



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Civic Engagement, 805-339-4317
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Event: Volunteer Advocacy Information Night for Opportunities in Ventura County

Date/Time: Thursday, April 20, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Location: Ventura Police Department, 1425 Dowell Drive, Ventura

Involved Agencies: Hosted by the Ventura Police Department, Presented by Court Appointed Special Advocates ("CASA") for Foster Children & the Ventura County District Attorney's Office

Narrative:

The Ventura County District Attorney's Office provides services to thousands of victims every year and seeks qualified volunteers to make an important contribution to public safety and victims in Ventura County. The community is invited to the Ventura Police Department on April 20 at 6:30 p.m. to learn about volunteer opportunities to help children in need. Volunteer staff complete an initial 40 hours of training, which prepares them to assist victims with certain services, including obtaining domestic violence restraining orders, emergency shelter placement, court accompaniment, applying for state victim compensation benefits, along with providing crisis intervention and resources and referrals to community agencies.

Abused and neglected children need a stable adult in their lives. Court Appointed Special Advocates for Foster Children (CASA) is a volunteer organization that empowers everyday citizens as court officers to be that reliable adult and advocate for an appointed foster child. CASA Volunteer Advocates typically handle one case at a time; they commit to advocate for the child until he/she is placed in a safe, permanent home. While others may come and go, the CASA Volunteer Advocate provides that one constant adult mentor that children need in order to thrive. Currently there are over 750 children in the Ventura County Dependency Court System who need, want, and are waiting for a CASA Volunteer Advocate.

CASA and the District Attorney's Office need more volunteers! Please attend the joint informational session, hosted by the Ventura Police Department, to learn about these unique programs, the training, and how you can make a difference in the lives of children in our community.

To reserve your seat, contact Ken at (805) 389-3120 or Ken@casaofventuracounty.org.

The complete press release, including suspect description, can be viewed online at www.venturapd.org

If you have any information about this crime, you can make an anonymous call to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

If your information leads to an arrest, you could receive a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT • 1425 DOWELL DR. • VENTURA, CA 93003 • 805-339-4400
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