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Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson Announces the Appointment of Rachel Singer as Chief of the New Forensic Science Unit The New Unit Will Advise On All Cases Involving Forensic Science

Brooklyn, NY. Kings County District Attorney Kenneth P. Thompson today announced the appointment of Rachel Singer as head of the District Attorney's new Forensic Science Unit. Ms. Singer, who joins the Kings County District Attorney's office (KCDA) after serving in the Bronx County District Attorney's Office for 16 years, brings an extensive background in forensic science, which includes practice as well as lecturing and training. As the Director of the DNA Prosecutions Unit in the Bronx, she supervised all legal staff on DNA-based prosecutions and conducted extensive office-wide training on current and emerging forensic issues and trial preparations. The Forensic Science Unit will serve in an advisory role on all cases involving forensic science and will ensure that all Assistant District Attorneys have access to the tools needed to prosecute the variety of cases that involve scientific evidence.

"I am pleased that Rachel Singer is joining us as Chief of the Forensic Science Unit and she is an outstanding practitioner and leader in this field. The Unit will be an essential support mechanism for the important work that we do as prosecutors, as we carry out our duty to serve justice for victims, and protect the integrity of the criminal justice system," said District Attorney Ken Thompson.

The Forensic Science Unit will specialize in the use of state-of the-art forensic science to enhance investigations and prosecutions throughout the District Attorney's Office. The Unit will review motions for post-conviction DNA testing, defense requests for *Frye* hearings, and complex discovery requests.

One of Ms. Singer's many career successes includes the long-term investigation and two-year prosecution of the high profile "Bronx Serial Rapist" case, which included 26 victims. In two separate trials, the defendant in that case received over 300 years to life in prison. Ms. Singer also has worked on numerous DNA cold case prosecutions, and her legacy projects include an internal tracking system that centralizes DNA case information and an electronic forensic resource database.

Rachel Singer is an Adjunct Associate Professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, where she teaches Criminal Law and Evidence. She has also lectured and trained for the New York Prosecutors Training Institute, the National District Attorney's Association, the New York City Police Department, the American Academy of Forensic Science and the New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

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