

*April 27, 2009*

**D.A.'s only option?**

Your paper and two others had headline news (Wednesday) about Contra Costa County District Attorney Robert Kochly and his decision to save money by refusing to prosecute misdemeanors. Amazing - after 35 years in office, he thinks that is his only option? He knows, I'm sure, that the county could save \$1.1 million per case if he stopped pursuing death sentences. Contra Costa County has one death penalty case active at this time; converting the sentence to permanent imprisonment without parole would put his budget in balance.

RITA KRESHA Oakland