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### **Prosecuting Attorneys Association Launches New Web Site**

***OPAA celebrates 75 years, offers information on the role of county prosecuting attorneys and key issues***

COLUMBUS, OH -- As the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association marks 75 years of service for Ohio's county prosecuting attorneys, the organization today launched a new website and promotion of information on the critical role of prosecutors in Ohio's legal system. The new site can be visited at [www.ohiopa.org](http://www.ohiopa.org).

"While the size and scope of every county prosecuting attorney's office may vary, all of Ohio's prosecuting attorneys share a deep-seated passion for public safety and to serve victims of crime," said John Murphy, executive director for the OPAA. "As an association, the OPAA saw a need to provide to the public, other elected officials and media a better understanding of the role of county prosecuting attorneys in Ohio."

To that end, the OPAA's new web site features fact sheets on core components of prosecution, including information on the prosecutor's role in the legal system, as well as issues such as plea agreements, DNA testing and working with a grand jury. Over time, additional information on issues of importance to the work of prosecuting attorneys will be added.

"Prosecuting attorneys are not only responsible for prosecuting adult felonies and juvenile crime, but we also serve as the legal counsel for other elected county and township officials in our county," said Sherri Bevan Walsh, Summit County Prosecutor and public relations committee chairperson. "Throughout Ohio, prosecuting attorneys and their staff members have a significant role -- serving as the voice for victims, ensuring that those guilty of crimes are punished and exonerating those who are innocently accused. Many county prosecutors also promote public safety initiatives, especially for senior citizens, women and children."

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*The Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association assists county prosecuting attorneys to pursue truth and justice as well as promote public safety. The Association advocates for public policies that strengthen prosecuting attorneys' ability to secure justice for crime victims and serve as legal counsel to county and township authorities. Further, the Association sponsors continuing legal education programs and*

*facilitates access to best practices in law enforcement and community safety. The Association also offers information to the public about the role of prosecutors in the justice system. [www.ohiopa.org](http://www.ohiopa.org)*