



PRESS RELEASE

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Macomb County Prosecutor's Office Secures Record Auto Theft Grant

Mount Clemens, MI - The Macomb County Prosecutor's Office actively pursued additional funding from the Michigan Auto Theft Prevention Authority. The grant awarded was a remarkable increase of over \$83,000, accompanied by a reduction in the County's matching funds requirement from 50% to 40%. This strategic move allows Prosecutor Lucido to plan the recruitment of a full-time assistant prosecutor dedicated to tackling auto theft cases, with the cost being borne by taxpayers at only 40%. The 2023 grant stands out as the largest increase in auto theft funding received by the Macomb County Prosecutor's Office in over a decade.

"Targeting auto theft criminal enterprises has the potential to contribute to safer streets, lower insurance premiums, and enhance confidence in the security of vehicles. Our focus on auto theft serves as a testament to our dedication to work towards protecting and potentially improving the everyday lives of our county residents," said Macomb County Prosecutor Peter J. Lucido

The Auto Theft Unit prosecutes crimes involving automobiles including carjacking, homicide, receiving and concealing stolen property, failure to return rental property, fleeing and eluding and more. In 2018, the Auto Theft Unit had 188 cases and by 2021 cases increased to 266. In the first half of 2023, the Auto Theft Unit had 92 cases including three continuing Continuing Criminal Enterprise Cases (CCE) which is more CCE cases than ever before. CCE cases often require more resources to prosecute. For example, one CCE case has 175 underlying crimes and carries a 20 year to life prison sentence if convicted.

The receipt of this grant not only signifies a financial boost for the Auto Theft Unit but also serves as a testament to the unwavering dedication of the Macomb County Prosecutor's Office in fulfilling its duty to protect the community.

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