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TO: Wells County Commissioners and Wells County Council
Bluffton News Banner

RE: Annual Report of Criminal and Child Support Activity/
Wells County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

This report provides a statistical breakdown of the volume and classification of criminal cases and charges, juvenile adjudications, and child support collection cases prosecuted and administered by the Wells County Prosecutor's Office in the year 2024. Below is a chart indicating the number of criminal cases filed in each of the last five years. Please remember that a case will often consist of multiple charges or counts filed against one individual and that a case is defined by the level of the most serious charge filed in the case. These numbers do not include the numerous traffic infractions which come through the county criminal justice system.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Adult Criminal Cases Filed	786	643	622	608	616
Felony Cases Filed	288	220	233	253	264
Misdemeanor Cases Filed	498	423	389	355	352
Juvenile Cases Opened	59	62	63	45	37

Below is a chart which indicates the number of cases, many of which contain multiple charges filed in 2024, for certain categories of offenses as compared to the same for the four prior years. In comparison with past reports, our office is only reporting filed cases, not individual counts. For drug and alcohol offenses, it is very common for a Defendant to have one case but multiple charges.

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Murder / Attempted Murder	0	0	0	1	0
Operating While Intoxicated	139	103	114	115	125
Battery	94	81	53	52	60
Rape	2	1	1	1	1
Child Molesting	8	7	5	2	6
Sexual Misconduct with a Minor	1	5	2	4	4
Child Solicitation	9	10	13	0	0
Robbery	10	0	0	1	4

Burglary	13	2	9	8	7
Theft	65	63	59	66	62
Drug Charges	160	145	165	185	175

Below is a chart which indicates the number of Child Support cases handled by our IV-D Department and the amount of money collected in current and past due child support compared to the same for the past two years.

	2024	2023	2022
Child Support Cases Handled	873	943	983
Amount of Child Support Collected	\$2,775,865	\$2,717,532	\$2,817,121

The successful prosecution of crimes and the collection of child support would not be possible without the hard work of all of the persons involved, including the deputy prosecutors, our staff, law enforcement officers, probation officers and staff, community corrections officers and staff, the clerk's office, as well as the judges and their staffs. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of these people, as well as the council and the commissioners for the support my office receives.

In 2025, this office will continue to work hard to provide quality and just prosecution of criminal and child support matters while efficiently using our resources. If you have any questions regarding any aspect of this report, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Colin Z. Andrews
 Prosecuting Attorney
 Wells County, Indiana