



CITY *of* CALABASAS

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Calabasas Secondhand Smoke Law Formally Launched at Press Conference

American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, Breathe L.A. and others express strong support of first-in-the-nation law meant to protect health of public

A press conference was held on Wednesday, March 15, 2006 at Juan Bautista de Anza Park in Calabasas to formally launch the City of Calabasas landmark "Comprehensive Secondhand Smoke Control Ordinance." The law officially becomes effective on March 17, 2006.

Speakers at the press conference included Calabasas Mayor Barry Groveman, Dr. Thomas Pfeffer representing the American Heart Association, Colleen Callahan from the American Lung Association, Martin Barrera-Martinez from the American Cancer Society, Sondra N. Widland from Breathe L.A., cancer survivor/health advocate Spencer Shiffman, and Margo Arnold, the Calabasas teen who first raised the idea of the ordinance to the City Council.

Representatives were also on hand from the Los Angeles Department of Health Services, the California Restaurant Association, Smoke-Free Air for Everyone (SAFE), Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Los Angeles, the Calabasas Chamber of Commerce, Healthier Solutions, Inc., the Las Virgenes Municipal School District and the Lost Hills Sheriff Department.

The "Comprehensive Second-Hand Smoke Control Ordinance" prohibits smoking in all public places in the City of Calabasas at times when other persons can be exposed to secondhand smoke. These places include indoor and outdoor businesses, hotels, parks, sidewalks, restaurants and bars where people can be reasonably expected to congregate or meet.

Following the press conference, the first "Designated Smoking Area" was installed at behind City Hall. Businesses can download a "Designated Smoking Area" application from the City website. Each resident and business has received a mailing from the City explaining the ordinance and answering a series of frequently asked questions. Additionally, business cards are now available at many Calabasas businesses and at City Hall for residents to pass out to those smoking in public as a friendly reminder of the ordinance.

The text of the ordinance and a list of frequently asked questions are available online at www.cityofcalabasas.com. To request an interview with a member of the Calabasas City Council, please contact Michael Hafken at (818) 878-4225, ext. 309.

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