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Police Chief Rob Davis as Mock Stroke Patient Stroke Demonstration and Free Stroke Screenings at Oakridge Mall

SAN JOSE, Calif., June 7, 2004 --The Stroke Awareness Foundation (SAF) in partnership with the National Stroke Association (NSA) will host a mock stroke event to raise public awareness of the symptoms of stroke which will feature both San Jose Police Chief Rob Davis and San Jose Fire Chief Jeff Clet. The mock stroke event will be held in San Jose at the Macy's entrance within the Oakridge Mall at 11:30 am on Tuesday, June 14th.

The mock stroke will be followed by presentations from SAF Board Chairman Chuck Hoffman, a stroke survivor, and NSA CEO Jim Baranski. In addition, free stroke screenings will be offered to all those who attend and plenty of educational materials will be available to take home.

The mock stroke event will kick off NSA's EMS training program called "Stroke Rapid Response" that is specifically designed to provide pre-hospital professionals with stroke training and the tools for stroke education. On June 14th and 15th about 60 paramedic trainers within Santa Clara County will be trained in the Stroke Rapid Response Program. The plan is to have those trainers train the 3000 paramedics and EMS personnel countywide during the next few months.

Stroke is the third leading cause of death in the U.S., behind heart disease and cancer. It is the leading cause of serious, long term disability. Each year, an estimated 4500 Santa Clara County residents are hospitalized for stroke and the cost for medical care, rehabilitation and productivity locally is about \$300 million annually.

"Strokes happen unexpectedly and without a lot of warning; it could happen to you or someone that you love," said Hoffman. "We are committed to educating the public to recognize stroke symptoms and to act quickly to get to a JCAHO certified stroke center. It's important to know the warning signs and to act fast."

The symptoms of a stroke included:

- Sudden numbness of face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body.
- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes
- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding

- Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause.

Stroke Awareness Foundation, in conjunction with National Stroke Association, will host this mock stroke event and information session in a continued effort to lower the incidence and impact of stroke.

When: Tuesday, June 14th, 11:30 am

Where: Westfield ShoppingTown Oakridge Mall, (Macy's entrance)

Who: San Jose Police Chief Rob Davis as "mock stroke patient"
 San Jose Fire Department responds and treats
 San Jose Fire Chief Jeff Clet
 AMR prepares for transport
 Good Samaritan Hospital Stroke Center
 SAF Board Chairman and stroke survivor Chuck Hoffman
 NSA CEO Jim Baranski

About Stroke Awareness Foundation

The Stroke Awareness Foundation was formed by three prominent local residents who each suffered but fully recovered from strokes. Retired businessman Charles E. Hoffman, former San Jose Vice Mayor Patricia Dando and contractor/developer Charles J. Toeniskoetter discovered a lack of awareness among both the public and health care professionals about stroke identification and treatment. The Stroke Awareness Foundation is funded in part by the San Jose Healthy Neighborhoods Venture Fund.

The Stroke Awareness Foundation mission is to improve community awareness of stroke and its treatment and related health issues through research, education, outreach and communications programs and activities in the community. For more information, please go to our website at www.strokeinfo.org.

About National Stroke Association

National Stroke Association is a leading national non-profit organization devoting its efforts and resources to stroke — including prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and support for stroke survivors and their families. Contact the NSA at 1-800-STROKES or visit www.stroke.org.

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