

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

**Press Release**  
**September 24, 2008**

Since District Attorney Sam Sutter announced an innovative new volunteer initiative at his office last October, his prosecutors, managers and other staffers have spent more than 2,800 hours volunteering their time with 35 different agencies throughout Bristol County. District Attorney Sutter announced last year that all of his prosecutors and managers had agreed to spend at least 26 hours volunteering in the community during after work hours.

To celebrate the fact that his office members have gone above and beyond their individual 26 hour volunteer commitment during the past year and to continue to push the volunteer initiative forward, the District Attorney's Office will be holding a Volunteer Fair this afternoon at the Wamsutta Club in New Bedford. Approximately 25 social service and youth mentoring agencies will have booths set up at the fair, allowing office prosecutors and managers a chance to discover what each agency specializes in. The office staffers will have an opportunity to either stay with the agency they volunteered with during the past year or connect with a new group they learn about during the Volunteer Fair. The special event will take place at the Wamsutta Club, 427 County St., New Bedford, today from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Members of the media are invited to attend and speak with volunteer providers and members of District Attorney Sutter's office about their volunteer experiences over the past year.

Through the first year of the program, more than 80 members of Sutter's office have volunteered their time after work hours. Several members of Sutter's office have also volunteered their time to assist the district attorney at the various free youth sports clinics held in each of the county's four cities and at other special events during the past 12 months. District Attorney Sutter promised during the campaign of 2006 to do more with Community Outreach and spend less money from the District Attorney's budget doing it. Through the volunteer initiative, the numerous free youth sports clinics and the constant presence of his office at neighborhood association meetings throughout the county, the District Attorney has followed through on that pledge. During his first full fiscal year in office, District Attorney Sutter has slashed spending in the Community Affairs Unit by more than 65 percent, while also doing much more with the unit in this

era of limits on governmental spending. By reducing the amount of taxpayer money spent in Community Affairs while also offering more services than ever before, District Attorney Sutter has been able to add 10 more prosecutors into Bristol County's courtrooms.

"I am very proud of what the prosecutors and managers with my office have done in our communities over the past year. They embraced my idea about volunteering after work hours with enthusiasm and then reached out to our communities in a variety of activities with verve. I am also proud to have been able, through their efforts, to follow through on another campaign promise," District Attorney Sutter said.

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