



OFFICE OF THE STATE ATTORNEY  
415 NORTH ORANGE AVENUE  
ORLANDO, FL 32801  
(407) 836-2400

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: KEISHA MULFORT

**THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ATTORNEY CELEBRATES NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY**

ORLANDO, FL — The Office of the State Attorney would like to recognize National Coming Out Day. This day was inspired by a single march that took place on October 11th, 1987. On that special day, 500,000 people participated in the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The march was such a huge success, it generated momentum that lasted for months. During this period, over one hundred LGBTQIA+ identifying individuals gathered outside Washington, DC, and decided to create a national day to celebrate coming out. This celebration began on the first anniversary of this historic march.

The decision to live one's life genuinely and out loud, without having to hide any aspects of one's identity, is a huge step for many people around the world. State Attorney Monique Worrell supports the LGBTQIA+ community and everyone's right to be out and proud. She believes this day is so important because diversity matters. She believes when different people come together, we are all stronger. Hate and homophobia thrive in silence and have no place in our community or our society. Knowledge drives out hate, and this day allows us to bring into light and accept the differences we have.

"When all Americans are treated as equal, no matter who they are or whom they love, we are all more free." – President Barack Obama

The Office of the State Attorney celebrates all who have come out as LGBTQIA+. You are extremely brave, and we commend you. Every person who speaks up changes hearts and minds, and creates new advocates for equality.

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*The Office of the State Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit is represented by The Honorable Monique H. Worrell and serves Orange and Osceola counties in Central Florida. A culturally diverse community, the area is home to nearly 1.4 million residents and is a vacation destination for millions each year. Our office is committed to making Orlando and the surrounding area a vibrant and safe place to live, work and play.*

For general media inquiries, please contact: [PIO@sao9.org](mailto:PIO@sao9.org).

For media records request, please contact: [mediarecordsrequest@sao9.org](mailto:mediarecordsrequest@sao9.org).

For specific media inquiries pertaining to State Attorney Monique Worrell, please contact Keisha Mulfort at [kmulfort@sao9.org](mailto:kmulfort@sao9.org).