NATIONAL DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION
THE VOICE OF AMERICA'S PROSECUTORS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 18, 2026

NDAA Mourns the Passing of Platte County Prosecuting Attorney Eric Zahnd

Longtime Missouri prosecutor and NDAA leader remembered for more than two decades of service to victims, his community, and the profession

Arlington, VA – The National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) is deeply saddened by the passing of Eric Zahnd, Prosecuting Attorney of Platte County, Missouri, and valued member of the NDAA Board of Directors.

First elected in 2002, Zahnd was the longest-serving prosecutor in Platte County history. A career prosecutor, he built his office around protecting children, holding sex offenders accountable, and pursuing career criminals, and he was widely respected among his peers in Missouri and across the country.

Zahnd's dedication to the profession extended well beyond his own jurisdiction. Over many years of service to NDAA, he chaired the association's Legislative Committee, served multiple terms on the Executive Committee, held the office of Treasurer, and remained an active member of the Board of Directors until his passing. In each role, he helped shape the national voice of prosecutors and strengthened the association he cared about so deeply.

"Eric embodied what it means to be a prosecutor: principled, compassionate, and relentless in the pursuit of justice. He served alongside many of us on this Board for years, and his steady judgment helped guide this association through some of its most important work. His absence will be felt in every room where prosecutors gather," said Jennifer Webb-McRae, NDAA President and Prosecutor of Cumberland County, New Jersey.

The NDAA family is keeping his wife, Tracy, and their two sons in our thoughts and prayers during this extremely difficult time.

About the National District Attorneys Association

Formed in 1950, NDAA is the oldest and largest national organization representing state and local prosecutors in the country. With more than 7,000 members representing over two-thirds of the state and local prosecutors' offices, NDAA is recognized as the leading source of national expertise on the prosecution function and is a valuable resource for the media, academia, government, and community leaders. NDAA's mission is to provide state and local prosecutors with the knowledge, skills, and support they need to ensure that justice is done and that public safety rights are protected. Learn more at ndaa.org.

Media Contact

Nelson O. Bunn, Jr., Executive Director
National District Attorneys Association
703-519-1666 | nbunn@ndaajustice.org

###