



CENTER FOR JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Center for Judicial Excellence **Hosts Juvenile Justice Forum for Marin Residents**

SAN RAFAEL, CA – As part of an ongoing series of community forums, the *Center for Judicial Excellence (CJE)* is will host ***“Juvenile Justice: The Law and Our Youth”*** on **Thursday, May 10th, 2007 at the Tam Valley Community Center, 230 Marin Avenue, Mill Valley CA from 6:30 – 8:30pm.** The Forum boasts an outstanding panel of local juvenile justice experts and community leaders including:

- **Joe Spaeth** – *Marin County Public Defender*
- **Bill Burke** – *Marin County Chief Probation Officer*
- **Amani Bullock** – *Fatherhood Project*
- **Don Carney** – *Marin Youth Court*

This timely local event will include a two-hour panel discussion followed by a Question & Answer session. Attendees will also hear from a parent and youth who have first-hand experience with Marin’s Juvenile Justice System, and will learn about what happens when a young person enters the system and how some families navigate the County’s legal system.

“Juvenile Justice: The Law and Our Youth” is the second public forum in **CJE’s 2007 Judicial Forum Series.** The goals of the Forum are to educate the Marin community about procedures and challenges within the juvenile justice system as it relates to juvenile delinquency, to discuss best practices and to encourage an ongoing dialogue about safeguards and solutions.

The Forum is hosted by the *Center for Judicial Excellence* in partnership with a growing list of cosponsors including:

- Marin Human Rights Commission
- Marin Peace & Justice Coalition
- Action Coalition of People of Color (ACPC)
- United for Safe Schools Novato
- Women Helping All People

The Juvenile Justice Forum is open to the general public. All ages are welcome. Admission is free but donations are welcomed. The event site is fully handicapped accessible.

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About the Center for Judicial Excellence

The Center for Judicial Excellence is a new Marin community-based organization. CJE's 5-Point Plan of Action includes 1) Information Gathering 2) Education 3) Collaboration 4) Implementation and 5) Citizen Review.

With its Forums and other activities, CJE aims to foster a constructive, ongoing dialogue between Marin residents, local legal and community organizations, and the Superior Court of California, County of Marin. Additionally, CJE has prepared a Public Questionnaire for citizens to document their experiences with the Marin courts. The Questionnaire is available on the CJE website at www.centerforjudicialexcellence.org.

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