

Michael A. Hestrin District Attorney



FY 24/25 BUDGET PRESENTATION

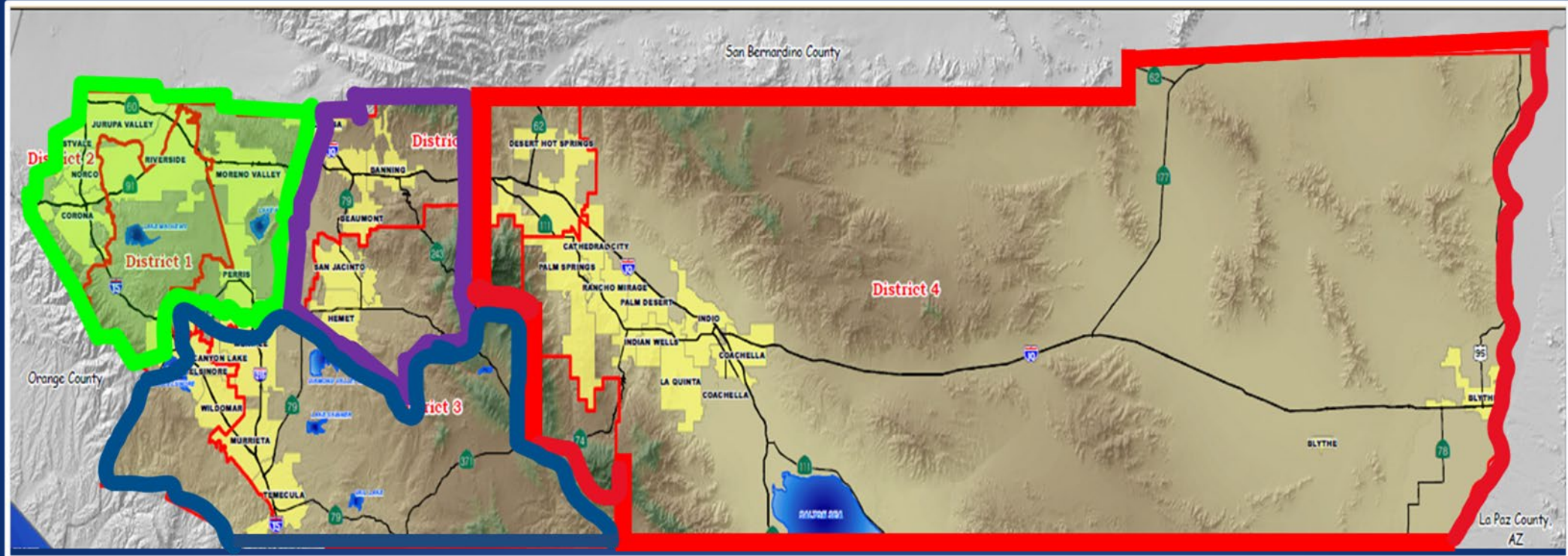
June 10, 2024

Agenda

- Countywide Improvements/Gains
- War Against Fentanyl
- Challenges
 - Unfunded State Mandates
 - Race/Blind Charging
 - Resentencing
 - Mental Health Legislative Impacts
- Budget Request FY 2024-2025



YOUR DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



4 Regional Offices
2 Satellite Offices
746 Current Employees
\$158M Current Operating Budget

COUNTYWIDE IMPROVEMENTS

- **Trial Preparation Unit**
- **Countywide Call Center**
- **Homeless Outreach Mediation & Education (H.O.M.E)**
- **Riverside County Regional Cold Case Homicide Team**
- **Community Outreach Programs**

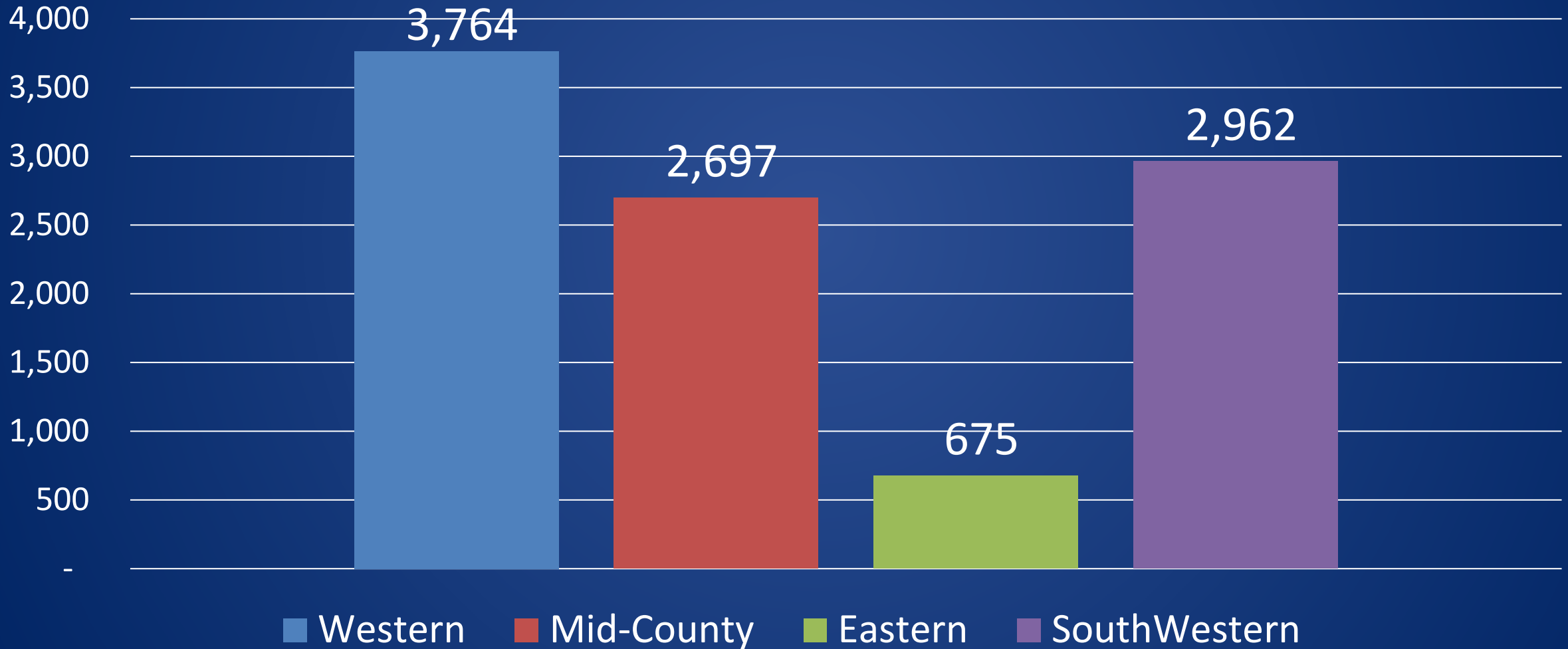
Trial Preparation Unit



Trial Preparation Unit Statistics

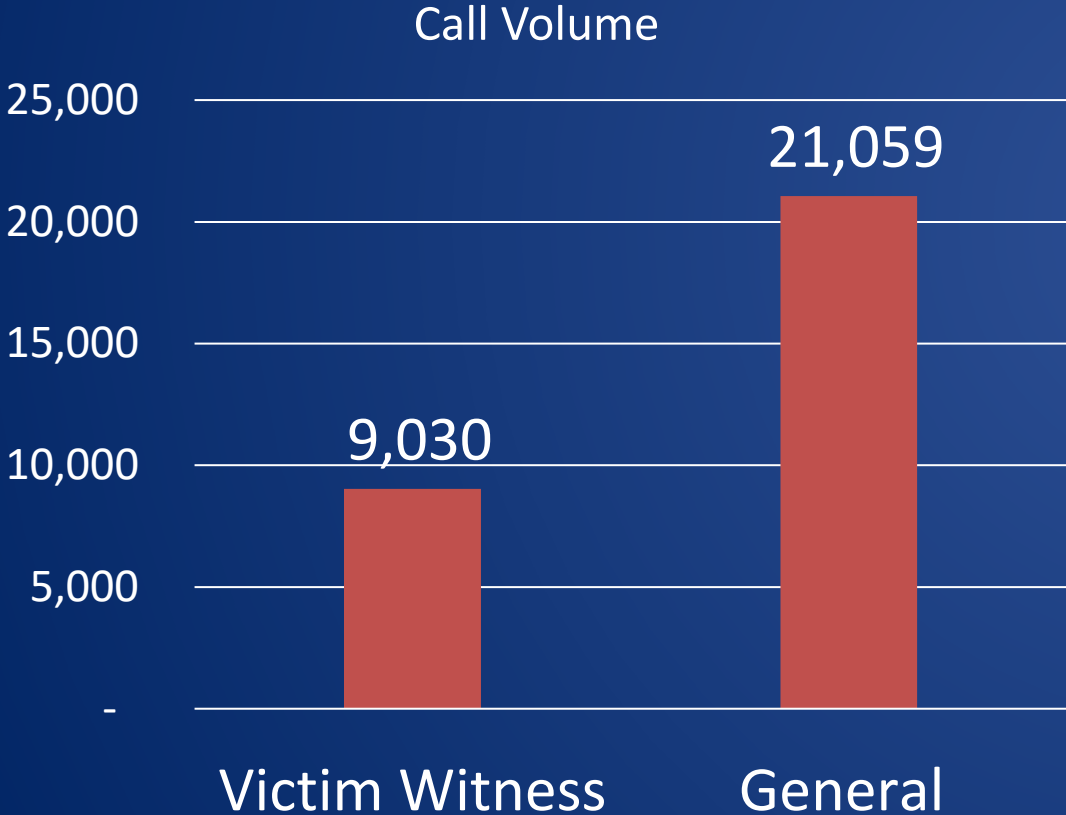
Total Work Requests Completed: 10,098

(since inception)



COUNTYWIDE CALL CENTER

Total Calls Serviced: 30,089
(December 2023 – May 2024)



H.O.M.E.

Homeless Outreach Mediation & Education

The H.O.M.E. Program provides resources to assist unhoused individuals navigate successful re-entry into the community with a stable and supportive environment.

- Post Plea Program
- Participant Evaluation
- Terms range from volunteer work to residential rehabilitation
- Housing categories:
 - ❖ Up to 1 year for misdemeanors
 - ❖ Up to 2 years for felonies

Upon successful completion, fines, fees and criminal convictions are eliminated.

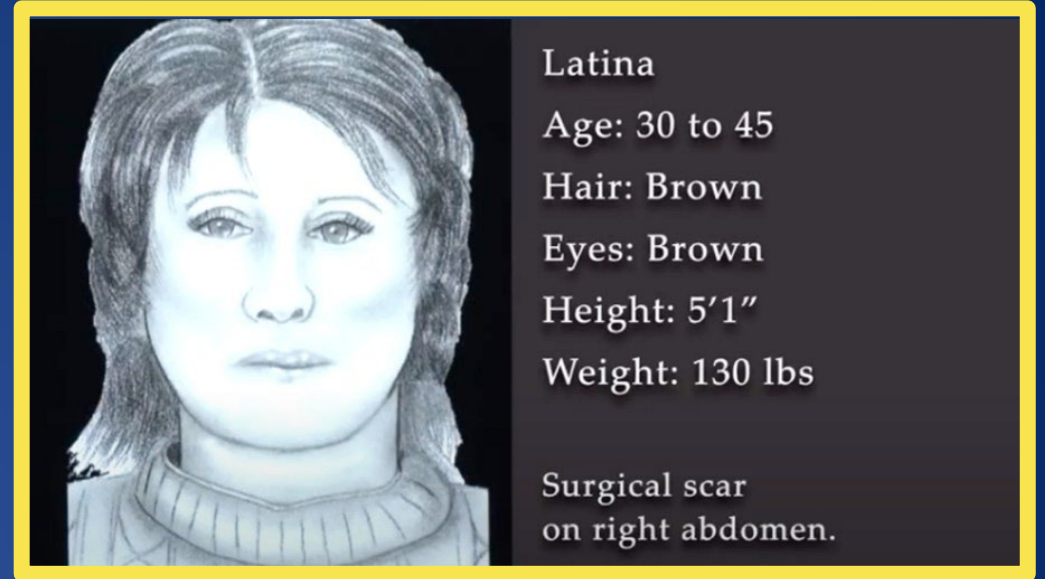
H.O.M.E Post Graduation Success

- Increased Family Connections Established
- Stable Living Arrangements Secured
- Gainful Employment Obtained
- Mental Health & Substance Use Treatment Support



Regional Cold Case Unit

- On January 27th, 1996, homicide victim found near Beaumont.
- Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (FIGG) and other databases were utilized.
- Victim identified as **Juana Rosas-Zagal**.
- A suspect DNA profile is currently in the CODIS database, and the investigation is on-going.



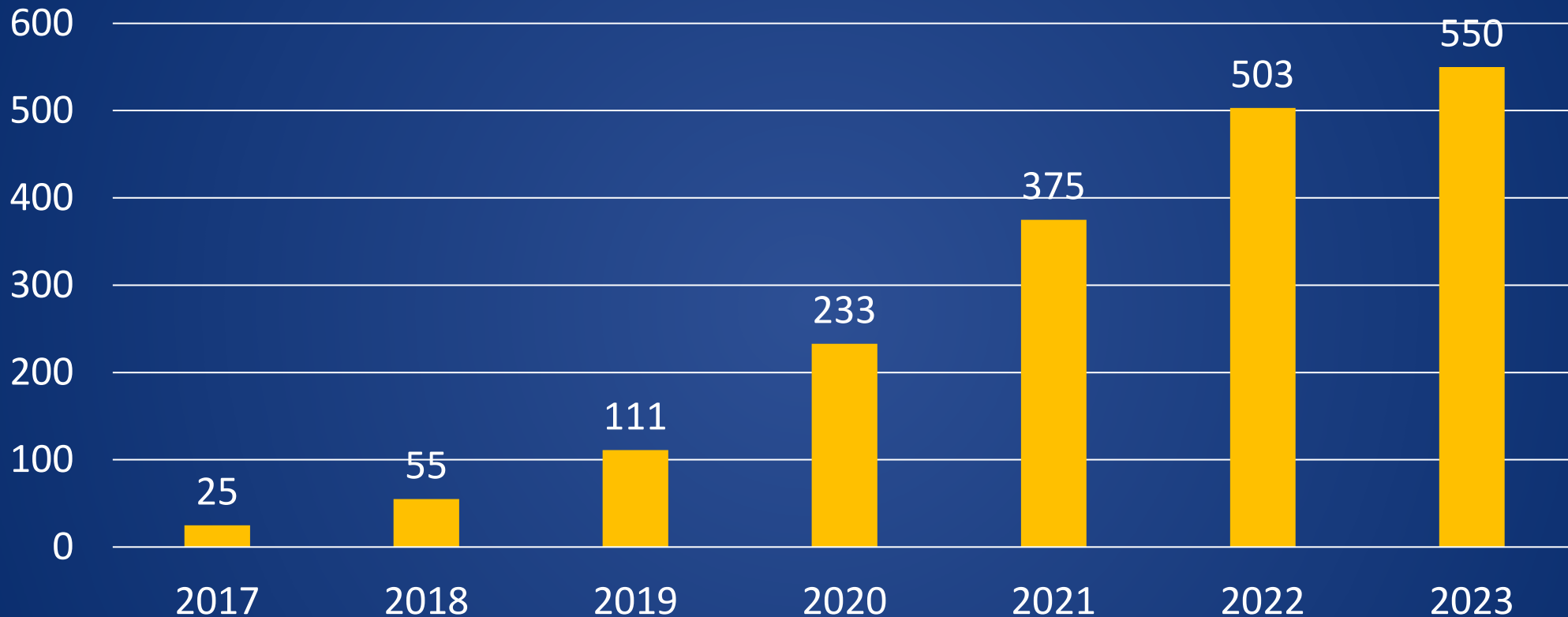
Community Outreach Programs

- Citizens Academy
- Spanish Academy (1st)
- College Academy
- Community Safety Connection



WAR AGAINST FENTANYL

Number of Deaths in Riverside County*



RIVERSIDE COUNTY HAS 26 ACTIVE CASES WITH 41 FILED INVOLVING FENTANYL RELATED DEATHS

FENTANYL MURDER CASE

People v. Vincente Romero

SWF2007390

- Defendant knew M-30 pills were deadly when provided to victim
- Defendant **gambled** with the victim's life
- Jury Returns a GUILTY Verdict:
 - Count One: Penal Code Section 187(a) (Implied Malice Murder)
- First Fentanyl **Guilty Verdict** in the **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



Gang Impact Team (GIT)

Period	Homicide Arrests	Total Arrests	Guns	Meth	Heroin	Cocaine	Fentanyl	Pills
FY 2015-YTD	129	1,610	1,249	2,187 lbs.	14 lbs.	57 lbs.	158 lbs.	522k



Challenges

- **Unfunded Legal Mandates**
 - **Race/Blind Charging**
 - **Resentencing**
 - **Mental Health Legislative Impacts**

Mission Statement

The District Attorney of Riverside County, as the public prosecutor acting on behalf of the People, vigorously enforces the law, pursues the truth, and safeguards the rights of all to ensure that justice is done on behalf of our community.

The District Attorney works with every component of the criminal justice system to protect the innocent, to convict and appropriately punish the guilty, and to protect the rights of victims.

The District Attorney also works within our community to prevent and deter crime and to promote public safety, now and for future generations.

The District Attorney fulfills these critical responsibilities through the efforts of the employees of the District Attorney's Office, and each employee is integral to achieving this mission. To that end, we, the employees of the Riverside County District Attorney's Office, will adopt the highest standards of ethical behavior and professionalism and proudly commit ourselves to the following core values in the performance of our duties:

*Integrity, Respect, Quality, Loyalty, Teamwork,
Partnership, Innovation, Fairness, and Service.*

Unfunded Legal Mandates*

- **AB 2778 – Requiring implementation of two-step race blind charging** (Pen. Code, § 741, effective 1.1.24)
- **SB 1437/ SB 775 – Resentencing for Murder and Attempted Murder** (Pen. Code, § 1172.6, amended 1.1.22)
- **SB 483 – Resentencing for Prison Priors** (Pen. Code, § 1172.7, 1172.75, effective 1.1.22)
- **PC 1368-1372 –Mental Competency determination** (Pen. Code, § 1368-1372, effective 1.1.15)
- **AB 2169 – Petition to vacate conviction based on human trafficking** (Pen. Code, § 236.14, effective 1.1.23)
- **AB 256 – Retroactive application of Racial Justice Act** (Pen. Code, § 745, amended 1.1.23)
- **SB 620 – Judicial discretion to strike firearm enhancements (requiring resentencing for all non-final cases)**
(Pen. Code, § 12022.53, effective 1.1.18)

* This is only a snapshot, not a comprehensive list

Unfunded Mandate: Race Blind Charging Penal Code Section 741 (AB2778)

Requirements:

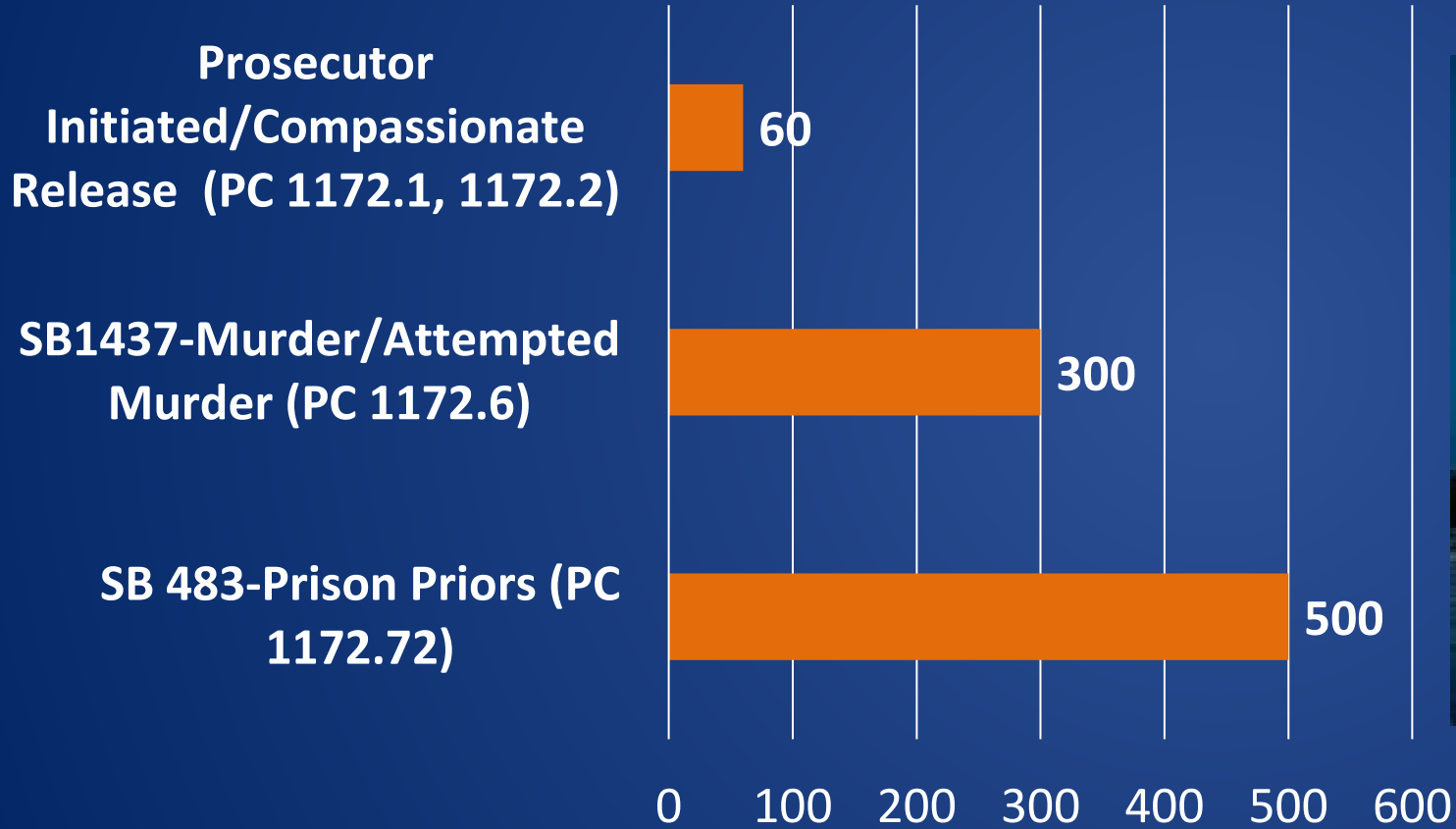
- Redaction of all race based identifying factors during initial charging evaluation.
- Initial charging decision to be made using only redacted materials.
- A second evaluation must then be done to determine the type and gravity of the charge – effectively requiring a review of each case submission twice.

Effective January 1, 2025



RESENTENCING STATISTICS

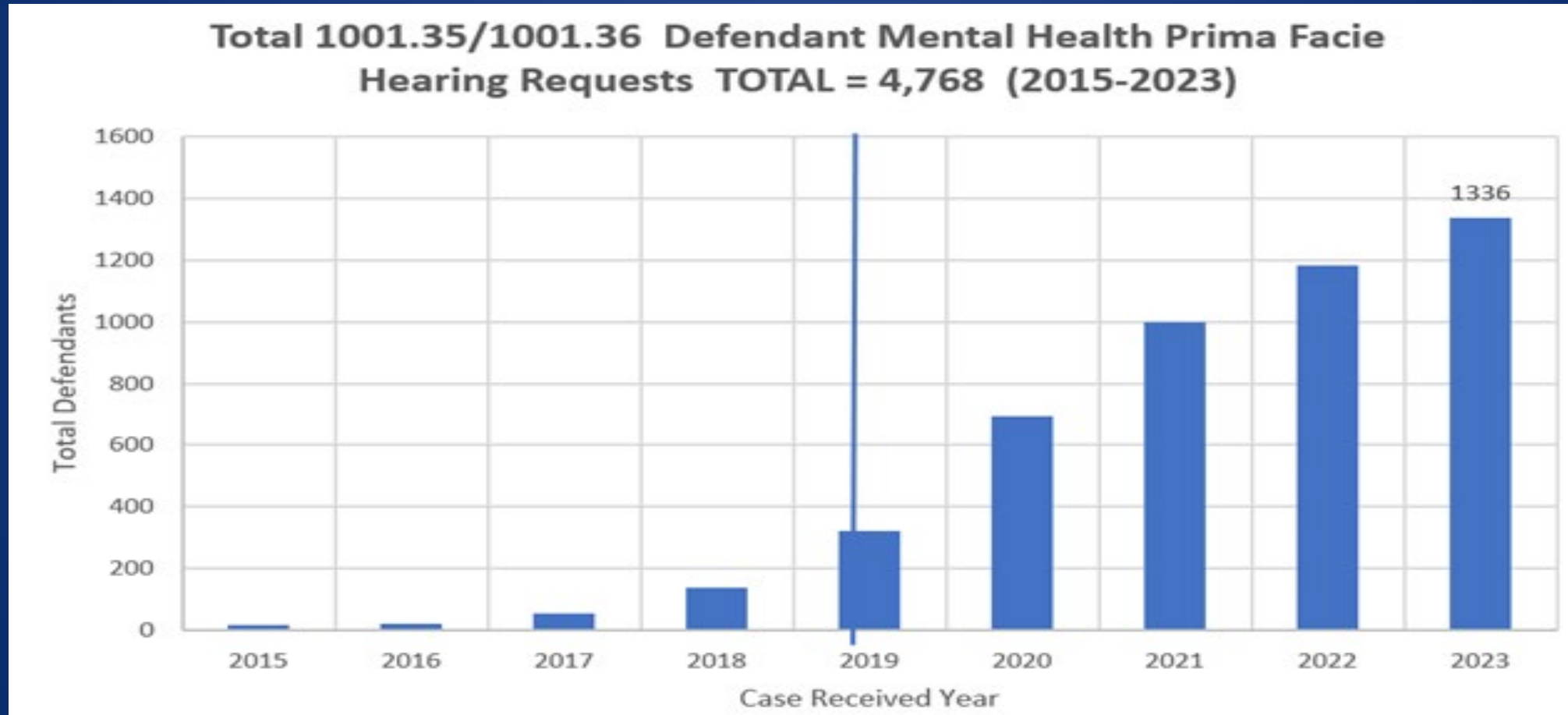
860 Pending Cases in Court



MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSION

PC 1001.36

Mental Health Prima Facie Hearings



3,393% Increase Since 2015

FY 24/25 Fiscal Overview

Requested NCC: \$114.6M

Current NCC Allocation: \$100.5M

ADDITIONAL NCC NEEDED:

EO Recommendation (NCC) \$12.9M

Trial Prep Expansion \$1.0M

Cold Case Operations \$0.2M

Trial Preparation Expansion

\$1.0M Additional Request

Cold Case Operations

\$200K Additional Request

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