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ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY STEWART RYAN LEAVING DA’S OFFICE; WILL CONTINUE AS SPECIAL PROSECUTOR FOR COSBY SENTENCING

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (May 23, 2018) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele announced today that Assistant District Attorney M. Stewart Ryan is leaving the District Attorney’s Office, effective May 25, 2018, but will remain part of the prosecution team for Commonwealth v. William H. Cosby Jr. Ryan is joining the Philadelphia-based law firm of Laffey, Bucci & Kent as a civil litigator representing individuals who have been injured in a variety of ways, with a focus on victims of crime who have suffered physical or emotional injuries.

“From day one, Stew has been one of our best prosecutors. His methodical but compassionate approach to presenting sexual assault cases, combined with his ability to connect with juries, has made him very successful as a prosecutor,” said Steele. “Beyond sexual assault, Stew has prosecuted all types of cases, from homicides to assaults to drug cases. We are disappointed to lose such a promising young attorney, and I will miss him personally and professionally. However, I am pleased that Stew, with the support of the law firm of Laffey, Bucci & Kent, wanted to see the Cosby prosecution through to its conclusion in September with the defendant’s sentencing.”

Ryan joined the DA’s Office in 2012. Since then, he has served in all divisions from Pre-Trials to Juvenile to Appeals to Trials. Currently, Ryan is an Assistant Chief of the Trials Division overseeing seven Assistant District Attorneys in the Family Protection Unit, which investigates and prosecutes crimes primarily involving sexual violence, domestic violence, elder abuse and animal cruelty. Prior to being promoted into that position in October 2017, Ryan served as Captain of the Sex Crimes Unit and had previously been a prosecutor in the Firearms Unit.
In addition to the Cosby prosecution, Ryan has also been part of the teams that prosecuted then-Attorney General of Pennsylvania Kathleen Kane and Raghunandan Yandamuri, who was convicted of a gruesome double homicide and sentenced to death. Other notable sexual assault or rape cases include Oscar Herrera, Vincent Cirillo Jr., Taylor Rossi and Ronnie Ramsey. In addition, Ryan has received numerous District Attorney’s Commendations recognizing his work in securing difficult convictions.

“I certainly will miss representing the people of Montgomery County as a prosecutor,” said Ryan. “However, I’m proud to continue fighting on behalf of individuals who have been injured, especially victims of sexual assault and other crimes, and working to help them obtain justice in the civil arena.”

The Philadelphia-based law firm of Laffey, Bucci & Kent, founded in 2009, represents individuals who have been injured in a variety of ways, including workplace and construction injuries, automobile accidents, medical malpractice, product liability and as victims of crime.

Ryan earned his law degree from Widener University Delaware Law School in 2012 and a bachelor’s degree from Franklin & Marshall College in 2009.

Approved for release:

Kevin R. Steele