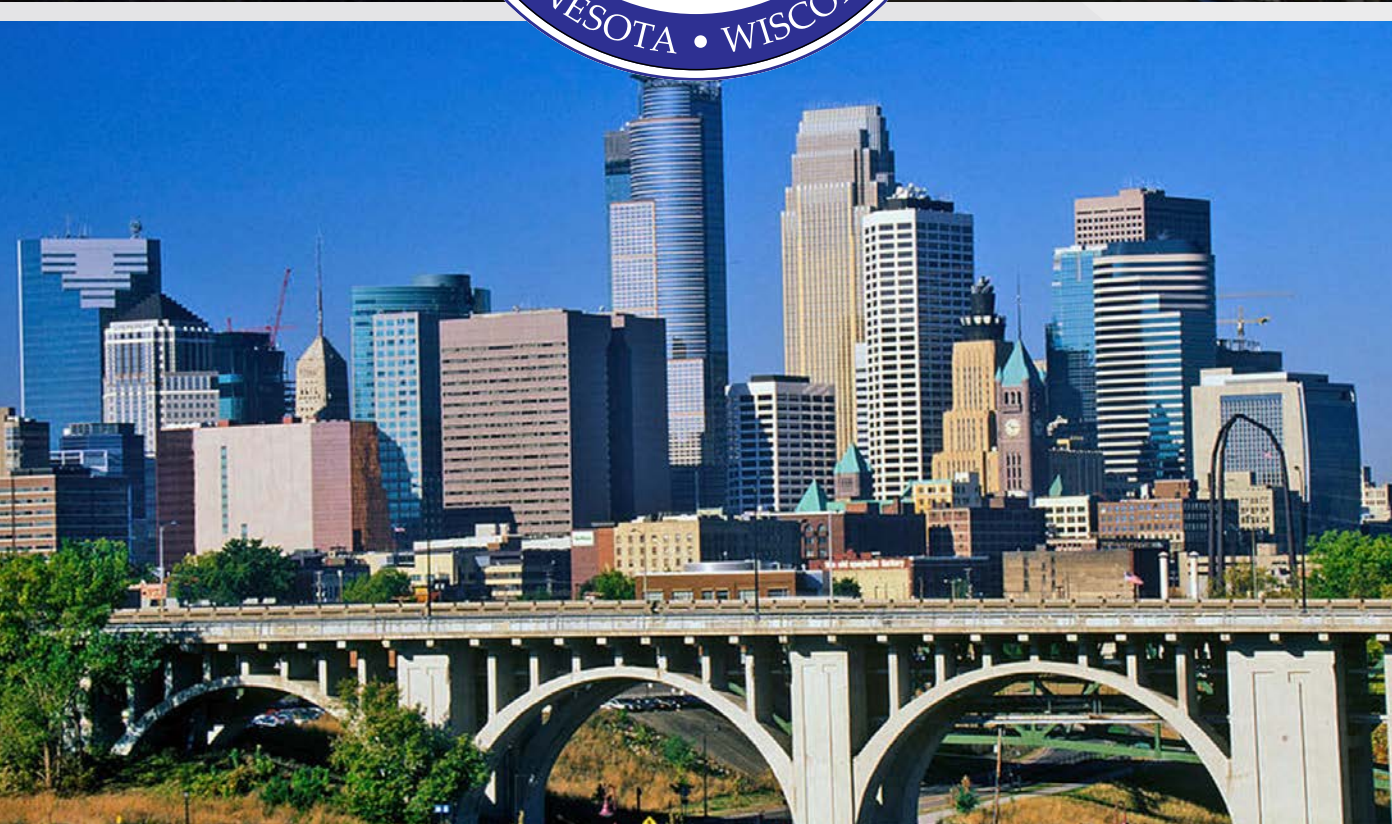


North Central **HIDTA**

High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas

2024 IMPACT REPORT



Our Mission

The HIDTA program is overseen by the Office of National Drug Control Policy, a directive of the Executive Office of the President of the United States. North Central HIDTA is a federal program designed to encourage and support federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies to work together in multi-agency task forces to reduce specific drug threats in the HIDTA designated region. North Central HIDTA is a national standard for collectively sharing information and partnering, which targets and dismantles the most significant Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs) and Money Laundering Organizations (MLOs) posing the greatest threat to the community.



Our History at a Glance



1988

National HIDTA program launches

1998

Milwaukee County is designated the first North Central HIDTA county

2016

Minnesota joins the North Central HIDTA

2024

North Central HIDTA now has 41 Initiatives through out Wisconsin and Minnesota

To Our Stakeholders:

We are proud to present the 2024 North Central HIDTA Impact Report, which highlights the tremendous efforts and results of our initiatives across Wisconsin and Minnesota. This report reflects the unwavering dedication of more than 150 participating agencies—spanning federal, state, local, and tribal partners—working together to keep dangerous illicit drugs and crime guns out of our communities.

Thanks to the collaboration, intelligence sharing, and unified mission of our initiatives, the North Central HIDTA has achieved powerful outcomes:

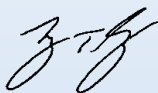
- Over \$68.1 million in illicit drugs removed from our communities
- 80 drug trafficking organizations disrupted or dismantled
- Seizures included 2.2 million fentanyl pills, over 125 kilograms of fentanyl powder, more than 1,700 kilograms of methamphetamine, and 473 kilograms of cocaine.
- Over 4,700 arrests and 1,500+ crime guns taken off the streets

“HIDTA’s success is rooted in strategic partnerships and forward-thinking approaches.”

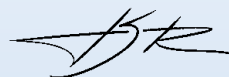
These accomplishments are not only the direct result of the tireless work of our initiatives but also realized through the steadfast leadership of our Executive Board. Every agency involved plays a vital role in the shared mission to reduce drug trafficking, related violence, and the threat to public safety in our region.

HIDTA’s success is rooted in strategic partnerships and forward-thinking approaches. Whether through intelligence sharing, enforcement, prosecution, or prevention we remain united in our goal: to ensure the safety and well-being of our communities.

Thank you to all who contribute to this critical work. Together, we are making a lasting impact.

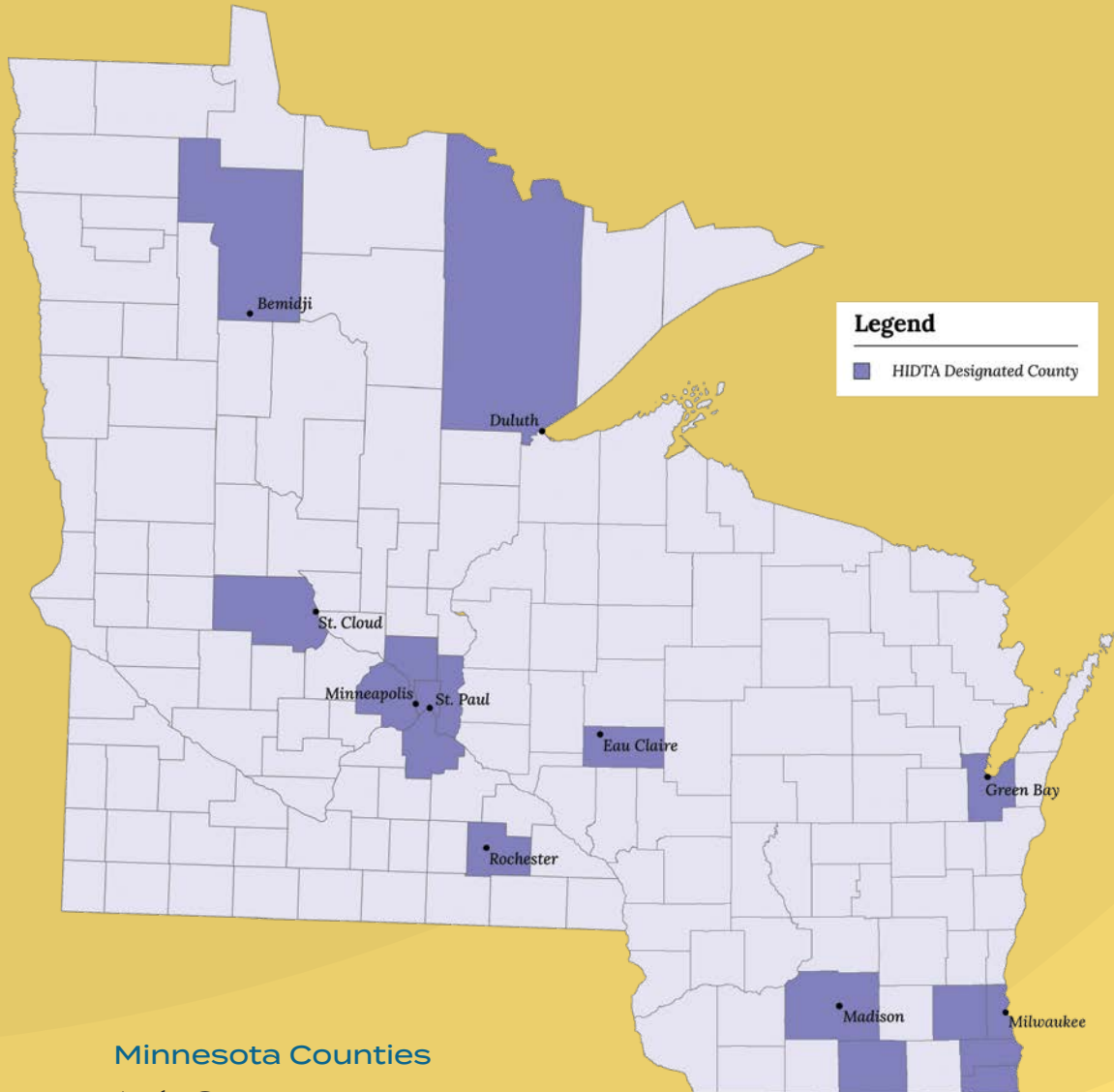


Ryan T. Shogren
Executive Director



Travis Riddle
Special Agent In Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives
Current Executive Board Chair

Area of Responsibility



Minnesota Counties

Anoka County
Beltrami County
Dakota County
Hennepin County
Olmstead County
Ramsey County
Saint Louis County
Stearns County
Washington County

Wisconsin Counties

Brown County
Dane County
Eau Claire County
Kenosha County
Milwaukee County
Racine County
Rock County
Waukesha County

Awards



Outstanding Group Achievement Award

Dane County Narcotics Task Force

The Dane County Narcotics Task Force (DCNTF), a HIDTA-funded multi-agency unit, combats drug trafficking in Wisconsin through strong partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies. In February 2024, this strong collaboration came into focus when the DCNTF, alongside state and federal partners, intercepted a private plane returning from Arizona, resulting in the largest fentanyl bust in county history – approximately 22 kilograms of fentanyl pills and approximately eight kilograms of methamphetamine. This successful operation highlighted the task force's growing focus on interstate and international drug networks and its ability to disrupt large-scale trafficking efforts. In 2024, the DCNTF seized over \$3.2 million worth of controlled substances, including but not limited to: cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, and fentanyl. The DCNTF remains committed to tackling the synthetic opioid epidemic and protecting Wisconsin communities through intelligence-driven, collaborative enforcement efforts.



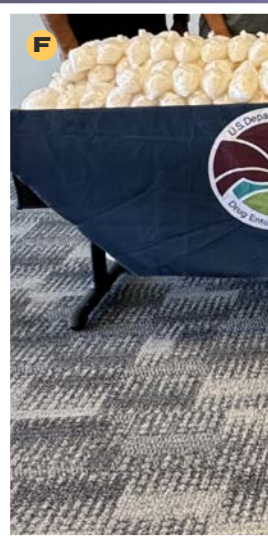
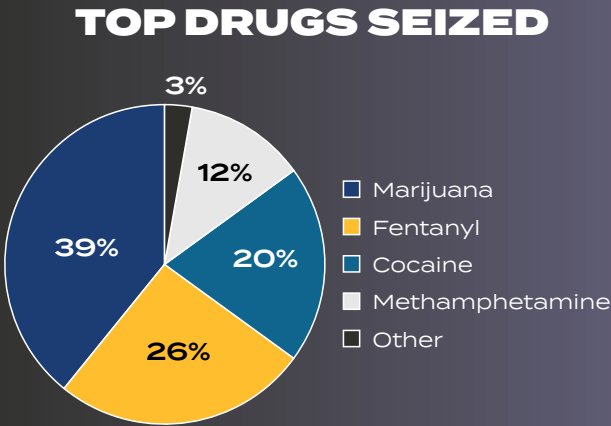
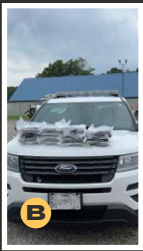
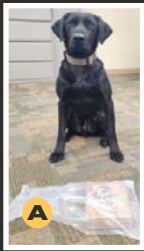
John “Jay” Balchunas Memorial Award

Detective Sean Mayerbock – Brookfield Police Department
Detective Timothy Filter – Waukesha Police Department



Since their respective assignments to the HIDTA initiative, DEA Task Force Officers Sean Mayerbock and Timothy Filter have exemplified the mission and values of the North Central HIDTA. Task Force Officers Mayerbock and Filter are talented and aggressive investigators who focus on identifying and relentlessly pursuing sources of supply of fentanyl, heroin, and cocaine, both within the United States and internationally, while never losing sight of the local impact investigations. Through their tireless work and dedication, Task Force Officers Mayerbock and Filter have gained the respect of not only their law enforcement peers and supervisors, but also the prosecutors with whom they work.

2024 Snapshot



A. K9 Maverick played a key role in detecting packages that led to a suspect's arrest, federal indictment, and guilty plea. **B.** Seizure of 5 kilograms of cocaine as part of the multi-state investigation targeting the Segunda Parte DTO. **C.** Nearly 300,000 M30 fentanyl pills seized through coordinated interdiction stops and search warrants in Dakota County, MN. **D.** Several firearms seized during the simultaneous execution of several warrants. **E.** Cocaine HCL, crack cocaine, heroin, MDMA, handguns and U.S. Currency seized in Racine County, WI. **F.** K9 Rico with 164 pounds of methamphetamine seized from several search warrants in Cottage Grove, MN.





ROI \$10.36

ROI is calculated by adding the value of the drugs seized with the value of the drug related assets seized and dividing it by the amount of funding the HIDTA receives for the program.

4,759 Arrests

**1,560
Firearms Seized**

\$77,697,815
drugs and assets seized

16,618
no-cost training hours
provided to
investigators
and analysts

759 analysts,
investigators, and
support staff assigned
to North Central HIDTA
initiatives

2,170 cases
supported by
both Minnesota
& Wisconsin ISCs

1,245 fugitives
apprehended, **72%**
with drug charges

13 Wiretaps

DTOs – Total: 80

- International: 10
- Multi-State: 34
- Local: 36



G. \$352,170 U.S. Currency seized during a targeted traffic stop in St. Paul, MN. **H.** U.S. Currency and other illicit substances seized in a street level operation in Kenosha, WI. **I.** 38.3 kilograms of methamphetamine seized during the execution of a search warrant at a stash house. **J.** 3 kilograms of cocaine seized during a residential search warrant in Hennepin County, MN.

Minnesota Initiatives

Airport PD Interdiction
Anoka County Drug Task Force
Bloomington PD Interdiction
Border Enforcement Security Task Force
Central Minnesota Drug Trafficking Initiative
Dakota County Drug Task Force
DEA Interdiction
FBI Safe Streets
Greater Twin Cities Violent Crime Initiative

Hennepin County Drug Task Force
Investigative Support Center (ISC)
Lake Superior Drug Task Force
Olmstead County Drug Task Force
Paul Bunyan Task Force
Ramsey County Drug Task Force
Rochester PD Drug Task Force
St. Paul PD Violent Crime Initiative
Washington County Drug Task Force

Case Highlights

North Central HIDTA Major Crimes Task Force

In 2024, the North Central HIDTA Major Crimes Task Force conducted multiple high-impact investigations targeting Transnational Drug Trafficking Organizations. These operations led to substantial narcotics seizures and key arrests, dismantling drug supply chains and disrupting organized criminal activities. Major Crimes executed a search warrant leading to the seizure of 100 pounds of methamphetamine, 11 firearms, and \$10,000 in drug proceeds. Over the following months, continued enforcement efforts resulted in the seizure of an additional 80 pounds of methamphetamine, \$5,000 in drug proceeds, and 44 pounds of cocaine.



A continuation of their work led to a significant operation targeting a drug trafficking network, leading to the seizure of a combined 126 pounds of methamphetamine and 2 kilograms of cocaine. A search warrant executed in May 2024 resulted in the seizure of 55 pounds of methamphetamine and \$10,000 in drug proceeds after a Minnesota Juvenile Detention Center employee was identified as a key operative in the DTO. That employee was indicted in the District of Minnesota for possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

An additional joint interdiction operation in Minneapolis resulted in the arrest of two individuals and the seizure of 124 pounds of methamphetamine. HIDTA Major Crimes Task Force conducted a search warrant in Crystal, MN, uncovering a stash house containing 3 kilograms of cocaine and 55 pounds of methamphetamine. The arrests and seizures conducted in 2024 have substantially impacted drug availability, reducing the supply of methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin, and fentanyl throughout the North Central HIDTA region.

Wisconsin Initiatives

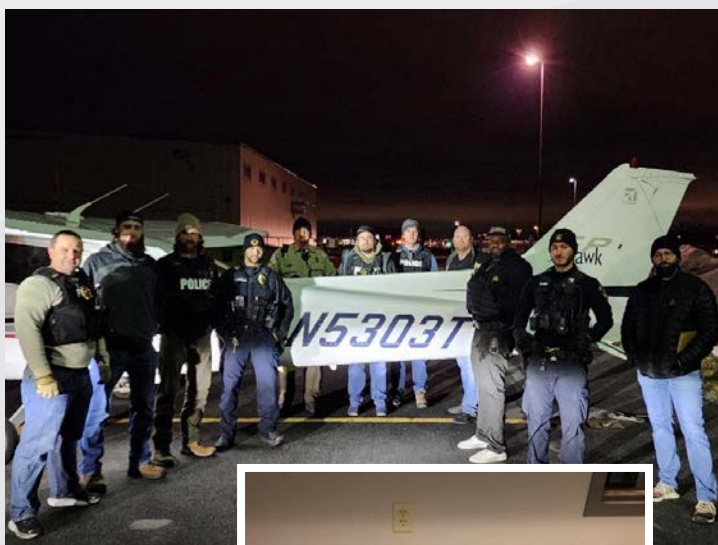
Brown County Task Force
Dane County Drug Task Force
Drug Gang Task Force
Fugitive Task Force
Interdiction
Investigative Support Center (ISC)
Kenosha County Drug Task Force
Ken-Prairie Drug Gang Task Force
Management & Coordination

Native American Drug & Gang Initiative
Opioid Task Force
Prosecution
Racine County Drug Task Force
Rock County Drug Task Force
Safe and Sound
Training
Waukesha County Drug Task Force
West Central Drug Task Force

Case Highlight

Dane County Drug Task Force Airplane Smuggling Investigation

In February 2024, the Dane County Narcotics Task Force (DNCTF), working in conjunction with Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), received information regarding a Wisconsin-based drug trafficking organization (DTO) utilizing private aircraft to smuggle drugs from the Southwestern United States to Dane County. A swift and extensive investigation confirmed the core structure of the DTO and allowed investigators to make preliminary plans for enforcement action. Upon learning that DTO members were associated with a private aircraft returning to Middleton, WI on February 8, 2024, the DNCTF, HSI, and a variety of additional state and local law enforcement officers established surveillance at the Middleton Airport. Following extensive surveillance, two individuals were taken into custody as they loaded duffle bags from the airplane to awaiting vehicles.



Seized at the time of their arrest was approximately 22 kilograms of fentanyl tablets and approximately eight kilograms of crystal methamphetamine.

After follow-up investigation, both individuals were indicted on federal drug trafficking charges and later sentenced to federal prison for 16 years and 12 years, respectively. This investigation and prosecution are a model for successful multi-jurisdictional cooperation resulting in a successful outcome.

2024 Executive Board

Chairperson

Matt Christenson,
MSP Airport Police Department

Vice Chairperson

Josh Bezy,
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives

Minnesota

Federal Agencies

- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
- Drug Enforcement Administration
- Department of Homeland Security – HSI
- United States Attorney’s Office
- Federal Bureau of Investigation

State and Local Agencies

- Washington County Sheriff’s Office
- MSP Airport Police Department
- Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
- Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office
- Duluth Police Department

Wisconsin

Federal Agencies

- Department of Homeland Security – HSI
- Drug Enforcement Administration
- United States Marshal Service – Eastern District
- United States Attorney’s Office – Western District
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

State and Local Agencies

- Wisconsin Department of Justice – DCI
- Brown County Sheriff’s Office
- Milwaukee Police Department
- Rock County Sheriff’s Office
- Wisconsin State Patrol

Table of Organization





Quotes

“The strength of HIDTA lies in its collaboration. When agencies unite under a common mission, we not only dismantle drug networks - we restore safety, trust and hope to our communities.”

Leah Greeves

Assistant Special Agent in Charge, FBI Minneapolis

“Thanks to HIDTA’s funding and partnerships, our region has been able to work together to remove illegal drugs from our streets and dismantle the drug organizations that hurt our communities.”

Chief Matt Christenson

Metropolitan Airports Commission

“The North Central HIDTA relationship with local law enforcement has provided an unparalleled opportunity for narcotics enforcement in our community. The level of support for our clandestine drug enforcement operation is nothing short of staggering. This has given our team the ability to bring large drug trafficking operations to justice, keeping deadly narcotics off our streets.”

Sheriff David Zoerner

Kenosha County Sheriff’s Office

“The North Central HIDTA does an incredibly effective job of bringing federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies together to combat drug trafficking and its harmful consequences across our entire region. These efforts are making a real difference in holding drug trafficking organizations and individual offenders accountable for their actions. The United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Wisconsin is proud to participate with our partners in these critical efforts to make our communities as safe as possible.”

Richard Frohling

Acting U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin



North Central HIDTA Partners

Anoka County Sheriff's Office
Anoka Police Department
Apple Valley Police Department
Appleton Police Department
Arrowhead Regional Corrections
Ashwaubenon Department of Public Safety
Austin Police Department
Beloit Police Department
Beltrami County Sheriff's Office
Bemidji Police Department
Benton County Sheriff's Office
Blaine Police Department
Bloomington Police Department
Brookfield Police Department
Brooklyn Center Police Department
Brooklyn Park Police Department
Brown County Sheriff's Office
Buffalo County Sheriff's Department
Burnsville Police Department
Champlin Police Department
Chippewa County Sheriff's Department
Chippewa Falls Police Department
Clark County Sheriff's Department
Clinton Police Department
Columbia Heights Police Department
Coon Rapids Police Department
Cottage Grove Police Department
Dakota County Sheriff's Office
Dane County District Attorney's Office
Dane County Sheriff's Office
De Pere Police Department
Dodge County Sheriff's Office
Duluth Police Department
Dunn County Sheriff's Department
Eagan Police Department
Eau Claire County Sheriff's Department
Eau Claire Police Department
Eden Prairie Police Department
Edgerton Police Department
Edina Police Department
Evansville Police Department
Farmington Police Department
Fillmore County Sheriff's Office
Forest Lake Police Department
Goodhue County Sheriff's Office
Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife
Green Bay Police Department
Hastings Police Department
Hennepin County Sheriff's Office

Hibbing Police Department
Ho Chunk Tribal Police Department
Hopkins Police Department
Houston County Sheriff's Office
Kasson Police Department
Kenosha County Sheriff's Office
Kenosha Police Department
Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Police Department
Lac du Flambeau Tribal Police Department
Lake City Police Department
Lakeville Police Department
Leech Lake Police Department
Madison Police Department
Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office
Maple Grove Police Department
Maplewood Police Department
Medina, MN Police Department
Menominee Tribal Police Department
Menomonee Falls Police Department
Menomonie Police Department
Milton Police Department
Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office
Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office
Milwaukee Police Department
Minneapolis Police Department
Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
Minnesota Department of Health
Minnesota National Guard
Minnesota State Patrol
Minnetonka Police Department
Minnetrista Police Department
Morrison County Sheriff's Office
Mounds View Police Department
Mount Pleasant Police Department
Mower County Sheriff's Office
New Brighton Police Department
Oconomowoc Police Department
Olmsted County District Attorney's Office
Olmsted County Sheriff's Office
Oneida Tribal Police Department
Orfordville Police Department
Orono Police Department
Oshkosh Police Department
Outagamie County Sheriff's Office
Pleasant Prairie Police Department
Racine County Sheriff's Office
Racine Police Department
Ramsey County District Attorney's Office
Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

Ramsey Police Department
Red Cliff Tribal Police Department
Red Lake Police Department
Red Wing Police Department
Richfield Police Department
Rochester Police Department
Rock County Sheriff's Office
Rogers Police Department
Rosemount Police Department
Roseville Police Department
Sartell Police Department
Savage Police Department
Sheboygan Police Department
Sherburne County Sheriff's Office
South St. Paul Police Department
St. Cloud Police Department
St. Croix Tribal Police Department
St. Louis County Sheriff's Office
St. Louis Park Police Department
St. Paul Police Department
Stearns County Sheriff's Office
Stockbridge Munsee Tribal Police Department
Superior Police Department
Twin Lakes Police Department
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
UW Eau Claire Police Department
UW Stout Police Department
Village of Elm Grove Police Department
Village of Pewaukee Police Department
Village of Summit Police Department
Virginia Police Department
Wabasha County Sheriff's Office
Washington County Sheriff's Office
Waukesha County Sheriff's Office
Waukesha Police Department
Wauwatosa Police Department
West Allis Police Department
West Hennepin Public Safety Department
West St. Paul Police Department
White Bear Lake Police Department
Winona County Sheriff's Office
Winona Police Department
Wisconsin Department of Corrections
Wisconsin Department of Justice - DCI
Wisconsin National Guard
Wisconsin State Patrol
Woodbury Police Department



Main Office | 414-220-4740

Investigative Support Centers

WI 414-220-4773 | MN 612-596-6742

NorthCentralHIDTA.org

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