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AODA Santa Fe getting a "Facelift"



JB Mauldin, CFO for the 7th District Attorney's Office and Filemon Gonzalez, CFO for the Administrative Office of the District Attorneys stand in front of the AODA Santa Fe Office under a newly displayed sign. The Santa Fe Office also got new reception furniture and a new office was created in this building for District Attorneys to work in while they are conducting business in Santa Fe.

AODA Fall Conference brings "Courthouse Dogs" to the forefront

The course was extremely well received and it discussed using a dog to provide emotional support to a witness in the Courtroom. The concept of using dogs in the courtroom will be introduced in the Spring Conference as well in the Special Programs Track.

Woof Woof



Posing with Courthouse Dogs, are Abby Rubio with AODA, **Ellen O'Neill-Stephens, Prosecuting Attorney in Seattle Washington and the founder of Courthouse Dogs** and Ashley Brott from the 1st DA's Office.



Top 10 Scams and Rip-Offs of 2009 from the BBB

...to be continued in 2010

H1N1 Scams: Scams attempted to scare consumers into purchasing cures or providing essential information to prevent the H1N1 virus.

Memorabilia: 2009 provided many opportunities for scammers to sell memorabilia and collectibles at inflated prices.

Weight Loss Pills Free Trial Offers: Free trial offers for weight loss pills actually ended up costing unsuspecting consumers thousands of dollars.

Phishing E-mails: Phishing e-mails appearing to be from government agencies popped up in in-boxes. These phishing emails attempted to trick victims into divulging sensitive financial information.

Mystery Shopping: Consumers were told they would be paid to secretly shop in order to evaluate merchants' customer service. In some instances, victims were asked to wire money back to scammers as a way to evaluate money wiring services such as MoneyGram and Western Union. Victims who participated were sent authentic looking checks which, when cashed left the victims "holding the bag".

Lottery Scams: Victims received bogus letters or phone calls informing them that they had won millions of dollars. Unfortunately, victims were also told they had to wire hundreds or thousands of dollars back to the scammers to cover taxes or other bogus fees.

Friend/Family in Distress: Also known as the Grandma Scam, victims received messages from scammers claiming to be "friends" or "family members" needing immediate help. Victims were asked to wire money to pay for lawyer's fees or to post bail.

Mortgage Foreclosure Rescue/Debt Assistance: Victims paid upfront fees to avoid home foreclosures or to get help with credit card debt - with no results.

Job Hunter Scams: Job seekers paid bogus upfront fees as part of an application process. Job applicants were also asked to provide personal financial information or social security numbers under the guise of evaluating their applications.

Robocalls: Thousands of people received automated telephone calls related to auto warranties and lower credit card interest rates.

*"Victims paid
upfront fees to
avoid home
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card debt -
with no
results"*

Thanks to the Denver District Attorneys Office for providing nation wide fraud alerts



Our Featured District Attorney is Angela “Spence” Pacheco from the First Judicial District. District Attorney Pacheco’s jurisdiction includes Santa Fe and Rio Arriba Counties. Elected in 2008, District Attorney Pacheco brings with her over thirty (30) years of management, administrative, budget and supervisory experience. She is a highly skilled prosecutor who has been a lawyer since 1987. Before becoming a lawyer, District Attorney Pacheco was a New Mexico Social Worker who oversaw contracts and management of drug and alcohol programs in Northern New Mexico. You may remember hearing about District Attorney Pacheco recently for her successful prosecution of the Carlos Fierro Case – a Santa Fe Attorney convicted of vehicular homicide. Thank you District Attorney Pacheco for your outstanding service to New Mexico and for your commitment to public safety.



RESERVE THE DATES:



The Annual New Mexico District Attorneys’ Association Spring Conference will be held in Ruidoso, NM, this year at the Inn of the Mountain Gods from March 1-3, 2010.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at this event. Registration information and the conference agenda will be posted in late January on AODA’s website.

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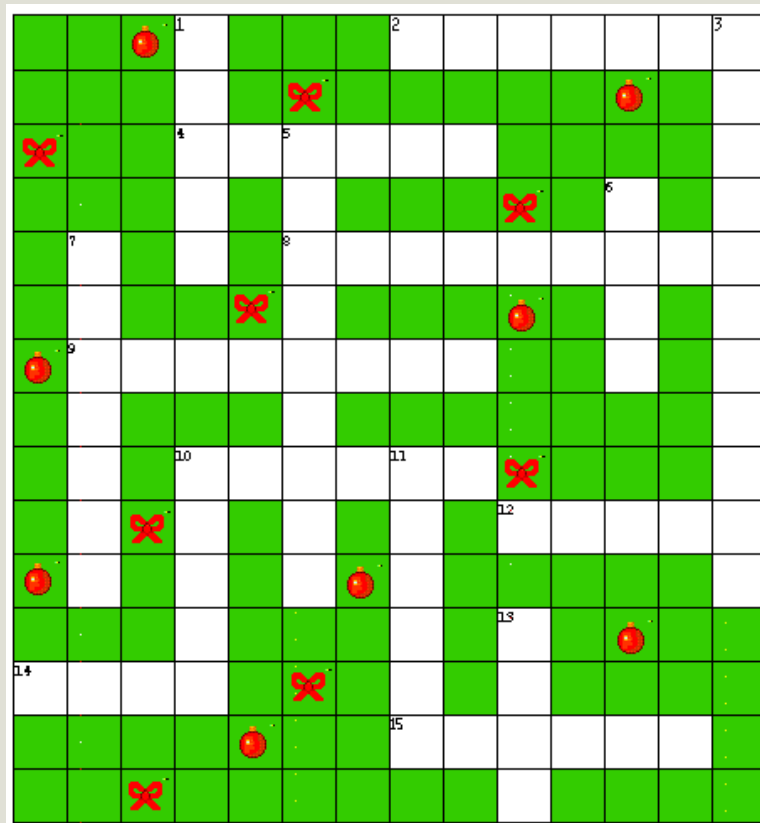
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AODA is the Administrative Office of the District Attorneys. We are a service organization set up to centralize administrative support and information technology functions for all District Attorneys’ Offices in the State of New Mexico.

Seasons Greetings

On behalf of Kelly Kuentler, Director, and the entire staff of the Administrative Office of the District Attorneys, we would like to wish you a safe and joyous Holiday Season.



ACROSS

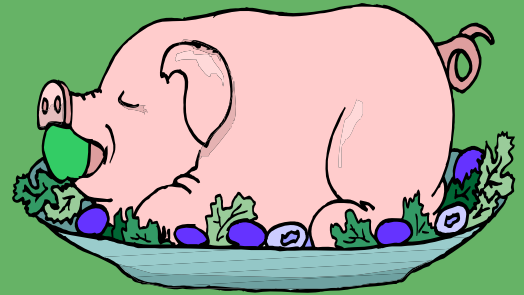
2. What you put on your gifts so you know who the gift is for.
4. ___ the Snowman (name of a song)
8. Where does Santa live?
9. What month do we celebrate Christmas?
10. ___ Bells (name of a song)
12. Who has a long beard and wears a red suit?
14. What children like to get for Christmas.
15. What Santa rides in.

DOWN

1. What do you give each other at Christmas?
3. What a Christmas house is made of.
5. Something you put on your Christmas tree.
6. If you are bad, what does Santa put in your stocking?
7. What is the name of the reindeer with a nose that glows?
10. Whose birthday is celebrated on Christmas?
11. You put these on your Christmas tree to make it glow.
13. What do you decorate with ornaments for Christmas?

AODA Holiday Pot Luck & Gift Exchange

Everyone crowded around the kitchen to start serving themselves with all the delicious food!



Jason Cordova (AODA IT) was so excited to get something for Christmas!!!



Damion Bradford (AODA IT) was in the holiday spirit. He dressed to impress.



Big Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Feast!