

JOHN J. McCARTHY

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As State's Attorney for Montgomery County, my primary objective is to maintain public safety for all members of our diverse community. Critical to that mission is ensuring that criminal prosecutions are handled fairly and equitably across racial and ethnic lines. To that end, in the fall of 2021, we are undertaking a project in partnership with Prosecutorial Performance Indicators and researchers at the University of Maryland to analyze data on criminal prosecution in Montgomery County in order to ensure the fair administration of justice. We will be evaluating data from several critical decision points including but not limited to charging decisions, plea offers, case disposition and sentencing recommendations for all felony cases.

The data analysis and associated report is just one aspect of our joint project with PPI. As we begin our data analysis in the fall, we will also work with PPI to implement a framework for sustainable community engagement in order to build community trust in the criminal justice system. PPI will aide us in organizing listening tours with different community groups. From information gained during those tours, we will create a community advisory board which will make policy recommendations, express community concerns and help with the creation of a data dashboard to increase transparency and inform the public about the Montgomery County criminal justice system.

At the completion of the data analysis phase of our project, we will issue a report with all of the findings. Based on those findings, we will work together with PPI and the community advisory board in order to create and implement appropriate policy recommendations. Through this partnership, I believe we can continue to improve the ways in which we promote justice and protect public safety for everyone in our community.

Sincerely,

John J. McCarthy

State's Attorney Montgomery County Maryland

April 29, 2020