

# Community & Government Relations (CGR)

Created in 2015, this division seeks to increase community engagement, maximize the office's prevention and education outreach as well as strengthen public trust. CGR also includes media relations and legislative advocacy on issues impacting public safety

CGR is dedicated to improving communication with the public and youth by working on a number of fronts, including:

- Creating, expanding, and facilitating a number of adult and youth education and prevention programs;
- Communicating and providing information through traditional news media, the office newsletter Justice Journal, the neighborhood app Nextdoor and social media platforms: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Google +, YouTube, and a soon-to-be launched Podcast;
- Researching legislative bills and advocating for policies that will protect public safety, including testifying at legislative hearings.

## Additional Outreach Programs

### Citizens Academy:

An 11-week course created to engage the community in developing a mutual understanding of the criminal justice system. Diversity and racial issues within the framework of the criminal justice system are explored.

### Criminal Justice Leadership Academy:

A two-day academy in which community leaders are invited to attend and learn about the criminal justice system, the issues of officer-involved shootings, race relations as well as programs the justice partners have implemented to help reduce the opportunity gap.



# Youth Programs

### Crime Lab Youth Shadow Day:

High school students get hands-on education from criminalists, who are experts in the field of forensic science. Areas covered include evidence preservation and chain of custody, crime scene investigations, drug and ballistics testing, and DNA analysis.



### Criminal Justice Youth Shadow Day:

High school students have the opportunity to get a first-hand look at the criminal justice system by shadowing prosecutors, defense attorneys, investigators, probation officers, and judges.

### District Attorney (DA) Youth Academy:

A 10-session program located in various parts of the county where high school students actively learn about the criminal justice system, and engage in open communication with law enforcement justice partners about issues that affect youth today.

### GIFT (Gun-Violence Information For Teens):

Educates teens about the legal consequences of gun possession and gun related violence, and encourages them to make positive choices. The GIFT team goes into the Youth Detention Facility, middle schools and high schools. This is a collaborative effort with the Public Defender's Office, Probation Department, and other law enforcement agencies.

### #iSMART (Internet, Social Media Awareness, Resources & Training):



This interactive, scenario-driven program teaches middle school and high school students about new challenges, risks, and threats in the world of social media - whether at home, school, or online. It also raises the personal, academic, professional and legal consequences of their digital footprint.

### District Attorney's Community Relations Cabinet (CRC):

Launching in 2019, the CRC will bring together constituents from cultural and economic sectors to identify and address public safety issues specific to their communities.



### Luther Burbank Youth Academy:

A partnership with the Sacramento City Unified School District to establish a Youth Academy course at Burbank High School.

### Reading Partners - DA Partnership:

A first-of-its-kind program, the DA's Office has partnered with the nonprofit "Reading Partners," pairing members of the office with youth to enhance their literacy skills.



### Youth and Community Connect:

A partnership with Always Knocking, La Familia and Roberts Family Development Center to develop a website and mobile app to assist families, agencies, youth and others with information and resources available to them in the community.



### Speakers Bureau:

Members of the DA's Office are matched with community groups and organizations wanting to learn more about the criminal justice system. There are more than 30 topics and 135 speakers across all levels and areas of expertise.

### "We Connect":

Aware that Sacramento is one of the most diverse communities in the nation, new lawyers will work hands-on in the community and learn about their neighborhoods, cultures and lifestyles to build stronger relationships and get a better understanding of the communities we represent.

## Community Prosecution Unit (CPU)

As part of CGR, community prosecutors work in neighborhoods throughout the city and county. They work to create partnerships with citizens, law enforcement, community groups, and businesses to proactively address quality of life issues including drug, prostitution, graffiti, and homelessness.

### CPU programs and projects include:

#### Abandoned Properties

In partnership with the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, Code Enforcement, and county staff to eliminate nuisances on vacant, open and accessible properties—both residential and commercial.

#### Business Watch

A program designed to encourage businesses to take an active role in preventing crime by sharing information, raising awareness and training employees to recognize criminal activity. Business Watch signs, decals and pamphlets are distributed to participating businesses.



#### Chronic Nuisance Offender Program

In collaboration with law enforcement, Public Defender's Office and Sacramento County Alcohol and Drug Services to focus on offenders who repeatedly commit crimes that impact public safety and quality of life for a community. Working with the court and service providers, the offender is offered a tailored program to address substance abuse and mental illness to create a safer community.

#### MAGIC (Multi-Agency Graffiti Intervention Committee)

A task force involving law enforcement, city and county agencies and community members to promote community awareness in eradicating graffiti.

## Additional Programs & Task Forces

#### Animal Cruelty Task Force:

This regional team works to educate, prevent, investigate and successfully prosecute acts of animal abuse and cruelty throughout Sacramento County.



#### Collaborative Courts:

The adult courts provide services and avoid incarceration through partnerships with the DA's Office, Probation, Public Defender, the Court and community-based programs. Courts include Mental Health, Drug, Veteran, Homeless, and RESET for adult sexually exploited victims.

#### Juvenile: CESC (Commercial Sexually Exploited Children):

For children who are commercially sexually exploited. CESC provides them with safety and stability.

#### National Night Out:

The DA's Office participates in this annual campaign, where members of public safety and citizens come together in solidarity and celebration of crime prevention and efforts to keep neighborhoods safe.

#### PACT (Partnership Against Chronic Truancy):

An early prevention program that works with schools, the Juvenile Court, Public Defender, and Department of Human Assistance to combat truancy and keep kids in school.

#### Sacramento Together - Human Trafficking Task Force:

A coalition of law enforcement, state organizations and community-based organizations committed to working together to combat human trafficking.



## Resources

For more information, please visit our website

[www.sacda.org](http://www.sacda.org)

All of these materials can be found on our website [sacda.org](http://sacda.org) under Community Relations.

- #iSMART
- Abandoned Properties
- Animal Cruelty Prosecution Unit
- Business Watch Program
- Community Prosecution Unit
- Domestic Violence
- Elder Abuse
- Gangs
- Homicide Support Network
- Human Trafficking
- "Justice Journal" newsletter
- Partners Against Chronic Truancy
- Property Owners & Landlords – What They Should Know
- Real Estate Fraud Unit
- Sacramento County District Attorney's Office
- Sacramento Regional Family Justice Center
- Victims Bill of Rights\*
- Victim Witness Assistance Program\*
- Witness Guide to Court Proceeding
- Youth Programs

\* available in multiple languages

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# Community & Government Relations



*"Created in 2015, the Community & Government Relations (CGR) Division brings all of the office's community related efforts under one umbrella with the goal of maximizing our reach, increasing communication and making a positive impact across the communities we serve. I am proud of the new programs and partnerships created under CGR, and I am committed in building upon these efforts to engage, educate and reduce the opportunity gap."*

- District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert



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