

# If you are the victim of a crime

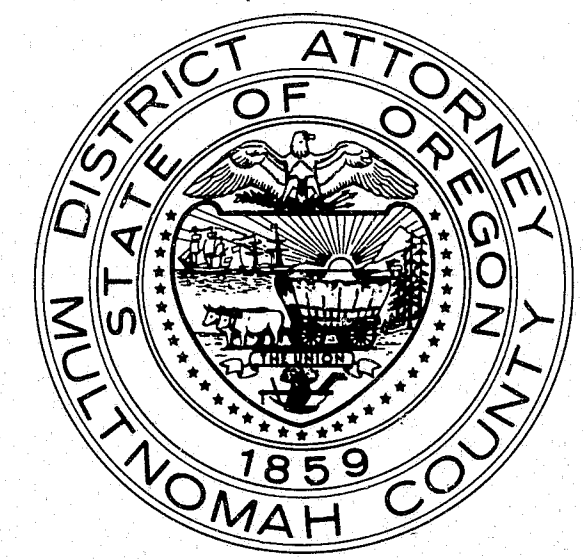
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535



NCJ 1158  
MAY 1 1978  
ACQUISITIONS

**we care.**





Dear Citizen:

I have had the privilege of being your District Attorney for over 5 years. During that time, with your help, we have instituted many changes—changes that have made the justice system more responsive to crime victims and to the need for safety expressed by all citizens.

Our Victim's Assistance Unit headed by Marilyn Culp has become the conscience of our justice system. Our Rape Victim's Assistance Unit, headed by Nancy McAllister, has been hailed as the model for prosecutor's offices throughout the nation. Our restitution project, headed by Helen Tippens, has put the cost of crime where it belongs, in the criminal's pocket.

In an effort to make the prosecution of criminals more effective in reducing crime, we began over 4 years ago to curtail plea-bargaining. Now, with 13 felony crimes not subject to plea-bargaining and the outstanding success of our Career Criminal Unit, we have seen a reduction in the crime rates of burglary, robbery and other serious crimes for the past 3 years. This success and our highest ever conviction rate of 97%, could not have been achieved without our outstanding trial staff, headed by Chief Deputy John Ray. No office can function without a dedicated support staff. Our clerical staff operates at a maximum level despite being understaffed.

Responsiveness to victims of crime and tough, hard-nosed prosecution of felons requires not only a dedicated staff, innovative thinking and public support but also a commitment from our County Commission. There is the need to place the quality of justice and treatment of crime victims at the highest of priorities. We have had this support in the past and look forward to a continuation of this cooperation.

This letter would not be complete without a personal note from me. The Office of the District Attorney is a controversial and difficult job. I want to thank you for your support and understanding during these five very important years for Multnomah County citizens.

Sincerely,

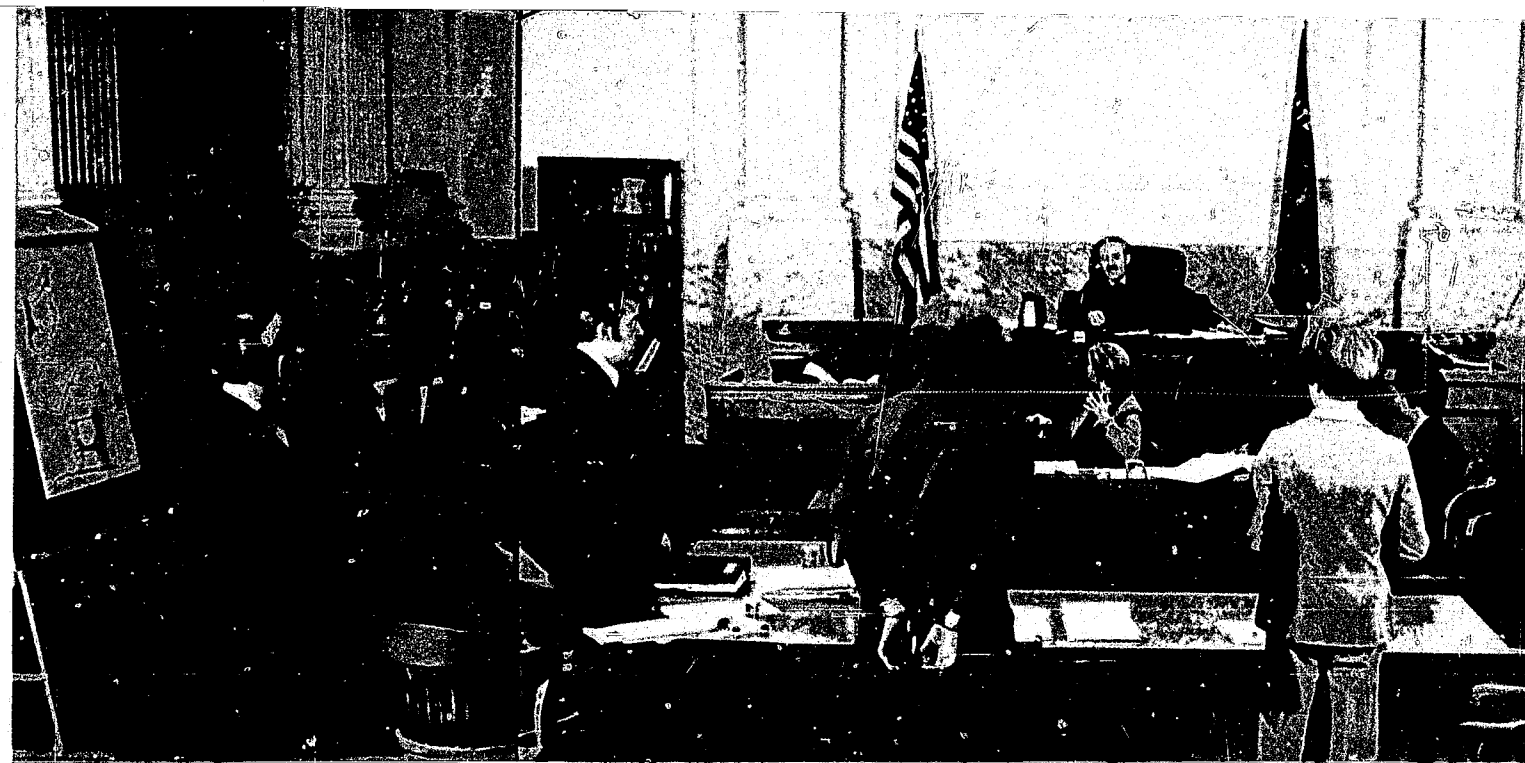
A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Harl Haas'.

HARL HAAS,  
District Attorney

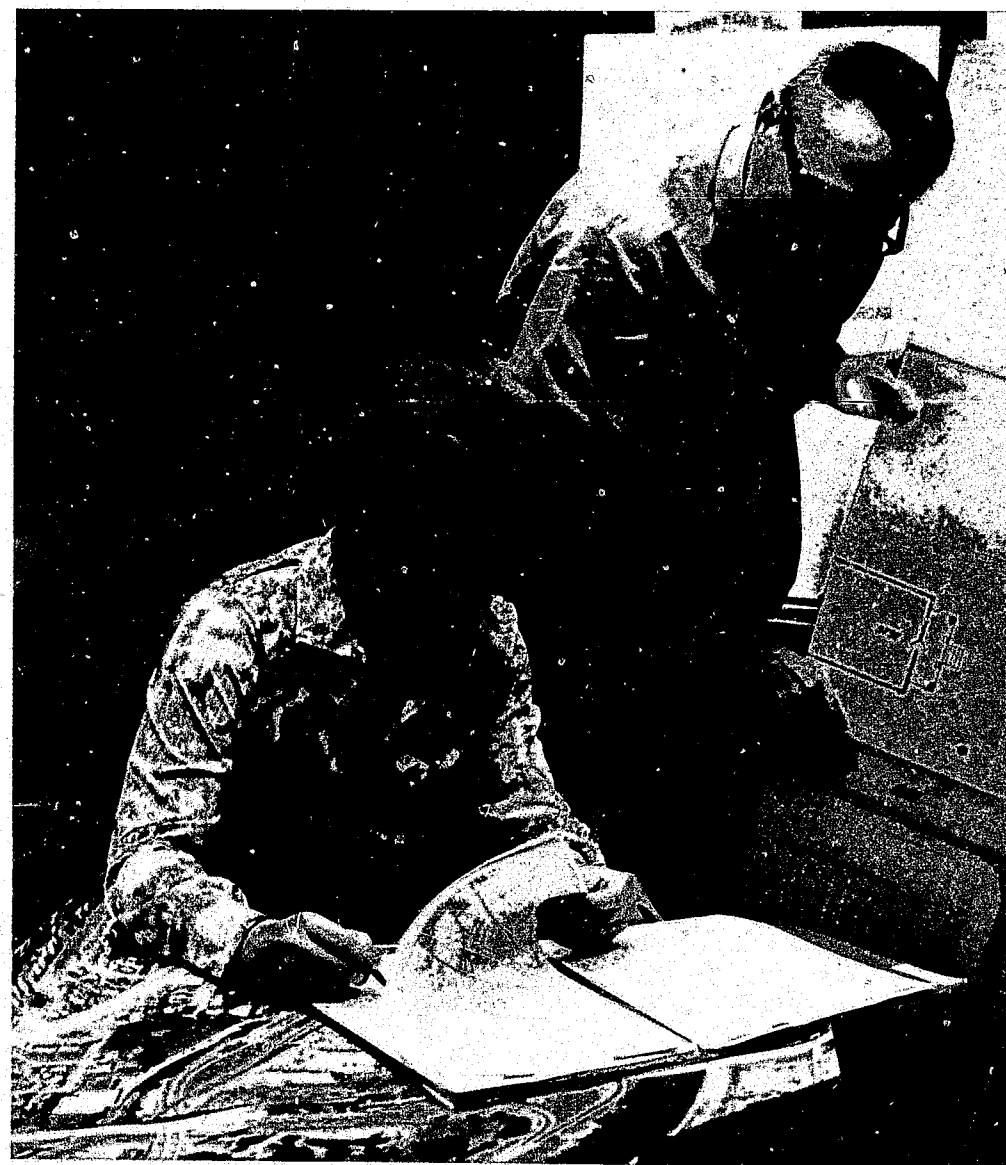
# If a career criminal has committed a crime...

Our Career Criminal unit targets for prosecution those repeat offenders responsible for much of our crime.

The most thorough and modern methods of prosecution are used by our experienced attorneys to prosecute career criminals.



Long prison sentences protect our community from chronic offenders.



Career Criminal Unit

Nationwide, 7% of the criminals are responsible for 25% of our crime. These professional criminals know how to beat the system with legal loopholes to escape detection, prosecution and incarceration.

Our Career Criminal Prosecution Unit closes these loopholes through swift and sure prosecution of those felons whose criminal careers pose a serious threat to the security of life and property in the community. This approach has been heralded by *Time*, *Newsweek* and other national publications as L.E.A.A.'s most successful program.

The Unit, funded in 1976 by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, is staffed by five of our most experienced prosecutors, a veteran investigator and support staff. The staff concentrates all of its effort on prosecuting and securing substantial sentences for repeat offenders.

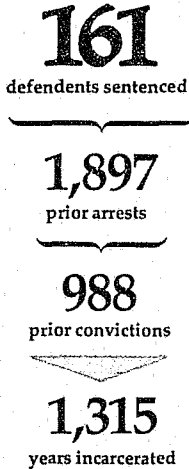
Over 245 offenders, with two or more prior felony convictions or who were under supervision for a previous felony at the time of their new arrest, were targeted for special prosecution by the Unit during its first 15 months. One hundred and sixty-one of these career criminals have already been convicted and sentenced, and were collectively responsible for 1,897 prior arrests and 988 prior convictions. Together, they have been sentenced to a total of 1,300 years incarceration for an average sentence of 8 years per felon.

All convictions have been obtained without plea or sentencing bargaining, reflecting our aggressive policy and a stern, tough warning to those in this community who continue to repeat dangerous and violent offenses.

Knowing that criminals will be deterred by swift and sure prosecution, the Unit has maintained an arrest to trial period of 57 days and has actually tried 59% of its cases.

Our attorneys in the Career Criminal Unit pride themselves on extensive case preparation, utilizing the finest investigative and trial techniques available. After conviction and sentencing, their task is not ended. The prosecutors participate in parole and probation revocation hearings, letting the offender know he remains a target for prosecution.

With the Career Criminal Unit's reputation for providing a quick route to prison, Multnomah County has become an extremely hazardous place for the professional criminal.



If a juvenile has committed a crime...

Violent crime committed by juveniles is up by 76% in Portland. The causes of juvenile crime are complex, but the result is predictable—a victimized community and a juvenile at the crossroads. Our role is to impress upon the juvenile the seriousness of his conduct through prosecution and in concert with the Juvenile Court prevent these youths from becoming adult offenders.

Our Juvenile Justice Division, located at the Donald E. Long Home, prosecutes delinquents who have committed crimes and at the same time protects children's rights in cases of parental abuse or neglect. Traditionally, most juvenile cases were handled informally and attorneys were not usually included in the criminal process. Legislation and court decisions have changed this situation dramatically in recent years as the rights of juveniles accused of a crime became similar to the rights of adults.

In the past 3 years, the number of petitions filed in Multnomah County Juvenile Court increased 58%; the number of court hearings increased 36%; and the number of hours spent in the courtroom by deputy district attorneys increased 146%.

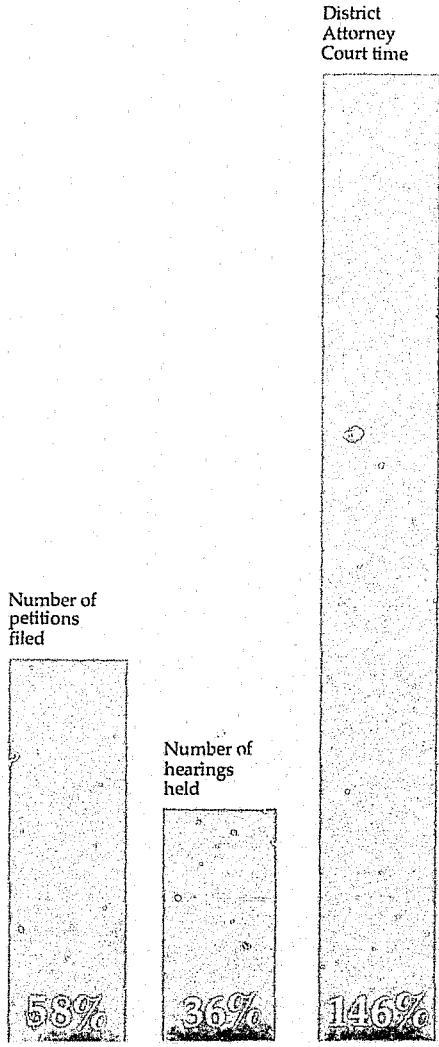
During 1977, the Juvenile Section of the District Attorney's Office issued 3,566 charges involving 2,509 children. Out of these, 79% were for serious felony crimes such as burglary, rape, robbery and homicide, reflecting a trend of increased juvenile violent crime.

The District Attorney also acts as an advocate for children in cases of parental abuse or neglect. Last year, 279 protective petitions were issued on behalf of 432 children who had been allegedly subjected to sexual or physical abuse or serious neglect by their parents. Often, children in these situations can only be protected by more drastic action such as termination of parental rights and adoptive placement of the children. We filed 71 petitions asking for such action in 1977.

The Juvenile Division of the District Attorney's Office launched many new activities in 1977. Among these was the securing of CETA funding to place a full-time Victim's Advocate at the Juvenile Court. The Advocate contacted, advised and assisted 105 victims of juvenile crime from August through December of 1977. During the 1977 Legislative Session, our office, with the Oregon District Attorneys Association, was instrumental in preventing passage of juvenile justice legislation which would have been detrimental to our community, and children.

The Juvenile Court Director, Hal Ogburn, has established programs of restitution and community service which in 1977 were responsible for over \$24,000 of restitution being collected for victims and over 10,300 hours of community service work performed by juveniles.

These efforts are commendable and the continued success of juvenile programs in Multnomah County is in large part attributable to the close working relationship between the District Attorney's Office and the staff of the Juvenile Court.



Juvenile Court Caseload increase 1973-1977



If you are  
the victim of  
a crime...



Our victims assistance services aid victims of all crimes, particularly the elderly, purse-snatch victims, battered women, and the families of all homicide victims.



Volunteers expand our outreach program to provide a friendly call or visit to elderly or ailing victims.



Victims and witnesses are aided with court appearances, informed of all proceedings and the results of their cases.

Victims' Assistance

Over 50,000 Multnomah County residents were victims of serious felony crimes in 1977 and countless others were victimized but remain unaccounted for. These citizens, who were not protected from the lawless element of our society, at least deserve help and protection after they have been victimized.

In its third year, our Victims' Assistance Project provides short-term crisis intervention to victims of all crimes; refers victims and witnesses to available community resources and services; informs victims and witnesses of their role in the criminal justice system and the progress of their cases; and acts as an advocate for the victim within the criminal justice system.

In its 30 months of operation, the Victims' Assistance Project has helped 4,097 victims; located \$839,512 in services for them and documented \$494,329 of court-ordered restitution. More than aiding victims economically, the Project has made the criminal justice system sensitive and responsive to the needs of all victims.

Project staff take the initiative to contact and aid all purse-snatch victims, elderly victims, the families of homicide victims and battered women. The Project aims to increase the reporting and prosecution of battered women cases as well as seeking other alternatives for these victims, such as shelter and counseling.

The office's strong advocacy was successful in securing legislative funding for a statewide victims' compensation program to begin in January 1978. Our Project will be assisting victims of crimes involving serious physical injury to apply for the new victim's compensation benefits.

Those citizens whom we have aided can speak best for the Project's successes. "I want to thank you for your support and comfort through this ordeal. It's nice to know that someone cares and is willing to take the time to explain the system to you. I am sure my sister would appreciate the fact that people care for her rights, even though she is not here to tell us how it really happened," wrote the sister of a 22-year-old woman who died from stab wounds. The victim's family was aided throughout the trial of the defendant.

Project Repay, funded by I.E.A.A. in 1976, was developed after the Victims' Assistance Project success with restitution. Restitution puts the cost of the crime where it belongs, in the offender's pocket. At the same time, the offender, through repaying his victims for the damages incurred may become a more responsible member of society by realizing the expense and the consequences of his criminal act. In just its first year of operation, our Project has succeeded in having the courts order \$497,746 of restitution from offenders for victims. Since July, 1975 close to \$1,000,000 in restitution has been documented by both projects and ordered by the courts. During this time period restitution collections, most paid on time payments, have amounted to \$446,000, a huge increase over the mere \$30,000 collected in 1973.

The Circuit Judges who cooperate with our office by ordering restitution are to be commended for their efforts to aid crime victims. Restitution is achieving its rightful place in our criminal justice system.

**\$1,831,587**

value of community services provided  
and restitution ordered

If your child  
isn't receiving  
support...

Rising divorce rates and an increase in single parent families coupled with inflation has increased the incidence of absent parents not paying their child support obligations. Often this means hunger and lack of clothing for our children and sends some families directly to the public welfare rolls. Your District Attorney's Office has the responsibility of insuring that parents adequately provide for the support of their children.

Our Child Support Enforcement Division locates those that are not complying with court-ordered child support payments. The attorneys can ask the court to enforce payments by taking funds directly from the parent's paycheck or other assets. The parent may also face jail for refusing to fulfill his support obligation.

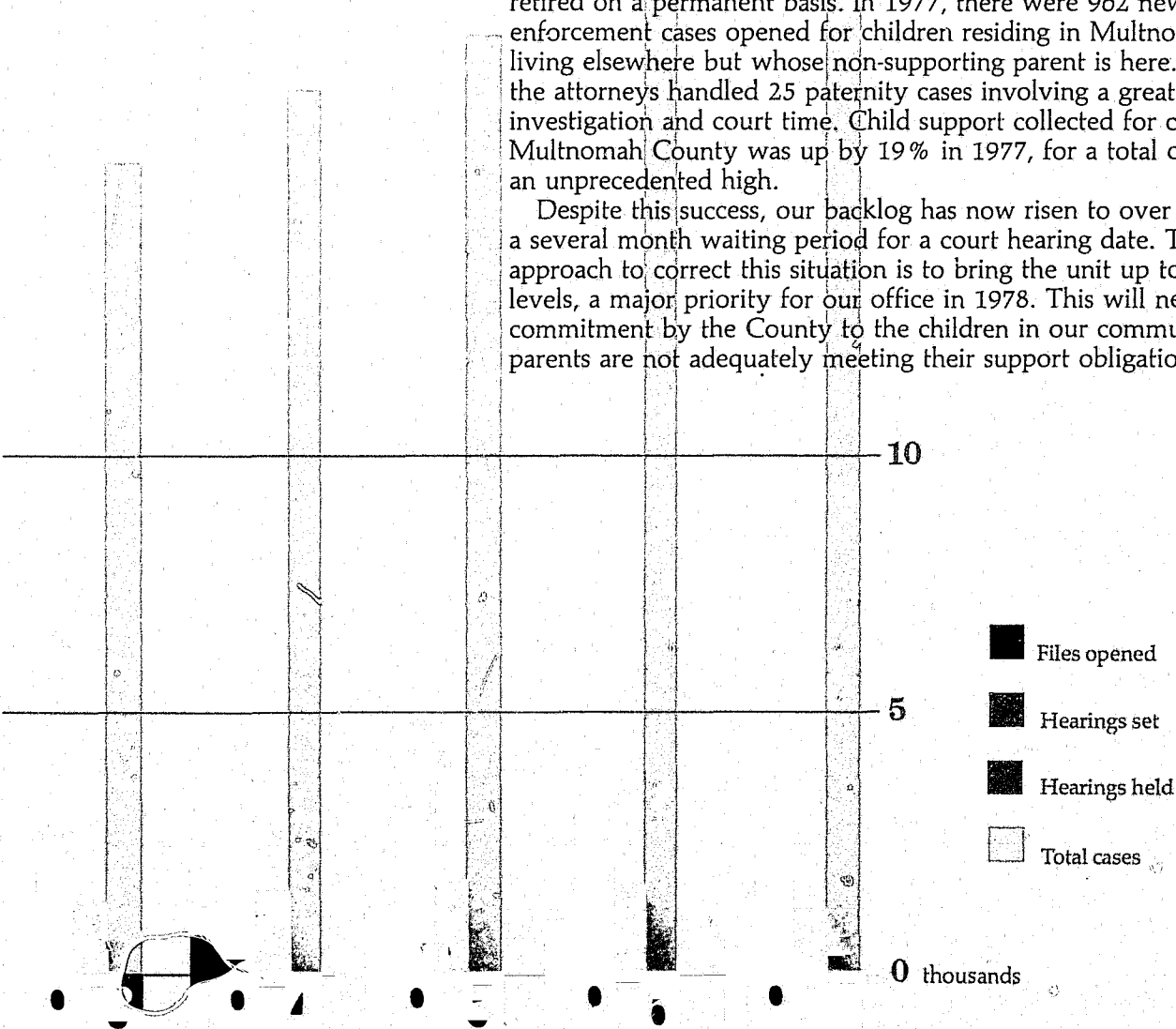
The Division has been funded 75% by the federal government for the past three years. Throughout the past several years when staff has remained constant, caseloads and backlogs have increased dramatically.

Since January, 1962, 20,363 cases of parents failing to pay support have been opened by the office. These cases are unique as they require continued service for up to 20 years. Even after the children become of age, often large debts remain.

This caseload expands constantly at a greater pace than old files can be retired on a permanent basis. In 1977, there were 962 new support enforcement cases opened for children residing in Multnomah County or living elsewhere but whose non-supporting parent is here. Additionally, the attorneys handled 25 paternity cases involving a great deal of investigation and court time. Child support collected for children in Multnomah County was up by 19% in 1977, for a total of \$22,855,526, an unprecedented high.

Despite this success, our backlog has now risen to over 1,200 cases with a several month waiting period for a court hearing date. The only realistic approach to correct this situation is to bring the unit up to adequate staff levels, a major priority for our office in 1978. This will necessitate a firm commitment by the County to the children in our community whose parents are not adequately meeting their support obligations.

Support Enforcement  
Caseload

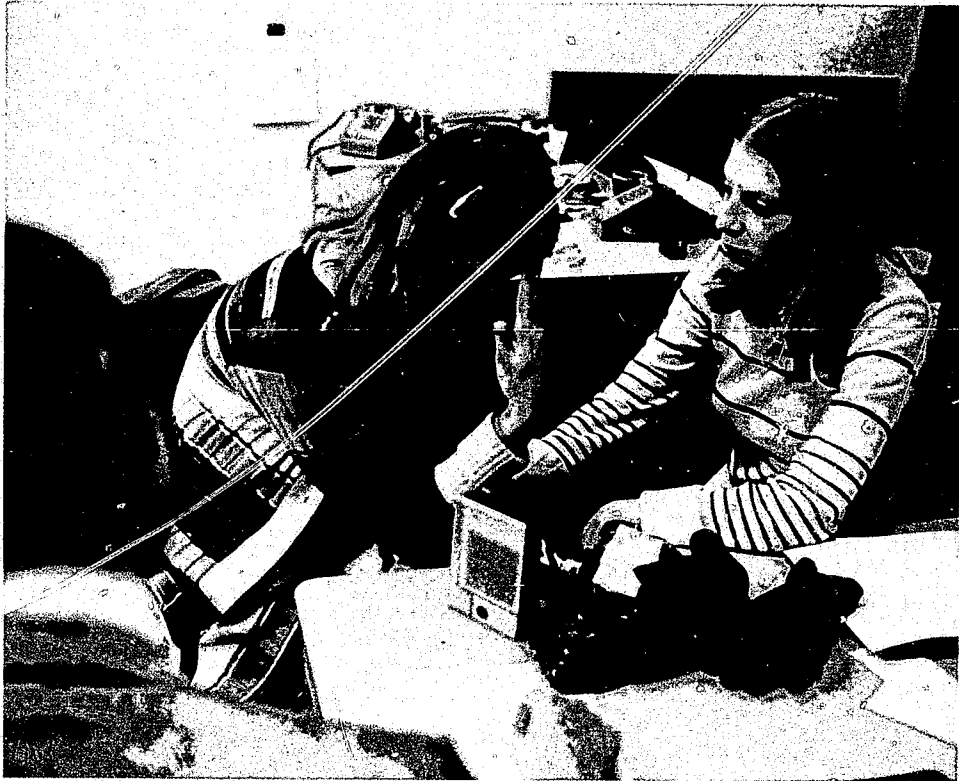


# If you have been raped...

First, call the police and report the crime. Only in this way can the rapist be caught and prevented from assaulting others. You will be escorted to the hospital.



A woman from our Rape Victim Advocate staff meets the victim at Holladay Park Hospital to provide emotional support and information through the physical exam.



Specially trained detectives sensitive to the victim's feelings gather evidence to locate the rapist. The advocate remains by the victim's side as needed.



Providing an accurate source of information for the victim about the criminal justice system, the advocate eases the victim's trauma throughout prosecution.



Rape Victims' Assistance

Rape is the fastest growing crime of violence in the nation and while in Portland other crime is dropping, rape has continued to rise. Many rape victims have endured in silence rather than face humiliating treatment by police, hospital personnel and attorneys when they report the crime. Women in Multnomah County, who have been raped, no longer have to fear mistreatment after reporting the crime. Our Rape Victim Advocate Staff insures that rape victims receive the support and care that they need and deserve.

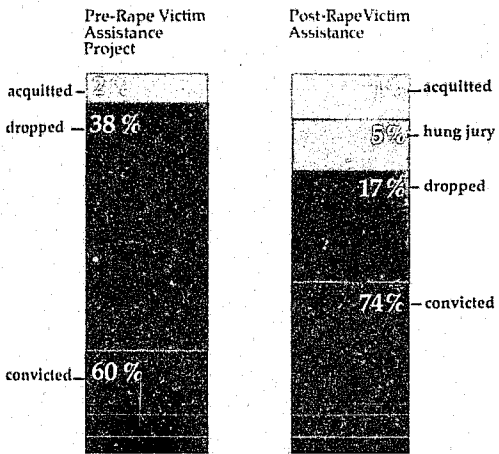
Initially meeting the victim at Holladay Park Hospital, a woman from the Rape Victim Advocate staff provides emotional support and aid to the victim in coping with the trauma commonly experienced as a result of the attack. She provides needed information to the victim on all aspects of the investigation and the judicial system. These initial contacts are made on a 24 hour call basis by a full-time professional staff of three women and ten extensively trained volunteers.

In the past three years, over 1,000 victims of sexual assault have received this care. During that same time period, convictions of rapists have more than doubled. In January, 1977, we also extended aid to women and children who have been victims of sodomy, incest and other sex offenses.

For most people, the criminal justice system is confusing at best, and more likely overwhelming. The Advocate serves as a consistent source of accurate information for the victim on the progress of her case and also transmits the victim's desires and concerns to the deputy district attorneys. A special trial unit of trained men and women prosecutors work with the Advocate in cases of sexual assault insuring that victims will receive sensitive care.

To foster community understanding of this unique crime and increase reporting, public speaking engagements have reached over 10,000 people throughout Multnomah County, 3,700 of which were in 1977. Inquiries from all 50 states as well as Canada and West Germany have been answered by project staff. A conference in 1976 shared our rape investigation techniques with over 450 participants from regional law enforcement agencies.

The Project's success rests upon its dedicated staff of full-time and volunteer advocates and the prosecutors, police and medical professionals who have made special efforts to understand and assist the victims of rape. Their work has resulted in the Project receiving national and regional attention as well as being cited by a prestigious criminal justice research corporation as "perhaps the finest prosecutor's response to rape in the country."



If you are the victim of a crime...

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office has instituted several innovative programs to complement and improve the office's prosecutorial activities throughout the past five years. Programs to aid victims of crime and to target career criminals coupled with modern prosecutorial techniques have brought our office into the national limelight.

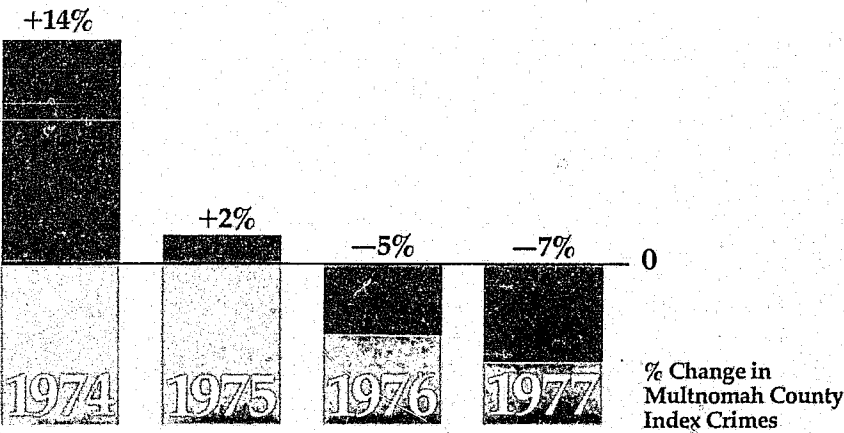
Our Circuit Court Trial Division prosecutes all felonies including the most serious crimes committed such as murder, burglary, robbery and rape. In 1977, over 450 cases were tried and there were 1,905 defendants who entered guilty pleas, for a total of 2,296 defendants convicted. This was accomplished with a 97% conviction rate, the highest in the office's history.

The Circuit Court staff is divided into crime specific trial teams which generally correspond to crime specific investigative divisions from the local police agencies. This enables the attorneys to become specialists in handling certain types of crimes. One attorney handles a case from start to finish, giving each crime victim personalized attention.

Perhaps the most significant move taken by the administration of the office in 1977 was to eliminate plea-bargaining in most serious felony cases. The traditional form of plea bargaining is a reduction of a more serious charge to a less serious one in exchange for a plea, thereby avoiding the expense of a trial. It is this form of plea bargaining that we have sought to reduce, as our goal is to successfully characterize the offender's conduct by his conviction record.

In 1973, the office reduced plea-bargaining in cases of armed robbery, home burglary and sale of stolen goods. This Project was featured in a 1976 segment of CBS' 60 Minutes and Reader's Digest, testifying to our success. Now the District Attorney has determined that no longer in adult court can serious robberies, burglaries and thefts, furnishing of heroin or cocaine, serious forgeries and most escapes, be plea-bargained.

The office also has special murder and negligent homicide teams of our most experienced deputy district attorneys. One of these prosecutors remains on call at all times to advise and aid police officers in initiating important investigative procedures at the crime scene. These deputy district attorneys are aided by trained staff from the Victims Assistance Project who work closely with the deceased victim's family.



Our District Court Trial Section handles the less serious crimes called misdemeanors and has the largest volume of criminal cases in the state. In 1977 alone, 8,810 misdemeanor charges were issued for prosecution, ranging from shoplifting to assaults.

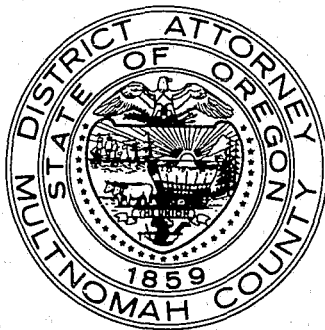
Recently the District Court Staff has been divided into trial teams, each with a more experienced prosecutor as a leader. This facilitates training of newer deputy district attorneys and provides for special case assignment for selected cases where one attorney handles a case through the whole process at the misdemeanor level. This technique will insure that repeat offenders who commit only misdemeanors will be targets for special prosecutorial attention.

To insure swift and sure justice, tough plea bargaining standards are employed for misdemeanors also, particularly in cases involving violence or repeat offenders.

For the convenience of the community, the District Attorney's main office is open on Saturday mornings, when deputy district attorneys volunteer their time to talk with citizens regarding instances of criminal activity and to determine whether charges should be filed. Close to 4,000 citizens have been helped by the service since its institution three years ago.

In 1978, the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office vows to continue efficient and modern prosecution. One major objective as mandated by the 1977 Legislature will be to provide a deputy district attorney to assist in conducting mental commitment hearings for the allegedly mentally ill.

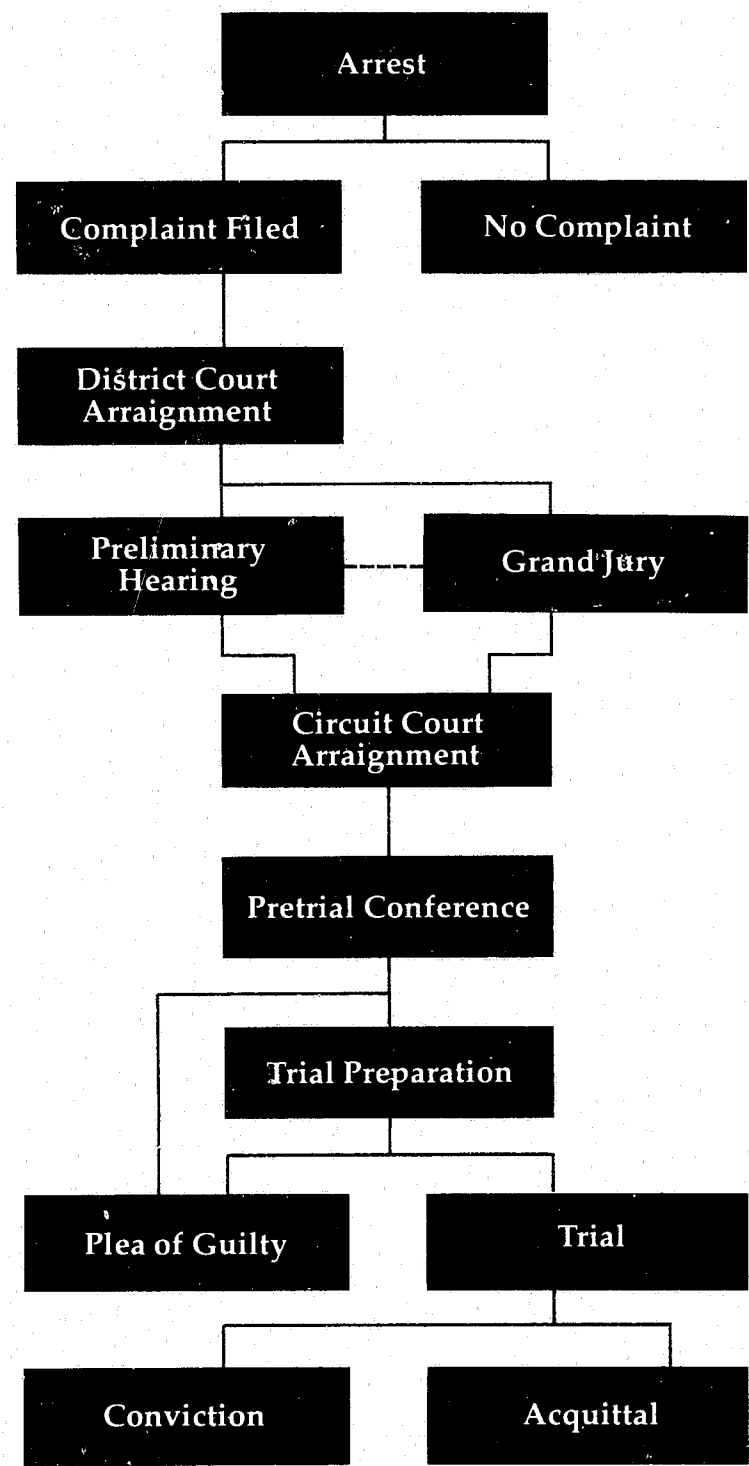
In addition, the office will seek to further its commitment to serve East County residents. Multnomah County operates a District Court in Gresham to handle traffic matters and misdemeanor trials two days a week. Our office provides a prosecutor from its regular staff for these appearances. With Gresham's projected population growth and the present size and activity of the Gresham Police Department, more cases will be processed by the Gresham court in the coming months. It is critical that the Board of County Commissioners provide sufficient court and prosecution staff in Gresham to maintain the level of service that is provided to the rest of the county.



**If you are  
the victim  
of a crime...**

**call these  
numbers:**

Case Flow Chart



Important numbers  
for victims of crime...

<b>Portland Police Bureau</b>	
Emergency .....	760-6911
Information .....	248-5730
Juvenile Felony .....	248-5768
Property Room .....	248-5677
<b>Multnomah County Sheriff's Office</b>	
Emergency .....	760-6911
Information .....	248-3265
Property Control .....	248-5250
<b>Gresham Police Department</b>	
Emergency .....	665-1111
Information .....	666-3741
<b>State Police (Multnomah Co.)</b>	
.....	
283-5711	
<b>Portland Fire Department</b>	
.....	
232-2111	
<b>Multnomah County Fire District</b>	
Gresham .....	761-7311
No. 10 .....	761-7311
Errol Heights .....	659-5444
Skyline .....	286-5030
<b>District Attorney's Office</b>	
Information .....	248-3162
Victims Assistance .....	248-3222
Project Repay .....	248-5003
Rape Victim Assistance .....	248-5059
Holladay Park Hospital .....	233-4567
(Multnomah County provides free medical exams here for rape victims who report crime to police.)	

Harl Haas, District Attorney  
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Portland, Oregon 97204  
(503) 248-3162



