**Bio-April Doherty**

April is a Paralegal in the Felony Review Unit at the State’s Attorney’s Office for Baltimore County. She became an integral asset in the preparation of animal cruelty cases in 2004 and later became the lead investigator of the Animal Abuse Unit.  April has organized and led the Animal Abuse Training for Baltimore County Police, which began in 2014, as well as the Maryland State Police in 2015.  April also has spoken to various audiences in reference to animal abuse; specifically, how to effectively investigate, report, and document the abuse to assist in prosecution.  Mrs. Doherty is the co-Chair of the National Coalition on Violence Against Animals and works closely with the National Sheriff’s Association, also serving on their Domestic Violence Committee and Animal Abuse Committee.  She also serves on the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys’ Animal Cruelty Advisory Committee.  April is a Law Enforcement Trainer for the Humane Society of the United States, presenting on animal cruelty to police, animal control, as well as prosecutors across the Country.  April created the Maryland Animal Cruelty & Animal Fighting Task Force, and she is currently enrolled in the University of Florida Veterinary Forensic Medicine Master’s Program where she is focusing her thesis on communication, collaboration, and cooperation of agencies that investigate animal abuse.