



SAO's Faux Transparency

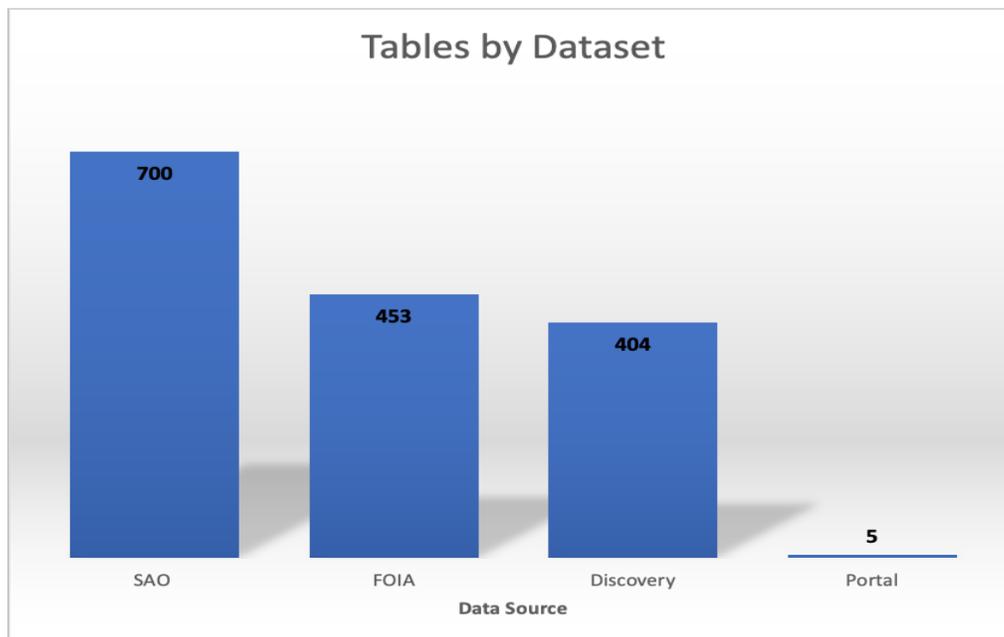
While the Cook County State's Attorney's Office (SAO) talks a big game when it comes to transparency, the data and their actions tell a different story. Our original lawsuit that was initiated under Anita Alvarez was settled in early 2017 under Kim Foxx. Unfortunately, the SAO breached that agreement almost immediately and has even gone so far as refusing to acknowledge that any such agreement was ever entered into.

The data the SAO turned over to us was done so in a proprietary format. That is in violation of the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. This resulted in CJP never being able to open the data with any confidence. Therefore, we were not confident the data was appropriately extracted thus the data they turned over to us was rendered useless. A clear violation of the law.

Despite the SAO's best efforts we were able to analyze four independent sets of data that clearly demonstrate the massive disparity between the datasets. Those datasets include:

- what the SAO told us about their Crimes database in pre-litigation meetings (SAO)
- what they turned over to a third party through FOIA (FOIA)
- what they turned over to CJP through discovery (Discovery)
- what they make available on the Cook County Data Portal (Portal)

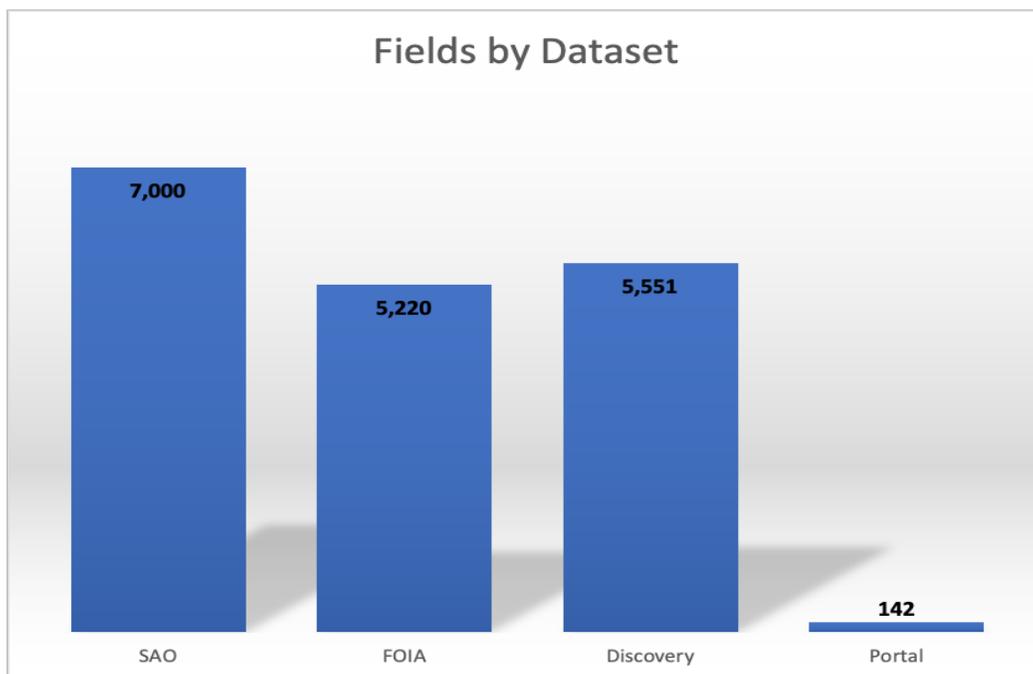
Chart A – Tables in each dataset



As part of our settlement agreement, the SAO promised a totally new level of cooperation that would distinguish Foxx's tenure from her predecessors. Unfortunately, when it comes to transparency and data manipulation, it seems like "the new boss is the same as the old boss".

The disparities in the number of tables was not the only glaring disparity we found. The number of fields between the data sets was also massive.

Chart B – Fields in each dataset



In the final settlement conference, the SAO said they would be happy to work with CJP to answer any questions we had about the data they were going to turn over to us.

They have never answered a single inquiry we made.

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