



NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
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LOCAL OFFICIALS TO JOIN STATEWIDE SUMMIT FOCUSED ON IMPLEMENTING SWEEPING CHANGES TO CALIFORNIA'S FOSTER CARE SYSTEM

Local leaders to join the California Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care to discuss issues of local significance and systemic concerns that act as barriers to ensuring every child a safe, secure and permanent home

[San Diego]—On December 10, 2008, a team of county professionals involved in foster care, led by Presiding Juvenile Court Judge, Susan D. Huguenor, will join teams from over 50 California counties at an historic summit in San Francisco. The purpose of the summit is to focus on implementation of the California Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care's recently issued sweeping set of recommendations to reform the state's juvenile dependency court system and improve outcomes for foster children in California. *See attached list for the names of the San Diego Delegation.*

The summit will convene county teams to look at key areas of local concern and to begin building the capacity to enact change at the local level. County teams will meet together to discuss issues of local significance, including systemic concerns such as availability of appropriate services, barriers to information sharing among entities that serve families, communicating local needs and concerns, raising public awareness of foster care issues, and sharing successful strategies.

(MORE)

The Blue Ribbon Commission is a multidisciplinary panel appointed by the Chief Justice of California to make recommendations for improving safety, permanency, well-being, and fairness outcomes for children and families. The Judicial Council of California accepted the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on August 15, 2008. Formulated with extensive stakeholder input, the recommendations call for enhanced understanding of the role of the courts, adequate and flexible funding, manageable caseloads, improved information systems, and court collaboration with child welfare and other system partners. Among the commission's most important recommendations is the formation of local implementation commissions. Convened jointly by the courts and child welfare agencies, the implementation commissions will build on county-level efforts to move forward commission recommendations and related reforms. The statewide summit will initiate the work of these commissions.

For more information about the Blue Ribbon Commission, see

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jc/tflists/bluerib.htm>

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California Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care Statewide Summit
Dec 10, 2008
San Francisco Marriott Hotel
San Diego County Team Roster

No.	Name	Title & Organization	Address	Phone & FAX	E-Mail
1	Susan D. Huguenor	Presiding Judge of Juvenile Court San Diego Superior Court	PO Box 122724 San Diego, CA 92112	PHONE (858) 634-1501 FAX (858) 634-1673	Susan.Huguenor@sdcourt.ca.gov
2	Mary Harris	Director of Child Welfare Services SD Health & Human Services Agency	6950 Levant St. San Diego, CA 92111	PHONE (858) 694-5379 FAX (858) 694-5475	Mary.Harris@sdcounty.ca.gov
3	John E. Philips	Chief Deputy County Counsel Office of the County Counsel	4955 Mercury Street San Diego, CA 92111	PHONE (858) 492-2530 FAX	John.Philips@sdcounty.ca.gov
4	Sharon Lawrence	President and CEO Voices for Children, Inc. San Diego County	9620 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 202 San Diego, CA 92123	PHONE (858) 569-2096 Ext. 225 FAX (858) 569-7151	sharonl@voices4children.com
5	Lyn Angene	Special Projects Manager San Diego Superior Court	2851 Meadow Lark Dr. San Diego, CA 92123	PHONE (858) 634-1656 FAX (858) 634-1679	Lyn.Angene@sdcourt.ca.gov

Additional attendees, responsible for registration fee of \$100, travel, lodging and transportation

No.	Name	Title & Organization	Address	Phone & FAX	E-Mail
6	Dr. Philip Hanger	Assistant Deputy Director Forensic Mental Health Services SD Health and Human Services Agency	3255 Camino del Rio So. San Diego, CA 92108	PHONE (619) 584-5022 FAX (619) 563-2775	Philip.Hanger@county.ca.gov
7	Jorge Cabrera	Senior Director, San Diego Field Office Casey Family Programs	3878 Old Town Ave. Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92110	PHONE (619) 243-0774 Ext. 31273 FAX (619) 543-0743	Jcabrera@casey.org
8	Michelle Lustig	Coordinator, Foster Youth Services San Diego County Office of Education, Safe Schools Unit	8333 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. Suite 212 San Diego, CA 92111	PHONE (858) 503-2628 FAX (858) 503-2636	MLustig@sdcoe.net
9	Sam Rigby	Former foster youth, currently working for Casey Family Programs	3878 Old Town Ave. Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92110	PHONE (619) 243-0774 Ext. 31273 FAX (619) 543-0743	srigby@casey.org
10	Armando Salazar	Supervising Attorney Dependency Section Department of the Public Defender	8525 Gibbs Drive Suite 300 San Diego, CA 92123	PHONE (619) 441-4793	Armando.salazar@sdcounty.ca.gov