

OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
JOYCE E. DUDLEY
District Attorney



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APPROVED BY *Joyce E. Dudley*, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Megan Rheinschild, Victim Assistance Director

CONTACT (805) 568-2408

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

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**Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office Holds Media Event April 24, 2015, at 12:00 p.m.
Commemorating National Crime Victims' Rights Week**

Santa Barbara, California – April 19th through the 25th is National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley and the District Attorney's Office will commemorate our nation's progress in advancing victims' rights by honoring three outstanding citizens: a Victim of Crime, Delaney Henderson; Executive Director of CALM, Cecilia Rodriguez; and, Santa Barbara Police Department Detective, Crystal Bedolla. The Press Conference will be held in the Jury Assembly Building, 1108 Santa Barbara Street, next door to the District Attorney's Office.

The Citizen of Courage Award will be presented to **Delaney Henderson**. Delaney was a high school student when she became a victim of sexual assault. In the wake of her assault she faced an onslaught of bullying and threats. Despite her experiences she became a champion for sexual assault survivors and transformed her experience into an opportunity to educate and empower others.

The Victim Service Award is being presented to **Cecilia Rodriguez**, Executive Director of CALM, in recognition of her tenacious and tireless work with the Sexual Assault Response Team. For over two decades Cecilia has interviewed countless child abuse victims who otherwise may not have been able to recount their experiences but for her warm, professional, and compassionate approach.

The Victim Service Award will also be presented to Santa Barbara Police Department Detective **Crystal Bedolla**, in recognition of her investigative efforts on the *People v. Manuel Peter Munoz* child molestation case. Crystal demonstrated unwavering commitment, compassion, and dedication to the victims and their family throughout the multi-year investigation.

District Attorney Joyce Dudley states, "We stand together with the individuals being honored on Friday, April 24th, committed to protecting and upholding Victims' Rights as well as the public's safety. Our office is dedicated to the pursuit of truth and justice by employing the highest ethical standards in vigorously prosecuting the guilty as well as protecting the innocent; this we do by seeking to insure that all crime victims are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect."

Award recipients will be present at the press conference and available for questions.

□ SANTA BARBARA OFFICE
1112 Santa Barbara Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2300
Fax: (805) 568-2398

□ SANTA MARIA OFFICE
312-D East Cook Street
Santa Maria, CA 93454
(805) 346-7540
Fax: (805) 346-7588

□ LOMPOC OFFICE
115 Civic Center Plaza
Lompoc, CA 93436
(805) 737-7760
Fax: (805) 737-7732