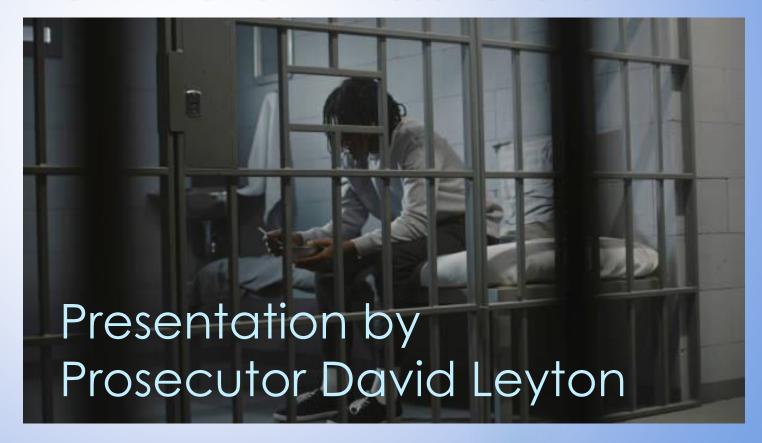
### Life Without Parole

LANDMARK COURT CASES INVOLVING YOUNGER OFFENDERS
AND THE RESULTING IMPACT ON THE JUSTICE SYSTEM



Recent Michigan Supreme Court
Cases Make Headlines



# U.S. and Michigan Supreme Court Cases Change the Legal Landscape

#### Miller v. Alabama (2012), U.S.S.C.

- Landmark case that started it all
- Ruled mandatory JLWOP is Unconstitutional under the 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment's prohibition on cruel & unusual punishment

#### Montgomery v. Louisiana (2016), U.S.S.C.

- Miller v. Alabama is retroactive
  - applies to all previously sentenced defendants

## Michigan Legislature Gets Involved After Miller, state legislature enacts MCL 769.25a

- Sets forth statutory and procedural requirements for resentencing
  - Prosecutor must notify Circuit Court of all defendants entitled to resentencing
  - Prosecutor must motion the Court to keep defendants in prison without parole; only most egregious cases
    - For all other cases, Court must resentence to a term of years between 25 – 60 years.
- We had 26 juvenile cases that needed to be resentenced.

#### Michigan Supreme Court Sets New Standards

#### People v. Parks (2022)

- Extended Miller to include 18-year-olds.
  - Side note: Parks was a 2016 murder case in Genesee Co.

#### People v. Poole (April 1, 2025)

- Parks is retroactive
- All 18-year-olds previously sentenced to LWOP are entitled to resentencing in line with MCL 769.25a
  - We have 32 cases involving 18-year-olds
    - 7 have been resentenced so far

# Most recent cases making headlines on April 10, 2025

#### People v. Czarnecki

 Mandatory LWOP for <u>19-year-olds</u> is unconstitutional on grounds of cruel & unusual punishment

#### People v. Taylor

- Mandatory LWOP for <u>20-year-olds</u> is unconstitutional on grounds of cruel & unusual punishment
  - Note: This was a 2016 case out of Genesee Co.
- MDOC indicates we will have 44 cases in Genesee County

