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Chief Justice George Speaks Today at Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony

Sacramento—California Chief Justice Ronald M. George today will pay tribute to the memory of six law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty during 2009. The remarks will be made at the 34th Annual Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony, 10th Street and Capitol Mall.

“On behalf of California’s judiciary and the 21,000 men and women who work in the courts, I express our deep gratitude for the brave individuals we have lost and to their colleagues who continue to serve,” Chief Justice will note in his remarks.

“By serving on the front lines of our justice system, peace officers often find it necessary to place themselves at risk,” Chief Justice George will state. “Last week the nation was provided with an example of this uncommon selflessness in the person of Wayne Rhatigan. Officer Rhatigan, a mounted officer with the New York Police Department, was on routine patrol in Times Square last Saturday when vendors alerted him to a smoking van. Smelling gunpowder and quickly assessing the risk of a bomb, he immediately evacuated the area, placing himself between the smoldering vehicle and the crowd.”

Chief Justice George will deliver remarks at the public Enrollment Ceremony, to be held from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The annual event is sponsored by the California Peace Officers’ Memorial Foundation (CPOMF). For more information about the ceremony, please see the CPOMF Web site: www.camemorial.org.

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