

Phill Kline

For District Attorney

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June 9, 2008

America, unlike any nation previous in human history, was founded on the promise that a limited government would recognize each person's inherent right of freedom and liberty. To deliver this promise, a nation must honor the rule of law so that no person or corporation, regardless of their wealth, power or influence can flaunt the law and exploit others without consequence.

Without the rule of law, a society ceases to be a free and good society. The rule of law is the essence of our democracy and freedom as a people. Too often in our culture today, the rule of law is swept aside for political interests or societal outcomes. Too often today, the people's will, as voted on by their elected representatives in government is tossed aside for some other interest.

The rule of law, therefore requires integral action – law enforcement officers that answer the call to assist those in need; and prosecutors who keep our community safe by bringing consequences to those who violate the law.

This has been my passion; this has been my career. This is why I established the Cyber Crimes Task Force in Kansas City that serves as a model for the nation. Previously, Internet predators of children walked out of Kansas courtrooms on probation and now – they either go to federal prison or state prisons where they cannot harm again.

It is why I personally prosecuted and convicted John Henry Horton of the 1974 kidnapping and murder of 13 year old Lizabeth Wilson; because this nation made a promise at its founding and I reaffirmed that promise when I took the oath of office – that cry of a victim for justice shall be heard – and Lizabeth's voice has now been heard.

It is why, despite powerful political and corporate opposition, I will continue what my

oath requires – to uphold the rule of law even when it is against powerful special interests such as the Kaufman house or Planned Parenthood.

Moreover, the people of Kansas, through their elected representatives, made late term abortion illegal in our state, yet these laws go unenforced. It is my job, as an elected prosecutor, to uphold the will of the people and enforce the law, and I will not be deterred in fulfilling those duties.

The promise of America is the reason I went and successfully argued before the United States Supreme Court to reverse a Kansas Supreme Court that was undermining the rule of law through conflicting decisions driven by judicial activism.

And it is in the recognition that the vulnerable and weak need the power of the rule of law for their protection, that cause me to bring the full force of my efforts and authority of office to bear in breaking the Kaufman case in which Arlan Kaufman ritually abused his mentally challenged patients in a group home for decades before I intervened. Arlan Kaufman is now in federal prison and his former patients have a new start on life.

And out of respect for the rule of law, I initiated significant and positive changes in the Johnson county district attorney's office; ushering in an era of greater cooperation with federal authorities in the investigation and prosecution of crime.

And this past year, on June 2, 2007, this community witnessed the brutality one person can visit on another; when a person is bent on evil and is void of respect for humanity or law. In the Attorney General's office, I oversaw more than 60 homicide prosecutions.

No one is prepared to lose a loved one to a brutal crime; as such should never happen. We are not designed for such depth of loss. I cannot imagine the depth of grief.

Another reason I am compelled to continue is a case that has touched me deeply and transcends any election campaign. Over the past year I have had the honor of coming to know Greg and Missy Smith; whose dignity while carrying immeasurable grief; whose heart for their daughter Kelsey has caused them to extend their heart to this

community; whose eyes tear, yet twinkle at the mention of their daughters name – and thereby have introduced me to their wonderful daughter and acquainted me with the loss this community suffered at her passing.

Greg and Missy have also reminded me of the purposes for which I first sought the honor of your support –to join with other good men and women to hear the cry of the unfortunate for justice and by hearing such cry – prevent the cries of others.

This is why I will be a candidate for re-election for Johnson County District Attorney.

The rule of law must be honored and upheld – it must bring justice to Kelsey Smith and her family. It must enforce the laws of our state even if it means exposing powerful special interests. Prosecuting criminals and enforcing the laws of the people is my passion. I believe my record of enforcing the rule of law is strong and I look forward to continuing to serve and protect the people of Johnson County, and uphold the rule of law – the essence of our great democracy.