



SAN ANTONIO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Contact: Sandy Gutierrez Date: September 27, 2000 Release No. 00-119

NEWS RELEASE

KICKOFF: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

What: Press Conference

When: Monday, October 2nd
 10:00 a.m.

Where: SAPD Headquarters
 214 W. Nueva
 Assembly Room (Basement)

Domestic violence is a deadly epidemic that reaches far beyond race, age and income. Be it a child, parent, friend or relative, anyone who knows a victim of domestic violence is affected by this silent killer. Each October is marked as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" and is dotted with events that take place to celebrate survivors of and educate the community on domestic abuse.

This year the San Antonio Police Department kicks off the awareness campaign by holding a press conference to announce an important, nationwide "Call to Protect" service in San Antonio.

"Call to Protect" is a program where anyone can donate a new or used cell phone that will in turn be provided to domestic violence victims. The phones will be re-programmed and activated with the 911 emergency number and distributed to victims of life-threatening domestic abuse.

For Immediate Release

"Call to Protect"

As part of its "Call to Protect" program the Wireless Foundation has joined with the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence to launch a national program that collects and distributes no longer used wireless phones. The phones provide victims of domestic violence with instant access to help.

Sponsored by Motorola, Inc., phones collected through the campaign will be refurbished and given along with free emergency airtime to domestic violence victims.

In the hands of domestic violence victims, the pre-programmed wireless phone can literally be a lifeline, enabling victims to call for assistance at the push of a button. The phones also offer domestic violence victims a sense of security, especially as they make the transition from living in an abusive situation to one of safety and independence.

Anyone interested in donating their unused cell phones can do so at any area San Antonio Police Department substation where collection sites have been established:

- **Headquarters
214 W. Nueva**
- **Central Substation
515 S. Frio**
- **South Substation
711 W. Mayfield**
- **East Substation
3635 E. Houston**
- **North Substation
13030 Jones Maltsberger**
- **Northwest Substation
5020 Prue Rd.**
- **West Substation
7000 Culebra**
- **Las Palmas Storefront
803 Castroville Rd.
Suite 125**