



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION  
Jan. 6, 2009

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## **TUBERCULOSIS CASE REPORTED AT PROBATION FACILITY** *Health and Human Services Agency Together with Probation Department Work to Notify Possible Contacts*

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) is working with officials from the Probation Department to notify individuals who were possibly exposed to tuberculosis (TB).

An individual diagnosed with TB was housed at Probation's East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility from Oct. 9 to Nov. 9, Camp Barrett from Nov. 9 to Dec. 17, and returned to East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility from Dec. 17 to Dec. 18, 2008.

"We are issuing this notice in an effort to locate others who may have been exposed to TB as a result of this case," said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County Public Health Officer. "It's important for anyone exposed to TB to be tested because TB is treatable and curable."

HHSA's TB Control, working closely with County Probation officials, has identified approximately 300 individuals that were potentially exposed. Individuals exposed and identified are receiving notification and TB skin testing.

Tuberculosis is not uncommon in the San Diego region. In 2008 there were 251 reported cases of TB in San Diego County, including this case. While the number of cases has decreased from 280 cases in 2007, TB is still a significant local public health concern.

Symptoms of active TB include persistent cough, fever, night sweats and unexplained weight loss. Most people who are exposed to TB do not develop the disease.

All individuals are TB tested as part of the booking procedure at Juvenile Hall.

Individuals who would like more information should call the Juvenile Hall Medical Services at (858) 514-8505. For those who need testing and have no medical provider please call the County TB Control Program at (619) 692-8621.

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