



**RELACIONES
EXTERIORES**

CONSULADO GENERAL DE MÉXICO EN SAN DIEGO



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 25, 2024

Contact: Andrew Sharp

Email: asharp@sandiego.gov Phone: (619) 723-1674

Alberto Lozano Merino, Cónsul de Prensa, Medios y Turismos, Media, Press & Tourism Attaché

Email: alozano@sre.gob.mx / Phone: (619) 231-8414 Ext. 1207

San Diego City Attorney Mara W. Elliott, Consul General of Mexico Alicia G. Kerber-Palma, Sign Accord to Aid More Domestic Violence Victims

San Diego, California, September 25, 2024 – The San Diego City Attorney’s Office and the Consulate General of Mexico in San Diego, today, signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to ensure continuity of services to Mexican nationals in San Diego, who are experiencing domestic violence. The agreement was signed by San Diego City Attorney Mara W. Elliott and Mexican Consul General Alicia G. Kerber-Palma at *Your Safe Place* (YSP), the City Attorney’s Family Justice Center, located at 1122 Broadway in downtown San Diego.

Through YSP, the City Attorney’s Office serves as the City’s primary domestic violence service provider offering free and confidential safety and supportive services to adults, seniors, children, and teens who have or are experiencing domestic violence, family violence, elder abuse, sexual assault, or sex trafficking, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, income, zip code, and immigration status. The announcement today renews the relationship between YSP and the Consulate, which is now being led by Consul General Alicia G. Kerber-Palma, who pledged to place women at the center of her administration when she assumed her new role last February.

“When survivors of domestic violence make the heroic decision to leave their abusers, we have a moral obligation to give them every service available to help them get their lives back on track. That is what motivates the amazing staff at *Your Safe Place*, and it is a commitment we share with the Consul General of Mexico,” said City Attorney Elliott, the first Mexican-American woman elected City Attorney in the 150-year history of the Office.

City Attorney Elliott noted YSP, and the Consulate will work together organizing workshops, sharing resources, and building collaborative networks to offer survivors legal and social assistance. The services will be available at no cost to the Consulate and those it serves, underscoring a mutual commitment to protect human rights and support survivors of violence.

Recent City media releases can be accessed on the San Diego City Attorney’s website: <https://www.sandiego.gov/cityattorney>

Follow the City Attorney’s Office on Instagram: [@sdcityattorney](https://www.instagram.com/sdcityattorney) • [Instagram photos and videos](#)

Consul General Kerber-Palma commented on the significance of this moment, “This partnership is a reflection of the importance of protecting our citizens abroad, particularly as we make historic strides with the first female president of Mexico. Our focus remains on ensuring that every Mexican national has access to the support they need to rebuild their lives.”

YSP provides a wide range of services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and sex trafficking, including legal assistance, immigration services, shelter referrals, and emotional support. Under the agreement, YSP may provide Mexican Nationals with services including:

- Personal safety planning
- Housing navigation and support
- Protection from gun violence
- Legal restraining and protective orders
- Immigration legal services
- Remote court assistance
- Mental health counseling
- Parenting assistance
- Substance abuse support
- Forensic examinations
- Law enforcement assistance
- Sex trafficking-specific services
- Personalized wardrobes
- Whole person wellness
- Military advocacy

Today’s announcement comes just one week before the start of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. If you, or someone you know needs help, please contact YSP at (619) 533-6000.