



**National District Attorneys Association**  
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**April 15, 2021**

**Fellow Prosecutor,**

**Congratulations on your selection as the statewide liaison to the NFL or MLB (collectively, “the Leagues”).**

This is an exciting opportunity for America’s Prosecutors to assist the Leagues in their parallel investigations of criminal matters. In these matters, prosecutors and the Leagues share a common goal of searching for the truth. We each ultimately seek to hold people accountable when appropriate and identify any false or frivolous claims before they cause undue damage to the accused.

Your duties as a statewide liaison include the following:

- 1. Watch the 8- minute training video viewable on the link sent to you by NDAA.** This video will introduce you to Lisa Friel, the Lead Counsel for NFL Investigations, and Bryan Seeley and Moira Weinberg, Lead Counsel for MLB Investigations. All three of these individuals are former prosecutors who understand the concerns that prosecutors and law enforcement have for the integrity of our investigations. NDAA has met with each of these individuals and they are committed to this partnership and to not interfering with our mission or our prosecutorial goals.
- 2. Encourage prosecutor cooperation and information sharing:** One of the goals of our partnership is to facilitate the process of prosecutors and law enforcement sharing legally appropriate information with the Leagues, even in unfiled cases. The Leagues have a lower burden of proof than we do and may proceed with discipline even if we are unable to file a criminal case. Examples of information sharing could include: (i) meeting with League representatives; (ii) providing police reports, 911 calls, photos, and other evidence; (iii) letting the Leagues and their experts view and take notes about unreleased photos, videos, and other evidence; (iv) utilizing protective orders to permit access to otherwise undiscoverable information; and (v) describing injuries or witness demeanor to the Leagues over the phone. Additionally, the Leagues are also interested in knowing when our matters are complete, or close to being completed, so that they

can file requests to obtain public records, which will be used to inform their disciplinary decisions. It is important to remember that even if our victims decline to cooperate, the Leagues may still be able to proceed with their investigation and impose discipline as long as they have supporting information.

3. **Communication Strategy:** The Leagues will first reach out to law enforcement in the jurisdiction where the incident occurred. Should the Leagues have difficulty with either that initial communication or communications as the matter progresses, they may reach out to you for assistance. If you receive such a request, you should discuss possible next steps with the League. If appropriate and agreed to by the League, the liaison may then call the elected District Attorney in the jurisdiction where the incident occurred and encourage the elected DA to instruct the line-prosecutor to return phone calls, and do their best to keep communication lines open. In that phone call with the relevant prosecutor, it is important to educate them regarding the Leagues' processes and that the Leagues may be able to proceed with disciplinary action even in cases where we are unable to file a criminal matter and, just as importantly, do not want to proceed in cases in which your investigation has revealed evidence that the act alleged did not occur.

I am grateful that you have agreed to serve as our liaison to The Leagues.

Respectfully,



Summer Stephan  
San Diego County District Attorney  
Chair, National District Attorney's Association  
Women's Prosecutor Section  
Vice President, National District Attorney's Association

**Important Contact information:**

Questions re: NDAA's role in the partnership contact:

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