



COURSE AGENDA

NDAA's 2026 Retention & Recruitment Symposium

Building the Prosecutor Workforce of the Future

Attendees must wear their name tags to all events and turn off cell phones during all sessions.

Thursday September 10, 2026 Understanding the Talent Challenge

7:45 – 8:45 AM	Breakfast Buffet
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Check-in & Registration
9:00 – 9:15 AM	Welcome Remarks Joe Dallaire District Attorney Fairbanks, AK Erika Evans City Attorney Seattle, WA Sarah Jackson Chief of Staff King County, WA

Understanding Attrition & Retention

9:15 – 10:30 AM	Employer Branding & Recruitment Campaign Lab: Winning the Hearts and Minds of Future Prosecutors Amy McKenzie Director of Communications Riverside County, CA
10:30 – 10:45 AM	Networking Break
10:45 – 11:45 AM	Tech Without the Trap: Using AI to Recruit, Retain, and Empower the Next Generation of Prosecutors Chris Seufert Chief Prosecutor, Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) & Human Trafficking Unit Montgomery County, TX



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Angelia Dawn Seufert
Chief People Officer
Empyrean Benefits Solution

11:45 – 1:15 PM Networking Lunch (On Your Own)

Understanding Attrition & Workforce Realities

1:15 – 2:15 PM **The First Two Years Matter: Redesigning Onboarding to Stop Early Attrition**
Robert Yu
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Pierce County, WA

2:15 – 2:30 PM Networking Break

2:30 – 3:30 PM **Work Smarter, Stay Longer: Operational Reforms that Retain Prosecutors**
Kevin Barton
District Attorney
Washington County, OR

John Wentworth
District Attorney
Clackamas County, OR

3:30 – 3:45 PM Networking Break

3:45 – 4:45 PM **Wellbeing as Strategy: Strengthening Resilience to Recruit and Retain Talent**
J. Sam Rodgers
Chief Assistant District Attorney
Madison County, NY

Friday, September 11, 2026 Designing Tomorrow's Workforce

7:45 – 8:45 AM Breakfast Buffet

9:00 – 9:10 AM **Welcome Back, September 11 Reflection, & Moment of Silence**

9:10 – 10:10 AM **Rural & Tribal Recruitment Solutions Panel**



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Joe Dallaire (moderator)

District Attorney
Fairbanks, AK

Celeste Robertson

President & CEO
Center for Rural American Justice

Melissa Simonsen

Tribal Prosecutor
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, WA

10:10 – 10:25 AM	Networking Break
10:25 – 11:25 AM	Caseload Science: Workload Metrics & Staffing Analytics Jennifer Lafferty Senior Research Scientist CNA Center for Justice Research and Innovation
11:25 – 11:30 AM	Stretch Break
11:30 – 12:30 PM	Show Me the Incentives: The Student Debt Toolkit for Recruitment & Retention Rebecca Stanley Director of Employee Financial Services & Retention Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, SC
12:30 – 2:00 PM	Networking Lunch (On Your Own)
2:00 – 2:45 PM	Buy-In by Design: How One DA's Office Built a Retention Engine John Wentworth District Attorney Clackamas County, OR
2:45 – 3:00 PM	Networking Break
3:00 – 4:00 PM	Beyond Job Postings: Using Social Media to Recruit the Next Generation of Prosecutors Brad Carlyon County Attorney Navajo County, AZ



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Rebekah Sanders

PR Consultant & Owner

RLS Communications

4:00 – 4:05 PM

Stretch Break

4:05 – 4:15 PM

Closing Remarks

Nelson O. Bunn, Jr.

Executive Director

National District Attorneys Association

Please note: This agenda reflects the program as confirmed. Because prosecutors and other members of the justice system may occasionally face unexpected court obligations or other unforeseen professional responsibilities, rare adjustments to faculty or scheduling may become necessary. If changes are required, NDAA will communicate updates as promptly as possible. *Recording, reproduction, or distribution of any portion of this program is prohibited. Views expressed are those of the speakers and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the National District Attorneys Association. Participants should consult current, authoritative sources when researching specific legal matters*