

# OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY

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## ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

### EWS RELEASE

For Immediate Distribution

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### St. Mary's County State's Attorney's Office's 2025: Year in Review - Building on Progress

**LEONARDTOWN, MD (December 29, 2025)** – St. Mary's County State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling reflects on 2025, a year filled with continual commitment to safety, justice, victim services, community engagement, and progress.

**Secured \$507,539 in Grant Funding:** In her third year, Sterling's team successfully secured \$507,539 in grant funding for victim services and concentrated gun violence prosecution, bringing the cumulative total of federal and state grants secured under her leadership to \$2,033,008.

**Highlighting Significant Convictions and Sentencing Milestones:** Sterling's unwavering commitment to delivering justice for victims and ensuring safety for the community, reflected by the Office's continual record of securing meaningful convictions and sentences.



## ST. MARY'S COUNTY OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY 2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

 <p><b>James J. Adams</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First Degree Murder</li><li>• Firearm Use in the Commission of a Felony</li></ul> <p><b>Sentenced: LIFE plus 20 Years in Prison, 40 Years Active Incarceration</b></p>	 <p><b>Robin M. Barahona Gonzalez</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sex Abuse of a Minor</li><li>• 3 Counts of Possession of Child Pornography</li></ul> <p><b>Sentenced: 40 Years in Prison, 35 Years Active Incarceration</b></p>	 <p><b>Joseph D. Brooks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First Degree Murder</li><li>• Firearm Use in the Commission of a Felony</li><li>• Regulated Firearm</li><li>• Illegal Possession by a Disqualified Person</li></ul> <p><b>Pending Sentencing: Maximum of LIFE plus 25 Years in Prison</b></p>	 <p><b>Keilon S. Brooks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First Degree Murder</li><li>• 5 Counts of Attempted First Degree Murder</li><li>• 6 Counts of Firearm Use in the Commission of a Felony</li><li>• Handgun in Vehicle</li></ul> <p><b>Sentenced: LIFE plus LIFE plus 20 Years in Prison, LIFE plus 45 Years Active Incarceration</b></p>	 <p><b>Markese R. Brooks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attempted First Degree Murder</li><li>• Firearm Use in the Commission of a Felony</li><li>• Possession of Regulated Firearm Being Under 21</li><li>• Loaded Handgun in Vehicle</li><li>• Loaded Handgun on Person</li></ul> <p><b>Sentenced: 30 Years in Prison, 12 Years Active Incarceration</b></p>	 <p><b>James D. Butler</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First Degree Assault</li><li>• Second Degree Assault</li><li>• Arson Threat</li></ul> <p><b>Sentenced: 23 Years in Prison, 13 Years Active Incarceration</b></p>	 <p><b>Michael A. Carlucci</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Manslaughter by Motor Vehicle</li></ul> <p><b>Sentenced: 10 Years in Prison, 7 Years Active Incarceration</b></p>	 <p><b>Charles Conway</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sex Abuse of a Minor</li></ul> <p><b>Sentenced: 25 Years in Prison, 15 Years Active Incarceration</b></p>
 <p><b>Kevin J. Copsey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CDS Possession of Large Amount of Fentanyl</li></ul> <p><b>Pending Sentencing: Mandatory Minimum of at least 5 Years Active Incarceration</b></p>	 <p><b>Daisaun A. Culpepper</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CDS Possession of Large Amount of Fentanyl</li><li>• Destruction of Evidence</li></ul> <p><b>Sentenced: 23 Years in Prison, 11.5 Years Active Incarceration</b></p>	 <p><b>Cameron D. Curtis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 Counts of Attempted First Degree Murder</li><li>• 2 Counts of Attempted Second Degree Murder</li><li>• 4 Counts of Firearm Use in the Commission of a Felony</li><li>• Handgun in Vehicle</li></ul> <p><b>Pending Sentencing: LIFE plus LIFE plus 145 Years in Prison.</b></p>	 <p><b>Crosby Dawson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sex Abuse of a Minor</li><li>• 2 Counts of Second Degree Rape</li></ul> <p><b>Sentenced: 65 Years in Prison, 35 Years Active Incarceration</b></p>	 <p><b>John O. Dickens, Jr.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attempted First Degree Murder</li><li>• 2 Counts of Second Degree Assault</li><li>• Third Degree Burglary</li></ul> <p><b>Sentenced: LIFE plus 28 Years in Prison, 58 Years Active Incarceration</b></p>	 <p><b>Randy Dindlebeck</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sex Abuse of a Minor</li><li>• Second Degree Assault</li></ul> <p><b>Pending Sentencing: Maximum of 38 Years in Prison</b></p>	 <p><b>William Dixon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attempted Kidnapping</li><li>• Armed Robbery</li><li>• First Degree Assault</li><li>• Theft</li><li>• Wear and Carry Dangerous Weapon with Intent to Injure</li></ul> <p><b>Pending Sentencing: Maximum of 78 Years in Prison</b></p>	 <p><b>Cecil John Dunlap</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Second Degree Sex Offense</li></ul> <p><b>Sentenced: 20 Years in Prison, 15 Years Active Incarceration</b></p>



Mark A. Fenwick, Jr.

- Attempted First Degree Murder
  - Armed Robbery
  - First Degree Assault
  - Theft
- Sentenced:**  
LIFE in Prison,  
40 Years Active Incarceration



Robert M. Goldring

- CDS Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine
- Pending Sentencing:**  
Maximum of 20 Years in Prison



Thomas A. Goldring III

- CDS Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine
  - CDS Possession of a Large Amount of Fentanyl
- Sentenced:**  
30 Years in Prison,  
8 Years Active Incarceration



Robert D. Harrod

- Firearm Possession with Felony Conviction
- Sentenced:**  
5 Years in Prison



John T. Hess

- CDS Import into State
  - CDS Possession of a Large Amount of Fentanyl
  - CDS Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine
  - CDS Possession with Intent to Distribute Counterfeit Narcotics
- Sentenced:**  
85 Years in Prison,  
50 Years Active Incarceration



Collin A. Hixson

- Sex Abuse of a Minor
  - Second Degree Assault
- Pending Sentencing:**  
Maximum of 35 Years in Prison



Antwan M. Johnson

- CDS Possession of a Large Amount of Cocaine
  - CDS Possession of a Large Amount of Fentanyl
  - CDS Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine
  - CDS Possession with Intent to Distribute Fentanyl
- Pending Sentencing:**  
Maximum of 100 Years in Prison



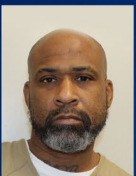
Marvin O. Johnson

- First Degree Murder
  - Firearm Use in the Commission of a Felony
- Sentenced:**  
LIFE plus 20 Years in Prison



Damuariae M. Jones

- CDS Distribution of Fentanyl
  - CDS Distribution of a Counterfeit Narcotic
- Sentenced:**  
30 Years in Prison,  
10 Years Active Incarceration



Derrick C. Marshall

- First Degree Assault
  - Second Degree Assault
  - Unlawful Taking of a Motor Vehicle
- Sentenced:**  
20 Years in Prison



Anthony C. Mason

- First Degree Arson
  - Second Degree Assault
  - Reckless Endangerment
- Sentenced:**  
45 Years in Prison,  
15 Years Active Incarceration



Davione S. Mason

- Attempted Second Degree Murder
  - Firearm Use in the Commission of a Felony
- Sentenced:**  
35 Years in Prison,  
10 Years Active Incarceration



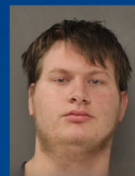
Thomas L. Moreland

- First Degree Murder
  - Attempted First Degree Murder
  - Conspiracy to Commit First Degree Assault
- Sentenced:**  
LIFE in Prison



Leroy C. Neal

- First Degree Murder
  - Firearm Use in the Commission of a Felony
  - Handgun on Person
  - Handgun in Vehicle
- Pending Sentencing:**  
Maximum of LIFE plus 25 Years in Prison



Leonard M. Nelson, Jr.

- Promote/Distribute Child Pornography
  - 2 Counts of Possession of Child Pornography
- Pending Sentencing:**  
Maximum of 20 Years in Prison



Ashley N. Nolan

- Manslaughter by Motor Vehicle
  - 2 Counts of Life Threatening Injury while Driving Under the Influence
  - 3 Counts of Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol, per se, while Transporting a Minor
- Sentenced:**  
22 Years in Prison,  
14 Years Active Incarceration



Jayson D. Pressley

- First Degree Murder
  - Firearm Use in the Commission of a Felony
- Sentenced:**  
LIFE plus 20 Years in Prison,  
LIFE plus 5 Years Active Incarceration



Jeshawn M. Proctor

- First Degree Murder
- Sentenced:**  
LIFE in Prison,  
20 Years Active Incarceration



Jontae L. Proctor

- First Degree Murder
  - 3 Counts of First Degree Assault
  - 2 Counts Firearm Use in the Commission of a Felony
  - Reckless Endangerment
  - Assault Weapons/ Magazine Use
- Sentenced:**  
LIFE plus 140 Years in Prison,  
LIFE plus 94 Years Active Incarceration



Lee Richardson

- First Degree Murder
- Sentenced:**  
LIFE in Prison



Tevon L. Robinson

- Attempted Second Degree Murder
  - Firearm Use in the Commission of a Crime of Violence
- Sentenced:**  
30 Years in Prison,  
12 Years Active Incarceration



Terek D. Ross

- 2 Counts of Attempted First Degree Murder
- Sentenced:**  
LIFE in Prison,  
50 Years Active Incarceration



Jonathan Salazar-Martinez

- First Degree Assault
  - Firearm Use in the Commission of a Felony
- Sentenced:**  
45 Years in Prison,  
15 Years Active Incarceration



Kelvin L. Shepherd

- 27 Counts of Animal Cruelty
- Sentenced:**  
2,430 Days in Prison,  
270 Days Active Incarceration and \$16,200 in Fines



Winston W. Smith

- Attempted Second Degree Murder
- Sentenced:**  
30 Years in Prison,  
10 Years Active Incarceration



Deandre T. Taylor

- CDS Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine
  - Maintain Common Nuisance - CDS Distribution
  - Attempt to Elude Uniformed Police by Fleeing on Foot
- Sentenced:**  
36 Years in Prison,  
8 Years Active Incarceration



Charles H. Thompson, Jr.

- 2 Counts of First Degree Assault
  - Armed Robbery
  - Firearm Use in the Commission of a Crime of Violence
  - Firearm Possession with Felony Conviction
  - 5 Additional Counts of Firearm-Related Charges
- Pending Sentencing:**  
Maximum of 100 + Years in Prison



Paul Virts

- Multiple Counts of Violation of a Protective Order
  - Telephone Misuse
- Sentenced:**  
10 Years in Prison



Kenneth Wade-Greene

- First Degree Assault
  - Firearm Use in the Commission of a Felony
- Sentenced:**  
20 Years in Prison,  
15 Years Active Incarceration



John A. Wilson

- 2 Counts of First Degree Assault
- Sentenced:**  
45 Years in Prison,  
20 Years Active Incarceration



Kashawn E. Powell

- First Degree Assault
- Sentenced:**  
15 Years in Prison,  
5 Years Active Incarceration



Joseph R. Willett III

- First Degree Assault
- Sentenced:**  
25 Years in Prison,  
10 Years Active Incarceration

**\*Notable Trials, Convictions, and Sentencings\***



***A Call for Stronger Laws:*** Sterling led legislative efforts in the fight to increase penalties for vehicular homicide and advocating for a new law, which now makes concealment of death a felony.

- ***Concealment of Death, Disturbing or Dismembering Human Remains (House Bill 674/Senate Bill 394):*** Sterling championed legislation that created a new felony crime punishable by a maximum penalty of five years in prison for concealing a death or disturbing or dismembering human remains. She testified before the Maryland Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee and the House Judiciary Committee alongside a team of State's Attorneys from throughout the state. The bill became law in just its first year of introduction into the Maryland General Assembly and was enacted on October 1, 2025.
- ***Jamari's Law (Senate Bill 364/House Bill 977):*** In memory of Jamari Duckett, State's Attorney Sterling fiercely advocated for legislation to double the maximum penalty for vehicular manslaughter from 10 to 20 years in prison, and for any subsequent conviction, from 15 to 30 years. The bill, known as *Jamari's Law*, was unfortunately stalled in committee in both chambers of the Maryland General Assembly. This year, Sterling partnered with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), making *Jamari's Law* a priority bill.

***Team Milestones: Statewide Recognition and Awards:*** Sterling's team was acknowledged with praise and distinction from across the state, underscoring their dedication to legal excellence and public service.

- ***Victoria F. Gelfman Legal Excellence Award:*** Assistant State's Attorney Zachary Varda was presented with this award, recognizing one rising star prosecutor from the entire state who exemplifies the highest standards of public service, legal integrity, and community commitment.
- ***Maryland State's Attorney's Association Award for Distinguished Service:*** Kelsey Perkins, Director of Legal Administration, was recognized for her exceptional dedication, professionalism, and outstanding service to the mission of prosecution in Maryland. Perkins has emerged as a leader statewide for her effective, efficient, and critical role in launching the Office's digital case management system. Her ability to seamlessly implement the Office's processes has garnered the admiration and praise of prosecutor offices from throughout the state. Perkins becomes the first paralegal ever to receive the statewide distinction.
- ***The Daily Record's Top 100 Women:*** State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling was the only prosecutor named to this prestigious list. This honor recognizes high-achieving women who lead through exceptional professional accomplishments, community service, mentorship, and outstanding leadership. Sterling's nomination was driven by peers, law enforcement agency partners, and community members who praised her unwavering ethics, commitment to public service, and tireless work ethic.

***Ongoing Commitment to Victim Empowerment and Care:*** The St. Mary's County State's Attorney's Office's Victim Services Division utilized grant funding to continue providing vital resources to crime victims, including contractual mental health services.

Victim/witness advocates and prosecutors participated in multiple victim support events this year, including the 35th Annual Memorial Service for Crime Victims and their families, the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office's Silent Angel Memorial service, and the Maryland Remembers Memorial.

Kelli Dixon, Director of Victim Services, was selected to serve as a panelist at this year's Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference hosted by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy and delivered a presentation on strengthening support systems for victims and survivors.

**Technological Advancements:** The Office has successfully implemented technology and digital services to modernize operations, enhancing both effectiveness and public transparency.

- **Launch of iSubpoena:** This new technology streamlines communication between the State's Attorney's Office and law enforcement partners. By facilitating faster, more effective delivery of court dates and subpoenas, *iSubpoena* allows law enforcement officers to spend more time protecting the community and less time on administrative court processes, ensuring more efficient utilization and prioritization of officers for investigations, while still fulfilling their critical court obligations.
- **State's Attorney's Office Website Upgrade:** The development and launch of the updated State's Attorney's Office website is a significant step toward greater community connection, transparency, and communication. The site abridges public access to essential services, including information about witness updates, daily dockets, court closings and delays, news releases, and more.

**Community Outreach Initiatives:** The Office hosted and participated in community outreach initiatives throughout the County. Some highlights include:

- Organizing and leading the annual **Project Graduation** event in conjunction with numerous community and law enforcement partners to provide a safe, alcohol/drug-free, and memorable celebration for recent graduates from all the St. Mary's County high schools.
- Hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **Badges for Basketball** event in St. Mary's County in partnership with the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation, St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office, Maryland State Police, and the Leonardtown High School Basketball Program.
- Fielding an office team for the **St. Mary's Splash for Special Olympics**, in support of co-worker and Special Olympian, Bailey Mewhinney, and his friends.
- Participating in the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual **Shop with a Cop** back-to-school and Christmas events.
- Taking part in **National Night Out** with local law enforcement partners.
- Joining the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office and the Special Olympics for the **Law Enforcement Torch Run**.

**A Year in Review:** As 2025 draws to a close, State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling and the incredibly dedicated team at the St. Mary's County State's Attorney's Office reaffirm their unwavering dedication to justice, innovation, and the safety of our County. With sincere appreciation for the opportunity to serve, State's Attorney Sterling looks forward to continuing the progress made this year. Together, we will build on these achievements to create a safer St. Mary's County.

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