



ERIK NASARENKO
VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
NEWS RELEASE



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Contact: Joey Buttitta
Title: Communications Manager/PIO
Phone: (805) 767-3400
Email: Joey.Buttitta@ventura.org

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**DA Nasarenko to Outline Alarming Increase in Fentanyl Case Filings
During Oath of Office Ceremony Wednesday**

VENTURA, Calif. -District Attorney Erik Nasarenko will be publicly sworn into office on January 11, 2023, at the Museum of Ventura County. During his remarks, Nasarenko will address the alarming increase in fentanyl-based case filings seen in Ventura County, which have risen 3,428 percent in three years.

Fentanyl is an extremely powerful synthetic opioid, estimated to be 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine. As little as two milligrams of fentanyl can be fatal, according to the Ventura County Opioid Taskforce. The District Attorney will speak about the dangers of the drug, what is being done to prosecute those who sell it, the importance of educating our children about the risks of fentanyl and providing addiction recovery.

Nasarenko was appointed District Attorney by a 5-0 vote of the Ventura County Board of Supervisors on January 26, 2021, becoming the 24th District Attorney in county history. On June 7, 2022, he was elected District Attorney by Ventura County voters and will serve a 6-year term. Assembly Bill 759, signed into law by Governor Newsom in September, temporarily extends the terms of district attorneys and sheriffs to six years to align the elections for those offices with presidential elections.

Presiding Judge for Ventura County Superior Court, the Honorable Kevin G. DeNoce, will administer the ceremonial oath of office.

Wednesday's event will begin at 3:00 p.m., is open to the public, and will be livestreamed on the Ventura County District Attorney's YouTube channel and Facebook page.