

# The SAUSA Program



A successful collaboration between  
State & Federal Prosecutors.

# SAUSA:

- “Special Assistant US Attorney”  
*A state prosecutor cross-sworn in both state and federal court.*

# SAUSA Program

- Began in 2006
- Governor's Crime Commission Funding

# GCC-Funded SAUSAs

- District 3A- *Pitt*
- District 3B- *Craven, Carteret, Pamlico*
- District 5- *New Hanover, Pender*
- District 7- *Edgecombe, Nash, Wilson*
- District 10- *Wake*
- District 14- *Durham*
- District 15A- *Alamance*
- District 21- *Forsyth*
- District 22A- *Alexander, Iredell*
- District 26- *Mecklenburg*
- District 28- *Buncombe*

# SAUSA Focus

- Firearms
- Drugs
- Bank Robberies
- Other Violent Offenders

# SAUSA Advantages

- Federal prosecutors have more legal tools at their disposal
- The federal government has stronger, longer sentences

# Sentencing

Case Type	Average Federal Sentence	Analogous State Sentence
Firearm Cases	6 years	Probation
Drug Cases	5 years	Probation
Other Violent Felonies	15 years	3.5 years

# SAUSA Advantages

Crimes that are prosecuted federally are not prosecuted at the state level

Criminals who are incarcerated federally are not in North Carolina's Department of Correction



# One SAUSA Savings to State Courts

Cost of State Prosecution – Class D Felony	\$ 3,465
2013 Defendants Prosecuted by 1 SAUSA	X 32
Total Annual State Savings	\$ 110,880

\*The average cost of prosecution of a Class D felony in NC is \$3465, which encompasses most drug trafficking crimes. North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts, Cost per Disposition by Charge Class, January, 2012.

# One SAUSA Savings to DOC

Case Type	# Cases	State Sentence	Savings to DOC
Firearm Cases	9	Probation	\$35,775
Drug Cases	13	Probation	\$51,675
Other Violent Felonies	10	3.5 years	\$965,020
Total			<b>\$1,052,470</b>

Average cost / year - incarceration in NC DOC:

\$27,572

Cost of 3 years of probation

\$ 3,975

# SAUSA Advantages

- Criminals know the difference:
  - Increased State pleas
  - Increased cooperation
  - Increased information

# SAUSA Advantages

- Target those who are a continuous, violent plague on our communities:
- Keep our communities safer, longer

# Costs vs. Savings

## Costs

1 SAUSA Position	\$82,810
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## Savings

Annual Savings to State Courts	\$110,880
Annual Savings to State DOC	\$1,052,470
<b>Total Annual Savings</b>	<b>\$1,163,350</b>



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