

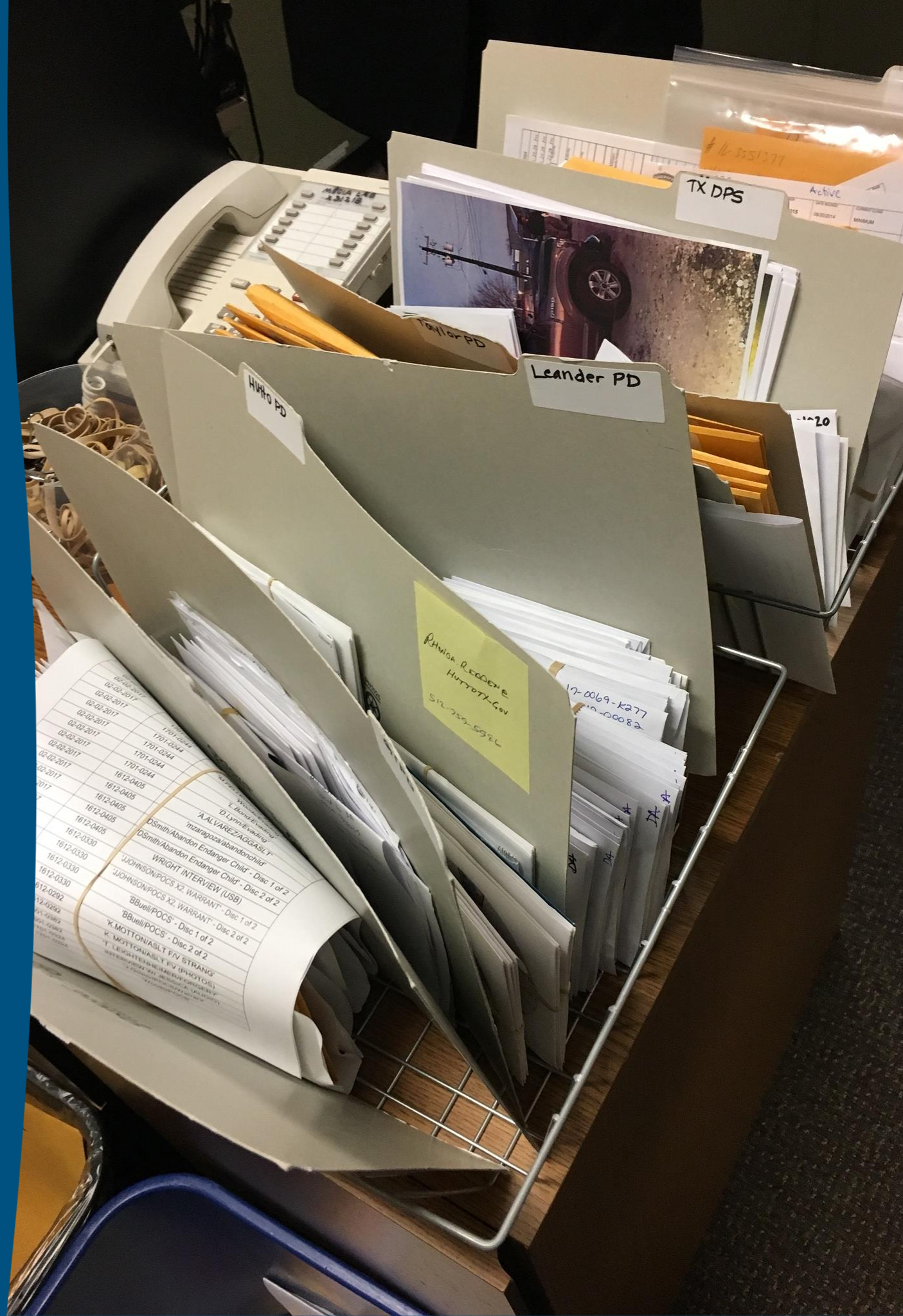
WILLIAMSON COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



Shawn Dick

JANUARY 2017

- ☐ No Organizational Structure
- ☐ Paperless system-Records management in disarray
- ☐ Over $\frac{3}{4}$ of computers effectively outdated
- ☐ No existing diversion programs
- ☐ No intake/screening of cases
- ☐ Little engagement in bond/asset forfeiture
- ☐ Office space was very limited
- ☐ Overall experience level was low
- ☐ Dress code was unprofessional



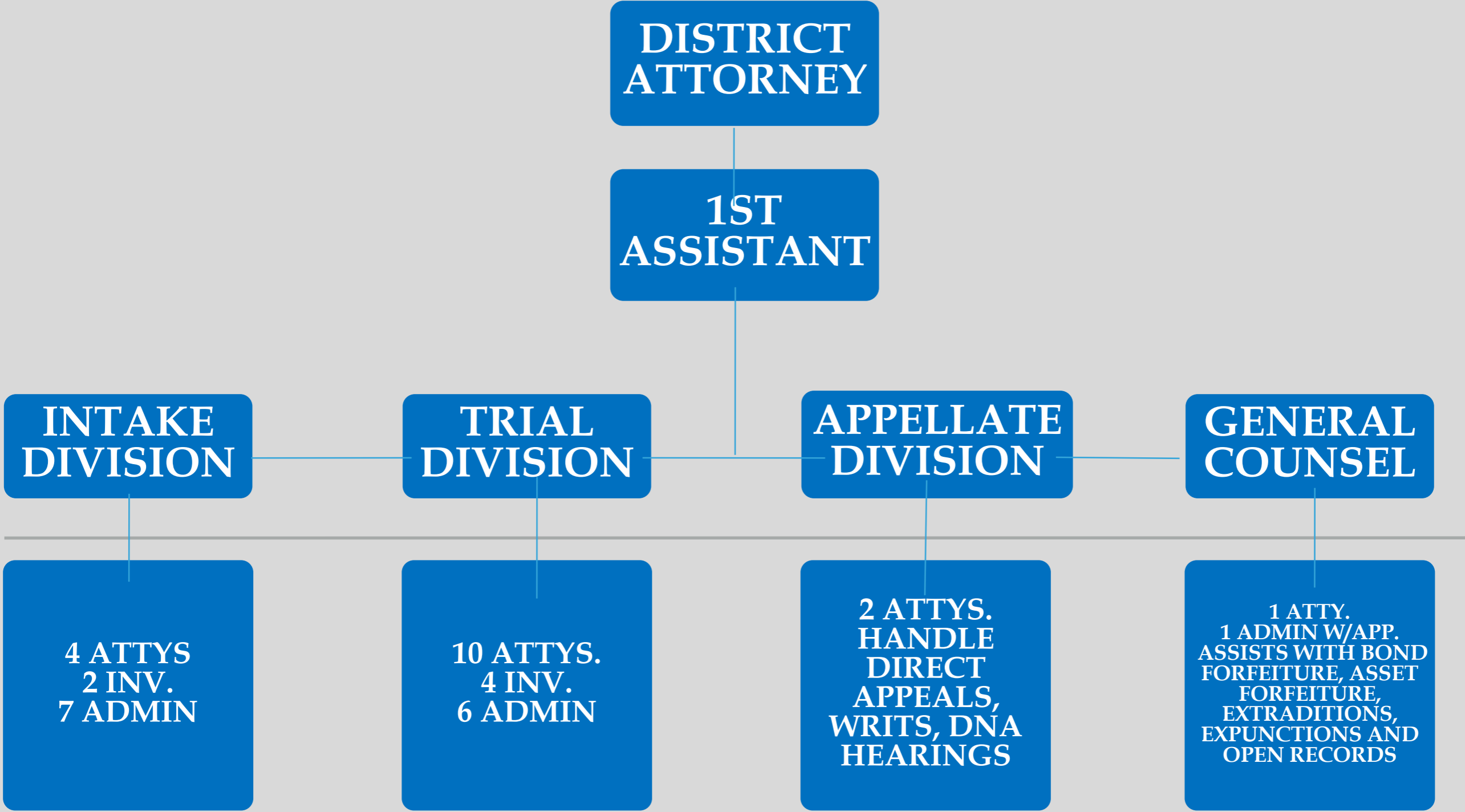
JANUARY 2017

- ❑ No job descriptions
- ❑ No office policy manual
- ❑ No long term strategic plan
- ❑ Only 3 cases tried in 2016
- ❑ Statistics were scarce and unreliable
- ❑ OCA statistics were misleading due to method of filing
- ❑ Public mistrust of Wilco Criminal Justice System
- ❑ Over 3,300 cause numbers filed
- ❑ Around 800 people in our County Jail
- ❑ CDs/DVDs were everywhere-Discovery requests by the hundreds unfulfilled

DA Personnel History

- 10th prosecutor position was created in 2001, with a population of about 249,000.
- 2002-2016 only 4 more prosecutors were added despite the population more than doubling.
- FY '17 – 3 Intake Lawyers
- FY '18 – 1 civil paralegal; 1 Discovery Clerk converted from temporary to full time
- FY '19 – 1 child abuse prosecutor; 1 District Court Chief prosecutor (now 3 per court); 1 Lead Victim's Assistance Coordinator (now 1 per court); 1 Digital Evidence Coordinator
- Of 42 employees only 13 worked for the previous Administration

OFFICE STRUCTURE



PROFESSIONALISM, EXPERIENCE AND INTEGRITY

ATTORNEYS:

- I. Many graduated with honors, lectured, taught college or law school courses, written books/articles, worked in a number of jurisdictions and capacities, 2 served in the Marines
- II. The average years of experience is 18.5 years
- III. 8 lawyers with 20 +
- IV. 4 lawyers with 30 +
- V. 7 of 19 lawyers are Board Certified in Criminal Law a distinction shared by less than 1% of all attorneys in Texas
- VI. 9 of the 19 have spent at least some time as a defense attorney

PROFESSIONALISM, EXPERIENCE AND INTEGRITY

INVESTIGATORS:

- I. Combined over 170 years of law enforcement experience
- II. The average years of experience is 30 years
- III. All 6 are Master Peace Officers
- IV. Previous experience includes WCSO, Georgetown PD, Texas Rangers, Waco PD and Bowie County
- V. Chief Investigator has worked for Williamson County over 35 years, holds a Master's Degree, and served as a professor for a local college

PROFESSIONALISM, EXPERIENCE AND INTEGRITY

SUPPORT STAFF:

- I. Nearly 85 % have equivalent of an Associate's or Bachelor's Degree
- II. 5 are paralegals
- III. 10 employees speak at least two languages
- IV. Most have previous work experience in law firms, the corporate world, education, or business
- V. Chief Office Admin has worked for over 30 years for Wilco DA's Office



INTAKE RESULTS

Jail population has dropped from 800 to 2018 daily average of 561

- Average daily jail cost per inmate between \$80-\$120; minimum savings to the County is **\$19,200 daily, \$584,000 monthly, \$7 million yearly**
- This despite the population growth from 518,755 in 2015 to 609,155 in 2019

Intake has reviewed over 6,254 control numbers in two years while filing cause numbers in 5,346 instances.

- This is a **reduction of 908** filed charges in two years
- With about 60% of felonies assigned court appointed lawyers at a minimum of \$600 a case this is an additional conservative **savings of \$326,880.**

POLICE AGENCIES ASSISTED BY DA'S OFFICE

- Austin Police Department
- Austin Community College PD
- Bartlett PD
- Cedar Park PD
- Florence PD
- Georgetown PD
- Granger PD
- Hutto PD
- Hutto ISD PD
- Jarrell PD
- Leander PD
- Liberty Hill PD
- Lower Colorado River Authority
- Pflugerville PD
- Round Rock PD
- Southwestern University PD
- Taylor PD
- Temple College PD
- Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission
- Texas Attorney General
- Texas Cattle Rangers
- Texas Comptroller
- Texas Department of Insurance
- Texas DPS
- Texas Dept. of Health and Human Services
- Texas Office of Inspector General
- Texas Parks and Wildlife
- Texas Rangers
- Texas State University PD
- Thrall PD
- WCSO
- Williamson County Constables Pct. 1,2,3,4
- Adult Probation
- Texas Dept. of Pardons and Paroles

ADDITIONAL INTAKE STATS

- Average yearly intake per ADA 919 control numbers
- Average yearly intake per Intake Investigator 1608 control numbers
- Just one Intake Investigator assisted in 323 GJ subpoenas in 2017 and 479 in 2018
- Since November of 2018 intake and on-call prosecutors have assisted in over 125 search warrants.
- “Kid cases” have increased from 138 in 2017 to 174 in 2018

CIVIL RESULTS

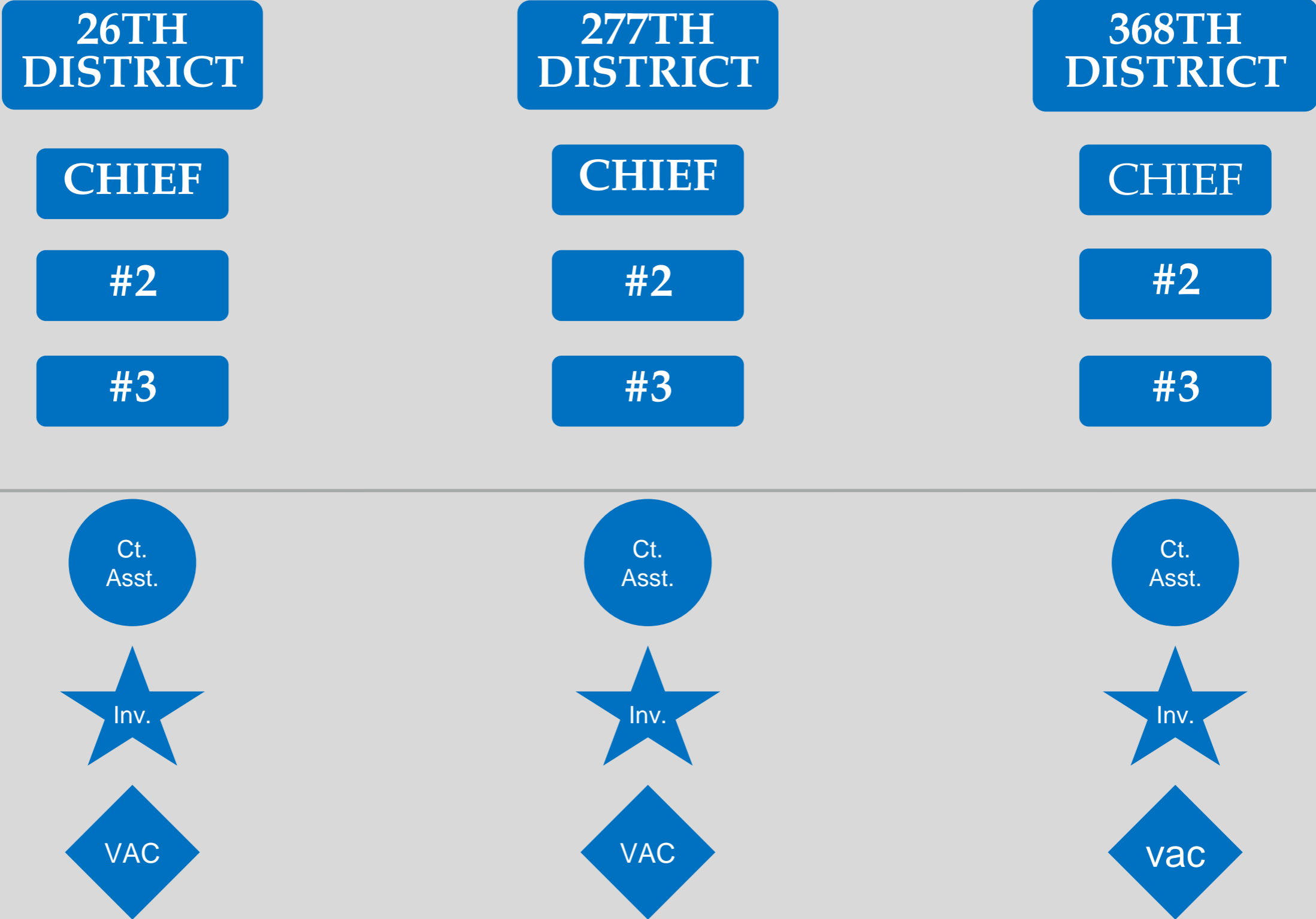
Asset Forfeiture in 2016 was \$113,000

- \$886,603.02 in 2017
- \$2,691,715.02 in 2018
- 80% is awarded to Law Enforcement for training and equipment

Bond Forfeitures in 2016 was \$3,371.07

- \$210,200 in 2017
- \$210,822 in 2018
- \$56,375 in the first three months of 2019
- This money is awarded in its entirety to the County's general fund

Trial Division-Chief



TRIAL DIVISION

- Handling 20 active cases involving the death of an individual thereby reducing the original backlog from 41.
- In 2017 carried an annual caseload of 5,685 Cause Numbers or 631 cases per prosecutor
- In 2018 carried an annual caseload of 5,704 Cause Numbers for a yearly average of 633 cases handled per prosecutor
- Yearly cases resolved:
 - 2017: 3,940 cases
 - 2018: 3,683 cases
- Trial Investigators average yearly workload:
 - 2017: 1895 cases
 - 2018: 1901 cases



TRIALS

- In 2016, the District Attorney's Office tried 3 cases
- In the next two years we have tried 25 Jury Trials
- Our trials have involved:
 - An unborn child killed in an intoxication manslaughter
 - A kidnapper who had previously gotten away with kidnapping another woman, and our survivor inspired us
 - A beloved son and coach, killed by a hit and run driver
 - The killer of Detective Sergeant Christopher Kelley was finally brought to justice
 - And we stood by a family that had lost their precious 5 month old son and grandson while in an in-home daycare.



DIVERSION

- DWI Court- 24 Cause Numbers began in 2017
- Mental Health Docket- 10 Cause Numbers began in late 2018
- Emerging Adults – will accommodate 300 + 17-24 year olds beginning August 1, 2019
- Goals –
 - adding a formal pre-trial diversion program for various 1st time offenses for adults
 - develop a drug abuser diversion/rehabilitation program.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Created Org Chart/Structure
- ✓ Maximized use of Odyssey
- ✓ Replaced 75 % of computers
- ✓ Implementing Diversion Programs
- ✓ Created Intake Division/Screening Process
- ✓ Added physical office space for Intake
- ✓ Reduced Jail Population
- ✓ Reduced Court Filings
- ✓ Diligently worked through backlog of cases
- ✓ Cleaned up OCA Statistics
- ✓ Raised level of professionalism and experience
- ✓ Trying more cases
- ✓ Created an Office Policy Manual
- ✓ Prepared Job Descriptions for every position
- ✓ Submitted a long-term strategic plan
- ✓ Worked with IT and CA to finally implement a Digital Evidence Management system that will revolutionize the way that we work and share information

GROWTH BY PERCENTAGE

ACCORDING TO BUDGET OFFICE #'S FOR FY 06 - FY 18

- Animal Services-328%
- MOT – 200%
- IT – 172 %
- Parks – 150 %
- Purchasing – 120 %
- HR – 116 %
- Elections – 57 %
- EOC – 46%
- EMS – 19 %
- Juvenile – 7 %
- DA – 53 %
- Tax Assessor – 38.5 %
- District Clerk – 36 %
- Sheriff LE – 22 %
- CA – 21 %
- Sheriff Jail – 6 %

Type of Case	Active Felony cases on Docket 2017	APRI Workload Measure	Projected FTE Attorney Positions
Criminal Homicide	24	19.69	1.22
Sex Offenses	233	33.2	7.02
Robbery	138	145.35	.95
Aggravated Assault	484	110.8	4.37
Theft	508	249.58	2.03
Felony Drug	2036	279.5	7.28
Other Miscellaneous Felony	2055	372.17	5.52
	5478		28.39

Type of Case	Active Felony cases on Docket 2018	APRI Workload Measure	Projected FTE Attorney Positions
Criminal Homicide	20	19.69	1.02
Sex Offenses	278	33.2	8.37
Robbery	128	145.35	.88
Aggravated Assault	527	110.8	4.76
Theft	533	249.58	2.14
Felony Drug	2248	279.5	8.04
Other Miscellaneous Felony	2073	372.17	5.57
	5807		30.78

CHALLENGES

- How do we manage growth?
- How do we adequately compensate employees for their experience and professionalism?