



OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND



Anne Colt Leitess, State's Attorney

Anne Arundel Justice

A Monthly News Digest from the Office of the State's Attorney for Anne Arundel County

A Message from Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess

In this month's digest, you'll learn about the Office of the State's Attorney for Anne Arundel County's (SAO) partnership with the YWCA to support victims of domestic violence, our presentation at The Living Legacy Foundation, a Pasadena man's conviction for sexual abuse of a minor and much more!

**Be sure to follow us on our social media channels:
AnneArundelSAO on Instagram and Twitter and Anne Arundel
County State's Attorney's Office on Facebook.**

As always, thank you for allowing me to serve as your State's Attorney!

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month



In Maryland, between July 2017 and June 2018, there were 46 domestic violence related deaths, states the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence. Moreover, according to NO MORE, an organization dedicated to ending domestic violence and sexual assault by increasing awareness,

inspiring action and fueling culture change, 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men have experienced violence from their boyfriend or girlfriend in one year.

In support of the courageous victims who have overcome the devastating effects of abuse –whether physical, emotional, psychological, sexual or financial – our office collected items to donate to the YWCA in Anne Arundel County to assist victims of domestic violence. In the coming days, we will be dropping off three large bins of donated personal items to help support those in need.

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, please get help!

Locally, call the Anne Arundel County Domestic Violence Hotline at 410-222-800 where the caller can speak with a trained advocate. The National Domestic Violence Hotline provides anonymous support 24/7 and can be reached at 1-800-799-7233. All calls are confidential.



SAO Presents at The Living Legacy Foundation

Recently, the SAO facilitated a presentation at The Living Legacy Foundation on the criminal and judicial process for family members and friends who have lost loved ones to homicide, fatal overdoses and automobile manslaughter.

Assistant State's Attorneys Carolynn Grammas and Terri Morse highlighted the course prosecutors navigate when presenting these cases at trial, including the huge impact, devastating loss and need for trauma counseling for survivors. Our Victim Witness Advocates, Director Joan Stammnitz and Assistant Director Casey Hall, spoke of the resources available in the community and the benefits that survivors get from



Pasadena Man Pleads Guilty to Sexual Abuse of A Minor, Second Degree Sex Offense

Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess announced today that Brian Dale Heilman, 46, of Pasadena pled guilty to sexual abuse of a minor and second degree sex offense for his crimes committed upon a minor child. He will be sentenced on November 21, 2019 by the Honorable J. Michael Wachs. "This is a tragic case of a young victim being subjected to horrific crimes by a family member," said Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess. "The victim's bravery in coming forward to report these incidents was crucial in the investigation and prosecution of the defendant. Because of her bravery, we were able to convict the defendant of

participation. The presenters spoke in-depth about the challenges in investigating and charging fatal car crashes caused by alcohol, drugs or distracted driving. Fatal overdose cases are also among the most challenging cases to bring those responsible for knowingly selling lethal drugs to justice. The Living Legacy staff is much like first responders in that they are often the first to interact with families during the initial stages of grief and coping.

"Unfortunately, family members are confronted with a number of decisions that are extremely difficult to make without support. One of those is the decision to donate the organs of a loved one, especially following a tragic loss by violence. The Living Legacy does such a great service to the community and we were glad to share what prosecuting these types of crimes looks like for both the survivors and the impact of the judicial process itself," said Anne Arundel County State's Attorney Anne Colt Leitess. "I would like to thank The Living Legacy Foundation for inviting the SAO to discuss this important topic."

The Living Legacy Foundation facilitates donation and transplantation in area hospitals, provides donor family support and educates hospitals and the general public about the life-saving power of organ, eye and tissue donation. The Living Legacy Foundation is the organ procurement organization for most Maryland counties. For more information on their work, please visit their [website](#).

these crimes and hold him fully accountable for his actions."

On January 31, 2019, the Anne Arundel County Police Department and the Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services received a report regarding sexual abuse of a minor by a family member, later identified as Brian Dale Heilman. The victim was interviewed and disclosed that she had been sexually abused by Heilman on multiple occasions from age 11 until she was 14 years old. The locations of the abuse varied but all events happened in Anne Arundel County. During one particular incident, which occurred at Marley Creek, the victim jumped into the water to swim with Heilman following her. He grabbed the victim, removed her underwear and inappropriately touched her.

On March 8, 2019, Heilman was interviewed and admitted to touching the victim inappropriately.

Assistant State's Attorney Mary-Ann Burkhart prosecuted the case on behalf of the citizens of Anne Arundel County.

On Thursday, Oct. 3, Deputy State's Attorney Brian Marsh spoke with ninth and tenth grade students at Broadneck High School on the importance of cyber safety.

The informative presentation which covered an array of topics such as online relationships, sexting, online bullying and the permanency of information posted online was paired with real-life examples and cautionary stories. Each topic emphasized the consequences, warning signs and legal ramifications that may occur because of their actions.

"It was truly my pleasure to meet with the students and staff of Broadneck High School," said Deputy State's Attorney Brian Marsh. "My hope is that each student walks away with a sound understanding of how their actions – both good and bad – can have long-term effects and how simply taking the time to stop and think can make a world of difference."

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