

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Foundation of the State Bar of California Awards \$6,000 Grant to Superior Court of California, County of San Diego for Law Week 2005**

**San Francisco – February 8, 2005** – The Foundation of the State Bar of California has awarded a \$6,000 grant to the Superior Court of California, County of San Diego. The grant will provide funding for the Court’s Law Week 2005, scheduled for May 1st through 7<sup>th</sup>, 2005, including a variety of events and activities for adults and children throughout the county.

Law Week is both a national and local event. This year the theme of Law Week in San Diego County will be the same as the national theme, which is **“The American Jury: We the People in Action.”** Law Week programs will emphasize the importance of jury duty and the integral part that jurors play in the administration of justice.

The Court’s Presiding Judge, John S. Einhorn, stated, “Law Week provides an excellent opportunity for students, adults, and communities to join together in learning about the law and the justice system. The various activities offered during the week help all participants gain a better understanding of the role the courts play in their lives, as well as increasing public trust and confidence in the judicial system.”

Schools county-wide will be invited to participate in Law Week poster and essay contests. Some students will also have an opportunity to visit the courts, to hear from and

talk with court personnel, attorneys, and other legal professionals who will share information about their careers in law. These students will also be able to participate in mock trials, providing them “hands on” experience with the court system.

“Through Law Week, the Superior Court furthers the Foundation’s goal of increasing public awareness of the judicial system,” said Leslie Hatamiya, the Foundation’s Executive Director. “We are pleased to support the Superior Court’s efforts to demystify the court system, the legal profession, and the rule of law for students and adults throughout San Diego County.”

The Superior Court of California, County of San Diego, received one of 39 grants totaling \$325,595 that the Foundation recently awarded to California organizations conducting important projects that educate the public about its rights and responsibilities under the law and that increase access to the justice system by all people. Since 1991, the Foundation has awarded more than \$2.5 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, the State Bar of California, local bar associations, and California courts for law-related education and service projects.

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The Foundation of the State Bar of California is dedicated to promoting, improving, and building public trust and confidence in the rule of law. Founded in 1990, the Foundation annually awards grants to dozens of California organizations conducting law-related education and service projects and scholarships to California law school students with financial need and a demonstrated commitment to public service. The Foundation also runs the Legal Heritage Institute, a legal literacy summer camp and college-scholarship program for high school students. As an independent nonprofit, the Foundation provides opportunities for California lawyers to support community projects that improve access to the justice

system and promote the public good. For more information, please visit our website at [www.foundationstatebarcal.org](http://www.foundationstatebarcal.org).