

# The Indiana rosecutor

4th Quarter, 2016

# Change: Farewell to some, welcome to others

Every election brings change and, although this was not an election year for prosecutors, our membership was impacted. We are losing five elected prosecutors, Jason Mount (Scott County), Rob Krieg (Gibson County), Matt Rentschler (Whitley County) who are becoming judges; Curtis Hill (Elkhart County) who is Indiana's new Attorney General; and Aaron Negangard (Dearborn/Ohio Counties) who is joining Attorney General-Elect Hill as Chief Deputy.

It is important that we thank these men for their service to our membership. In particular, Curtis Hill, Aaron Negangard and Jason Mount are all past presidents of our Association. All three have served as active members of the board of directors. Two, Jason Mount and Curtis Hill, are receiving the highest awards we give our members



Monday evening during the winter conference awards banquet. Jason is receiving the Stephen

Johnson Award from the Council and Curtis is receiving the "Shine" Feller Award from the Association.

Our standing committees do great work on your behalf, and the committee chairpersons are heavy lifters. No one has worked harder than Aaron Negangard, co-chair of the Association Legislative Committee or Jason Mount, co-chair of the Public Relations Outreach Committee. They

Some Thoughts...

By
David N. Powell
IPAC Executive Director



have given precious time to lead and tend to the important business before their committees. The staff at IPAC will miss their significant contributions and we offer heartfelt gratitude.

Not all of their replacements have been selected, but we do know the names of two of the five new prosecutors. Chris Owens will replace Jason in Scott County, and Michael Cochren will replace Rob in Gibson County. We welcome them to their new roles and challenge them to continue the good work of the men they are replacing.



#### **Highlights: Winter Conference Starts Sunday!**

**Sunday** 12:00-5:00 p.m. Registration

Monday 7:30-8:30 a.m. Registration

8:30 a.m. Opening Remarks

Attorney General Greg Zoeller

8:45 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Daily Session

6:00 p.m. 2016 Awards Program

**Tuesday** 8:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions

12:00 p.m. IPAC/Association Lunch

1:15-4:15 p.m. Afternoon Session

Wednesday 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Daily Session

# Legislative Update By Sabra Northam IPAC Legislative Liaison

Contact Sabra: snortham@ipac.in.gov 2016 Election Results for the **Indiana General Assembly** 

As most are already aware, the past 5-6 months in Indiana politics has been anything but boring. The citizens of our state elected a variety of new faces to both the legislative and executive branches of our government. This legislative session, we will be working with 21 newly elected legislators (though two are technically transplants from the House to the Senate), a newly elected governor, and a variety of recently appointed agency heads.

Of the newly elected legislators, there are a several who have law enforcement related background - two of those being former deputy prosecutors. Senator Long and Speaker Bosma have both made committee chair appointments. Senator Michael Young will continue his role as chairman of the Senate Corrections and Criminal Law committee, and Representative Tom Washburne will continue his role as chairman of the House Courts and Criminal Code committee. The membership of each committee is expected to be altered, though only slightly.

It will be important to continue cultivating good relationships with current and newly elected members of the Indiana General Assembly, their staff, and our partners across the various state agencies and the law enforcement community.

#### **Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council**

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**Karla Mantia** 

Title IV-D Policy Liaison

William F. Welch

**IV-D Staff Attorney** 

**Sabra Northam** 

Legislative Liaison

**Connie Smith** 

**Public Affairs Officer** 

#### 2017 Legislative Session

The Legislative Committee and IPAC staff met frequently over the summer and fall to review suggestions for legislative fixes over the past year. The committee approved of pursuing a variety of legislative fixes. Most of those suggestions have been shared with legislators. We are hopeful this year's legislative session will produce a number of improvements to the criminal code, for the benefit of public safety. If you sent in a suggestion and it is not addressed this year, it will be on the list for review next year.

We are now down to just over a month before the beginning of the 2017 legislative session. Members of the Indiana General Assembly will convene on Tuesday, January 3 and will have just under 4 months to finish their business for this long budget session. Issues that are expected to be on the docket for this year include: the opioid/heroin epidemic, road funding, education issues, hate crimes legislation, and the biennial budget, to name a few.

#### Testifying at the Statehouse

As in previous sessions, we will be prepared to testify in committee as bills we both support and oppose receive hearings. If you are interested in testifying on a bill, please let me know. We can be helpful in providing directions and parking information as well as tips for testifying.

#### Calendar of Events

#### **Legislative Luncheon**

January 31, 2017

**Spring Seminar** 

May 19, 2017

**IPAC Summer Conference** 

June 14-16, 2017

**Child Support Conference** 

June 28-30, 2017

**IPAC Winter Conference** 

December 3-6, 2017



Jennifer Thuma (left) of the Attorney General's Office presents to IPAC Deputy Director Suzanne O'Malley a 2016 Voices for Victims Award from Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller.

# Suzanne O'Malley Honored for Victim Advocacy Achievements

IPAC Deputy Director Suzanne O'Malley was one of four central Indiana victim service providers to receive in October the 2016 Voices for Victims Award from Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller.

The award recognized Suzanne O'Malley's efforts toward assisting victims of domestic violence, sexual assaults and child victims. She has helped to formulate Indiana legislation, policy and initiatives to assist victims of violence. She formerly managed a specialized unit of the Marion County Prosecutor's Office to prosecute sexual assault predators and was named Prosecutor of the Year by the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence in 2015. She is currently chair of the Domestic Violence and Prevention Treatment Council and is part of the state's Sexual Assault Response Team. She also serves on numerous boards related to sexual and domestic violence prevention.

#### Scholarship Money for Training Available Every Year!

Each year, IPAC makes scholarship funds available to every county to award scholarships to prosecutors, chief deputies, and deputy prosecutors to cover the cost of attending CLE seminars and additional training courses. Other office staff, including investigators, paralegals and victim advocates can use scholarship dollars at the discretion of the elected prosecutor. An IPAC scholarship will cover the cost of tuition, lodging, parking and airfare. All other expenses are the responsibility of the county. The amount of scholarship money each county will receive is based on the county population size. Dollar amounts range anywhere from \$1,500 to \$10,000 per year. Scholarship amounts are awarded on a calendar year basis and do not carry over to the next year.

IPAC has a list of approved sponsors, including, but not limited to the National District Attorneys Association, National College of District Attorneys, and the American Prosecutors Research Institute. Scholarship funds are also available for IPAC sponsored training, excluding spring, summer and winter. Other sponsors will be evaluated upon request.

Prosecutors, chief deputies, and office managers will receive scholarship documents and additional information regarding how to use scholarship funds in January. If you have any questions regarding the IPAC Scholarship Program, please contact Kasey Nell or Robin Bischof at (317) 232-1836, or at <a href="mailto:knell@ipac.in.gov">knell@ipac.in.gov</a> ipac.in.gov.

#### Indiana Neuro-Diagnostic Institute Targets a Late 2018 Opening



The state's new neuro-diagnostic institute and advanced treatment center has been under construction since August and is expected to open for patient admissions in late 2018. The \$120 million state-of-the-art facility located in Indianapolis will have 159 beds and the capacity to treat up to 1,500 patients a year. The focus of the institute will be the precise diagnosis and assertive treatment of brain-based disorders, including:

- acute and chronic mental illness
- chronic addictions
- intellectual and developmental disabilities
- traumatic brain injury
- neuro-degenerative illnesses such as Alzheimer's disease



# Trial Ad: Vehicular Crash





# Colorado 18th Judicial District Attorney George Brauchler L-R: Jason Mount (Scott County), Pat Baldwin (Hendricks County), Rodney Cummings (Madison County)

# Public Relations/ Media Training







# **Media Quotes of Note**

#### **Todd Meyer**

Boone County Fox 59 November 1, 2016

### Arrest of accused Zionsville killer ignites debate over DNA testing

"The DNA helped solve the case much more swiftly than it would have been otherwise there's no doubt about that. I'm hoping when we have real life cases like this, we used Ohio's law to our benefit to solve this crime in our community, I'm hopeful it will take hold this session."

#### **Keith Henderson**

Floyd County WDRB August 23, 2016

# Accused child predator could spend decades in prison, if convicted

"Certainly we know predators that troll social media that are looking for their next victim. I don't think there's any substitute for the watchful eye of a parent. And in my house, we made it clear a long time ago that when it comes to social media, there is no privacy."

#### **Terry Curry**

Marion County Fox 47 News September 1, 2016

#### Mom Uses Indiana's Religious Freedom Law As An Excuse In Abuse Case

"We've been frustrated with the RFRA law since the point that it was enacted because as we advised at the time and told legislators if it didn't exempt criminal code, people were going to assert this as a defense to what otherwise is criminal conduct."

#### **Brian Belding**

Jennings County CBS 4 Indy August 24, 2016

# Officials provide more information on high number of heroin overdoses

"They're basically playing Russian roulette. One time's all it takes and the drug dealer, they don't care. They don't care about the user or the user's family."

#### **Aaron Negangard**

Dearborn/Ohio County WLWT September 6, 2016

#### <u>Dearborn County getting national</u> <u>attention for incarceration rates</u>

"I hope that the world is not so upside down that it is Dearborn County that is out of step for sending a drug dealer to prison for 12 years, and there's not something wrong with a system in Ohio where murderers are getting less than 12. I look at the case. I look at the facts of the case. I look at the nature of the circumstances of the crime, the criminal history, opportunities for rehabilitation -- all that stuff -- and you try to make the best decision you can with the best information you have."

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#### **Brent Eaton**

Hancock County Greenfield Reporter September 7, 2016

# Officials create team to investigate cases

"... We need to make sure people know these crimes are important. These (victims) need to know they are important and that they have value and that we have procedures in place to protect them."

#### Jeremy Mull

Clark County WBTV September 28, 2016

# Clark Co. prosecutor seeking restitution for school threats

"The bottom line is that taxpayers should not be on the hook for all these additional expenses when somebody decides to threaten children's safety."

#### Jeremy Mull

Clark County News and Tribune October 29, 2016

# JUSTICE DELAYED: Clark County courts most overworked in state

"I try very hard to resolve criminal cases quickly, but that doesn't happen when defense attorneys come to court and move for continuances and say they have too many cases or the court is only able to schedule sentencing hearings three or four months out into the future. So this causes delays in the resolution of criminal cases and ultimately it can result in a criminal staying in the state longer, it can result in victims not obtaining restitution, possibly. These are negative consequences for the victim and for the community."