

Stanislaus County
**SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT**

Sheriff Adam Christianson
250 E. Hackett Road, Modesto, CA 95358



MEDIA RELATIONS



**PRESS CONFERENCE NOTIFICATION
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE April 7, 2008
TIME 5:00 PM

Rise in Infant Deaths Due to Unsafe Sleeping Surfaces

Stanislaus County, CA- Health officials in Stanislaus County will be holding a press conference about a rising concern of infant deaths. The press conference will be held on **Wednesday April 9th 2008 at 1:30PM** at the Sheriff's Main Office located 250 E. Hackett Road in Modesto.

Over the past 6 months, the Stanislaus County Coroner's Office reported 14 infant deaths due to asphyxiation or Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). Chief Coroner Kristi Herr Ah You notified the counties public health community about the rise in infant deaths. Stanislaus County Health Services Agency is starting a public education campaign to inform and educate parents about the risk of unsafe sleeping surfaces for infants.

During the press conference Chief Coroner Kristi Ah You will discuss the causes of asphyxiation in infants and talk about SIDS. Nancy Fisher, Assistant Director of Public Health, and Dr. Funamure will talk about the safe sleeping for infants and resources the parents have to get more information about safe sleeping. We are also expecting a mother with lost her child due to asphyxiation to speak about her loss and how she wants to help educate other parents on the dangers of unsafe sleeping surfaces.

For information regarding this press release please contact Deputy Royjindar Singh (209) 652-6597.

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