

**Bristol County District Attorney's Office  
C. Samuel Sutter  
District Attorney**

**Press Release  
July 14, 2008**

Bristol County District Attorney Sam Sutter today announced an ambitious plan to help prevent crime in Fall River by keeping the city's children active, healthy and off the streets. During an afternoon press conference at B.M.C. Durfee High School today, District Attorney Sutter announced plans for annual three-pronged free sports clinics for Fall River's youth.

District Attorney Sutter was joined today to make the announcement by Fall River Mayor Robert A. Correia, former Providence College and Boston Celtic hoops star Ernie DiGregorio, former Red Sox pitcher and current Volunteer Coordinator for the district attorney's office Brian Rose, Fall River Boys and Girls Club Director Peter McCarthy, Fall River Community Development Recreation Director Jamison Souza, the district attorney's Director of Community Affairs Cecelia Porche and several volunteers.

**Free Tennis Clinics**

District Attorney Sutter, a former tennis professional who traveled the world playing and teaching the game, will be the lead instructor for two free tennis clinics later this month. The free tennis clinics will take place on Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at the new B.M.C. Durfee High School tennis courts. Children who are 7 or 8 years old will be instructed from 8:30 to 9:20 a.m.; 9 and 10 year olds will take the court between 9:30 and 10:20 a.m.; and 11 and 12 year old children will be taught from 10:30 to 11:20 a.m. The clinics are absolutely free. Racquets, balls and water will be provided for all.

Registration forms for the free tennis clinics can be picked up and filled out at the District Attorney's Fall River office at 38 Rock St., The District Attorney's New Bedford office at 888 Purchase St., the Fall River CD Recreation office/Bank Street Armory at 72 Bank Street or The Fall River Boys and Girls Club at 803 Bedford Street. Tennis registration forms are available now. Parents with any questions or concerns can contact Volunteer Coordinator Brian Rose at 508-997-0711, ext 422.

District Attorney Sutter will be assisted by volunteers from his office and from local high school and college tennis teams.

District Attorney Sutter began offering free tennis clinics to Fall River youth in 2000 and has continued to offer them each year since. As the new district attorney for Bristol County, Sutter has decided to extend the program into New Bedford and Attleboro with plans for more expansion next year.

The District Attorney made the decision to conduct free tennis clinics and carry on the tradition started by his father, Clifford Sutter, shortly after his father died in May of 2000. Clifford Sutter was one of the best tennis players in the country during the 1930s, and was ranked as high as fifth in the world in 1932. The elder Sutter was a two-time National Intercollegiate Tennis Singles Champion at Tulane University and reached the semi-finals of the U.S. Open in 1932, losing to the eventual champion, Elsworth Vines, in the longest semi-final match in U.S. Open History. Clifford Sutter later in life became the President of the Eastern Tennis Association in 1961 and as president he started an intensive program to expand tennis' popularity beyond country clubs. He did this by conducting and organizing countless free tennis clinics at public parks and public schools in the eastern region, and by spearheading an effort to construct public tennis courts throughout the east. In its obituary about Clifford Sutter, the NY Times wrote that this was his greatest legacy to the game of tennis.

### **Basketball Clinics**

District Attorney Sutter's office, in conjunction with Mayor Robert A. Correia's Office and the city's Recreation Department, will put on two free basketball clinics in November. The clinic's lead instructor will be Ernie DiGregorio, who as a collegian led Providence College to its first ever Final Four appearance. DiGregorio is also a former Boston Celtic and was a recipient of the NBA Rookie of the Year award. DiGregorio will be assisted at the free clinics by Volunteers from District Attorney Sutter's office and local high school varsity basketball players.

DiGregorio was also the lead instructor for the district attorney's first free basketball clinic, which brought out about 100 children in Taunton this past March.

The free Fall River basketball clinics will take place on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at the Spencer Borden School at 1400 President Avenue and Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at the Bank Street Armory located at 72 Bank Street.

Children who are 7 or 8 years old will be instructed from 9 a.m. to 9:50 a.m.; 9 and 10 year olds will take the court from 10 to 10:50 a.m.; and 11 and 12 year olds will be taught from 11 to 11:50 a.m.

Registration forms for the free basketball clinics will be available at all of Fall River's elementary and middle schools beginning in mid-September. Forms can also be picked up any time after September 15<sup>th</sup> at the District Attorney's Fall River office at 38 Rock St., The District Attorney's New Bedford office at 888 Purchase St., the Fall River CD Recreation office/Bank Street Armory at 72 Bank Street or The Fall River Boys and Girls Club at 803 Bedford Street. Parents with any questions or concerns can contact Volunteer Coordinator Brian Rose at 508-997-0711, ext 422.

## **Baseball Clinics**

District Attorney Sutter's office has partnered with the City of Fall River to offer two free baseball clinics on Saturday, April 18 and Saturday, April 25, 2009. The actual location of the free baseball clinics has yet to be decided, but the dates are set. The lead instructor for the free baseball clinic will be former Red Sox pitcher Brian Rose, who is currently working as the district attorney's Volunteer Coordinator. Rose will be assisted by several volunteers from District Attorney Sutter's office. The clinics will be free and open to any Fall River child between the ages of 7 and 12. All equipment will be provided by the District Attorney's Office and the Fall River Community Development Recreation Department. Registration forms will be available at the beginning of March.

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