

## Appeals

Providing support to both the Criminal and Civil Bureaus, the State's Attorney's Appeals Division is responsible for litigating matters on appeal before the Illinois Appellate Court and the Illinois Supreme Court. Attorneys in the Division also operate as a rapid-response legal research team, assisting other prosecutors in addressing complex issues which may unexpectedly arise during the course of litigation.

## Children's Advocacy Center

The Children's Advocacy Center helps to minimize the trauma experienced by child-victims of sexual abuse or serious physical abuse and provides support for any subsequent proceedings within the criminal justice system. The Center helps young victims cope with the abuse they endured and works to ensure that those responsible are held accountable for their actions.

### DuPage County State's Attorney's Office

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**DuPageSAO**



*A Message From*

**Bob  
Berlin**

**DuPage County  
State's Attorney**

As the second-largest State's Attorney's Office in Illinois and one of the 50 largest county-based prosecutor's offices in the nation, my office is proud to serve the nearly one million residents of DuPage County.

Our most important mission as prosecutors is to seek justice in each and every individual case. Everything that the professionals in our office do, including our trial practice, policy development and programming, is guided by two concerns: protecting the public and defending the rights of victims.

This brochure will provide you with more information as to what role the State's Attorney's Office plays in the criminal justice system as well as our role representing county government and county officials in civil litigation. It will also familiarize you with the array of functions and services offered by our 176 attorneys, investigators, paralegals and support staff. If you would like further information regarding the office, please contact us or visit our website at [www.dupageco.org/statesattorney](http://www.dupageco.org/statesattorney).

## The DuPage County State's Attorney's Office

## About the Office



**DuPage County  
State's Attorney  
Robert B. Berlin**

**“As prosecutors, it is our responsibility to seek justice in all that we do.”**

**- DuPage County State’s Attorney Robert B. Berlin**

## Overview

The DuPage County State’s Attorney’s Office consists of 84 assistant state’s attorneys, 21 criminal investigators and 71 full-time support staff, for a total of 176 employees. The Office is organized into three Bureaus: Criminal Prosecution, Civil and Administration. The Chiefs of each Bureau report to the First Assistant State’s Attorney who implements the State’s Attorney’s policies and who reports directly to the State’s Attorney.

## Criminal Prosecution

The Criminal Prosecutions Bureau prosecutes all felony matters in DuPage County as well as any misdemeanor, business or traffic offense which a municipality is not authorized, or has not elected to prosecute. The Criminal Bureau consists of five divisions.

***Felony Trial Division*** — The Felony Trial Division is headed by a deputy chief who oversees general felony matters assigned to one of six felony courtrooms. Each courtroom is staffed by three experienced assistant state’s attorneys, one of which serves as a courtroom supervisor or “first chair.”

***Special Prosecutions Division*** — The Special Prosecutions Division consists of specialized prosecution units which concentrate exclusively cases involving specific types of crimes. Assistants assigned to this Division are part of either the Narcotics Prosecution Unit, the Public Integrity/Financial Crimes Unit, the Gang Crimes Unit, or the Felony Screening Unit.

***Child Protection Division*** — The Child Protection Division focuses not only on cases involving young persons, either as victims or defendants, but also on the prosecution of felony domestic violence matters and sexually-based crimes. The Division consists of two units, the Domestic Violence Unit and the Delinquency Unit.

***Misdemeanor and Traffic Division*** — The Misdemeanor and Traffic Division consists of assistant state’s attorneys assigned to the misdemeanor courtrooms and to the four field court locations. Two prosecutors are assigned to each misdemeanor courtroom and one to each field court. They are responsible for handling case loads involving offenses such as driving under the influence of alcohol (DUI), domestic battery, theft and criminal damage to property.

***Criminal Investigations Division*** — The State’s Attorney’s Office includes a team of investigators who assist various units in the investigation and prosecution of criminal activity. The unit engages in undercover activity, surveillance, court authorized eavesdropping and evidence collection. The Investigations Division also assists in locating and interviewing witnesses and is responsible for service of subpoenas, summons and warrants.

## Civil Representation

The Civil Bureau consists of 11 assistant state’s attorneys who are responsible for representing DuPage County government and all of its elected officers in their official capacities. It is comprised of two divisions.

***General and Complex Litigation Division*** — The General and Complex Litigation Division focuses on defending the County, its officers and employees against any lawsuit filed in federal or state courts arising out of any official actions. The Division also prosecutes civil violations of the DuPage County Code. In addition, assistants in this Division provide legal support to the County’s law enforcement, health, human resources and human service departments as well as provide advice on labor matters.

***Governmental Affairs and Special Litigation Division*** — The Governmental Affairs and Special Litigation Division provides primary legal support to all County finance officers and their departments, as well as to the Office of the County Board, Transportation, Public Works and Economic and Planning Departments. Assistants in this Division working in partnership with the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services are also responsible for collections, identifying and locating non-custodial parents, establishing paternity and obtaining financial support for the children of absent parents. The Division is also responsible for developing and monitoring legislation and for community affairs.

## Office Administration

The Administration Bureau is responsible for coordinating Office administrative functions including financial management, personnel, grant administration, information systems and records management, special projects and restitution. The Bureau is also home to the Victim’s Services Unit, which provides assistance to victims and witnesses of violent crime.