



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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## MEDIA ADVISORY

### SUCCESSFUL 2006 PROPOSITION 36 GRADS TO CELEBRATE RECOVERY

**WHO:** Connie Moreno-Peraza, Director, County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency Alcohol and Drug Services  
County of San Diego Criminal Justice representatives  
Participants and their families  
Local alcohol and drug treatment providers

**WHAT:** **Fifth Annual "Route 36" Graduation Celebration**  
Celebratory picnic for more than 150 individuals who completed substance abuse treatment programs in accordance with Proposition 36, the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000, which directs nonviolent drug offenders to treatment programs instead of jail.

**WHEN:** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.,  
Saturday, June 24, 2006.  
(Program begins at 11:30 a.m.)

**WHERE:** Balboa Park, at the corner of Park Boulevard and President's Way

**WHY:** Substance abuse is estimated to cost San Diego County taxpayers more than \$3 billion annually. Treatment programs not only help reduce crime, they return local citizens to families and communities as productive members of society. A recent UCLA study demonstrated that in its first year, Prop 36 saved California taxpayers nearly \$2.50 for every \$1.00 spent.

Clean and sober alumni from the County of San Diego's Proposition 36 programs will join this year's program participants in celebration of their successful completion of Proposition 36 substance abuse treatment programs. Participant testimonials and stories will be an integral part of the program.

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