Prosecutors, DEC Response, &	
Prosecutors, DEC Response, & the High Performance Office	

AAA	
Every society gets the kind of criminal it deserves. What is equally true is that every community gets the kind of law enforcement it insists on.	
community gets the kind of law enforcement it insists on. —The Pursuit of Justice, Robert Kennedy	
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* THE EVER-EXPANDING ROLE OF THE PROSECUTOR: The Evolution of Organizational Strategies	
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-Traditional Paradigm	
-The Modern Prosecutor	
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*Traditional Paradigm *Old paradigm for organizational strategy: Reactive * Case processor * Sanction setter * Belief that prosecutor's central role was to fairly and efficiently process cases meeting office filing standards and ethical obligations and to advocate for sanctions sufficient to punish offender for crime committed (thus deterring similar conduct) *However: crime rates and caseloads grew...

*Today's prosecutors continue to expand their role * Communities actively looking to contribute to their own safety and security * Knowledge that they can access criminal justice system through local prosecutor's office * Demand for more proactive and cost-effective approach to criminal justice









*A high performance office embraces community prosecution and uses its strategies to: * Prevent crime while reducing incarceration * Engage in restorative justice * Respond quickly to ever-changing conditions * Identify and address the short and long-term needs of children within our communities

*The creation of DEC teams reflect the evolving role of the prosecutor *Understanding the components of the high performance framework can assist in the successful creation and implementation of these multidisciplinary response teams

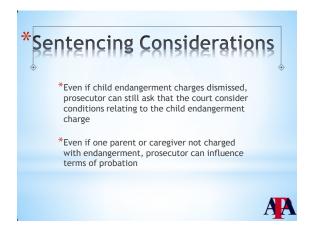










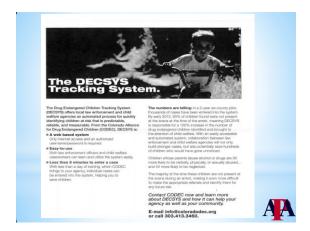




* Harnessing Science and Technology	
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*A high performance office harnesses the latest advancements in science and technology, and uses them as crime fighting tools and evidence in the courtroom, while insisting upon and insuring the integrity of such evidence so that justice is rendered	
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Tools Used to Prosecute DEC Cases 1. Descriptive police reports (Age, height, size, smell, distance,	
etc.)	
2. Measurements	
3. Photo Documentation	
4. Tape Recorded Statements	
5. Video Tape the Scene	
6. Urine or Blood from "Care Taker"	
7. Urine or Blood from Children	
8. Fingerprints	
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*Consider	
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♦	
*How are those tools helpful to a DEC case?	
*What other science/technology could help a DEC case?	
AAA	

*Implementing Information Sharin	g			
*				
*A high performance office implements new	v			
technologies to improve data collection and analysis, share information with other agencies				
and the public, and ensure that decision- making is driven by data				
*DEC Teams-> Collaboration-> Enhanced Prosecution through Evidence Collection and				
Information Sharing				
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* Shared Information Detter Fuldence				
* Shared Information = Better Evidence				
♦	♦	-		
* Evidence from the scene				
* Interviews				
* Medical records				
* Prior and present social service investigation reports				
* Child forensic interviews				
* Prior arrest histories of culpable adults				
	AA			
* Shared Information = Effective		-		
Adjudication and Disposition	♦			
* Communication between the criminal and				
dependency and/or family law courts crucial to avoid creating conflicts or jeopardizing either		-		
case outcome *Communication essential in determining				
appropriate conditions of probation/parole				
	AA			

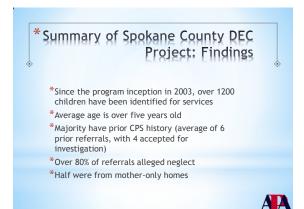


*A high performance office recognizes the value of outcome evaluation and employs it to gauge and improve the effectiveness of its crime prevention and reduction efforts

*How are we doing?

*Think outcome based- necessary to sustain DEC projects

*Ex: Summary Spokane County DEC Project Findings



Project: Findings	♦		
*Meth used in over 70% of cases (often in combination with other drugs)			
*Of the children receiving counseling, half were categorized as having "severe posttraumatic disturbance"		 	
*Those who were re-administered assessments showed significant improvements in anxiety, depression, and posttraumatic stress			
	APA		
Summary of Spokane County DEC			
Summary of Spokane County DEC Project: Findings			
Project: Findings *Almost 75% of the children were placed into	.		
*Almost 75% of the children were placed into protective custody by law enforcement *30% of the children had at least one parent	♦		
*Almost 75% of the children were placed into protective custody by law enforcement			
*Almost 75% of the children were placed into protective custody by law enforcement *30% of the children had at least one parent arrested (predominantly the mother) *Of the parents charged, the majority pled	•		
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♦	*Sustainability of the REC Project	•
	*Translating promising practices into policy changes *Research/evaluation presented to demonstrate measurable outcomes *Outcomes drive changes in policy!	
		ATTA



