

HALL OF JUSTICE
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For Immediate Release

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DA Appellate Lawyer to be Sworn in to Women's Hall of Fame as "Bridge Builder"

Lilia Garcia is one of Five Women Being Inducted to Hall of Fame

Lilia Garcia has spent much of her life promoting equality and justice on both sides of the border, mentoring young Latina attorneys and training lawyers in Mexico and the U.S. On Sunday she will be inducted into the Women's Hall of Fame at the 18th annual ceremony recognizing women from San Diego whose actions and accomplishments have visibly made a difference for women in the community. Garcia, 65, is an attorney in the San Diego County District Attorney's Appellate Division. Since 2013, she has lent her expertise to complex matters related to criminal writs and appeals handled in the Superior Court, Court of Appeal, and the California Supreme Court.



Garcia is also an instructor on oral advocacy programs to support Mexico's implementation of an oral, adversarial criminal justice system. In 2005, she co-founded Latinas in the Law, a mentoring program for young Latina lawyers and law students. In her role as a mentor, she has been part of the positive change that increased the number of diverse attorneys in the legal profession.

"Lilia is a role model in the DA's Office and the community. Her career in public service has been devoted to justice and committed to the highest ideals of civility and professionalism in the law," [District Attorney Summer Stephan](#) said. "Ultimately, Lilia's legacy in San Diego County will be in the hundreds of lives she

touched by selflessly mentoring and supporting young people from diverse backgrounds and engaging them in the legal profession."

As a past president of the San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association, Garcia co-founded the association's scholarship fund, which since 2007, has awarded more than \$341,000 to deserving law students. She has served on the boards of the Mexican American Business and Professional Association, Catholic Charities and Bayside Settlement House, as a school board member of Marian (Mater Dei) Catholic High School, and as an alumni board member of the University of San Diego Law School. She earned her law degree from the University of San Diego School of Law in 1981.

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Before joining the San Diego County District Attorney's Office she served as a deputy and supervising deputy attorney general in the California Attorney General's San Diego office for 32 years.

The Women's Hall of Fame came about in 2001, when four co-hosts – Women's Museum, the San Diego County Commission on the Status of Women, the Women's Studies Department at San Diego State and the Women's Center at UCSD – organized the first event to honor and acknowledge women who have made outstanding volunteer contributions and significantly added to the quality of life in San Diego County.

Sunday's [event](#) is at 2:30 p.m. at the Jacob's Center.

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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 justice and support victims daily across San Diego County. DA Summer Stephan has devoted her life to protecting children and families and providing justice to the voiceless and most vulnerable. She is a national leader in the fight against sexual exploitation and human trafficking, and has served as a Deputy District Attorney in San Diego County for 29 years.