

# NEWS RELEASE

**R. Andrew Murray**  
District Attorney

**March 22, 2013**

## **Exploring program gives students a behind-the-scenes look at the DA's Office**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Next week, a group of high school students will tour the Mecklenburg County jail and courthouse and meet with Mecklenburg County District Attorney Andrew Murray as part of a program that gives young people the opportunity to explore careers in the legal field.

The Exploring program, which is organized by the Boy Scouts of America's Mecklenburg County Council, allows students to examine careers in fields such as business, law enforcement, health care and journalism. The program is open to young men and women who are high school students. Students who choose to "explore" the District Attorney's Office are interested in careers in criminal law.

Staff members from the District Attorney's Office meet with the students monthly from October to April and cover topics that include the role of prosecutors in the criminal justice system and working with victims of crime. Students have also investigated mock crime scenes to learn about evidence collection and crime scene processing. The program culminates with a mock trial in which students act as the attorneys, and Assistant District Attorneys act as the judge and witnesses.



**Assistant District Attorney Jamie Adams speaks with students during a recent Exploring program.**

Throughout the program, Assistant District Attorneys often speak to the students about education, law school and the skills needed to become an attorney. They also take the opportunity to discuss issues affecting young people today. Most recently, Assistant District Attorney Jamie Adams, who leads the DA's Domestic Violence Team, spoke to students about the prevalence of teen dating violence.

"We're thrilled to have this partnership with the Boy Scouts' Exploring program and to be able to work with such industrious young men and women who could someday work alongside us in the courtroom," says Mecklenburg County District Attorney Andrew Murray.

On March 26, 2013, the students in this session's Exploring program will take a tour of the jail and courthouse. Then, they'll have lunch with Mr. Murray at noon.

For more information about the Exploring program with the District Attorney's Office and other agencies across Mecklenburg County, visit <http://mccexploring.webs.com/> or contact Jonathan Russell, Exploring Executive of the Mecklenburg County Council, at [jonathan.russell@scouting.org](mailto:jonathan.russell@scouting.org).

Any media interested in attending the lunch with Mr. Murray should RSVP to Meghan Cooke at [meghan.a.cooke@nccourts.org](mailto:meghan.a.cooke@nccourts.org).

*Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit [www.charmeckda.com](http://www.charmeckda.com). For updates and other information, "like" the DA's Office on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/charmeckda](http://www.facebook.com/charmeckda) and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA*

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