In Profile



THE NATIONAL DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION has hired a full time executive director who shows all the signs of having the leadership qualities to take the association to the zenith of viability—a height heretofore never achieved by this association. Scott Burns, who took over the reins of NDAA in March 2009, brings his years of Washington power and connections to bear on the association who dreamed but never could.

WHERE HE CAME FROM

Scott Burns was nominated by President George W. Bush and unanimously confirmed by the U. S. Senate in December 2007 to serve as the deputy director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy. Prior to that, Scott served as deputy director for State, Local and Tribal Affairs following Senate confirmation in April 2002. In 2003, Scott was appointed by the White House to serve as the U. S. representative to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), an international organization charged with eliminating doping and drug use in sport. Scott was subsequently chosen to represent the 40-nation America's region on WADA's Executive Committee and selected to chair the 180-nations' Ministers of Sport conference in Athens, Greece.

Prior to his years of federal service, Scott served for 16 years as the elected county attorney and chief prosecutor in Iron County, Utah. He attended college in Cedar City, Utah, where he was inducted into the Southern Utah University Sports Hall of Fame (football). He attended law school in San Diego, California.

WHERE HE IS NOW

Scott follows in the footsteps of the extremely popular and capable interim executive director, Tom Sneddon, the former district attorney from Santa Barbara, California. Tom Sneddon and Joe Cassilly, our tireless and endlessly optimistic president, restored our faith in the organization. They combined their efforts to set NDAA back on sound financial footing. Tom proved his management prowess by immediately hiring two highly skilled professionals: Bill Gibbs and Rick Hanes.

Bill, an IT manager who hails from Australia and the

outer reaches of IT expertise, is the IT guru who other gurus call to find an

answer. Bill walked in the door, assessed NDAA's needs and immediately started buying new servers, redirecting workflow, leasing new equipment and fixing problems on every desktop. With very little capital expenditure, Bill is giving NDAA the ability to achieve real technological advancements. Scott says he understands about every tenth word Bill speaks.

Riding shotgun and playing straight man to Scott's jokes is Rick Hanes, our new office administrator. With Rick's understanding of budgets and grants and his business acumen, he is the perfect match for Scott's out-reaching style.

WHERE HE IS TAKING NDAA

Scott brings his contacts from both sides of the political aisle and he brings his know-how. He knows how to get things done in Washington. He has already hired a full time hard-hitting director of government affairs who will have only one client: NDAA. The new director of government affairs will be profiled in the next issue of *The Prosecutor*.

Scott has arrived at a time when NDAA has made tremendous surges in professional development. Joe Cassilly's optimism has proven prophetic; Tom's management skill has shown NDAA the high road. Joe expressed the thought that Scott's "personal commitment to the mission of prosecution would help NDAA move towards some of the goals it has been working on for several years."

Presidentelect Chris Chiles said, "I am thrilled to have Scott Burns on board as executive director of NDAA. He brings years of skill and experience, first as a prosecuting attorney and then at the White House and on the Hill. Scott has excellent leadership and management skills that are already evident. These are exciting times for NDAA and Scott is just the person to lead us, make us stronger, and more respected and powerful than ever before."

Meanwhile, Scott Burns is across the river at meetings with the Department of Justice, Congress, the White House and other organizations. He is making friends and has broadcast the news that NDAA is alive and very well. Stay tuned to this organization of those who seek justice in our communities. NDAA has something to say and our voice has never been clearer or louder.