

## NEWS RELEASE

## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

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## 8th Annual Passport to Life Event Cancelled

Event for Probationary Youth Cancelled to Allow Law Enforcement Officers Time to Attend Memorial of Fallen SDPD Officer

A popular event held each year for youth on Juvenile Court probation has been canceled so law enforcement officers, who participate in the program, can attend the public memorial service for San Diego Police Officer Jonathan "JD" DeGuzman.

Passport to Life had been planned to be held this Friday at the San Diego City College campus. A public memorial service for Officer DeGuzman is also scheduled for that day.

"Many probation and other law enforcement officers attend *Passport to Life* to show support to our probation youth and to assist probation with this event. We were hearing from Justice Partners that their members wanted to attend the memorial for Officer DeGuzman. With so many law enforcement agencies and officers wanting to show their respect, it seemed appropriate to cancel this year's event and look forward to a 2017 program," says Juvenile Court Judge Carolyn Caietti.

Passport to Life is a collaboration between the San Diego Superior Court and the County of San Diego's Probation Department along with numerous public and private organizations. Passport to Life is open to youth, 14 to 24 years of age, who are currently on probation or have a probation history. The event focuses on the importance of finishing high school, the value of obtaining higher education and of building work-readiness skills.

Chief Probation Officer Adolfo Gonzales says, "As much as we would like to move this worthwhile event to another date in the immediate future, we are unable to do so. We look forward to holding the program in 2017."