

OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOYCE E. DUDLEY
District Attorney



DA 08-119

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September 4, 2012

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY *Joyce E. Dudley*, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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***** PRESS RELEASE *****

September 4, 2012

District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that there will be a free training offered in the County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, highlighting a new California law relating to Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victims.

Recognizing the importance of California's new law classifying strangulation crimes, the Santa Barbara County District Attorney Victim-Witness Program is partnering with the National Strangulation Training Institute to provide free training on strangulation issues to domestic violence service providers and law enforcement professionals. The training is sponsored by the San Diego-based Family Justice Center Alliance, in partnership with the California District Attorneys Association and California Emergency Management Agency. Training Details:

Date: Thursday, September 6, 2012
Time: 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM Registration will begin at 8:00 AM.
Location: County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors Hearing Room
Address: 105 East Anapamu Street, 4th Floor, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

When domestic violence perpetrators use strangulation to silence their victims, not only is this a felonious assault but it can also be charged as an attempted homicide. Strangulation is also a form of power and control, which often has a devastating psychological effect on victims, in addition to a potentially fatal outcome.

District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley states, "Despite the strides made to vigorously prosecute sexual assault and domestic violence, these are still some of the most prevalent violent crimes perpetrated in our county. History has taught us that detection, investigation, outreach, and education can be some of our most valuable tools to combat or prevent these horrific crimes."

About the District Attorney Victim-Witness Program: The Victim-Witness Program seeks to make the criminal justice system more understandable, accessible, and responsive to the concerns of victims and witnesses. The Victim-Witness Program is hosting the training and is the primary provider of services to victims of crime in Santa Barbara County. For more information on the Santa Barbara County Victim-Witness Program, please call (805) 568-2400 or visit the program website at www.countyofsb.org/da/vw_crime_assistance.html.

About the National Strangulation Training Institute: The National Strangulation Training Institute is a program of the Family Justice Center Alliance (www.familyjusticecenter.com). The National Strangulation Training Institute is funded by the U.S. Department of Justice to provide proactive basic and advanced strangulation training to domestic violence service providers, along with resource and support programs to increase education and current training tools to aid strangulation victims.

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