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## DA Partners with the Mexican Consulate to Provide Services at One Safe Place

### *Signing Ceremony Coincides with First Anniversary Celebration*

San Diego County District Attorney [Summer Stephan](#) announced today the partnership between the Consul General of Mexico in San Diego and the San Diego County District Attorney's Office for the Mexican Consulate to locate at the DA's [One Safe Place: The North County Family Justice Center](#) and provide services. The partnership was solidified during the first anniversary celebration of the opening of *One Safe Place* in San Marcos, with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

**“This collaboration with the Mexican Consulate helps strengthen the bridge with the Latino community and will help enhance their trust in reporting and seeking help when victimized. We know from experience, that domestic violence and human trafficking victims are often threatened by their abusers with deportation which keeps them trapped in the cycle of violence,”** said DA Stephan. **“Together we can work to ensure that victims who seek services at *One Safe Place*, where the Mexican Consulate will now be an onsite partner, receive culturally sensitive help in their native language, that will focus on safety, justice and healing.”**

**[\[EDITORS: See video of signing ceremony here\]](#)**

Since opening last summer, [One Safe Place](#) has served 2,845 individuals, provided legal services to 781 people, and received more than 6,800 calls to their helpline. *One Safe Place* provides support services all under one roof to anyone who has experienced child abuse, sexual assault, domestic violence, hate crime, elder abuse, human trafficking, violent loss, family violence, or other abuse or victimization. This is all in collaboration with over 90 community organizations and agencies like the Mexican Consulate.

Together, the Mexican Consulate and *One Safe Place* have hosted events on wellness, have promoted first generation students with college connections and provided Consulate services at *One Safe Place* to meet the needs of our North County community and alleviate those with transportation barriers who are unable to travel to the Consulate main office in downtown San Diego. The MOU further creates opportunities for collaboration between the Mexican Consulate and *One Safe Place* in outreach and prevention work, including the Consulate's participation in the free informative community events “Cafecito Con La Comunidad” that take place the second Friday of every month at *One Safe Place*.

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**“I am here today to send a clear message to our community: Victims should not remain silent when abused just because they fear deportation,” Consul General Carlos González Gutiérrez said. “The Mexican Consulate in San Diego has an extensive reach into the immigrant community in the county and will continue to invite immigrants to raise their voice, as there is no reason why they must live with abuse. We truly value our partnership with *One Safe Place* and hope, with their help via this MOU, to expand our reach of services and empower those victimized in our community.”**

The signing ceremony of the MOU coincided with the one-year anniversary celebration of the opening of *One Safe Place* that featured a breakfast and program with community partners, including San Marcos Mayor Rebecca Jones, Carlsbad Police Chief Mickey Williams, Escondido Police Chief Ed Varso, CEO of Palomar Health Diane Hansen, among others.

[One Safe Place: The North County Family Justice Center](#) is located at 1050 Los Vallecitos Blvd., San Marcos, CA 92069. It is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8 p.m. to 12 p.m.

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*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.*

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