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Per Cindy Schmidt, the new conviction integrity unit liaison with SAO9, please see the following two policies adopted by their office.

1. **Cannabis Prosecutions:** Their office will no longer prosecute misdemeanor cannabis crimes committed after July 1, 2019, due to FDLE's inability to distinguish cannabis from hemp. Prosecutions would resume once such a test is created and validated by FDLE. She indicated they would instead prosecute the related paraphernalia charges. She was unclear as to what their policy for felony cases would be, but from my discussion, it appeared that unless there was substantial additional circumstantial evidence, such as weight, admissions, etc., they would also discontinue commonplace felony cannabis prosecutions.
2. **Brady Policy:** Their office has formed a *Brady* Committee that will compile a *Brady* Alert List and a *Brady* Exclusion List. At the onset, the list will be compiled internally based on prosecutors' recommendations and findings. She indicated that eventually defenses attorneys could submit recommendations to the committee.
 - Placement on the alert list means prosecutors should proceed with caution when using an officer and should only prosecute the case if they believe the officer's involvement will not affect the integrity of the case.
 - Placement on the exclusion list means the officer should not be used at all.

Special thanks to criminal defense attorney and lifetime CFACDL member [Richard Hornsby](#), for taking the lead and acting as CFACDL's liaison in connection with SAO9's new drug diversion program and conviction integrity unit.

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