

**OFFICE OF THE STATE  
ATTORNEY  
SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**



**STATE ATTORNEY: R. J. LARIZZA**

**PRESENTER**

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**State of Florida**

- District Attorney System
- In Florida prosecutors are “State Attorneys”
- 20 Elected State Attorneys in the State of Florida
- 1 Statewide Prosecutor: appointed by Attorney General

**State of Florida**

- Some District are 1 county circuits
  - Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Hillsborough and Monroe
- Most Circuits have multiple counties
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit has seven counties
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Circuits have six counties

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- **Seventh Circuit** Comprises of Four Counties:
  - Volusia
  - Flagler
  - St. Johns
  - Putnam

**27.01 State attorneys; number,  
election, terms.**

- There shall be a state attorney for each of the judicial circuits, who shall be elected at the general election by the qualified electors of their respective judicial circuits as other state officials are elected, and who shall serve for a term of 4 years.

## 27.02 Duties before court

- (1) The state attorney shall appear in the circuit and county courts within his or her judicial circuit and prosecute or defend on behalf of the state all suits, applications, or motions, civil or criminal, in which the state is a party ...

## 27.03 Duties before grand jury

- Whenever required by the grand jury, the state attorney shall attend them for the purpose of examining witnesses in their presence, or of giving legal advice in any matter before them; and he or she shall prepare bills of indictment.

## 27.181 Assistant state attorneys; appointment; powers and duties;

- (1) Each assistant state attorney appointed by a state attorney shall serve during the pleasure of the state attorney appointing him or her...
- (2) Each assistant state attorney appointed by a state attorney shall have all of the powers and discharge all of the duties of the state attorney appointing him or her, under the direction of that state attorney ...

## Staff of the Seventh Circuit

- 80 attorneys
- 15 investigators
- 10 victim advocates
- 103 support staff
- 7 offices

## Budget Issues

- Budget went from 2008 from \$13.6 Million to \$12.4 million in 2009-2010 budget year
- Cut \$1 million dollar in annual salaries
- We are budgeted for 242 FTE
  - Full Time Employees
  - Currently we are operating with **208** employees

## How to Deal with Budget cuts

- Increase workload for attorneys & staff
- Expand internship/volunteer programs
- Talk to the Staff and keep them informed
- Drastic cuts in non essential spending (traveling, deposition transcriptions, etc)
- Increase Cost of Prosecution efforts

## New Programs and Policies

- Repeat Offender / Violent Career Criminal Program
  - Identify these offenders in the system
  - Enhanced Penalties provide
  - Provide training to our staff
- Increase the cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies
  - Education programs offered free of charge
  - Liaison program
  - Talk to the Attorneys and Staff
- Continue Education for attorneys and staff

## Green Issues

- We encourage everybody in the Office to recycle
  - Multiple recycling bins at all offices
- Upgraded computer system
  - Working towards a paperless office
  - Visited other SAO offices in handling this issue
  - Access to some Law Enforcement data bases in order to get reports

## ANY QUESTIONS?

–No questions too small



## THE END

