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January 8, 2010

Mr. Gregory Schmidt
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. E. Dotson Wilson
Chief Clerk of the Assembly
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

VIA EMAIL AND HAND DELIVERY: JAN 10 11 01 AM '10
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Dear Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Wilson:

Attached is my office's annual report on the California confidential mail forwarding program "Safe at Home," which is required by California Government Code section 6210(a). If you have any questions about this report, please feel free to contact me at (916) 653-7244.

Sincerely,

Debra Bowen
Secretary of State

Attachment

cc: Ms. Diane Boyer-Vine, Legislative Counsel

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SAFE AT HOME GOALS FOR 2010

- Make the Safe at Home program permanent by removing the statutory sunset date of 2013.
- Expand the Safe at Home website to offer more online resources to a variety of audiences including potential and current enrollees and enrolling agencies, victim-services organizations, law enforcement and the general public.
- Clarify state laws related to the protection of children enrolled in the Safe at Home program.
- Use Internet technology to offer convenient and cost-effective Safe at Home training to partner organizations, other state and local agencies, law enforcement and community groups.

“I am so thankful for this program... I finally feel safe.”

-Safe at Home participant



CALIFORNIA SAFE AT HOME LEGISLATIVE REPORT

2009



Because every Californian
should feel and be
Safe at Home

California Secretary of State **Debra Bowen**



Secretary of State

January 8, 2010

In 2009, the California Safe at Home program celebrated its tenth anniversary and continued to see an increase in enrollment. Due to the current economic crisis and a rise in domestic violence cases, demand for victim assistance and information has also grown. Safe at Home continues to be the most comprehensive confidential address program in the United States and the model for states implementing new programs.

I am pleased to present the Safe at Home 2009 Annual Report required by Government Code 6210(a). In addition to the summary report and statistical information, following are highlights of 2009 achievements.

- Operating expenses were reduced by changing mail procedures and offering training to Safe at Home enrolling agencies via phone and electronic presentations.
- Partnering with the California Judicial Council, new procedures and outreach efforts were implemented following AB 2304 (Chapter 586, Statutes of 2008) to ensure Safe at Home participants are protected from publication of confidential name changes in any public forum, including the Internet and court calendars.
- Security of the Safe at Home enrollee database was strengthened with new encryption software.
- The Safe at Home program launched cultural competency training and expanded outreach efforts to minority communities through a coalition of partner organizations, other state and local agencies, law enforcement and community groups.
- A detailed Safe at Home procedure manual was completed to serve as both a training tool in California and a model for other states that are starting confidential address programs.

Debra Bowen
Secretary of State

Safe at Home 2009 Summary of Statistics

Number of participants served since 1999:	4,974	Mail pieces forwarded in 2009:	244,396
Number of applications rejected in 2009:	45	Mail pieces forwarded in 1999:	11,000
Number of participants on January 1, 2009:	2,297	Postage costs in 2009:	\$47,405
Number of participants in 1999:	121	Postage costs in 1999:	\$6,000
Number of current active participants:	2,437	Counties with highest enrollment:	Los Angeles [511] Orange [245] San Diego [242] Sacramento [190] Riverside [135]
Number of cases closed in 2009:	514		
Percentage of participants who are women:	53%	Number of participants who were registered voters in 2009:	551
Percentage of participants who are men:	4%		
Percentage of participants who are children:	43%	Number of cases of misuse relating to elections:	0
Average length of enrollment:	4.5 years		

Participation by County

Alameda	120	Madera	13	San Joaquin	48
Alpine	0	Marin	9	San Luis Obispo	22
Amador	3	Mariposa	4	San Mateo	23
Butte	29	Mendocino	2	Santa Barbara	9
Calaveras	0	Merced	5	Santa Clara	101
Colusa	1	Modoc	4	Santa Cruz	5
Contra Costa	58	Mono	0	Shasta	40
Del Norte	14	Monterey	15	Sierra	0
El Dorado	11	Napa	8	Siskiyou	8
Fresno	57	Nevada	13	Solano	27
Glenn	21	Orange	245	Sonoma	41
Humboldt	8	Placer	57	Stanislaus	35
Imperial	2	Plumas	0	Sutter	7
Inyo	0	Riverside	135	Tehama	3
Kern	32	Sacramento	190	Trinity	0
Kings	5	San Benito	1	Tulare	22
Lake	2	San Bernardino	131	Tuolumne	6
Lassen	3	San Diego	242	Ventura	28
Los Angeles	511	San Francisco	35	Yolo	12
				Yuba	14