



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 8, 2009

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TRIBUNE ENDORSES SETH WILLIAMS FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Paper Cites His Experience and Vision as Best for Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA: Seth Williams was endorsed for District Attorney today by the *Philadelphia Tribune*. The country's oldest African-American paper cited Seth's background and plans for the future, declaring "Democratic voters should choose Seth Williams for District Attorney."

The entire editorial is below.

"Editorial: *Tribune* Endorses Williams for D.A."

For the first time since her appointment in 1991, District Attorney Lynne Abraham will not be leading the office charged with fighting crime and corruption in Philadelphia.

Five democrats, Brian Grady, Dan McCaffery, Dan McElhatton, Michael Turner and Seth Williams, are vying to replace Abraham, who is not seeking re-election. Attorney Michael Untermeyer is running unopposed in the Republican primary.

In a city plagued with gun violence and pay-to-play corruption, whoever becomes the next District Attorney is of critical importance. We believe Seth Williams is the best Democrat for District Attorney.

Williams, 42, who narrowly lost to Abraham for four years ago, has the right prosecutorial background, management experience and vision to lead the D.A. Office at a time when the city is cash-strapped and struggling to curb gun violence.

Williams served as assistant district attorney for 10 years including serving as assistant chief of the Municipal Court, where he supervised 30 prosecutors. His extensive trial experience includes 37 jury trials and more than 1,500 bench trials. He also created the Repeat Offenders Unit to prosecute habitual criminals.

As the former Inspector General, Williams also has experience fighting corruption and fraud in city government.

Williams' plan to create a system in which prosecutors are assigned to neighborhoods makes common sense. If prosecutors have the trust of neighborhood residents, they are more able to encourage reluctant witnesses to come forward. This should help prevent so many cases from being thrown out for lack of evidence.

Williams estimates that nearly 60 percent of felony cases are dismissed because prosecutors aren't ready.

Williams promises to be smart on crime by using the resources of the D.A.'s Office to go after violent criminals and drug dealers and not filling the city's overcrowded jails with petty drug users. Williams said those addicted to narcotics should be treated like people who have mental health problems and receive treatment.

Democratic voters should choose Seth Williams for District Attorney."

The *Tribune* endorsement comes as Seth's campaign continues to pick up momentum in the final weeks of the campaign. In the last few weeks, Seth has picked up backing from the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, ACORN, Philly for Change, Neighborhood Networks, Liberty City, the Guardian Civic League, the Fraternal Order of Transit Police and the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #5. Seth is also supported by the Black Clergy of Philadelphia and the Vicinity, more than a dozen former Assistant District Attorneys, 14 state elected officials, the Fraternal Order of Police Philadelphia Housing Authority and the Transportation Workers Union Local 234.

Seth Williams, the City's former Inspector General, has 10 years of experience as a top prosecutor and supervisor in Philadelphia's District Attorney's Office. For more information, please visit his campaign Web site at www.votesethwilliams.com.

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