***** PRESS RELEASE *****

May 17, 2011

Re: Eleventh Annual Law Enforcement Awards Presentation

André Birotte, United States Attorney (Central District of California) presented awards to Deputy District Attorneys Hans Almgren and Kimberly Smith, as well as District Attorney Investigator Robert Lowry, for their distinguished service to law enforcement and community safety this past year. Nine members of the Santa Barbara Police Department and Gang Unit were similarly honored for their distinguished service by the United States Attorney. The Law Enforcement Award for Distinguished Service recognizes their hard work, professionalism, and skill in Operation Gator Roll, the joint federal-state gang operation that so dramatically impacted the gang problem on the east side of Santa Barbara.

Their joint effort led to successful federal and state criminal prosecutions and further demonstrates that law enforcement partnerships make safer communities.