

**MEDIA ADVISORY AND DAYBOOK ITEM**

**FOR:** April 25, 2009

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**LOCAL FALLEN WORKERS HONORED, WORKING  
FAMILIES DEMAND SAFE JOBS**

**Workers and Grieving Families Join Public Funeral Procession  
Commemorating National Workers' Memorial Day**

Los Angeles, CA – On Saturday, April 25, local working families will gather to commemorate Workers' Memorial Day in honor of workers like Sheri Sanji and Pablo Antonio Garcia who were killed on the job. Sanji a 23 year old UCLA lab worker, died after receiving second-and-third-degree burns on over 43% of her body; Garcia a father of three and port truck driver was crushed to death during a routine load pick up at the Port of Long Beach.

The commemoration includes a procession of more than 30 automobiles displaying banners with information on work-related injuries and fatalities as well as photos of local workers whose lives were tragically lost in preventable accidents at work. "Officials need to take worker abuse and safety serious. Today my children no longer have a father because Pablo's life was not valued," said Eva Garcia, widow of Pablo Garcia. "If companies are allowed to mistreat and disrespect workers, then it's only a matter of time before that disregard results in an injury or death."

According to the AFL-CIO's Death on the Job report, on an average day, 16 workers lose their lives across the nation as a result of workplace accidents and at least another 11,000 are injured. Not surprisingly, Latino and immigrant workers are dramatically more likely to experience work-related fatalities as a direct result of the prevalence of hazardous working conditions in low-wage industries.

**WHAT:** Workers' Memorial Day Public Funeral Procession and Community Forum

**WHEN:** Saturday, April 25th 11am- 3pm

**WHERE:** The funeral procession will begin and end at the  
UCLA Downtown Labor Center, 675 South Park View  
Street adjacent to MacArthur Park

**WHO:** Families of fallen workers, community members and workers joined by Los Angeles City Council Member Ed P. Reyes, Hank Cierpich Fatality Investigator from the Department of Public Health Services, Linda Delp Director of UCLA-LOSH and Long-time community leader Father Richard Estrada.

The Los Angeles Workers' Memorial Day event is co-sponsored by the UCLA Labor Occupational Safety & Health (LOSH) Program and the Southern California Coalition for Occupational Safety & Health (SoCalCOSH). For more information on Protecting Workers on the Job visit [http://www.coshnetwork.org/sites/default/files/Protecting%20Workers%20on%20the%20Job\\_Jan\\_2009.pdf](http://www.coshnetwork.org/sites/default/files/Protecting%20Workers%20on%20the%20Job_Jan_2009.pdf)

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