

**STANISLAUS COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

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**ADAM CHRISTIANSON, SHERIFF - CORONER**

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Sheriff's Detectives Honored by Klaaskids Foundation**

**Sacramento, CA** – Sheriff's detectives, staff and agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) were recognized and honored at the "Hero's with Heart Gala" Friday night April 1<sup>st</sup> in Sacramento, for their tireless investigative efforts in the kidnapping-murder case of 4 year old Juliani Cardenas. Marc Klass, keynote speaker for the event, recognized law enforcement officers and others for their "outstanding efforts supporting children and families".

Klaaskids Foundation was established in 1994 to give meaning to the death of twelve-year-old kidnap and murder victim Polly Hannah Klaas and to create a legacy in her name that would be protective of children for generations to come. Conceived with an initial investment of \$2,000 the Foundation's mission is to stop crimes against children.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to raise awareness and child abuse and neglect and create strong communities to support children and families.

Cardenas was kidnapped and murdered on January 18, 2011. His body was later recovered from the Delta-Mendota Canal. Stanislaus County Sheriff's detectives, the Sheriff's Dive Team, the FBI and many other allied law enforcement agencies and community partners worked tirelessly in an effort to bring Juliani Cardenas home alive. The case ended tragically when the kidnapping investigation lead detectives to the Delta-Mendota Canal where kidnapper Jose Rodriguez drove his car into the canal killing himself and Cardenas.

For all media related inquires please call (209) 525-7024 or e-mail [news@stanislaussheriff.com](mailto:news@stanislaussheriff.com)

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