

# The Fulton County District Attorney's Office

*Paul L. Howard, Jr. - District Attorney*

## At-a-Glance

### ORGANIZATION

The Office of the District Attorney is charged with the prosecution of all felony violations of state law that occur within Fulton County. In addition to all of unincorporated Fulton County, this jurisdiction includes the municipalities of Alpharetta, Atlanta, College Park, East Point, Fairburn, Hapeville, Milton, Mountain Park, Palmetto, Roswell, Sandy Springs and Union City.

The District Attorney prosecutes all indictable offenses as well as those that may be charged by accusation and litigates these offenses in both the trial and appellate courts of the State of Georgia. In order to prosecute these responsibilities and other duties required of the District Attorney by law, the Office currently retains a staff of 100 Assistant District Attorneys and additional 143 staff members including investigators, victim advocates, and administrative personnel.

The District Attorney is elected to four-year terms in partisan, circuit-wide races. The Office is presently organized into a number of divisions and specialized units.

### STAFF

243 employees; 100 prosecutors, 45 investigators,  
23 Victim-Witness Advocates, 73 Support Staff members

### DIVISIONS AND SPECIALIZED PROSECUTION UNITS

Administration  
Complaint Room  
Criminal Investigations  
Records

#### PROSECUTION UNITS:

Appellate  
Animal Cruelty  
Crimes Against Women and Children (CAWAC)  
Juvenile  
Public Integrity  
White Collar

#### TRIAL

Non Complex  
Complex

#### VIOLENT OFFENDERS

Major Felony  
Cold Case  
Gangs

### SIGNATURE PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

Auto-Theft Task Force  
Burglary Task Force  
Community Prosecution  
Citizens' CourtWatch

#### Youth Programs

Junior DA  
Legal Lives

### TRIAL STATISTICS

<b>2010</b> Overall Conviction Rate 89% Violent Offenders Division 93%	<b>2013</b> Overall Conviction Rate 93% Violent Offenders Division 97%
<b>2011</b> Overall Conviction Rate 86% Violent Offenders Division 97%	<b>2014</b> Overall Conviction Rate 87% Violent Offenders Division 87%
<b>2012</b> Overall Conviction Rate 92% Violent Offenders 93%	<b>2015</b> Overall Conviction Rate 94% Violent Offenders Division 93%

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### HOMICIDES AT-A-GLANCE

	1996	2014
Number of Homicides	235	154
Percent Change		34%

### VIOLENT CRIME RATE AT-A-GLANCE

	1997	2014
Number of Homicides	3048.5	1310.9
Percent Change		57%

### CHALLENGES

#### A. North Fulton Heroin Epidemic

- Overdoses
- Town Hall Meetings
- Prosecutions

*State vs. Warren Eugene Ullom (2010)*  
*State vs. Cory Ben Hanania et al. (2015)*

#### Data-Applied Research Services

#### B. Criminal Street Gangs

Then: 2007	Now
Gang Unit Created 1 ADA, 1 Investigators	3 ADA's 2 Investigators
One Case	42 Open Cases
One Gang International Robbing Crew	30+ Gangs
12 Members	100+ Defendants
8 Fulton County Homicides 4 Homicides Neighboring Counties	16 Gang Related Homicides 26 Rape, Armed Robbery, Theft, etc.

### SEXUAL ASSAULTS AT-A-GLANCE

Then-1993*	Now***
Atlanta- 3rd Highest Rape Rate in Nation (for cities between 250,000 and 550,000)	Atlanta – 26th in Nation (for cities between 250,000 and 550,000)
25% Trial Conviction Rate	91% Trial Conviction Rate 2014
Median Rape Sentence: 8 Years Fulton 17 Years Metro	Median Rape Sentence: 59.97 years in Fulton 2012 24.16 years in Metro 2012 Percent of Increase Fulton 649.63% Percent of Increase Metro 42.12%
Rape Arrests for Fulton County Police Departments 704**	2014 Rape Arrests For Atlanta Police Department 151 Percent of Decrease 78.3%
No Training for Prosecutors/Specialization in Sex Crimes Discouraged	Specially-Created Unit focused exclusively on sex/human trafficking crimes. Attorneys receive and conduct specialized training
No Victim Notification for Plea Negotiations/ Case Dispositions	Victim Witness Assistance Program devoted exclusively to providing information and aide to victims
Recommendations based on Court	Recommendations based on victims' needs and wants

\*1991-92 Data Analysis

\*\*1990-91 Data Analysis

\*\*\*2012-2014 Latest Available Data