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****** PRESS RELEASE ******

Steve Hummel Named First Assistant Prosecutor for the City's Office of the Municipal Prosecutor

JERSEY CITY - Municipal Chief Prosecutor Jake Hudnut has tapped a 15-year veteran of the office as his new first assistant prosecutor.

Steve Hummell has been named the Jersey City Office of the Municipal Prosecutor's first assistant prosecutor -- the office's highest-ranking prosecutor under Hudnut.

The Hudson County resident was admitted to the New Jersey Bar in 1998 and joined the Jersey City Office of the Municipal Prosecutor in 2003. He has also worked at both the Newark and Bayonne Municipal Prosecutors' offices.

First Assistant Hummell will oversee the development and launch of the office's Early Case Screening Initiative. Early case screening will allow the city's prosecutors to be better prepared to handle and resolve cases at first appearance. Other jurisdictions that have adopted early screening have found that the approach drastically decreases the number of court appearances necessary to resolve cases, saving municipalities money and sparing defendants and victims multiple visits to court. Other jurisdictions with this practice in place also suggest that early case screening leads to more just outcomes of cases.

Hummel will also utilize his remarkable command of DUI enforcement and prosecution, having prosecuted over 750 DUI cases in New Jersey's municipal courts including over 30 DUI trials.

"Steve is a first class municipal prosecutor, who has demonstrated a commitment to public safety in his prosecution against those who drive under the influence and he will bring a wealth of experience and insight to our office's early case screening initiative," says Chief Prosecutor Hudnut. "We are excited to have him in this new post, and he is equally eager to begin."

First Assistant Hummel's appointment is effective October 22, 2018.

All media inquiries should be directed to Kimberly Wallace-Scalcione at KWallace@jcnj.org or 201-376-0699. ////