Winter 2024

State Attorney Dave Aronberg Bids Farewell After Memorable 12 years

State Attorney Dave Aronberg says he's "loved every minute" he has served as Palm Beach County's top law enforcement officer for the last dozen years. As he prepares to leave office, here's a look at his legacy of achievements in obtaining justice and making the community a safer place.

- Cleaned up the drug treatment and sober home industries, making the county a national model and saving countless lives from the opioid epidemic. Led the formation of a unique task force to eliminate widespread fraud and abuse, resulting in more than 120 arrests and more than 110 convictions.
- Boosted felony and county court conviction rates, from last in Florida before he took office, to top five rankings among the state's 20 Judicial Circuits. The office obtained a 95% felony conviction rate.
- Greatly reduced the number of juveniles whose cases were direct-filed into adult court. Pushed to turn
 around non-violent youthful offenders and prevent them from becoming adult criminals.
- Obtained a 2019 jury verdict against a former police officer. The case marked the first time in 30 years that an officer was convicted in Florida for an on-duty fatal police shooting.
- Started an award-winning domestic violence first-time offender program to break the cycle of addiction, resulting in lower recidivism rates. Expanded the office's Domestic Violence Elimination (DOVE) Unit.
- Worked with law enforcement agencies to start a human trafficking task force. This dramatically
 increased the number of human trafficking arrests and prosecutions involving several hundred victims.
- Achieved notable court victories against members of a notorious neo-Nazi group that attempted to incite hatred against the Jewish community by distributing antisemitic materials.
- Established a First Time DUI Offender Program in 2013, reducing repeat offenses and making roads safer. This was the first program of its kind to be endorsed by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD).
- Obtained justice in a cold case murder that captivated the nation. In 2023, Sheila Keen Warren admitted she dressed as a clown and killed Marlene Warren in Wellington in 1990.
- Directed the county's first death penalty prosecution in nearly 20 years that resulted in a death sentence, achieving justice for the family of a mother and her 11-year-old daughter who were killed.
- Recognized by The Florida Bar for distinguished achievement in pursuing animal cruelty prosecutions.
- Started a Paycheck Protection Program Fraud Task Force, leading to a dozen arrests in one year for scamming millions of dollars in Covid business rescue loans.
- Created a Conviction Review Unit to review claims of innocence on behalf of convicted defendants.