

## News Release--Immediate Release

Aug. 7, 2008

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## Keiser University Hosts Debate for 12<sup>th</sup> Circuit Public Defender Race

Sarasota, Florida—Aug. 7, 2008— Keiser University is proud to host a debate between the three candidates for Public Defender in the 12<sup>th</sup> Circuit, which includes Sarasota, Manatee and DeSoto counties. The debate will take place on Thursday, Aug. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at Keiser University's Sarasota campus in the campus auditorium.

The candidates, Larry Eger (R), Ron Filipkowski (R), Adam Tebrugge (D) will take questions from students, faculty and staff in attendance. Paula Porter, an English professor at the university, will serve as moderator. The Honorable Elliot Metcalf, the incumbent Public Defender, will be retiring.

"Our Criminal Justice students are keenly interested in our local criminal justice process," stated Randy Gonzalez, Criminal Justice Program Director at Keiser University's Sarasota campus. "As future criminal justice practitioners, issues affecting the courts remain very relevant to the students continued educational enrichment."

The Criminal Justice program prepares students with instruction in law enforcement operations, the courts, correctional facilities, private investigation, victim and juvenile counseling and other areas. The Crime Scene Technology program develops competency in locating, collecting, and preserving evidence as well as analyzing it and presenting testimony in court. Both programs attract guest lecturers from the State Attorney's Office, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, The Sarasota and Manatee County Sheriff's Office, Crime Labs, and many more.

Keiser University, Florida's leading private, statewide provider of career-focused, post-secondary education has been accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools since 1991. Keiser University serves more than 12,000 students at its 13 campuses throughout the State of Florida. In addition, Keiser University has international cooperative agreements in China and Moldova to serve international students.

The Keiser family founded Keiser University in 1977 when they recognized a need in the community for quality career education with a hands-on orientation, small class sizes and innovative scheduling to accommodate working adults.

Keiser University offers master's, bachelor's and associate degrees in high demand career fields meeting workforce and economic development needs in the communities we serve. In 2007, Keiser University was the nationwide leader in production of Associate of Science graduates in Health Professions and Related Sciences for the third straight year. (Community College Week Analysis of US Department of Education Data Released June 16, 2008)

Visit our website at www.keiseruniversity.edu.

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## **ACCREDITATION:**

Keiser University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, (404) 679-4500, to award master, bachelor and associate degrees.