**ADAs Switch From Prosecutors to Teachers to Help High School Students**

*High School Students learn about Criminal Justice System*

District Attorney Devon Anderson announced today that several ADAs will guide students through a series of mock trials in the civil and criminal courtrooms this week and next.

For the past 5 weeks, volunteer ADAs have been coaching and teaching Strake Jesuit High School and St. Agnes High School law class students. The students are being immersed in the criminal justice system, the law, and the mechanics of how to present a case.

“This is the first year our office has taken on the challenge of teaching what we do to high school students for this program,” said DA Anderson. “We are dedicated to public service and this is an amazing opportunity for the students to meet prosecutors in the DA’s Office and get an inside look at what we do.”

The mock trial teams have approximately 20 students. They are provided with a mock case that contains a police investigation, crime scene diagram, and statements from prosecution and defense witnesses. The students assume the roles of prosecutor, defense attorney, witnesses, jury members and present an entire criminal trial in about two and half hours. The student attorneys make opening statements, conduct direct and cross-examination of the witnesses, and make closing arguments. They use the actual Texas rules of trial procedure, evidence, and objections.

The mock trials will take place in seven courtrooms in the Civil Courthouse and the Criminal courthouse from 12:30p.m. to 3p.m. Presiding over each trial is a volunteer district or county court judge. Two volunteer attorneys assist each student.

**Friday, December 6th**

Judge Paula Goodhart – Harris County Criminal Court Number 1

1201 Franklin, 8th Floor

Judge Theresa Chang – Harris County Civil Court Number 2

201 Caroline, 5th Floor

**Monday, December 9th**

Judge Natalie Fleming – Harris County Criminal Court Number 3

1201 Franklin, 8th Floor

Judge Denise Bradley – 262nd Criminal District Court of Harris County

1201 Franklin, 15th Floor

**Tuesday, December 10th**

Judge Natalie Fleming - Harris County Criminal Court Number 3

1201 Franklin, 8th Floor

Judge Roberta Lloyd – Harris County Civil Court Number 4

201 Caroline, 5th Floor

**Wednesday, December 11th**

Judge Natalie Fleming – Harris County Criminal Court Number 3

1201 Franklin, 8th Floor

Judge John Clinton – Harris County Criminal Court Number 4

1201 Franklin, 8th Floor

**Thursday, December 12th**

Judge Natalie Fleming – Harris County Criminal Court Number 3

1201 Franklin, 8th Floor

Judge Linda Storey – Harris County Civil Court Number 3

201 Caroline, 5th Floor

**NOTE:** Media interested in covering the event please contact Camille or Jeff. Cameras are allowed in the courtroom.