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"Andrew has been a fearless, fierce advocate for victims of crime," Joseph McNally, an assistant U.S. Attorney at the Department of Justice, tells me. "He brought justice to countless victims of crime across the country who were bullied and taken advantage of by sophisticated fraudsters. He was among the best white-collar prosecutors in the country and his leaving the U.S. Attorney's office is a real loss.

"On a lighter side, he has an incredible sense of humor and will be missed by us," McNally added.

"Andrew is an outstanding, intelligent trial lawyer with a strong work ethic," responded Dennise D. Willett, chief of the U.S. Attorney's Santa Ana Branch Office. "He was routinely assigned to prosecute the most complex white collar cases in the Santa Ana Branch Office and other AUSAs routinely sought his advice and assistance on their cases. Andrew was a valuable member of our office, not only for his exceptional work, but also for the assistance he provided to his colleagues."

"I worked with Andrew since I transferred to the Santa Ana USAO in 2011 (I previously worked in our Riverside office and before that at main justice in DC)," explains Charles Pell, another assistant U.S. Attorney. "He was an essential asset to me and my colleagues in helping to formulate winning trial strategies. Andrew is especially gifted at taking a complex fact pattern and weaving into a compelling narrative that explains what happened to the jury without dumbing it down.

"Andrew has worked every variety of white collar case and was a wealth of legal, factual, and political knowledge on how the cases are investigated, prosecuted, and ultimately, resolved. Andrew is one of the most persuasive lawyers I've worked with because he employs a powerful cocktail of intellect, humor, moxie, and passion to make his arguments compelling."

Added Pell, "His leaving was a big loss for the office."

"I consider Andrew a good friend and he was one of the brightest and hardest working colleagues I've had here at the U.S. Attorney's Office," echoed Brett Sagel, a federal prosecutor whose name you may recall from Moxley's coverage of disgraced, ex-Orange County sheriff Mike Carona.

"Even while Andrew was busy with his own caseload, he was available to give invaluable assistance to others," Sagel continues. "From personal experience, he probably gave me more and better ideas for my opening statements in the Carona trial than anyone else, and he wasn't even on the case."

A current FBI agent who worked with Stolper since he joined the U.S. Attorney's office in 2002 also commented, although it is the bureau's policy that he not be identified.

"Mr. Stolper brought uncommon energy and intellect to complex fraud investigations," the agent said. "Many of his cases required dedication beyond the call of duty, and Mr. Stolper always exceeded my expectations. During the cases on which we collaborated, AUSA Stolper always applied fairness and kept an open mind, dealing with defendants objectively. His ability to absorb enormous amounts of information in short periods of time was matched only by his willingness to work extremely hard.

"I worked on several matters with AUSA Stolper that resulted in trials, and was always impressed by Mr. Stolper's acumen in legal matters and abilities in the courtroom. Mr. Stolper's was an asset to the furtherance of justice, and he will be missed."