



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Help Bring an End to Domestic Violence at SafeNest's 7th Annual Spring Tea
at the Mandarin Oriental**

*Local Domestic Violence Organization Honors LVMPD Captain Sasha Larkin and Judy & Reed Alewel from
Pinot's Palette*

LAS VEGAS – May 8, 2018 – At least one in every three women and one in every seven men will experience domestic violence in their lifetime. This May, Las Vegas will bring awareness to domestic violence in the Las Vegas area at the 7th Annual Spring Tea at the Mandarin Oriental (3752 Las Vegas Blvd. South, Las Vegas). The Spring Tea will be held on Saturday, May 19 from 1-4 p.m.

From past to present, SafeNest has been at the forefront of providing domestic violence services in Southern Nevada and giving domestic violence survivors the skills and courage they need to go from crisis to confidence. As the first shelter in Southern Nevada, SafeNest grew from a small shelter with 12 beds and a local, 24-hour hotline in 1977 to serving approximately 50,000 people annually and being the largest, most comprehensive program for the entire state. In existence for more than 40 years, SafeNest knows that no two domestic violence situations are ever the same and they offer a variety of services that are tailored for the domestic violence victim including a confidential shelter for women and families, counseling and crisis intervention, individual and group therapy, additional residential services, 24/7 Temporary Protection Orders, and employment/life-skill classes.

Guest are invited to mix and mingle over afternoon tea and champagne while supporting SafeNest and their mission to help put an end to domestic violence in Nevada. Upon entering, attendees will be able to bid on extravagant silent auction items including entertainment packages, beauty baskets, spa certificates, dining experiences, and much more. As attendees make their way into the grand ballroom, they will be treated to a full afternoon tea service featuring an assortment of delicious teas, cocktails, finger sandwiches, petit fours, and other sweet treats. Throughout the tea, consummate emcee and radio personality, Chet Buchanan, will introduce the afternoon's honorees and bring awareness to the issue that affects far too many people in Nevada. This year, SafeNest honors three champions in domestic violence awareness, Captain Sasha Larkin of Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and Judy & Reed Alewel of Pinot's Palette.

LVMPD's Captain Sasha Larkin demonstrated her commitment to SafeNest and ending domestic violence by becoming instrumental in the launch of PS417. Named after the code for a domestic violence call, PS 417 is a pilot program resulting in the LVMPD working directly with a SafeNest advocate for those who find themselves in the middle of a violent situation. LVMPD responds to the scene, while

SafeNest advocates are on hand to educate victims with integral information on moving to a safe environment. This partnership is aimed to ensure the domestic violence survivor has the safety and the tools needed to begin a new and safe life, while hopefully becoming an example for other police departments throughout the United States demonstrating effective methods to combat domestic violence.

The Alewel's path to SafeNest was not as direct, but important nonetheless. As a former nurse and gaming executive, Judy and Reed Alewel forged ahead with a new business venture capitalizing on the paint and sip trend, the husband and wife duo opened Pinot's Palette at The District. The concept took off and locations in Boca Park and at Town Square followed. They have also instituted the "Paint It Forward" campaign offering the children of SafeNest, amongst other charities, the opportunity to spend time with their moms and family members in a positive environment doing something fun together. Through the art, they are allowed to find happiness and peace, while ultimately healing from tragedy.

Tickets are \$85 per person in advance online at www.safenest.org pending availability. For those who cannot attend the event, instructions to participate in the silent auction remotely will be available on www.safenest.org.

ABOUT SAFENEST

A problem that impacts the safety and well-being of individuals, families and communities throughout Southern Nevada, domestic violence can take on multiple forms including physical, emotional and sexual abuse, financial control and social isolation. It affects all communities, regardless of socioeconomic status, race or religion. SafeNest serves battered women (or men), children or teens affected by family violence, adolescents in violent dating relationships, offending partners, family members or significant others impacted by the violence, at-risk individuals, and the community at large by offering a variety of programming and services including counseling, crisis intervention, individual and group therapy, residential services, protection order assistance and employment/life-skill classes. SafeNest aims to put a stop to all immediate abuse and break the cycle of abuse for generations to come.

Established in 1977, SafeNest is Nevada's largest and most comprehensive non-profit agency devoted solely to domestic violence issues. Serving approximately 50,000 people annually, SafeNest's programs include a 24-hour confidential shelter, a 24-hour hotline and protection order services, counseling, advocacy, court assistance, and prevention education. For more information, please call 702-821-2731 or visit www.safenest.org.

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