



County of Santa Cruz

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 500, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4069

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FIRST DISTRICT

ELLEN PIRIE
SECOND DISTRICT

MARDI WORMHOUDT
THIRD DISTRICT

TONY CAMPOS
FOURTH DISTRICT

JEFF ALMQUIST
FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 2/12/02

January 29, 2002

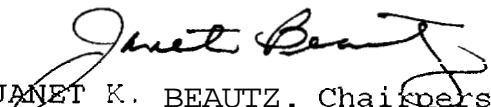
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION

Dear Members of the Board:

Attached is the Annual Report of the Domestic Violence Commission for calendar year **2001**. I recommend that the Board accept and file this report and direct the Chairperson to thank the members of the Commission for their efforts on the County's behalf.

Sincerely,


JANET K. BEAUTZ, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors

JKB:ted

cc: Domestic Violence Commission

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Christine McGuire, Chair
District Attorney's Office

Anita Henri, Vice Chair
Survivor of Domestic Violence

Kathryn Canlis, Secretary
District Attorney's Office

Alan Hirornura
County Administrative Office

Celia Organista
Defensa de Mujeres

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION



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COMMISSIONERS

JoAnn Allen
County Office of Education

Steve Belcher
Santa Cruz County Chiefs

Melissa Berengé
Familial Court Services

Larry Siggam
Public Defender's Office

June Brune
Santer Maternity and Surgery Center

Amy Christey
Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Community

Lisa Gifford
Watsonville Community Hospital

Evelyn Hall
County Women's Commission

Lyn Harrison
Heath Services Agency

Loretta Kuechle
Planned Parenthood

Laurie McWhorter
*Commission for the Prevention of
Violence Against Women*

Heather Morse
County Courts

Francine Nickell
Human Resources Agency

Dee O'Brien
Walnut Avenue Women's Center

Francesca Raphael
Battered Women's Task Force

John Rhoads
Probation Dept.

Barbara Schaller
Senior's Commissions

Mary Sirnoni
Batterers Treatment

Heidi Sirnonson
Familial Law Bar of Santa Cruz

Linda Starn
Dominican Hospital

Sam Stevens
County Courts

Mark Tracy
Sheriff-Coroner

Maria Isabel Vargas
Women's Crisis Support

January 24, 2002

Members of the Board of Supervisors
Government Center
701 Ocean Street, Room 500
Santa Cruz, California 95060

Re: 2000/2001 Annual Report - Domestic Violence Commission

Dear Members of the Board:

The following is the Annual Report for the Santa Cruz County Domestic Violence Commission for the years 2000 and 2001.

Introduction

The Domestic Violence Commission was established under the authority of Government Code Section 31000.1, and in compliance with Chapter 2.38 of the Santa Cruz County Code. (Ord. 4329 §1 (part), 1994)

The Domestic Violence Commission consists of the following members:

The county administrative officer, or his or her designee;
The sheriff-coroner of the county, or his/her designee;
A chief of a police agency, designated by the law enforcement chiefs association of the county or that police chiefs designee;
The district attorney of the county, or his/her designee;
Two judges, one familiar with domestic violence cases, one familiar with family law, to be chosen by the courts;
The chief probation officer of the county, or his/her designee;
The public defender of the county, or his/her designee;
The superintendent of the county office of education, or his/her designee;

One representative of each of the following, as appointed by the Board of Supervisors, upon nomination by the identified agency:

The Human Resources Agency of the county,
The Women's Crisis Support and Shelter Services,
Defensa de Mujeres,
The Battered Women's Task Force,
The Family Mediation Service,
A certified batterer's treatment provider approved by the
county probation department pursuant to Penal Code Section
1000.94,
The Women's Commission of the county,
The City of Santa Cruz Commission for the Prevention of
Violence Against Women,
Dominican-Santa Cruz Hospital,
Watsonville Community Hospital,
The health services agency of the county,
Walnut Avenue Women's Center,
The Community Clinic Coalition,
A representative of the Family Law Bar of Santa Cruz
County,
The Seniors Commission of the county, and
Sutter Maternity and Surgery Center of Santa Cruz;

The following at-large representatives, as appointed by the Board
of Supervisors:

A survivor of domestic violence,
A representative of the gay/lesbian/bisexual community.

The Executive Committee for the Commission for the year 2001 consists of:

Christine McGuire, Chair
Anita Henri, Vice Chair
Kate Canlis, Secretary
Alan Hiromura, Treasurer
Celia Organista

The Executive Committee for the Commission for the year 2000 consisted of:

Judge Samuel Stevens, Chair
Dee O'Brien, Vice Chair
Ron Ruiz, Secretary
Anita Henri
Francine Nickell

The following is a list of the Commission's accomplishments for the years 2000 and 2001:

The Commission produced a video for health care providers on how to recognize and report domestic violence. One hundred fifty copies of the video were distributed to health care professionals throughout our community. Trainings by Commissioners were presented at grand rounds at Dominican and Watsonville Hospitals, as well as other meetings of health care providers and physicians groups. Captain Kim Austin of the Watsonville Police Department has advised the Commission that reporting by medical providers in south county has increased 150% since the training was concluded. Copies of the video are enclosed with this annual report for your information.

On August 9, 2000, the Commission hosted a half day study session on "Evidence Based Prosecution." Experts on domestic violence prosecution, Gael Strack and Rolanda Pierre Dixon, were the featured speakers. The study session was attended by Commissioners and members of the public.

The Commission determined that a new strategic plan would enable Commission members to develop future goals and projects. Towards this end, the Commission requested funds from the Community Foundation to help the Commission plan for and conduct a one day planning retreat that will focus on developing a strategic plan. The Community Foundation has agreed to provide \$2,500 towards this event. The consultant selected, Kay Bowden, will interview commissioners and work with the Executive Committee to prepare for the one day planning session to be held on February 22, 2002, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Simpkins Swim Center. In addition, Ms. Bowden will prepare a final report evaluating the retreat and its effectiveness in achieving the retreat objectives. The Commission made a request to the Board of Supervisors for funding in 2001. That request was approved. The balance of approximately \$1,200 to host the strategic planning session will be borne out of the fund authorized by the Board of Supervisors.

For the years 2000 and 2001, the Commission honored Domestic Violence Awareness Month with its annual Purple Ribbon Campaign and Awards Dinner at the Posse House. Guest speaker at the 2001 dinner was Ariel Hand, Coordinator of the Violence Intervention Program at Valley Medical Center of Santa Clara Valley. Ms. Hand spoke of Santa Clara County's innovative new program at Valley Medical Center which identifies and assists victims of domestic violence.

The Commission agreed to support "What Works? Keeping Children Safe in Their Families." The project will collect data regarding children who witness domestic violence in the home.

The Commission established a Domestic Violence Commission website at www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us.

The Commission published a brochure containing the procedure for public comments

and other pertinent information about the role of the Commission. Additionally, the Commission established the position of "Greeter." The Commission's "Greeter" welcomes the public to its meeting, provide the public with the brochure, and contact the member of the public following his or her presentation to the Commission.

The Commission has begun the process of revising the Domestic Violence Law Enforcement Protocol.

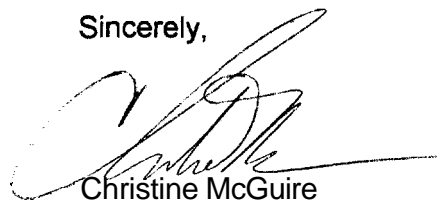
Listed below are the attendance records for the Commissioners for the years 2000 and 2001. Please note that appointments and resignations occur throughout the calendar year. The Commissioners' attendance records for the year 2000 were as follows:

Commissioner Allen attended 7 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner Barton attended 7 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner Belcher attended 6 meetings
Commissioner Benitez attended 7 meetings
Commissioner Biggam attended 8 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner Brune attended 4 meetings
Commissioner Car-Gordon attended 6 meetings and had 3 excused absences
Commissioner Draughon attended 2 meetings (Resigned)
Commissioner Dyas attended 2 meetings
Commissioner Ellerby attended 6 meetings and had 4 excused absences
Commissioner Gifford attended 4 meetings
Commissioner Henri attended 9 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner Kuechle attended 4 meetings and had 3 excused absences
Commissioner Levine attended 2 meetings and had 2 excused absences (Resigned)
Commissioner McGuire attended 8 meetings and had 2 excused absences
Commissioner McWhorter attended 6 meetings and had 3 excused absences
Commissioner Myers attended 6 meetings and had 3 excused absences (Resigned)
Commissioner O'Brien attended 8 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner O'Sullivan attended no meetings (Resigned)
Commissioner Organista attended 8 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner Raphael attended 9 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner Rhoads attended 8 meetings
Commissioner Samis attended 10 meetings (Resigned)
Commissioner Saucedo attended 3 meetings and had 1 excused absence (Resigned)
Commissioner Schaller attended 7 meetings and had 2 excused absences
Commissioner Shingai attended 1 meeting and had 2 excused absences (Resigned)
Commissioner Simoni attended 4 meetings and had 2 excused absences
Commissioner Simonson attended 7 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner Stam attended 3 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner Stevens attended 5 meetings and had 3 excused absences
Commissioner Tracy attended 8 meetings

The Commissioners' attendance records for the year 2001 were as follows:

Commissioner Allen attended 6 meetings and had 4 excused absences
Commissioner Belcher attended 7 meetings and had 2 excused absences
Commissioner Berrengue attended 8 meetings
Commissioner Biggam attended 6 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner Brune attended 6 meetings and had 2 excused absences
Commissioner Christey attended 1 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner Dyas attended 1 meeting (Resigned)
Commissioner Ellerby attended 3 meetings and had 1 excused absence (Resigned)
Commissioner Gifford attended 1 meeting and had 2 excused absences
Commissioner Hall attended 3 meetings and had 2 excused absences
Commissioner Harrison attended 2 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner Henri attended 9 meetings
Commissioner Hiromura attended 5 and had 4 excused absences
Commissioner Kuechle attended 4 meetings and had 2 excused absences
Commissioner McGuire attended 9 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner McWhorter attended 8 meetings
Commissioner Morse attended no meetings (Due to the consolidation
of courts, DVC has one representative from the courts)
Commissioner Nickell attended 9 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner O'Brien attended 6 meetings and had 2 excused absences
Commissioner Organista attended 8 meetings and had 2 excused absences
Commissioner Raphael attended 9 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner Rhoads attended 8 meetings and had 1 excused absence
Commissioner Schaller attended 4 meetings
Commissioner Simoni attended 6 meetings and had 3 excused absences
Commissioner Simonson attended 6 meetings
Commissioner Starn attended 7 meetings and had 3 excused absences
Commissioner Stevens attended 7 meetings and had 2 excused absences
Commissioner Tracy attended 9 meetings
Commissioner Vargas attended 3 meetings and had 1 excused absence

Sincerely,



Christine McGuire

Chair