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For Immediate Release

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DA Marks the Start of Domestic Violence Awareness Month with Special Event

Candlelight Ceremony Honored Victims of Domestic Violence

An average of 13 people are killed every year by an intimate partner in San Diego County. Today, the District Attorney's Office joined the San Diego Domestic Violence Council, county officials and other social service agencies to launch the start of Domestic Violence Awareness Month at a ceremony in Balboa Park. The event is meant to empower survivors, award those who work with victims and remember those whose lives were taken in domestic violence incidents during the previous year. This year, the event theme was "Let Today Be the Day You Move Forward!"

In 2022, 10 people were killed by a current or former intimate partner and there were four additional homicide victims, such as a family member, new boyfriend, or bystander, who died during domestic violence related incidents. In addition, five offenders committed suicide. See attached list of domestic violence homicide victims not to be forgotten.

"In San Diego County, we are fighting every day to save lives from the destructive cycles of domestic violence," District Attorney Summer Stephan said. "I want to thank the San Diego Domestic Violence Council and Claudia Grasso for the partnership in protecting families from violence. Domestic violence not only harms the direct victim but also has a devastating ripple effect on children, families, and communities. This is why at the DA's Office we work every day to prosecute the offenders and provide resources to victims so they can safely leave their abusers and move on with their lives. Domestic Violence Awareness Month is one more chance to empower women, children, and survivors to know that there are resources to help them get out of a dangerous relationship."

Each year there are more than 17,000 domestic violence incidents reported to law enforcement across San Diego County. Last year, the figure was 17,472 and the District Attorney's Office filed charges in 2,393 domestic violence cases.

During the Balboa Park event, which included a resource fair and a candlelight vigil ceremony honoring homicide victims, Ivette Kuyateh, who lost her mother to domestic violence when she was a child shared her personal story.

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“Events like these give us a platform to expose the darkness in our society and say the words that victims often can’t,” Kuyateh said. “Yet every advocate knows our work continues past the month of October. It is year-round. As long as people still ask, ‘why doesn’t she leave?’ we have work to do to educate others on the complexities behind the answer to this question.”

Also at the event, Dr. Vanessa Rodriguez, who is a marriage and family therapist, was named the new President for the San Diego Domestic Violence Council. The domestic violence council is a collaboration of organizations and community members who seek to reduce and prevent domestic violence. Partner agencies include the District Attorney’s Office, San Diego County Health and Human Services, the San Diego City Attorney’s Office, the Sheriff’s Department, and other law enforcement and social services agencies.

Over the last year, the DA’s Office coordinated trainings for hundreds of professionals across the county on domestic violence, firearm safety, stalking, and how to be more inclusive when working with victims.

“We are so proud of how the San Diego Domestic Violence Council has brought county organizations together to help connect victims with resources and support service providers with tools to consistently restore hope to those who have lost it,” said Claudia Grasso, the outgoing President of the SDDVC and Executive Director of *One Safe Place: The North County Family Justice Center*. “I am grateful to District Attorney Summer Stephan, who for my entire four-year term as SDDVC President, was a constant source of encouragement and support.”

If you or someone you know is being abused by a current or former partner, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline (1-800-799-7233) for confidential support and assistance planning for safety. More information and resources can be found [on the DA’s website here](#). Attached is also a calendar and flyers of additional domestic violence awareness events that will take place throughout the month of October.

#

About the San Diego County District Attorney’s Office

The San Diego County DA’s Office prosecutes all felony crimes in the county and misdemeanor crimes committed outside the City of San Diego. The office files about 40,000 criminal cases a year and balances prosecution with numerous crime prevention programs. District Attorney Summer Stephan leads the office of more than 1,000 dedicated employees who pursue fair and equal justice, and support victims daily across San Diego County.



Not to Be Forgotten

Intimate Partner Violence Homicide Victims (2022)

On January 27, 2022 **Ericka Joyce Wilson (29)** was stabbed, allegedly by her estranged husband **Kandynn Taylor Wilson (29)** in the parking lot of her apartment in Spring Valley. She later died from her injuries. The trial for this case is scheduled for November.

On March 20, 2022 **Jonathan Torres Flores (26)** was stabbed, allegedly by his girlfriend **Querae Tanisha Gooding** in his apartment in Oceanside. He later died from his injuries. Querae pled guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 3 years in state prison.

On April 28, 2023 **Calvin Martin (42)** was stabbed by his girlfriend **Amalia Samaniego (44)** outside in National City. He later died from his injuries. Amalia pled guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 11 years in state prison.

On May 16, 2022 **Anita Ribeiro (83)** was shot to death by her husband **Stanley Ribeiro (86)** in their home in Point Loma, San Diego. Stanley then died by suicide.

On June 14, 2022 **Nahal Connie Dadkhah (45)** was beaten to death, allegedly by her former dating partner **Parrish Chambers Jr. (43)** in her apartment in Rancho Penasquitos, San Diego. The trial for this case is scheduled for January.

On August 22, 2022 **Fatmeh Alrawi (37)** was shot to death, allegedly by her husband **Abdulhannan Al Wari (45)** in their home in El Cajon. The preliminary exam is scheduled for September.

On October 12, 2022 **Mayra Mejia Jimenez (41)** was stabbed to death, allegedly by her dating partner, **Onesimo Garcia (68)** in a parking lot in Vista.

On October 28, 2022 **Fanny Lugo Lopez (16)** was shot to death by her dating partner **Manuel Valenzuela (20)** in his apartment in the Nestor area of San Diego. Manuel then died by suicide.

On November 15, 2022 **Kayla Jakob (27)** was shot to death by her husband **Sri Rangarajan (57)** in a hotel in Harbor Island, San Diego. Sri then died by suicide.

On December 31, 2022 **Michele Maulucci (60)** and her sister **Theresa Schrantz (59)** were shot to death by Michele's boyfriend **Kenneth Harrington (59)** in the couple's Lakeside mobile home. Kenneth then died by suicide.

Other Domestic Violence-Related Cases

On January 21, 2022 **Wesley Devault (36)** was shot to death by his dating partner's estranged husband Daniel Isaac (42) in a neighbor's garage in Santee. Isaac then died by suicide.

On January 30, 2022 **Shelby Dorris Jr. (45)** was shot to death by his girlfriend's ex-husband Jesus Manuel Rodriguez (34), outside in Imperial Beach. Jesus was found guilty of 1st degree murder and was sentenced to 50 years to life in state prison.

On September 11, 2022 **Aylmer Navarrete (40)** was stabbed to death, allegedly by his girlfriend's former boyfriend Jose Ulises Gutierrez (35), in the girlfriend's apartment in Bonita. Jose pled guilty to voluntary manslaughter and the sentencing hearing is scheduled for October.

***Note: These descriptions are based on public information. Many of these cases have not completed the court process.**

Domestic Violence Awareness Month



SAN DIEGO
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
COUNCIL

October 2023

- **10.03.23** **Opening Event at Balboa Park Club Ballroom in Balboa Park (2150 Pan American Road West)**
- **10.18.23** **North County DV Coalition and Teen Dating Violence Committee at One Safe Place, San Marcos**
- **10.23.23** **DV Essentials en Español – MLK Building, National City**
- **10.25.23** **South County DV Coalition – Rohr Park, Bonita – Young Adult Focused**

Follow us!   **Visit our website www.sddvc.org**



PROVIDER EVENT RELAX & REFRESH

Friday, October 13th, 2023 1:30-4:00 PM

REGISTRATION LIMITED to the first 50 to RSVP!

[Register HERE](#)

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we are giving those who work tirelessly serving domestic violence, human trafficking, sexual assault, and other survivors an afternoon of relaxation and wellness. Self-care is essential to preventing burnout and providing high quality, trauma informed care to survivors. You deserve it!

Coordinated on behalf of the San Diego Domestic Violence Council (Shelter and Support Services Committee and East County DV Coalition), SoCal Safe Shelter Collaborative, and Human Trafficking and CSEC Advisory Council.

- Art & Mindfulness Activities

- Professional Networking

- Yoga & Inspirational Speakers

- Lunch & Refreshments

- Swag Bags & Raffle Prizes

- Support Animals



SAN DIEGO
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
COUNCIL

LOCATION

Mission Trails Regional
Park Visitor and
Interpretive Center

1 Father Junipero Serra
Trail, San Diego
CA 92119



Safe Shelter
Collaborative



PALOMAR
HEALTH





SAN DIEGO
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
COUNCIL



Action Against Domestic Violence

A domestic violence awareness event for parents and teens to have conversations about healthy relationships

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Location: One Safe Place

1050 Los Vallecitos Blvd #351, San Marcos,
CA 92069

- Talking to Teens - Parent Workshop
- Healthy Relationships - Teen Workshop

Fun Activities ● Prizes ● Free Food

More information :  teendv.sddvc@gmail.com





SAN DIEGO
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
COUNCIL



Acción Contra la Violencia Doméstica

Un evento sobre la prevención de la
violencia doméstica para padres y jóvenes
para apoyarlos en tener conversaciones
sobre relaciones sanas

Miércoles, 18 de octubre de 2023

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Ubicación: One Safe Place

1050 Los Vallecitos Blvd #351, San Marcos,
CA 92069

- Talking to Teens - Parent Workshop
- Healthy Relationships - Teen Workshop

Actividades divertidas • Premios • Comida gratis

Más información:  teendv.sddvc@gmail.com





Esenciales de Violencia Doméstica

Capacitación básica para profesionales y la comunidad.

**Entrenamiento
Gratuito en
Español**

**Se requiere RSVP
(El cupo es limitado)**

**Habrá un descanso
para el almuerzo.**

**Organizado por el
Consejo de Violencia
Doméstica de
San Diego**



Lunes, 23 de Octubre, 2023

Registro: 8:30 a.m - 9:00 a.m. *Agradecemos su puntualidad.*

Entrenamiento: 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Lugar: Martin Luther King Community Center
140 E. 12th Street, National City, 91950**

Objetivo General - Desarrollar una comprensión básica de los siguientes temas:

- Abuso de pareja íntima
- Cómo el sistema de justicia penal maneja los casos de violencia doméstica
- Planificación de seguridad
- Recursos de violencia doméstica
- Estrangulamiento por violencia doméstica
- El impacto de la violencia doméstica en los niños
- Violencia Doméstica e Inmigración

***Testimonio de sobrevivientes de violencia doméstica.**

Registrarse aquí: <https://forms.office.com/g/wZqYLspwua>

Audiencia: Personal y Proveedores de Salud Mental del Condado, Personal de CalWORKs, Libertad Condicional del Condado, Servicios de Bienestar Infantil, Servicios de Protección para Adultos, Mediadores de la Corte de Familia, Libertad Condicional, Personal de Atención Médica (Trabajadores Sociales, Enfermera(o)s, Médicos, Residentes, Técnicos de Emergencias Médicas/Paramédicos), Personal Militar/Miembros Militares, Médicos de Salud Mental, Servicios de Bienestar Infantil, Personal Escolar, Promotoras, Educadores de Salud, Visitantes Domiciliarios, Fuerzas del Orden, Fiscales, Líderes Religiosos y Miembros de la Comunidad, y otros

¿Preguntas? Contactar a Lisbet Perez - Lisbet.Perez@sdcda.org

LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

ILLUMINATE A WORLD FREE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



SAN DIEGO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNCIL

Oct. 25

5:30-7:30 PM

ROHR PARK

FREE EVENT



JOIN US FOR:

 YOGA

FOOD 

 SELF CARE

SPECIAL GUESTS 

Nora Vargas, Chair of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors

John McCann, Mayor of the City of Chula Vista

Chief Kennedy, Chula Vista Police Department

HONOR SURVIVORS

Candlelight vigil in honor of those impacted by Domestic Violence.



This event is being hosted by the South Region Coalition of the San Diego Domestic Violence Council.