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Actress and Author Robin Givens Lends Star Power to California's Statewide Domestic Violence Awareness Day

Sacramento, CA, September 24, 2007—Waking up to find her drunken husband's hand throttling her and her own hands pinned above her head, is just one of the scenes of domestic violence recounted in actress Robin Givens's 2007 memoir "Grace Will Lead Me Home." The volatile marriage of Givens and boxer Mike Tyson was a tabloid staple in the late 1980s. In the US one in four women will experience domestic violence over the course of her life, similar to the frightening scenarios Givens describes. In California alone, in 2006 law enforcement received 176,299 domestic violence calls, and Californians placed around 20,000 calls to the National Domestic Violence Hotline.

Givens will be the keynote speaker at the Second Annual Californians Uniting to End Domestic Violence Statewide Day of Awareness, on October 2nd at the State Capitol building. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month; this gathering kicks off a month's worth of community events focused on domestic violence education and prevention. The California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (CPEDV) is joining forces with community, government and business leaders to raise public awareness about the prevalence and cost of domestic violence, and what can be done to stop it.

This year's Day of Awareness is a wide-ranging community collaboration that will feature high-profile speakers like California Assemblywoman Fiona Ma and Santa Clara County Judge Leonard Edwards, entertainment by Taiko drummers and information booths from the Attorney General's Office, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and other community agencies. Last year's event attracted 300 attendees, and an even larger turnout is expected this year. A true civic event, the Statewide Day of Awareness will unite citizens from across California in the effort to increase awareness of this public health epidemic, ensure safety for victims and their families and hold batterers accountable.

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WHAT: Californians Uniting to End Domestic Violence 2nd Annual Statewide Day of Awareness

WHERE: West steps of the State Capitol building, Sacramento

WHEN: October 2, 2007, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

About the CPEDV

The California Partnership to End Domestic Violence is California's statewide domestic violence coalition, with over 175 member organizations and individuals. Working at the local, state and national levels for more than 25 years, the California Partnership has a long track record of successfully passing over 100 pieces of legislation on behalf of battered women and their children. As the unified voice for California's domestic violence agencies, CPEDV provides statewide leadership on public policy issues, offers training and technical assistance to domestic violence service providers and promotes public awareness through community outreach efforts. With offices in Sacramento, CPEDV's member programs span the entire state.

Related Web Sites:

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Home Page: <http://dvam.vawnet.org/>

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence: <http://www.ncadv.org>

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