

Honorable Board of Supervisors,

May 2, 2016

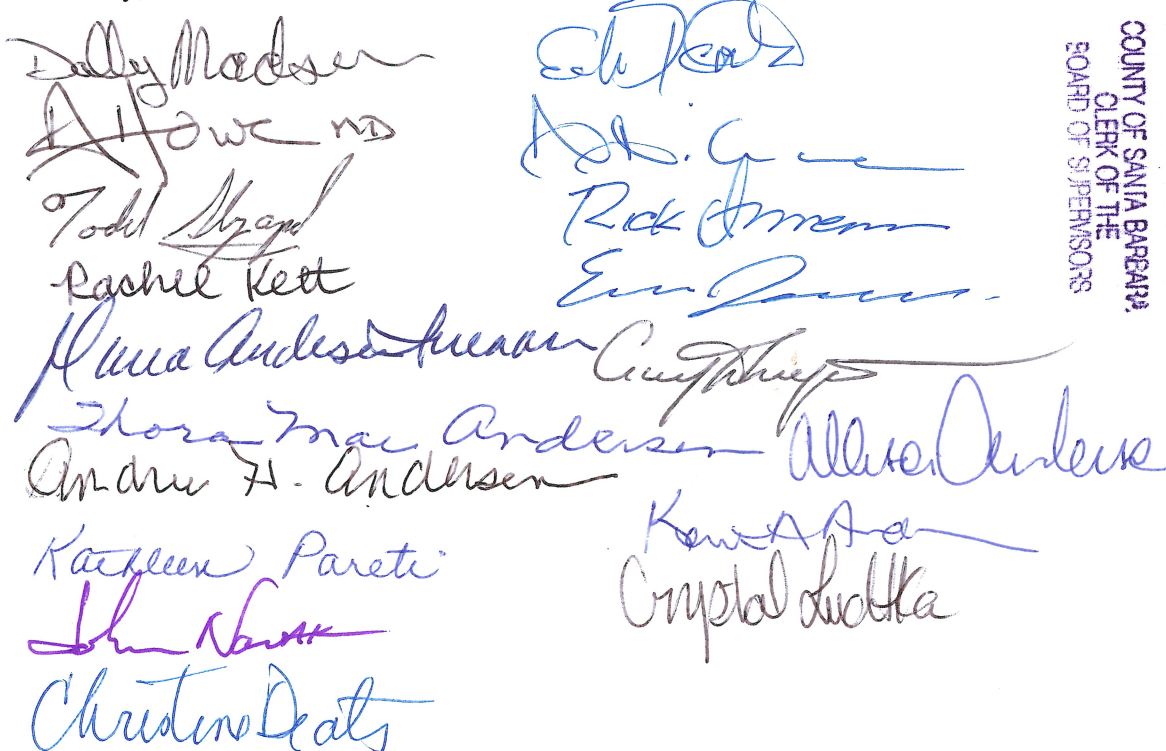
We are aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and friends of an individual suffering from mental illness. We have watched the negative effects of his illness on himself, us, his parents and on the community around him. He battles daily to find the right path, and sometimes loses that battle because his illness makes him incapable of seeking the treatment he needs. His parents have exhausted many resources trying to get him help and treatment, but because of his illness, these efforts have all been in vain. This individual could go the rest of his life losing his battle with mental illness, incapable of living at peace in his home community.

Laura's Law helps those with severe mental illness access the services they need. In the arena of mental health, it feels like there is so little that family members can do to help because of the way the laws work. Families who seek wellness and safety are met with laws that make it almost impossible for them to provide help to a person severely struggling. Even if a county has outstanding mental health services, these cannot be accessed by those most affected by mental illness. Those that are mildly affected by mental illness, can and do get the help they need. But it is those that are severely affected, that need Laura's Law to help them receive access to the services and treatments available.

We also understand that there is grant money available from SAMSHA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) to fund a startup program in our county. But the deadline for application is mid-June. So the timing is critical.

Without the help of the community through Laura's Law, people with severe mental illness could experience homelessness, arrest, incarceration, and psychiatric hospitalization. Please pass Laura's Law and allow these people in our community to actually access the mental treatment that will help them.

Sincerely,



 Sally Medsker
 Howie
 Todd
 Rachel Kett
 Anna Andersen
 Shora Mae Andersen
 Andrew H. Andersen
 Kathleen Pareti
 John
 Christina Deats
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2016 MAY -4 PM 2: 59
 COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
 CLERK OF THE
 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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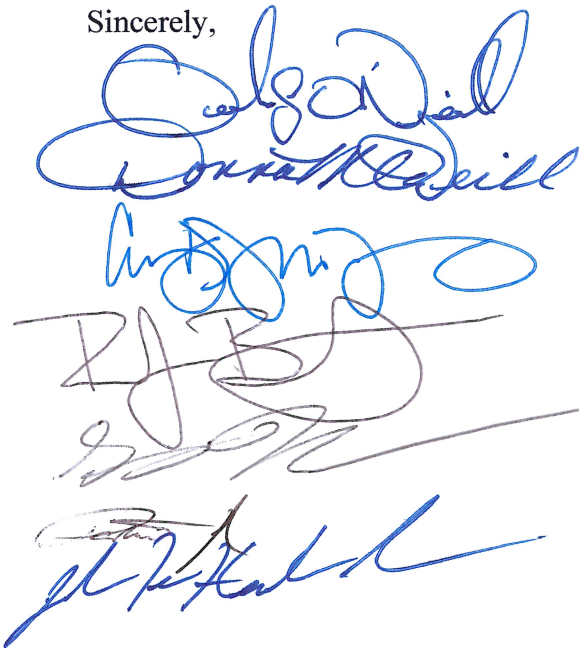
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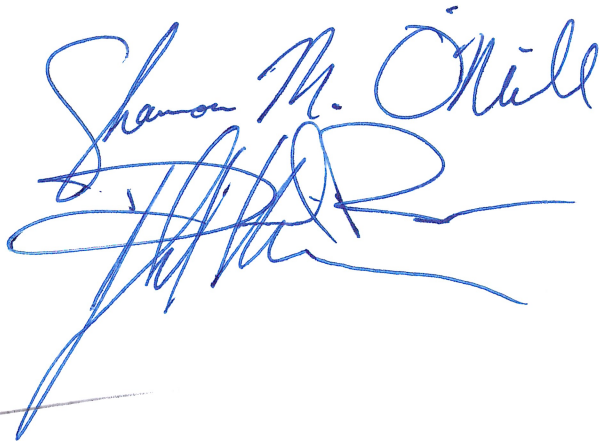
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A collection of handwritten signatures in blue ink, including names like 'Alga Dial' and 'Donna DeWitt'.



Shannon M. O'Neill

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Sincerely,

Cassie Cathcart
Cynthia James
Patrick Ryan
Elyse Reed
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A. A. Zuley
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Jan Crosby
Carone Jan Soto
Jeanie Wulff
Robin Ripple
Kimberly van der Linden
Matthew J. Randolph
Ann Hays
Angela Thomas
Melanie W. Barker
Deborah Denny

Karen Imbuton
Amy Denise Stebbins
Jennifer Kidding
Melissa Fattier
Keege Jorgel
Shelley Silvia
Janell Bilkey
June Pratt
Joel Wilson
Dawn King
Blair Han

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