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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Greensburg, PA – Westmoreland County District Attorney Nicole W. Ziccarelli is thrilled to announce the launch of our CRIMEWATCH™ platform. CRIMEWATCH™ is a mobile app and web-based network providing residents with police incidents and investigations, arrests, criminal cases, warrants and community outreach.

Through CRIMEWATCH™, we will be able to provide transparency on police investigations as they happen, and we can disseminate important and imperative information right at the palm of your hand.

The District Attorney's Office will work collaboratively with our own county detectives, local police departments and other public safety agencies to keep communities informed of ongoing, active and resolved incidents within Westmoreland County.

The new Westmoreland County District Attorney's Office <u>website</u> was developed in partnership with CRIMEWATCH™ Technologies and is part of the CRIMEWATCH™ Network (<u>crimewatch.net</u>). This online tool gives the public direct access to crime and public safety-related information happening in their community.

"This new website is the perfect entry point for establishing better police and public partnerships. Technology gives us the opportunity to communicate with the public and the anonymity of the tech avoids the potential risks of sharing information with the

police. Local police departments throughout the region and other district attorney offices across the Commonwealth are having great success using this technology," said Ziccarelli.

Westmoreland District Attorney's Office is the second Westmoreland County based agency to go live on the CRIMEWATCH™ Network; a communications platform developed specifically for law enforcement agencies that allows for geographically targeted information sharing and intelligence gathering.

CRIMEWATCH[™] alerts and notifications will also be shared automatically to our office's social media pages (<u>Westmoreland County PA District Attorney's Office | Greensburg PA | Facebook</u>). The information-sharing platform will provide resources for victim and witness recovery and services.

Neighbors and business owners can register surveillance cameras on CRIMEWATCH™ to assist in ongoing police investigations. Access to surveillance cameras can be paramount in solving a case.

The office and its staff will never have access to registered cameras through CRIMEWATCH™, but will merely know where cameras exist when crimes are committed.

Ziccarelli said, "The Westmoreland County Office of the District Attorney is dedicated to achieving justice and protecting the safety of our community. Working in partnership with the community, we can proactively prevent crime, support victim recovery and hold offenders accountable. CRIMEWATCH™ will allow us to openly and transparently communicate with residents of ongoing investigations and help create safer environments for all of our neighbors."

Residents are strongly encouraged to visit $\underline{\text{WestmorelandDA.org}}$ to connect with police department social media sites, and/or download CRIMEWATCHTM Mobile from the $\underline{\text{Apple}}$ $\underline{\text{App Store}}$ or $\underline{\text{Android App Store}}$.

