## **COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Office of



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## Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. Elected President of the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association

WORCESTER – Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. was elected President of the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association (MDAA) in a unanimous vote by the Commonwealth's District Attorneys on Wednesday.

"I am honored and grateful to my colleagues for their trust and confidence in me," said District Attorney Early. "I look forward to continuing to work together on all the issues impacting public safety, including promoting crime prevention programs and supporting victims. I am eager to continue building on the progress we've made together."

The Massachusetts District Attorneys Association is an independent state agency dedicated to supporting the eleven elected Massachusetts District Attorneys and their staff, including approximately 785 prosecutors and 260 victim witness advocates. The MDAA promotes public safety, justice, and fairness through collaboration and statewide policy initiatives.

This marks the second time District Attorney Early has been chosen to lead the organization, having previously served as MDAA President in 2012. Most recently, he served as the association's Vice President.

Since taking office in 2007, District Attorney Early has committed his time in office to crime prevention, including providing safety programs to youth and seniors that have now reached more than 700,000 people. He is also committed to supporting community programs, especially those that keep kids around responsible adults between the hours of 3 to 6 p.m., a proven strategy for preventing crime. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, for every dollar invested in juvenile crime prevention strategies, there is a savings of \$7 to \$10 of taxpayer money in the criminal justice system.

District Attorney Early has also been at the forefront of addressing the overdose epidemic and eliminating the stigma surrounding substance use disorder. He has built a Prevention and Support Network of more than 700 community members who work together to address the trauma, substance use, and mental health needs of those in Worcester County.

As MDAA President, District Attorney Early will bring his wealth of experience and commitment to justice to the role, continuing his efforts to foster collaboration, advance public safety initiatives, and ensure fairness and integrity in Massachusetts' legal system.