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PRESS RELEASE

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Probation No. 18-01

DATE: **January 19, 2018**

SUPERIOR COURT OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY CELEBRATES GRADUATES OF SANTA MARIA ADULT COLLABORATIVE COURTS

Santa Maria - On Tuesday, January 23, 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 the 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. A reception will immediately follow the ceremony.

The graduation will mark the 67th Commencement of the Santa Maria program. Special guests have been invited to speak and will personally congratulate each of the 11 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.

Participation in these Adult Collaborative Court programs is a minimum of 12 months and each involves five 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.

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