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PRESS RELEASE

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District Attorney McMahon Marks His First 100 Days in Office

****** DA has battled back against drug scourge with dealer takedowns; continues fighting for more resources and funding ******

STATEN ISLAND, NY – Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon today announced the accomplishments of which he is most proud as this week marked his First 100 Days in office. Additionally, he has set his sights on future goals that will continue to positively impact the way crime is prosecuted and prevented on Staten Island.

“My First 100 Days as the District Attorney of Staten Island were filled with numerous prosecutorial victories. Also, we continued to make strides in the fight against illegal drugs and the dealers who peddle these deadly poisons on our streets. And, I have kept my promise to fight for more resources by going before City Hall and the City Council and imploring them to provide us with our fair share so we can better tackle the myriad of law enforcement issues facing our communities, especially in the area of domestic violence,” said District Attorney Michael E. McMahon. “I want to thank my Executive Team, as well as my entire staff, both legal and non-legal, for helping me bring this office into the 21st century. In the coming days and weeks, there will continue to be exciting announcements made about changes in how animal cases and financial crimes are prosecuted, as well as how we plan on better servicing crime victims. We will do nothing short of our best to make this office the best for the people of Staten Island.”

In his first 100 Days in office, District Attorney McMahon has:

- 1) Prioritized the heroin and opioid crisis sweeping across Staten Island
 - Announced two major takedowns, “Operation Hit the Town” and “Operation New Blood”
 - i. Two dozen defendants were arrested and substantial quantities of illegal narcotics were seized.
 - Began the “Overdose Response Initiative”
 - i. A first-of-its-kind in the City of New York, this program, in conjunction with the NYPD, investigates overdoses as crime scenes in an effort to discover who is dealing drugs on Staten Island, as well as provide comfort and support to grieving families.

- ii. Hired Special Counsel Thomas C. Ridges to oversee and bridge the Narcotics Bureau, Investigations Bureau, and Crime Strategies Unit in an effort to enhance crime-fighting and target “crime-drivers.”
- 2) Increased attention to domestic violence
- Staff has been added to the Special Victims Bureau
 - i. 3 misdemeanor ADAs are now dedicated full-time to domestic violence.
 - ii. The bureau has moved in the direction of vertical-style prosecution, to better serve victims.
- 3) Beefed up Criminal Court staffing levels
- Added leadership to the Criminal Court Bureau.
 - i. A Deputy Bureau Chief, a Detective Investigator, and a Victim’s Advocate are all newly assigned.
 - Added new ADAs to better handle institutional responsibilities.
- 4) Modernized the office
- Introduced a new, 21st century case management system to streamline prosecutions.
 - Acquired new technology for office in area of social media investigations and mapping.
 - Launched an Arrest Alert System.
- 5) Advocated for new resources and Staten Island’s fair share of criminal justice funding
- Submitted a budget increase request to City Hall and City Council.
 - Garnered support of the borough’s delegation of City Council Members.
 - The City Council has supported the request in response to the Mayor’s Preliminary Budget.
- 6) Established strategic community outreach programming
- The District Attorney and ADAs now personally attend civic association meetings to hear community concerns firsthand.
 - ADAs also present the “No D” and “Choices and Consequences” presentations to the borough’s high schools and intermediate schools to warn about dangers of drug use and drunken driving.
- 7) Creating a Victim Services Unit
- Actively seeking someone to head up what will be a newly-formed Victim’s Services Unit, dedicated to providing victims with support, services and assistance
- 8) Success in the Courtroom
- *FRANK ANDOLINA* – convicted of Attempted Robbery in the First Degree and sentenced to 7 years in prison
 - *DANTE VIGGIANO* – convicted of Murder in the First Degree and sentenced to life in prison without parole

- *CLINTON JAMES* – sentenced to 22 years for charges including Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree and Assault in the Second Degree
- *MICHAEL DUHS* – the Second Circuit’s reversed the District Court’s decision and the Assault in the First Degree conviction was reinstated. He is serving a 20-year prison sentence.
- *QUIXOTAY MOODY* – convicted of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree. He faces a maximum of 15 years in prison.
- *JEFFEY BEARD* – convicted of Second-Degree Robbery. He faces a maximum of 15 years in prison.

9) Supported new Gun Court to ensure shooters are apprehended and swiftly prosecuted

- DA McMahon believes that people need to feel safe in their neighborhoods and for that to happen we need to get the guns and the criminals who squeeze their triggers off the streets, which is why he supports 'Project Fast Track' – an innovative and collaborative effort that will allow all components of law enforcement to work together to investigate, prosecute, and adjudicate gun cases more quickly.

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