

# More Awards Announced: The 2014 West Coast Conference Defender of the Year Award Winners Are...

[studentsforlife.org/2013/12/17/west-coast-defender-of-life-award](http://studentsforlife.org/2013/12/17/west-coast-defender-of-life-award)

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Last week, you heard about our 2014 Students for Life National Conference Defender of Life Award Recipients, Jim Bob and Michelle Duggar. Today, we are honored to announce our **2014 West Coast Conference Defender of Life Award Recipients: Walter and Lori Hoyer!**

Recognizing that “the impact of abortion in the African American community is the Darfur of America,” the Hoyes have courageously put themselves on the front lines of the abortion battle as a witness on the sidewalks of abortion facilities in California. Their ministry has literally saved hundreds of lives.

Testifying to the power of their witness, their hometown of Oakland even passed an ordinance in 2009 barring pro-lifers from coming within 8 feet of anyone entering an abortion facility – an ordinance that directly targeted the Hoyer’s pro-life outreach.

Because of the Hoyer’s firm pro-life conviction, the Hoyes made a courageous decision. Walter violated the ordinance putting the lives of those women and their preborn children before his own. He was arrested and sentenced to spend 30 days in jail, 2 years of probation, and faced several fines.



It is for their exceptional work and dedication to laying down their lives for the preborn that Students for Life of America is proud to honor Walter and Lori Hoya as our first-ever 2014 West Coast Defender of Life Award Recipients at SFLA's 2014 West Coast Conference on January 26th.

Sunday, January 26, 2014 will mark our first ever West Coast Conference. The conference will be hosted in San Francisco, CA at Saint Mary's Cathedral. For the past 26 years, the SFLA National Conference has been a prominent event during the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. and has sold out with 2,000 in attendance the past 3 years, making the event the largest pro-life conference in the nation. With students coming in from all across the West Coast to attend the Walk for Life there was clearly a need to bring the same great program to these students. This will be the first year for the West Coast Conference where students will have the opportunity to be trained and equipped by the top pro-life leaders in their fields — with presentations in apologetics, bioethics, and activism — these students then will go back home where they are the defenders of life on their campus and in their communities.

This year, 40 Days for Life will host an Adult Leadership Summit during the West Coast Conference. Adults have always been welcome to attend the conference and have attended in the past, but, this year, there will be specific training geared to pro-life adults.

For conference information and to register go to [/2014westcoast/](#) and for any questions about the conference email Tina Whittington at [twhittington@studentsforlife.org](mailto:twhittington@studentsforlife.org).

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