JUSTICE IS ONLY AS JUST AS YOUR DA

A DA HAS A DUTY TO "SEEK JUSTICE...NOT MERELY TO CONVICT."

-- AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION, CRIMINAL JUSTICE STANDARDS FOR THE PROSECUTION FUNCTION



LA County has the largest local prosecutor's office in the country--the cases filed here make up 25% of all criminal/juvenile cases filed in California.



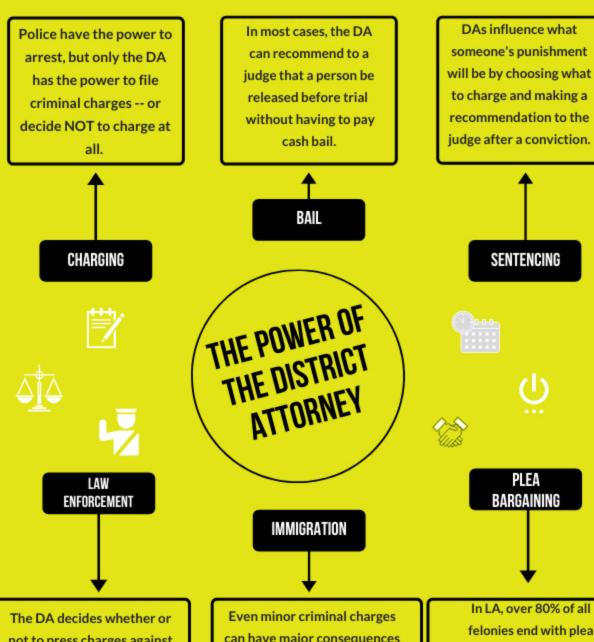
DAs have absolute immunity, which means they can never be sued for any abuse/misuse of their power.

USE THE POWER OF YOUR VOTE ON MARCH 3, 2020

TO VOTE FOR A DA WHO REFLECTS YOUR VALUES

For more information: www.dajusticecoalition.org

UCLA School of Law
Criminal Justice Program



not to press charges against law enforcement. Not one law enforcement officer in LA County has been charged for murder in 7 years.

can have major consequences for immigrant communities. The DA can decide to use their power to help keep families together.

In LA, over 80% of all felonies end with plea bargains. The DA has the power to choose whether to offer a plea bargain and what kind to offer to an accused person.

PLEA



A & B fight outside a bar. A grabs a bottle and hits B with it, causing injury. Police arrive and arrest A.



Once the facts are given to the prosecutor, she has the power to CHOOSE a charge against A.

Prosecutor's Options:

Dismiss

the case for ANY reason: She may think A was a foolish kid, that it was mutual combat, etc.



Charge a misdemeanor Misdemeanor battery =

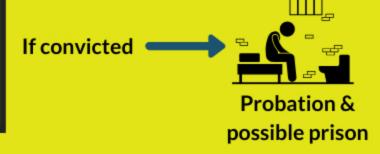
Probation & maximum 6 months in jail

If convicted Probation & possible jail

Assault with Deadly
Weapon =

Charge a felony

Possible strike on A's record and maximum 4 years in prison



POST-CONVICTION:

PROBATION AND PAROLE:

Prosecute?

No

A DA's power lasts beyond sentencing. DAs also provide recommendations for probation terms, which can include virtually unmeetable conditions. DAs also have the ability to oppose someone's release on parole.

CONVICTION INTEGRITY UNITS:

The National Registry of Exonerations lists over 2,500 exonerations since 1989 and more than 22,000 YEARS LOST to prison. DAs can establish conviction integrity units that investigate past cases in order to correct wrongs.