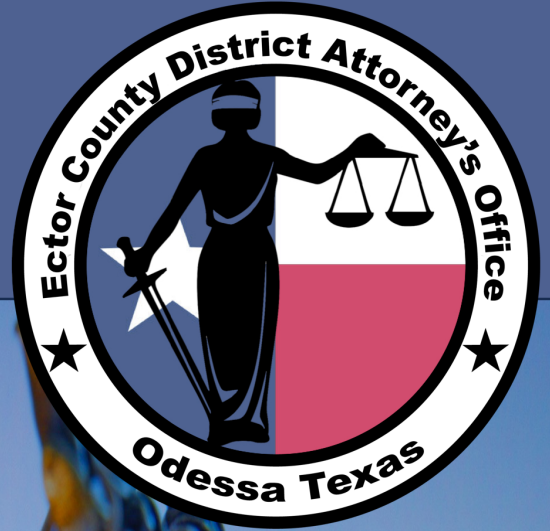


The Ector County Docket 2025



Dusty Gallivan, *Ector County District Attorney*

A Message From



DA Dusty Gallivan

It is my honor to serve the great people of Ector County and to uphold the values of fairness, accountability, and justice. This year, our office has handled an extraordinary volume of cases, reflecting the complexities of our growing community.

We prosecuted over 7,000 cases, ranging from serious felonies such as violent crimes and drug offenses to misdemeanors impacting our neighborhoods' safety and quality of life. Additionally, our Juvenile Division worked diligently to address cases involving young offenders, aiming to provide both accountability and opportunities for rehabilitation. In our Child Protective Services Division, our team has tirelessly fought for the safety and stability of our most vulnerable citizens—our children—ensuring they can grow up in safe and loving environments.

None of this critical work would be possible without the dedication and expertise of the prosecutors, investigators, support staff, and victim advocates who make up the Ector County District Attorney's Office. I witness their unwavering commitment to pursuing justice with integrity and compassion every day. From meticulously reviewing evidence to ensuring the rights of victims and defendants are upheld, their work is nothing short of remarkable.

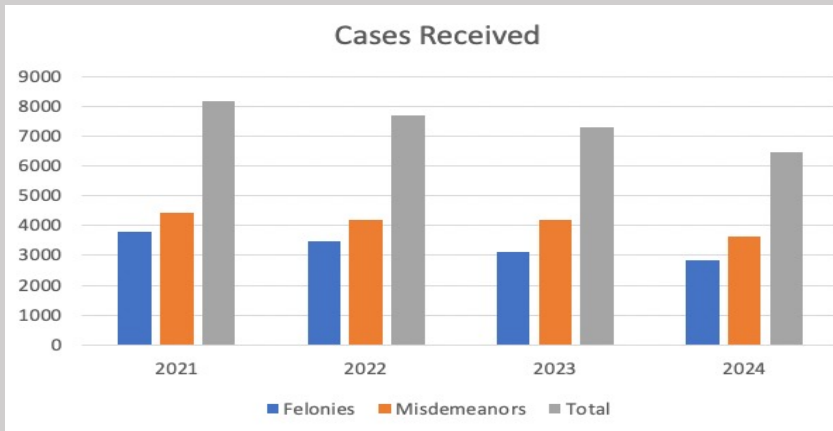
The work we do is important not just because it addresses wrongdoing but because it protects the values that bind us as a community. Justice is not something our office can achieve alone—it requires the partnership of every member of our community. From citizens serving on juries to those who report crimes or come forward as witnesses, your involvement is essential. Together, we create a legal system that reflects our shared commitment to fairness and safety.

As we reflect on the year's achievements, let us also look forward with determination. We will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that justice is done in every case and that the trust you place in us is upheld. Thank you for your continued support, and I encourage you to stay engaged as we strive to make Ector County a place where justice and community go hand in hand.

Highlights from The DA's Office

By The Numbers

Over the past four years, the number of cases submitted by law enforcement has decreased, but the seriousness of those offenses has increased.



409

Capital Murder, Murder, Agg Sex Assault, and Agg Assault cases resolved in 2024



Staffing has been a significant challenge for prosecutor's offices across Texas in recent years, and Ector County has been no exception. Despite these challenges, we have been fortunate to add talented individuals to our team.

We are pleased to introduce Jurhee, our newest attorney. A native of Odessa, Jurhee recently passed the Bar and is now a licensed attorney with our office. For several months, she worked diligently as part of our team while preparing for and awaiting her Bar results.

Jurhee has already made a tremendous impact with her excellent work ethic and dedication. We are excited to have her begin her career with us, and we're confident she will be an outstanding prosecutor for Ector County.

Summary of Dispositions

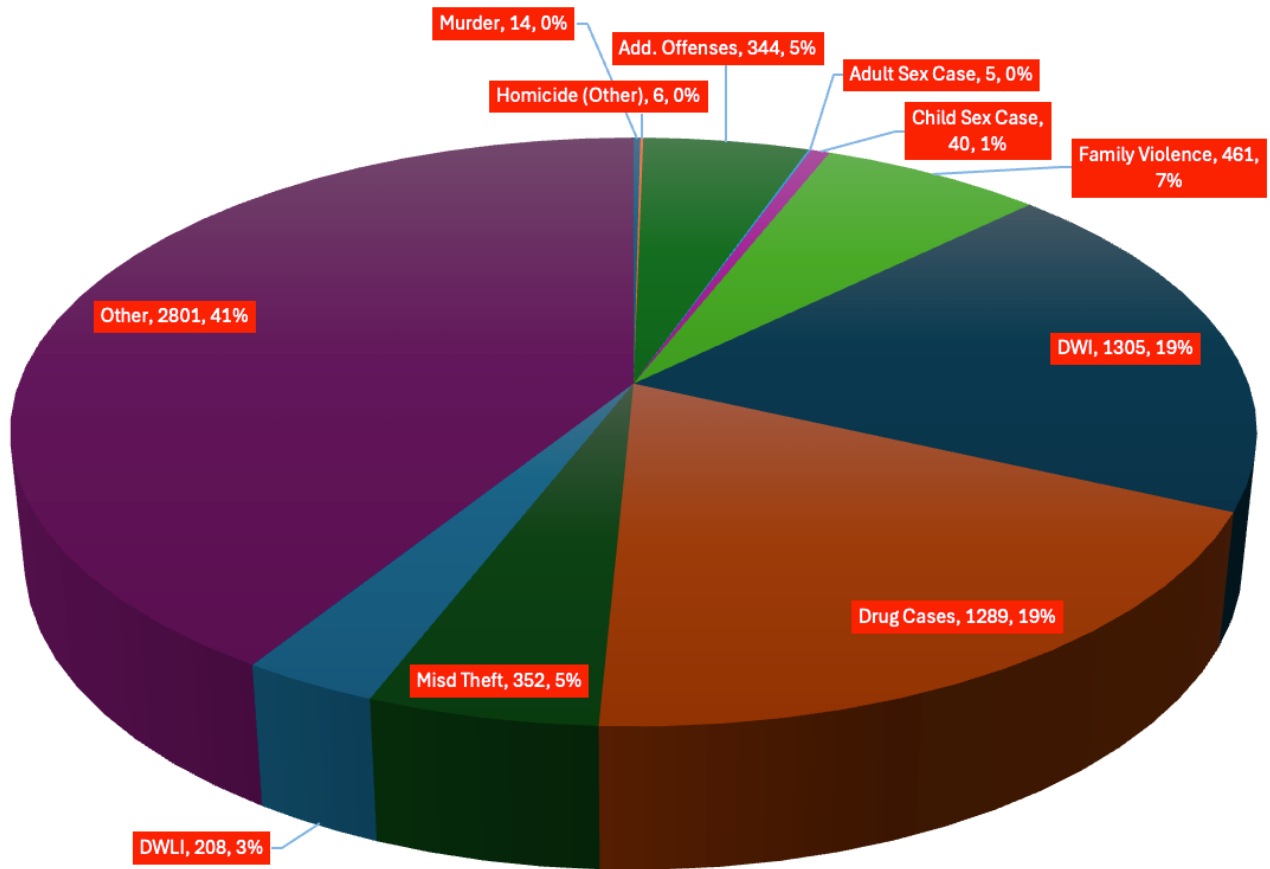
Disposition	Felony	Misdemeanor
Trials	26	1
Pleas	1,255	2,729
Motion to Revoke	398	254

The District Attorney's Office does not conduct investigations. Criminal investigations are handled by law enforcement agencies. Once an investigation is complete, the agency submits the case to our office for prosecution. At this point, the Intake Department, consisting of 4 attorneys, 4 paralegals, and an investigator, takes over. The paralegals and investigator ensure the case is complete, after which an attorney evaluates the evidence and the merits of the case. If we determine there is sufficient evidence to prove the case beyond a reasonable doubt, it is formally filed and prosecuted. Approximately 30% of cases received are rejected for various reasons.

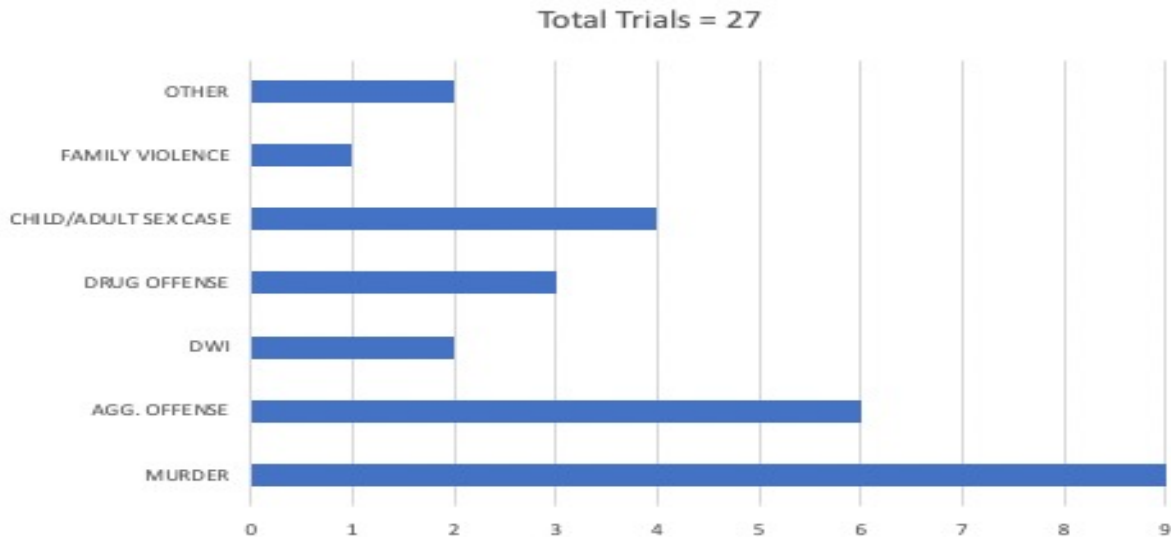
Summary of Cases Received

Agency	Felony	Misdeameanor
OPD	1,724	2,464
SO	507	374
DPS	430	566
ECISD	27	55
UTPB	74	129
MCH	17	23

Criminal Cases Prosecuted



Criminal Trials

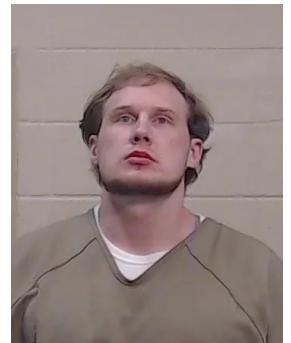


Trial Highlights



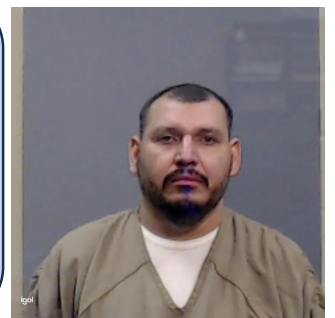
1-11-24 Christian Escarcega was found guilty of Murder and sentenced to Life. On 10-31-21, Mr. Escarcega and a co-defendant ambushed an individual outside Stein's Bar and shot him to death. Both defendants fled the scene but were apprehended by ECSO and OPD.

1-26-24 Johnathan McKissick was found guilty of injury to a child and sentenced to 99 years in prison. On 2-27-21, the defendant was at a local motel and was captured on video smashing a child's head and throwing the child against the wall. The child was less than 2 years old.



3-1-24 Megan Lange was found guilty of Capital Murder in the death of her 11-year-old son and sentenced to life without parole. After an investigation by the Ector County SO, it was determined that the defendant intentionally starved the child for years (he weighed 44 pounds) and suffocated the child.

3-25-24 Jesus Meza was found guilty of delivery of a controlled substance and sentenced to 37 years. On 2-6-23, undercover officers purchased fentanyl from the defendant. When the defendant was arrested, he admitted to having over two thousand fentanyl pills.

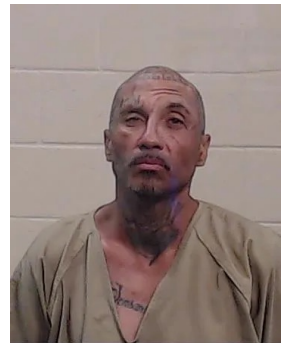


Trial Highlights



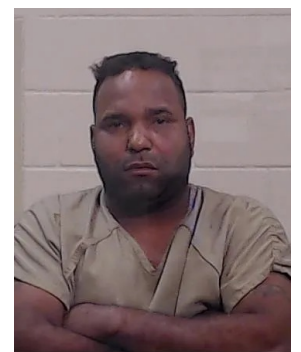
5-7-24 Luis Reyes was found guilty of possession of a controlled substance and sentenced to 99 years. OPD responded to an individual who was unconscious. The defendant had OD'd on fentanyl. Police used Narcan to save the defendant's life. The defendant was in possession of fentanyl.

5-9-24 Jose Sarinana was found guilty of murder and sentenced to life in prison. On 12-9-21, a deceased female was found stabbed to death at a local motel. A video shows the defendant walking into the room with the victim. The defendant was carrying a backpack, which was later found to contain a bloody knife.



6-24-24 KC Childress was found guilty of aggravated sexual assault of a child and sentenced to life. On 6-24-21, the defendant sexually assaulted a 13-year-old female with Down syndrome. The defendant has prior sex offenses and is a registered sex offender.

8-8-24 Javier Arias was convicted of seven counts, including kidnapping and aggravated sexual assault, and sentenced to life. Between 4-26 and 7-25-24, the defendant kidnapped and raped several women in Ector County.

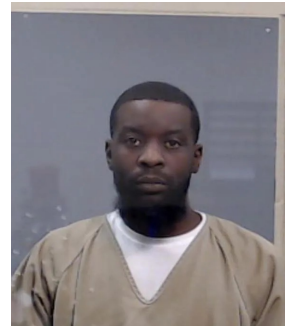


Trial Highlights



8-21-24 David Chavez was convicted of possession of child pornography, 25 counts and sentenced to serve 10 years on each count, for a total of 250 years. After an investigation, it was discovered that the defendant had over 300 sexually graphic images of children.

9-27-24 Richard Davis was found guilty of aggravated sexual assault of a child and sentenced to life in prison. On 10-2-19, a 12-year-old female victim came forward and told her mother the defendant sexually assaulted her on multiple occasions. The defendant was the boyfriend of the mother at the time.



10-16-24 Ernest Marquez was found guilty of Felony DWI and sentenced to 37 years in prison. OPD stopped the defendant for doing donuts in front of a DK convenience store. It was discovered that the defendant was driving a stolen vehicle and he has at least two prior DWI convictions and at least two prior felony convictions.

11-7-24 Isaiah Renteria was convicted of murder and sentenced to 60 years in prison. On 4-15-22 the defendant was involved in an altercation with the victim, a homeless man. The defendant left the area, then returned and shot the victim. Defendant claimed self-defense, which was denied by the jury.



Ector County Juries

Juries are comprised of citizens within the community. Juries listen to the evidence presented in a case and decide whether or not the defendant is guilty. Their decision directly impacts justice in Ector County. We're grateful to our community members who take the time to serve on juries—it's a big responsibility but an even bigger honor! Ector County juries sent a message in 2024 that criminal activity will not be tolerated:

- 9 Life sentences were handed down
- Defendants were sentenced to over 900 years in prison
- After trial and guilty verdicts, 24 defendants were sent to prison

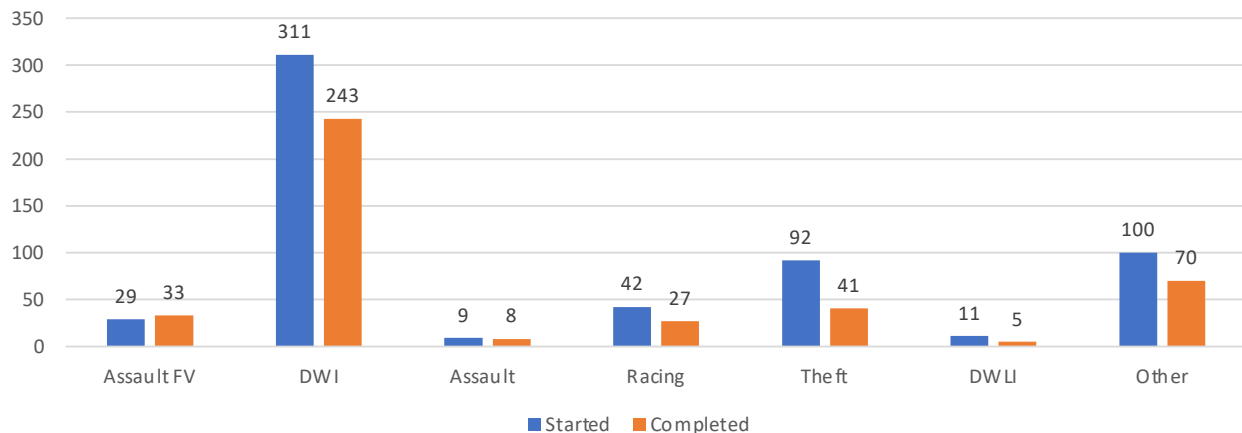
In addition to trial juries, citizens also serve on grand juries. Grand juries play a crucial role in the criminal justice system, acting as a safeguard between the government and individuals accused of serious crimes. In Ector County, a grand jury is composed of citizens who are tasked with reviewing evidence presented by the District Attorney's Office in felony cases. Unlike trial juries, grand juries do not determine guilt or innocence; instead, they decide whether there is enough evidence, or "probable cause," to issue an indictment and move the case forward to trial. This process ensures that charges in serious cases are not brought without careful consideration by impartial members of our community. Grand jury service is an important civic duty, and those who serve are key to maintaining a fair and just legal system.

Pre-Trial Intervention (PTI)

The Pretrial Intervention Program (PTI) is a valuable opportunity offered by the Ector County District Attorney's Office for eligible individuals facing certain criminal charges. This program is designed to give first-time or low-risk offenders a chance to avoid a conviction by completing specific requirements tailored to address the underlying causes of their actions. Participants may be required to attend counseling, perform community service, complete educational courses, or adhere to other conditions set forth in an agreement. Successful completion of the program can lead to the dismissal of charges, providing a fresh start and reducing the long-term consequences of a criminal record. PTI reflects the office's commitment to balancing justice with opportunities for rehabilitation and second chances, ultimately fostering a safer and more understanding community.

In 2024, the program enrolled 594 new individuals and 427 completed the program. This is a 72% success rate. Please note, that the individuals enrolled may not be the same individuals who completed the program during any given year since the program is anywhere from 6 to 12 months.

2024 PTI



Appellate Division

The Appellate Division of the Ector County District Attorney's Office is responsible for safeguarding the integrity of convictions and legal proceedings. This team of experienced attorneys handles appeals filed by defendants who challenge their convictions or sentences. They review trial records, research complex legal issues, and draft persuasive briefs to present before higher courts. The division also represents the state in oral arguments when cases are heard in appellate courts. Beyond appeals, the team ensures that the law is applied consistently and supports trial prosecutors with legal research and strategy. Their work helps maintain a fair and just legal system for our community.

- 26 Appellate Court opinions issued (99% Affirmed)
- 20 State briefs filed
- 29 Writs handled
- Countless hours of legal research and assistance for trial attorneys



Michelle Townsend



Jennifer Brown

CPS Division

The CPS (Child Protective Services) Division of the Ector County District Attorney's Office plays a crucial role in protecting the well-being of children in our community. This division represents CPS in court proceedings involving allegations of child abuse or neglect. The attorneys work closely with caseworkers, law enforcement, and other agencies to ensure the safety and stability of children at risk. They present evidence, advocate for appropriate interventions, and work toward outcomes that prioritize the best interests of the child, whether that means reunification with their family or seeking permanent placement through adoption. The CPS Division is dedicated to ensuring that every child in Ector County has the opportunity to grow up in a safe, nurturing environment.

- Handled over 100 cases in 2024
- Each case lasts approximately 12 months
- Each case has approximately 5 hearings



Merissa Figueiredo



Jessica Arroyo



Bidy Ramirez

Victim Services



Lauren, Tammy, Ivette, Yasmine

Victim Services plays a crucial role in supporting individuals who have been impacted by crime, ensuring they are not alone as they navigate the justice system. This dedicated team provides emotional support, resources, and guidance to help victims understand their rights and access the assistance they need. Whether it's accompanying victims to court, explaining legal procedures, or connecting them with counseling and financial aid programs, Victim Services is committed to empowering survivors and helping them find their voice. By offering compassion and advocacy, they aim to promote healing and ensure that every victim feels heard, respected, and supported throughout the process.

We Are On Facebook

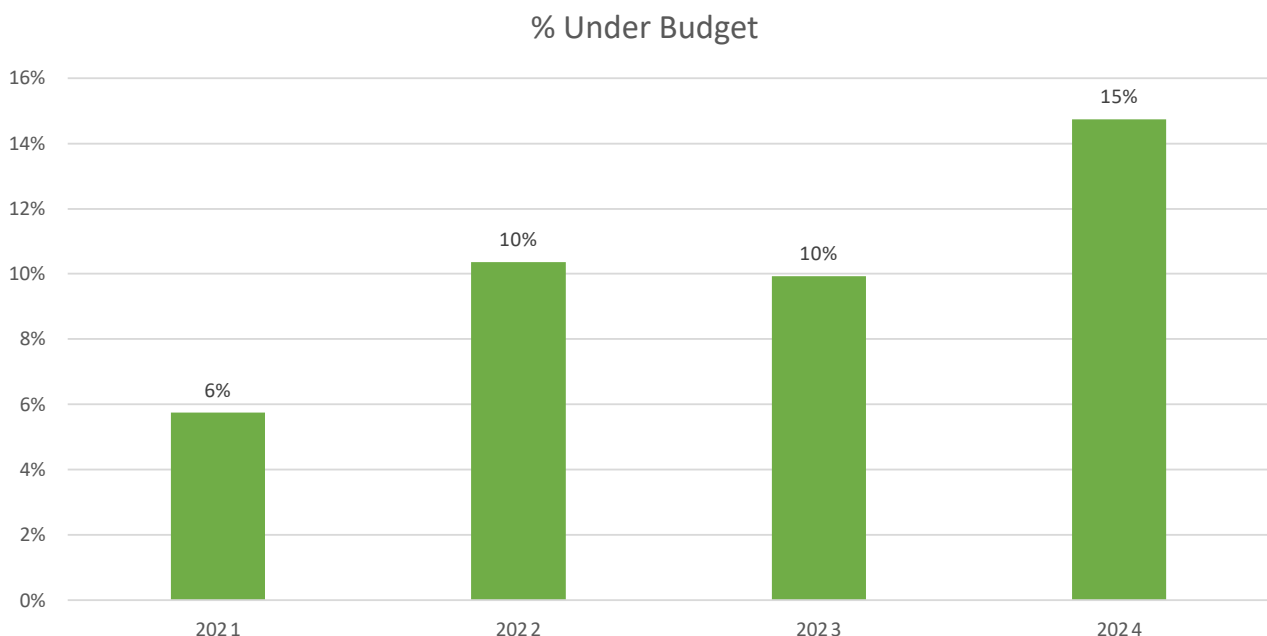
Did you know the Ector County District Attorney's Office has a Facebook page? It's a great way to stay informed about the work we're doing to serve our community and uphold justice. On our page, you'll find a variety of content, including educational posts that break down complex legal topics, updates on cases and legal initiatives, and behind-the-scenes glimpses into the daily work of our dedicated staff. We also share important information about community events, legal awareness campaigns, and programs aimed at keeping Ector County safe and informed.

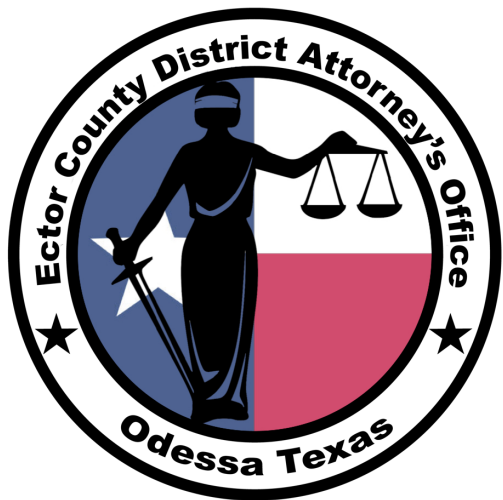
Following our page is more than just staying updated—it's about being an active part of our community's justice system. By engaging with our content, you'll better understand how our office works, the challenges we face, and the successes we achieve together. Whether it's learning about your rights, understanding the jury process, or participating in polls and Q&A sessions, our Facebook page is a resource for everyone in Ector County. Join us in fostering transparency, building trust, and staying connected as we work together to strengthen our community. Follow us today!

- Started in October 2024
- Highlights trial outcomes
- Introduces staff
- Provide community safety tips
- Education about the criminal justice system
- Over 7,500 Likes
- Most popular posts of 2024 were about staff
- <https://www.facebook.com/EctorCountyDistrictAttorney>

Committed to Fiscal Responsibility

For the past four years, the Ector County District Attorney's Office has consistently operated under budget, a testament to our commitment to fiscal responsibility and the trust taxpayers place in us to manage public funds wisely. In 2021, we underspent by 6%, followed by 10% in both 2022 and 2023, and 15% in 2024. This prudent financial stewardship allowed us to return over \$2 million to the Ector County Commissioners during the budget process, ensuring these funds could be reallocated to other vital community needs. We deeply value the trust taxpayers give us and remain dedicated to using every dollar efficiently to uphold justice and serve our community.





Looking Ahead: *Building on Our Progress*

Reflecting on the past year, I am immensely proud of the strides we have made together in the Ector County District Attorney's Office. Our dedication to justice, fairness, and community safety has never wavered, and these principles will continue to guide us as we move forward into the new year.

We are committed to building on this progress with several key initiatives. First and foremost, we will expand our efforts to address violent crime, working closely with law enforcement agencies and community partners to ensure those who threaten public safety are held accountable. At the same time, we will strengthen rehabilitation and alternative sentencing programs for non-violent offenders, giving individuals the tools they need to break the cycle of crime and contribute positively to our community.

We are also excited to implement new technology to improve efficiency in case management and courtroom operations. These advancements will help our team work smarter and faster, reducing delays and ensuring timely justice for victims and their families. Additionally, we plan to enhance training opportunities for our attorneys and staff, ensuring they have the resources and skills to navigate an increasingly complex legal landscape.

Finally, fostering trust and collaboration with the people we serve remains a top priority. We will continue to engage with our community through outreach programs, educational initiatives, and open dialogue, ensuring that everyone in Ector County feels heard, protected, and valued.

Together, we can build a safer, stronger, and more just community. Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we embark on this next chapter.

Sincerely,
Dusty Gallivan
Ector County District Attorney

