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PRESS RELEASE

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SUPERIOR COURT OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY CELEBRATES NATIONAL DRUG COURT MONTH BY HONORING GRADUATES OF THE SANTA MARIA ADULT COLLABORATIVE COURTS

Santa Maria - On Tuesday, May 22, 2018, the Honorable Kay Kuns will host a commencement ceremony to honor individuals who have successfully completed one of the Adult Collaborative Courts which include Substance Abuse Treatment Court (SATC), Dual Diagnosis (DDX) Treatment Court, and Mental Health Treatment Court (MHTC) programs. The graduation will begin at 2:30 pm at the Santa Maria Veterans Memorial Building located at 313 W. Tunnel.

The graduation marks the 68th Commencement of the Santa Maria program and celebrates National Drug Court Month. Special guests have been invited to speak and will personally congratulate each of the 10 participants who are scheduled to graduate. Certificates of completion and raffle prizes will be presented, and, the graduates will be given an opportunity to speak about their personal experience in the Court program. Special guests will include representatives from the offices of Assemblyman Jordan Cunningham and Congressman Salud Carbajal.

Participation in these Adult Collaborative Court programs is a minimum of 12 months and each involves different phases of intensive treatment, probation supervision, and Court reviews. Sobriety, recovery, and stability are promoted and successful completion may result in dismissal of charges and early termination of probation. The programs are a multi-departmental collaboration between the Superior Court, the Probation Department, the Offices of the Public Defender and the District Attorney, the Department Behavioral Wellness, the University of California Santa Barbara, the Sheriff's Office and community based organizations. Graduates have successfully completed their treatment program and have maintained sobriety.

To learn more about the Collaborative Courts including resources, legislation, and statistics, visit www.nadcp.org. To learn more about National Drug Court Month visit <http://www.nadcp.org/advocacy/ndcm/>.

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