FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NDAA Recognizes Outstanding Leaders in Prosecution

ARLINGTON, VA – On Monday, July 18, the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) recognized outstanding leaders in prosecution over the past year as part of its annual luncheon transitioning the Association's leadership.

Each year, NDAA recognizes prosecutors who have distinguished themselves among their peers as they seek justice, hold offenders accountable, and protect the rights of victims. The Distinguished Prosecutor Award will be awarded to a chief prosecutor, assistant prosecutor, an aspiring woman prosecutor, and an emerging leader each year. Additionally, NDAA also recognizes a distinguished faculty member who has increased education and furthered community knowledge in their field and who actively contributes and supports the mission of NDAA. The 2022 honorees include:

- <u>Distinguished Chief Prosecutor:</u> Jonathan Blodgett, District Attorney, Essex County, MA
- Distinguished Assistant Prosecutor: Cynthia Nakao, Deputy District Attorney, Los Angeles County, LA
- Jackie Lacey Award for Aspiring Women Prosecutors: Ashley Rich, District Attorney, Mobile County, AL
- Distinguished Faculty: Eric Leafblad, Assistant State's Attorney, Cook County, IL

The next round of nominations is now open. To learn more, visit www.ndaa.org. Award winners will be announced as part of NDAA's 2023 Summer Summit in Nashville, TN.

Formed in 1950, NDAA is the oldest and largest national organization representing state and local prosecutors in the country. With more than 5,000 members representing over two thirds of the state and local prosecutors' offices, NDAA is recognized as the leading source of national expertise on the prosecution function and is a valuable resource for the media, academia, government, and community leaders. NDAA's mission is to provide state and local prosecutors with the knowledge, skills, and support they need to ensure that justice is done and that public safety rights are protected.

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