



Serving Justice

The Lassen County District Attorney Quarterly E-Newsletter

Volume 2

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Special points of interest:

- Introducing the New DDA
- Criminal Justice Issues—CAP DA Diversion
- Community Outreach
- Meet the Staff
- In the next issue: Courage Worldwide

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Meet Mark Beallo

Hello there. I'm the new Deputy District Attorney in town. I'm somewhat at a loss here since my normal introduction usually includes a PowerPoint Presentation, with lots of charts and graphs and stuff. Since that's obviously not possible, I'll simply provide a few basic facts. I grew up in the beautiful Bay Area. I haven't always wanted to be a lawyer, however; in my youth I trained to be a ventriloquist (my lips kept moving) or a lion-tamer (couldn't find a lion). Since those goals didn't work out, I went to law school. I got my law degree in Los Angeles, and I did it the hard way, going to school at night, working full-time, and raising a family. Somehow I made it through, then spent many great years as Mr. Mom, taking care of my kids when they were young. Once my kids were older, and only



Mark E. Beallo—Sworn August 22, 2016

needed me as an ATM, I went to work and I've been practicing law for approximately fifteen years. Things reached a point where I got tired of the LA rat race (the rats are winning), and I made the decision to relocate back to the North. I was fortunate enough to earn my position with the District Attorney's Office. In addition, I am a newly-appointed part of the Multi-Disciplinary Interview Team, the group designed to deal with child sexual abuse in partnership with law enforcement. Based on the few months that I have been part of this

office, I can honestly say that I have never seen such dedication, from both the attorneys and the support staff. I am truly honored to represent the District Attorney's Office and serve the people of Susanville and Lassen County. I will do my best to keep everyone safe and to help maintain the small-town feel that emanates from every corner. My other priorities are keeping my job, keeping my boss happy, and avoiding shooting Bambi.

I do, however, miss a few things about LA: my kids, all-you-can-eat sushi, and the ocean. But I've traded it all for something much better. -Mark E. Beallo

Community Accountability & DA Diversion Program

An Alternative to Prosecution DA Diversion and/or CAP Community Accountably Program

The Lassen County District Attorney's Adult Community Accountability Program is a pre-filing diversion program designed to meet the needs of nonviolent offenders. It is an attempt to deter future criminal behavior, minimize loss to victims, serve the courts (by reducing the number of lesser cases filed) and protect the community by supervising the offender until the final disposition of the case. Community tax dollars are not used to fund the program, instead it is 100% supported by fees and fines paid by the offender.

Offenders meeting the criteria are referred to the program following a review of the pending charge and prior criminal record by the District Attorney. An initial letter is sent to the offender by an outside contractor, Corrective Solutions (CS), on behalf of the DA's office. The offender contacts CS for a Diversion Plan Conference which consists of intake, evaluation and explanation of program condi-

tions and requirements.

To successfully complete the program a participant must:

- **Enroll** – contact CS within 30 days of the referral date for the plan conference and pay a \$40.00 enrollment fee, be assessed for indigence and receive community support resources.
- **Attend** a web-based behavior modification seminar held by a Master's Level counselor. One goal of counseling will be to help the participant gain an awareness of the legal and social consequences of criminal behavior.
- **Complete** an educational, offense-specific interactive journal based in cognitive behavioral treatment.
- **Complete** 8 hours of Community Service.
- **Pay** restitution to the victim (if applicable) and additional program fees/costs.
- **Participate** in driver re-licensing (if applicable).

Because the presumption of innocence ap-

plies to the period between arrest and trial, program participation is completely voluntary and the right not to participate is explained to all potential participants. The advantages of participation are:

1. Offers the defendant an opportunity for self-development and to gain awareness of the consequences of future criminal behavior;
2. To avoid additional costs as related to further criminal prosecution;
3. To avoid possible criminal conviction, incarceration, and/or fines;
4. Allows a person to remain in the community with limited disruption to family life and

For more information about the Diversion Programs call (530) 251-8284 Or email:

mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us

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Community Accountability and DA Diversion Program, cont.

employment;
5. Upon successful completion no further formal action will be taken on the case. On certain charges, the participant who completes the program satisfactorily may request to petition the court for expungement of the arrest record. Active participation generally lasts four months but can vary. The exact duration of the program will depend on the seriousness of the offense, the attitude of the participant and how well the participant has met the goals of the program as determined by the counselor and District Attorney. Participants must attend all sessions and keep all other appointments that are mutually agreed upon by the participant, community agency and counselor. Restitution, if required, as well as diversion fees must be paid in full before program completion. A subsequent arrest or violation of program rules will result in the participant's case being returned to the prosecution sec-

tion of the District Attorney's Office for prosecution. When a participant enters the program the pending charge is put on hold. When a participant completes the program satisfactorily, the pending charge is then discharged and does not result in a formal criminal conviction. Examples of some of the eligible offenses for CAP are:

- VC 4000*
- Registration Required
- VC12500*
- Unlicensed Driver
- VC 14601.1(a)*
- Driving on Suspended License
- PC 647(f)*
- Drunk in Public
- PC 602*
- Trespass
- PC 415*
- Disturbing the Peace
- PC 484*
- Petty Theft
- PC 594(a)*
- Vandalism

(Less than \$400 Damage)
Note: A Bad Check Diversion Program, also administered by the Lassen County District Attorney, in partnership with Corrective Solutions/Victim Services, Inc., will be established and running by early 2017.

More information to follow.



Community Fun! The Susanville Uptown Safe & Sane Halloween Bash

Lassen County District Attorney Office

220 South Lassen Street
Suite 8

(530) 251-8283

E-mail:

lassenda@co.lassen.ca.us

Check out our web page :

[www.lassencounty.org/dept/
district-attorney/welcome](http://www.lassencounty.org/dept/district-attorney/welcome)

Please share your opinion on Public Safety issues on our Public Safety Survey on the web page.



Mission Statement: The Lassen County District Attorney's Office, in partnership with the community we serve, is dedicated to ensuring public safety through the vigorous, ethical and professional prosecution of crime while protecting the rights of victims and witnesses.

Meet the staff of the Lassen County District Attorney's Office:

Stacey L. Montgomery, District Attorney
Michelle Latimer, Program Coordinator
Dan Howe, Special Prosecutor
David Evans, Senior Deputy District Attorney
Phong Banh, Deputy District Attorney
Stephanie Skeen, Deputy District Attorney
Mark Beallo, Deputy District Attorney
Leann Christensen, Senior Legal Secretary
Alicia Heard, Senior Legal Secretary
Ellie Brown, Legal Secretary
Latoya Salas, Victim Witness Coordinator
Michielle Noonberg, Victim Witness Advocate I

The Goal of the Lassen
County DA

E-Newsletter is to inform, educate, entertain and support the community we serve. Suggestions for content are welcome.

Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.

Henry Ford



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The World Upside Down

