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**SAN DIEGO COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION TO PROVIDE FREE
ESTATE PLANNING SERVICES TO FIRST RESPONDERS AND
COVID-19 FRONTLINE HEALTHCARE WORKERS**

*“Wills For Heroes” Program Expected to Serve More Than 400 Local Heroes
In Virtual Legal Event*

SAN DIEGO (April 27, 2020) – The [San Diego County Bar Association](#) (SDCBA), in partnership with [Wills For Heroes Foundation](#), announced today that it will offer free wills and estate planning services to eligible first responders and licensed frontline healthcare workers in a virtual legal event spanning May 4 to June 30. More than 60 California estate planning attorneys have signed up to provide these pro bono services, with capacity to serve 400+ local heroes.

The SDCBA, the region’s largest professional association for lawyers at 10,000 members strong, has provided free wills, durable powers of attorney, and advance health care directives to first responders and their spouses or partners throughout San Diego County for the past decade through the Wills For Heroes program. And while historically the program has been focused on serving first responders like firefighters, paramedics, EMT/EMS professionals, police officers, and correctional and probation officers, it was expanded this year to include licensed healthcare professionals working to keep us safe during the COVID-19 crisis.

This year, doctors, RNs, LPNs, PAs, CNAs, technicians, respiratory therapists, pharmacists, residents, interns, and medical students throughout the greater San Diego region can receive these free, vitally important estate planning services from a licensed California attorney. Volunteer attorneys will spend 30 minutes to an hour with heroes to provide these services in virtual meetings via conference call or video platform.

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Participants qualify if they have an estate and net worth valued at less than \$500,000. Net worth consists of cash, personal property, stock and bonds, real estate (equity only), savings, cash value of life insurance policy, and retirement assets like a 401(k) or an IRA. Heroes whose net worth exceeds \$500,000 can be matched to an estate planning lawyer through the SDCBA's Lawyer Referral and Information Service to pay for this service.

"The role of healthcare workers on the front lines of the fight against COVID-19 is incredible and cannot be overstated," said SDCBA President Johanna Schiavoni. "For more than a decade, this program has been a favorite of our estate planning attorney members, who have always stepped up to help our first responders who protect and serve our community. And this year, the response to adding healthcare workers on the COVID-19 frontlines was overwhelmingly positive, as was the move to this virtual format. This is shaping up to be our largest Wills For Heroes event ever, and we are thrilled at the prospect of our members serving more than 400 heroes by June 30."

If you are a first responder or licensed healthcare professional in San Diego County and meet the eligibility guidelines outlined above, [click here](#) to sign up for an appointment with an SDCBA estate planning attorney.

The San Diego County Bar Association, founded in 1899, is the region's largest law-related organization, dedicated to serving the needs of all attorneys and the legal community in San Diego County.

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