



INDIANA PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS COUNCIL

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Boone County Prosecutor will appear with Sen. Erin Houchin to Support DNA Proposal

Boone County Indiana Prosecutor Todd J. Meyer will participate in a press briefing to be held by State Senator Erin Houchin on Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 11 a.m. in the Senate Chamber of the Indiana Statehouse. Prosecutor Meyer will voice support for Sen. Houchin's proposal that will require every person arrested for a felony after June 30, 2017, to submit a DNA sample to law enforcement authorities.

Prosecutor Meyer said: "Taking DNA samples of convicted felons has proved effective in solving crime and making our Indiana communities safer as a result. Indiana implemented this measure almost 11 years ago. It was the right thing to do then and the right thing to do now is to pass legislation that authorizes law enforcement to take a DNA sample from a felony offender at the time of his arrest. This tool has already proven itself to be effective in solving crime in this state, despite the absence of such a law presently."

Prosecutor Meyer added his support is tied to a recent Boone County murder case: "About a month ago, a multi jurisdiction homicide investigation uncovered the identity of the defendant who now stands accused of murdering an innocent 82 year old Zionsville man on his birthday. This identification was made possible through DNA recovered from the crime scene, which matched the DNA of the defendant that was taken from him at the time of his arrest in Ohio. It should be noted the suspect in our Indiana case was not ultimately convicted in Ohio. This case is case in point that taking DNA at the time of arrest solves crime and makes our communities safer. I am hopeful the Indiana legislature embraces Senator Houchin's proposed legislation and makes it the law in Indiana."

Disclaimer: A criminal charge is merely an accusation. Every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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About the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council: The IPAC is a non-partisan, independent state judicial branch agency that supports Indiana's 91 prosecuting attorneys and their chief deputies. It is governed by a 10-member board of directors of elected prosecuting attorneys. The IPAC assists prosecuting attorneys in the preparation of manuals, legal research and training seminars. It serves as a liaison to local, state, and federal agencies, study commissions, and community groups in an effort to support law enforcement and promote the fair administration of justice.

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