

MEDIA ADVISORY June 15, 2017 Contact: Olivia Lammel, 412-642-7700 olammel@elias-savion.com

Pittsburgh Says "No More" to Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

- Third Annual Public Signing Ceremony will take place in Allegheny County Courthouse Courtyard -

WHAT: Father's Day Pledge Public Signing Ceremony to End Gender Violence

On Friday, June 16, corporate, civic and community leaders will lend their voices to the prevention of violence at the third annual public pledge signing ceremony. The Allegheny County Courthouse will mark the occasion by lighting its tower teal, the color of domestic and sexual violence prevention.

During the rally, leaders from multiple sectors and a groundswell of supporters will recite and sign a 5-by-7-foot pledge banner in downtown Pittsburgh.

Dr. Gary Cuccia will share his personal story and deliver the keynote address on preventing teen dating violence. His daughter was murdered by her ex-boyfriend in 2007. Since then, he has advocated for violence prevention through the <u>Demi Brae</u> <u>Cuccia Awareness Organization</u>, which he founded.

The event, hosted by Southwest PA Says No More, an initiative of FISA Foundation, The Heinz Endowments and United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania, is open to the public. The pledge is an adaptation of "10 Things Men Can Do to Prevent Gender Violence," by Dr. Jackson Katz.

- WHEN: Friday, June 16, 2017, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- WHERE:Allegheny County Courthouse Courtyard, 436 Grant Street, Pittsburgh
(In the event of rain, the event will be held in the grand stairwell/gallery
of the Courthouse.)

AGENDA: 12:00 p.m. Welcome

12:05 p.m. Opening remarks by Kristy Trautmann, FISA Foundation; Bob Nelkin, United Way of Southwestern PA; Ellen Kramer, Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV)

- 12:15 p.m. Remarks by Allegheny County Manager William D. McKain CPA; Allegheny Department of Human Services Director Marc Cherna; and City Council President Bruce Kraus
- 12:20 p.m. Keynote address by Dr. Gary Cuccia
- 12:30 p.m. Remarks by Girl Gov representative
- 12:35 p.m. Remarks by Grant Oliphant, The Heinz Endowments
- 12:40 p.m. Recitation of the Pledge led by Most Rev. David Zubik; Right Rev. Dorsey W.M. McConnell; Rev. Liddy Barlow; Pastor George Fleming; Rev. Sally Jo Snyder; Rabbi Ron Symons
- 12:47 p.m. Signing Ceremony led by Leroy Ball Jr., Koppers with 25 corporate, civic and community leaders
- 12:55 p.m. Public Pledge Signing

RSVP:This event is open to the public. For information or to RSVP, click <u>here</u>.**PHOTOS:**Participants signing pledge banner: leaders and supporters with "I Say NO

HOTOS:Participants signing pledge banner; leaders and supporters with "I Say NO MORE
Because" cards; sea of teal NO MORE signs; etc.

<u>Note to editors & reporters</u>: Media are invited to attend. To arrange interviews or for more information, please contact Olivia Lammel at 412-642-7700, <u>olammel@elias-savion.com</u>.

BACKGROUND: This event is part of a statewide campaign, an opportunity for men to take action and be part of the solution. The Father's Day Pledge PA campaign is organized by Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV), PA Says No More, and Southwest PA Says No More.

About Southwest PA Says No More

Southwest PA Says NO MORE is a growing community of organizations and individuals who are working to end domestic and sexual violence. FISA Foundation, in partnership with The Heinz Endowments and United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania developed Southwest PA Says No More to showcase the important prevention-focused work happening in this region, and to make it easier for individuals and organizations to take action to stop gender-based violence. Twenty-five organizations across the region have partnered with Southwest PA Says No More, including the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh, YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh, and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.