



## YORK COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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DAVID W. SUNDAY, JR.  
*District Attorney*

TIM BARKER  
*First Assistant District Attorney*

ART SMITH  
*Chief County Detective*

KYLE G. KING  
*Chief Administrator*

### **Outstanding Service as a Citizen**

A primary goal of the York County District Attorney's Office is to help build stronger communities. While this Office strives to serve each community within York County, and in turn each citizen of York County, to the fullest extent possible, it is no surprise that much attention in our Office is given to the community and people of the City of York. With the highest density population in York County, much of whom are historically underrepresented in the justice system, our Office strives to create a safe and sustainable City of York, not only for our current citizens, but also those citizens of the future.

In our efforts to create a better City of York it is undeniable that help is required from the citizens of the City to create this sustainable future. LaQuinn Thompson is one of those individuals that, along with this Office, is striving to create a safer and more viable City of York. It is the efforts of those like LaQuinn that will make the City of York a better place to live, not only now, but also in future.

LaQuinn Thompson is a 2011 graduate of York High and a graduate of the Pennsylvania College of Technology where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Applied Human Services. After graduating from college, LaQuinn took his love of York City, as well as his desire to positively influence the youth of the City as his call to action. Simply put, LaQuinn saw a City that was seen more violence, much caused by the youth of the City, and was portrayed in a negative light and decided to make a difference.

Out of this determination, LaQuinn encourages the youth of York City to live in B.E.A.S.T. Mode. He teaches our city youth to "Be Yourself; Experience Life at its Fullest Potential; Achieve Greatness; Shine Like No Other; and Testimony". With this in mind, LaQuinn established the Beast Initiative Push – a community outreach program that uses video games to guide youth to inclusive practices in their community. Using a common medium, video games, LaQuinn is allowing our youth to strive on a positive and inclusive mindset. That mindset is essential to the future of York City.

LaQuinn also positively influences our youth, mostly from the West End of the City of York, through his employment as the Director of Community Outreach with St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church in York City. In that position LaQuinn manages an after school program for city youth, as well as the Matts, a youth center located at St. Matthew Church. The Matts provides city youth a safe a supportive place to relax and have fun, something every teenager should experience. While the Matts program is over 50 years old, LaQuinn has brought true focus to the program. At the Matts, LaQuinn and his staff show our youth that they matter, that they have value, and that they can change their world. Many youth that attend the Matts program that this message to heart and in turn chose to live their lives to their fullest potential. Instead of a life griped by violence and crime, many youth from the Matts choose to apply and attend a secondary education program – many times as the first in their family to do so. Simply by doing what he loves to do, LaQuinn is quietly changing the landscape of the City of York for the better. It is men like this that change the world.

This is why LaQuinn Thompson is deserving of the District Attorney's Outstanding Citizen Award for 2019.

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Dave Sunday

District Attorney