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**Hillsborough County State Attorney's Office
Hosts National Criminal Justice Thought Leaders and Officials**

Tampa, Florida – On November 16-17, 2017, the Hillsborough County State Attorney's Office is hosting a distinguished group of elected officials, criminal justice thought leaders, and experts for a convening to discuss leading reforms in criminal justice. Over the course of the convening, 15 elected state and district attorneys representing districts from across the nation joined with executives and research fellows from prominent criminal justice institutes to discuss policy initiatives and best practices in prosecution.

The State Attorney's office partnered with Fair and Just Prosecution ("FJP"), to organize the event. FJP is a national organization that works with bi-partisan elected prosecutors to create a network of leaders committed to using evidence-based strategies to improve public safety, fairness, and fiscal responsibility within the criminal justice system. Additional information about the organization can be found online at <https://fairandjustprosecution.org/>.

State Attorney Andrew Warren said, "We were honored to host this convening in Hillsborough County to discuss cutting-edge ideas in prosecution. I am committed to using innovative techniques and evidence-based solutions to make our community safer and our system a model of effectiveness, efficiency, and fairness. Idea-sharing and discussion is paramount, and participating in a network of the best minds in criminal justice is a win for our community."

Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn, Hillsborough County Chief Judge Ronald Ficarrota, and Acting United States Attorney for the Middle District for Florida Stephen Muldrow helped to kicked off the well-attended welcome reception for the attendees. The participants then engaged in a series of discussions on a variety of current and significant subjects, including, juvenile justice, officer involved shootings, and

data and accountability. The convening culminated with a discussion of next steps for moving forward in national criminal justice reform.

State Attorney Warren, elected in November of 2016, has already announced major forward-thinking initiatives in juvenile justice reform, including the Juvenile Arrest Avoidance Program, better known as juvenile civil citations, effective in August of this year. He has also already reduced the number of juvenile direct files and death penalty cases, for which the office was previously a national outlier. To promote transparency and fairness, he has partnered with the national organization, Measures for Justice, and the University of South Florida to analyze the office's internal data and identify opportunities for improvement. Krinsky said that "local elected prosecutors are at the forefront of nationwide changes in criminal justice reform. Hillsborough County is lucky to have State Attorney Andrew Warren, who has a genuine passion for his community and for overcoming the barriers to a fairer system. We were honored to have the convening here."

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