



San Diego City Attorney Jan I. Goldsmith

NEWS RELEASE

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Victim Services Coordinator Juan Gonzalez Named Winner of Andrea O'Donnell Award from San Diego Domestic Violence Council

San Diego, CA: Juan Gonzalez, Victim Services Coordinator at the San Diego City Attorney's Domestic Violence Unit has been named the 2012 winner of the Andrea O'Donnell Award by the San Diego Domestic Violence Council. This award is given to an outstanding champion for survivors of domestic violence in our community to honor the kindness, warmth, glowing energy and dedication to activism that Andrea possessed, and that is embodied in the advocates of today. Juan was nominated and voted by the San Diego community to receive the award.

The award will be presented to Juan on October 13th at the 10th Annual HOPE in the Park community event to honor domestic violence awareness month and to remember those that have died as a result of domestic violence.

"We are extremely proud of Juan and his compassion, understanding and infectious good nature. He has helped guide countless victims through the criminal process," said City Attorney Jan Goldsmith.

Victim Services Coordinators assist domestic violence victims with safety planning, connecting them to community services, counseling, obtaining a restraining order and other resources. They explain the progress of the case, what to expect at trial and the overall court process.

The 10th annual Hope in the Park and Not to be Forgotten Rally expects to draw over 2,000 participants. Officials and community members will come together in a pledge to end relationship violence in San Diego County from 10 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Balboa Park (6th Ave, South of Laurel Street).

[The City Attorney's Domestic Violence Unit](#) handles the prosecution of all misdemeanor domestic violence, sexual abuse, elder abuse, and child abuse cases occurring within the city of San Diego and Poway. The unit's mission is to maintain victim safety while holding batterers accountable for their actions and providing aggressive, comprehensive and early prosecution of domestic violence cases.

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