



# San Diego City Attorney Jan I. Goldsmith

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **SAN DIEGO CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SELECTED TO RECEIVE NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR PROSECUTORIAL INNOVATION**

**San Diego, CA:** The City Attorney's Office Neighborhood Prosecution Unit (NPU) has been selected to receive this year's ICE (Innovative Community Engagement) Award from the nationwide Association of Prosecuting Attorneys. The award is given annually to recognize those organizations which excel at prosecutorial innovation and community engagement.

Regan Savalla, Chief Deputy City Attorney of NPU, will accept the award on September 27 at the 6th National Community Prosecution Conference in Washington, D.C. where she will also serve as faculty. All of her expenses will be paid by Association of Prosecuting Attorneys. NPU consists of 7 attorneys and 5 non-attorney staff.

"Our Neighborhood Prosecution Unit deserves this national recognition," said City Attorney Jan Goldsmith. "Neighborhood-based prosecution creates a team approach to law enforcement that involves the community and is very effective."

NPU, in partnership with the San Diego Police Department, other agencies, and the community, works to combat crimes that reduce the quality of life in San Diego neighborhoods. These crimes include vandalism, graffiti, prostitution, disturbing the peace, alcohol and drug offenses, transient crimes and gang related offenses. Neighborhood prosecutors work in targeted neighborhoods side-by-side with police officers and community members on problem-solving initiatives.

NPU attorneys maintain a full load of criminal cases while helping to manage alternative sentencing programs such as five alternative courts, the Prostitution Impact Panel, and the Serial Inebriate Program. In addition, NPU has aggressively pursued tougher sentencing for documented gang members while, at the same time, new alternatives to steer at risk offenders into life skills and job training programs.

A hallmark of neighborhood prosecution is the willingness to experiment with and embrace new data-driven innovations that help reduce crime and improve public safety. By engaging the community, employing problem solving techniques, building broad partnerships, and relying on

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evaluation, offices that practice community prosecution are helping to challenge the notions of what it means to be a prosecutor in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

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