

# CIRCUIT ATTORNEY'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

To Pursue Justice For All Citizens  
Within The Highest Standards Of Ethics And Professionalism



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## Help Combat Crimes

- If You See or Hear Suspicious Activity, Call the Police -- Trust Your Instinct!

- If You Witness a Crime, Call 911 Immediately, and Remember Key Details

- Get to Know Your Neighbors

- Get to Know Your Neighborhood Police Officers

- Come to Court and the Warrant Office when You Witness or Are the Victim of a Crime

## MESSAGE FROM JENNIFER M. JOYCE

Investigators in the Circuit Attorney's Office are integral to pursuing justice, enforcing the laws, and prosecuting the criminals who break them. Formally charging a defendant in the Warrant Office is truly only the very beginning of the criminal justice process.

A CAO Investigator must plug any holes in cases by seeking out missing information and strengthening evidence to ensure an effective and just prosecution. An investigator also helps explore any defenses given by a defendant – making sure accurate and fair information is available in preparing the case for trial. By locating and maintaining contact with



Jennifer M. Joyce  
Circuit Attorney

witnesses, serving subpoenas, and ensuring that witnesses and victims get to court, an investigator provides invaluable tools to the success of a case in court.

Because a successful

prosecution depends on the availability of witnesses and quality of their testimony, the Investigator's role in securing victim and witness participation is vital. Investigators work to help witnesses feel and know they are safe. They provide one of our Office's links between the criminal justice process and St. Louis citizens who are affected daily by crime in their neighborhoods. CAO Investigators guarantee that the best way to make our City safe from criminals is a shared effort between the public, law enforcement, and the justice system.

## THE INVESTIGATORS UNIT

Led by Chief Investigator Mike Indelicato, the investigative section of the Circuit Attorney's Office is made up of two separate but interdependent teams: the RICO Unit and the Trial Investigators. The Chief Investigator provides training, mentoring, and support to his staff of 30 investigators.

All newly hired investi-

gators are trained in the RICO unit, where they review and prepare case files for trial attorneys, grand juries and obtain important records. Investigators in the RICO unit are proficient in the many law enforcement computer systems the CAO relies on.

After receiving a case file from RICO, a Trial Investigator contacts

all victims and witnesses to ensure their participation in a case, serves necessary subpoenas, and transports victims and witnesses to trial. Each investigator works with an attorney to identify and fill any holes in the case, examine defenses and help witnesses and victims participate in the process.

## From the Courtroom

### Central Patrol

After boldly walking into the employee area of a Central West End bar during business hours, **Walter Martin** ran out with a waitress's purse. With a shocking 13 prior felony convictions, this career criminal was successfully prosecuted by [ACA Jason Steinmeyer](#) and [Investigator Len Deschler](#). Martin pled guilty to Stealing a Credit Device and Stealing 3rd Offense, and was sentenced to 5 years MDC by Judge Van Amburg in Division 19.

### North Patrol

On July 7, 2007, **Darryle Noel** and two unidentified accomplices attacked a local business owner as he left his University Loop cell phone store in the Skinker-



Noel's mugshot

DeBaliviere neighborhood. As the victim walked through the parking lot, Noel jumped out of his vehicle, put a gun to his stomach and demanded his wallet. After video surveillance picked up the fleeing thief's license plates, Noel was arrested three days later and charged with Robbery 1st and Armed Criminal Action. [ACA Krista Boston](#) and [Investigator Christine Agnew-Danback](#) successfully prosecuted the case and a jury found Noel guilty as charged and he was sentenced to 17 years MDC by Judge Van Amburg in Division 19.

### South Patrol

In July 2006, **Randy Gibbs** entered a home in Benton Park West and stole several items including an urn containing the remains of the victim's deceased parents. A neighbor called 911 and police arrived to Gibbs fleeing from a side door. Despite his claim that he was visiting his drug dealer at the time, a jury found the prior offender guilty of Burglary 2nd and Resisting Arrest. [Colleen Lang](#) and [Investigator Sherlita Stewart](#) handled the case in Division 18 where Judge Dierker sentenced Gibbs to 20 years MDC.

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN INVESTIGATOR

**7:30-8:00:** *Organize* case files for attorney. Examine file for missing evidence or witnesses. Look for holes in the prosecution's case.

**8:00-9:00:** *Provide* a victim of domestic assault with transportation to court proceedings so she is able to testify against her attacker. Coordinate efforts with the Victim Services caseworker so the victim's safety and comfort is ensured at all times.

**9:00-11:30:** *Interview* witnesses and police officers for upcoming trial. Conduct background investigations

of victims, witnesses and defendant. Create detailed reports for attorney.

**11:30-12:00:** *Drive* to evidence room of the St. Louis Police Department to retrieve evidence needed for afternoon trial.

**1:00-2:30:** *Visit* listed work and home addresses of eyewitness to recent armed robbery. Locate and subpoena witness to testify in court. Update witness information to ensure that court has correct contact information.

**2:30-4:30:** *Transport*

assigned attorney to the scene of a recent hit and run to meet with Accident Reconstruction Officer from the St. Louis Police Department. Examine crime scene and take necessary photographs.

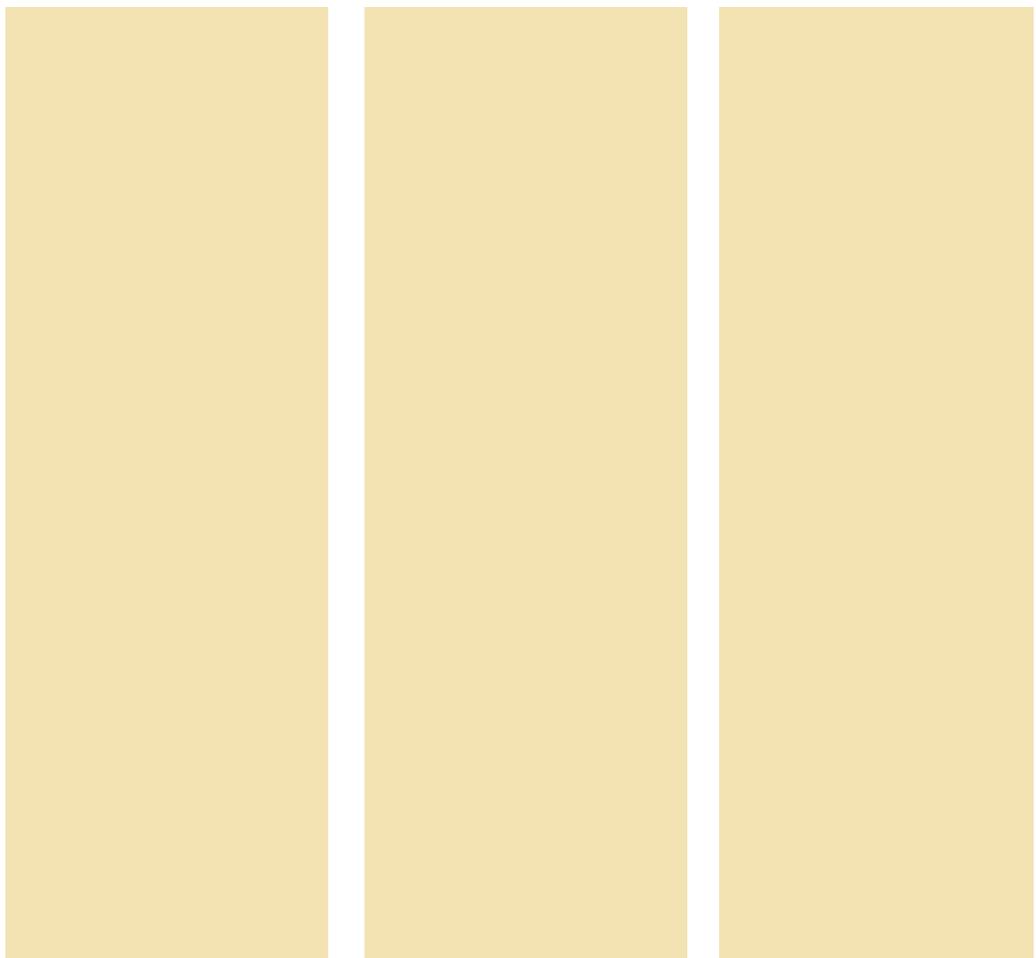
**4:30-5:30:** *Observe* a criminal trial in the Carnahan Courthouse.

#### CHILD SUPPORT UPDATE

The drug money seized and re-allocated by the Child Support Unit so far in 2009 is an incredible \$44,311.85! **That's money taken out of the hands of drug dealers and given to needy families instead.**

## INVESTIGATORS UNIT:

### INVESTIGATOR PROFILES



## JUSTICE SERVED FOR OFFICER NORVELLE BROWN

On August 12, 2009, a City of St. Louis jury found Antonio Andrews guilty of 1st Degree Murder in the August 15, 2007 deadly shooting of St. Louis Police Officer Norvelle Brown. Only 22 years old, Officer Brown had been a member of the St. Louis Police Department for just over a year at the time of the shooting.

Officer Brown attended Vashon High School in St. Louis. He joined the Metropolitan Police Force because of his sincere desire to make a difference in his community -- even requesting to be assigned to the very streets on which he spent his youth. When he was gunned

down on these streets, his neighborhood mourned the senseless tragedy.

Assistant Circuit Attorney Sean O'Hagan, a member of the Circuit Attorney's Career Criminal Unit, successfully prosecuted this especially complex and challenging case. During Antonio Andrews' trial, several eyewitnesses recanted their original taped statements identifying the defendant as Officer Brown's killer. Unfortunately, it is not uncommon for witnesses, namely fellow gang members, to change their statements during the course of the trial out of fear or outside pressure. Nevertheless, the jury soundly

rejected these discrepancies, maintaining the truth in the witnesses' original statements.

"This was a difficult case for prosecutor Sean O'Hagan and the professionals in this Office who worked tirelessly to ensure that justice was served," says Jennifer M. Joyce, Circuit Attorney. "Our community as a whole suffers whenever a police officer is shot and killed. Daily, police officers serve and protect our entire community. We want to send a strong message -- if you break the law, we will hold you accountable."



communities are organized and committed to safety. Local celebrations involved hundreds of neighborhoods and blocks who joined together for parties and got to know their neighbors.

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The Circuit Attorney's Office is proud of our annual participation in National Night Out, a nationwide crime and drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. August 2009 marks the 9th year Circuit Attorney Jennifer Joyce has sponsored people from the Circuit Attorney's Office in

participating in the National event. 24 members of our Office including support staff, attorneys, and investigators visited participating City neighborhoods and block parties throughout the City. By encouraging all City residents to work with the criminal justice system, the CAO sends a strong message to criminals -- our

## POLICE OFFICER OF THE QUARTER: OFFICER DAVID RUDOLPH

We are extremely pleased to announce that the Summer 2009 Police Officer of the Quarter is **Officer David Rudolph**.

In spring of 2009, Officer Rudolph served as the primary witness in the trial of a drug offender found with both cocaine base and marijuana in his vehicle. After he was arrested, Fabrice Lewis attempted to claim that Officer Rudolph and his partner ran up to his car with their guns drawn and refused to offer a reason for his arrest.

Officer Rudolph confidently rejected these false

allegations. As **ACA Bryan Sanger** maintains, "Officer Rudolph was clear, concise, and confident in his statements... he was able to handle defense attorney attacks." Equally noteworthy, Sanger commends Officer Rudolph for his sincere dedication to the trial's outcome, reporting that he even came in for a pretrial interview while on scheduled vacation.

When a jury found Lewis guilty of Possession of a Controlled Substance and Possession of Marijuana under 35 grams, Officer Rudolph returned to testify during the sentencing phase of

the trial. He came equipped with documents, photographs, and a detailed history of his prior encounters with Lewis to underscore his conviction that the criminal should serve the prosecutor's recommended sentence. The jury agreed, and Judge Frawley sentenced Fabrice Lewis in Division 22 on April 28, 2009 to the state's recommended 4 years MDC. ACA Sanger reports, "His conduct exemplifies the qualities that we seek when working with police officers. The citizens of St. Louis are lucky to have Officer Rudolph on their side."

## From the Courtroom Central Patrol

Late on the evening of April 3, 2009, **Gary Jenkins** broke into the Bowood Farms nursery in the Central West End and stole several pieces of equipment and tools. Spotted by a nighttime janitor, Jenkins was promptly arrested. He pled guilty to charges of Burglary 2nd and Stealing Over \$500 and handed down two consecutive 15 year sentences by Judge Van Amburg in Division 19. [ACA Jason Steinmeyer](#) and [Investigator Len Deschler](#) successfully prosecuted the case.

## North Patrol

The Mark Twain neighborhood is finally safe from persistent offender **William Hampton**. Police officers describe unsuccessfully chasing Hampton, who has four prior convictions, on multiple occasions before finally catching up with the criminal. [ACA Jason Steinmeyer](#) and [Investigator Len Deschler](#) handled the case in Division 5, where Hampton pled guilty to Tampering 1st, 2 counts of Receiving Stolen Property Under \$500, and Driving with a Suspended License. He was sentenced to 7 years MDC.

## South Patrol



McCottrell's mugshots

Justice was finally obtained for two victims of a dangerous armed robber when **Jhavaunn McCottrell** was sentenced to 11 years MDC by Judge Heagney in Division 10 on November 14, 2008. After 4 ½ years and 4 trials, a jury convicted McCottrell of 2 counts Robbery 1st and 2 counts Armed Criminal Action in what prosecutors came to refer to as the "deja-vu case." Four times, the victims pointed to McCottrell as the man who dug through their pockets at gunpoint near the Botanical Gardens. [ACAs Krista Boston](#) and [Brad Elkin](#) handled the case in Division 10 and [Investigators Terri Canoy](#) and [Christine Agnew-Danback](#) helped secure the conviction.

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Jennifer M. Joyce,  
 Circuit Attorney

## OFFICE INFORMATION AND IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

*The Circuit Attorney is the prosecutor for State-level criminal cases in the City of St. Louis. The Circuit Attorney's Office stands against those who break the law by holding them accountable for their actions. The Circuit Attorney is elected by the citizens of the City of St. Louis. The current Circuit Attorney, Jennifer M. Joyce, works with a staff of lawyers, investigators, and other professionals to protect the public by pursuing justice for all.*



Mel Carnahan Courthouse

*The Office is one of the largest law firms in the St. Louis region. It has more than 60 attorneys, 30 investigators, 11 victim professionals, and 20 support professionals. The Office handles approximately 4000 felonies and 8000 misdemeanors per year; and has a remarkable 98 percent over all conviction rate.*

Fire, Police & Ambulance -----	911
Victim Services -----	(314) 622-4373
Child Abuse Hotline -----	1-800-392-3738
Circuit Clerk -----	(314) 641-8622
Orders of Protection/Adult Abuse Hotline -----	(314) 622-4434
City Hall -----	(314) 622-4000
Sexual Abuse Response Team (SART) -----	(314) 531-7273
Neighborhood Stabilization Office -----	(314) 622-4628
Fraud Assistance Line -----	(314) 612-1412