



# JUSTICE JOURNAL

SACRAMENTO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

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## Message from DA Anne Marie Schubert

This is our first newsletter since my re-election in June. I'm looking forward to the next four years and remain committed to working with all sectors of the community to make Sacramento County a healthier, happier and safe place to live and work.

In this issue we will share how our office is working to move the community forward and reduce the opportunity gap. We are doing this on many fronts, including through a number of youth and adult programs, and by working with our community-based organizations. We will also continue our regular columns, including highlighting some recent significant cases.

As you can see with my video message- we are transitioning our newsletter to include video so people can easily share its content on specific topics with their family, friends and colleagues. As always, I hope you find this issue of the Justice Journal newsletter interesting and informative. —District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert





## Marijuana - "Is It Just Weed?" - Impact on Youth

In 2016, California voters passed Prop 64 legalizing marijuana for adults 21 and older. It appears the impact on youth was overlooked. Why are youth so drawn to and accepting of weed? Is it after all "just weed?"

Teens believe marijuana is safe and that everyone uses it. They often believe marijuana does not affect their abilities or body as much as other substances.

Marijuana has been labeled by proponents as "harmless" and "a medicine." Recreational use is celebrated and glamorized in pop culture and social media. The reality is this harmless label is misleading. Studies show driving while high is just as dangerous as driving drunk and that marijuana has the same health risks as cigarettes.

Research also shows marijuana has a significant effect on the brain in our youth, specifically the prefrontal cortex. The prefrontal cortex is not fully developed until an individual is 25, so marijuana usage in adolescents affects the brain's growth. Impact on this area of the brain can carry on into adulthood, which impairs opportunities and chance for success. Dr. Jeffrey Edwards from Brigham Young University recently investigated marijuana effects on the developing brain. He learned adolescents who use THC have a decreased IQ, decreased cognition and increased chance of further drug abuse with other drugs.

Most teens who use marijuana start between the ages of 13 and 17, with 41% starting before age 15. These teens are 2.4 times more likely to drop out of school, and their chance of getting into college and obtaining a degree declines with continued use. [1]

Dependence is also an issue. The earlier kids try marijuana, the higher their risk of addiction. Nine percent of adult marijuana users become addicted. If a user started smoking during their teenage years, the number jumps to 50%. [2] Between February and May 2018, the District Attorney's Office filed 280 juvenile cases. Of those, 204 juveniles admitted to using marijuana - a whopping 73%!

Legalization has provided more ways for youth to use and be exposed to marijuana, including edibles that can look like regular snacks such as colorful gummy bears, chewing gum, lollipops and chocolate bars. Some of these chocolate bars can contain as many as 12 squares amounting to a medical dosage equivalent to that prescribed to cancer patients. Alarmingly, an unsuspecting child could consume all 12 square servings as if it were a Hershey's bar or eat other edibles by accident. With THC levels more potent than ever, some edibles are as high as 100 mg per dose - sending kids to emergency rooms.



Marijuana use is also closely linked with crime. In recent years, there has been a spike in crime committed while under the influence of the substance - from theft to homicide.

Regardless of the reason, it is important to educate our youth and spread awareness of the *real* effects of marijuana. It isn't "just weed" or just a harmless plant; it can stop one's whole life from ever truly starting.

## Did You Know?

- As of 2014, there are 7,000 new marijuana users per day
- After alcohol, marijuana is the drug most linked to drivers under the influence
- Since 2004 in California, driving deaths have doubled from impaired marijuana users
- 38% of high school students have tried marijuana
- 88% of teens in Sacramento County drug abuse programs/counseling named marijuana as their drug of choice
- Teens' IQ drop on average of 7-8 points with regular marijuana use
- Teens who use marijuana increase risk of developing depression or anxiety as adults

# JUSTICE JOURNAL PODCAST

In October 2018, the District Attorney's Office launched the Justice Journal podcast. Listeners will learn about important public safety issues, interesting and notable cases as well as how the office is working both in the courtroom and in the community to provide the highest level of public safety through prosecution, prevention and innovation.

Justice Journal podcasts can be found at [www.sacda.org/media/podcast](http://www.sacda.org/media/podcast), YouTube, iTunes, Google Play, and Stitcher among other apps.



## IN THE COURTROOM



### Cases of Interest

East Area Rapist/Golden State Killer (Case #18FE008017) – Joseph DeAngelo was arrested on April 24, 2018. DeAngelo was initially charged with two counts of murder with special circumstances.

An amended complaint was filed in Sacramento Superior Court on August 21, 2018, combining cases from Sacramento, Contra Costa, Orange, Santa Barbara, Tulare and Ventura counties. The cases will be prosecuted jointly in Sacramento, where DeAngelo is currently charged with a total of 13 counts of murder and the special circumstances of murder during the course of burglary, murder during the course of a rape and multiple murders as well as 13 counts of kidnapping for robbery.

NorCal Rapist (Case #18FE018342) – Roy Charles Waller was arrested on September 20, 2018. Waller is charged with 12 counts of sexual assault charges. A decision on how and where the different cases will be handled is yet to be determined.

For more cases of interest, visit <http://www.sacda.org/media/latest-news/>.





## Early Prison Releases

Inmate with 28-Year Criminal History and Violent Strike Offenses (Calvin Reese - Case #94F06130) - Reese was convicted of willfully discharging a firearm in a negligent manner, second-degree burglary and second degree-robbery, a strike offense. After being released from prison, Reese was convicted of robbery, assault with a firearm, burglary and felon in possession of a firearm. He was sentenced to 23 years in prison. While in prison serving that sentence, he was

convicted of drug possession. The Board of Parole Hearings found this inmate to be a nonviolent offender who does not pose an unreasonable risk of violence to the community and granted release. [Opposition Letter](#)

Previously Denied Inmate with 47-Year Criminal History and 15 Felony Convictions (Leonard Harris - Case #15F02787) - Harris has 15 felony convictions. Seven of those are violent offenses: first-degree robbery, first-degree burglary, and robbery and willful elder abuse. In his 2015 commitment offense, he was convicted of first-degree burglary, a strike, and was sentenced to six years in prison. Harris has violated his parole seven times in the last seven years and never successfully completed a parole period. The Board of Parole Hearings has already reviewed and previously denied early release for Harris. Eleven months later, the Board of Parole Hearings found this inmate to be a nonviolent offender who does not pose an unreasonable risk of violence to the community and granted release. [Opposition Letter](#)

For more information about inmates granted early prison release, visit [www.sacda.org/early-prison-releases](http://www.sacda.org/early-prison-releases).

# IN THE COMMUNITY

## Moving the Community Forward...

Our community has gone through difficult times. We must be willing not just as elected officials or law enforcement leaders, but as a community to work together to move forward. We also have to acknowledge the opportunity gap that exists in our community.

People think the DA's Office is just reactionary - there is an arrest, the case is sent to us and we decide if we're going to prosecute. For a long time now, I have had the opinion that we have a greater obligation - to help close the opportunity gap. If we narrow that gap, individuals will have a happier life and ultimately we're going to be safer.

When we have things in our office that are non-traditional like a partnership with Reading Partners, "We Connect," or having Youth Academies, it's because that's the right thing to do for this community and to move us forward.

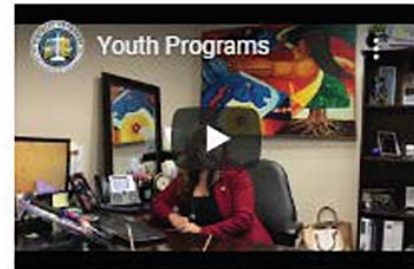


# The Community & Government Relations (CGR) Division

District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert created CGR to increase community engagement, maximize prevention outreach efforts and strengthen public trust. CGR includes youth and adult community programs as well as media relations, government relations and the Community Prosecution Unit. ([CGR Brochure](#))

## Community Programs & Outreach

CGR hosts a number of programs in collaboration with criminal justice and community partners. To prevent crime on the front end and reduce the opportunity gap, many programs are designed to educate youth about the criminal justice system while inspiring them to pursue careers in the public safety field. The office also collaborates with Reading Partners, to boost literacy and close the achievement gap. Youth programs include #iSMART (Internet Social Media Awareness, Resources and Training), Criminal Justice and Crime Lab Youth Shadow Day, GIFT (Gun-Violence Information for Teens), Youth Academy, and PACT (Partners Against Chronic Truancy). ([Youth Programs Brochure](#))



COMING SOON! The "Youth & Community Connect" app is designed to help youth and families connect with available community services and resources.

Other programs include the Speakers Bureau, Citizens Academy and the office recently launched the "We Connect" program.



Community Partner: [Rachelle Ditmore, City of Refuge](#)



CGR takes a leadership role in legislative policies that impact public safety. Media relations provides information through traditional news outlets, social media @SacCountyDA and the Justice Journal newsletter and podcast.

### Community Prosecution Unit (CPU)

CPU has prosecutors working out in neighborhoods. They serve as liaisons and work to create partnerships with citizens, law enforcement, community groups and businesses to address quality of life issues including blight, prostitution, graffiti, and nuisance activities. ([CPU Brochure](#))



CPU accomplishments include working with law enforcement and local agencies to enter into a [Memorandum of Understanding with Motel 6](#) to address criminal activity at all Motel 6 properties in Sacramento County, and creating a [Business Watch](#), Chronic Nuisance Offender and [Understanding Your Rights](#) program.

### Snapshots in the Community



Rainbow Park National Night Out - Rachelle Ditmore "City of Refuge", South Sacramento Area Community Prosecutor  
DDA Leslie Kolb, Terri Galvin "CASH"



# Calendar of Events 2019

## District Attorney's Office

### February

- Citizens Academy Registration Begins

### March

- Youth Academy Graduations (North, South, East, Elk Grove/Galt areas)

### April

- Citizens Academy Begins
- Crime Victims' Capitol Rally (4/4)
- Outstanding Citizens Award Ceremony (4/12)

### May

- Public Safety Luncheon (5/3)

## Community Calendar

### January

- Human Trafficking Month
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration (1/26)

### February

- Public Safety Month
- Teen Dating Violence Awareness/Prevention Month

### March

- No More Week: Together we can end domestic violence and sexual assault (3/3-9)

### April

- Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month/Day of Action (4/2)
- National Crime Victims' Rights Week (4/7-13)
- National Youth Violence Prevention Week (4/8-12)

### May

- National Correctional Officers Week (5/12-18)
- National Police Week (5/12-18)
- Peace Officers Memorial Day (5/15)
- National Missing Children's Day (5/25)



## Tips & Alerts

### DANGERS OF MARIJUANA EDIBLES:

- Can take 30-60 minutes to take effect and stay in the system up to 10 hours
- Signs of use include distorted memory, altered perceptions, impaired coordination and changes in mood

### MARIJUANA USE AND DRIVING:

- Slows reaction time, disrupts ability to make decisions, distorts perception and creates difficulty in problem solving



### PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM CYBER ATTACKS:

- Secure passwords, update anti-virus software and turn off automatic download attachments on emails
- Verify authenticity of requests from companies / individuals, don't click on suspicious unknown links or requests through email & text

## **FIGHTING ROBOCALLS:**

- Ask companies not to call you, hang up immediately, avoid calls from unrecognized numbers, block robocall numbers
- Get on the [National Do Not Call Registry](#), register for robocall-blocking service, file a complaint with the [Federal Trade Commission](#)

## **Resources**

### **Marijuana:**

City of Sacramento Cannabis Policy & Enforcement: 916.808.8955

<http://cannabis.cityofsacramento.org/Youth-marijuana>

Omni Youth Programs: 916.362.2000

<https://www.omniyouth.net/parent-workshops>

Partnership for Drug-Free Kids: 855.378.4373

<https://drugfree.org/drug/marijuana/>

Sacramento County Department of Health and Human

Services Alcohol and Drug System of Care: 916.874.9754

<http://www.dhs.saccounty.net/BHS/Pages/Alcohol-Drug-Services/Alcohol-and-Drug-Services.aspx>

### **Marijuana Driving:**

National Institute on Drug Abuse: 301.443.1124

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: 800.232.4636

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

### **Cyber Security:**

Homeland Security: 202.282.8000

<https://www.dhs.gov/how-do-i/protect-myself-cyber-attacks>

### **Robocalls:**

Register at Federal Trade Commission: 888.382.1222

<https://www.donotcall.gov/>



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