

AWARDS & EMPLOYEE ACHIEVEMENTS

Prosecutor Dow with Members of Her Staff who Received the
Essex County Teamwork Award for 2006 and 2007



Teamwork Award Given by Essex County
Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.



Essex County Teamwork Award

*This Award is
Presented by the
County Executive
to an Employee
Who Represents
Dedication to
Quality Service,
Respect for
His or Her Fellow
Workers and a
Willingness to
Take the Extra
Step to do an
Extraordinary Job*



2006 & 2007

ESSEX COUNTY TEAMWORK AWARD WINNERS:

Detective Arnold H. Anderson

Detective Arnold Anderson has been assigned to the Essex County Prosecutor's Office Vehicular Homicide Unit for the past seven years. He is responsible for investigating fatal traffic accidents and assisting local police with technical expertise to investigate collisions. Detective Anderson also oversees traffic safety grants for Essex County. Since joining the ECPO in 2000, Detective Anderson has been recognized on several occasions for his contributions to the citizens of Essex County. He received the Essex County Teamwork Award in November 2006. He also received the Traffic Education Safety Award from the Traffic Engineering and Safety Forum in November 2007. Detective Anderson is the President of the Traffic Officers Association of New Jersey and the author of the "Smarter Driver-Safer Streets Program." In addition to his investigative duties, Detective Anderson lectures about driver's safety to high school students throughout the County.

Automation Specialist Lorraine De Gardner

Lorraine De Gardner, an employee with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office for the past 22 years, received the Essex County Teamwork Award in May 2006. As the Office Automation Specialist for the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, De Gardner is responsible for training employees, computerizing forms, designing PowerPoint presentations, providing technical assistance and coordinating special projects/events within the Office. She created the "ECPO University," a training program designed to meet the needs of the ECPO staff by providing individual and group training in software applications. De Gardner also designed the Central Forms Bank, a location wherein all the standardized/computerized forms and applications she creates are stored for easy access to the staff. In her spare time, De Gardner teaches tap and jazz dance classes. She also teaches a special dance class comprised of mentally challenged women.

Clerical Supervisor Rosemary A. Facchino

Rosemary Facchino has been an employee with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office for the past 37 years. She received the teamwork award in 2006. Facchino prepares monthly grant reports and maintains the statistics for the Narcotics Unit. She assists the unit director in the preparation of reports. Facchino often serves as a mentor to younger employees, including detectives and assistant prosecutors. She enjoys spending time with her family and participating in aerobics.

Victim/Witness Advocate Lisa A. Fonseca

Lisa Fonseca, Victim Witness Advocate assigned to the Child Abuse Unit of the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, received the teamwork award in 2006. Her duties include contacting and assisting children and their families who are victims of sexual and physical assaults. She guides victims and their families through the criminal justice system. Fonseca has been an employee with the ECPO for the past seven years.

Automation Specialist Cindy Hamilton

Cindy Hamilton, Automation Specialist with the Essex County Prosecutor’s Office for the past 6 years, received the Essex County Teamwork Award in 2006. Hamilton created a computer program that tracks the entire vertical trial program. Hamilton is responsible for maintaining the logistics and statistic support for vertical units.

Senior Clerk Vanessa Harper Woods

Vanessa Harper Woods, a Senior Clerk in the Essex County Prosecutor’s Office Complaint & Indictment Unit, received the Essex County Teamwork Award in September 2007. Woods is responsible for entering complaints from the Central Judicial Processing Unit to the Promis/Gavel system. Woods enjoys participating in church activities in her spare time.

Principal Clerk Halimah A. Harris

Halimah Harris, Principal Clerk assigned to the Megan’s Law Unit, received the Essex County Teamwork Award in 2006. Harris’ responsibilities include opening and processing new cases which are sent to the Megan’s Law Unit from prison, probation and other jurisdictions. Harris has testified in numerous Megan’s Law Grand Jury cases as the Custodian of Records. She is the only Clerk in the Essex County Prosecutor’s Office who performs this task. Harris has been employed with ECPO for the past eight years.

Vehicle Fire Case Specialist Doris Stoeckel

Doris Stoeckel, an employee with the Essex County Prosecutor’s Office for the past 24 years, received the Essex County Teamwork Award in 2007. Stoeckel is the Vehicle Fire Case Specialist in the Arson Unit. She is responsible for coordinating with a grant funded program to combat insurance fraud involving vehicle arson.

Data Processing Technician Joan Washington

Joan Washington, the Data Processing Technician for the Grand Jury Unit in the Essex County Prosecutor’s Office, received the Essex County Teamwork Award in August 2007. Washington, an employee with the Prosecutor’s Office for the past 21 years, is responsible for scheduling the dates for grand jury and maintaining statistics. She also supervises nine clerical employees. In her spare time, Washington enjoys spending time with her grandchildren while working in her garden. She also enjoys playing bingo, fishing and bowling.

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Prosecutor Dow with Members of Her Staff Who Received the POMA Award for 2007



POMA AWARD

(Prosecutor's Office Management Association of NJ)

The Award is given by the Prosecutor's Office Management Association of New Jersey to Support Staff of the Various Prosecutors' Offices throughout New Jersey for Excellent Achievement in the Performance of their Daily Duty.



2006 & 2007 POMA AWARD WINNERS:

Victim Witness Advocate Carmen Aponte

Carmen Aponte, Victim Witness Advocate, received the Prosecutor's Office Management Award in 2006. Aponte, an employee with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office for the past fourteen years, provides referrals and outreach services to victims of crimes. In her spare time, Aponte enjoys spending time with her husband, adult children and grandchildren.

Senior Clerk Typist Lorenda Grier

Lorenda Grier, Senior Clerk Typist assigned to the Narcotics Task Force, received the Prosecutor's Office Management Association Award in 2007. Grier assists Director/Assistant Prosecutor Thomas Fennelly with preparing their annual grant application. She processes the paperwork for equipment and office supplies purchased through grants. Grier, an employee with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office for the past ten years, enjoys spending time with her family and reading in her spare time.

Photo Processor Lloyd Holmes

Lloyd Holmes serves as the photo processor with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office. As the official Office Photographer/Videographer, Holmes is responsible for developing prints and maintaining photo layouts and photo enlargements of crime scene evidence. His duties also include photographing/videoing special events, news conferences, seminars, swearing-in ceremonies, etc. held by the Essex County Prosecutor's Office.

Supervising Clerk Typist Anita Robinson

Anita Robinson received the Prosecutor's Office Management Association Award in 2006. An employee for the past 25 years with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, Robinson works as a Supervising Clerk Typist. Robinson is responsible for keeping statistics and data entry for the Initial Screening Unit.

Senior Legal Stenographer Kathleen A. Welsh

Kathy Welsh, Senior Legal Stenographer, has been employed with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office for 30 years. She was initially hired in 1965 and left the office in 1977 to raise her children. Welsh returned to the Essex County Prosecutor's Office in 1990. Her work duties consist of managing the workload of appellate attorneys. "I'm appreciative of receiving the POMA Award and thankful for the support of my section," said Welsh.

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National Crime Victims Rights

To commemorate National Crime Victims Rights Week, on April 23, 2007, the Essex County Prosecutor's Office honored members of its team who make the difference in the lives of crime victims and witnesses every day. Employees were honored for championing on the behalf of victims and witnesses. These employees give a voice to the "voiceless." Listed below are the 2006 and 2007 recipients of this award:

Michelle R. Bolan, Detective
Leslie C. Branch, Assistant Prosecutor
John T. Brewington, Lieutenant
Thomas Demetriou, Detective
Walter J. Dirkin, Assistant Prosecutor/Act. Director
Louis P. Garrett, Jr., Detective
Peter Guarino, Assistant Prosecutor
Linda J. Nevadomski, Assistant Prosecutor
Nichele L. Patrick, Detective
Robert Robowtham, II, Assistant Prosecutor
Reginald E. Sims, Assistant Prosecutor
Gwen Williams, Assistant Prosecutor/Director
Teodoro Zangari, Detective
Howard Zuckerman, Assistant Prosecutor/Supervisor

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2006 & 2007

VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS:

Captain John Melody, an employee with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office for the past 24 years, received the Essex County 200 Club Valor Award in May 2006. Captain Melody received the award for utilizing his negotiation tactics in a hostage crisis following a high speed pursuit.

Detective Daniel Francis was presented with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office Valor Award in May 2007. Detective Francis, a six year employee with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, had a childhood dream of becoming a law enforcement officer.

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2007 CRIMINAL TRIAL AWARD:

Assistant Prosecutor/Supervisor Rachel Gran

AP/Supervisor Rachel was awarded the Essex County Bar Association’s Criminal Trial Award in 2007. Ms. Gran, a 20 year employee with the Essex County Prosecutor’s Office, also serves as a Trial Supervisor. Ms. Gran has devoted her career to the pursuit of justice, one case at a time.

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LAW REVIEW AUTHOR:

Lieutenant James B. Johnston

Lieutenant James Johnston, who was admitted to the New Jersey State Bar eleven years ago, recently wrote two law review articles. In 2006, he wrote an article entitled, “Drugs, Dogs and the Fourth Amendment: An Analysis of Justice Stevens’ Opinion in Illinois v. Caballes.” The article, which was published by the Quinnipiac Law Review, discusses the U.S. Supreme Court’s use of search and seizure jurisprudence in regards to law enforcement’s use of drug sniffing dogs, as part of a narcotics interdiction program during traffic stops. Lieutenant Johnston wrote another article which appeared in the New England Law Review entitled, “Prosecuting Government Fraud Despite the CSI Effect: Getting the Jury to Follow the Money.” The article discusses the “CSI Effect” and its potential impact on juries in government corruption trials. It provides a step by step approach on the advantages of using visual aids like paper charts or PowerPoint to help the jury follow the money trail linked to the corrupt employees who are benefiting from fraud. Lieutenant Johnston is a 17-year veteran with the Essex County Prosecutor’s Office.

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OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD:

The Essex County Prosecutor’s Office Arson Unit received the Outstanding Accomplishment Award from the International Association of Arson Investigators on May 1, 2007. The Arson Unit, which was created in 1998, leads the state in arson investigations. The Arson Unit was awarded for their investigation and prosecution into the tragic fire at Seton Hall University in 2000. The investigation proved the fire was not accidental, which later led to the case of State v. Joseph Lepore & Sean Ryan. The defendants were sentenced to jail in 2007. The Arson Unit utilized resources from municipal detectives, the State Police, the Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms, Tobacco and Explosives (AFT) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

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NEW JERSEY BOXING HALL OF FAME:

Detective Guy M. Casale

Detective Guy Casale was recently inducted into the New Jersey Boxing Hall of Fame. Casale, a 19-year veteran with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, began his boxing career in 1976. Casale won many amateur fights and became known as "The Rock" for his resemblance and fighting style to former heavyweight boxer, Rocky Marciano. In 1978, Casale gained national recognition for his fight with Bobby Halpern. During the fight, Casale delivered a crashing right punch to Halpern's jaw that rendered him unconscious for nearly three minutes. In 1979, Casale sustained a severe injury to his right eye during a fight. He made a comeback two years later and earned a spot on the first Tommy Hearns vs. Sugar Ray Leonard heavyweight boxing match. Casale fought Joe Frazier's son, Marvis Frazier. Unfortunately, he sustained an injury during the fight, which prompted the referee to end the match. This was Casale's final ring appearance. His career record shows only three losses in 21 professional fights. Casale went on to become a police officer. He completed his college degree, attended graduate school and ultimately obtained a law degree.

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OUTSTANDING PUBLIC OFFICIAL:

Assistant Prosecutor Frederick P. Elflein

Assistant Prosecutor Frederick Elflein was awarded Outstanding Public Official by the New Jersey/New York Detectives Crime Clinic in 2007. Elflein received the award based on his successful prosecution in State vs. Omar Bridges. Omar Bridges, a resident of East Orange, was recently sentenced to 50 years in prison for shooting Newark Police Officer Eduardo Patinho in the face three years ago. A 17-year veteran with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, Elflein found it satisfying to receive the Outstanding Public Official Award. The Detectives Crime Clinic is a non-profit law enforcement organization founded in 1942.

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*Congratulations to all of
our Award Winners!*

2006 PERFECT ATTENDANCE AWARD

Arnold Anderson, Detective
Beldora Benjamin, Principal Clerk Typist
Richard Bland, Assistant Prosecutor
Julie Brewer-Graves, Detective
John Brewington, Lieutenant
William DiBuono, Assistant Prosecutor/ Supervisor
Portia Downing, Assistant Prosecutor
Jack Eutsey, Agent
James Gerofsky, Senior Program Analyst
Vanessa Harper-Woods, Senior Clerk
Eduardo Hernandez, Detective
Raymond Hoffman, Assistant Prosecutor
Lloyd Holmes, Photographer
Howard Johnson, Detective
Virginia Jones, Clerk
James Marinucci, Deputy Chief
Brendan McCarthy, Assistant Prosecutor
Thomas McTigue, Assistant Prosecutor
Robert Parsons, Detective
Julio Quinones, Detective
Anita Robinson, Supervising Clerk Typist
Reginald Sims, Assistant Prosecutor



2007 PERFECT ATTENDANCE AWARD

Richard Bland, Assistant Prosecutor
Julie Brewer-Graves, County Investigator
John Brewington, Lieutenant of County Investigators
Marlin Bullock, County Investigator
James Contreras, County Investigator
Anthony Cox, County Investigator
William DiBuono, Jr., Assistant Prosecutor/Supervisor
Portia Downing, Assistant Prosecutor
Thomas Fennelly, Assistant Prosecutor/Director
James Gerofsky, Senior Program Analyst
Vanessa Harper-Woods, Senior Clerk
Raymond Hoffman, Assistant Prosecutor
Lloyd Holmes, Photographer, Processing & Developer
Virginia Jones, Clerk
James Marinucci, Deputy Chief of County Investigator
John McGarry, County Investigator
Thomas McTigue, Assistant Prosecutor
Vincent Nardone, County Investigator
Reginald Sims, Assistant Prosecutor
Anthony Sommese, County Investigator
Mariana Trieschmann, Lieutenant of County Investigators

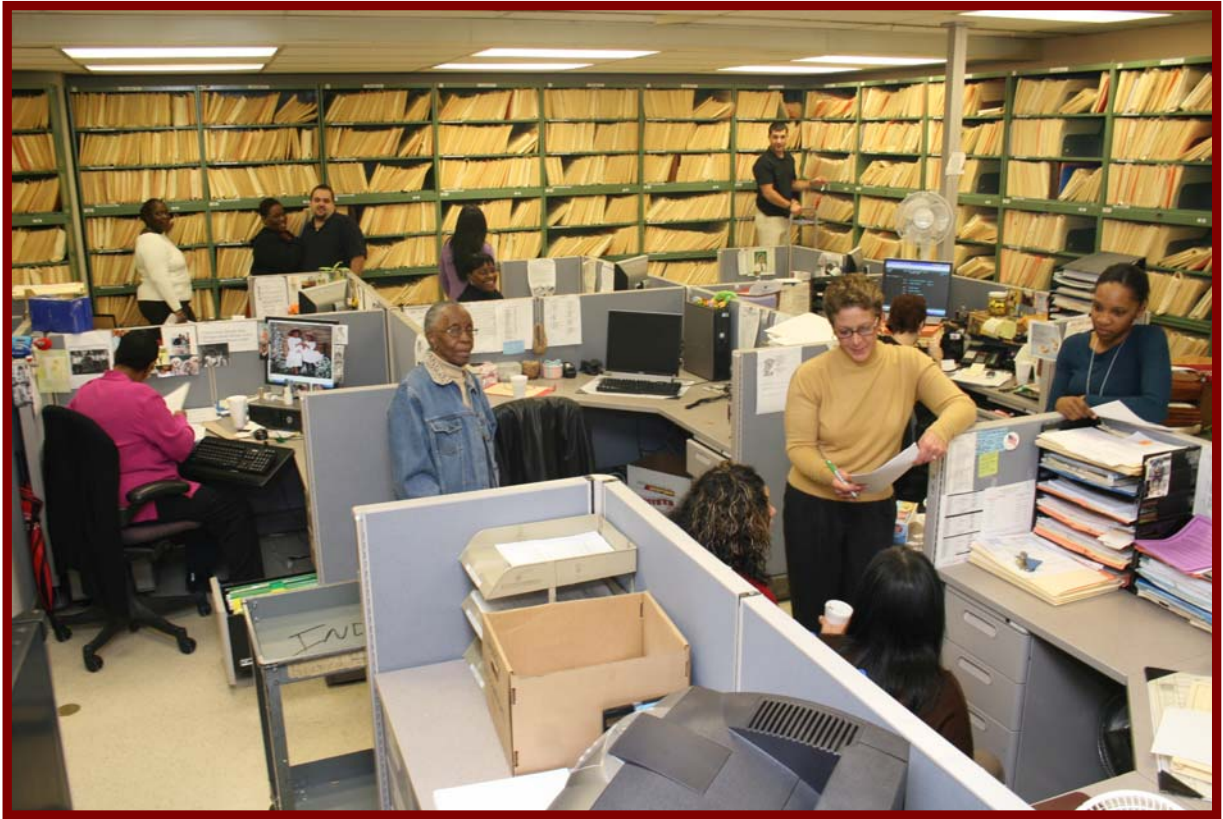


Prosecutor Dow and Victim/Witness Coordinator Pamela McCauley, along with some members of the Victim/Witness Unit, as they joyfully exhibit the voluminous donated gifts!



2007 HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

*The Essex County Prosecutor's Office
Collected and Distributed **Over 500** Toys
to Local Underprivileged Children!*



ECPO RECORD ROOM



FRONT OFFICE STAFF



NEWLY HIRED ASSISTANT PROSECUTORS



SWEARING-IN NEW DETECTIVES



TEAM SPIRIT!