



# COUNTY OF MONTEREY CAO Weekly Report

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- > Kudos to CSS staff for amazing child support collections

## SPECIALREPORT



*Employees from Probation and the District Attorney's Office join other law enforcement staff as they prepare to run one leg of the Torch Run for Special Olympics in Salinas.*

## County Notes

- > Find out about the CalWORKS Housing Support Program in Monterey County [here](#).

## County Law Enforcement Staff Take the Torch Run

County law enforcement staff joined other law agencies from around the county this week, 'pounding the pavement' to increase awareness and raise money for Northern California Special Olympics.

The annual Law Enforcement Torch Run is a fundraiser for the Special Olympics. Here in Monterey County, there were three sections of the run which ended in Pacific Grove. To meet their fundraising goal, members of the Probation, District Attorney and Sheriff's Offices only had to do one thing: run.



*Probation Deputy Chief Todd Keating begins the run in Salinas holding the Olympic Flame of Hope (above left). The runners begin at the Salinas Police Department (above right) and make their way south to Gino's Restaurant on Highway 68 (below left).*



The Probation and DA group had a big turnout of more than 30 runners. The group was bolstered by runners from the Salinas Police Department and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation staff. Now at an impressive 50 runners, the group began their run at the Salinas Police Department, wound through town and ended at Gino's Restaurant on Highway 68, where they handed the Torch of Hope to runners from the Sheriff's Department which took the torch the next leg of the route.

Probation team organizers say they are pleased to have reached their goal of raising \$10,000 for Special Olympics.

Congratulations to those who completed the run:

Probation

Cristal Sanchez  
Todd Keating  
Nancy Hatton

Monica Ambriz  
Carina Andrade  
Manuel Andrade  
Troy Banuelos

Yadira Cadena  
Knoriel Castillo  
Kevin Christian  
Jose Coronado

Elizabeth Crooks  
 Carlos Duque  
 Ted Durham  
 Adriana Elizalde  
 Darlene Foster  
 Guillermo Hernandez  
 Laura Hernandez  
 Aaron Kaelin  
 Angela Kitchens  
 Michelle Lim  
 Casey Lucas  
 Whitney Massey  
 Cesar Nabor

David Ochoa  
 Laudemer Palado  
 Michael Palmer  
 Pascuala Rios  
 Dannie Ryan  
 Yvette Sarmiento  
 David Sims  
 Arlene Tamayo  
 Haydee Vargas  
 Lucy Vasquez  
  
DA investigators  
 Maribel Torres-Hart

George Costa  
 Alicia Cox  
 Miguel Perez

Sheriff's Office  
 Sgt. Ted Durham  
 Deputy John Maiorino  
 Deputy Daniel Starick  
 Doris Tejeda  
 Erica Leal  
 Ethan West

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## Sheriff Rides into Town – For a Parade

It may not be the 'Old West,' but it's still a sight when the Sheriff rides into town on horseback. In this case, Sheriff Steve Bernal rode into town for a parade celebrating the renowned artichoke.



*Sheriff Steve Bernal (left) and Commander Ron Willis (right) wave to the crowds along the parade route.*

The parade was a kick-off event for the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Artichoke Food and Wine Festival.

While the food festival takes place at the Monterey County Fairgrounds, the parade and classic car show which kick off the celebration took place down McDougall Street, Castroville's 'main street.'

Sheriff Bernal and Commander Ron Willis, who are both members of the Monterey County Sheriff's Posse, rode as one of the parade's many entries.

# Child Support Services Staff ‘Ring the Bell’ of Success

Child Support Services (CSS) has earned a reputation for a high rate of collections of child support payments for local children and families, but you might be amazed at the amount of money that is sometimes owed and what it takes to resolved back payments.



When CSS staff is able to collect a high value owed payment (over \$5,000), they get to ring a bell pinned in the staff work area. Here are some recent successful collections and how staff was able to make them happen. That bell was busy.

## **The payment: \$167,369.**

Sometimes it pays to listen! The Non-Custodial Parent just happened to mention he won a large amount of money at a casino. Bertie Simon-Rich and Tina Enny, Child Support Officer IIs, encouraged the Non-Custodial Parent to pay the entire balance on his account. A cashier's check received in the amount of \$167,369.21.

## **The payment: \$84,129.**

The Custodial Parent mentioned to staff the passing of the Non-Custodial Parent's parents. That put a group of CSS staff in motion to secure an inheritance for support payments owed. Thanks to the work of Victoria Davis, Child Support Attorney; LaShanda Hall, Legal Secretary; Miguel Barrera, Child Support Officer II; Byron Bland, Accounting Technician and Bertie Simon-Rich, Child Support Officer II, \$84,129.36 was received from the estate.

## **The payment: \$73,758.**

Follow the money! It took an all-office effort and litigation to prevail in this collection effort, pursuing a Non-Custodial Parent's bank monies. A bank levy was enforced and after several months of litigation there was a ruling in our favor and CSS received a payment of \$73,758 in owed support.

## **The payment: \$45,000 and promise of more.**

Negotiations finally yielded results. For several months, Dean Carothers, Child Support Officer II and Claire Akins, Child Support Attorney worked together to have both the Non-Custodial Party and the Custodial Party sign an agreement to where two lump sum payments would be made. The results: a \$45,000 payment was delivered and an agreement for an additional \$24,500 payment by November 2017 was made.

## **The payment: \$39,000.**

Persistence pays. Lawrence Zenk, Child Support Officer II, made many attempts to contact the Non-Custodial Parent. As a result, that parent retained counsel and an agreement was signed in which the Custodial Party received \$39,000.