



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**For Immediate Release**

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**Chief City Prosecutor to Retire**  
*Douglas Powley Has Over 30 Years of Service*

Akron, Ohio (February 27, 2012) - A veteran prosecutor is retiring with over 30 years of public service, 23 of those years as Akron's Chief Prosecutor.

Douglas Powley, Akron's Chief Prosecutor, will retire effective April 1. Powley joined the Akron Law Department in 1984 and became Chief Prosecutor in 1989.

Prior to joining the City's Law Department, Powley was a Partner in the law firm of Wray, Powley and Wittenauer, Special Counsel to the Ohio Attorney General, Attorney and Intern at the Summit County Legal Defender's Office, and Research and Education Associate for the International Chemical Works Union.

“Doug Powley’s accomplishments as Chief Prosecutor are remarkable. Powley was astute enough to witness the needs of victims, the accused, the attorneys, the Judges, and the citizens of Akron, and he responded by implementing many new and needed Court programs,” said Mayor Plusquellic. “Doug served the City extremely well and the City is losing an experienced and skilled Prosecutor. I wish him the very best.”

During his tenure as Chief Prosecutor, Powley had a hand in developing many new programs. He created the Discretionary Rehabilitation Program, a diversion program for first time offenders; initiated the Direct Indictment Program in cooperation with the Summit County Prosecutor; initiated the Close Up Program for Child Abuse/Family Awareness Month; co-founded the Child Family Leadership Exchange; participated in forming Akron’s Drug Court, Family Violence Court, Mental Health Court and DUI Court; argued three cases before the Ohio Supreme Court and tried high profile jury trials; appeared in *Detwiler v. Akron* in the United States Supreme Court; authored legislation on noise, drug loitering, sale of rolling papers, illegal dumping, gambling; closed ten bars and boarded up numerous drug houses and one house of ill repute by use of nuisance abatement in the Common Pleas Court; instituted the witness notification system and filing system independent from the Court system; formed a Domestic Violence Unit; coordinated enforcement activity of City Health, Housing, Fire and Building inspectors; initiated nuisance actions against derelict commercial properties causing a number of buildings to be razed and making land available for redevelopment; and closed more than twenty skill game and internet café operations in Akron.

“I would like to thank the Mayor for the opportunity to serve the citizens of the City of Akron,” said Doug Powley. “The Mayor wanted an independent prosecutor responsible for the prosecutor’s office, and he maintained that separation throughout my term. He allowed me to determine prosecutorial policy and to make decisions based on my training and experience.”

Powley was named a Leading Lawyer by Inside Business magazine each year from 2004 through 2010. He served in collaborative organizations to coordinate efforts between public and private agencies including Chairing the Summit Forum, the first Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition Colloquium, the Child Family Leadership Exchange, the Summit County Community Partnership, the Urban Neighborhood Development Corp., and the Good Neighbor Awards. Powley also served the community by serving on the Character Counts! Akron Board, the ADAM Board/Criminal Justice Forum, and the Advisory Board of the Oriana House. Powley was also a Founding Member of the Summit County Domestic Violence Coalition.

“It was wonderful working with many capable prosecutors and staff at the City of Akron,” said Doug Powley. “I also appreciate the opportunities I was given to work in our community by participating with many area groups and serving on community boards. I will always cherish my time at the City of Akron.”

Powley says he is looking forward to retirement so he can spend more time with his wife Sherry, with whom he is celebrating 25 years of marriage, and his two daughters.

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