



FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER



Firearms and Drug Trafficking

Along with local law enforcement, we arrested three individuals for operating a corrupt organization that was trafficking illegal firearms as well as trafficking cocaine and methamphetamine. This type of organization's sole purpose is to make money by putting firearms in the hands of people who cannot lawfully buy and possess guns on their own.

My office continues to work together with local law enforcement to keep guns and drugs off our streets.

Wheels of Justice

Our Wheels of Justice bike team rode once again in the newly named The Ben to the Shore (previously known as the Tour de Shore), a charity bike ride to help families of fallen first responders and children's charities. It was an honor to ride with our over 200-member team to support these families!



Domestic Violence

I testified on a bill recently passed by the Pennsylvania Legislature that will increase penalties for domestic violence, as the Commission on Sentencing is working out the details of the bill. Sadly, children who have been witnesses are much more likely to be victims later on or perpetrators later on. Beyond that, there need to be provisions for penalties for anyone selling fentanyl, the deadly opioid responsible for many overdose deaths. The hope is someone selling drugs may be more aware if they understand there will be consequences for selling these deadly drugs.

American College of Trial Lawyers Fellow

I was honored to be inducted as a Fellow for the American College of Trial Lawyers at their 2019 Annual meeting. The College strives to improve the standards of trial practice, professionalism, ethics, and the administration of justice through education and public statements on important legal issues relating to its mission. The College strongly supports the independence of the judiciary, trial by jury, respect for the rule of law, access to justice, and fair and just representation of all parties to legal proceedings.



“OPERATION SAFE HOMES”

The Second Annual "Operation Safe Homes" events were held at eight police departments in Montgomery County. These events provide an opportunity for firearms you no longer want in your home to be turned into law enforcement to be safely destroyed.

Summer Intern Program

This year I was again impressed by the students who joined the office this summer. Interns are given critical responsibilities that assist the District Attorney's Office in the criminal process. College interns are provided the opportunity to observe court hearings, join field trips, ride with police patrol units, attend the weekly training and education sessions and participate as witnesses in the mock trial competition.



Youth Aid Panels (YAP)

This restorative justice program run by my office strives to help non-violent, first-time juvenile offenders by referring them to the local YAPs. These panels are made up of trained volunteers who develop, with the juveniles and their families, a resolution that includes consequences for the action and assignments that empower the juvenile to make better decisions in the future.



Election Day Team

A cornerstone of our democracy is a fair election, and every citizen has the right to cast their ballot unimpeded. As such, I put in place an election day team, head by First Assistant Edward McCann, working with a team of Assistant District Attorneys and local law enforcement, to handle any complaints and ensure that all Montgomery County citizens are able to vote without being subject to intimidation, threats or other abuse of the electoral system.

“Touch a Truck”

I was pleased to join with the Norristown Municipal Police Department to host the “Touch A Truck” event. The free family-friendly event featured more than 25 different working vehicles used in Norristown. Touch A Truck allows kids, and kids at heart, to explore, touch, get into and otherwise interact with these vehicles and their operators to learn how they work and what they do. This event is another way my office partners with local departments to reach out to local communities.

