



## OFFICE OF THE SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ATTORNEY

MARK S. RUBIN COUNTY ATTORNEY

### PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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#### St. Louis County Attorney Mark S. Rubin Promotes Bias-free Judicial Decisions at a National Level

St. Louis County Attorney Mark S. Rubin was invited to present at the seventh annual, National Community Prosecution Conference, held May 8, 2010 at Target Corporate Headquarters, Minneapolis. Prosecutors and criminal justice experts from around the nation convened for the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (APA) conference entitled: *A Framework for High Performance Prosecutorial Services*.

Rubin's presentation on bias-free decision making in the criminal justice system highlighted the collaborative efforts of the Racial Justice Improvement Project in St. Louis County. Rubin emphasized ongoing efforts of the collaborative, which has met throughout the past two years.

Rubin said the collaborative continues to address the issue that 70% of the jail population consists of pre-trial detainees with the racial makeup being disproportionate to the general population of the County. The collaborative is focusing its efforts on enhancing bail/supervised release fairness

Criminal justice and prosecutorial experts learned how the Racial Justice Improvement Project, with the encouragement of the American Bar Association (ABA), decided to "...step it up a bit..." according to Rubin, and accept the responsibility of finding out how and why changes can and should be made in the northeast region of Minnesota.

The purpose of the conference was to give participants the opportunity to discuss controversial issues candidly and engage in problem-solving conversations to improve our overall criminal justice system," according to David LaBahn, APA's President and CEO.

Prior to election as St. Louis County Attorney in 2010, Rubin was a prosecutor for over 30 years.

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