

FY 2016-18 Budget Hearings Board Inquiry Form

Board Member	
Carbajal	
Wolf	X
Farr	
Adam	
Lavagnino	

Inquiry Number: 09

Department: CEO and DA

Date: 6/10/16

Page(s) of Budget Book/PowerPoint: BL Section 1, Page 6, 2nd bullet & BB- 2

Request/Question:

CEO Board letter [page 6] asserts that "...the caseload for serious and violent crimes in North County increased 42% between 2012 and 2015".

The attached FBI Uniform Crime stats for SB County as a whole, and Santa Maria City do not reflect such an increase in the specific offenses noted in the Board letter for the dates in question (though 2015 is not yet published) <https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/ucr-publications>

Please reconcile this increase in "caseload" numbers when, per the FBI stats, the County's overall increase was 10%, and the City of Santa Maria's reported offenses reflected a decrease. If there is a distinction in categorization or definition, please clarify.

Attached to this form is both the FBI Uniform Crime statistics referred to in the question above, as well as a table prepared by the District Attorney's office summarizing their caseload growth since 2012. Below is a response prepared by the District Attorney's office:

The FBI Uniform Crime Report measures instances reported to law enforcement agencies within the County. Instances reported may or may not result in a crime, an arrest or a referral of a case to the District Attorney's Office. Therefore, the comparison of instances reported from the FBI Uniform Crime Statistics are vastly different in nature than cases which are evaluated and prosecuted by the District Attorney.

In addition, the District Attorney's Office defines serious and violent crime cases based upon the California Penal code's definition of strike offenses. The FBI has a different definition of serious and violent crime which does not align with the definition in the California Penal Code.

The crime rates shown for the City of Santa Maria under the FBI Uniform Crime Report reflect a decline in violent crime beginning in 2013.

According to the Santa Maria Police department, in 2013 a correction was made to the reporting of aggravated assaults in the Uniform Crime Report. The reporting change gives the appearance that violent crime is now down in the City of Santa Maria, since 2013; when in fact this appearance is based upon prior over reporting which was corrected to meet FBI guidelines.

FBI Uniform Crime Statistics
As Provided in Board Inquiry Form #9

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

	Violent Crimes	Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	Forcible rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault
2009	246	0	24	21	201
2010	285	3	34	27	221
2011	255	1	34	30	190
2012	273	3	43	28	199
2013	268	1	42	29	196
2014	302	11	41	32	218

SANTA MARIA CITY

2009	735	5	42	73	615
2010	771	3	32	152	584
2011	716	7	18	153	538
2012	690	0	21	145	524
2013	490	3	34	122	331
2014	439	3	44	149	243



Office of the District Attorney
Serious & Violent Crime Caseload - No. & So. County Comparison

Updated as of April 28, 2016

Total Cases Presented

Location	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 YTD @ 33% Elapsed	% 2012 vs. 2013	% 2013 vs. 2014	% 2014 vs. 2015	% 2012 Base vs. 2015
North County	9,772	9,118	9,652	9,677	2,734	-7%	6%	0%	-1%
South County	10,632	12,081	11,961	11,835	3,236	14%	-1%	-1%	11%
Total North & South	20,404	21,199	21,613	21,512	5,970	4%	2%	0%	5%

Serious & Violent Crime Caseload

Location	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 YTD @ 33% Elapsed	% 2012 vs. 2013	% 2013 vs. 2014	% 2014 vs. 2015	% 2012 Base vs. 2015
North County	322	354	407	458	166	10%	15%	13%	42%
South County	298	316	299	275	124	6%	-5%	-8%	-8%
Total North & South	620	670	706	733	290	8%	5%	4%	18%

Deputy District Attorney Staffing Detail

Location	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
General Prosecution					
North	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.50	20.50
South	18.90	18.90	18.90	18.40	18.40
Total	38.90	38.90	38.90	38.90	38.90
Countywide assignments - Grant/Other Funded DDA's					
	4.10	4.10	6.10	8.10	8.10
Total DDA's	43.00	43.00	45.00	47.00	47.00

Summary Narrative: While total cases presented by the District Attorney's Office have increased slightly in recent years (5%), the number of Serious & Violent Crime cases in the North County have increased by 42%. This includes complex and time consuming cases, such as murders, rapes, robberies and aggravated assault. In the same time period, attorney staffing levels have remained flat in both the North and South, with the only increases being Countywide attorney assignments, including Environmental Prosecution, Auto Fraud, Real Estate Fraud, and Worker's Comp

Generally speaking, 5% caseload growth, applied to the 39 General Prosecution FTE, would see an increase of 2 FTE. (39x5% = 1.95). General Prosecution FTE has remained at 38.90 during this time period.