

RESOLUTION 2018-03

**RESOLUTION OF THE OCEAN COUNTY MAYORS' ASSOCIATION,
COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
REQUESTING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JOSEPH D. CORONATO
AS OCEAN COUNTY PROSECUTOR**

WHEREAS, Joseph D. Coronato was named Ocean County Prosecutor in 2013 and since that time has led Ocean County's law enforcement community through difficult times and challenges, with the most difficult and biggest challenge that still continues, being the unprecedented opiate drug epidemic that has led to thousands of overdoses and that has cost the lives of many of our residents; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Mayors' Association joins the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders, as well as the residents of this County, in being most appreciative of the tremendous efforts and multi-faceted campaign brought forth by Prosecutor Coronato; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Coronato immediately recognized the severe threat of opiate abuse and engaged with police agencies and community groups throughout the region to empower people through education and information, creating a myriad of seminars and available resources to help individuals and families in crisis; and

WHEREAS, in his ongoing effort to fight the scourge of addiction created by the availability of opioids, Prosecutor Coronato was the first in New Jersey to find the funding to equip law enforcement officers with lifesaving Narcan, in addition to increasing use and efficiency in the Ocean County Drug Court Program and also spearheading a countywide "Blue HART" (Heroin Addiction Recovery and Treatment) program allowing addicts to get needed help at local police department without fear of arrest or judgement; and

WHEREAS, from his first day in office, Prosecutor Coronato took a tough on crime stance, with a no-nonsense approach to reducing gang violence, domestic violence and assaults, apprehending drug pushers, seeking the toughest penalties for those men and women guilty of providing illegal drugs leading to deaths, making arrests in cases of child pornography, apprehending contractors who preyed on the most vulnerable following Superstorm Sandy, all while making certain the victims of crime were not lost in the bureaucratic maze of what can be a confusing and overwhelming justice system; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office under Prosecutor Coronato is known for its professionalism with a well-trained and knowledgeable staff that has assisted in his efforts to protect the public at all times. His efforts have received national recognition most notable in his multi-faceted programs to fight the far-reaching opioid epidemic which have been highly effective and now serve as the model for other programs being introduced nationwide; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Ocean County Mayors' Association to join in the strong support with the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Ocean County Chiefs of Police Association, Ocean County Association of School Administrators and Reverend James Occhipinti, the Chaplain for both the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office and the Ocean County Sheriff's Department to request that Prosecutor Joseph Coronato continue in his role as the leader of the Ocean County law enforcement community giving him the ability to continue this fight on our behalf.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ocean County Mayors' Association, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, formally and respectfully request that Governor Phil Murphy consider the reappointment of Ocean County Prosecutor, Joseph Coronato for a second term of office so that he may continue the programs and initiatives that have protected and well served Ocean County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the membership of the Ocean County Mayors' Association, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, that upon the adoption of this resolution, the Secretary of the Ocean County Mayors' Association is authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of said resolution to the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the 3rd, 9th, 10th, 12th and 30th Legislative Districts representatives, Ocean County Freeholders, Ocean County Prosecutor Joseph Coronato, Ocean County Sheriff Michael Mastronardy, Ocean County Chiefs of Police, Ocean County Association of School Administrators and Reverend James Occhipinti and the New Jersey Association of Counties.

CERTIFICATION

I, Carmen F. Amato, Jr., Secretary of the Ocean County Mayors' Association, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution duly adopted at an Ocean County Mayors' Association regular business meeting held on the 27th day of March, 2017.

Carmen F. Amato, Jr. - Secretary
Ocean County Mayors' Association
Mayor – Township of Berkeley