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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## **GOLETA MAYOR AND SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FD JOIN LOCAL UCSB STUDENT TO PROVIDE CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS**

### **After Surviving 35-Day Coma From Accidental Carbon Monoxide Poisoning, 19-Year-Old On A Mission to Help Prevent This From Happening to Others**

**WHAT:** After 35 days in a coma followed by a year of intensive therapy and relearning the basics – walking, talking, eating... -- 19-year-old Nikkie Sedaghat is back in school at UCSB with a new focus: to help prevent others from accidental carbon monoxide poisoning.

Nikkie had been given a two-percent chance of surviving the carbon monoxide exposure that left her unconscious and comatose for more than a month a little over a year ago. She overcame the odds and has become the first ever person in the U.S. to undergo a combination of hyperbaric oxygen and hypothermia therapy at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center

Today, Nikkie who is bilingual, is committed to helping to educate her neighbors and fellow students about the dangers of CO and how to prevent it. She will be going door to door to pass out the 200 carbon monoxide alarms she secured from First Alert.

“I know I’m here for a reason and I can’t just sit by with people not knowing about this deadly hazard that can happen in any home. I am shocked that there are so many people who are unaware that it’s the law in California. I am doing all I can to change that,” she said.

**WHO:** Nikkie Sedaghat  
Goleta Mayor Ed Easton  
Santa Barbara County Fire Department PIO David Sadecki  
Gigi Lubin, spokesperson for First Alert

**WHEN:** **10:30 a.m., Tuesday, January 24**

**WHERE:** Press conference:  
Nikkie Sedaghat’s home

6646 Sabado Tarde, Apt. B  
Goleta, CA 93117

**OTHER:** The Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act requires that CO alarm devices be installed in all California's existing single-family homes by July 1, 2011.

California's law applies to residences that contain carbon monoxide sources or are situated within structures that contain one or more sources of this poisonous gas. CO sources may include, but are not limited to, heaters, fireplaces, furnaces, appliances or cooking sources using coal, wood, petroleum products, or other fuels emitting CO as a by-product of combustion. Attached garages with doors, ductwork or ventilation shafts connected to a living space also are sources of CO.

More information on the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act (Senate Bill 183) can be found on the California State Legislature website [here](#).

Carbon Monoxide Detectors can be purchased in California at Lowe's, Costco, Target, Ace, Sears and Orchard Supply Hardware stores.