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PRESS RELEASE

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D.A. McMahon: Recruiting the Best Legal Talent Staten Island Has to Offer

**** Newly appointed bureau chiefs and ADAs to better serve Staten Island ****

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon today announced that he has named three new bureau chiefs, all Staten Island residents, to head the office's Investigations Bureau, Trials Bureau and Criminal Court Bureau. Additionally, three new and experienced Staten Island natives have been hired as Assistant District Attorneys to join the Narcotics Bureau, Investigations Bureau, and Trials Bureau.

"I have made it a priority to recruit and promote the best legal talent Staten Island has to offer. With the addition of these new Assistant District Attorneys, the borough will have more prosecutors who have a stake in our mission and who are dedicated to making the Island a safer place for us all," said District Attorney Michael E. McMahon. "I would also like to congratulate and thank the office's newly appointed bureau chiefs for their service. Having such accomplished and experienced prosecutors to head the Investigations Bureau, Trials Bureau, and Criminal Court Bureau is a true win for the people of Staten Island and I am grateful and proud that they will be leading our attorneys in court."

Mark Palladino has been named Chief of the Trials Bureau, formerly known as the Supreme Court Bureau, having most recently served as its Deputy Bureau Chief. David Frey has been named Investigations Bureau Chief, after serving as its Deputy Bureau Chief for several years. Kim Petersen, will join the office later this month as Criminal Court Bureau Chief after serving as an ADA in Queens County for eight years, followed by an additional eight years as a principal court attorney in the New York State Court System in Queens County.

The three new ADAs joining the office will be: Lisa Davis, a Staten Island resident and seasoned prosecutor who has worked in the Bronx District Attorney's Office for the last 16 years will join the Trials Bureau in July; Gregg Brown, a Staten Island native who for the last eight years has been a prosecutor in Essex County, New Jersey, has joined the Investigations Bureau; and Vasil Trajcevski, who has four years of experience in the Bronx District Attorney's Office, most recently in the Narcotics Bureau, will be joining the RCDA Narcotics Bureau.

Trials Bureau Chief Mark Palladino, a native Staten Islander, has been a prosecutor for the Richmond County District Attorney's for more than 18 years. Palladino earned his law degree from Syracuse University College

of Law in 1991, and served as legal counsel for then-Councilman John Fusco prior to being hired in September of 1997 by then-Richmond County District Attorney William Murphy. Appointed deputy chief of the Investigation Bureau in 2010, Palladino investigated and prosecuted all cases involving public corruption, arson and hate crimes. He also prosecutes all vehicular assaults and homicides in the borough. Palladino is the Richmond County recipient of the 2013 Thomas E. Dewey Medal, an award presented annually to an outstanding assistant district attorney in each of the five borough's district attorney's offices.

Investigations Bureau Chief Frey has a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering and a Master of Business Administration from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and a law degree from Brooklyn Law School. He has been a prosecutor on Staten Island for more than 18 years. He started in the Appeals Bureau, was the Chief of the Computer and Technology Investigations Unit from 2001-2009, and Deputy Chief of the Investigations Bureau from 2009-2016. In 2014 he was awarded the New York City Bar Association's Thomas E. Dewey Medal for Outstanding Assistant District Attorney. In addition to prosecuting computer and computer-related crimes, such as online fraud, computer tampering, and child exploitation and child pornography cases, he has also prosecuted a myriad of embezzlements, identity thefts, and intellectual property thefts. His assignments have also included homicides, wiretaps, and cases involving pen registers, cell sites, GPS tracking, and video surveillance cases related to long-term investigations.

Kim Petersen is slated to join the Richmond County District Attorney's Office later this month as Chief of the Criminal Court Bureau. She brings with her a wealth of experience and legal talent having previously served as an ADA in the Queens County District Attorney's Office for eight years where she prosecuted cases as part of the Intake, Domestic Violence, Homicide Investigations, Felony Trial, and Narcotics Investigations Bureaus. Following her service in the Queens County District Attorney's Office, Petersen was appointed the principal court attorney to the Departmental Disciplinary Committee and later appointed principal court attorney to the Honorable James P. Griffin, Acting Justice, Supreme Court, Queens County, Criminal Term. Petersen earned her bachelor's degree from Queens College and her law degree from Brooklyn Law School.

Native Staten Islander Lisa Davis will join our office as a senior Assistant District Attorney in the Trials Bureau this coming July. The Bronx Assistant District Attorney has a wealth of trial experience with over sixteen years in the Bronx District Attorney's office, where she has taken over 50 felony trials to verdict. Throughout her tenure, Davis has worked in the Gang/Major Case, Narcotics and Grand Jury Evaluations Bureaus, as well as the Bronx Criminal Court. She has worked on a wide variety of cases from high-profile and long-term investigations to Grand Jury felony cases and Criminal Court misdemeanors. Davis received her Bachelor of Arts in Education from the College of Staten Island and her law degree from Brooklyn Law School.

ADA Gregg Brown, a native Staten Islander, earned his law degree from Rutgers-Newark Law School in 2007. Brown clerked for Judge Stephen J. Bernstein, Superior Court of New Jersey Criminal Division for the 2007-2008 term. He then worked as an Assistant Prosecutor at the Essex County Prosecutor's Office for eight years before coming to this office as an ADA. In 2001, he interned for then-Richmond County District Attorney William Murphy.

Old Town resident, Vasil Trajcevski will be joining our Narcotics Bureau later this month as an Assistant District Attorney. Trajcevski joins our team after four years as an Assistant District Attorney in the Bronx Narcotics Bureau, where he worked on hundreds of misdemeanor and felony cases in the Bronx County Criminal and Supreme Courts. Trajcevski received his undergraduate degree from Wagner College, and his juris doctorate from St. John's University School of Law.

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