

San Diego City Attorney Jan I. Goldsmith

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 30, 2011

Contact: Gina Coburn, Communications Director: (619) 533-6181

SAN DIEGO CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE & BEACH AREA COMMUNITY COURT OFFERS *INSTANT JUSTICE* OVER THE 4^{TH} OF JULY HOLIDAY WEEKEND

San Diego, CA: If you are cited for committing selected non-traffic infractions or misdemeanors in the beach area over the 4th of July weekend, you may be eligible for INSTANT JUSTICE. A special community service session striving to stop quality of life crimes will be implemented through Beach Area Community Court (BACC) and Discover Pacific Beach. If people are cited in the beach area (Pacific Beach, Mission Beach and Mission Bay Park areas) and agree to participate, they will attend a special community service project **July 5**th **at 9 a.m.** and complete five hours of community work service and picking up trash in the beach areas hit hardest by the holiday crowds. If they complete the project they will avoid their citations being filed.

Beach Area Community Court is an alternative court that is a unique collaboration between the City Attorney's Office, the San Diego Police Department, the Department of Park and Recreation, Discover Pacific Beach, and beach area residents and business owners. Interested participants need to show up to Discover Pacific Beach located at 1503 Garnet Avenue, San Diego, 92109 on July 5th at 9 a.m. with \$40 cash or cashier's check, valid photo id and their citation.

"Due to the high number of offenders on the 4th of July holiday weekend, this is a great way for those who are cited to give back to our beach community by performing community work service at the beach and instantly receive the benefit of criminal charges not being filed against them." said Chief Deputy City Attorney Regan Savalla.

<u>The City Attorney's Neighborhood Prosecution Unit</u> is involved in several alternative sentencing programs and community courts. In our alternative courts, offenders give back to the community in which they have committed certain crimes. Alternative sentencing programs are aimed at intervention, diversion and reducing recidivism.

###

Recent City Attorney media releases can be accessed on the San Diego City Attorney's home page located on the Internet at http://www.sandiegocityattorney.org