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**ANNOUNCING THE SFCAHT**

**2014 MODERN DAY ABOLITIONIST AWARD WINNERS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The San Francisco Collaborative Against Human Trafficking (SFCAHT) and the Jewish Coalition to End Human Trafficking (JCEHT) are pleased to announce the winners of the 2014 Modern Day Abolitionist Award, which is given out each year to Bay Area leaders who have demonstrated a commitment to creating a local and global community that values human life and abhors practices that deny a person’s right to live a life free from violence, exploitation, and slavery. This year, the Award will be given out to three winners.

**Genice Jacobs - Award for Advocacy.** Ms. Jacobs is a community activist in Oakland who co-authored a resolution last year which prioritized commercially, sexually, exploited youth prevention and led to the creation of a human trafficking task force in the City of Oakland. She was also instrumental in the launch of Oakland’s child sex trafficking billboard and bus shelter public awareness campaigns.

**Diana Oliva-Aroche - Award for Government Policy.** Under Ms. Oliva-Aroche’s leadership, the San Francisco Mayor’s Task Force on Anti-Human Trafficking took shape last year, and has already begun to take on such tasks as data collection and promoting compliance with a new state law requiring businesses to post anti-trafficking notices.

**San Francisco Police Department Special Victim Unit’s Human Trafficking Task Force (SVU-HT) - Award for Enforcement.** Since its inception in 2011, the SVU-HT has continually strived to handle human trafficking cases with an innovative, interdisciplinary, and coordinated approach with a focus on understanding survivors’ needs and victim protection.

These winners will be honored by **Supervisor Katy Tang**, on February 11th at the closing event of SFCAHT’s Human Trafficking Awareness month, a month-long campaign dedicated to raising awareness about human trafficking.

**Tuesday, February 11, 10 am – 12N @ Koret Auditorium, San Francisco Main Library, 100 Larkin**

The closing event will also feature a panel presentation about “Discouraging Demand” to cover new research on demand for prostitution, San Francisco’s First Offender Prostitution Program (the “John School”), as well as Alameda County’s successful efforts to reduce demand.

To attend the closing event or for more information, please contact:

*SFCAHT was formed to enable collaboration, the distribution of information and the joint promotion of important abolitionist work. For more information, please visit: www.sfcaht.org*

*JCEHT is an educational, advocacy organization that supports direct service providers in the area of anti-trafficking. For more information, please visit: www.ncjwsf.org/work/services/*

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