# WYOMING ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE FY12 ANNUAL REPORT

# **General Information**

Gregory A. Phillips, Attorney General

# **Agency Contact**

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# **Other Locations**

Casper, Douglas, Gillette, Powell, Rock Springs; and satellite offices in Evanston, Jackson, Laramie, Pinedale, Rawlins, Riverton, Sheridan

## **Statutory References**

WYO. STAT. §§ 1-40-102 through 119; 1-40-201 through 210; 1-40-301 through 308; 9-1-601 *et seq.*; 9-1-611 through 627; 9-1-632 through 635; 9-1-636 through 638; 9-1-701 through 709; 9-2-1513 through 1523

# **Clients Served**

State agencies, boards and commissions, elected and appointed state officials, law enforcement agencies, legislators, prosecutors, county and district attorneys, consumers, crime victims, state and local peace officers

### **Budget Information**

The Attorney General's Office spent \$51,020,203 from July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012.

# **Report Period**

FY 12 (July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012)

# **Quality of Life Result**

Wyoming state government is a responsible steward of State assets and effectively responds to the needs of residents and guests.

# **Contribution to Wyoming Quality of Life**

The Attorney General's Office (AG's Office) is a service agency and contributes to the Wyoming quality of life by providing: legal services; law enforcement assistance, training and certification; and compensation to victims of crime.

# **Basic Facts**

The AG's Office is authorized 255 employees and received for the 2011-2012 biennium budget, including B-11's, \$95,716,165, which was composed of \$67,028,798 general fund appropriation (70%), \$16,915,134 federal fund appropriation (18%), and \$11,772,233 other fund appropriation (12%).

The five primary functions of the AG's Office include:

*Law Office* – provides legal representation and/or services to all State agencies, boards, commissions, elected and appointed State officials, law enforcement agencies, legislators, county and district attorneys, consumers, and consumers of and providers of medical services.

*Division of Criminal Investigation* – assists local and federal law enforcement agencies by investigating drug offenses, violent crimes and internet crimes against children; providing forensic evidence analysis; and providing criminal history information.

*Law Enforcement Academy* – provides basic training to peace officers, detention officers, dispatchers and coroners; and advanced training to law enforcement officers in the State.

*Division of Victim Services* – manages the Crime Victim Compensation fund which provides financial assistance to victims of violent crime, provides training, technical assistance and support to local community victim service providers, and monitors the funds that are distributed to local agencies.

*Peace Officers Standards and Training* – certifies law enforcement officers, correctional officers, dispatchers, coroners and deputy coroners.

Together, these programs serve all citizens of the State.

# Law Office Level of Satisfaction



# **Story Behind the Last Year of Performance:**

<u>The Attorney General's Office strives to provide quality service to its customers</u> and partners. The responses and opinions of our clients show where the law office has performed well and where improvements are needed.

# What has been Accomplished:

The percentage of surveys returned to the law office in FY 12 was 61%, which was slightly more than last year. The overall average reflects a 4.40 rating, based on a 5.00 as the best possible rating, for FY 12 as compared to 4.39 for FY 11. Satisfaction expressed in returned surveys was nearly 100%.

In FY 12, the law office reviewed and addressed responses to the narrative survey.



### **Story Behind the Last Year of Performance:**

The Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) continues to have a high rate of conviction for the arrests its agents make. The five regional drug enforcement teams prioritize controlled substance and violent crime investigations. These investigations evolve through a variety of means, including working with confidential informants, surveillance, interviews, undercover operations, controlled deliveries, collecting and processing evidence, documentation in case reports, meeting with prosecutors and testifying during court proceedings. Special agents on the regional drug enforcement teams investigate in their assigned primary areas of responsibility and at times are assigned to investigate anywhere in the state. As a result, special agents coordinate prosecution with as many as 23 county/district attorneys' offices for state prosecution and two United States Attorneys' Offices for federal prosecution. Special agents coordinate and assist prosecutors in preparing controlled substance investigations for court, but final decisions to file charges and/or prosecute are made by prosecutors. An investigation is not considered closed until it is adjudicated by the respective prosecutor/court of

jurisdiction. The trend line chart reflects the percentage of convictions from effected arrests from 2006 through FY 12.

The Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) team focuses on online predators who possess, distribute and make child pornography. Agents also pursue all investigations involving "travelers" who travel to physically meet with a child. These investigations evolve through a variety of means, including online undercover operations, forensic examinations, working with confidential informants, surveillance, interviews, collecting and processing evidence, documentation in case reports, meeting with prosecutors and testifying during court proceedings. These investigations involve a coordinated effort with all 23 county/district attorneys' offices for state prosecution, and two United States Attorneys' Offices for federal prosecutor. An investigation is not considered closed until it is adjudicated by the respective prosecutor/court of jurisdiction. The trend line chart reflects the percentage of convictions from arrests from 2006 through FY 12.

The ICAC Team is committed to quality investigations and this is best measured by the percentage of convictions after an arrest is made. From 2006 through FY 12, the ICAC Team consistently averaged a 100% conviction rate after an arrest.

## What has been Accomplished:

The DCI is committed to quality investigations and this is best measured by the arrest to conviction ratio. During FY 12, the drug enforcement teams (DET) had an average of 84% conviction rate after an arrest. These offenses primarily involve drug trafficking. The DCI will continue to cooperate, coordinate and facilitate criminal investigative efforts with local, state and federal partners. To continue this high performance, the DCI will effectively communicate with its partners to identify priority violators and then work together with them toward a conviction.

# **Division of Victim Services**



# **Story Behind the Last Year of Performance:**

On October 3, 2011, Cara Boyle Chambers assumed the position of Director of the Division of Victim Services (DVS). During the last quarter of 2011, and the first two quarters of 2012, under Ms. Chambers' Directorship, DVS revised the internal office organization to reflect the vacant Deputy Director position, and during that re-organization, implemented several changes to their sub-recipient contracting by changing the applications process, revising the grant award protocol, and implementing a new payment method for sub-recipients.

# What has been Accomplished:

A major part of DVS's operations center around dispersing state and federal funds to local (sub-recipient) service providers. During this past grant application cycle for SFY 13 and 14, DVS re-vamped the entire application process for sub-recipients. This was not only the first time sub-recipients were able to apply on-line via the DVS administered IntelliGrants grant management software, but it was also a more streamlined, and user-friendly application than in years past.

DVS also re-worked the Grant Review Teams (which consists of stakeholders and service providers) and the process by which grant applications had been reviewed in the past. The Director and DVS Regional Program Managers developed a new grant scoring sheet and developed a scheme to pair experienced grant reviewers with new grant

reviewers in teams. Grant Review Teams were also comprised of sub-recipients who have had trouble understanding the application process in the past. This was done in further effort to engage our sub-recipients, and was very well received by all of our sub-recipients.

Ultimately, the entire grant award process was reviewed. DVS and the Attorney General's Fiscal Officer worked together to research how funds were distributed. Once DVS had developed a formula for each funding stream, the DVS Funding Formulas were shared with every stakeholder and sub-recipient provider in conjunction with the award notices.

Finally, DVS developed a new payment method to address the Federal Cash Management protocol. DVS moved away from a monthly reimbursement scheme to a monthly reimbursement method. The reimbursement process for sub-recipients began July 1, 2012.



# Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy Specialized Training

# Story behind the last year of performance:

The Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy provides officers an avenue to maintain the training requirements set forth by the Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission (P.O.S.T.). In order to gauge the effectiveness of this training, the Academy has developed a comprehensive course assessment and evaluation system to assess if the student is "better off" or "better equipped" after attending the training session. This evaluation system, converted to a 100 point percentage scale, rates 80% as very good and 100% as excellent. Of the 61 advanced or specialized training sessions and the ten train-the-trainer courses offered in FY 12, 91% found the information offered as meeting their training needs.

# What has been Accomplished:

The Academy provided 57 advanced or specialized training courses. These courses were attended by 582 officers throughout the state resulting in 19,005 training hours. A decrease of four training courses resulted in a 6.5% decrease from FY 12.

As an avenue for law enforcement to become more self-reliant and to assist them in obtaining required training hours not obtained through Academy-provided training, the Academy presented nine train-the-trainer courses which resulted in 6,656 total training hours. Attending these courses were 172 officers representing 53 agencies resulting in a 10% decrease from FY 12.

As of September 29, 2003, the Law Enforcement Academy established a partnership with the Office of Homeland Security, housing two instructors and an administrative assistant to handle the training needs of our state. The Homeland Security division presented and coordinated a total of 134 specialized training courses to 1,238 students, resulting in 14,204 hours of training, an overall decrease of 3% in this program area.

#### Office of the Attorney General

