

NEWS RELEASE



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MARION COUNTY DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY PAIGE CLARKSON ANNOUNCES BID FOR MARION COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

(Salem, OR) The citizens of Marion County will have the opportunity to elect a new District Attorney in May 2018. After 20 years of service in the Marion County DA's Office, Paige Clarkson filed candidate papers this morning with the Marion County Clerk's Office seeking this important position.

For Paige, this was a natural next step in her career. "When Walt Beglau made the decision that he would not seek re-election in the Spring, it provided a great opportunity for me to continue in a career that I love in a way that fully utilizes the skills, values and relationships I've built as a Deputy District Attorney in our office. It would be a privilege to serve our community in this way," said Clarkson.

As part of his endorsement of her candidacy, current Marion County District Attorney Walt Beglau shared, "Paige Clarkson has proven leadership skills spanning nearly 20 years of solid prosecutorial experience. Our community will be rewarded by her integrity and commitment."

Clarkson is a 1999 graduate of Willamette University College of Law. A member of the Oregon State Bar since that time, Paige has served on the Oregon State Hospital Advisory Board, the Oregon District Attorney's Association Legislative Council and numerous statewide workgroups to improve law enforcement policy. She is an enthusiastic supporter of Liberty House, the Union Gospel Mission and the Salem Leadership Foundation.

During her tenure in the DA's office Clarkson has led one of the four adult prosecution teams for over 11 years as a Senior Deputy District Attorney and Trial Team Leader, creating policy and influencing the criminal prosecution of thousands of cases spanning all types of crime. She has helped shape legislation to better serve victims of crime and has spear-headed the reorganization of the Medical Examiner's Office to improve services to Marion County residents during some of the most difficult times of their lives. Her dedication to our community's safety is evident in her strong belief in accountability for violent offenders while still exercising empathy for those struggling with addiction and mental illness.

Beginning her career at the DA's Office during law school - Paige has built both an unparalleled breadth of understanding regarding the job of the District Attorney, and the depth of compassion necessary to help those in our community affected by crime. Paige has successfully prosecuted everything from DUII to Murder, navigated the criminal justice system with countless victims, and has developed vital connections with key law enforcement partners in our community. Paige is widely regarded as a crucial, decisive and knowledgeable partner among police agencies in Marion County.

Follow Clarkson on Facebook: @paigeclarkson4MarionDA, Instagram at paigelarkson4marionda or visit her website at: <https://paigeclarksonformarioncountyda.com/>.

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