

# **Santa Barbara County Environmental Scan**

**2003**

*Law and Justice / Public Safety*

**Office of the District Attorney**

**Tom Sneddon**



# Office of the District Attorney

## District Attorney Focus Areas

- **#1 Low Crime Rate**
- **#2 Decreasing Drug and Alcohol Abuse**
- **#3 Protecting the Local Environment and Consumers**
- **#4 Protecting our Growing Elder Population**
- **#5 Emphasizing and Developing Early Intervention and Prevention Strategies to Assist Youth**



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## Two Critical Demographic Populations

- ✓ **Elderly**
- ✓ **Youth**



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## Critical Issue

### Decreasing Funding Sources

- Prop 172 Revenues Down for Second Straight Year
- Shrinking State and Federal Grant Resources
  - ✓ Statutory Rape
  - ✓ Victim Witness
  - ✓ Domestic Violence
  - ✓ Byrne Grant - Drugs
  - ✓ Challenge Grants
- Lack of County General Funds to Backfill Losses



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## Focus Area Impacts

- ✓ DA's Primary Role is Public Safety and Primary Responsibility is Protection of Public from Serious and Violent Crimes
- ✓ Caseloads Again Rising

### IMPACTS

**We Are Concerned About Office's Ability to Continue to Fund Prevention Programs and Non-Mandatory Responsibilities**

- Truancy
- Elder Abuse
- Specialty Courts
- Vertical Domestic Violence Units
- Environmental / Consumer Units
- Current Staffing Levels to the Courts

