



# PRESS RELEASE

**PETER J. LUCIDO**  
MACOMB COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Contact: Dawn Fraylick  
Office: +1 (586) 469-5737  
Email: [Dawn.Fraylick@macombgov.org](mailto:Dawn.Fraylick@macombgov.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 8, 2024

## Macomb County Prosecutor's Office Announces New Head of the Hate Crime Unit

Mount Clemens, MI - Prosecutor Peter J. Lucido is proud to announce that Macomb County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Patrick Coletta will now head the Hate Crime Unit. Prosecutor Lucido established the Macomb County Prosecutor's Office Hate Crime Unit in 2022 to prosecute Hate Crimes in Macomb County.

The Hate Crime Unit works with law enforcement to prosecute Hate Crimes such as ethnic intimidation. In Michigan, a person may be guilty of ethnic intimidation (two year felony) if that person maliciously, and with specific intent to intimidate or harass another person because of that person's race, color, religion, gender, or national origin, causes physical contact with another person, damages, destroys, or defaces any real or personal property of another person, or threatens, by word or act, to do so, if there is reasonable cause to believe that such an act will occur.

"I am appointing an experienced Hate Crimes Unit Chief to affirm our commitment to combating intolerance and bigotry. Hate Crimes tear at the fabric of our society, and we stand united in our pursuit of justice for all, fostering a community where every resident can live free from fear and discrimination," said Macomb County Prosecutor Peter J. Lucido. "Martin Luther King, Jr. said the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends towards justice. Our Hate Crimes Unit is our collective effort to expedite that bend, ensuring equality, dignity and compassion for all."

Patrick has been an assistant prosecutor since 2011, and has been with Macomb County since 2015. He has tried over 100 cases, including murder, police misconduct, and ethnic intimidation. His most recent murder trial secured a first-degree murder conviction against a man who killed his friend on the victim's birthday, leaving his body to be discovered by his 5-year-old son. Patrick has convicted people from all walks of life of felony crimes, including a Customs and Border Protection officer and a Catholic priest. His experience affirms that everybody deserves the same

accountability for their actions, regardless of who they are. But equality under the law doesn't just involve accountability; it also means that every person should be able to live their lives and express their identity without fear of bigoted attacks. He looks forward to continuing his career working to ensure every Macomb County resident has equal access to, and enjoyment of, everything the Constitution guarantees.

The Macomb County Prosecutor's Office Hate Crime Unit headed by Patrick Coletta marks significant strides in addressing and combating hate crimes in Macomb County.