide property crime 2006-2009

## Criminal Histories / Fingerprints

- **32 million:** Criminal fingerprints on file
- **596,186:** Arrest fingerprints processed in 2009
- **522,952:** Civil prints processed in 2009
- **99.5:** Percentage of arrest fingerprints processed within three hours
- **23 minutes:** Average turnaround time for arrest fingerprints
- **98.2:** Percentage of criminal fingerprints transmitted electronically
- **98.4:** Percentage of civil fingerprints transmitted electronically

## DNA

- **407,149:** DNA offender samples on file as of September 2010
- **33,366:** Crime scene DNA profiles as of September 2010
- **32:** Days on average to process DNA samples
- **8,474:** Total DNA hits since inception
- **49,542:** Specimens awaiting processing in 2006
- **4,179:** Specimens awaiting processing as of 2010

## Probation

- **122,292:** Individuals on probation supervision in New York State

## Sex Offenders

- **31,353:** Sex offenders on the Registry as of November 2010
- **6.4 million:** Searches of the web-based Sex Offender Registry in 2009

## Serving Law Enforcement

- **49,261:** Individuals enrolled in eJusticeNY
- **709:** Training courses held by the Office of Public Safety over the last four years
- **134:** Law enforcement agencies statewide that have been accredited through June 2010

## Internal Operations

- **90 percent:** Reduction in overtime costs since 2006
- **82 percent:** Decrease in late-paid vouchers
- **94 percent:** Decrease in interest paid on late vouchers

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# **Part 1: Enhancing Public Safety and Improving Criminal Justice**

# *Crime Trends*



## Crime Trends

### Crime in New York State 2006-2009

Twenty years ago in New York State, a total of 1.1 million “Index” crimes – murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft – were reported. In 2009, there were 449,229. That’s about 690,000 fewer crimes, which means at least 690,000 fewer victims of crime. Since 1990 the number of reported murders in New York State has declined 70 percent – from 2,606 in 1990 to 782 in 2009.

The past four years have generally built upon and continued the momentum that began two decades earlier. Between the end of 2006 and the end of 2009, Index crime in New York State declined 6 percent. Violent crime dropped nearly 11 percent. Property crime was down 5 percent. In fact, every single Index crime category declined over the last four years.

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*“ The citizens of New York State have fought long and hard to take their neighborhoods back from the thugs and bullies who terrorized law-abiding citizens and businesses in the 1980s. New York State is a safer place to live, work, raise our families and run our businesses thanks to the efforts of our extraordinary law enforcement personnel. ”*

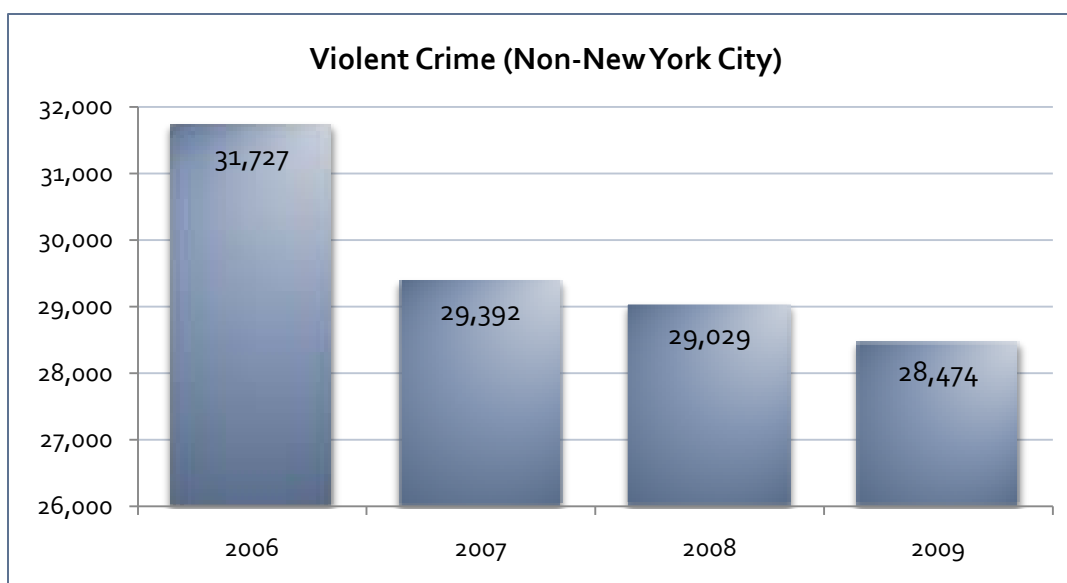
*~ Sean M. Byrne, Acting Commissioner*

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New York State Crime 2006-2009					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	% Change 2006-2009
<b>Index Total</b>	<b>477,824</b>	<b>461,193</b>	<b>464,437</b>	<b>449,229</b>	<b>-6.0%</b>
Violent Total	83,813	79,845	77,458	74,827	-10.7%
Murder	927	808	834	782	-15.6%
Rape	3,165	2,925	2,783	2,572	-18.7%
Robbery	34,379	31,053	31,774	28,071	-18.4%
Aggravated Assault	45,342	45,059	42,067	43,402	-4.3%
Property Total	394,011	381,348	386,979	374,402	-5.0%
Burglary	68,485	64,826	65,401	62,500	-8.7%
Larceny	293,440	288,552	296,502	290,139	-1.1%
Motor Vehicle Theft	32,086	27,970	25,076	21,763	-32.2%

## Violent Crime Outside New York City

Unfortunately, not all areas of New York State were fully benefitting from the historic crime reductions led largely by New York City. Indeed, between 2000 and 2009, every category of violent crime decreased in New York City; outside of New York City, every category of violent crime, except aggravated assault, increased. Over the last four years, substantial progress has been made in reversing that trend. Violent crime outside of the City of New York has declined steadily and consistently, dropping 10 percent between the end of 2006 and the end of 2009. In fact, over the last four years, crime outside of New York City has dropped considerably in all four Index violent crime categories – murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault.



**Violent Crime (Non-New York City) 2006-2009**

	2006	2007	2008	2009	% Change 2006-2009
Violent Total	31,727	29,392	29,029	28,474	-10.2%
Murder	331	312	311	311	-6.6%
Rape	2,094	2,050	1,893	1,740	-16.8%
Robbery	10,868	9,266	9,588	9,475	-12.9%
Aggravated Assault	18,434	17,764	17,237	16,948	-7.9%

## Operation IMPACT

Recognizing that many Upstate and Long Island communities were not experiencing the public safety renaissance of New York City, Operation IMPACT was established in 2004 to assist the 17 Upstate and Long Island counties that account for approximately 80 percent of the statewide crime outside of New York City. In its rather brief history, IMPACT has transformed policing in Upstate New York and on Long Island and led to innovative, data-driven, intelligence-based strategic law enforcement. The results have been impressive: Between 2006 and 2009, the primary IMPACT jurisdictions\* have experienced a 6.5 percent decline in overall Index crime, as well as reductions in shooting incidents and gun-related deaths.

<b>Primary IMPACT Jurisdictions</b>					
<b>2006-2009</b>					
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>% Change</b>
	<b>2006-2009</b>				
<b>Total</b>	119,511	112,695	116,022	111,737	-6.5%
<b>Violent Crime</b>	18,247	16,487	16,786	16,668	-8.7%
<b>Murder</b>	225	205	213	217	-3.6%
<b>Rape</b>	773	797	759	677	-12.4%
<b>Robbery</b>	7,642	6,602	6,812	6,699	-12.3%
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	9,607	8,883	9,002	9,075	-5.5%
<b>Property Crime</b>	101,264	96,208	99,236	95,069	-6.1%
<b>Burglary</b>	20,966	19,676	20,833	20,129	-4%
<b>Larceny</b>	69,657	67,001	70,347	68,025	-2.3%
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft</b>	10,641	9,531	8,056	6,915	-35%

<b>Firearm Activity - Primary IMPACT Jurisdictions</b>					
<b>2006-2009</b>					
	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>% Change</b>
	<b>2006-2009</b>				
<b>Shooting Incidents Involving Injury</b>	896	766	822	774	-13.6%
<b>Shooting Victims (Persons Hit)</b>	1,007	836	930	922	-8.4%
<b>Individuals Killed by Gun Violence</b>	144	138	137	146	-1.4%

\* Albany, Broome, Chautauqua, Dutchess, Erie, Monroe, Nassau, Niagara, Oneida, Onondaga, Orange, Rensselaer, Rockland, Schenectady, Suffolk, Ulster and Westchester counties.

# *Arrest and Fingerprint Processing*

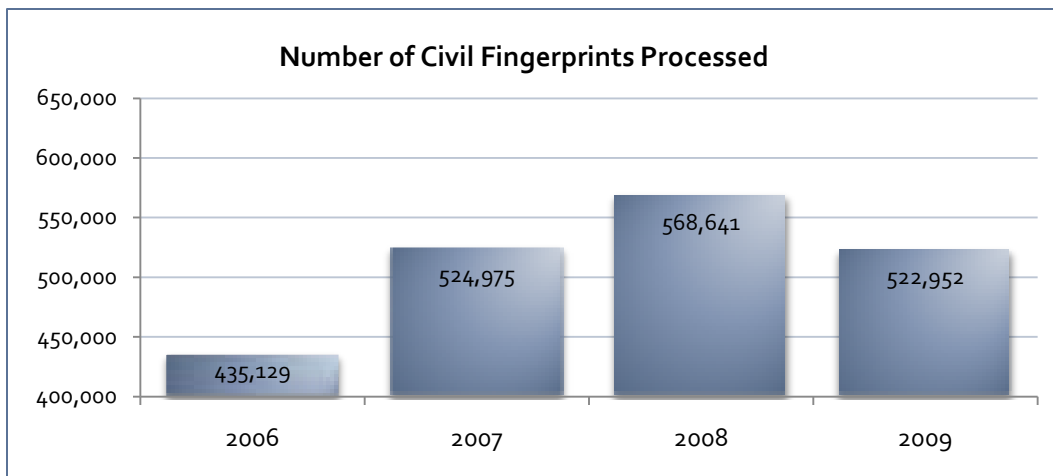
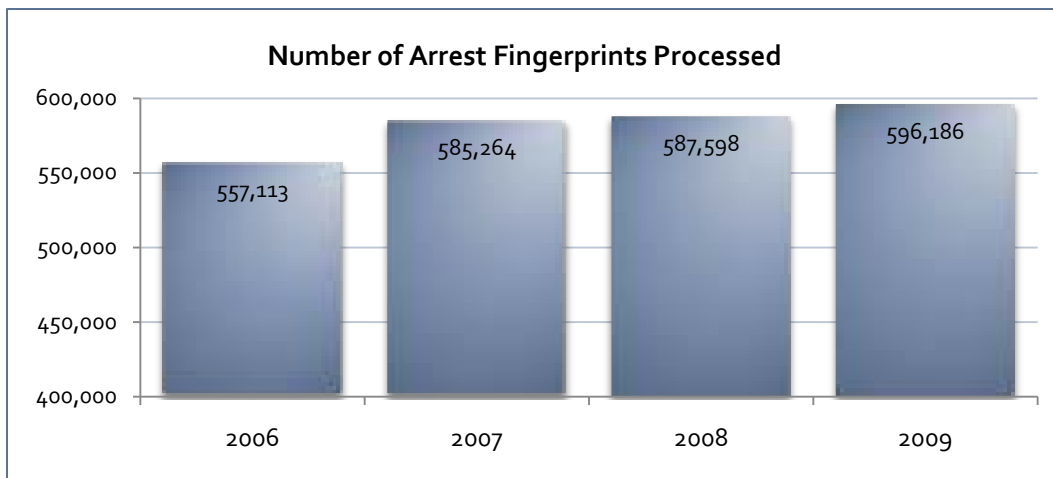
# Arrest and Fingerprint Processing

## Arrest Prints Processed Annually

The Identification Unit at DCJS – which compares arrest and crime scene fingerprints against a database of known offenders – is at the very core of the agency. It also is a very busy unit. In 2009, DCJS processed 596,186 arrest fingerprints, which represents a 7 percent increase since 2006.

## Civil Prints Processed Annually

Over the years, a growing list of occupations, ranging from teaching to operating a taxi to working in any capacity at DCJS, requires a criminal history record check in which an applicant’s fingerprints are compared against the files maintained at this agency. Since 2006, the total number of civil fingerprints processed annually has increased more than 20 percent.



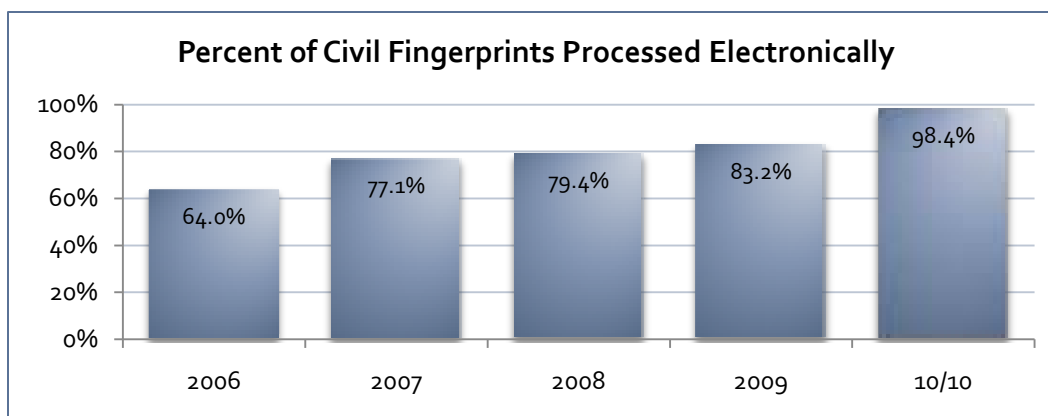
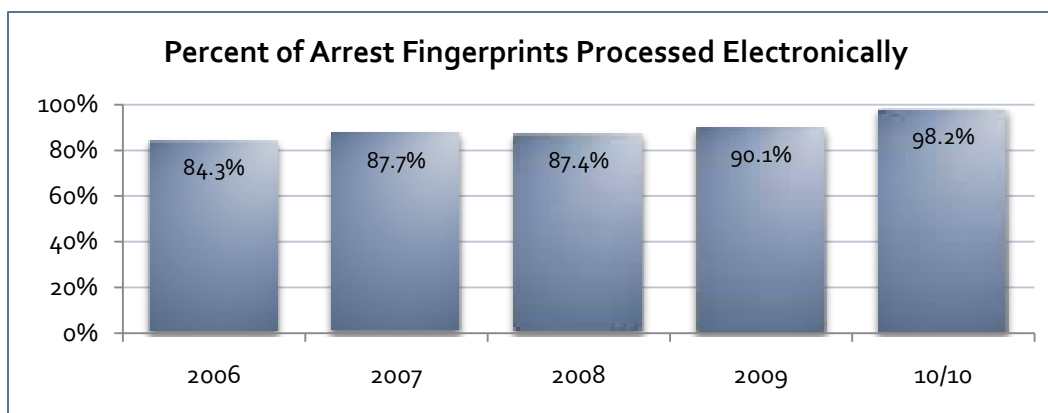
### Percent of Arrest Fingerprints Processed Within Standards

It is imperative that law enforcement and courts obtain prompt results on a fingerprint query, so they know the individual's criminal history and can then make informed decisions on bail and other issues. At DCJS, the standard is to return a criminal history within three hours of obtaining fingerprints, a goal that is reached 99.5 percent of the time. But while the three-hour mark is a "standard," DCJS' goal is to take no more than 45 minutes to report back to law enforcement: In 2009, the average was 23 minutes.

### Percent of Fingerprints Processed Electronically

Every law enforcement agency in the state was asked to submit fingerprints electronically by January 2010. DCJS implemented this policy as a public safety measure. Electronic fingerprint submission enables DCJS to provide the court, the police and the district attorney with a timely, accurate and complete criminal history report for individuals arrested for fingerprintable offenses. This provides criminal justice agencies with the critical information necessary to make key decisions relating to arraignment, release and bail at the beginning of the criminal justice process.

Every sheriff's office in every county now has the electronic equipment necessary for this process. DCJS provided funding for the equipment to 76 agencies, totaling \$2,230,850. There are currently nearly 800 agencies, civil and criminal, contributing electronic prints, including about 99 percent of the 525 police agencies in the state.



## Crime Analysis Centers

Building on the strategies established under Operation IMPACT – accurate use of timely crime data and the use of technology to complement and enhance traditional crime-fighting strategies – DCJS has, over the past three years, established Crime Analysis Centers (CACs) in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Albany. These four locations were selected due to the relatively high volume of crime – particularly firearm and other violent crime.

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*“ The intelligence generated by our award-winning Crime Analysis Centers enables law enforcement executives to make decisions about tactical day-to-day deployment and long-term planning, provides investigators with leads to solve crimes and gives officers on the street crucial information that keeps them, and the public, safer. ”*

*~ Sean M. Byrne, Acting Commissioner*

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The CACs provide a centrally located unit for conducting in-depth, regional analysis of all county crime data, allowing county law enforcement agencies to benefit from the information as never before. The centers’ analysts use software programs that allow them to link data – crimes, suspects, telephone numbers and other information – from the various agencies within the county. This provides law enforcement with a bird’s eye view of the local crime scene, enabling authorities to discover potential criminal associations and crime patterns and trends.

The CACs also employ mapping software that provides a regional picture of where crime is being committed. These tools, combined with data drawn from numerous databases and records management systems from police departments in each of the respective CAC counties, provide Center staff with a wealth of information.

In 2009, to further the distribution and sharing of that information, DCJS made digital signage available in all CACs and a multitude of the agencies they serve. A constant stream of intelligence, officer safety information, wanted persons and more is fed to LCD monitors placed in areas of high visibility in law enforcement agencies, parole and probation offices. For the first time in New York State history, it is anticipated that further expansion in early 2011 will enable the sharing of 65 percent of criminal incidents outside of New York City. This type of real-time information sharing is unprecedented.

***DNA***



# DNA

## Specimens on File

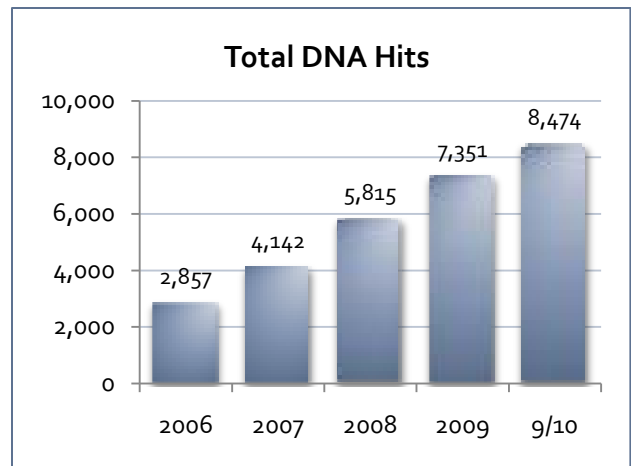
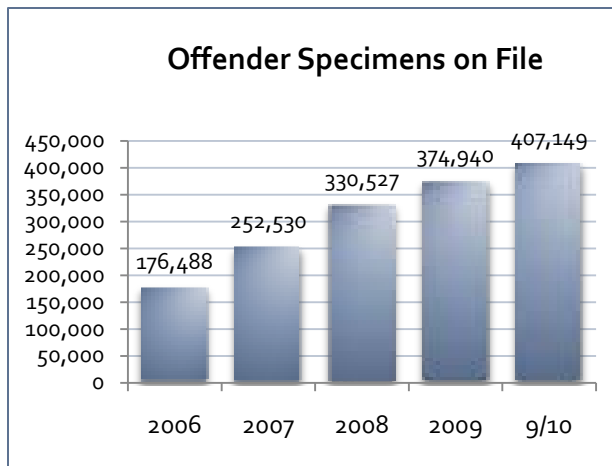
DNA “fingerprinting” is the most powerful tool ever developed to solve and prevent crimes and exonerate innocent individuals. Just since 2006, the last time the database was expanded, the number of profiles in the state DNA Databank has increased 131 percent, and the number of hits has increased nearly 197 percent. This is despite the fact that New York State is currently permitted to collect DNA from only 46 percent of the individuals convicted of Penal Law crimes. Although New York now mandates a DNA sample from everyone convicted of a Penal Law felony and approximately 30 percent of misdemeanors, there remain hundreds of crimes for which an individual does not have to submit a DNA sample. DCJS is aware of several cases where, if an offender’s DNA had been on file for a relatively minor crime, a very major crime – such as rape and murder – almost certainly would have been prevented.

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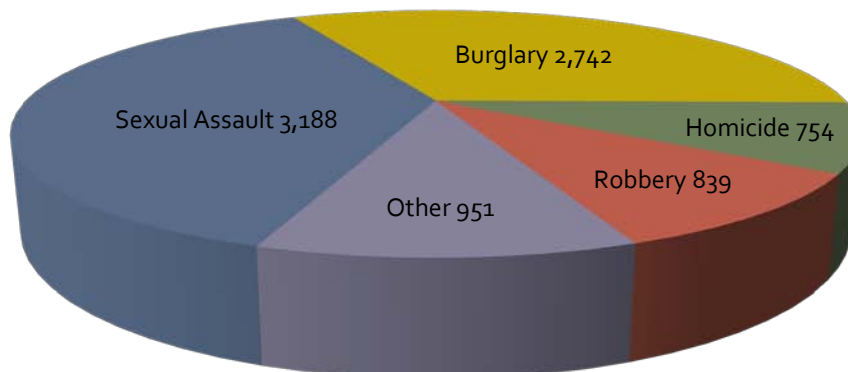
*“ DNA in the Databank as a result of one of the pettiest of petty crimes – petit larceny – has linked individuals statewide to at least 746 crimes, including 184 sexual assaults, 92 robberies, 312 burglaries and 39 homicides as of September 2010. ”*

*~ Sean M. Byrne, Acting Commissioner*

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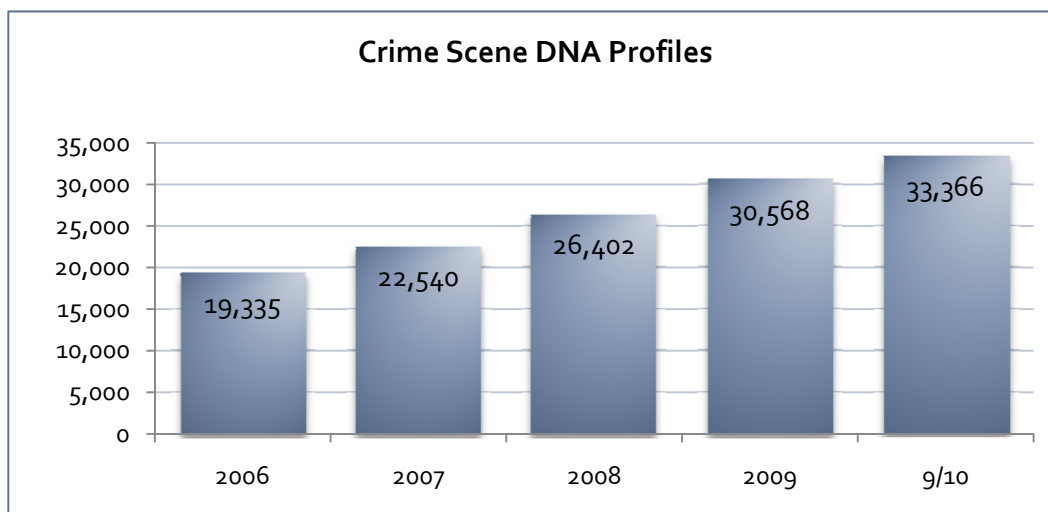


### Hits Against DNA Databank by Crime



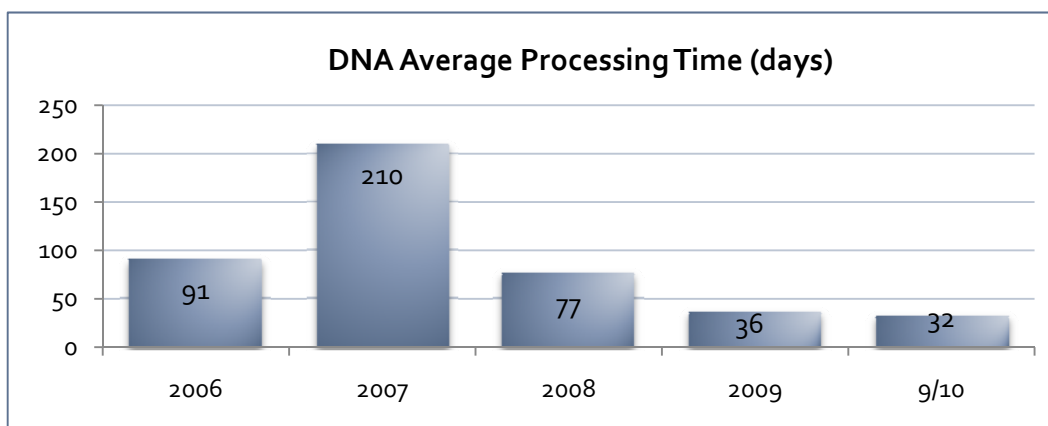
### Crime Scene Profiles

The DNA Databank includes the profiles of individuals who were convicted of a crime that requires them to submit a DNA sample. It also includes DNA samples collected from crime scenes. Through September of 2010, there were 33,366 crime scene samples in the Databank, an increase of 73 percent since 2006. Those hits occur when an individual convicted of a DNA-qualifying crime submits the required sample, which is then compared against the Databank and matches to a crime scene sample from an unsolved crime.



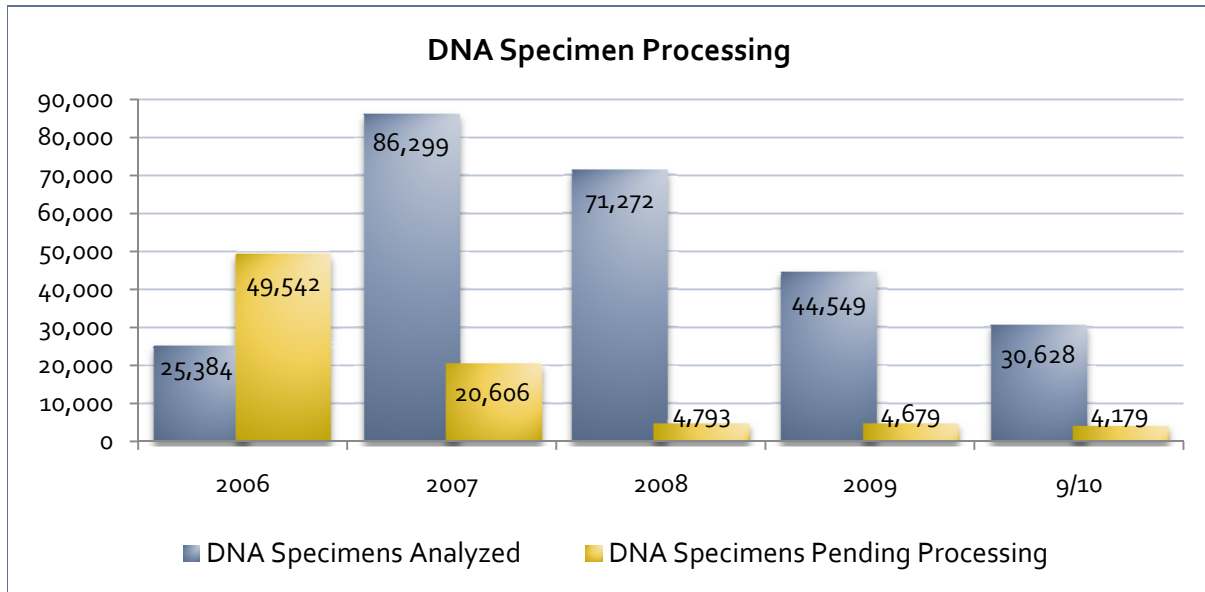
### Specimen Processing Time

The 2006 DNA Databank expansion, which made numerous additional crimes DNA-eligible, created an instant backlog because it not only required those thereafter convicted of additional crimes that previously did not require a DNA submission to provide a sample, but also imposed the requirement on anyone under sentence (for example, in prison or jail, on probation or parole) for any of those crimes. That increased the average processing time from 91 to 210 days. However, by September 2010 the processing time was down to 32 days – a 65 percent improvement from 2006 and 85 percent quicker than 2007.



## DNA Processing

There is currently no backlog and the DNA Databank is equipped to handle the estimated 48,000 additional samples that would result if Governor Paterson's all-crimes DNA bill is enacted. The Governor's bill would require a DNA submission from everyone convicted of a Penal Law crime after the measure takes effect. In other words, and in contrast to the 2006 expansion, the proposed law would not require the collection of a DNA sample from individuals who are currently in prison or jail or on parole or probation.

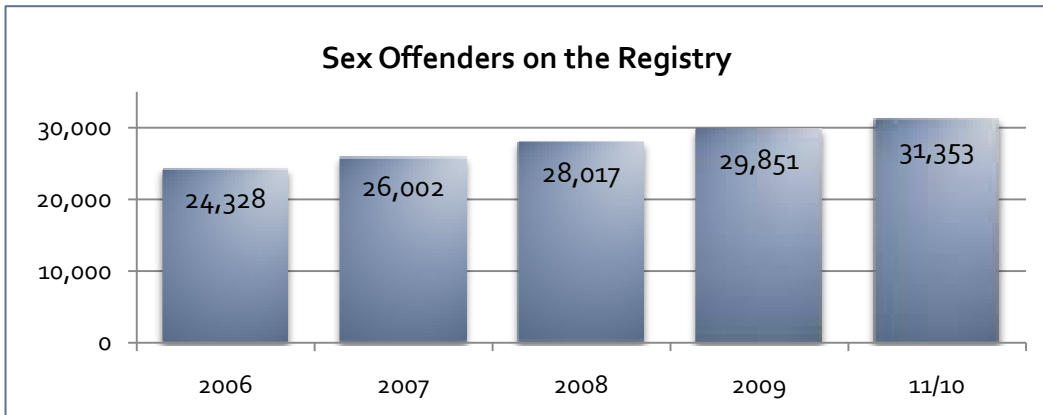


# *Sex Offender Management*

# Sex Offender Management

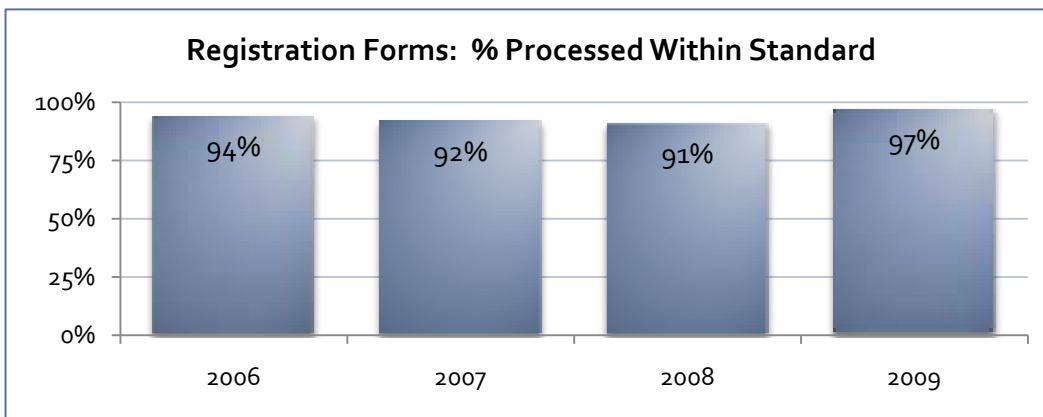
## Registered Offenders

The Sex Offender Registration Act (SORA) took effect in January 1996. Under this law, convicted sex offenders are assigned a risk level, must register with DCJS and are required to comply with other SORA requirements, including an annual address verification, notification of change of address and a provision requiring updated photographs. Since the law took effect, the number of registered offenders has risen steadily. As of November of 2010, there were 31,353 offenders in the registry – 29 percent more than at the end of 2006. Approximately one quarter of the offenders in the registry are “Level 3,” or high risk offenders. About 38 percent are “Level 1” or low risk offenders.



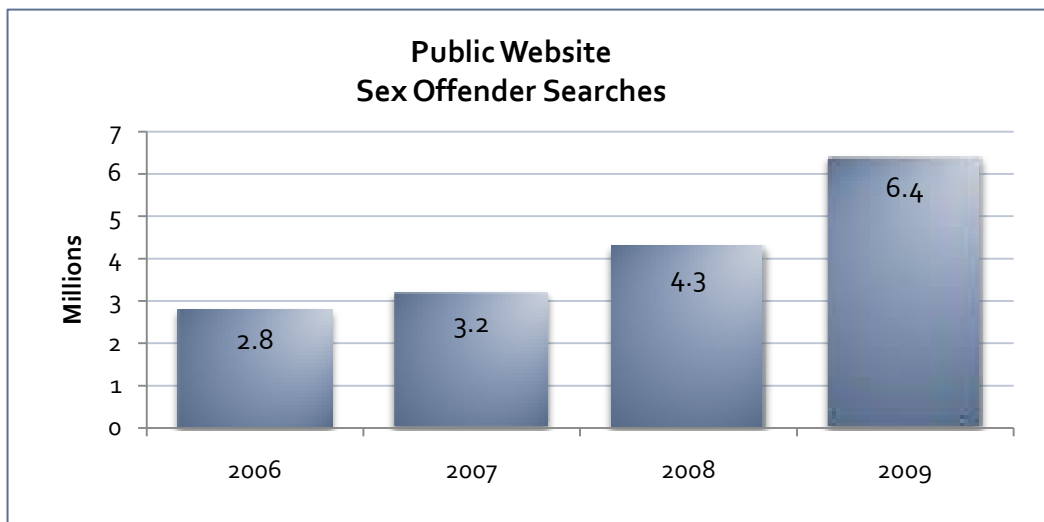
## Registration Forms Processed within Standard

To ensure that information on newly registered sex offenders becomes available to the public as quickly as possible, the Sex Offender Registry at DCJS has established targets for timely data entry of registration forms into the SOR database. Registration forms that contain all mandatory data have a target entry date of one business day from the date of receipt. Many registration forms submitted to the Registry are missing information and require extensive follow-up by staff. For these forms, the target timeframe for data entry is two business days. During 2009, 97 percent of sex offenders were registered within standards.



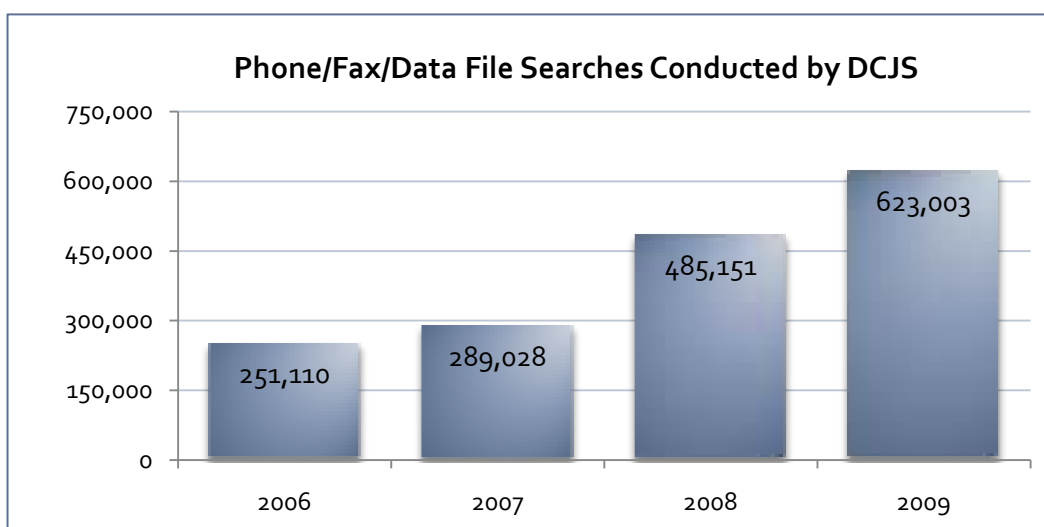
### Public Website Searches

DCJS provides information to the public regarding sex offenders through the DCJS public website and a toll-free telephone number that operates 24 hours per day. By law, information provided on the public website is limited to Level 2 and Level 3 sex offenders. In 2009, there were 6.4 million searches of the website – an increase of 129 percent since 2006.



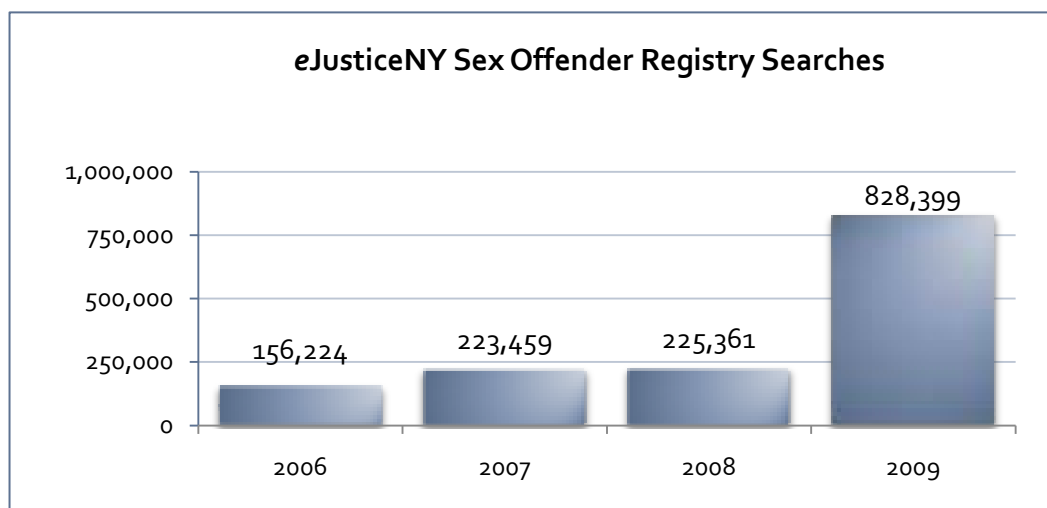
### Registry Searches Conducted by DCJS

In addition to the information available on the public website, citizens, organizations and employers can call the toll-free number to inquire whether a specific person (or list of persons) is on the Registry. They can also fax a request to DCJS or submit a data file when, for instance, checking a large volume of names (i.e., all the members of an organization). These inquiries, which require DCJS staff to conduct a manual search of the SOR database, have increased 148 percent since 2006.



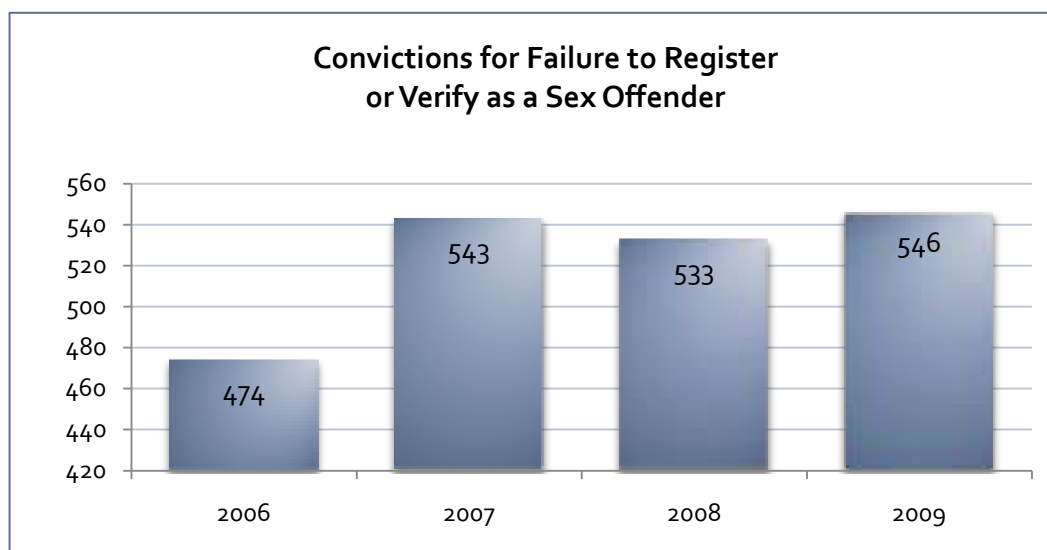
### Registry Searches Conducted via eJusticeNY

Through DCJS' secure website for law enforcement, eJusticeNY, users can access a wide array of information, including the entire Sex Offender Registry. eJusticeNY searches of the Sex Offender Registry have increased 430 percent since 2006.



### Convictions for Failure to Verify as a Sex Offender

Each year, on or about the anniversary of a sex offender's initial registration, DCJS mails an Address Verification Form to the sex offender's last listed address. If the sex offender does not reside at the last address on file, the form will be returned to DCJS by the Post Office. Offenders are required to sign and return the Annual Verification Form to DCJS within 10 days of receipt. If an offender fails to sign and return his or her annual Address Verification Form within the allotted time frame, DCJS sends a letter to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction where the sex offender resides indicating that he or she failed to comply with the annual verification requirements. Convictions for failure to register or verify have increased 15 percent since 2006, to 546 from 474.



## Civil Management

The Sex Offender Management and Treatment Act (SOMTA), enacted in 2007, authorizes the civil management of sex offenders who have served their time in prison, or are about to complete parole supervision, but still suffer from a “mental abnormality” that predisposes them to commit sex offenses. There are two options for civilly managing such offenders: confinement in a mental institution; placement on “Strict and Intensive Supervision (SIST),” through which offenders deemed suitable for release to the community are closely supervised by the Division of Parole. As of September 30, 2010, there were 148 individuals confined and 55 on SIST.

## E-mail Alert System

New Yorkers can now register to receive alerts – via e-mail, text message, fax or telephone – whenever a moderate or high-risk sex offender listed on the DCJS public website moves to, or from, a community of interest to them and their family. DCJS partnered with the New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) to provide sex offender relocation notices through SEMO’s NY-ALERT system. After registering (visit the DCJS website at [www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us](http://www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us) to learn more), citizens will receive sex offender relocation notices for Level 2 (moderate risk) or Level 3 (high risk) sex offenders. By law, information about Level 1 (low-risk) offenders or those with a pending risk level is available only through a toll-free number (1-800-262-3257).

## e-STOP

The Electronic Security and Targeting of Online Predators Act (e-STOP), which took effect on April 28, 2008, requires all registered sex offenders to provide DCJS with information on their Internet accounts and e-mail addresses. Under the law, a registered sex offender must notify the agency no later than 10 days after any change of the above-mentioned Internet information. The law also authorizes DCJS, upon request, to provide sex offender Internet information to social networking websites that have members under the age of 18. Failure to comply with the law is a felony.



# *Re-entry*

## Re-entry

Re-entry is, at its core, a public safety initiative, with the ultimate goal of ensuring that former offenders remain former offenders and transforming these individuals into productive, law-abiding, tax-paying assets of the communities to which they return. This is a challenge: Over the past decade, approximately 40 percent of the individuals released from state prison returned within three years. However, only about 11 percent are returned on a new felony; the other 29-plus percent come back for violating a technical condition of their parole, not for committing a new crime. New York's re-entry strategy involves both local and statewide initiatives to address the root causes of recidivism.

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*“ We all know how easy and politically expedient it is to dismiss re-entry as a “soft on crime” approach to criminal justice. We know that the reality is precisely the opposite: Re-entry is a public safety initiative.”*

*~ Sean M. Byrne, Acting Commissioner*

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### County Re-entry Task Forces

In 2006, DCJS developed and implemented the County Re-entry Task Force (CRTF) grant initiative with the goal of strengthening the community response to high-risk offenders transitioning from prison. These locally-led partnerships include law enforcement agencies, regional parole offices, social service and treatment providers, and victim advocacy organizations. Initially, nine CRTFs were established, each receiving funding for a local coordinator and to fill identified gaps in local re-entry services. The initiative has since expanded to 16 counties outside of New York City (Albany, Broome, Dutchess, Erie, Monroe, Nassau, Niagara, Oneida, Onondaga, Orange, Rensselaer, Rockland, Schenectady, Suffolk, Ulster and Westchester), as well as two New York City-based task forces (Upper Manhattan Re-entry Task Force and the Kings County District Attorney's ComALERT Program). DCJS provides training and ongoing support to each of the participating Re-entry Task Forces, which are each required to report monthly re-entry measures, including employment rates, program participation rates, re-arrests and violation activity.

### State Re-entry Task Force Initiatives

DCJS provides strategic planning and staff support for the Statewide Re-entry Task Force, a multi-agency Re-entry Steering Committee as well as numerous topical workgroups to further the development of evidence-based policies and programming. These groups have worked to develop the New York State plan for re-entry, which serves as the systematic blueprint to transition an offender from incarceration into a productive member of the community. This state plan incorporates a number of independent initiatives that are in various stages of completion, including:

- Implementation of a statewide, validated risk and needs assessment tool to more effectively supervise offenders on parole or probation and address their particular needs in order to reduce their risk of recidivism.

- Implementation of transition accountability planning for offenders that begins when they are first incarcerated and continues throughout their return to the community.
- Implementation of the cognitive behavioral treatment curriculum for New York State Department of Correctional Services (DOCS) inmates.
- Establishment of re-entry units in certain prisons that allow individuals to move “closer to home” 90-120 days pre-release to develop linkages with the community.
- Utilization of gender responsive approaches and curricula for female inmates.
- Development of a matrix of graduated responses to proportionately respond to parole violations in order to decrease the reliance on returns to incarceration for technical violations.

### Transitional Employment Programs

At the end of August 2010, the employment rate of individuals on parole was just under 35 percent, which means the unemployment rate was about 65 percent. Thirty percent of New York City parolees and about 40 percent of non-New York City parolees were employed. Statewide, only about 15 percent of the employed parolees were working full time above the minimum wage. Recognizing that employment is a powerful antidote to recidivism, Governor Paterson has committed about \$14 million in federal stimulus aid to provide transitional jobs and skill training to more than 1,600 individuals involved in the criminal justice system, with the goal of placing as many as possible in permanent employment. Receiving the grants are the: Center for Employment Opportunities; Doe Fund; Fortune Society; Osborne Association; and the New York State Department of Correctional Services.

### Transition Accountability Plan

Embracing the principle that re-entry should begin when an offender is being prepared to enter prison (i.e., pre-sentence report), a critical element to the New York model is the creation and revision of each offender’s “Transition Accountability Plan (TAP).” The TAP is a dynamic case-management tool that focuses on each individual’s strengths and needs in developing an individualized plan to guide the type of programming received during incarceration and the level of supervision following release. The development of the TAP began in November of 2008. The Division of Parole, DCJS and DOCS are currently working to develop an electronic application within the Integrated Justice Portal to automate the processes related to the TAP.

# *Juvenile Justice*

# Juvenile Justice

## Juvenile Justice Symposia

With a re-arrest rate of up to 89 percent for boys and 81 percent for girls leaving juvenile detention facilities, it is clear that a new approach is needed. To explore ways in which New York's juvenile justice system could be improved, DCJS sponsored a series of symposia featuring national. Forums were conducted on: Cost-Effective Juvenile Justice Strategies; Creating a Fair and Effective Justice System for Youth; Residential Care that Reduces Recidivism;

Innovative Community-Based Juvenile Justice Strategies that Work; and How to Make Change: Implementing Cost-Effective Juvenile Justice Strategies. Videos from each of the symposia and the accompanying materials are available on the [DCJS website](http://www.dcjny.org) ([www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us](http://www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us)).

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*“ Rather than serving as a vehicle for the rehabilitation of juveniles, New York’s juvenile justice system is a precursor to adult criminal justice involvement. That is a criminal justice reality that must be remedied. ”*

*~ Sean M. Byrne, Acting Commissioner*

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The next step, of course, is implementing reform. To that end, DCJS is:

- Promoting accountability: DCJS has implemented, through a formal agreement with the Office of Court Administration, a quarterly data exchange that details all juvenile delinquency Family Court activity statewide. This is the first time that the comprehensive picture of delinquency cases in Family Court is being compiled and analyzed for policy and research purposes.
- Establishing models for juvenile re-entry: DCJS has spearheaded innovative models for juvenile re-entry in New York City and Monroe County. The New York City project, housed at the Children's Aid Society, adds a mobile component to the existing juvenile re-entry program funded by OCFS to test the efficacy of engaging hard to serve youth in their home communities. The Monroe County model is DCJS's first effort to expand the local re-entry task force model to the juvenile population.
- Working to reduce system involvement and racial/ethnic disparity: Through its support and coordination of local disproportionate minority contact (DMC) projects, DCJS maintains and analyzes data to identify racial and ethnic disparities across the juvenile justice system. DCJS also provides oversight of a state assessment on disproportionality in juvenile justice, implementation of racial disparity training for law enforcement, and the support of consumer voice in the juvenile justice system through the development of a youth advisory committee.
- Working to address the needs of children of incarcerated parents: Today, there are nearly 80,000 children with a parent in jail or prison in New York State. Toward this end, DCJS plays a lead role on the Governor's Children's Cabinet, Subcommittee on Children with Incarcerated Parents. The subcommittee has made significant strides to better serve this population by: launching a multi-agency data collection initiative to quantify the number and needs of children with incarcerated parents; conducting forums with youth who have an incarcerated parent and their caregivers to better understand the effects of a parent's incarceration on the youth's overall social and emotional well-being; providing Family Courts with a list of Department of Correctional Services family programs; creating and conducting a presentation for professionals who work with incarcerated

parents to promote contact between children and their incarcerated parent; and participating in the Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children's workgroup to develop the "Be Sure Your Child is Cared For and Safe" flier designed to assist incarcerated parents in meeting their children's needs.

### Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (JJAG)

DCJS is the designated state agency with sole supervisory authority for the preparation and administration of New York State's plan for the use of federal juvenile justice and delinquency prevention funding. In its capacity as staff to the JJAG, DCJS compiles and analyzes statewide juvenile justice data, researches best practice in juvenile justice, outlines how best practice can support data-driven juvenile justice needs, prepares applications for federal funds, monitors state compliance with the core protections of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, and is responsible for the administration and ongoing monitoring of the use of federal juvenile justice funds.

# *Victim Services*

## Victim Services

DCJS is committed to assisting crime victims. It hosts the Office of Victim Services, which provides direct compensation to eligible crime victims and funds a network of victims' assistance programs across the state. It also operates the state's Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Unit, which is responsible for administering federal funds distributed to law enforcement and prosecution agencies, courts, and not-for-profit agencies to combat domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.

### Rape Kit Training Video

DCJS supports services to crime victims through a variety of means, including the development and distribution of the Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit – often referred to as a “rape kit.” Through the efforts of the VAWA unit, the kit was completely revamped for the first time in approximately 20 years. In addition, a training video to instruct medical personnel on the proper use of the kit was produced by DCJS.

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*“ Providing services to the victims of crime is tangible recognition that the government’s most fundamental role is securing freedom, justice and equality and that the social compact recognizes a moral obligation to listen to the voices of the victims. ”*

*~ Sean M. Byrne, Acting Commissioner*

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The training video, “A Body of Evidence: Using the NYS Sexual Offense Evidence Collection Kit,” is designed for medical professionals, providing them with a step-by-step guide that balances the well-being and care of the patient/victim with the need to collect physical evidence. This evidence is absolutely crucial in apprehending sexual assailants, and stopping them before they can strike again.

The video features an introduction by Mariska Hargitay, award-winning actor and star of *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*, who volunteered her time and talents to the project. The resulting video has been endorsed by the New York Academy of Medicine and certified for continuing education credits for doctors. It has also been utilized for training physicians around the globe.





# *Serving Law Enforcement*

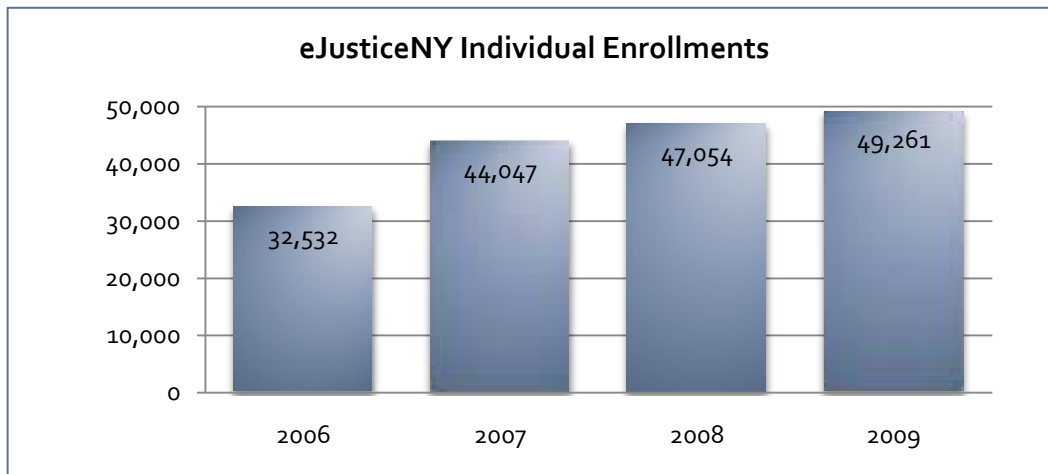
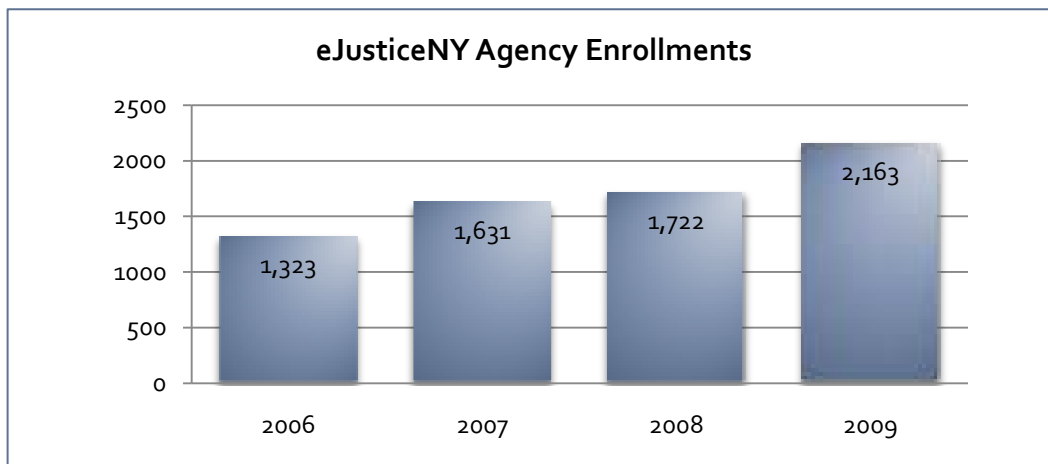
## Serving Law Enforcement

### eJusticeNY

eJusticeNY provides law enforcement with essential operational support, data and management information through a secure communications network. Through eJustice, law enforcement officials have instant access to non-public criminal history information, offender photos and information on sex offenders, fugitives and offenders who owe a DNA sample. Users include police departments, sheriff's offices, courts, district attorney's offices, county probation offices and other entities.

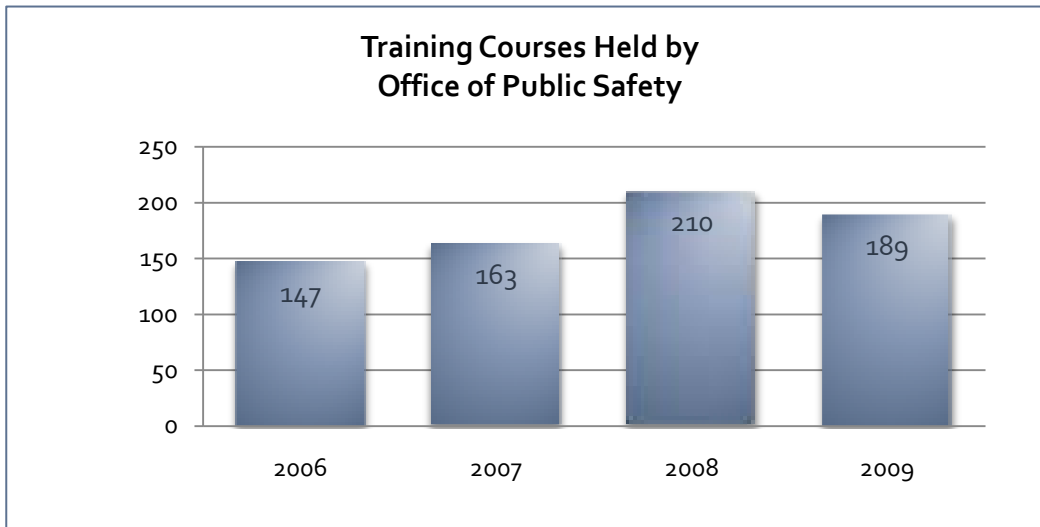
### Agency and Individual Enrollments

The use of eJusticeNY has grown steadily over the past four years. Agency enrollments increased more than 63 percent with a total of 2,163 agencies enrolled through 2009. Individual enrollments grew from 32,532 in 2006 to 49,291 in 2009 – an increase of nearly 52 percent.



### Office of Public Safety (OPS) Training Courses

The Office of Public Safety at DCJS facilitates and provides direct training to law enforcement officers in areas such as criminal investigation, officer safety, traffic safety, law enforcement skills and executive management. Between 2006 and 2009, DCJS has held 709 courses. The 189 courses held in 2009 represent a 29 percent increase over the 147 held in 2006.



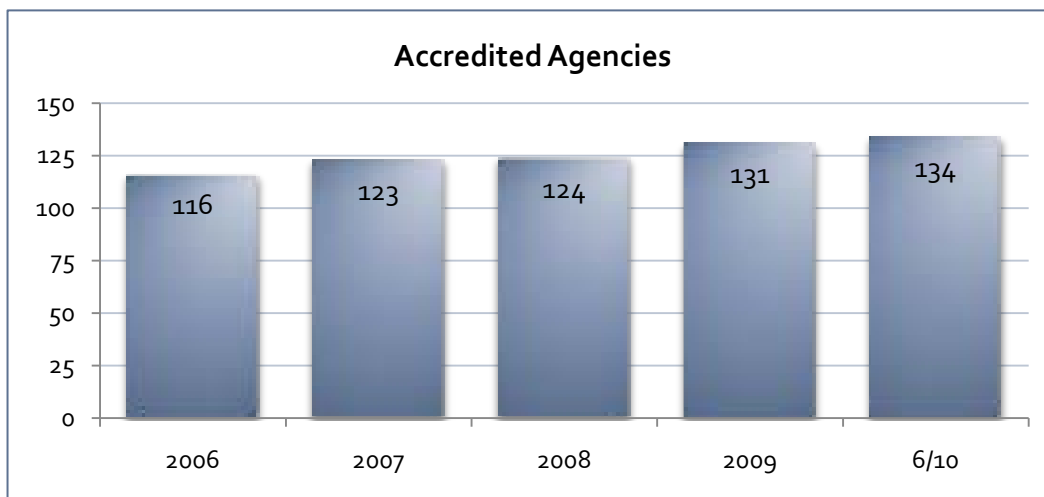
### Office of Public Safety Training – Personnel

As the number of training courses has increased, so too has the number of personnel trained. Between 2006 and 2009, nearly 32,000 law enforcement personnel were trained, including officers and staff at the state, county and local levels.



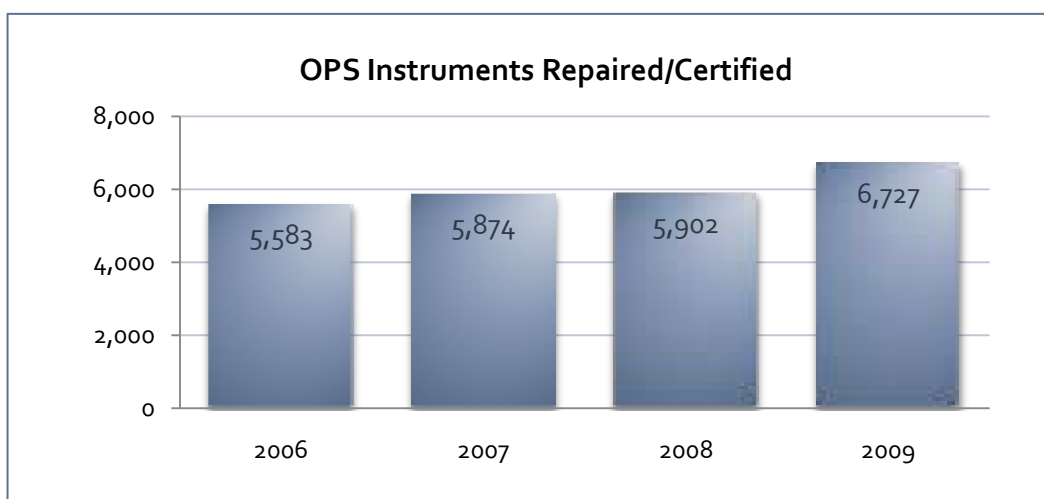
### Accredited Agencies

In order to be accredited by the New York State Law Enforcement Council, a police agency must meet 132 standards and undergo a three-day assessment. Although accreditation is not mandatory, an increasing number of agencies are voluntarily meeting the standards and undergoing the assessment. Since 2006, the number of accredited agencies has increased nearly 16 percent and, as of June of this year, 134 agencies were accredited.



### Equipment Repair

Law enforcement agencies are required to annually certify that their speed and alcohol detectors are working properly. DCJS operates an equipment repair center where most law enforcement agencies bring their speed and alcohol instruments for repair and calibration. The number of instruments repaired/certified by the DCJS Office of Public Safety has increased each year since 2006.



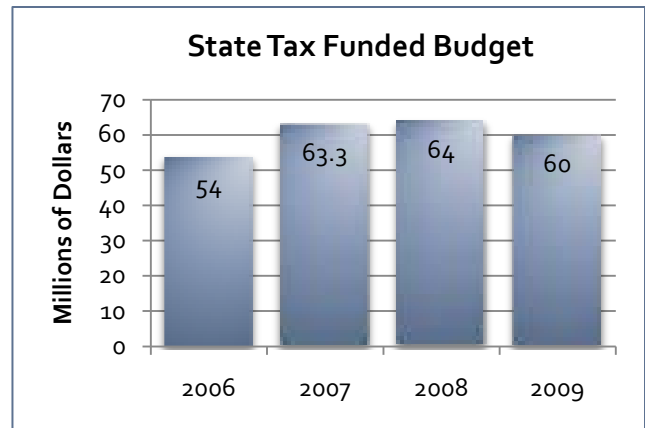
# *Part 2:*

## *Value-added Public Service*

## Part 2: Value-added Public Service

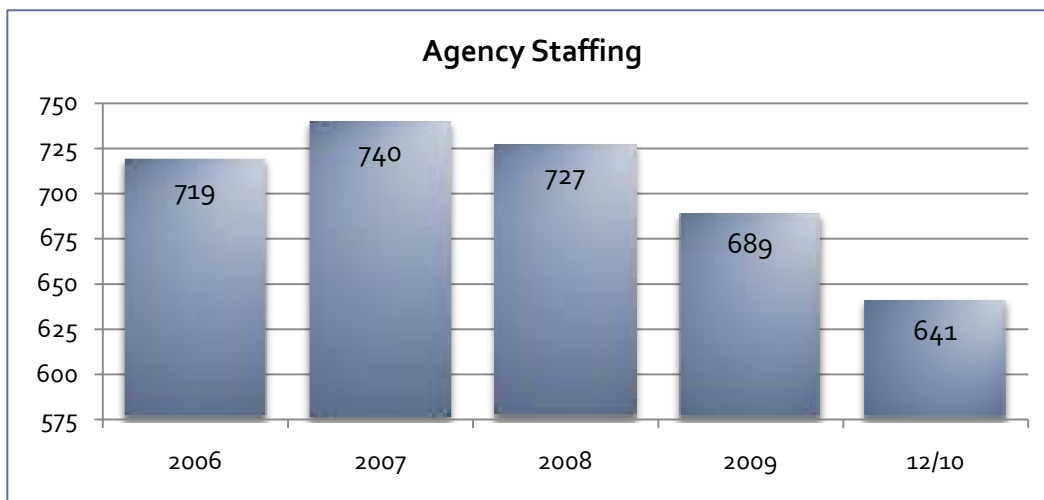
### Overview

The 11 operational units within DCJS are the foundation upon which the agency is built. As the agency provides services and assistance to a broad spectrum of criminal justice needs, the operational units provide services and assistance to the agency itself, as well as the outside constituencies. Each unit has its own mission and, together, form the team focused and centered on advancing the DCJS mission: "Enhancing public safety and improving criminal justice." By way of analogy, the units are akin to position players on an athletic team – each directly responsible for a particular area of the field or the game, but jointly responsible for fulfilling the overarching objective of the team (or, in this context, agency).



### Agency Staffing

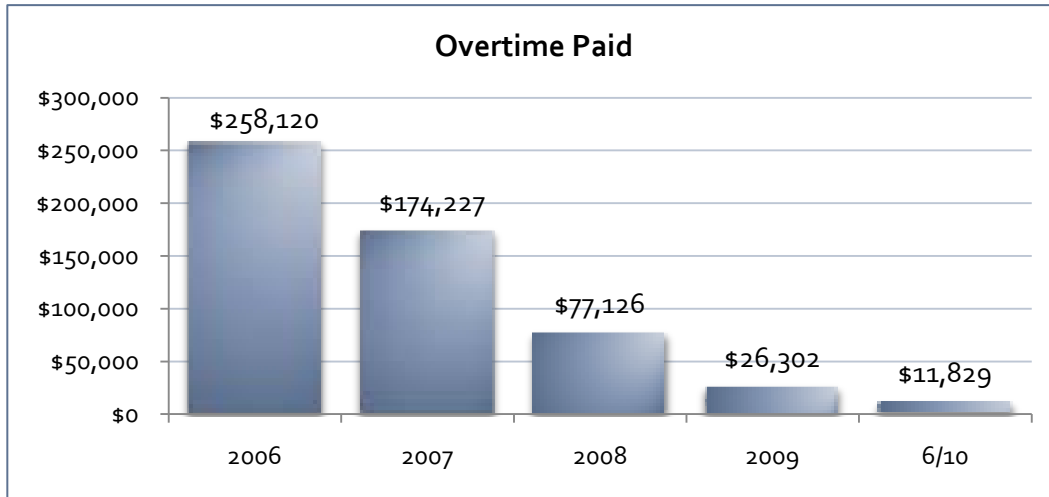
Through attrition and retirement incentives, DCJS has substantially decreased its workforce over the past few years. By the end of 2010, the DCJS staff will have declined more than 13 percent since 2007, and that is after absorbing the staff of the former Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DPCA\*).



*\* Note: DPCA was merged into DCJS in April 2010. For comparison purposes, staffing levels have been adjusted to include counts for both agencies.*

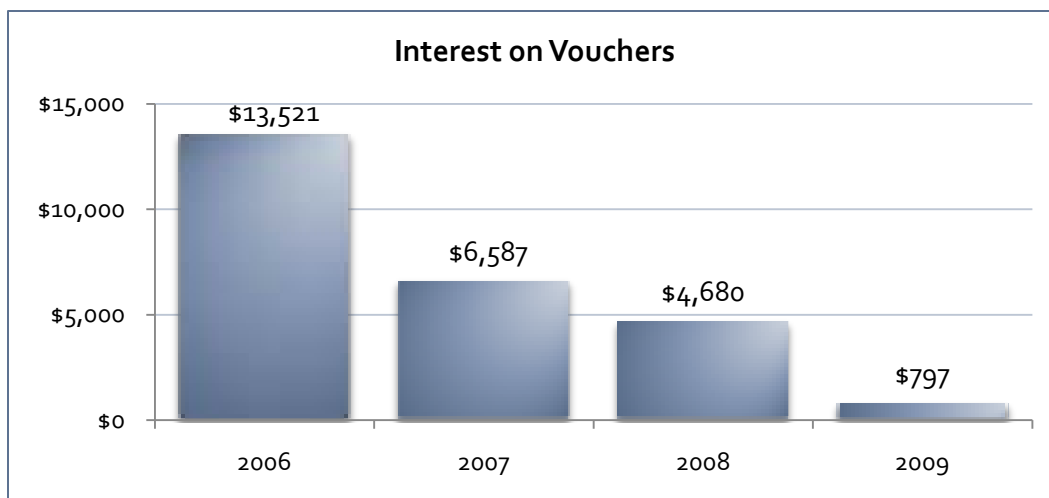
### Overtime Paid

With fewer people on staff, it might be expected that overtime expenses would increase. DCJS has taken a number of steps to reduce and control overtime expenditures without compromising core operations. Since 2006, overtime expenses have declined nearly 90 percent – from \$258,120 for 2006 to \$26,302 for 2009.



### Interest Paid on Vouchers

Simply by making a concerted effort to ensure its bills are paid on time, DCJS has drastically reduced the interest on late-paid vouchers. In 2006, the agency paid \$13,521 in late fees. In 2009, the agency paid \$797. That is a saving of 94 percent.



# *DCJS Operational Units*



## DCJS Operational Units

### Office of Administration

The Office of Administration provides support for DCJS, the Office of Victim Services, the state Commission of Correction, the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and the Board of Examiners of Sex Offenders. The Office includes the following program areas: Human Resources Management (which includes position classification, recruitment and staffing, payroll and benefits, and workforce diversity); Financial Services (which involves the management of revenue and responsibility for budgets and purchasing); and Administrative Services (which supports agency programs ranging from printing and graphics to fleet management and security systems). Noteworthy achievements in each program area occurred during the past four years.

Human Resources Management achievements include: establishing director positions for Crime Analysis Centers in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Albany; coordinating the merger of the Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives into DCJS, creating the Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (OPCA) within the Division; establishing a labor relations program at DCJS; implementing an electronic time and attendance system (LATS); and developing training programs for DCJS managers. Additionally, the director of the Workforce Diversity and Equity Program established an Affirmative Action program that includes: programmatic approaches to prevent improper exclusionary employment practices, mechanisms for prompt and thorough investigation of discrimination complaints, and the provision of reasonable accommodations for qualified persons with disabilities.

Financial Services successfully implemented agency operations and local assistance cuts in a very difficult fiscal environment, and developed and/or implemented a series of automated/ streamlined processes to increase efficiencies and enhance agency operations. Automated record retention has virtually eliminated paper records, photocopying and filing activities, and enabled electronic payment processing. Financial Services also has invested considerable effort in the development of the new statewide financial system to ensure continuity of agency business on the April 2011 target date. Several significant information technology procurements have been successfully completed, including multiple services contracts that allow for aggregated purchases.

Administrative Services' accomplishments include: overseeing the procurement of hybrid vehicles to ensure that at least 75 percent of the fleet consists of energy efficient cars, while reducing the fleet size to 46 from 51 vehicles; reducing the cost of wireless communications through pricing plan reductions and elimination of unnecessary devices; and coordinating with the building landlord on numerous improvement projects, such as roof leak repairs and the installation of state-of-the-art elevators. Administrative Services also introduced bar coding technology to improve tracking and reconciliation of asset inventory.

## Office of Criminal Justice Operations

The Office of Criminal Justice Operations (OCJO) is responsible for maintaining and providing timely, accurate and complete criminal history and identification information to authorized agencies.

In July 2008, the Commissioner announced that all civil and criminal fingerprint submissions must be submitted electronically by January 2010. Implementation of this initiative was designed to enhance timely access to criminal history information for critical decision-making, to enable DCJS to forward authorized fingerprint inquiries to the FBI electronically for a quicker response and to provide more timely arrest notifications for immigration and for employment, licensing and supervisory agencies. As of April 2010, 98 percent of arrests prints in New York State were being submitted electronically.

Other OCJO accomplishments include:

- NYSID Recovery – New York State assigns an eight-digit number (NYSID) to identify a criminal history record. Because current information systems are not capable of processing a nine-digit identifier for criminal records, OCJO initiated a project to recycle existing eight-digit NYSIDs to ensure ongoing processing of criminal records. This project included reprocessing civil fingerprint cards for selected histories with only one job or license application on file and assigning them a nine-digit number and surveying civil agencies to identify inactive civil records that could also be reused as part of this effort. More than 50,000 eight-character NYSID numbers have been recovered in the processing of criminal transactions, enabling DCJS to maintain this critical processing function.
- Reducing Risks – OCJO recognized the need to reduce its vulnerability to unauthorized access of criminal history information – a situation compounded by inadequate security on the mainframe system that is being phased out. To that end, OCJO sharply reduced the number of staff with the ability to review and make changes to criminal history information and trained staff to ensure that individuals are fully aware of their responsibilities to safeguard that information from improper disclosure.
- Civil Vendor Managed Fingerprint Capture System – A new system of obtaining and submitting fingerprints for individuals who need to be fingerprinted for background checks replaced a highly decentralized and inefficient system. Under a contract with DCJS, L-1 Identity Solutions has developed a statewide network of 80 stations where individuals who must undergo background checks for employment can be fingerprinted and the fingerprints can be transmitted electronically to DCJS. As of August 31, 2010, 572 civil contributors were using the L-1 Vendor Managed System, contributing significantly to the 98 percent electronic submission rate for civil fingerprints.

## Office of Forensic Services

The mission of the Office of Forensic Services (OFS) is to provide staff support to the New York State Commission on Forensic Science and its DNA Subcommittee, to administer the state DNA Databank in conjunction with the New York State Police Forensic Investigation Center, to facilitate specialized training and other activities that enhance the efficiency, effectiveness and reliability of forensic testing and to promote coordination and information sharing among the state's public forensic laboratories.

Recent accomplishments include:

- Partial Match Policy – The Division promulgated regulations implementing the policy change, approved by the Commission on Forensic Science, that will permit forensic scientists to report to law enforcement information on “near matches,” indicating that while the perpetrator is not anyone in the Databank he or she may well be a blood relative of an individual whose DNA is in the Databank.
- DNA Offender Specimen Collection Rates – OFS works with state and local agencies to ensure DNA is collected from everyone required to submit a sample. In early 2007, DNA was being collected from only 71 percent of eligible offenders. Currently, the statewide collection rate is 89 percent.
- DNA Databank and DNA Hits - As of September 2010, the DNA Databank contained profiles of 407,149 convicted offenders. The Databank also included 33,366 DNA profiles taken from crime scene evidence. Since the inception of the DNA Databank, there have been 8,474 “cold” hits linking known offenders to evidence from the scenes of unsolved crimes. Additionally, there have been 1,761 hits linking offenders and evidence from crimes committed in New York State with crime scene evidence (or offenders) from other states through CODIS, the FBI's national DNA database system.
- All-crimes DNA – Currently, only 46 percent of the individuals convicted of Penal Law crimes are required to submit a DNA sample. Although the concept of expanding the Databank to include all Penal Law convictions has widespread legislative support, the Legislature has been unable to agree on a specific bill. In 2010, DCJS urged prosecutors statewide to insist that all offenders, as a condition of a plea bargain, submit a DNA sample. This is authorized through the establishment, in 2006, of the state's “Subject Index” pursuant state law.

## Office of Internal Audit and Compliance

The mission of the Office of Internal Audit and Compliance (OIAC) is to provide assurance to management and the public that agency resources are used effectively and efficiently and in accordance with state and federal laws.

Recent accomplishments include:

- Re-established an internal audit function.
- Completed risk assessment for all agency program areas.
- Completed 13 internal audits of agency program areas.
- Established OIAC as the coordinator of all external audit entities, the liaison with the New York State Comptroller's Office and the U.S. Department of Justice, and the coordinator of all Division responses to findings and recommendations.
- Established OIAC as coordinator of all internal investigations and the liaison with the New York State Inspector General's Office.
- Completed 154 on-site audits of grant contracts, resulting in the recommended recovery of \$1.1 million.
- Established a Desk Audit Process in the Grants Audit Unit and completed 178 desk audits between 2008 and 2010.
- Reviewed all contracts funded under the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.
- Implemented a DMV photo audit process and completed site visits or self audits of all 169 agencies with DMV photo access.
- Completed site visits or self-audits of more than 1,300 agencies accessing criminal history record information via eJusticeNY.
- Established a crime reporting review function and conducted reviews of 29 law enforcement agencies.
- Conducted court arraignment and disposition accuracy reviews of 76 courts.

## Office of Justice Information Services

The Office of Justice Information Services (OJIS) is responsible for ensuring uninterrupted operation of critical criminal justice technology systems and providing software and application programs that enhance the ability of criminal justice agencies to reduce crime. This includes replacing obsolete technology and systems, establishing disaster recovery protocols and supporting new legislative requirements.

Three of the major accomplishments during recent years are related to the civil management of sex offenders, reform of the Rockefeller Drug Laws and the sealing and unsealing of records in domestic violence cases.

Under the Sex Offender Management and Treatment Act, the treatment, supervision and continuing management of sex offenders involves tracking from multiple agencies, including DCJS, the Department of Correctional Services, the Office of Mental Health and the Office of the Attorney General. An application was developed to automate the tracking of a sex offenders' civil confinement process and maintain that data in a centralized database. The centralized database will help improve the risk assessment and report generation processes.

Drug law reform required DCJS to seal cases at the discretion of a judge for individuals who have been diverted to drug treatment. The law also requires the unsealing of records upon re-arrest. A five-phase project was launched to respond immediately to the new legislation and to ultimately implement an automated mechanism to handle sealings and re-submittals to the FBI.

New legislation requires DCJS to retain and make available palm prints and fingerprints in domestic violence cases to qualifying agencies for an arrest and conviction of second-degree harassment against a member of the same family or household. OJIS has developed new applications to eliminate the manual processing of these cases by the Office of Criminal Justice Operations.

Other OJIS achievements include: replacing obsolete technology and systems to provide new business functionality necessary to update and access records in the criminal history database; and implementing a number of initiatives to improve the management of the DNA Databank, the Jail Management System, and the Missing and Exploited Children Clearinghouse.

## Office of Justice Research and Performance

The mission of the Office of Justice Research and Performance is to provide accurate, timely analysis and statistical data to DCJS and the criminal justice agencies it serves, with the aim of providing policymakers with the information they need to make policy decisions, and law enforcement with the data it needs to make strategic decisions.

Major 2006-2010 accomplishments include:

- Implementing reporting system improvements for hate crime, domestic violence victimization and juvenile crime, and publishing this data on the DCJS website for the first time.
- Instituting comprehensive procedures for tracking and analyzing New York State domestic homicides resulting in the publication of annual reports on those homicides for the last three years.
- Establishing a system for evaluating the impact of the 2009 Drug Law Reform, including a comprehensive research database, and publishing several reports.
- Developing and implementing a persistent offender report on eJusticeNY, allowing police and prosecutors to target the most active criminals, and developing a “shared offenders” report on cross-jurisdictional offenders to promote information-sharing among law enforcement.
- Publishing the annual New York State Crimestat report, a key resource for trend and performance data for the entire State criminal justice system.
- Publishing the annual DCJS Performance Report, which allows the public to assess the performance of the Division.
- Taking a lead role in developing systems to identify deported criminal aliens who illegally re-enter New York State.
- Providing extensive research and analytical support to the Commission on Sentencing Reform.
- Providing research support for the Governor’s Task Force on Police-on-Police Shootings.
- Supporting warrant initiatives by preparing risk-based case listings of wanted fugitives within the 17 Operation IMPACT counties.
- Supporting a joint effort with the Office of Cyber Security to map parolees, probationers and sex offenders on a secure web-based application available through eJusticeNY.

## Office of Legal Services

The mission of the Office of Legal Services (OLS) is to help reduce crime by providing legal counsel to the Commissioner and the agency, and to provide legal support to law enforcement agencies and district attorneys across the state. OLS has a direct influence in policy development for New York State's criminal justice community as the legal advisor to the Commissioner, and also provides police departments, sheriffs, district attorneys' offices, probation and parole authorities, correction officials and courts with assistance on criminal justice issues ranging from DNA collection and the registration of sex offenders to the Freedom of Information Law.

During this Administration, OLS provided vital assistance to the Commission on Sentencing Reform, which was established by Executive Order No. 10 in March 2007. The Commission met for two years, culminating with a report issued in 2009 that proposed sweeping reforms to New York State's sentencing practices. Several of the recommendations, most notably with regard to drug law reform, were enacted.

Additionally, OLS has provided guidance and counsel in the implementation of many of the major criminal justice initiatives achieved over the past four years, including: human trafficking; the development of Crime Analysis Centers in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Albany; the Child Passenger Protection Act (also known as Leandra's Law); and several sex offender laws and regulations.

New York State passed its first laws against human trafficking in 2007 and OLS has been at the forefront of implementation efforts. The establishment of a victims' services program is triggered by confirmation by DCJS; there have been 109 victims confirmed for services. OLS staff have traveled the state training more than 3,000 law enforcement and service professionals.

Because DCJS maintains the Sex Offender Registry and is home to the Office of Sex Offender Management, OLS frequently provides counsel on sex offender issues. Recent developments in sex offender management include: making Sex Offender Registry information regarding medium and high-risk sex offenders available to municipal housing authorities on a monthly basis; maintaining a free service enabling subscribers to receive automated notifications whenever a medium or high-risk sex offender moves into or from a jurisdiction of interest; and enforcing the Electronic Security and Targeting of Online Predators Act, which requires all sex offenders to report to DCJS all of their Internet accounts and any e-mail addresses and screen names.

In addition, OLS staff serves as counsel to many boards and commissions, including the Commission on Forensic Science and its DNA Subcommittee, Motor Vehicle Theft Board, Municipal Police Training Council, Security Guard Advisory Council, Law Enforcement Accreditation Council, Juvenile Justice Advisory Council and others.

## Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives

The mission of the Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (OPCA) is to reduce recidivism and promote community safety by providing oversight and funding to probation departments and community correction agencies that hold offenders accountable and provide restitution to victims of crime in New York State. The Office was established in the 2010-11 budget and resulted from the merger of the Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DPCA) and DCJS.

DPCA/OPCA accomplishments since 2007 include:

- Implementation of Leandra’s Law – DPCA was charged with the responsibility of developing regulations to implement a new law requiring anyone convicted of a felony or misdemeanor drunk driving offense to install and maintain an ignition interlock device on any vehicle they drive. As a result of the office’s multi-agency collaboration, outreach and training efforts, jurisdictions across the state were prepared to implement the interlock provision on Aug. 15, 2010 the day it took effect.
- Support for Drug Law Reform – The Drug Law Reform Act expanded alternative-to-incarceration options for dealing with certain drug offenders. OPCA was allocated \$11.5 million in federal stimulus funds over two years to support three separate initiatives related to drug law reform and alternatives to incarceration: the hiring or retention of approximately 50 probation officers to supervise an estimated 860 individuals sentenced to probation as a result of Drug Law Reform; the expansion of regional Probation Violation Residential Centers for probation violators; and the continuation of seven alternative-to-incarceration programs for which current funding was expiring.
- Domestic Violence Initiatives – In response to legislation signed into law on Sept. 17, 2009, OPCA convened six Domestic Violence Regional Collaboration meetings across the state to implement the requirement that law enforcement agencies share Domestic Incident Reports on persons under community supervision with local probation professionals to hold those offenders accountable and reduce the incidence of domestic violence and harm to victims.
- Juvenile Risk Intervention Services Coordination (JRISC) – Adopting a new focus on reducing, rather than simply managing, young offenders, DPCA embraced the JRISC protocol which increases probation’s ability to access otherwise unaffordable interventions that are demonstrably effective in reducing delinquency and crime.
- Probation Automation – OPCA worked with local probation departments in implementing a uniform probation automated case management system, Caseload Explorer, in more than 40 local probation departments throughout New York State.
- Sex Offender Accountability – Under Operation Return, OPCA worked with the U.S. Marshals Office, local police, prosecutors and probation departments in extraditing more than 30 sex offender absconders back to New York State where they were held accountable.

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*“ Merging the Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives with DCJS creates operational efficiencies, fosters coordination of policies and programs and provides for more efficient and cost-effective delivery of services. As a part of DCJS, Probation will continue to be a robust and critical element of our criminal justice system. ”*

*~ Sean M. Byrne, Acting Commissioner*

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## Office of Program Development and Funding

The Office of Program Development and Funding (OPDF) allocates state and federal funding to support criminal justice strategies, and applies for discretionary federal funds and pursues grant opportunities for state criminal justice agencies and local partnership projects.

The Office has played a pivotal role in moving important initiatives forward by identifying funding resources to support projects such as: NOADS (New York Offender Assessment and Data Sharing); Operation IMPACT; a DNA burglary evidence collection and laboratory backlog initiative; video interrogation initiatives; the provision of Livescan equipment to facilitate the electronic transmittal of fingerprint records; the establishment of Crime Analysis Centers in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Albany; re-entry services and local task forces; Crimes Against Revenue Programs; and the development of updated sexual assault examination kits.

Major accomplishments include:

- Electronic Grants Management System (GMS) – This new system, which is scheduled for completion by spring 2011, will provide grantees with a single point of interface at DCJS for grant contracts.
- Fiscal/ Program Technical Assistance – Over the last four years, OPDF has expanded the use of technology (i.e., webinars) to provide cost-effective training/ technical assistance to our grantees.
- Crimes Against Revenue Programs (CARP) – Through CARP, grants have been provided to district attorneys in 13 counties with the highest reported income tax revenues to facilitate the investigation and prosecution of those who violate the law by failing to pay tax obligations. Over five years, this program has generated a 286 percent return on the investment.
- Juvenile Justice – With a recidivism rate as high as 89 percent for youth leaving the juvenile justice system, DCJS has worked to develop policies and initiatives to reduce juvenile recidivism through innovative juvenile crime reduction programs, engaging in cross-system efforts to prevent juvenile offending; and functioning as a central point for the collection and analysis of juvenile justice data.
- Re-entry Services - DCJS led the state's interagency effort to develop and begin implementing New York's version of the Transition from Prison to the Community (TPC) initiative. The "State Plan" details New York's comprehensive re-entry processes across criminal justice and human service agencies.

## Office of Public Information

The Office of Public Information is the public relations arm of DCJS and also provides public information services and support for hosted agencies, including the Commission of Correction, the Office of Crime Victim Services (formerly the Crime Victims Board), what is now the Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives and the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence.

The Director of Public Information and Deputy Director of Public Information came into office in 2007 with two overriding goals: to tell the story of DCJS and make people aware that the people's business is being done, and done exceptionally well, by the employees of DCJS; and to make the DCJS media shop the most responsive and responsible public information office in the state. Every call gets returned every day; every e-mail receives a prompt response. The office's policy of promptly disclosing what is obviously public information has earned it, and fostered the agency's, reputation for accountability and transparency; its policy of immediately owning up to any mistakes or errors and presenting data accurately and honestly has earned it a reputation for credibility. The office handles roughly 1,000 requests for information annually.

Over the past four years, the Office of Public Information has engaged in a variety of methods and strategies to spread the Administration's, the agency's and the commissioner's message. For instance, the office coordinated editorial board meetings with at least nine newspapers in every region of the state, placed op-eds in at least nine newspapers, garnered newspaper profiles on at least 13 members of DCJS and hosted agencies and arranged numerous television and radio interviews with the commissioner. Also, the office worked with a local public access television station to produce a series of half-hour television programs featuring DCJS or hosted-agency experts discussing cutting-edge criminal justice issues. Each program featured an interview or panel discussion with DCJS experts on various topics, including: sex offender management; re-entry; human trafficking; probation and correctional alternatives; domestic violence; child safety; and crime victims. These programs were aired repeatedly, often in prime time, by public access television stations around the state *at no cost*. They have also been posted to the DCJS website, and many have been converted into podcasts which are available from the DCJS website, the website of the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police and on iTunes.

## Office of Sex Offender Management

The mission of the Office of Sex Offender Management is to protect the public, ensure effective management and supervision of sex offenders and reduce recidivism.

In April 2007, the Sex Offender Management and Treatment Act (SOMTA) took effect, creating a new Office of Sex Offender Management (OSOM) within DCJS. OSOM has a broad mandate which includes: leading interagency initiatives to improve sex offender management; advising the Governor and Legislature on sex offender issues; training professionals on the best ways to supervise, treat, and manage sex offenders; conducting community outreach and education; and leading public awareness campaigns to prevent sex crimes. In addition, OSOM conducts research and oversees the Sex Offender Registry (SOR).

Over the past four years, the number of offenders on the Sex Offender Registry (SOR) has increased by more than 31 percent, to approximately 31,000 offenders. Over that same period, the number of offenders with a pending risk level has decreased by 16 percent, and 97 percent of registration forms are processed within two days of receipt, up from 90 percent in 2005. As a result, more public information on sex offenders is available sooner.

OSOM achievements include:

- Civil Management – SOMTA provided for the civil management of sex offenders who suffer from a mental abnormality that renders them a significant risk of recidivism. Those individuals can be confined civilly to a secure mental institution or placed on “strict and intensive supervision” (SIST) by Parole and permitted to remain in the community. OSOM tracks developments in civil management, such as the number of individuals confined and the success/ failure rate of SIST candidates, and provides that information to policy makers and involved agencies.
- e-STOP (Electronic Security and Targeting of Online Predators Act) – OSOM worked with the Office of the Attorney General to implement the e-STOP legislation, which requires offenders to submit their e-mail addresses and other Internet information to the Sex Offender Registry. Additionally, OSOM on a weekly basis submits offenders’ reported Internet identifiers to service providers and requests that those individuals be blocked or deleted from the sites if appropriate.
- NY-Alert – OSOM coordinated with the New York State Emergency Management Office to implement legislation requiring DCJS to provide sex offender relocation notices (via e-mail, fax, text message or telephone) to individuals who register for the service.
- Hash Library – A library of hash-marked images of child pornography was established in conjunction with the Attorney General to assist law enforcement with forensic investigations of computers as well as to assist social networking sites in identifying such images and cleansing child pornography from their sites.