Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



#### MICHIGAN PUBLIC POLICY SURVEY (MPPS) COUNTY PROSECUTORS CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND POLICING ISSUES SPRING 2024

For more information, please contact: closup-mpps@umich.edu / (734) 647-4091

To start, please confirm which county you represent? \_

Q2. Overall, do you believe the size of the workforce in your Prosecutor's Office is sufficient to cover your workload (e.g., to have an attorney present at and prepared for all court hearings)?

	Workforce size is completely sufficient	Somewhat sufficient	Somewhat insufficient	Completely insufficient	Don't know
Attorneys					
Support staff					

#### Q3. How much of a problem, if at all, are the following personnel issues for your office?

	Not a problem at all	Not much of a problem	Somewhat of a problem	A significant problem	Don't know
Recruiting qualified Assistant Prosecutors					
Retaining current Assistant Prosecutors					
Office morale					
Negative interactions with judges					
Negative interactions with defense counsel					
Lack of ongoing training opportunities					
Workload (e.g., backlog of cases, challenges to efficiently clearing cases, etc.)					
Other (please specify)					

### Q4. If additional resources were available, which of the following, if any, do you think would be effective in helping your office recruit additional personnel and/or retain current personnel?

	Very effective	Somewhat effective	Not very effective	Not effective at all	Don't know
Increasing pay rates					
Increasing benefits					
Work-from-home opportunities					
Increasing nontraditional incentives (e.g., more paid time off, increased parental leave, flexible schedules, childcare, etc.)					
Loan repayment assistance programs					
Creating or expanding "pipeline" programs (e.g., formal affiliations with Michigan law schools, internships and apprenticeship opportunities, etc.)					
A formal mentoring program for new APAs					
Increasing opportunities for professional development and/or advancement					

## Q5. Please briefly share any approaches your office is currently pursuing, if any, that you think have been particularly successful in addressing personnel issues.

	Тоо	About the	Тоо	Don't	
	much	right amount	little	know	
. Do you think your coun	ty appropriates	too much, about the right am	ount, or too little fundin	g to meet the Sheriff's Office's ne	eeds?
	Тоо	About the	Тоо	Don't	
	much	right amount	little	know	

			A very priori	•			Not a priority a all for	ıt
			addit fund		Somewhat of a priority	Not much of a priority	additional funding	Don't know
	Increasing pay and benefits for current As Prosecutors	sistant		]				
	Hiring new Assistant Prosecutors			]				
	Increasing pay and benefits for current su	pport staff		]				
	Hiring new support staff			]				
	Additional training for Assistant Prosecuto staff	ors and/or		]				
	Victim advocacy			]				
	Community outreach events or initiatives			]				
	Pre-trial diversion programs			]				
	Technology upgrades (e.g., computers and trial presentation software, etc.)	d monitors,		ו				
	Other (please specify)		[	]				
-	Strongly Somew support suppo	ort	support nor oppose	ol	newhat opose	Strongly oppose	Don't know	
0.	Public defenders and appointed counsel an Defense Commission (MIDC). To what exter have the following consequences?							
	inter the following consequences:				Neither			
			S	Somewhat	likely nor	Somewhat	Very	Don't
			Vory likely	likoly	unlikoly	uplikoly		
	Defendants will receive better legal representation.	,	Very likely	likely	unlikely	unlikely	unlikely	know
		ote				-	unlikely	know
	representation. Defense attorneys will now be able to devo more time and attention to each case that	ote					unlikely	know
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Q13. Different types of crime are more prevalent in some communities than in others and may constitute different threats to public safety. To what extent would you say the following are currently (or have recently been) problems in your county?

	Not a problem at all	Not much of a problem	Somewhat of a problem	A significant problem	Don't know
Violent crimes (e.g., rape, assault, homicide, etc.)					
Domestic violence / intimate partner violence					
Property crimes (e.g., burglary, vandalism, identity theft, embezzlement, etc.)					
Drug crimes					
Public-order offenses (e.g., DUI, weapons violations, disorderly conduct, traffic violations, etc.)					
Crime overall in communities in your county					

# Q14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the relationship between community members and law enforcement officers that serve your county?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Most people in my county trust law enforcement officers.						
Inappropriate use of force by law enforcement in my county is (or has recently been) an issue.						
I'm concerned that a major incident of civil unrest connected to police use of force could happen in my county in the near future.						
Most law enforcement officers in my county treat all people professionally regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, or other characteristics.						

### Q15. Now, overall, how would you describe the relationship today between your office and...

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	know
your County Board of Commissioners?					
the County Sheriff's Office?					
local police departments in your county, overall?					
trial court judges in your county, overall?					

## Q16. Briefly, what do you think could be done, if anything, to improve the relationships between the County Board and/or local law enforcement agencies and your office?

Q17. Next, thinking about court costs and fees, would you, in your role as Prosecutor, support or oppose the following?

		Neither			
Strongly support	Somewhat support	support nor oppose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
		support support	Strongly supportSomewhat supportsupport nor opposeImage: SupportImage: Support	Strongly supportSomewhat supportsupport nor opposeSomewhat opposeImage: SupportImage: Support <td>Strongly supportSomewhat supportSomewhat supportSomewhat opposeStrongly opposeImage: Strongly opposeImage: Strongly opposeImage: Strongly opposeImage: Strongly opposeImage: Strongly opposeImage: Strongly Image: Strongl</td>	Strongly supportSomewhat supportSomewhat supportSomewhat opposeStrongly opposeImage: Strongly opposeImage: Strongly opposeImage: Strongly opposeImage: Strongly opposeImage: Strongly opposeImage: Strongly Image: Strongl

Q18.	Regardless of whether you support or oppose c	hanges to current	cash bail pol	icies, how effe	ctive do you thin	ık cash bail is at.	
			Very effective	Somewhat effective	effective	Not effective at all	Don't know
	reducing no-shows?						
	increasing community safety?						
Q19.	Do you agree or disagree that the use of cash ba	ail <u>in your county</u>	has different	-	for community i	members based o	on their
		Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
	socioeconomic status?						
	race or ethnicity?						
Q20.	Which of the following types of diversion progra Drug/alcohol treatment courts or p Behavioral/mental health program Veterans court Other general diversion programs None of the above Don't know	programs as					
Q21.	Regardless of whether or not your county has p helps or harms	Diversion programs	-	-	-	Diversion programs	-
		significantly help	Somewhat help	No effect	Somewhat harm	significantly harm	Don't know
	recidivism rates?						
	public safety in the community?						
	prosecutors' workload?						
	the wellbeing of defendants with mental illness or drug dependency?						
Q22.	Regardless of whether or not your county has p diversion programs in your county?	-		general, do you	support or opp	ose these types o	of
	Strongly Some support supp	what supp port op	ither ort nor pose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don' knov	
Q23.	Now we would like you to think specifically about charges for criminal possession of a weapon. The and have their conviction dismissed in return for unannounced home visits by police, therapy, sk program in your county?	hrough a gun dive or participating in a	ersion program an interventio	n, they would h n program (e.g	ave an opportui	nity to avoid inca w, random drug	rceration tests,
	Strongly Some support supp	what supp port op	ither ort nor pose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don' knov	
Q24.	The Michigan Legislature recently enacted an "E provides for the issuance of Extreme Risk Prote harming themselves or others from purchasing family members, mental health professionals, an	ection Orders (ERF or possessing fire	POs), which te earms. The lay	emporarily proh w allows severa	ibit individuals j al different categ	udged to be at h ories of people,	igh risk of including
							)on't now
	local law enforcement officers have sufficie						
	training to decide when an ERPO is appropr local officers have sufficient training on the						
	for petitioning the court for an ERPO?	•					
	local non-law enforcement petitioners will u ERPO process correctly?	se the					
	judges in your county will make appropriate	)					
	decisions regarding ERPOs? local law enforcement officers will be safe w						
	serving an ERPO in your county?						

... ERPOs are likely to reduce gun violence?

Q25. Sometimes law enforcement officers stop someone for a minor traffic violation (for example, tinted windows, loud muffler) when they believe a more serious crime is being or has been committed (for example, illegal drugs, illegal weapons). Overall, do you feel the use of traffic stops for minor violations increases or decreases...

	Significantly increases	Somewhat increases	No change	Somewhat decreases	Significantly decreases	Don't know
public safety?						
officer safety?						
community trust in police?						
perceptions of racial profiling by police?						

Q26. When residents in your county are voting for Prosecutor, how important do you think the following factors are to voters?

	Very important to voters	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not important at all to voters	Don't know
Local crime rate					
Conviction rate					
Prevalence of wrongful convictions					
Pursuing maximum penalties for offenses					
Involvement in the community					
Treatment of victims					
Treatment of juveniles in the justice system					
Pursuing alternatives to detention for offenses					
Perceived fairness					
Relationships with community organizations (e.g., faith-based, organized labor, etc.)					
Partisan affiliation					

This next section contains a few questions about the way data are collected, used, and shared by your office.

Q27. To what extent does your office make use of the following types of digital evidence?

	Extensively	Somewhat	Not at all	Don't know
Police video data (e.g., dashboard and body cameras)				
Other public surveillance video data (e.g., cameras on buildings/streetlights, automated license plate readers, etc.)				
Third-party video data (e.g., Ring doorbell video, cell phone video from miscellaneous eyewitnesses, etc.)				
Data from forensic analysis of defendants' cell phones (e.g., Cellebrite)				
Facial recognition technology				

Q28. Now thinking about the resources required to process and review digital evidence and to use it effectively in prosecutions, to what extent do you feel the following are a problem, or not, for your office?

	Not a problem at all	Not much of a problem	Somewhat of a problem	A significant problem	Don't know
Reviewing digital evidence					
Redacting digital evidence					
Producing digital evidence in discovery					
Presenting digital evidence in court					

Q29. What resources (i.e., staff, technology, training, etc.) would help your office improve its review, processing, and use of digital evidence in your prosecutions?

Q30. In some places, automated tools are used to make decisions about public safety risks that in the past were made by humans. For example, software tracking and keywords may be used to monitor social media for events where a crime might happen. In your opinion, are the decisions made by these tools (such as AI and machine learning) generally more or less accurate than those made by humans?

More accurate	About the same	Less accurate	Don't know	

Q31.	How much would you personally trust the results of u	using automated	d tools (such as	s Al and machin	le learning) for		
				O a manuta at	Net would		Don't
	police departments monitoring social media for	events	A great deal	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all	know
	where a crime might happen?						
	police departments identifying high-risk neighbo	orhoods?					
	Assistant Prosecutors writing legal briefs?						
	processing and analyzing forensic evidence?						
	risk assessments for sentencing and offers of pa probation, or release?	arole,					
	probation, or release:						
Q32.	Does your office share summary statistics and other	performance da	ata on prosecut	ions with the fo	llowing group	s?	
						Don't	
	Varia acception Depend of Commission and		<u> </u>	Some of the tim			
	Your county's Board of Commissioners						
	Residents in your county The media						
Q33.	Regardless of whether summary statistics and other shared, how confident are you that the following group				ions?		у
		Very	Somewha		ery conf	ot ident Dor	
	Your county's Board of Commissioners	confident	confident		_	all kno	-
	Residents in your county					5 6	
	The media					] [	
Q34.	To what extent, if any, would you say that the followin performance data?	ng are problems	that your offic A significant problem	Somewhat	face, in its coll Not much of problem	Not a	of Don't know
	Dedicating the necessary personnel to manage data	a					
	Time required to collect data						
	Ability to make sense of data (e.g., interpreting tren to other jurisdictions, etc.)	ds, comparing					
	Ability to implement change in response to data fin	dings					
	Protecting confidentiality	-					
	Producing specific data when needed (e.g., respond	ding to					
	reporters' requests, applying for grants, etc.)						
Q35.	Regardless of whether your office currently shares so prosecutors to publicly disclose the following?	ummary statisti	cs and other pe	rformance data Neither	ı, do you supp	ort or oppose <u>r</u>	equiring
		Strongly		support nor	Somewhat	Strongly	Don't
	Authorizing charges and charging decisions	support	support	oppose	oppose	oppose	know
	Habitual offender designations						
	-		=	_			
	Diversion opportunities						
	Deferral opportunities						
	Demographic data on defendants						
	Giglio list						
	3,	hose actions ca due to the nature d legally accour er agree So	e of their job. A	Ithough every o	ase is unique,	in general, do	

Q37. In general, in cases where there is evidence of misconduct by a sheriff's deputy or police officer in your county, who do you think should prosecute the offense?

	Should					
	Should always be involved	sometimes be involved	Should never be involved	Don't know		
Your office						
The Michigan Attorney General's Office						
The U.S. Attorney's Office						

Q38. In general, in cases where there is evidence of criminal misconduct by an APA in your county, who do you think should prosecute the offense?

	Should always be involved	Should sometimes be involved	Should never be involved	Don't know
Your office				
The Michigan Attorney General's Office				
A special prosecutor				

Q39. Regardless of whether or not various systems are currently in place to address law enforcement misconduct, to what extent would you support or oppose the following policies?

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Neither support nor oppose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
A nationwide and/or statewide database identifying law enforcement officers with misconduct charges or job terminations, <u>accessible only to law enforcement agencies</u>						
A nationwide and/or statewide misconduct database, accessible to the public						
A formal decertification process for officers in Michigan found to have engaged in felonies or other illegal acts						
Formal penalties for law enforcement agencies that fail to review a potential hire's history of misconduct with previous department(s)						

Q40. In general, how much do you trust the following sources of information on law enforcement strategies and practice?

Other Michigan Prosecutors       Image: Constraint of the second se		
Michigan law enforcement associations (e.g., MSA, MACP,		
PAAM, etc.)		
National law enforcement associations (e.g., National Police Association, National District Attorneys Association)		
Non-profits or advocacy organizations (e.g., Center for Policing Equity, ACLU, MADD, etc.)		
Universities or academic research		
Feedback from residents		

We would like to ask some demographic questions. As with all of the questions in this survey, these are optional. Responses will be reported in aggregate form only so that your individual responses will remain <u>confidential</u>.

Q41. In what year were you born? \_\_\_\_\_

Q42. How many years have you served as County Prosecutor? \_\_\_\_\_

Q43. How many years, if any, did you serve as an Assistant Prosecutor in this office prior to election/appointment as County Prosecutor? \_\_\_\_

Q44. How many years have you been a prosecutor over the course of your career?