



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
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MEDIA ADVISORY

Governor's anti-gang plan explained in East County

WHO: Nancy Bennett of the Governor's Office details anti-gang initiative
WHAT: East County Gang Task Force meeting
WHERE: East County Boys & Girls Club, 1001 Stoneman Ave., Pittsburg
WHEN: Tuesday, June 19. The Task Force meeting starts at 9 a.m. followed by the governor's representative at 10 a.m.
INFO: Ed Diokno, (925) 427-8138

Nancy Bennett, the Deputy Director of the Governor's Office in San Francisco, will address the East County Gang Task Force at 10 a.m., June 19, Tuesday in Pittsburg. She will explain and answer questions about Governor Schwarzenegger's anti-gang initiative that he announced May 25.

The governor's plan is to create a coordinated statewide strategy to combat gang violence in California. The California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention Program (CalGRIP) will target more than \$48 million in state and federal funding toward local anti-gang efforts, including job training, education and intervention programs, and will give law enforcement the tools to closely track gang leaders both inside state prisons and when they are released on parole.

"A growing number of Californians are living a nightmare trapped inside their homes, afraid to come out unless they absolutely have to. That's because in many of our cities, whole neighborhoods are terrorized and intimidated by street gangs. Kids are scared to go to school and parents are terrified for their safety," said Gov. Schwarzenegger.

"The State spends hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars on education job training and substance abuse treatment every year – with no focused coordination on gang activities. We need a comprehensive approach to gang violence that provides a statewide framework with long-term solutions," said the governor.

Contra Costa County Supervisor Federal Glover called together the East County Gang Task two years ago. It is composed of law enforcement, school administrators, city officials, probation, courts, youth service groups and the faith community.