

Mike Ramos

As top prosecutor of the largest county in the United States, District Attorney Michael Ramos has fought corruption and made victims' rights, public safety, and anti-gang programs the cornerstone of his office. Ramos started his career with the District Attorney's Office in June 1989, as a Deputy District Attorney where he prosecuted over 125 jury trials. In addition to his work in general prosecution and the narcotics unit, he served with the Major Crimes Unit for four years, until 2002, when he was elected District Attorney of San Bernardino County. Ramos is currently serving his fourth term.

Ramos was born and raised in Redlands, California. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from the University of California in Riverside in 1980 and a Doctorate of Jurisprudence from Citrus Belt Law School in Riverside in 1988.

Among other positions, Ramos is the former President of the California District Attorneys Association and he currently serves as the President-elect of the National District Attorneys Association. He is also one of three members appointed by the Governor to the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board.

In 2005, DA Ramos formed the Hardcore Gang Prosecution Unit to wage a hard-fought battle against gangs across the county. Since that time, there have been 5,000-plus state prison commitments secured for a total of 40,250 years plus 250 life terms in state prison.

"The rise of criminal street gangs in this county is a real threat to our communities, but I refuse to allow these local terrorists to determine how we live our daily lives," said Ramos. "I've said it before and I will continue to say that coming down hard on gang crime and keeping our communities safe will always be an important mission of this office."

In 2009, Ramos responded to this problem of human trafficking in San Bernardino County and created the county's Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation (CASE). The coalition brought together a partnership of more than ten county departments. Most recently, DA Ramos formed a countywide Human Trafficking Joint Investigative Task Force to address the commercial sexual exploitation of minors. To date, Task Force members have made 200-plus arrests and 20 predators have been sent to state prison for a total of 128 years and two life terms.

During his tenure, Ramos has added a Public Integrity Unit to handle political corruption and a Lifer Parole Hearing Unit to ensure that violent prisoners serve their maximum prison terms. Ramos has also created a Major Crimes Against Children Unit and an Animal Cruelty Prosecution Unit to handle those cases involving our most defenseless and vulnerable crime victims and a Crimes Against Peace Officers Unit (CAPO).

A longtime advocate for victims and victims' rights, Ramos is continually trying to find innovative ways to serve victims. He has expanded the Family Violence Unit with attorneys who are cross-trained in elder abuse, domestic violence and crimes against children and has utilized technology and social media to effectively ensure that victims have access to case information. He has also worked behind the scenes to prevent future criminals by implementing various prevention and intervention programs such as Camp Good Grief, Let's End Truancy (LETS) and the Gang Resistance Intervention Program (GRIP).

"Most adult criminals started by getting into trouble as juveniles and eventually dropping out of school," said Ramos. "It is in those early years when we have the best chance of steering them back on course."

In October 2014 Mike Ramos announced his intention to run for California State Attorney General in 2018.

