



## OFFICE OF THE MERCER COUNTY PROSECUTOR

**ANGELO J. ONOFRI**  
*Prosecutor*

209 S. Broad Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 8068  
Trenton, New Jersey 08650-0068  
Phone: (609) 989-6350  
mercercountyprosecutor.com

**JENNIFER DOWNING-MATHIS**  
*First Assistant Prosecutor*

**JESSICA PLUMERI**  
*Chief of County Detectives*

**BRYAN COTTRELL**  
*Deputy Chief of County Detectives*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
August 10, 2023

**CONTACT:** Casey A. DeBlasio  
cdeblasio@mercercounty.org

### **Mercer County Prosecutor Angelo J. Onofri Announces the Promotion of Kathleen M. Petrucci to Deputy First Assistant Prosecutor**

**TRENTON** -- Mercer County Prosecutor Angelo J. Onofri recently announced the promotion of Kathleen M. Petrucci to deputy first assistant prosecutor. DFAP Petrucci was sworn in last week by the Honorable Peter E. Warshaw, J.S.C., at the Mercer County Criminal Courthouse.

DFAP Petrucci began her career as an assistant prosecutor in the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office in September 1999. During her 24 years with the office, she has been assigned to the Trial Unit, Gang Unit, Project Safe Neighborhoods Unit, Juvenile Unit, Grand Jury Unit, Special Investigations Unit/Mercer County Narcotics Task Force, Internal Affairs Unit, and the Mercer County Homicide Task Force. She has served as chief of the Juvenile Unit and chief of the Gang Unit. After four years as a trial team leader, DFAP Petrucci was assigned to the Special Investigations Unit and served as its chief from 2016-2018. She was also cross-designated as a special assistant U.S. attorney, and assigned to the U.S. Attorney's Office in 2018-2019 to screen and adopt state drug and gun crimes from Mercer County and prosecute those defendants federally in U.S. Magistrate Court. Most recently, she has been the senior assistant prosecutor supervising the Mercer County Homicide Task Force.

During her career in Mercer County, DFAP Petrucci has conducted numerous jury trials arising from homicides, aggravated assaults, firearms possessions and drug distributions. Trials have included the attempted murder case of *State v. Billy Heisler*, who was

convicted in 2012 of the attempted murder of an off-duty Mercer County Sheriff's Officer and sentenced to 50 years in New Jersey State Prison, and more recently the double murder case of *State v. Treizon Thompson*, who was convicted in December 2022 of the murders of two rival gang members.

In addition to her prosecutorial duties, DFAP Petrucci has taught firearms law, controlled dangerous substance law, and juvenile justice at the Mercer County Police Academy and the New Jersey State Police Academy, and has guest lectured at The College of New Jersey and Mercer County Community College.

While DFAP Petrucci will continue to prosecute homicide cases, her responsibilities in her new role will expand to include general oversight of the Major Crimes, Special Investigations and Appellate units, as well as assisting with formulating policy and overseeing investigations. She has served as administrative assistant prosecutor since September 2021.

DFAP Petrucci graduated from Bethany College (WV) in 1992 and Seton Hall University Law School in 1998. Prior to joining the prosecutor's office, she was a law clerk for the Honorable Paul T. Koenig, J.S.C., from 1998-1999.

**###**



L to R: Prosecutor Onofri, DFAP Petrucci and FAP Jennifer Downing-Mathis