



BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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District Attorney

FRANCISCO R. ZARATE
Chief Deputy District Attorney

ANTHONY G. KOESTER
Chief Investigator

PRESS RELEASE

Embargoed until
December 11, 2008

NEW CHIEF INVESTIGATOR APPOINTED

District Attorney Mike Ramsey announced the appointment of Kory L. Honea as the new District Attorney Chief Investigator to replace retiring Chief Investigator Anthony G. Koester. Honea, 38, had been the Assistant Chief Investigator under Koester.

Honea started his law enforcement career as a Shasta County Sheriff's deputy trainee in 1990, working on Lake Shasta and in the jail. In 1993 he came to the Butte County Sheriff's Office and after graduating from the Butte College Law Enforcement Academy, he began to work sheriff's patrol. In 1996, Honea was promoted to the position of detective in the Sheriff's Investigations Unit. As a result of his detective work on a number of complex and violent crimes, he developed a close working relationship with the District Attorney's Office.

In March 2000, Honea transferred to the District Attorney's Office as a District Attorney Investigator and has held assignments in the Child Support Unit, Special Victims Unit and Major Crimes Unit. After a stint as Lieutenant in charge of the Major Crimes Unit, Honea was promoted in 2006 to Assistant Chief Investigator.

In 2007, Honea completed a distance-learning course from Taft Law School and was awarded a Juris Doctorate degree in Law. He took vacation time to study for the bar exam and passed on the first try, and was sworn in as an attorney at law by District Attorney Ramsey who also made him a special deputy district attorney in the office.

Ramsey said he was very pleased with the appointment of Honea. "Kory enjoys an outstanding reputation as an investigator among his peers in county law enforcement. His intellect and work ethic is superb as is evidenced by his law degree. The county is very fortunate to have Kory available to replace outgoing Chief Koester, also a lawyer."

Honea is married with a teenage daughter. His wife Jennifer works at the Sheriff's Office as a public safety dispatcher.