



RICHARD A. BROWN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY
QUEENS COUNTY**
125-01 QUEENS BOULEVARD
KEW GARDENS, NEW YORK 11415-1568
718-286-6000

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CONTACT: KEVIN RYAN
HELEN PETERSON
MERIS CAMPBELL
(718) 286-6315

QUEENS DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE HOSTS 120 SUMMER INTERNS
Local Students And Those From Around The Nation Participate In Annual Program

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown today announced that 120 law school and college students are participating in his 2009 Volunteer Summer Internship Program, which runs for 10 weeks.

District Attorney Brown said, "This is a hands-on internship program that my staff and I administer each summer. It exposes students from law schools and universities, who are interested in a career in law, to the inner workings of a major prosecutor's office. The interns – who are now about midway through the program – assist in investigations, draft legal motions and briefs, and have even attended lineups and visited crime scenes. Interns are assigned to various bureaus in the office ranging from Intake and Gang Violence and Hate Crimes to Economic and Environmental Crimes and our Detective Bureau. They help prosecutors prepare for trial and those with accounting experience have assisted our forensic accounting staff. These are real life experiences that cannot be replicated in the classroom."

The program, which this year began on June 8th, attracted more than 700 applicants. Some of the students receive grants or stipends, but the majority volunteers. And while some of them work part-time, the majority keep full-time business hours. Among the interns selected for this year's program are students from as near as the State and City Universities of New York and from as far away as the University of Southern California. Law students – from both local schools and from across the country – make up the majority of the interns.

As part of the annual program, District Attorney Brown personally meets with the interns and recently answered many of their questions over a pizza lunch during which he thanked them for their service to his office and to Queens County.

Each year internships play an important part in the professional and personal development of future Assistant District Attorneys. And to underscore that point, Chief Assistant District Attorney John M. Ryan recently spoke to the group about his experience as an intern in this very office. Chief Assistant Ryan said that while enrolled in law school he had no interest in becoming an Assistant District Attorney. But one summer he accepted an offer of an internship with the District Attorney's office. That was 37 years ago – the beginning of his career as a prosecutor.

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Note to Editors: E-version of press release posted at www.queensda.org.