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| Department Name | District Attorney's Office |
| Account(s) | 1165 |

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| Department Function |
| <p>The Albany County District Attorney's Office investigates and prosecutes major crimes across every municipality in the county. Led by District Attorney Lee C. Kindlon, 40 Assistant District Attorneys, and more than 40 support staff, the Office works to enhance public safety, build community trust, ensure justice for both victims and defendants. The office represents the public in local, county, appellate, and state courts while partnering with over a dozen law enforcement agencies. Its eight specialized bureaus (Appeals, Crime Victims, Financial Crimes, Major Crimes, Restorative Justice, Special Victims, Street Crimes, and Vehicular Crimes) and a Criminal Investigations Unit balance vigorous prosecution and reform-minded strategies such as diversion programs, re-entry support, and community outreach.</p> |

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| Current Year Highlights |
| <p>At DA Kindlon's direction, an internal financial review uncovered nearly \$1 million in dormant state DCJS grants from 2023. The Office secured \$672,433 for the Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) initiative and \$310,000 for other DA programs. Staff streamlined purchases, vendor contracts, and use of State contracts, saving \$50,000 annually, and downsized the vehicle fleet for further savings. An audit of 15,400 evidence items was completed per DCJS best practices, securing previously unaccounted items.</p> <p>Since Jan. 1, the Office has hired 26 employees (10 ADAs) and promoted 16. Two new bureaus — Restorative Justice and Street Crimes — were created, and the Financial Crimes Bureau was reinstated.</p> <p>The Office is focusing on strategies that demonstrably enhance public safety, lower recidivism rates and optimize resource allocation. This often involves a combination of traditional methods, such as vigorously prosecuting violent offenders, alongside reform-oriented tactics like diversion programs for less serious offenses. The central aim is to achieve balanced, data-informed solutions that best serve justice and community well-being.</p> <p>The Office has moved the Community Justice Outreach Center into office space inside the former Saint Rose College and will be able to host diversion meetings, community events and press conferences in the space.</p> <p>The Office is also leading a renewed focus on organized retail crime with the establishment of a regional task force that will hone in on large-scale retail theft that happens in Colonie, Guilderland and Bethlehem that often funds criminal activity in Albany. Anecdotal reports from partner retailers in the county suggest that shrinkage—the amount of money lost to retail theft—has dropped by more than 30% in the past year.</p> <p>DA Kindlon and the Office were part of a collective with DAASNY that lobbied on behalf of Governor Hochul to pass Discovery reforms as part of the FY 2026 enacted NYS budget. He also drove lobbying efforts to help improve access to orders of protection for victims and protect victims of sex trafficking.</p> <p>Since Jan. 1, the Office's Assistant District Attorneys have scored state prison sentences for nearly 100 individuals who were illegally possessing a gun, helping in the effort to get guns off the street while making our communities safer.</p> <p>The Office has also opened more than 1,700 felony cases on criminals across Albany County.</p> |

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| Next Year Projects |
| <p>Looking ahead, a countywide anti-gun violence initiative focused on youth will be launched, alongside expanded programming at the Community Justice Outreach Center. Efforts against organized retail crime will grow through the creation of a Capital District Organized Retail Crime Alliance in partnership with neighboring counties and law enforcement agencies. Priorities also include locating absconders, enforcing violent felony warrants, and continuing to advocate for stronger public safety laws that protect victims. Internally, a new in-house training program will strengthen professional standards and continuing education, while a redesigned public website will enhance transparency and community access to information.</p> |

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| Link to Website | https://www.albanycountyny.gov/government/district-attorney |
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