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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 11, 2014

Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson Announces the Appointment of Felice Sontupe as Chief of the Newly Formed Frauds Bureau
The Frauds Bureau Will Have Responsibility in Investigating and Prosecuting All Frauds

Brooklyn, NY. Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson has announced the appointment of Felice Sontupe as Chief of the District Attorney's newly created Frauds Bureau. The Bureau will have broad responsibility for investigation and prosecuting all forms of fraud, including complex frauds, such as embezzlement, investment fraud and insurance fraud. Ms. Sontupe joins the KCDA from the New York State Attorney General's Office where she served for twelve years in various supervisory roles, including Section Chief in the Labor Bureau and Deputy Chief in the Medicaid Fraud Bureau.

"We are fortunate to have such a veteran prosecutor as Felice Sontupe, who has an extensive background in the investigation, prosecution and supervision of complex fraud crimes, join our Office as Chief of the newly created Fraud Bureau. Her arrival reflects my commitment to protect the people of Brooklyn from all types of fraud," said District Attorney Ken Thompson.

In her capacity as a supervisor in the State Attorney General Office, Ms. Sontupe oversaw the investigation and prosecution of various types of fraud cases involving auto insurance, mortgages, social security disability and unlicensed healthcare practitioners. She had successes in the prosecution of Labor law violations and schemes to defraud employees of their wages. In one such case, Ms. Sontupe won convictions against a construction company's owner and several managers for failing to pay prevailing wages to 16 workers on a City-subsidized affordable housing project in the Bronx. In that case, the workers received \$500K in restitution. Among her many other successes as Assistant Attorneys General, Ms. Sontupe prosecuted a high-ranking officer in the investment management firm Alger Funds for tampering with evidence during a mutual fund investigation.

The Frauds Bureau will continue to investigate environmental crimes committed by businesses operating in Brooklyn, and elder fraud, a particularly pernicious problem. Specialized units within the Bureau will include the Health Care Fraud Unit, the Real Estate Fraud Unit, and the newly-created Immigrant Fraud Unit.

The Frauds Bureau and its Units will operate under William Schaeffer, Chief of the Investigations Division.

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