

Hundreds Attend DA's Victims' Rights March and Rally

The Orange County District Attorney (DA) hosted the 3rd Annual Victims' Rights March & Rally last month in remembrance of murdered victims, in celebration of surviving victims, and in honor of victims' rights. More than 400 victims, family members, friends, law enforcement representatives, and community leaders marched from the DA's Office to the Old Orange County Courthouse in Santa Ana and laid flowers at the foot of a memorial wreath.

"We in law enforcement and public life dedicate our service to all those harmed by crime to bring justice, to fight your fight, and to defend your rights," said District Attorney Tony Rackauckas. "Every year, we will work together to assert our rights and protect our community. We will do it locally, as we did with the sex offender ordinance to keep predators out of County parks, and we will take leadership in the State to keep sexually violent predators off our streets."

Keynote speakers at the event included Elaina Kroll, a survivor of sexual assault, and Lance Frazee, father of murder victim Mackenzie Frazee. As a survivor of childhood sexual abuse by her church choir director, Kroll is the founder and CEO of the Innocence Mission, which works to educate parents and community members about the danger of child sexual assault and empower survivors to report abuse to stop the cycle of sex crimes against children. Frazee's 16-year-old daughter Mackenzie was murdered by a 17-year-old drunken driver. In honor of his daughter, Frazee founded the Mackenzie Frazee Foundation to award scholarships to victims of drunken driving and speaks to community groups and schools on the dangers of drinking and driving.

DA VICTIMS' MARCH AND RALLY SLIDESHOW: CLICK HERE



Led by District Attorney Tony Rackauckas, more than 400 people march to the Old Orange County Courthouse on April 14, 2011. Please click here to view a slideshow of photos from the event.

Timeline: Legal Efforts to Secure Rights of Crime Victims

The Orange County Victims' Rights March & Rally was established in 2009 after almost two decades of legal efforts to secure the rights of crime victims.

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Timeline: Legal Efforts to Secure Rights of Crime Victims (continued)

- In 1990, Proposition 115 increased defendant sentences and decreased the number of times a victim had to testify. In 1996, Megan's Law required sex offender registration and gave parents and the community access to sex offender residence addresses in their neighborhoods.
- In 2000, Proposition 21 increased the punishments for serious and dangerous gang crimes.
- In 2004, Proposition 69 required felony arrestees to submit a DNA sample and Proposition 66, which would have allowed the release of dangerous third-strikers, was defeated.
- In 2006, Proposition 83, or Jessica's Law, instituted mandatory 15 years to life sentences for certain serious sex offenses against children.
- In 2008, Marsy's Law codified victims' rights into the California Constitution.

The Orange Turns Green at 2nd Annual OC Green Fair

The County of Orange will host the 2nd Annual Green Fair in Santa Ana's downtown Civic Center on May 19th from 10 a.m. -2 p.m. Approximately 90 vendors are registered to showcase environmentally-friendly products and services at this free event attended by more than 3,000 community members last year.

A colorful art walk will serve as the unveiling site for pieces contributed by local kindergarten through university level students with a shared "What Sustainability Means to Me" theme. Visitors strolling through the plaza can also enjoy a variety of food and beverage items available for purchase.

The OC Green Fair was inspired by the County's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) policy and is designed to emphasize our commitment to principles of sustainability while raising public awareness about the importance of environmental stewardship.

One of the County's key strategic initiatives is sustainability – to meet the needs of the present



while striving to create and maintain a healthy environment in which residents and visitors alike can live, work, and play for generations to come. This event is just one of many County-wide programs that support our commitment to "be green."

Vendor sponsorships have made it possible to stage the OC Green Fair at no expense to taxpayers. To learn more, please visit www.OCGreenFair.com or send an e-mail to OCGreenFair@ocgov.com.

Sheriff's Department Honors 2011 Medal Recipients

The Orange County Sheriff's Department commended the following individuals for their tremendous acts of courage, merit, and lifesaving at the 23rd Medal of Valor Presentation Luncheon last month at the Hyatt Regency Irvine hotel:

★ Medal for Lifesaving

Deputy Joe Avalos Deputy Tim Keller Deputy Doug Earl Deputy Scott Steinle Sheriff's Special Officer Darrin Mills Investigator Dave Purser Deputy David Lee Deputy Mihaela Mihai

★ Medal of Merit

Deputy Adam Sandler Video Producer Marc De Jesus Deputy Gino Rodriguez Reserve Deputy Scott Klappenback Sergeant Roger Guevara Telecommunications Engineer Jer Kahala

\star Special Recognition for Merit

ATF Special Agent Jim Sanders

★ Medal of Courage

Sheriff's Special Officer Jose Villalpando Investigator Jeff Puckett

★ Distinguished Deputy Medal

Investigator Steve Swiderski

MEDAL OF VALOR AWARDS SLIDESHOW: CLICK HERE



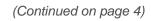
Please click here to view a slideshow of photographs from the presentation luncheon.

Please click here to read the inspirational stories of the medal recipients.

10 Questions for Senior Social Worker Deborah Phillipson

1. What does a social worker do?

Social Workers are employed by both the private and the public sectors in places like schools, hospitals and hospice, private practices concentrating on therapy and adoptions, and in the State and local governments in a variety of capacities. As a County of Orange Child Protective Services worker, I investigate child abuse referrals. Any citizen or mandated reporter may call the child abuse hotline at (714) 940-1000 or (800) 207-4464 and report child abuse or child neglect. If the call rises to the level of suspected child abuse, it is assigned to a social worker to investigate. The investigations typically require that a social worker respond to a hospital, school, police station, home, or most anywhere





Social Worker Deborah Phillipson

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in the community. On occasion, children must be brought into protective custody to ensure their safety, although most of the time providing referrals and resources to the family is sufficient to help the family address the issues that resulted in the child abuse report. My particular job requires frequent contact with law enforcement and the court systems, particularly Juvenile Court and Family Law Court staff and occasionally criminal court.

2. What made you want to become a social worker?

I was naturally drawn to becoming a social worker because I wanted to help others. For many of us, there is an underlying personal connection.

3. What is your educational background?

I have a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in Counseling.

4. How closely do you work with other County agencies/departments?

There are many departments that we work with on a daily basis. The majority of the time, we are partnering with law enforcement, County Counsel, the Health Care Agency, Public Health nurses, Family Resource centers, Public Defenders, and Judges. Depending on the case, it will vary as to which department we need to interface with at the time.

5. Are there ways for the public to volunteer or donate to help children who have entered the system?

The public can become Court Appointed Special Advocates through a local volunteer organization called CASA (www.casaoc.org). There is also a program called Operation Santa Claus which provides gifts and toys to the children in foster care, and other volunteer programs available at Orangewood Children's Home.

6. What is the average length of time it takes you to work on a case?

Last year, we received over 27,000 referrals,

or an average of about 75 referrals per day. It usually takes one day to complete a case; however, we are allotted thirty days to close the case. Sometimes it varies depending on the extent of the situation. We are also required to write court reports, which contain the facts or results of our investigations.

7. What are your coping mechanisms for working on tougher cases?

We usually talk with our supervisors about our cases or we might vent with our colleagues about difficult aspects of the job in general. We keep lots of chocolate in the office, as well as finding time to exercise or get a massage. Pet therapy helps a lot as well.

- 8. What programs are in place to help teenagers adapt once they age out of the system? There is an Independent Living Program that is designed to help them learn about finances, cooking, laundry, and college information.
- 9. It's safe to assume that you have a busy schedule and challenging caseload. What time management tips can you share? Some time management tips include keeping a calendar and lots of lists help with organizing my schedule. However, our schedules often vary depending on the case. We are in the field most of the time and we have very little control over our time, so we need to be flexible with our work load, as well as juggle various projects.

10. Can you describe a case that left you feeling proud and accomplished?

Due to confidentiality I am unable to describe a specific case, but when we receive cards or phone calls from previous clients thanking us for saving and preserving their families, we are grateful. When we become involved, it is a wakeup call for the families we are trying to help and many parents just need the proper tools we provide to help them. Our goal is not to break up families, but to preserve them. And, it is rewarding at the end of the day to know that we have helped a child.

Nuclear Power Plant Exercise Has Increased Significance

Following in the footsteps of the natural disasters and nuclear power plant emergency in Japan, the importance of this year's San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) graded exercise was evident to all participants.

Included in the 2011 exercise was an opportunity to coordinate efforts with emergency managers and officials from all of the counties adjacent to Orange County, including San Diego, Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino, as well as officials from the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) and other state organizations. The first day of the exercise allowed Orange and San Diego Counties to demonstrate the actions they would take in response to an emergency situation at San Onofre. Sheriff Sandra Hutchens served as Director of Emergency Services for the County of Orange, with staff from numerous local, County and state agencies providing essential guidance and services in a variety of settings. The second day of the exercise focused on the potential longer term public health and agricultural impacts, requiring a multi-county coordination effort.

A final report on the exercise is not expected until mid July but officials with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) were complimentary in their initial observations. During an after-exercise meeting in San Juan Capistrano, FEMA officials noted "strong communication, teamwork and coordination between all organizations." A team of 27 evaluators reviewed 109 criteria during the exercise in determining the effective of response to the simulated emergency.

SONGS SLIDESHOW: CLICK HERE



Please click here to view a slideshow of SONGS Exercise.



Forever Friends for Free!

Saturday, May 14th 10 am - 2 pm

OC Animal Care 561 The City Dr., Orange

JWA Receives Civil Engineering Honor

While a major improvement project is making current news, John Wayne Airport (JWA) has received a unique honor based on a number of achievements during its history.

JWA has been named a Local Historic Civil Engineering Landmark, becoming one of only three airports worldwide to receive this designation. The honor was announced by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Orange County Branch, based on a number of innovations over the years, including the construction of the airport's main runway and an overnight aircraft parking area that allows airlines to accommodate dozens of departures each morning when the airport opens. The award is also in recognition of JWA's implementation of automated in-line screening of all baggage prior to loading on aircraft, a federal security requirement implemented after September 11, 2001.

"JWA has contributed to the development of the Civil Engineering profession by demonstrating what can be done at an airport in a constrained urban environment," said Ziad Mazboudi, ASCE Branch President. A bronze plaque noting the honor has been placed on public display in the Terminal B baggage claim area.





Pictured with the bronze plaque commemorating JWA's designation as a Local Historic Civil Engineering Landmark are (I-r) Alan Murphy, John Wayne Airport Director; Ziad Mazboudi, ASCE OC Branch President; Bill Lawson, ASCE OC's History & Heritage Committee Chair, and; John M. W. Moorlach, Second District Supervisor.

Get the 411 On OC Auditor-Controller

- The Auditor-Controller's (AC) office successfully developed and implemented the CAPS+ Finance/Purchasing and Human Resources/Payroll systems in a four-year effort. These systems control an annual budget of \$5 billion that includes processing 19,000 paychecks for a normal regular payroll cycle. These are Countywide systems that were completed on time, on scope and under budget.
- 2. Provides direct, on-going accounting services to eight County departments comprised of 8,709 employees, \$2.3 billion of annual expenditures and \$1.9 billion revenues through the Satellite Accounting operations.

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- The AC issues over 1 million checks, performs more than 15,000 reconciliations, processes over 16,000 journal vouchers and calculates and apportions over \$5 billion in property taxes each year.
- 4. AC staff prepares the award winning Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which is a presentation of the County's financial information. It is used by community members, bond-rating agencies, governments, and internally to examine the financial health of the County.

To learn more about the Auditor-Controller's office, please visit www.ac.ocgov.com



For the Month of April

35 YEARS

Debra Fyvie Child Support Services

Edward Malkassian OC Community Resources

Robert Young OC Public Works

30 YEARS

Jose Marquez OC Community Resources

Rick Castro OC Public Works

Rebecca Hernandez OC Public Works

Dennis Hookum OC Public Works Mark Paszkiewicz Registrar of Voters

Shawn Dyball Sheriff-Coroner

William Vining Sheriff-Coroner

Lee Tran Nguyen Social Services Agency

Candace Smith Social Services Agency

25 YEARS

Anthony Giusti Health Care Agency

Sheila Jones Health Care Agency

Donald Beezley Probation

Minerva Mollazadeh Probation

Kelly Lynn Rehnberg Public Admin/Public Guardian Roland Chacon Sheriff-Coroner

Rod Couey Sheriff-Coroner

Thomas Dominguez Sheriff-Coroner

John Richard Frey Sheriff-Coroner

Dennis Michael Gorham Sheriff-Coroner

Robert Joseph Hack Sheriff-Coroner

Alan Hanson Sheriff-Coroner

William King Sheriff-Coroner

Milan Richard Kovacevich Sheriff-Coroner

Steven Ray McCormick Sheriff-Coroner

Steven Laurence Mitchell Sheriff-Coroner

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25 YEARS CONTINUED

Craig Gordon Nelson Sheriff-Coroner

Manuel Ruben Pacheco Sheriff-Coroner

Jeffrey John Puskas Sheriff-Coroner

Yolanda Santiago Sheriff-Coroner

Gary Francis Smith Sheriff-Coroner

Brian Howard Sutton Sheriff-Coroner

Paul Alfred Villeneuve Sheriff-Coroner

Patrick Briggs Watson Sheriff-Coroner

20 YEARS

Mel Panuncialman Auditor-Controller

Noely Govea Child Support Services

Jill Howery Child Support Services

Stephanie Ramirez Child Support Services

Patricia Martinez Clerk of the Board

Judith Hoshor Clerk-Recorder Lora Vandegrift District Attorney

Norma Delgado Health Care Agency

Noemi Hawkins Health Care Agency

Kathy Hunter Health Care Agency

Diane Pinto Health Care Agency

Kelley Ponce Health Care Agency

Magdalena Santillan Health Care Agency

Rina Tjiptahadi Health Care Agency

Rachel Elena Gibson John Wayne Airport

Kimberly Nissen Proffitt OC Community Resources

John Dean OC Public Works

Dennis Tebo OC Public Works

Raymond Serafin OC Waste and Recycling Enterprise

Dawn Mc Neil Probation

Gerald Schiller Probation

Denise Teeple Probation

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20 YEARS CONTINUED

Mihail Claudiu Danciulescu Sheriff-Coroner

Eric Spencer Gregory Sheriff-Coroner

Salvador Marquez Sheriff-Coroner

David Lee Mountain Sheriff-Coroner

Anna Aragon Social Services Agency

Carmelina Cisneros Social Services Agency

Sandra De La Luz Social Services Agency

Diane Gonzalez Social Services Agency

Aurora Alicia Grajeda-Romero Social Services Agency Joanne Munro Social Services Agency

Adriana Newman Social Services Agency

Quynh Thi Ngoc Nguyen Social Services Agency

Susan June Pinkham Social Services Agency

Jeannie Teng Social Services Agency



"Making Orange County a safe, healthy, and fulfilling place to live, work, and play, today and for generations to come, by providing outstanding, cost-effective regional public services."

Click here to read the full mission and values statement.





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