



**GREATER ORANGE COUNTY
CHAPTER OF
PARENTS OF
MURDERED CHILDREN**

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2023

FOR THE FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED BY VIOLENCE

National Crime Victims' Rights Week

April 23–29, 2023

Since 1981, National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) has challenged the nation to confront and remove barriers to achieving justice for all victims' rights of crime. During NCVRW, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) celebrates the accomplishments of victims' rights movement and reflect on how far they have come.

Every April, OVC leads communities throughout the country in their annual observances of NCVRW. This year, NCVRW will be observed between April 23-29.

The 2023 theme, Survivor Voices: Elevate. Engage. Effect Change." calls upon communities to amplify the voices of survivors and commit to creating an environment where survivors have the confidence that they will be heard, believed, and supported.

2023 NCVRW Theme Colors



BLUE



GREEN



PURPLE

New member New Podcast



Rey Martinez

My name is Rey and I'd like to welcome and invite you to join us for a unique journey brought to you by a podcast named "Survivors & Parents of Murdered Children". Now I will tell my son Dean's story some other time...but I can assure you that we are all here for the same reason... our children were murdered by others. This podcast will serve to not only elevate the voices of the survivors, mothers, fathers, sisters, and brothers, but to allow their voices and stories to be heard and listened to. Lending their voice one by one...to tell the stories of those we have all lost. We will present and share interviews in documentary form, sharing our emotions, difficulties and what I hope will be some laughs and happy memories along the way.

Join us for what will serve as a glimpse into the lives of those who are no longer with us, and the families left behind. Along with other grieving survivors, I plan on listening, learning, and educating on a variety of topics that seem to affect us all, every day. This won't be for everyone, but it will be for some.

"Survivors & Parents of Murdered Children" will debut shortly after our last day for Victims Rights week and recording will occur on April 29, 2023. This will be a once-a-month podcast with an exact debut date to be announced.

Survivors and Parents, if you feel moved or inclined to present your story please email us at SurvivorsandParents@gmail.com And as always if you need a listening ear please contact me via text or call at 714-398-9567.

This is a record of our children lost to murder. Remember that for our lost loved ones, the fight we have now is the fight against silence and injustice. Its time to triumph over the ultimate evil.

March Guest

Last month's group meeting, Lydia Kim, from the Orange County DA's office stopped by. Thank you Lydia for stopping by and taking time to hear us and discuss current laws.



Lydia Kim grew up in Cypress, California. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Communications from the University of California, San Diego and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Lydia worked as a research attorney for Justice William Bedsworth for the Fourth District Court of Appeals and then joined the Orange County District Attorney's Office in 2001. In her nearly 22 years of being a prosecutor, she has worked primarily in the Branch Court Operations: prosecuting misdemeanor and general felony cases.

Her current role is the Victims' Rights Liaison. She serves contact point between victims and the Orange County District Attorney's Office to address victims' questions and concerns, attempt to resolve victim-related issues, assist prosecutors in fulfilling their responsibilities under Marsy's Law, participate in outreach involving victims' issues, and supports victims.

DEBRA'S TWO CENTS!



Editor's Letter

Well OC Chapter, This has truly been an eye opening experience for me. But, it is time for me to move on. I have learned so much volunteering my time in this Chapter. I need to focus on my Small Business and Social Media content and other future ventures I have in mind.

But, I will not be far and I will still attend Chapter events with my brother John. And of course, if your Chapter leader ever needs me for a quick flyer or what not, I'm here for her and you all. I will never hesitate to donate a gift certificate or two or even a gift basket!

Please keep your minds open to new and creative ideas to get your voices and loved ones names heard! And un-fortunately as well for future victims. The new age is upon us and new technology is here. The legacy of OC Chapter is in your hands. Your organization is well needed. I admire you all and respect your courage!

If you'd like to follow my business adventures you can go to my Linktree site at linktr.ee/thathairguy. All of my social media is connected to that site.

I will see you all at this months Candle Light Vigil.

Richard Maldonado



ANGEL DEDICATIONS

Sarah

I've been contemplating whether to write something for my sweet Sarah! You see April 16th, will mark her 20th year! It's so hard and painful and it breaks my heart to write this! A day I do not want to remember! But yet, I will never forget you Sarah!

These songs came to mind....

You're in my heart, you're in my soul. You'll be my breath should I grow old!

**If I could save time in a bottle
The first thing that I'd like to do
Is to save everyday 'til eternity
If I could make days last forever
if words could make wishes come true
I'd save every day like a treasure and then
again, I would spend them with you**



I love you my dear Sarah, always and forever!

Mom

**This picture was on Sarah's 21st birthday.....
and sadly, her last.**



Luke

**"If this life has anything to gain at all
'll count it loss if I can't hear you
feel you, 'cause I need you.
Can't walk this earth alone.
I recognize my own,
so before I fall I need to hear you,
feel you, as I live to make my boast
in you alone."**

**This was Luke's favorite lyric in the
song, "Boasting" by Lacrae**



*Forever Remembered
Angelversaries*

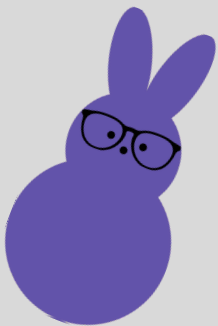


*Always in Our Hearts
Happy Heavenly Birthday*

Luke Lindsey
Kenneth N. Gullon
Gene Neal
Ralph Valenzuela
Angel Hill
Johnny F. Gollette
Robbie Martin
Heidi Hubrecht
Jason Miller
Arthur R. Martinez III
Sarah J. Rodriguez
Scott Campbell
Denise Marie Duerr
Hollie Karr
Ronson Joseph Edgerly
Piqui
Walter B. Hackman Jr.
Lisa Ann Tyson
Steven G. Valdivia
Lori Hughes
Kylee Caitlin McGowen
Andrew Powell
Ryan William Dasalla
Fred James Leglar



Dayle Y. Okazaki
Ardell Love Williams
Robert Allen Sickles
Marisela G. Espinoza
John Patrick Caulfield
Joshua David Rodriguez
Jeremy Kenneth Wilder
Mary Susan Estes
Chad Allan MacDonald
Danielle L. Monroe
Christian Silva
Lester Lewis
Scott Ira Kaufman
Andrea Gonzalez
Jose J. Sanchez
Roberto "Bobby" Ruiz Jr.
Brittany Lynn Rethorn-Riggs
Timothy "Tim" McCarthy
Justin A. Soto
Robert Foster Runyen
Alex Leo Reyes
Dylan James Austin
Allen R. Motis
Anthony Eric Smith
Robert Porter Alexander V
Ralph Elguezabal
Brian S. Gregorio
Stacey Lynn Hall
Jack Brant
Kristopher P. Alofaituli
Timothy McVeigh
Felice Decicco



Thank you for your dedications
Anita Sanchez (Birthday Cards)
Thank you
Christine Persall (Angelversary cards)
For sending out the Birthday and Angelversary
Cards. Receiving these is sometimes the only reminder
that our loved ones are NOT FORGOTTEN!
Thank You
Shirley Tapia for answering the hotlines and writing
poems for the Angelversary letters!

SAVE THE DATE

The Candle Light Vigil is this month, April 29th
From 6pm to 8pm



**Survivor
Voices**
Elevate. Engage.
Effect Change.

**National Crime Victims'
Rights Week**
April 23–29, 2023



April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
						APRIL FOOL'S DAY! 1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
 9	10	11	SUPPORT GROUP 6:30pm	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
National Crime Victims' Rights Week						 Candle Light Vigil 29	
30							



Board Members:

Chapter Leader: Debra Dizon-Hernandez: Email- Debraus22@gmail.com

(In memory of Jonathan)

Co-Leader: Martha Dewar: marthad@roadrunner.com (In memory of Sarah)

Secretary: Faye Jenkins gsmommy@yahoo.com (In memory of Quiana & Jan)

Treasurer: John Maldonado: Email- maldoman28@gmail.com (In Memory of Matthew)

Lauren Stewart: Email- lsterwartgirl10@yahoo.com (In Memory of Cody)

Newsletter Editor:

Rick Maldonado - rickem1972@gmail.com (In Memory of Matthew Maldonado)

MONTHLY SUPPORT MEETINGS:

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. Please come join us. This step in your journey will be one of the toughest. We are here to support you as you go - because we understand.

POMC provides the on-going emotional support needed to help families and friends of those who have died by violence facilitate the reconstruction of a "new life" and to promote a healthy resolution. Not only does POMC help survivors deal with their acute grief but also helps with the criminal justice system. Call for Location 714-999-7123

Email: gocpomc@yahoo.com

Need to Talk:

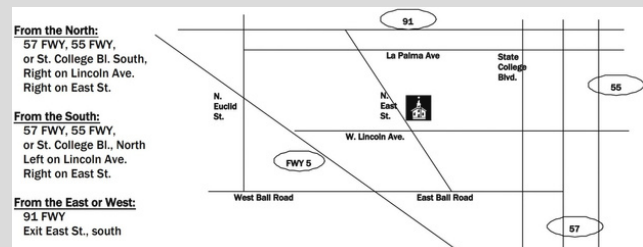
All are board members and bilingual. Mary Bennet 714-264-2690 Please send text first.

Martha Dewar 714- 306-9166 Letty Gutierrez 714-601-9699

Please be mindful of times as these lines go directly to the members above.

Support Greater Orange County

POMC Donations: When seeking a place to donate monetarily this year please consider a donation to Greater Orange County POMC. Help support GOCPOMC with your Amazon purchases: Amazon Supports GOCPOMC Go to: smile.amazon.com. Select: Greater Orange County Parents of Murdered Children Remember a portion of your purchase is donated to our chapter.



Come join our Facebook
Community!

POMC-Greater Orange County
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/gocpomc>

Membership is Open to those who have been cruelty bereaved by the murder of a loved one. Professionals who are in frequent contact with grieving families are also welcome to join.

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