



MEDIA ADVISORY

May 11, 2002
Contact: Ryan Hurd (619) 253-8295

COMMUNITY FORUM TO KICK OFF SUBSTANCE ABUSE SUMMIT VII

Youth and Adult Leaders Work to Reduce County's Alcohol and Drug Problems

WHAT: A dynamic, interactive exchange on drug and alcohol issues will launch the San Diego County Substance Abuse Summit this year, beginning a two-day conference that will also include workshops, exhibits, award presentations and addresses by leaders in the field.

Five adult and five youth panelists will cover several key substance abuse issues in Monday's forum: cross-border drinking; the transition from high school to college; party "hot spots"; drug policies at school athletic departments; and treatment resources for youth and young adults. A 30-minute period for audience questions will follow the general discussion. Participants will be available for media interviews.

WHO: **Robert W. Denniston, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy**
Joseph Watson, Vice Chancellor, University of California at San Diego
Sandra Hoover, Institute for Public Strategies
Leslie Devaney, Executive Assistant San Diego City Attorney
Jim Arnaiz, Athletic Director, Helix High School
Nic Pistone, San Marcos Teen Recovery Center
YOUTH: Josh Fu, 22, SDSU; Billy Cooper, 18, Southwestern College; Liliana Maramontes, 16, Fallbrook High School; Luis Perez, 18, Mar Vista High School; and Mike Griffin, 18, UPAC

WHERE: Town & Country Ballroom
Town and Country Hotel and Convention Center
500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, California
*** Media Check-in table for Summit will be in the Atlas Foyer ***

WHEN: **Monday, May 13, 2002, 9:15 to 11:45 a.m.** (with a break from 10:15 to 10:45)

WHY: Expanded relationships and shared goals among youth, educators, law enforcement, parents, public health officials and other community members are essential in the effort to define and achieve real solutions to San Diego County's drug and alcohol problems.

*The Substance Abuse Summit, initiated by the County of San Diego in 1995, is part of a long-term strategy to reduce the personal, social and economic costs related to substance abuse in the County. SAS VII will take place May 13-14, 2002. For more information about the summit, visit **www.substanceabusesummit.com**. Journalists covering issues related to alcohol and other drugs can find a range of resources — including fact sheets, contact information and recent reports — at the Substance Abuse Newsroom: **www.alcoholdrugnewsroom.org**.*

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