



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LAW CRIMINAL DIVISION UPDATES

John Skidmore
Deputy Attorney General
Criminal Division

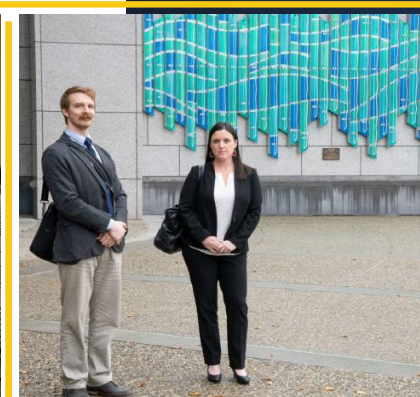
Senate Judiciary
19 March 2025

CRIMINAL DIVISION

MISSION



To seek justice, promote public safety and public respect for government through prompt, effective, and compassionate prosecution of cases.





How We Achieve Our Mission

What we do

- We prosecute violations of state criminal law

What we do not do

- We do NOT prosecute violations of federal criminal laws
- We do NOT prosecute violations of municipal criminal laws
- We do NOT prosecute traffic tickets

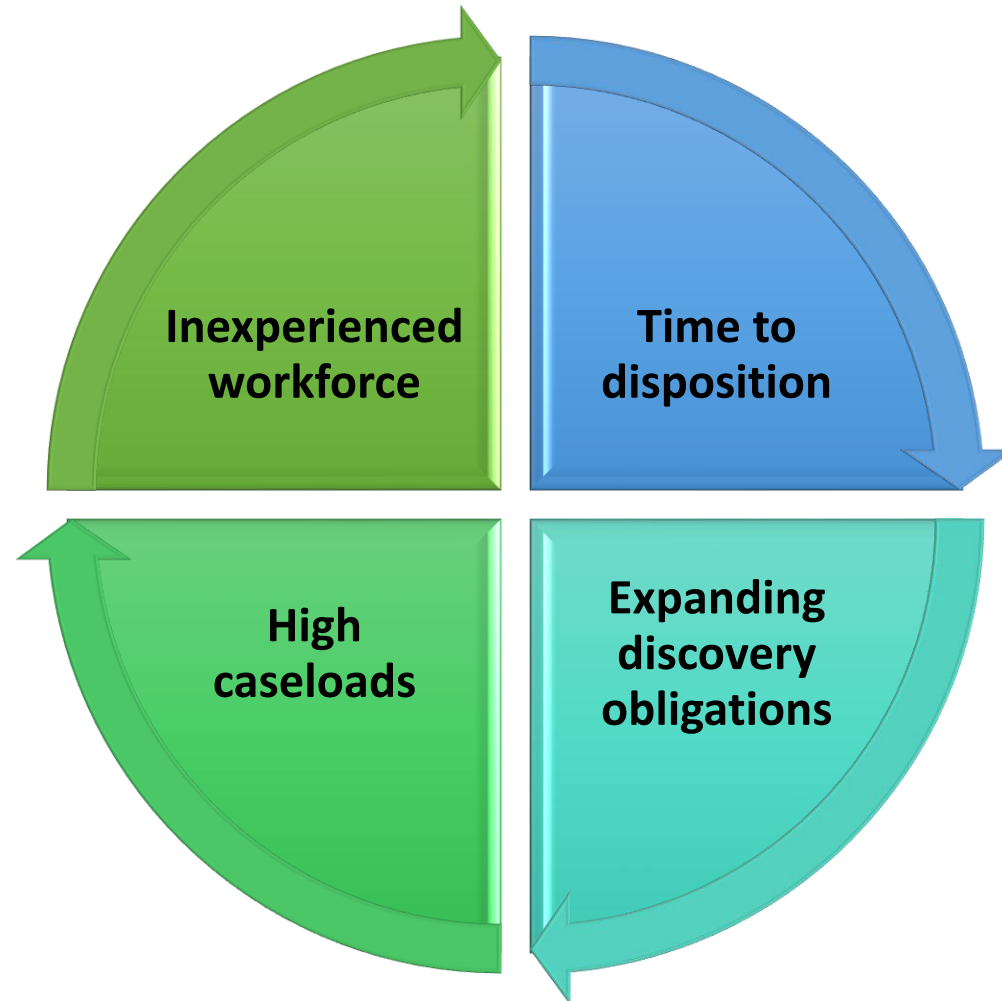


Types of Cases

- Violent – Homicide, Robbery, Assault, Kidnapping, Sexual Assault, Sexual Abuse of Minor
- Property – Theft, Burglary, Criminal Mischief, Forgery, Fraud
- Drugs – Possession and Distribution
- DUI
- Miscellaneous – Misconduct Involving Weapons, Escape, Perjury, Fish & Game, etc.
- Appeals (state and federal courts)
- Petition to Revoke Probation & Post Conviction Relief

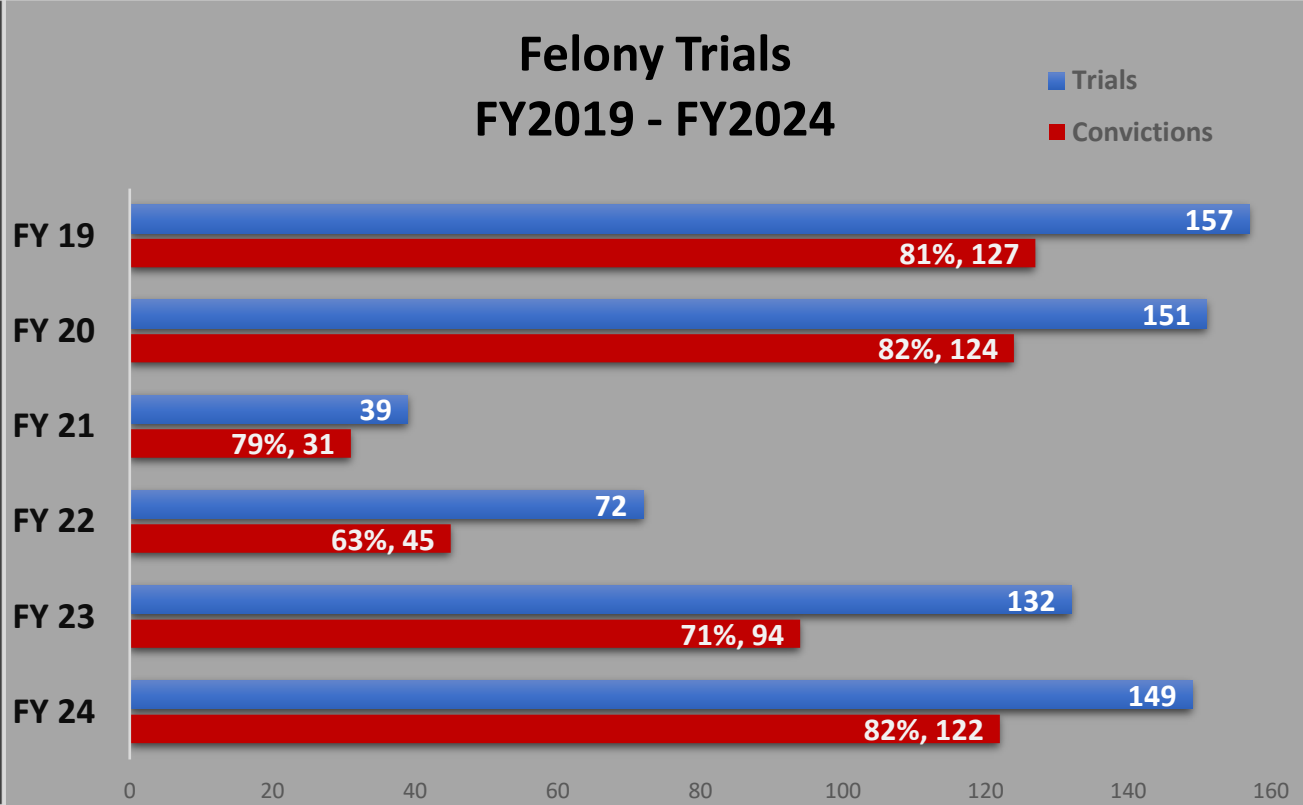
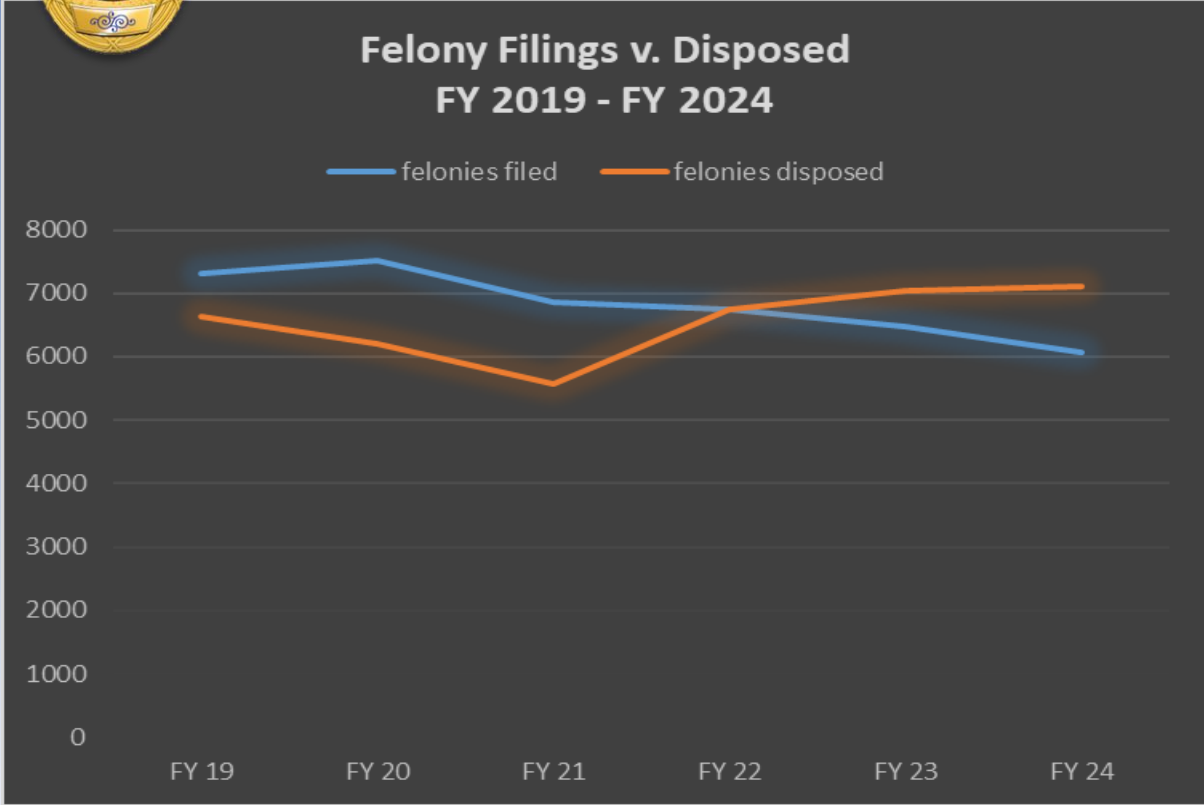


KEY ISSUES IMPACTING OUR WORK





Felonies

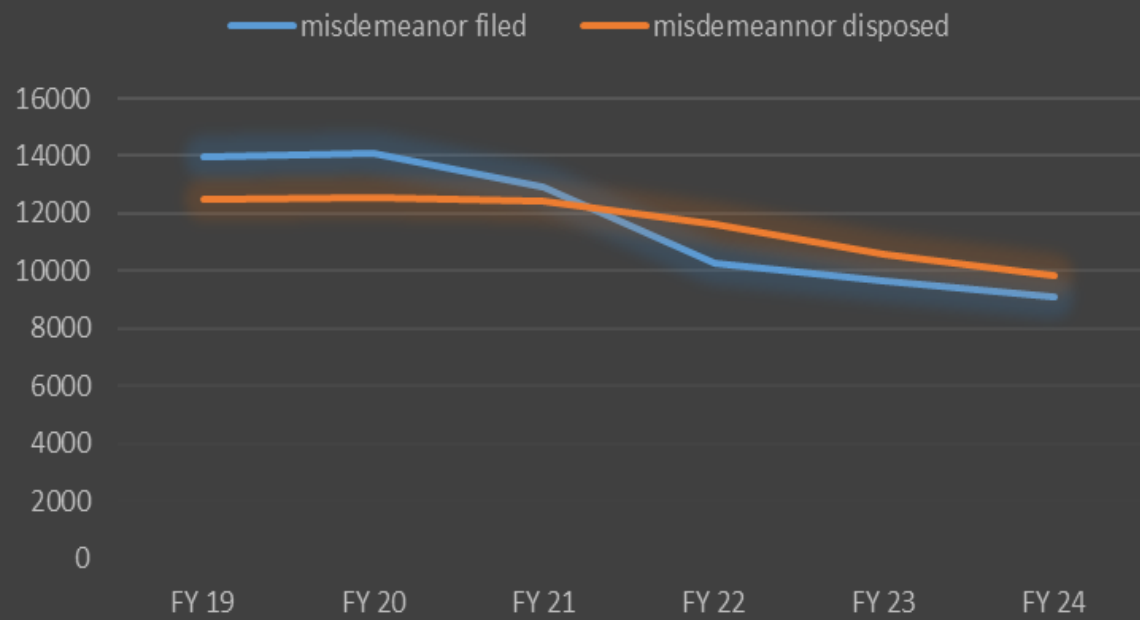


- More Cases Disposed Than Filed
- Number Of Felony Trials Increasing
- Conviction Rate Returning

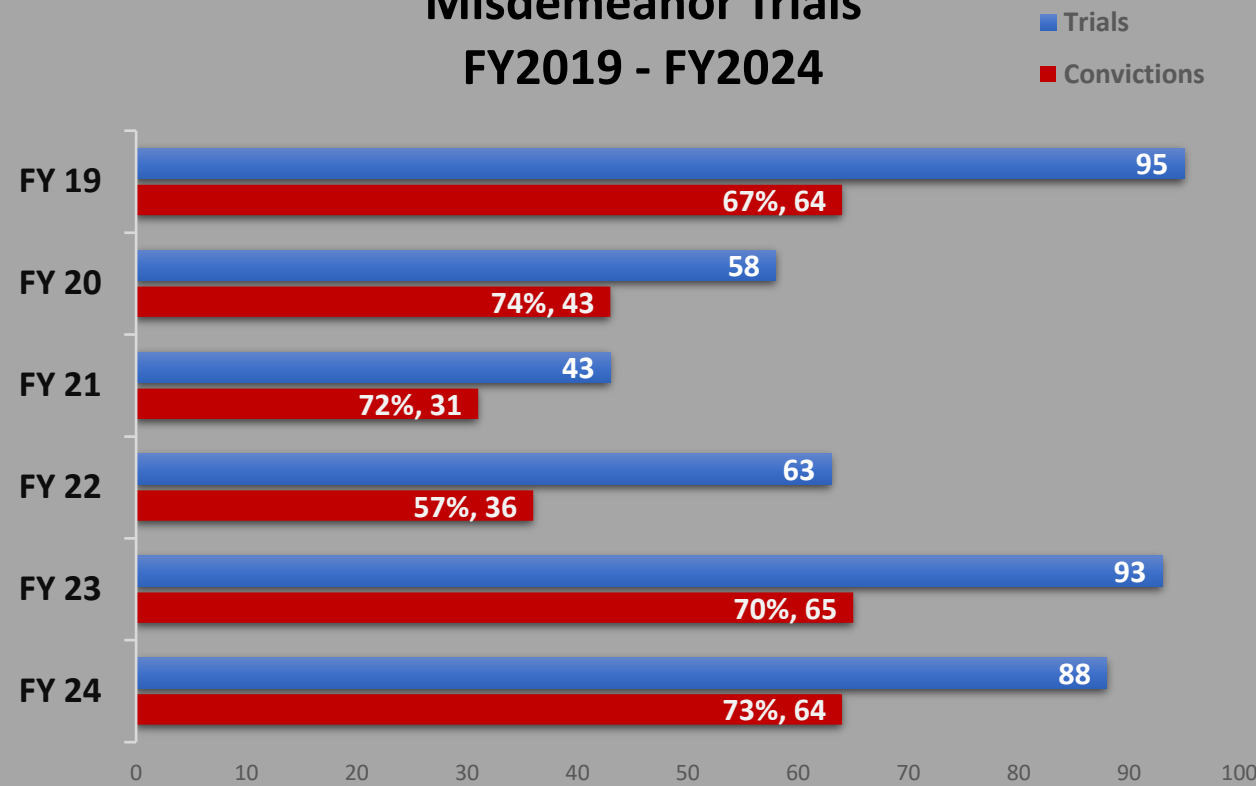


Misdemeanors

Misdemeanor Filings v. Disposed
FY 2019 - FY 2024



Misdemeanor Trials
FY2019 - FY2024



- More Cases Disposed Than Filed
- Number Of Misdemeanor Trials Up
- Conviction Rate Returning

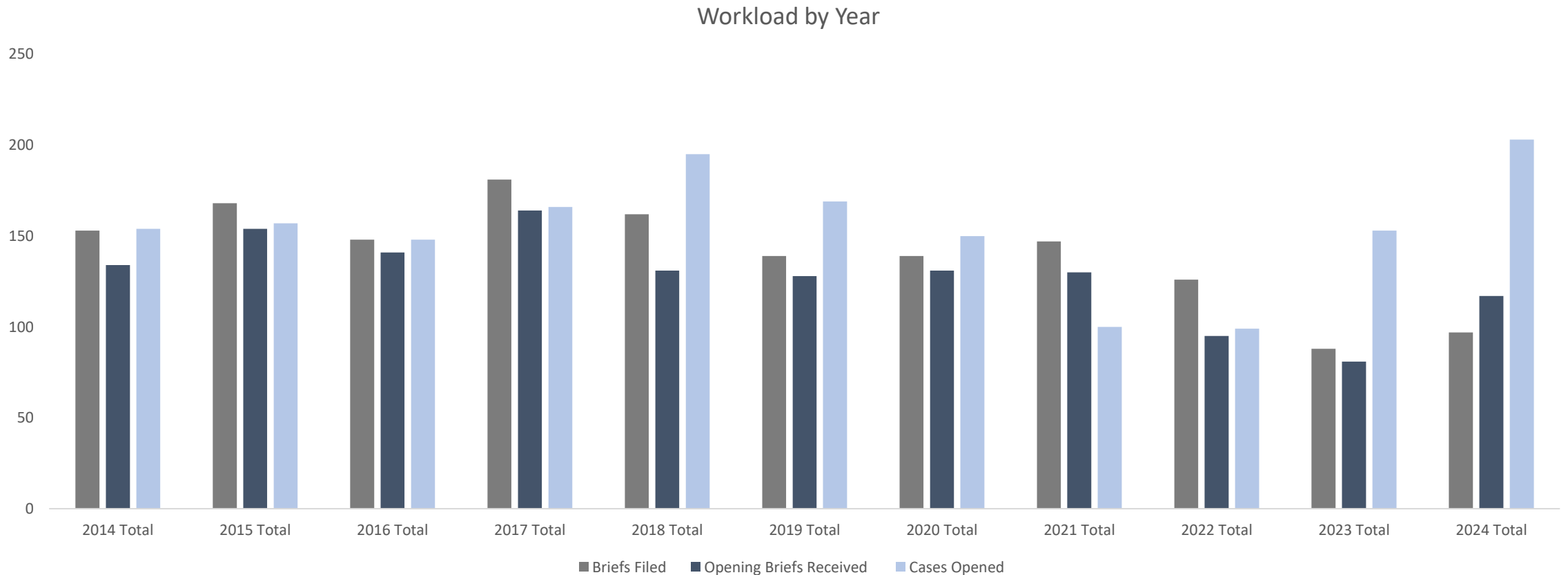


Offices With The Highest Caseloads

CASELOADS	Dillingham (1 Prosecutor)	Palmer (11 Prosecutors)	Ketchikan (3 Prosecutors)
Total: felony and misdemeanors	289	2783	554
Total Felonies	109 including 28 Murders, SAMs, and SAs	909 including 112 Murders, SAMs, and SAs	139 including 15 Murders, SAMs, and SAs
Average Open Caseload <u>Per</u> <u>Prosecutor</u>	289	253	185



Appellate Workload Over The Years





Appellate Workload Over The Years

	Briefs Filed	Opening Briefs Received	Cases Opened
2014 Total	153	134	154
2015 Total	168	154	157
2016 Total	148	141	148
2017 Total	181	164	166
2018 Total	162	131	195
2019 Total	139	128	169
2020 Total	139	131	150
2021 Total	147	130	100
2022 Total	126	95	99
2023 Total	88	81	153
2024 Total	97	117	203



What is a PCR?

376 pending PCRs

Work of PCRs

- civil discovery
- review old files & old court records
- different legal issues/standards

FY Year PCR was filed	# of Cases
2000 - 2009	6
2012 - 2015	15
2016 - 2019	68
2020	40
2021	30
2022	44
2023	47
2024	80
2025	46
Grand Total	376

PCRs



Time to Disposition

(Determined by the mean)

Felonies 2-3 years

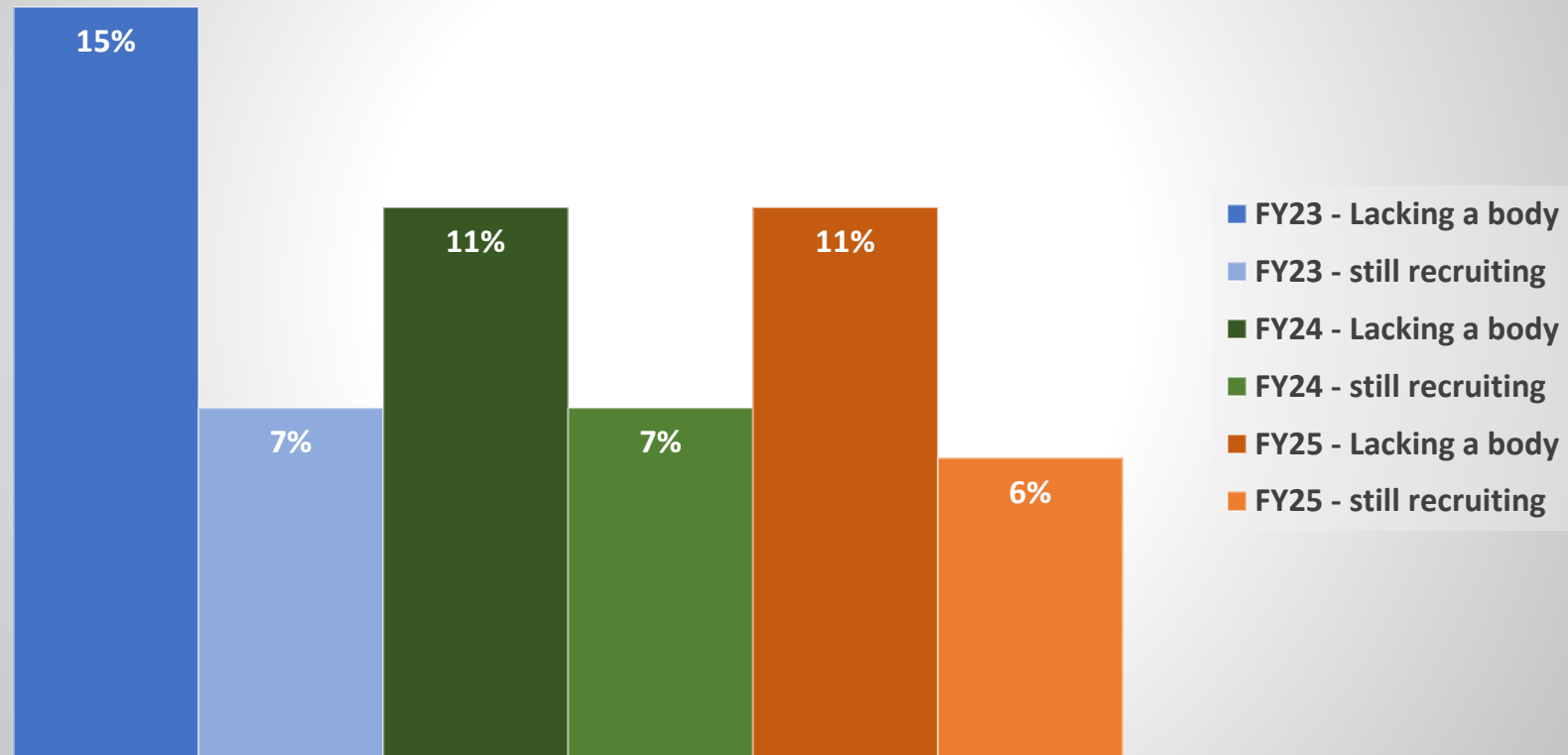
Misdemeanors 1-1.5 years

Appeals 3-5 years



Prosecutor Vacancy

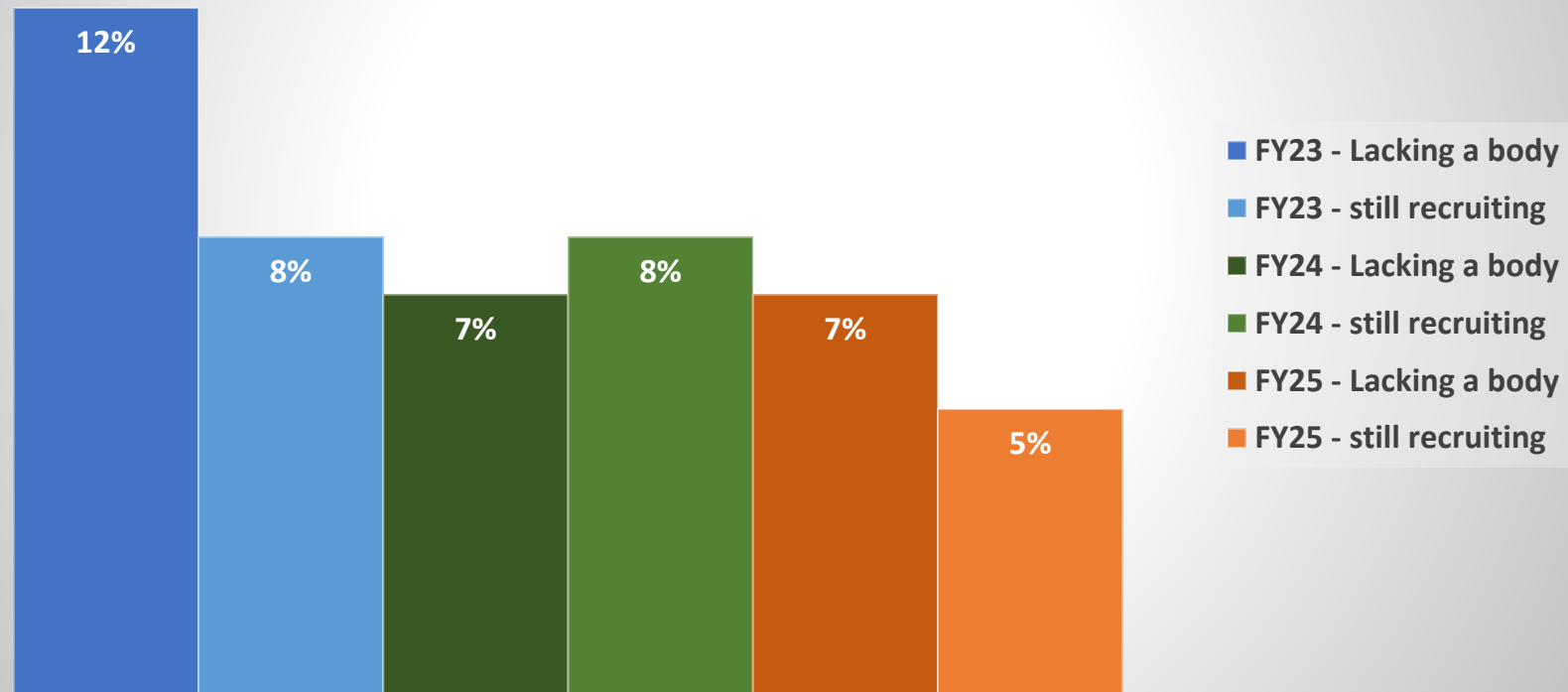
Prosecutor Vacancy Rates Comparison
FY23 - FY25





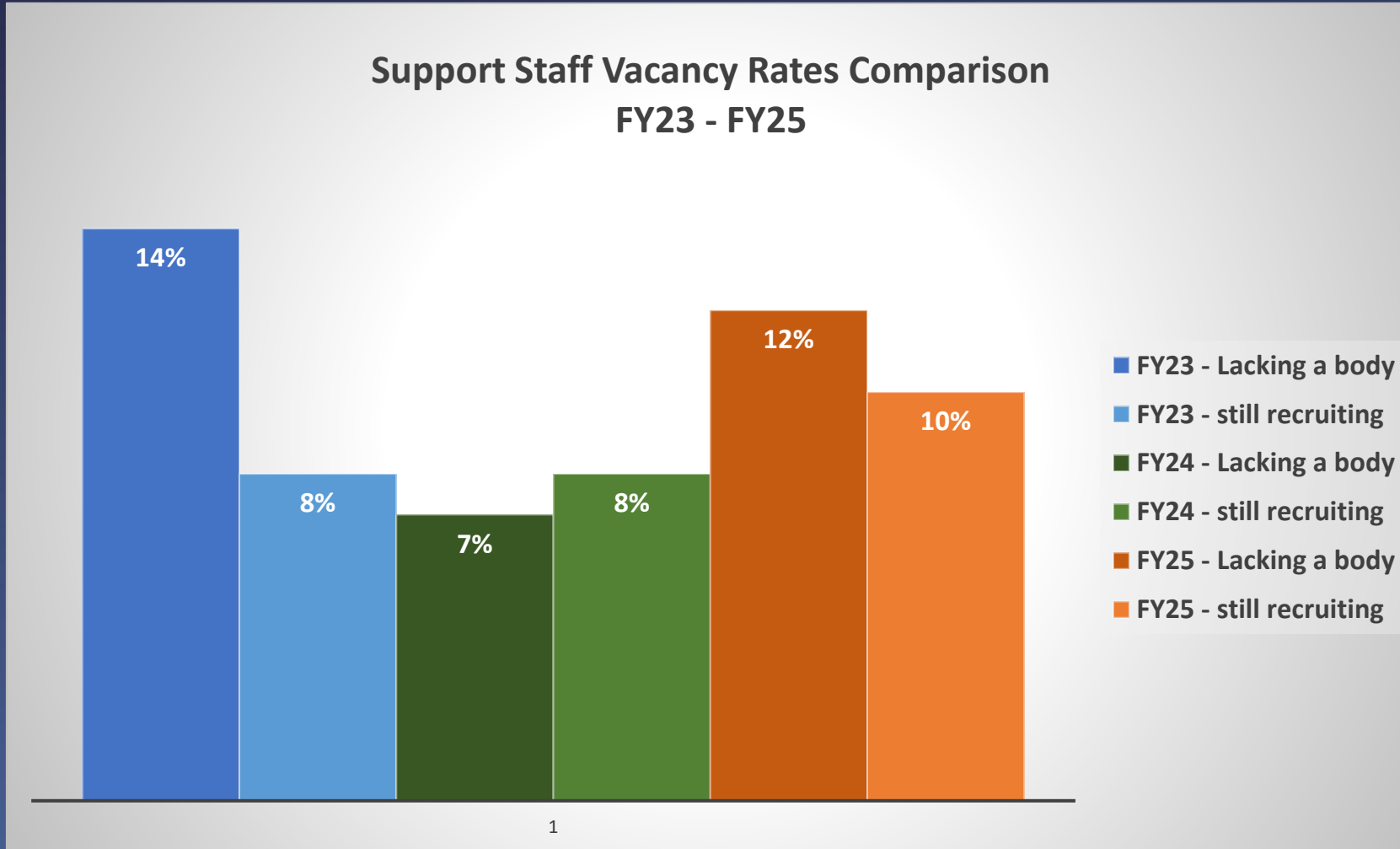
Paralegal Vacancy

Paralegal Vacancy Rates Comparison
FY23 - FY25





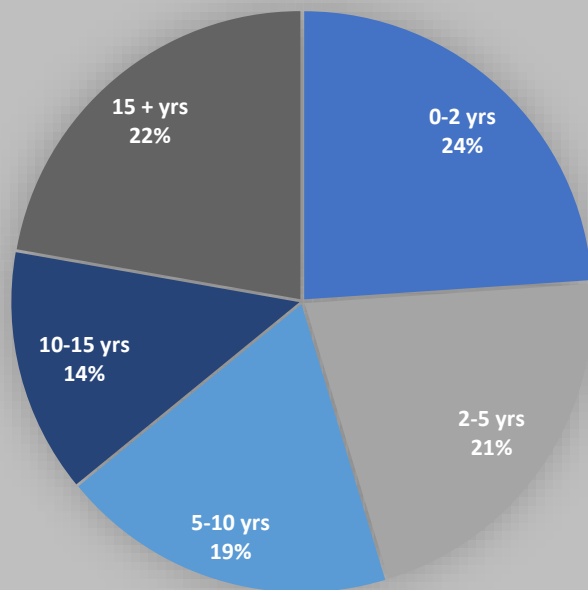
Support Staff Vacancy



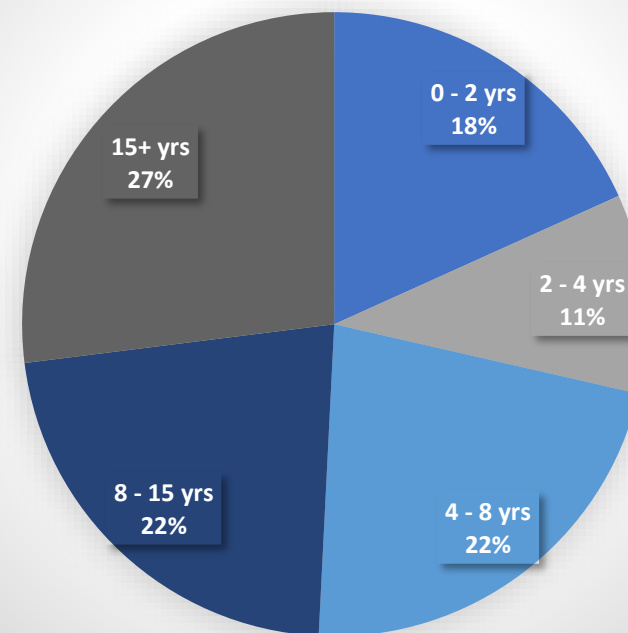


Prosecutor Experience

**Criminal Division Retention
Prosecutor Experience - Jan 2022**



**Criminal Division Retention
Prosecutor Experience - Feb 2025**





Training

- Onboarding & Mentorship
- Training Academy (trial advocacy & AK substantive law)
- Annual Conference
- Sexual Assault Response Team & other sex crime training
- Appellate law updates



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Questions