



HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

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Freeholder Director John Lanza Statement on Prosecutor's Office Funding May 16, 2017

We appreciate the outstanding work by the CFO to bring this budget in with no increase and extend our appreciation to the executive team, all the Departments, Boards, and constitutional officers for working with us to keep spending in check.

But I want to particularly highlight the Prosecutor, Anthony Kearns, to recognize his willingness to be a team player and work to achieve a flat funded budget for his office this year, despite the upwards cost pressures.

Same spending line this year as last year. That is unique throughout the state.

The Prosecutor's Office provides significant law enforcement services for the people of the county. Constitutional and statutory changes and court rulings create great pressure on the office to ensure that justice is fairly administered.

We see in the news many instances around the state where Prosecutor Offices are at odds with Freeholder Boards on the issue of spending. Often times it becomes contentious.

Many Prosecutors have sought significant budget increases to deal with the new bail reform process that is now in place. Here in Hunterdon County, Prosecutor Anthony Kearns, has made the adjustments due to bail reform, held his costs down, and continues to deliver outstanding service. He is due our appreciation for working with us and the tax-payers of Hunterdon County.

(Prosecutor budget is \$4.5 million s&w, \$314,000 oe.)