



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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***LIFE BEYOND ABUSE:*
OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH!**

In October 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. This year, *Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse* and the *Pima County Attorney's Office* are teaming together to sponsor a number of events aimed at increasing public awareness about the tragedy of domestic violence and shedding light on services that are available to victims and their families in Pima County.

In association with *Tucson Chief of Police Roberto Villaseñor*, *Pima County Attorney Barbara LaWall* and *Sarah Jones, CEO of Emerge!* will host a press conference announcing the Domestic Violence Awareness Month events:

**Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2009
Time: 10:30 am
Place: Westside Police Service Station
1310 W Miracle Mile**

"Life Beyond Abuse" is the theme for the October events. While safety and security are critical and fundamental to a victim, a life free from abuse is the absolute goal. Stories of women and men who have successfully left abusive situations and re-claimed their lives will be highlighted. Other activities include:

Resource Fairs

There will be an exhibit of personal success stories of survivors of domestic abuse as well as children's activities. The fairs will take place from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at:

- Spectrum Mall on Saturday, October 10th
- Tucson Mall on Saturday, October 17th
- Park Place Mall on Saturday, October 24th

Art Exhibit

An exhibition of masks created by survivors of domestic abuse and their children will be on view at:

- Valdez Main Library, October 6 - 9
- Valencia Library, October 10 - 14
- Wheeler Taft Abbot Library, October 15 - 18
- Golf Links Library, October 19 - 22
- Sam Lena South Tucson Library, October 23 - 26
- Valdez Main Library, October 27 - 29

About Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse

Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse, the largest domestic abuse shelter and prevention services provider in Southern Arizona, is dedicated to stopping the cycle of domestic abuse by providing a safe environment and resources for victims and survivors of all types of abuse on their journey toward healing and self-empowerment.

About the Pima County Attorney's Office

Barbara LaWall and the Pima County Attorney's Office are committed to stopping the cycle of domestic abuse – prosecutors, law enforcement, and victim advocates work together to prevent, prosecute, and protect victims.

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If you would like more information about October's events, please call Tim Jefferson at 520-740-5342 or email Tim at tim.jefferson@pcao.pima.gov