



To: The Honorable Michael J. Rodrigues, Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Aaron Michlewitz, Chair, House Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Michael D. Hurley, Clerk of the Senate  
The Honorable Steven T. James, Clerk of the House

From: Jennifer Franco, Counsel, Massachusetts District Attorneys Association

Date: January 17, 2020

Re: **Amended Annual Report on the District Attorneys' Prosecution Statistics**

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As required by Chapter 41 of the Acts of 2019,<sup>1</sup> the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association submits to the Ways & Means Committees data from the District Attorneys relative to their criminal prosecutions and workloads for calendar year 2019. This report amends the previous report filed and dated January 10, 2020 to include data from all eleven districts.

While the reports of the individual districts delineating their workloads by charge or category of work are attached, below please find a synopsis of the calendar year 2019 totals per listed category<sup>2</sup> pertaining to the eleven districts that have reported data to MDAA:

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<sup>1</sup> 0340-2100 [MDAA] shall work in conjunction with the 11 district attorneys' offices to prepare and submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means and the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate no later than January 15, 2020, provided further, that the association shall provide the 11 district attorneys' offices with an agreed upon template for the report to be filled out; provided further that, that the district attorneys' offices shall submit the report in a standard electronic format; provided further, that the template shall include, delineated by charge type: (a) the number of criminal cases initiated by arraignment in each department of the trial court; (b) the number of criminal cases disposed of in each department of the trial court; (c) the number of cases appealed to the appeals court or supreme judicial court or any other appeals; and (d) the number of cases reviewed but not charged; and (e) the number of cases under active management where the case includes charges for drug offenses under chapter 94C or the General Laws, motor vehicle charges under chapter 90 of the General Laws or firearm offenses under chapter 140 of the General Laws.

<sup>2</sup> Data lists total charges with the exception of "Appellate Work," "Cases Reviewed/Not Charged," and "Other Work," all of which measure cases, investigations or a specific event.

**Superior Court/Youthful Offender:**

Arraigned: 655

Disposed: 510

Actively Managed<sup>3</sup>: 1018+

**Juvenile Court:**

Arraigned: 11,495

Disposed: 12,258

Actively Managed: 18,152+

**Diversion:** 3,684

**Superior Court (Adult):**

Arraigned: 18,354

Disposed: 18,067

Actively Managed: 42,613+

**District Court (Adult):**

Arraigned: 345,658

Disposed: 345,231

Actively Managed: 438,344+

**Appellate Work:** 3,485

**Cases Reviewed/Not Charged:** 36,106

**Other Work:** 52,284

As also required by the reporting language of line item 0340-2100, please find specific charges below, broken down by court:

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<sup>3</sup> This report does not contain "actively managed" cases from Suffolk County. Suffolk County did not provide MDAA with any data relative to actively managed cases.

**Superior Court/Youthful Offender:**

Motor Vehicle (pursuant to MGL Chapter 90):

Arraigned: 16

Disposed: 9

Actively Managed: 24+

Controlled Substances (pursuant to MGL Chapter 94C):

Arraigned: 23

Disposed: 10

Actively Managed: 25+

Firearms (pursuant to MGL Chapter 140):

Arraigned: 170

Disposed: 149

Actively Managed: 238+

**Juvenile Court:**

Motor Vehicle (pursuant to MGL Chapter 90):

Arraigned: 1020

Disposed: 1013

Actively Managed: 1,462+

Diversion: 326

Controlled Substances (pursuant to MGL Chapter 94C):

Arraigned: 321

Disposed: 378

Actively Managed: 501+

Diversion: 338

Firearms (pursuant to MGL Chapter 140):

Arraigned: 528

Disposed: 509

Actively Managed: 742+

Diversion: 29

**Superior Court (Adult):**

Motor Vehicle (pursuant to MGL Chapter 90):

Arraigned: 455

Disposed: 408

Actively Managed: 1023+

Controlled Substances (pursuant to MGL Chapter 94C):

Arraigned: 3,069

Disposed: 3,182

Actively Managed: 7,440+

Firearms (pursuant to MGL Chapter 140):

Arraigned: 2,896

Disposed: 2,860

Actively Managed: 6,161+

**District Court (Adult):**

Motor Vehicle (pursuant to MGL Chapter 90):

Arraigned: 145,161

Disposed: 141,086

Actively Managed: 170,757+

Controlled Substances (pursuant to MGL Chapter 94C):

Arraigned: 30,904

Disposed: 30,605

Actively Managed: 43,045+

Firearms (pursuant to MGL Chapter 140):

Arraigned: 8,027

Disposed: 8,472

Actively Managed: 12,047+

Attached to this memo are the individual submissions from the eleven District Attorneys' Offices. The District Attorneys utilize the same case management system (DAMION) but differ significantly in how each office defines its data and inputs and reports that data, as well as whether

certain data is even tracked at all. Please also note that, due to budget constraints, and resulting administrative staffing shortages, not all offices are able to input all cases (especially those in the district courts) into DAMION, resulting in underreporting of cases; and not all offices are able to quickly close disposed cases, resulting in over reporting.