

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

December 23, 2013

DA Murray nears conclusion of military duty

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Mecklenburg County District Attorney Andrew Murray is nearing the end of his active duty service with the United States Coast Guard's cleanup efforts in the Gulf Coast. Throughout this service period, he has continued to lead the DA's Office by maintaining a schedule that allowed him to remain very involved in the operations of the District Attorney's Office. He will soon transition back to being in the office fulltime.

Mr. Murray, who was promoted this year to the rank of Captain (O-6) in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve, received orders in September to serve on active duty in New Orleans, Louisiana. He was assigned as a legal officer for the Federal On-Scene Coordinator for the Gulf Coast Incident Management Team. Mr. Murray was called to service to contribute his legal skills to Operation Deepwater Horizon. The operation is the federal cleanup effort for the largest offshore oil spill in U.S. history, which occurred in 2010 when an explosion aboard the BP oil drilling rig *Deepwater Horizon* sparked a massive oil spill.

"Capt. Murray's counsel has provided a common sense approach to the resolution of an unprecedented environmental disaster," says Coast Guard Capt. Tom Sparks, the Gulf Coast Incident Management Team's Federal On-Scene Coordinator. "His service has been an indispensable asset to his country."

While in Louisiana, Mr. Murray has been in daily contact with his leadership staff and remains involved in making decisions and policy for the DA's Office, consulting with his prosecutors about cases and the office's day-to-day operations. In addition to his daily contact with those in the DA's Office, Mr. Murray developed a schedule that allowed him to perform his duties for the Coast Guard and then work nights and weekends to fulfill his responsibilities as District Attorney. The Coast Guard, understanding Mr. Murray's commitment to Mecklenburg County as the elected District Attorney, also allowed him to return to the DA's Office every other week and to interrupt his daily work to deal with matters that required his immediate attention.

The Coast Guard has extended his duty through January but will allow Mr. Murray to return every week to the DA's Office. He'll spend about half of each week at the DA's Office and the other half concluding his work for the Coast Guard through the end of the month.



District Attorney Andrew Murray, a Captain in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve, is nearing the end of his active duty service.

“I’m proud of my work in Louisiana and our accomplishments there,” says Mr. Murray. “I’m looking forward to my fulltime return to the DA’s Office and a new year of working alongside my prosecutors to seek justice and protect the people of Mecklenburg County.”

Mr. Murray has served in the Coast Guard for more than 30 years. He enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1980, after graduating from high school. He served six years of active duty, then became a reservist and was later commissioned as an officer.

Note: For more information about the District Attorney’s Office, visit www.charmeckda.com. For updates and other information, “like” the DA’s Office on Facebook at www.facebook.com/charmeckda and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.

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