

NEWS RELEASE



OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

San Diego, California

*United States Attorney
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For Immediate Release

U.S. Attorney Laura Duffy to Host Screening of “Out of Reach,” a Short Film about Prescription Drug Abuse Created by a Teen Filmmaker

Q&A, Moderated Discussion to Follow

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY – November 20, 2013

SAN DIEGO – U.S. Attorney Laura Duffy will host a special screening of “Out of Reach,” a short documentary about prescription drug abuse created by a teen filmmaker, on Wednesday evening, November 20, at Junipero Serra High School.

This is the first “Out of Reach” screening to take place on the West Coast. Cyrus Stowe, a 17-year-old high school student, interviews friends, classmates, community members and others about prescription drug abuse and their views of what it means to abuse prescription drugs. It was created in collaboration with director Tucker Capps (of A&E’s “Intervention”) and The Partnership at Drugfree.org's Medicine Abuse Project.

The film screening will be followed by a panel discussion moderated by U.S. Attorney Duffy. Local experts will examine the scope of the problem and what's being done in San Diego County to reduce prescription drug abuse.

In an effort to raise awareness of the disturbing trends, U.S. Attorney Duffy has joined The Partnership at Drugfree.org in The Medicine Abuse Project, a five-year action campaign that aims to prevent half a million teens from abusing medicine by the year 2017 and advises parents and others to take a pledge to take control of their medicine cabinets.

WHAT: Screening of "Out of Reach," a teen-made documentary on prescription drug abuse

WHO: MODERATOR:
Laura Duffy, United States Attorney for the Southern District of California

PANELISTS:
Tom Lenox, Supervisory Special Agent Tactical Diversion Squad, Drug Enforcement Administration San Diego

Dr. Roneet Lev, Director of Operations, Scripps Mercy Hospital Emergency Department, San Diego County Prescription Drug Abuse Medical Task Force

Sherrie Rubin, Director, The Hope2Gether Foundation, Prescription Medication, Drug and Alcohol Education and Awareness

WHEN: Wednesday, November 20th, 2013

WHERE: Junipero Serra High School, 5156 Santo Road, San Diego, 92124.

WHY: One out of five high school juniors in San Diego County say they've misused prescription drugs. In the last five years, unintentional deaths caused by prescription drugs rose by 22 percent in San Diego County, according to the latest Report Card issued by the Prescription Drug Abuse Task Force earlier this month.

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