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Highlights from Christmas and holiday celebrations from DA Office



DA Mulroy pictured at the Ron Redwing Holiday mixer with former Assistant Professor David Acey, General Sessions Judge Danielle Mitchell Sims, and General Sessions Judge Taylor Bachelor.



(Pictured L-R): DA Fred Agee, DA Danny Goodman, DA Steve Mulroy, and U.S. Atty. Mike Dunavant at the 23rd Annual Tennessee Season to Remember.

Message from the DA Steve Mulroy

Just one week after we hosted our own Season of Remembrance here in Shelby County, I was honored to join families from across Tennessee in Nashville for the 23rd annual Tennessee Season to Remember, hosted by the Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference.

Families and friends who have lost loved ones to homicide gathered at the Tennessee State Museum to honor their memories and to find strength in one another. During the ceremony, families placed ornaments on memorial wreaths that will be displayed at the State Capitol—each one representing a life taken too soon and a family forever changed.

Being part of this statewide remembrance reinforced what we know all too well: grief does not stop at county lines, and neither should our compassion or our commitment to victims and their families. Such grief is often especially hard on family members during the holidays. If you know of someone who's lost a loved one, especially this year, please reach out to them during this season.

To the families we serve—both here at home and across Tennessee—you are not forgotten. We honor your loved ones, and we remain committed to standing with you every step of the way.



DA Steve Mulroy and members of his staff volunteered to help the Neighborhood Christian Center by filling holiday food boxes for families in need. Their participation reflects the office's commitment to supporting the community and spreading holiday cheer.



(Pictured L-R): General Sessions Judge Marcie Ingram, Circuit Court Judge Gina Higgins (left of DA Mulroy), and Judicial Commissioner Shayla Purifoy (left of Judge Higgins), DA Mulroy (center) at the Ben F. Jones chapter of the National Bar Association holiday mixer.

Photos/Courtesy: Crime Commission Office

Retired District Attorney General Tommy Thompson has died; Held office for 44 years

NASHVILLE, Tenn., December 15, 2025 – Retired District Attorney General Tommy Thompson, has passed away. Thompson began serving the 15th Judicial District, which includes Trousdale, Jackson, Macon, Smith, and Wilson counties in 1977 and held the office for 44 years, making him one of Tennessee's longest-serving district attorneys.

A Hartsville native, Thompson earned his law degree from Vanderbilt University in 1969 while participating in the ROTC program. He served three years as a legal officer at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, before beginning his prosecutorial career as an assis-

stant district attorney in Nashville under Tom Shriver. After returning to Hartsville, he taught locally for two years and later practiced law with his father.

Thompson joined the 5th District Attorney's Office in 1975, when the district covered 11 counties. Following the legislature's creation of the 15th Judicial District in 1976, he was appointed district attorney in 1977 by Gov. Ray Blanton after the resignation of Baxter Key. He went on to lead the office for more than four decades, retiring in 2021 and marking the end of a significant era in local public service.

"Tommy Thompson dedicated

his career to serving the people of the 15th Judicial District with integrity and a deep sense of duty," said Stephen Crump, Executive Director of the Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference. "His impact on the justice system and the communities he served will be felt for generations. We extend our prayers and heartfelt sympathies to his family."

The Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference was created by the General Assembly in 1961. For more information, visit www.tndagc.org.

Hundreds attend 23rd Annual Tennessee Season to Remember

NASHVILLE, Tenn., December 15, 2025 – Families and friends of loved ones lost to homicide gathered on December 9th for the 23rd annual Tennessee Season to Remember.

Held at the Tennessee State Museum, the event offered families an opportunity to honor the memories of those they have lost and to find support among others who share similar experiences, especially during the holiday season.

During the ceremony, families from across the state placed ornaments on memorial wreaths in tribute to their loved ones. These wreaths will be displayed in the Tennessee State Capitol throughout the holiday season as a visible reminder of the lives remembered.

This year's keynote speaker, Matt Cahoon, Associate Profes-

sor of Exercise Science at Carson-Newman University, shared his personal experience of losing his pregnant wife and 2-year-old son to homicide. Attendees also heard remarks from Andrea Conte, founder of the Tennessee Season to Remember, whose longstanding commitment to supporting surviving families continues to guide the event's mission.

Harpist Jana Brown and the Friendship Church Choir of Nashville provided beautiful musical accompaniment to offer moments of reflection throughout the ceremony.

"Our work has always been, first and foremost, centered on victims and the families who carry their memories forward," said Gen. Jared Effler, President of the Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference. "That com-

mitment is at the heart of everything we do. It was a profound honor to host this ceremony and deeply moving to share even a small part in honoring the lives of those remembered."

The TNDAGC extends its appreciation to the Tennessee Season to Remember Committee, state and local agency partners, and the Tennessee State Museum for hosting this year's ceremony.

The Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference was created by the General Assembly in 1961 to provide for a more prompt and efficient administration of justice in the courts of the state. It is composed of the elected District Attorneys General from the state's 32 judicial districts. www.tndagc.org.

50 years of Army-Navy Student Exchange Program ... from sports page 1

much earlier academic exchanges and weekend trips. As far back as 1945, cadets and midshipmen began swapping campuses for short, informal weekend visits that laid the groundwork for this long-held tradition among the sister academies.

"I got to study subjects like grand strategy and generalship that I would have never [gotten] the opportunity to study in Annapolis," Middleton said. "I would recommend for everyone at USNA to apply. It was an invaluable experience to learn the joint environment and make interservice friendships."

In 1975, the program expanded into a semester-long service academy exchange. The program is designed to build professional understanding between the future

officers of both services.

"I have really enjoyed my time on the yard," Keith said. "This semester I have been taking sailing lessons on the [Nonsuch] 26 sailboats and earned my [basic] qualification — I've had a lot of fun learning to sail and being out on the water."

On game day, the symbolic return is more than pageantry. It marks the end of a semester spent in "enemy territory" and showcases the balance between healthy rivalry and camaraderie. Once the exchange is complete, the cadets and midshipmen rejoin their classmates in the stands to cheer on their team for the remainder of the game.

"I would highly recommend the exchange experience to cadets at West Point. It has been a very re-

warding experience going into and embracing a new culture and military perspective," Keith said. The exchange serves as a symbol of unity between branches despite the competitive nature between both service academies. The midshipmen and cadets may battle fiercely on the athletic fields, but they share the same ultimate mission. After graduation, they will serve together in defense of our nation.

"Being a part of this tradition makes me feel closer to the institution and more invested in our naval service. The Army vs. Navy game is not just a sporting event for me anymore. It is a reminder of the brothers and sisters I have in the Army and how we are all fighting for each other," Middleton said.

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