



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
FOR THE NORFOLK DISTRICT

MICHAEL W. MORRISSEY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

45 SHAWMUT ROAD
CANTON, MA 02021
(781) 830-4800
FAX (781) 830-4801

January 31, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey, I submit the Norfolk District Attorney's Community Based Juvenile Justice Report pursuant to M.G.L. c. 12, § 32(e).

Please contact me with questions or concerns at 781-830-4830.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret R.S. Krippendorf".

Margaret R.S. Krippendorf

Community Based Juvenile Justice Programs

Office of the Norfolk District Attorney

January 30, 2025

During 2024, the Norfolk District Attorney's Office (NDAO) administered twenty-seven community based juvenile justice programs (school safety forums) serving twenty-seven communities in the County of Norfolk. These programs were designed to help coordinate the efforts of school systems, law enforcement, the Norfolk County Juvenile Probation Department, the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families and the Massachusetts Department of Youth Services, as appropriate, to help develop positive interventions for court-involved and at-risk juveniles. Additionally, these confidential forums may serve to identify those juveniles whose violent behavior could potentially pose a danger to school systems and communities, and to help coordinate informational resources and other potential interventions designed to help maintain school safety and help deter the recurrence of violence.

These collaborative school safety forums have been in place in the Norfolk District for more than twenty years. The Norfolk District Attorney's Office has taken a leadership position in scheduling these meetings, and in trying to facilitate and maintain open lines of communication between the partner agencies. The Norfolk District Attorney's Office encourages and supports the regular participation of relevant agencies, as appropriate. Partner agencies may choose to explain the specific services and interventions they may have available, as well as any relevant criteria and protocols for accessing such services. The forums have been an effective venue for agencies to share informational resources. The Norfolk District Attorney's Office assigns an Assistant District Attorney from the Norfolk District Attorney's Juvenile Justice Unit to each confidential forum to ensure consistency with towns and to assist in communication. This Office initiates discussions about individual cases, and invites input from the collaborative agencies regarding individuals whose alleged conduct may pose a threat to schools, neighborhoods and communities. These forums also provide information to the Norfolk District Attorney's Office that assists in effective resolution of delinquency cases to benefit the juvenile and community.

These collaborative agencies include Juvenile Probation, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Youth Services, as well as the schools and local law enforcement. The office works closely with School Resource Officers (SROs) to enhance the Office's knowledge of school incidents as well as to learn best ways to support schools and juveniles. General school safety concerns, precautions, and perceived trends are also discussed to further support school and community prevention efforts. In addition to the work NDAO has done for many years, in 2024, the Office has worked to understand the implementation and requirements of the new juvenile Sexting Diversion program created in response to the 2024 Act to Prevent Abuse and Exploitation.

The Norfolk Juvenile Court in Dedham services the nineteen communities of Avon, Canton, Dedham, Dover, Foxborough, Franklin, Medfield, Medway, Millis, Needham, Norfolk, Norwood, Plainville, Sharon, Stoughton, Walpole, Wellesley, Westwood, and Wrentham. There were approximately 125 felony cases prioritized for discussion at the community based juvenile

justice programs in this service area. The Juvenile Session of the Quincy District Court services the seven communities of Braintree, Cohasset, Holbrook, Milton, Quincy, Randolph, and Weymouth. There were approximately 150 felony cases prioritized for discussion at the community based juvenile justice programs in this service area. There were approximately 4 felony cases prioritized for discussion in Brookline. Additional adult co-defendant court proceedings were also discussed as appropriate.

Currently, the Dedham Juvenile Court has a delinquency session two days per week and the Quincy Juvenile Court has a delinquency session two days per week (this is typically a three day per week session, however, due to issues with judicial coverage, it is currently two days per week). Brookline Juvenile Court holds a delinquency session once per month.

The Norfolk District Attorney's Office provides strategic, targeted prevention, education and training to our 28 communities and 34 public school districts. In 2024, following a review of our caseload and diversion referrals, we continued to work on enhancing our programming and better utilizing the diversion resources available to our office.

The NDAO offered the following in 2024:

1. Hosted an in-person Peer Leadership Breakfast Meeting for Norfolk County Public School Student Leaders at the Tirrell Room in Quincy to kick off the school-year long Peer Leadership Program in Norfolk County;
2. Provided Team Rival substance use prevention programming for 34 Norfolk County public high schools which included:
 - a. Fatal Vision Google Experience a simulation of cognitive impairments that alcohol, marijuana and opioids have on vision perception distortion, reaction time, short term memory loss and problem solving;
 - b. Shifting Gears, an online distracted driving prevention education program for newly licensed teens in partnership with AAA;
3. Hosted virtual meetings for Norfolk County Public School Student Leaders on prevention topics including:
 - a. The roles and functions of criminal courts and the duties and responsibilities of the District Attorney's Office; and
 - b. Vaping Education and Narcan Training;
4. Provided Until Help Arrives Programming, an interactive critical safety training course created by Federal Emergency Management Agency to Norfolk County Public High Schools staff and students;
5. Provided Signs of Suicide training to Norfolk County Public High Schools, a mental health initiative to students and school employees in partnership with MindWise Innovations;

6. Provided the Good Decision Class in partnership with Bay State Community Services as part of the Norfolk District Attorney's Diversion Program and allowed public high schools to incorporate this class into their disciplinary action when incidents involved substance use and related risk-taking even if the teen is not court-involved;
7. Provided access to a master's level clinician at no cost for behavioral and mental health evaluations and referrals for treatment, if necessary, for teens and youth adults in Norfolk County in partnership with Bay State Community Services;
8. Hosted quarterly Community Coalition meetings with community partners for substance use prevention;
9. Hosted bi-monthly School/Youth Resource Officer meetings for substance use prevention and behavioral intervention;
10. Hosted county-wide Mandated Reporter training for schools and school resource officers, police departments, and fire departments in partnership with Norfolk Advocates for Children (NAC) followed by a tour of the NAC facility;
11. Hosted an in person train the trainer Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center's anti-bullying training;
12. Provided grant funding for 100 Naloxboxes placed in public school buildings and other municipal buildings in Norfolk County;
13. Replenished the supply of Naloxone for public school districts in Norfolk County;
14. Provided Narcan Training to Norfolk County Public School and municipality staff;
15. Provided Safe Celebration Grants in the amount of \$500 to Norfolk County Public High Schools to defray the cost of alcohol-free post prom or graduation events to keep students safe;
16. Provided grant funding to Norfolk County Public School Districts to analyze and prepare visualization summaries in partnership with Trendline of Youth Risk Survey Data for use in parent presentations, school grant writing, and to guide the work of health educators in areas needing intervention and prevention;
17. Hosted the Making Norfolk County a Safe Place to Live Conference in Quincy to detail Norfolk District Attorney's Office programing, training and services offered concerning school safety, behavior and mental health and other available training to school administrators, counselors, school resource officers, police chiefs, fire chiefs, school nurse leaders, coalition leaders, public health nurses, and other community partners;

18. Provided grant funding for Community Resource Dogs to support police departments and schools in servicing children in crisis and enhance the trusted relationship between these agencies and local children and families;
19. Provided the FireSense Diversionary Program in an effort to protect and reduce juvenile fire setting and the dangers involved with fires starting;
20. Provide 3rd Millenium Diversionary Programming to diverted individuals on Conflict Wise, Diversity Equity & Inclusion, Nicotine, Other Drugs, Respect & Resolve, THC 101, Under the Influence and shoplifting;
21. Provided Fatal Vision Education: a live in-person marijuana and alcohol simulation experience that simulate cognitive imparments that alcohol, marijuana and opioids have on vision perception distortion, reaction time, short term memory loss and problem solving;
22. Provided Medical Reviews with Medical Director Dr. Dan Muse to Norfolk County Community Coalition Leaders, Police Departments, Fire Departments, Department of Public Health, School Nurses and other community partners;
23. Hosted live Disabled Person Protection Commission training to Norfolk County school administrators, counselors, school resource officers, police chiefs, fire chiefs, school nurse leaders, coalition leaders, public health nurses, and other community partners;
24. Partnered with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)and facilitated an Internet Safety Train the Trainer for Norfolk County school personnel and school resource officers;
25. Provided Community Resource Dog visits to Norfolk County Schools and community events;
26. Conducted a Designate a Water Watcher Campaign before the start of the summer to raise awareness in Norfolk County about the dangers of water and encouraged residents to Designate a Water Watcher to prevent preventable deaths around water; and
27. Participated in several Norfolk County community policing awareness-raising events in Norfolk County through various National Night Out Events.