

Gary Bresnehan

Chief of Warrants, Screening & District Courts

Gary Bresnehan has been with the Wayne County Prosecutor's office since 1997. In 1990, he received a BA with Highest Distinction from the University of Maine, and in 1993, he received a JD from the University of Detroit School of Law. During his time with the Wayne County Prosecutor's office, he has been assigned to the Felony Trial Division where he was also assigned to the Homicide Unit. He also served in the Appellate Division and the 36th District Court and out county units.



In 2004, Mr. Bresnehan was appointed to the position of Principal Attorney of District Courts. In this position, Mr. Bresnehan merged two separate District Court units into one county-wide unit comprising of 27 District and Municipal Courts, reorganized APA assignments and scheduling, streamlined case management, and improved victim representation. Mr. Bresnehan also contributed to the 2014 legislatively enacted preliminary examination reform, which is the process that is used today. This reform has streamlined and made more efficient the felony preliminary examination process, and has saved Wayne County's police agencies significant resources and funds since police officers and witnesses are not required to appear as often for these hearings. Mr. Bresnehan was also involved with the formation of several of the District Courts' sobriety, drug, mental health and veterans' courts where offenders are now receiving more intensive probation and treatment.

In 2014, Mr. Bresnehan was appointed to the position of Chief of Screening and District Courts. The Division is responsible for the review of more than thirty thousand cases annually that are submitted or warrant initiation and review. In addition, the Division is responsible for sentencing alternative programs such as Diversion for first time felony offenders, and Mental Health and Drug Courts. The Division is also responsible for misdemeanor litigation and felony preliminary examinations in Wayne County's District Courts.