

Office of Attorney General Terry Goddard



STATE OF ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT OF LAW
1275 W. WASHINGTON STREET
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007-2926
WWW.AZAG.GOV

ANNE TITUS HILBY
PRESS SECRETARY
PHONE: (602) 542-8019
CELL PHONE: (602) 725-2200
ANNE.HILBY@AZAG.GOV

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Terry Goddard Announces Contest to Raise Awareness of Elder Abuse

(Phoenix, Ariz. – March 3, 2008) Attorney General Terry Goddard today invited high school juniors across the state to participate in an arts contest focused on elder abuse. Participants are asked to submit original posters, poems or essays that address the question, “Why should I care about elder abuse?”

“This is a great opportunity for young people to address an important issue in our community,” said Rachel Oesterle, Executive Director of Free Arts of Arizona, one of the contest’s sponsors. “The arts can help bridge divides, and this contest gives youth the opportunity to be creative, raise awareness and make a difference in the lives of Arizona’s seniors.”

“While my office has prosecuted and will continue to go after perpetrators of elder abuse, it is my hope that increased awareness of the issue will help stop abuse before it begins,” said Goddard.

Submissions must be received by 5 p.m. on March 31. Contest results will be announced in April. Contest winners will receive first, second and third place prizes of \$500, \$250, and \$100, sponsored by Wells Fargo and Free Arts of Arizona.

Winning works will also be printed on a poster to be distributed as part of the statewide Elder Abuse Awareness campaign held to coincide with World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15, 2009.

For additional information and contest rules, go to www.azag.gov.

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