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DISTRICT ATTORNEY HOSTS CHINESE DIGNITARIES

FAIRFIELD, CA. – District Attorney Donald A. du Bain hosted twenty dignitaries from Qingdao, China yesterday morning at the Solano County Family Justice Center. The dignitaries, who are members of the Qingdao Human Services Management Delegation, are senior officials from different departments and bureaus of city government in Qingdao whose duties are related to human services and public safety. The delegates visited Solano County with the express purpose of touring the Solano Family Justice Center in order to learn about family violence prevention programs. The visit was coordinated by the U.S.-China Exchange Council under the facilitation of Amy Zhao, Director of Training Department.

Qingdao, which has a population of nearly 9 million people, is historically known as Tsingtao and is a major city in eastern Shandong Province in Eastern China. The delegation included the Deputy President of the Public Policy Institute of Qingdao, the Deputy Director of Culture, Broadcast and News Bureau, the Deputy Director of City Administration and Law Enforcement, and the Deputy Director of the Qingdao Justice Bureau.

District Attorney du Bain discussed his office's role in supporting victim safety and offender accountability and provided an overview of the challenges in prosecuting cases of domestic violence. He explained the importance of the District Attorney's Office coordination with victim service agencies to provide critical services to victims and their families.

The Solano Family Justice Center, which opened its doors this year under the auspices of the District Attorney's Office of Family Violence Prevention, is a collaboration of County services and non-profit agencies that provide services to victims including LIFT3 Support Group and DV Shelter, Child Haven, Catholic Social Services, Legal Services of Northern California, and many others.

Carolyn Wold, Director of the Solano Family Justice Center, provided a tour of the client and children's services areas. The highlight of the tour for many of the delegates was the Boutique by Rena, a room filled with donated suits, dresses and accessories from which

victims may choose in order to have appropriate clothing to wear to job interviews, court hearings, and other meetings for which professional attire is appropriate. The boutique is named for Rena Turner, advocate and volunteer for LIFT3 Support Group and Domestic Violence Shelter, who developed the boutique and who passed away unexpectedly earlier this year.

At the completion of the tour, District Attorney du Bain presented Zhang Zhongdong, Deputy Director of the Qingdao Municipal Bureau of Civil Affairs and leader of the delegation, with a gift basket filled with Jelly Belly candies. Jelly Belly is one of the sponsors of the Solano Family Justice Center.

The U.S.-China Exchange Council is located in Union City and coordinated the visit, one of many visits and tours in which the delegation will participate during their short stay in the Bay Area.

The Solano Family Justice Center is located at 604 Empire Street, Fairfield and provides services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse and elder abuse. The Safe Harbor for Kids Supervised Visitation Center is also operated under the Solano Family Justice Center. For more information on services provided at the Solano Family Justice Center, call 784-7635 or visit www.solanocounty.com/stoptheviolence.

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