



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE
PUBLIC DEFENDER

Courage. Compassion. Community.

Valor. Compasión. Comunidad

Healing Our Community, One Client at a Time

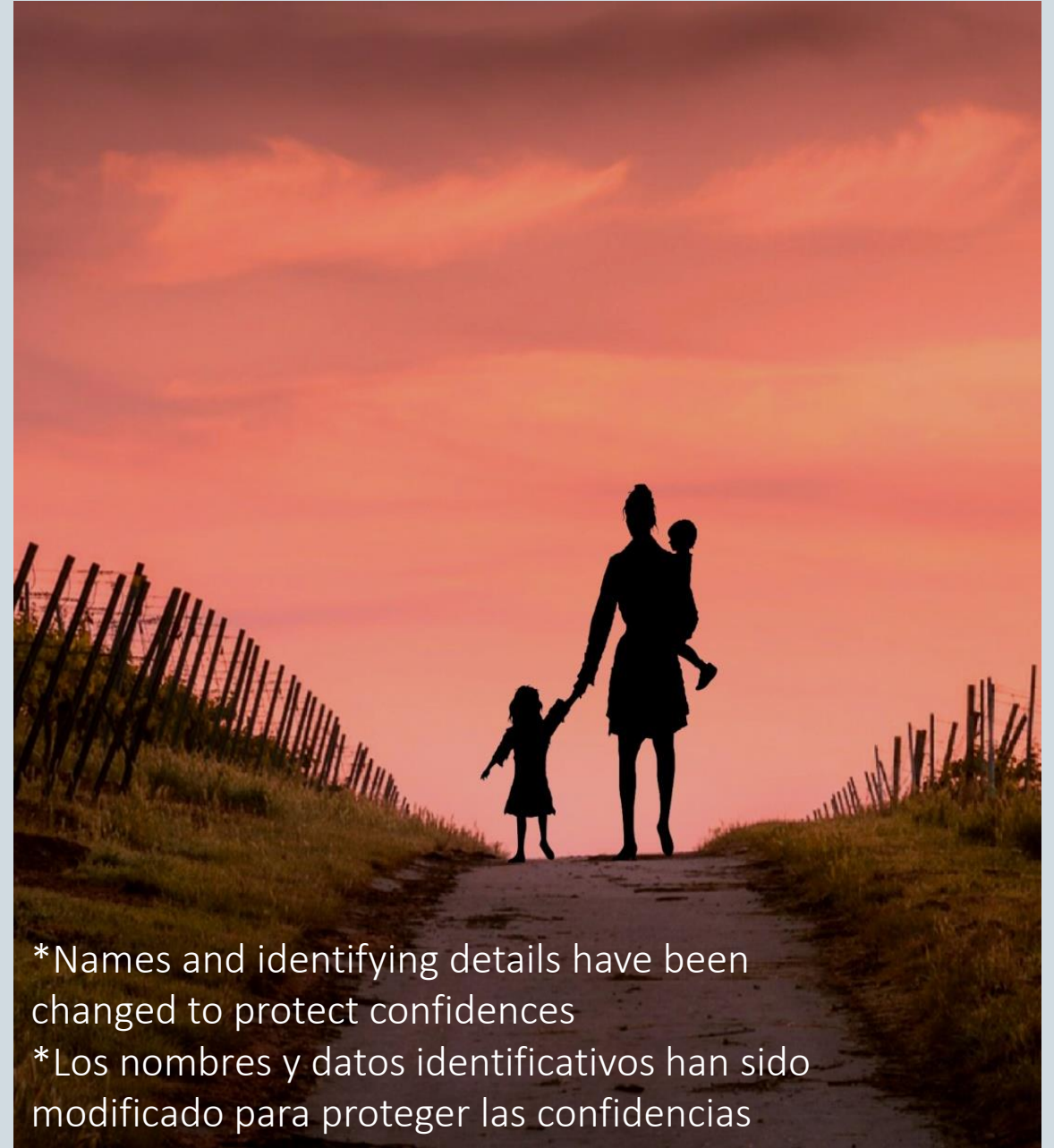
Sanando a Nuestra Comunidad, Una Clienta a la Vez

HEATHER ROGERS | Public Defender

Latino Affairs Commission

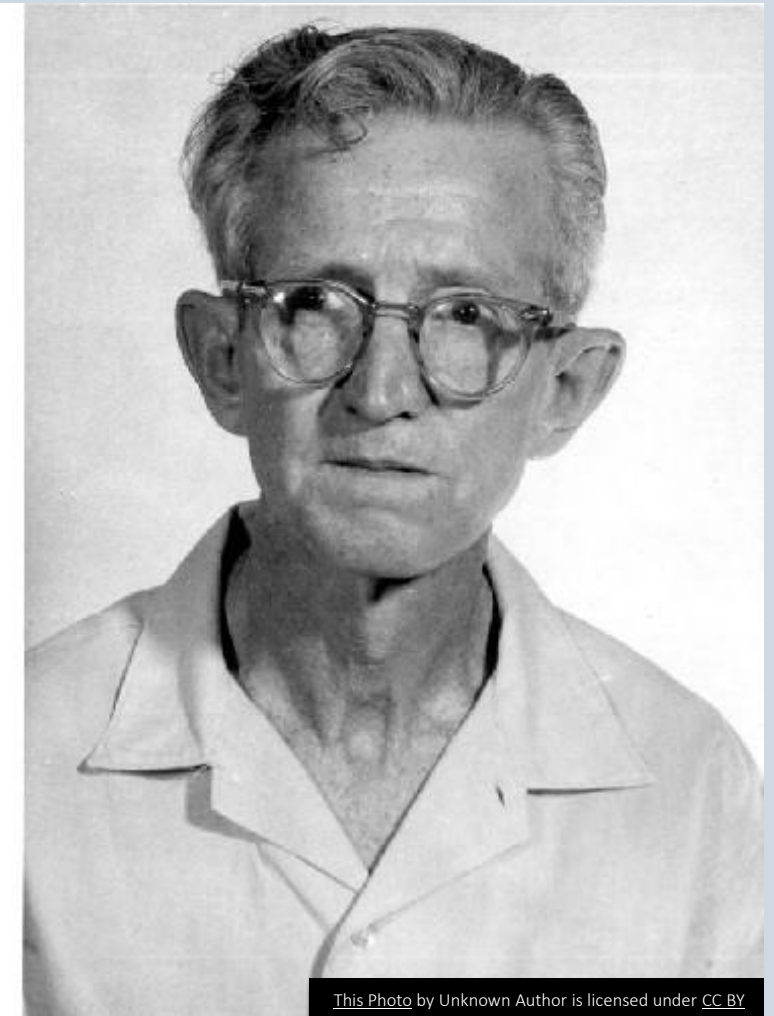
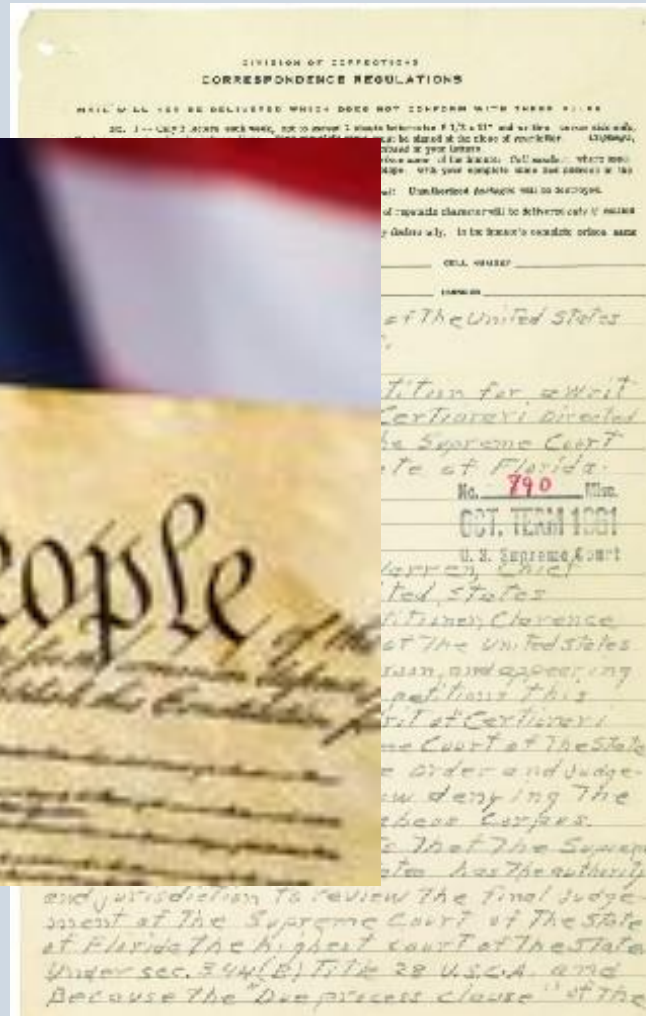
La Comisión de Asuntos Latinos del Condado de Santa Cruz

April 2, 2025



*Names and identifying details have been changed to protect confidences

*Los nombres y datos identificativos han sido modificado para proteger las confidencias



“[I]n all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right...
to have the Assistance of Counsel for [their] defense.” U.S. Const, Amend. VI.

“[E]n todo proceso penal, el acusado gozará del derecho... a contar con la asistencia de
un abogado para [su] defensa.” U.S. Const, Amend. VI.





Defense of the Accused



Clean Slate



Reentry Support



Holistic Defense



Restorative Justice



Diversion



Early Representation



Post-Conviction Relief



Youth



Collaborative Courts



Immigration



Caregivers & Families

Mission

To courageously defend the accused. To demand equal justice for all. To empower our clients with inspired advocacy in the courtroom and community. We are on a mission to elevate public defense, one client at a time.

Vision

To lead the charge in transforming public defense to empower those we serve by honoring their experiences, amplifying their voices, and offering real solutions to the root causes of system involvement.

Misión

Defender valientemente al acusado. Exigir la igualdad de justicia para todos. Empoderar a nuestros clientes con una defensa inspirada en la sala del tribunal y la comunidad. Estamos en misión de elevar la defensa pública, un cliente a la vez.

Visión

Liderar la carga en la transformación de la defensa pública para empoderar a aquellos a quienes servimos honrando sus experiencias, amplificando sus voces y ofreciendo soluciones reales a las causas fundamentales de la participación del sistema.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Compromiso a la Diversidad, la Equidad y la Inclusión



Director of Training, Equity & Development

Director de Capacitación, Equidad y Desarrollo



Meaningful services, outreach, and presence throughout the County

Servicios significativos, alcance y presencia en todo el condado



Policies and procedures to enhance DEI in our organization, services, and community

Pólizas y procedimientos para mejorar DEI en nuestra organización, servicios y comunidad







Early Representation Works Upstream to Avoid Downstream Consequences



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE
PUBLIC DEFENDER

Recently had police contact? Contact the Public Defender's Office.

The Office of the Public Defender is an independent office within Santa Cruz County that provides free criminal defense services to those who qualify and operates entirely separately from the police and immigration agencies.



EarlyRep@santacruzcountyca.gov



(831) 454-5300



santacruzdefenders.us



315 Main Street, Suite 204, Watsonville
420 May Avenue, Santa Cruz

Free screening for services Monday,
12 p.m.-1 p.m. (walk-in Watsonville), or
by appointment in Watsonville or
Santa Cruz

Get information. Get legal advice. Get help.



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE
PUBLIC DEFENDER

Ha tenido contacto reciente con la policía? Contacte La Oficina de la Defensora Pública.

La Oficina de la Defensora Pública es una oficina independiente dentro del Condado de Santa Cruz que provee servicios de defensa criminal gratis a quien califique y opera independiente de todas las agencias de policía e inmigración.

Obtenga información. Obtenga asesoramiento legal. Obtenga ayuda.



EarlyRep@santacruzcountyca.gov



(831) 454-5300



santacruzdefenders.us



315 Main Street, Suite 204, Watsonville
420 May Avenue, Santa Cruz

Servicios de asesoramiento gratuito sin
cita en Watsonville, lunes de
12 p.m. – 1 p.m. o con cita fija en
Watsonville o Santa Cruz



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE
PUBLIC DEFENDER

CLEAN SLATE PROJECT

Is your criminal record holding you back? We might be able to help.

¿Sus antecedentes penales le impiden seguir adelante?
Es posible que podamos ayudar.

Santa Cruz

In person hours

Horas en persona

2nd Thursday of Each Month

2º jueves de cada mes

4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

420 May Avenue

Watsonville

In person hours

Horas en persona

4th Thursday of Each Month

4º jueves de cada mes

4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

315 Main Street, Suite 204

Dismissals

Sealing of Arrest Records

Reduction of Felony to Misdemeanor

Termination of PC 290 Registration

Despidos

Sellado de registros de arresto

Reducción de delitos graves a delitos
menores

Peticiones de terminación del registro
de delincuentes sexuales

For More Information,

Monday - Friday:

Para obtener más

información, Lunes - Viernes:

(831) 454-5300

CleanSlate@santacruzcounty.us

www.santacruzdefenders.us





This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-ND](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nd/4.0/)



FOR ALL

REDUCE BARRIERS: BAN THE BOX

during recruitment
process.

- Eliminate criminal questions on job applications & during interviews.
- Allows individuals to compete for employment based on qualifications







SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE
PUBLIC DEFENDER

USTED TIENE DERECHOS CONSTITUCIONALES:

NO ABRA LA PUERTA

si un agente de inmigración está tocando la puerta.

NO CONTESTE NINGUNA PREGUNTA

de un agente de inmigración si trata de hablar con usted. Usted tiene el derecho a guardar silencio.

NO FIRME NADA sin antes hablar con un abogado. Usted tiene el derecho de hablar con un abogado.

Si usted está fuera de su casa, pregúntele al agente si tiene la libertad de irse y si le dice que sí, váyase con tranquilidad.

ENTRÉGUELE ESTA TARJETA AL AGENTE.

Si usted está dentro de su casa, muestre la tarjeta por la ventana o pásela debajo de la puerta.

santacruzcountycyca.gov/santuario



CONOZCA SUS DERECHOS

Llame al 831-239-4289 para encontrar recursos y reportar actividad de agentes de inmigración en el Condado de Santa Cruz.

I AM EXERCISING MY RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT.

I do not wish to speak with you, answer your questions, or sign or hand you any documents based on my Fifth Amendment rights under the United States Constitution.

I do not give you permission to enter my home based on my Fourth Amendment rights under the United States Constitution unless you have a warrant to enter, signed by a judge or magistrate with my name on it that you slide under the door.

I do not give you permission to search any of my belongings based on my Fourth Amendment rights.

I choose to exercise my constitutional rights.

These cards are available to citizens and noncitizens alike.

Report ICE & Stay Safe
Reporta a ICE & Infórmate

*Línea de Respuesta Rápida del
Condado de Santa Cruz*

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
YOUR ALLIED RAPID RESPONSE (YARR) LINE

(831) 239-4289



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE
PUBLIC DEFENDER

DEPARTMENT





Just Mercy

A Story of Justice and Redemption

Bryan
Stevenson

[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under
[CC BY-SA](#)





SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE
PUBLIC DEFENDER

Heather Rogers | Public Defender

315 Main Street, Suite 204, Watsonville

420 May Ave, Santa Cruz

831-454-5301 / 619-985-2539 (cell)

Heather.Rogers@santacruzcountyca.gov

www.santacruzdefenders.us

#CruzDefender