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Contact: Elizabeth Schrack
Communications Manager
303-619-1372
elizabeth@cdac.state.co.us

Anne Kelly appointed District Attorney for the 12th Judicial District

DENVER (Aug. 29, 2022) – The Colorado District Attorneys’ Council (CDAC) commends Governor Jared Polis for the appointment of Anne Kelly as the new District Attorney for the 12th Judicial District.

The appointment fills the vacancy created in the San Luis Valley due to the resignation of Alonzo Payne on July 13, 2022. By Executive Order of Governor Polis, the Attorney General’s office, through its Special Prosecutions Unit, assumed the duties of the office. CDAC recognizes and is grateful for the tremendous work by its attorneys in handling this challenging assignment.

Over the past eight weeks, attorneys and support staff from DA offices across the state showed what it means to be a prosecutor in Colorado. When the 12th Judicial District was in need- they picked up and drove to the community to provide support. Volunteers, including Anne Kelly, handled cases, trials, and worked with victims and the community to help them feel supported once again. They came from Judicial Districts across Colorado including the 1st, 2nd, 8th, 11th, 14th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 20th, and CDAC.

CDAC Executive Director Tom Raynes said “Anne Kelly is a strong prosecutor who is especially passionate about ensuring that victims of crime are treated with the utmost dignity and respect.”

Most recently serving as Senior Deputy District Attorney in the 20th Judicial District of Boulder she had many achievements, including starting the nationally recognized Domestic Violence Acute Response Team. Her legal career spans nearly two decades in the private and public sectors, including serving as a prosecutor in the 18th, 19th, and 20th Judicial Districts.

Boulder District Attorney and current CDAC President Michael Dougherty said he applauds this decision, “Anne will be an outstanding leader and district attorney for the 12th Judicial District and all of its citizens. The San Luis Valley is gaining an extremely experienced, talented, and dedicated prosecutor.”

Kelly’s appointment is effective Thursday, September 1st.

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About CDAC

The Colorado District Attorneys' Council (CDAC) is a statewide organization representing the district attorneys for all 22 of Colorado's judicial districts. CDAC promotes safe and healthy communities for all in Colorado through training of personnel, legislative drafting and liaison, legal research, management assistance, case tracking and dissemination of data to other criminal justice agencies. Learn more at coloradoprosecutors.org.