



TIMOTHY J. CRUZ
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
PLYMOUTH DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

MAIN OFFICE:
166 MAIN STREET
BROCKTON, MA 02301
TEL: (508) 584-8120

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MARCH 4, 2021

CONTACT: BETH STONE
(508) 584-8120

**PLYMOUTH COUNTY DA'S OFFICE DONATES ATTIRE FOR HIRE TO
PEOPLE AFFECTING COMMUNITY CHANGES (PACC) IN BROCKTON**

BROCKTON – In an ongoing effort to address the needs of individuals re-entering the workforce, Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz today presented PACC with a donation of suits and clothing donated by office employees.

Since 2018, PACC has worked to connect people with job training, job placement, professional development and housing. PACC's holistic model connects individuals with compassionate case management, so that they get the social support and develop strategies for sustainable skill building that promote self-efficacy. It is estimated that they have assisted nearly 1,000 people in the greater Brockton region. Last October, Plymouth County District Attorney's Office employees made their first clothing donation to PACC.

"In Plymouth County, we are committed to reducing crime -- prevention, smart enforcement, and supporting re-entry efforts like those of PACC, all play an important part," DA Cruz said. "Employment is a critical factor, particularly for those returning to the workforce after being justice involved. The donation of this clothing is a small gesture, but it could change a person's outlook and make a difference. Employment brings along with it a sense of self-worth and purpose. Massachusetts has seen its incarceration rate drop and studies show significant reductions in recidivism rates for employed individuals. The work of PACC continues to inspire us and we are proud to partner with them."

PACC and its executive director, Jamal Gooding, are active partners with Safe Streets -- a coordinated effort funded by DA Cruz to reduce gun violence through prevention, enforcement, and re-entry. DA Cruz credits the strong Safe Streets partnerships between community and law enforcement for driving down violent crime in Brockton, while, at the same time decreasing the prison population.

Executive Director Gooding said that in addition to donations of professional attire for both men and women, PACC seeks bus passes and gas cards. You can contact

PACC at 508-521-9079, and they will schedule a time to pick up items. A formal acknowledgement letter can be provided to those who donate for their records.

