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<u>For Immediate Release</u> October 21, 2024 Contact: Annie Noonan, Labor Relations & Operations Mgr. <u>annie.noonan@vermont.gov</u>;

The Vermont Dept. of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs (SAS) today announced the upcoming retirement of Executive Director John Campbell, scheduled for January 11, 2025. Campbell has served with the Department since July 2014, first as a Deputy State's Attorney in the Windsor County Office, and then as Executive Director since May 2016. Campbell also served as a State Senator for Windsor County for 16 years including 7 years as Senate Majority Leader and six years as the Senate Pro Tempore.

Governor Phil Scott praised Campbell's service, stating: "John and I began our political careers when we were elected to the Senate in the year 2000 and have remained friends ever since. I was a republican and John was a democrat, and while we didn't agree on every issue, we both believed in doing what was best for Vermont, regardless of party," said Governor Phil Scott. "As executive director of the department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs, John has been a solid leader and a strong advocate for victims and law enforcement, working with my team to address the public safety concerns of Vermonters. I believe he is leaving the Office in better shape than he found it. I will certainly miss his steadfast support and sense of humor, and wish him all the best in his retirement."

The SAS Executive Director is appointed by the Executive Committees of both the State's Attorneys and of the Sheriffs, each with five elected members. The head of the State's Attorneys' Committee, Bennington County SA Erica Marthage said of Campbell's tenure: "John has been a positive influence on our entire Department, bringing more consistency and transparency to our day-to-day operations. With his extensive background at the Legislature, John successfully advocated for critically-needed personnel and budget resources for our work. As a person, John is known for being a kind and caring person which has resulted in much greater camaraderie within the Department. He will be missed, but we wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement", said Marthage. Sheriff Mark Anderson heads up the Sheriffs' Executive Committee, and said of Campbell's tenure and retirement, "We have a more communicative relationship with SAS Central Office under John's tenure, and have received excellent support and advice on many issues, and we know that we can call upon John and the staff. John has been a key advocate for increasing training and professionalizing the Sheriffs' operations."

The two Executive Committees met in recent weeks to discuss and vote to appoint a new Executive Director for the Department, under the statutory provisions of 24 VSA §367(b) which states, "*The Executive Committee and the Executive Committee of the Vermont Sheriff's Association shall appoint an Executive Director who shall serve at the pleasure of the Committees. The Executive Director shall be an exempt employee.*" The Committees have appointed Tim Lueders-Dumont to the Director position effective January 11, 2025 upon Campbell's retirement. Lueders-Dumont has worked for the Department since May 2021, first as a Deputy State's Attorney in Washington County, and then as the Department's Legislative Attorney, with responsibilities for the Department's legislative, policy, public records, study committee work, and other related duties. Prior to working with the Department, Lueders-Dumont worked as a US District Court Judicial Extern; a Judicial Fellow for Fair and Just Prosecution; a Legal Intern for former Attorney General T.J. Donovan; a Policy Director for former Treasurer Beth Pearce; and a Staff Assistant for then-Congressman Peter Welch.

The Executive Committees expressed their confidence in Lueders-Dumont's abilities and commitment. "Tim is a bright, energetic and responsive person. He has done well by the entire Department in his current role, and we are certain that he will bring the same level of enthusiasm and commitment to the position of our Executive Director."