

# LEX QUOD ORDO

ASSOCIATION OF PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | WINTER 2010 VOLUME I ISSUE III

WELCOME TO THE THIRD EDITION OF LEX QUOD ORDO (LAW AND ORDER), THE ASSOCIATION OF PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS' (APA) QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO THE FIELD OF COMMUNITY PROSECUTION. APA'S LEX QUOD ORDO REMAINS COMMITTED TO UPDATING PROSECUTORS, LAW ENFORCEMENT AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS ON THE NEW AND EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS TAKING PLACE IN THE FIELD OF COMMUNITY PROSECUTION AND PUBLIC SAFETY. THIS PAST SEPTEMBER 27-29TH, APA AND THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA) IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CENTER FOR COURT INNOVATION (CCI), HOSTED THE 6TH NATIONAL COMMUNITY PROSECUTION CONFERENCE: THE 21ST CENTURY PROSECUTOR HERE IN WASHINGTON D.C. THE CONFERENCE WAS WELL ATTENDED AND A GREAT SUCCESS! THE CONFERENCE BROUGHT TOGETHER LEADING PROSECUTORS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERS FROM ACROSS THE NATION IN AN EFFORT TO SHARE SYSTEM COST-SAVING INITIATIVES AS WELL AS INNOVATIVE CRIME REDUCTION STRATEGIES. THE CONFERENCE BEGAN WITH FEATURED VIDEO REMARKS FROM U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC H. HOLDER, JR., AS WELL AS LIVE KEYNOTE SPEECHES FROM LAURIE ROBINSON, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, DOJ'S OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS, AND WELCOMING REMARKS FROM JAMES A. BURCH, II, ACTING DIRECTOR OF DOJ'S BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE AND RONALD C. MACHEN JR., UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

THE THREE DAY CONFERENCE FEATURED PANELS, ROUNDTABLES, AND WORKSHOPS THAT EXPLORED AN ARRAY OF ISSUES RANGING FROM COMMUNITY PROSECUTION EFFORTS IN THE 21ST CENTURY, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, PRISONER REENTRY, DRUG MARKET INTERVENTION, AND GANG AND GUN VIOLENCE, TO PROTECTING PRIVACY, CIVIL LIBERTIES, AND CIVIL RIGHTS. THE CONFERENCE ALLOWED PARTICIPANTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO CANDIDLY DISCUSS VARIOUS CHALLENGES FACING MODERN PROSECUTORS, WHILE PROVIDING INFORMATION ON A SERIES OF COST-EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY-JUSTICE-BASED PROGRAMS.

EVERY SOCIETY GETS THE KIND OF CRIMINAL IT DESERVES.  
WHAT IS EQUALLY TRUE IS THAT EVERY COMMUNITY GETS  
THE KIND OF LAW ENFORCEMENT IT INSISTS ON.  
~THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE, ROBERT KENNEDY



[PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT] KINGS COUNTY D.A. CHARLES J. HYNES, COOK COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY ANITA ALVAREZ, PHILADELPHIA D.A. SETH WILLIAMS, AND MULTNOMAH COUNTY D.A. MIKE SCHRUNK CONVERSE DURING THE PLENARY PANEL "THE 21ST CENTURY PROSECUTOR" AT THE 6TH NATIONAL COMMUNITY PROSECUTION CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE 6TH NATIONAL COMMUNITY PROSECUTION CONFERENCE ALSO SERVED TO INTRODUCE APA'S 21ST CENTURY PROSECUTOR FRAMEWORK AND ALLOWED US TO BEGIN THE WORK AROUND THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PROSECUTORIAL TOOLKIT FOR THE 21ST CENTURY. THE FRAMEWORK CENTERS ON IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

THE 21ST CENTURY PROSECUTOR FRAMEWORK SERVES AS AN UMBRELLA TO CAPTURE THE FORWARD-LOOKING PRACTICES BEING TESTED BY LEADING PROSECUTORS THROUGHOUT THE NATION TODAY. JUST AS "THE COMMUNITY PROSECUTION MOVEMENT" FIRST DESCRIBED THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, PARTNERSHIP BUILDING, AND PROBLEM-SOLVING ACTIVITIES OF LATE 20TH CENTURY INNOVATORS, THE "21ST CENTURY PROSECUTOR FRAMEWORK" DEFINES THE NEXT GENERATION OF PROSECUTORIAL INNOVATION. KEY COMPONENTS OF THIS STRATEGIC EVOLUTION INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

#### 1) EMBRACING COMMUNITY PROSECUTION

THE 21ST CENTURY PROSECUTOR EMBRACES COMMUNITY PROSECUTION AND USES ITS STRATEGIES TO PREVENT CRIME WHILE REDUCING INCARCERATION, ENSURE FAIRNESS IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM, PROMOTE THE SUCCESSFUL REENTRY OF EX-OFFENDERS INTO THE COMMUNITY, ENGAGE IN RESTORATIVE JUSTICE, ADDRESS MORE SERIOUS CRIME AS WELL AS "QUALITY OF LIFE" PROBLEMS, AND RESPOND QUICKLY TO CHANGING CONDITIONS ON THE GROUND.

#### 2) HARNESSING SCIENCE

THE 21ST CENTURY PROSECUTOR HARNESSSES THE LATEST ADVANCEMENTS IN SCIENCE – INCLUDING IN THE AREAS OF DNA AND STRENGTHENED FORENSICS – AS CRIME FIGHTING TOOLS.

#### 3) IMPLEMENTING INFORMATION SHARING

THE 21ST CENTURY PROSECUTOR IMPLEMENTS NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO IMPROVE DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS, SHARE INFORMATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES AND THE PUBLIC, AND ENSURE THAT DECISION-MAKING IS DRIVEN BY DATA.

#### 4) EMPLOYING OUTCOME EVALUATION

THE 21ST CENTURY PROSECUTOR RECOGNIZES THE VALUE OF OUTCOME EVALUATION AND EMPLOYS IT TO GAUGE AND IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CRIME FIGHTING INTERVENTIONS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE CONFERENCE, INCLUDING LAURIE ROBINSON'S INTRODUCTORY REMARKS AND MEDIA COVERAGE REGARDING THE RECIPIENTS OF APA'S INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (I.C.E.) AWARDS, PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR PRESS ROOM AT [WWW.APAINC.ORG](http://WWW.APAINC.ORG).

IN OTHER EXCITING CONFERENCE NEWS, OUR PARTNERS AT BJA AND CCI CONVENED THE FIRST EVER INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF COMMUNITY COURTS IN DALLAS, TEXAS ON OCTOBER 19TH-20TH. THE CONFERENCE FEATURED THE WORK OF EXISTING COMMUNITY COURTS, AND HIGHLIGHTED A NUMBER OF NEW COMMUNITY JUSTICE INITIATIVES HELPING TO ADVANCE THE FIELD BOTH IN THE U.S. AND ABROAD. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO VISIT [WWW.COURTINNOVATION.ORG](http://WWW.COURTINNOVATION.ORG) TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CONFERENCE AND MORE ABOUT THE GOOD WORK BEING CONDUCTED AT CCI.

APA WOULD LIKE TO THANK AND RECOGNIZE THE PROSECUTORS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THIS NEWSLETTER AND SO GRACIOUSLY SHARED THEIR WORK WITH THE FIELD. AS ALWAYS, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO REACH OUT TO US AT OUR WEBSITE [WWW.APAINC.ORG](http://WWW.APAINC.ORG), CONNECT WITH US ON OUR FACEBOOK FAN PAGE AND FOLLOW US ON TWITTER. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME AT [STEVEN.JANSEN@APAINC.ORG](mailto:STEVEN.JANSEN@APAINC.ORG) IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE, HAVE QUESTIONS, OR SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE ISSUES, TRAININGS AND PUBLICATIONS. PLEASE ENJOY A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO NEW SUCCESSES IN PROSECUTION AND PUBLIC SAFETY AS WE ADDRESS THE DIFFERENT CHALLENGES WE WILL FACE IN THE YEAR TO COME!



-Steven Jansen  
Vice-President and COO



APA PRESIDENT DAVID LABAHN AND VP STEVEN JANSEN AT THE I.C.E. AWARDS CEREMONY WITH AWARD RECIPIENTS [FROM LEFT TO RIGHT]: JAMES GONZALES REPRESENTING THE WAYNE COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE, COMMUNITY PROSECUTION DIVISION; COOK COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY ANITA ALVAREZ; APA BOARD MEMBER ROY HUBERT; L.A. CITY ATTORNEY DEPUTY CHIEF MARY CLAIR MOLIDOR; REGAN SAVALLA REPRESENTING THE SAN DIEGO CITY ATTORNEY'S NEIGHBORHOOD PROSECUTION UNIT; BJA'S SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR FOR ADJUDICATION KIM BALL NORRIS, JD; AND ROCKLAND COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY TOM ZUGIBE.

# COMMUNITY PROSECUTORS AND PRETRIAL SERVICE AGENCIES: A NECESSARY PARTNERSHIP

BY: LINDSEY CARLSON, GENERAL COUNSEL FOR PRETRIAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE AND CLIFF KEENAN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR  
D.C. PRETRIAL SERVICES

TWO OF THE KEY TENETS OF COMMUNITY PROSECUTION ARE BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM AND THE COMMUNITY, AND DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING STRATEGIES DESIGNED NOT ONLY TO SOLVE CRIMES, BUT ALSO PREVENT THEM. THESE PRINCIPLES ARE PARTICULARLY BENEFICIAL IN THE PRETRIAL STAGE OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM WHERE PROSECUTORS MAKE A NUMBER OF SIGNIFICANT DECISIONS, INCLUDING: WHICH, IF ANY, CHARGES TO BRING; HOW TO EFFECTIVELY ALLOCATE RESOURCES; WHICH, IF ANY, CONDITIONS OF PRETRIAL RELEASE TO RECOMMEND; WHETHER ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION MAY BE APPROPRIATE; AND HOW TO PROTECT THE COMMUNITY WHILE ENSURING JUSTICE IS DONE.

PRIOR TO TRIAL, COMMUNITY PROSECUTORS BENEFIT FROM PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS BECAUSE SUCH PARTNERSHIPS ENABLE PROSECUTORS TO EMPLOY ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS THAT MAY PROVE MORE EFFECTIVE THAN INCARCERATION. FOR EXAMPLE, MANY JURISDICTIONS COMMONLY SEE A RELATIVELY SMALL NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO CYCLE THROUGH THEIR JAILS REPEATEDLY, ACCOUNTING FOR A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF JAIL COSTS, BECAUSE THEY ARE MENTALLY ILL, DRUG DEPENDENT, OR BOTH. PROSECUTORS RECOGNIZE THE VALUE OF DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS WITH SUCH GROUPS AS, MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS, DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAMS, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE GROUPS, AND OTHER CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS, IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY THESE INDIVIDUALS ON THE FRONT END OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM AND DEVELOP STRATEGIES DESIGNED TO REDUCE UNNECESSARY INCARCERATION WHILE ASSURING PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROVIDING MUCH NEEDED SERVICES TO THESE PERSONS.

PRETRIAL SERVICE AGENCIES CAN CONTRIBUTE TREMENDOUSLY TO THESE EFFORTS. THESE AGENCIES USUALLY CONDUCT NEUTRAL INTERVIEWS AND BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS SOON AFTER THEIR ARREST. THESE AGENCIES USE RISK ASSESSMENT TOOLS TO IDENTIFY THE POTENTIAL RISK OF FLIGHT OR DANGER POSED BY INDIVIDUALS, AND THEY PROVIDE COURTS AND PROSECUTORS WITH THOROUGH INFORMATION TO FACILITATE SAFE, FAIR, AND EFFECTIVE RELEASE DECISIONS. SUCH EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION-MAKING REDUCES THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNNECESSARILY DETAINED PRIOR TO TRIAL, AND CONSEQUENTLY

REDUCES THESE JAIL COSTS TO COMMUNITIES. AT THE SAME TIME, IT ALLOWS COMMUNITIES TO INCARCERATE THE RELATIVELY SMALL NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS WHO TRULY POSE A HIGH RISK TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND FOR FAILING TO APPEAR FOR COURT.

FOR THOSE DEFENDANTS IDENTIFIED AS APPROPRIATE FOR RELEASE, PRETRIAL AGENCIES ALSO PROVIDE SUPERVISORY AND MONITORING SERVICES DESIGNED TO REDUCE THE RISK OF REARREST OR NONAPPEARANCE. AS SUCH, THEY EQUIP PROSECUTORS WITH THE TOOLS NECESSARY TO IDENTIFY THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND FAIR PRETRIAL STRATEGIES FOR EACH DEFENDANT. THEY CAN ALSO FACILITATE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN PROSECUTORS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS BY HELPING IDENTIFY DEFENDANTS WHO MAY BE APPROPRIATE FOR DIVERSION PROGRAMS OR OTHER ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION.

CLIFF KEENAN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'S PRETRIAL SERVICES AGENCY, RECOGNIZES WELL THE BENEFITS SPRINGING FROM A STRONG RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PROSECUTORS AND PRETRIAL SERVICE AGENCIES. "EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE DEFINITELY CERTAIN PEOPLE WHO NEED TO BE LOCKED UP BEFORE TRIAL, THERE ARE ALSO A GREAT NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT NEED TO BE DETAINED. IN ORDER TO MORE FAIRLY AND JUSTLY HANDLE THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE ARRESTED, ASSESSMENTS NEED TO BE DONE AS TO THE KIND OF RISK TO COMMUNITY SAFETY AND POTENTIAL FLIGHT POSED BY EACH INDIVIDUAL," HE STATED. "THIS IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF SERVICE THAT PRETRIAL PROGRAMS CAN PROVIDE TO PROSECUTORS, AND WHICH PROSECUTORS AND JUDICIAL OFFICERS NEED."

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## COMMUNITY PROSECUTORS AND PRETRIAL SERVICE AGENCIES CONT.



CLIFF KEENAN, THE CURRENT  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'S PRETRIAL  
SERVICES AGENCY

AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF DC PRETRIAL, MR. KEENAN MANAGES OPERATIONS FOR THE NATION'S LARGEST PRETRIAL SERVICES AGENCY. HIS 350 PERSON STAFF IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSESSING THE RISKS POSED BY DEFENDANTS AND PROVIDING SUPERVISION AND TREATMENT SERVICES FOR THOSE RELEASED PRIOR TO TRIAL.

MR. KEENAN BRINGS A UNIQUELY INFORMED PERSPECTIVE TO HIS WORK AT DC PRETRIAL. PRIOR TO HIS CURRENT POSITION, HE GAINED SIGNIFICANT EXPERIENCE IN PROSECUTION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT. MR. KEENAN SERVED AS AN ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY (AUSA) IN DC FOR ALMOST TWENTY YEARS, AND PRIOR TO THAT, SERVED AS AN OFFICER WITH THE DC POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR OVER TEN YEARS. AS AN AUSA, MR. KEENAN SERVED UNDER THEN UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ERIC HOLDER JR. AND WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN ESTABLISHING DC'S COMMUNITY PROSECUTION INITIATIVE. MR. KEENAN NOT ONLY CO-LED THE COMMUNITY PROSECUTION PILOT PROJECT IN DC, BUT PROMOTED COMMUNITY PROSECUTION NATIONALLY AS SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE'S OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS. THROUGH BOTH OF THESE ROLES, MR. KEENAN BECAME WELL-ACQUAINTED WITH THE CHALLENGES PROSECUTORS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FACE IN DEVELOPING SAFE, EFFECTIVE, AND EFFICIENT CRIMINAL JUSTICE STRATEGIES. "AS A POLICE OFFICER, I NEVER ARRESTED ANYONE WHO I DIDN'T BELIEVE COMMITTED THE CRIME, AND AS AN AUSA, I NEVER PROSECUTED ANYONE I DIDN'T THINK WAS GUILTY. THAT BEING SAID, THE 'PRESUMPTION OF INNOCENCE' WAS SOMETHING I EXPECTED THE JUDGE TO BE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THAN ME. HOWEVER, THE JOB OF A PROSECUTOR IS TO DO JUSTICE, AND THAT MEANS ADVOCATING FOR THE DETENTION OF INDIVIDUALS IN TWO CIRCUMSTANCES: 1) THOSE WHO POSE A DANGER TO THE COMMUNITY OR 2) THOSE WHO ARE A RISK OF FLIGHT FROM JUSTICE. PROSECUTORS ARE VERY POWERFUL, AND TO FAIRLY AND SAFELY WIELD THAT POWER, PROSECUTORS NEED TO BE ABLE TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN THOSE DEFENDANTS WHO ARE TRULY DANGEROUS AND MERIT PRETRIAL DETENTION, AND THOSE WHO DO NOT."

"PRETRIAL SERVICE AGENCIES HELP PROSECUTORS TO MAKE THOSE DE-

TERMINATIONS," MR. KEENAN CONTINUED. "WHERE DEFENDANTS DO NOT POSE A DANGER TO THE COMMUNITY, PRETRIAL SERVICES CAN HELP PROSECUTORS CRAFT OTHER RELEASE ALTERNATIVES DESIGNED TO ASSURE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND APPEARANCE IN COURT, AS WELL AS COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER RELEASE CONDITIONS THE COURT MAY IMPOSE. IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, PROSECUTORS CAN CALL UPON THEIR PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO DEVELOP STRATEGIES FOR RELEASED DEFENDANTS."

WITH BETTER INFORMATION AND GREATER OPTIONS FOR PRETRIAL RELEASE, COMMUNITY PROSECUTORS CAN HELP CRAFT CASE-SPECIFIC RESPONSES TO CRIMINAL ACTIVITY, WHILE ASSESSING THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMUNITIES FOR MORE GLOBAL SOLUTIONS TO TARGETED CRIME. THEY CAN, FOR EXAMPLE, REDUCE THE NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS CYCLING IN AND OUT OF THE SYSTEM DUE TO MENTAL ILLNESS OR DRUG DEPENDENCE, STRAINING LIMITED PROSECUTORIAL RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY FUNDS, AND INSTEAD DIRECT RESOURCES INTO DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE, LONG-TERM STRATEGIES DESIGNED TO ADDRESS THE ROOT PROBLEMS OF CRIME. ULTIMATELY, COMMUNITIES BENEFIT FROM PROSECUTORS WHO DRAW UPON ALL POSSIBLE RESOURCES TO BUILD PARTNERSHIPS AND IMPLEMENT EFFECTIVE, SAFE, AND FAIR CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICES. PRETRIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS CAN SERVE AS ONE OF THEIR MOST IMPORTANT RESOURCES. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PRETRIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS OR HOW PROSECUTORS CAN ASSIST WITH ESTABLISHING THE USE OF RISK ASSESSMENT TOOLS PLEASE CONTACT APA OR LINDSEY CARLSON AT THE PRETRIAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE.

CONTACT: LINDSEY CARLSON  
GENERAL COUNSEL  
PRETRIAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE  
730 11TH STREET NW SUITE 302  
WASHINGTON, DC 20001  
202.638.3080  
LINDSEY@PRETRIAL.ORG



# COMMUNITY CORNER

## DISTRICT ATTORNEY SETH WILLIAMS ANNOUNCES THE OPENING OF NEW COMMUNITY ACTION CENTERS IN PHILADELPHIA



PICTURED: D.A. SETH WILLIAMS WITH MEMBERS OF THE PHILADELPHIA POLICE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER LOCAL COMMUNITY OFFICIALS AT THE OPENING OF ONE OF PHILADELPHIA'S NEW COMMUNITY ACTION CENTERS.

IT'S ONLY BEEN A FEW WEEKS SINCE THE PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE BEGAN COMMUNITY PROSECUTION, AND THERE HAVE ONLY BEEN POSITIVE RESPONSES TO THE CHANGES. BEFORE COMMUNITY PROSECUTION WAS IMPLEMENTED THE COURT SYSTEM IN PHILADELPHIA WAS SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE CITY LEADING TO AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF CASE BACKLOG.

WITH COMMUNITY PROSECUTION, GROUPS OF ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ARE ASSIGNED GEOGRAPHICALLY TO BUREAUS THAT ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR A PARTICULAR AREA OR DISTRICT OF THE CITY, JUST LIKE POLICE OFFICERS ARE NOW ASSIGNED. THESE NEW BUREAUS ARE EAST DIVISION, SOUTH DIVISION, NORTHEAST DIVISION, NORTHWEST DIVISION, SOUTHWEST DIVISION, AND CENTRAL DIVISION. CRIMINAL CASES WILL NOW BE HELD ON FLOORS ACCORDING TO THEIR DIVISION AT THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER. THAT WAY, THE ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, PHILADELPHIA POLICE OFFICERS AND DETECTIVES, WITNESSES AND VICTIMS WILL ALL BE IN THE SAME PLACE ELIMINATING UNNECESSARY COURT DELAYS.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY SETH WILLIAMS BELIEVES THAT COMMUNITY PROSECUTION WILL ALSO BUILD THE NECESSARY TIES WITH THE COMMUNITY THAT ARE ESSENTIAL TO LOWERING THE CRIME RATE IN PHILADELPHIA. WITH COMMUNITY PROSECUTION THE ASSIGNED GROUPS OF ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS GET TO KNOW THE COMMUNITY IN THEIR DISTRICTS. THE A.D.A.S CAN THEN WORK WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT, RESIDENTS, LOCAL OFFICIALS AND OTHERS TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT CRIME REDUCTION AND CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGIES. THESE STRATEGIES WILL BE TAILORED TO EACH COMMUNITY TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES THAT ARE OF THE GREATEST CONCERN TO ITS RESIDENTS.

ALONG WITH COMMUNITY PROSECUTION, D.A. WILLIAMS ALSO ANNOUNCED THE PLANNED OPENING OF TWO NEW COMMUNITY ACTION CENTERS IN THE CITY. THE COMMUNITY ACTION CENTERS HAVE BEEN DONATED FREE OF CHARGE TO THE DA'S OFFICE, AND WILL BE STAFFED BY VOLUNTEERS FROM THE LAW ENFORCEMENT, COMMUNITY GROUPS AND THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE. D.A. WILLIAMS BELIEVES THESE COMMUNITY CENTERS ARE A SMALL STEP TO DEVELOP VERY IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND THE PUBLIC.

THE MAJOR GOALS OF THE COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER WILL BE TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, THE PHILADELPHIA POLICE DEPARTMENT, LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND THE RESIDENTS IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS WHERE THE CENTERS WILL BE LOCATED. THE CENTERS WILL ALSO BE ESSENTIAL IN FOSTERING WORKING PARTNERSHIPS WITH TOWN WATCH GROUPS, LOCAL SCHOOLS AND BUSINESSES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS.

"COMMUNITY CORNER" HIGHLIGHTS PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO CONNECT PROSECUTORS' OFFICES WITH THEIR COMMUNITIES AND ENHANCES COMMUNITY RELATIONS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE FEATURED IN FUTURE ISSUES, PLEASE CONTACT GENA GONZALES AT [GENA.GONZALES@APAINC.ORG](mailto:GENA.GONZALES@APAINC.ORG).



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Prosecuting Attorneys

Association of Prosecuting Attorneys  
1615 L Street NW, Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-861-2480 • www.APAInc.org

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### MISSION

SUPPORT AND ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENES OF PROSECUTORS IN THEIR  
EFFORTS TO CREATE SAFER COMMUNITIES.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

#### BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE NATIONAL CONFERENCE: ADVANCING JUSTICE THROUGH EVIDENCE AND INNOVATION

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6 - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 08, 2010  
WASHINGTON HILTON HOTEL, WASHINGTON DC

THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA) WILL HOLD ITS 2010 NATIONAL CONFERENCE, ENTITLED ADVANCING JUSTICE THROUGH EVIDENCE AND INNOVATION, FROM DECEMBER 6-8 IN WASHINGTON, D.C. THERE IS NO REGISTRATION FEE FOR THE BJA CONFERENCE. THE CONFERENCE WILL EMPHASIZE HOW EVIDENCE AND INNOVATION CAN BE LEVERAGED TO IMPROVE THE NATION'S JUSTICE SYSTEMS AND TO ENSURE COMMUNITY SAFETY, AND HOW BJA FUNDING IS SUPPORTING THIS APPROACH ACROSS THE NATION.

TO APPLY FOR THIS TRAINING, PLEASE REGISTER DIRECTLY THROUGH THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE. [HTTP://WWW.OJP.USDOJ.GOV/BJA/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/)

#### PROTECTING CHILDREN ONLINE FOR PROSECUTORS (PRO-54)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23 - THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2011  
NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN'S JRLETC IN  
ALEXANDRIA, VA

OFFERED TO: STATE, LOCAL, AND FEDERAL PROSECUTORS ASSIGNED TO HANDLE TECHNOLOGY-FACILITATED CRIMES COMMITTED AGAINST CHILDREN. ATTENDEES ARE TYPICALLY NOMINATED BY U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE'S OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCES, AND THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN'S FEDERAL LAW-ENFORCEMENT PARTNERS. TO APPLY FOR THIS TRAINING, PLEASE REGISTER DIRECTLY THROUGH NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN. [HTTP://WWW.MISSINGKIDS.COM/](http://www.missingkids.com/)

INTERESTED IN FUTURE NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS OR WANT TO HELP HIGHLIGHT AN INNOVATIVE PROGRAM? PLEASE CONTACT SYRITA SIMPKINS AT [SYRITA.SIMPKINS@APAINC.ORG](mailto:SYRITA.SIMPKINS@APAINC.ORG).

FOR FUTURE TRAININGS AND WEBINARS PLEASE REFER TO THE APA WEBSITE AT [WWW.APAINC.ORG](http://WWW.APAINC.ORG).

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