



# San Diego City Attorney Jan I. Goldsmith

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## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 29, 2016**

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### **Mothers Against Drunk Driving Honors Prosecutor Who Specializes in “Drugged Driving”**

*Deputy City Attorney Taylor S. Garrot Named Outstanding Prosecutor of the Year*



*DCA Taylor Garrot*

The local chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving has named as its Outstanding Prosecutor of the Year for 2015 a prosecutor who did not prosecute a single drunk-driving case that year.

Rather, MADD will give the award to Deputy City Attorney Taylor S. Garrot, whose specialty is Drug DUIs – cases in which motorists are impaired by drugs (prescription and illegal) or by drugs combined with alcohol.

Garrot’s commendation from MADD, America’s leading drunk-driving foes, is recognition of the growing phenomenon of Drug DUIs and the threat they pose to public safety.

Since November 2014, Garrot has worked exclusively on Drug DUIs for the San Diego City Attorney’s Office, handling more than 250 drug and drug/alcohol combination cases, including 14 jury trials. He has prosecuted drivers who misused prescription drugs such as Xanax, Valium, Percocet, Dilaudid, Klonopin and Ambien, as well as illegal drugs such as ecstasy, cocaine, PCP, methamphetamine and heroin.

Working under a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, Garrot (pronounced *ga-ROE*) has become an expert for the San Diego law enforcement community, conducting trainings for local prosecutors and law enforcement personnel.

His trainings help debunk the myth that cases that involve driving under the influence of marijuana or prescription drugs are too difficult to prove. In fact, Garrot has obtained guilty pleas or verdicts in the overwhelming majority of these cases.

**“MADD could not have picked a better Prosecutor of the Year,”** City Attorney Jan Goldsmith said.

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**“Taylor Garrot’s expertise is keeping dangerous drivers off of our streets and highways, and the techniques he deploys are being shared with his colleagues, who prosecute thousands of DUI cases every year. Crimes once considered difficult to prove now result in guilty pleas and stiff sentences.”**

In his three years at the San Diego City Attorney’s Office, Garrot has successfully prosecuted a number of difficult DUI jury trials, involving complicated legal issues such as driving defenses, unrelated health issues, involuntary intoxication and low blood alcohol concentration cases.

Since November 2014, Garrot he has managed a Vertical Drug DUI Prosecution Grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety. The \$238,346 grant was renewed last fall.

Garrot will be honored at the 2016 DUI Law Enforcement Recognition Awards Luncheon today, Tuesday, March 29, 2016, at the Town & Country Resort, 500 Hotel Circle North in Mission Valley. The event is in the Golden West/California Room and the program begins at 11:30 a.m.

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EDITORS: A photo of Taylor S. Garrot is attached for your use  
Credit: Taylor S. Garrot