



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS ADVISORY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
June 28, 2007

**CONTACT: José A. Álvarez**  
(619) 515-6635 (619) 964-1526 cell

## **IS GRANDMA DOING METH? COUNTY OFFICIALS EXPOSE THE FACES OF METH 1,000 Meth-Related Deaths Recorded In County from 2002-2006 “Get Off Meth” Brochures Being Distributed Throughout County**

**WHAT:** Are grandma and grandpa meth users? **Health, medical, treatment, and public officials** will answer this and many other meth-related questions when they **expose the many faces of meth users.**

The group will also launch the **“Get Off Meth”** campaign, **urging friends and relatives** of users to help them **declare their independence from meth.** They will warn about **the dangers of the deadly drug** and begin the distribution of meth brochures, which will be available at **emergency rooms, trauma centers,** and many other locations **throughout the County.**

**WHO:** **Supervisor Dianne Jacob,** Second District  
**Jean M. Shepard,** Director, County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency  
**Michael J. Sise, M.D., F.A.C.S.,** Medical Director, Trauma Services, Scripps Mercy Hospital  
**Jeanne McAlister,** Chief Executive Officer, McAlister Institute  
**Former meth users**

**WHEN:** **MONDAY, JULY 2, 2007 AT NOON**

**WHERE:** **Scripps Mercy Hospital—(Fountain Area)**  
**4077 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

**WHY:** From 2002-2006, there have been 1,000 meth-related deaths in the County of San Diego, according to the Medical Examiner's Office.

Also in 2006, there were 5,811 treatment admissions for meth and 7,370 arrests for selling or possessing meth.

About 10.4 million Americans aged 12 or older have used methamphetamine at least once in their lifetimes, according to the 2005 National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

The same survey revealed that approximately 1.3 million reported using meth in the past year and 512,000 people reported using meth in the past month.

Results of the 2006 Monitoring the Future survey indicated that 2.7% of eighth graders, 3.2% of tenth graders, and 4.4% of twelfth graders reported lifetime use of meth.

**VISUALS:** Can you identify former meth users from a group of people? Posters with warning signs of meth use, effects of meth, and an age breakdown of meth deaths. Brochures with info on meth and treatment centers where people can get help.

**###**