

Abdoulaye

Presented before the [Los Angeles City Council on June 25th, 2010](#)



Abdulaye in Council Chambers

"My name is Abdoulaye and I am from Cote d'Ivoire, Ivory Coast in West Africa.

For 5 years, I was persecuted due to a political problem. One day, my family was attacked in the middle of the night, at my house, and my wife and my brother were both killed in front of me. After I recovered from my own injuries, I then lived in hiding for 2 years before I could come to USA. I have been separated from my 3 children since 2003.

A few months after I arrived to USA, I found out about PTV and my first meeting with PTV will forever remain engraved in my memory. The welcome was filled with warmth, emotions and I immediately noticed the quality, availability and

humanitarian side of what PTV consist of. It was a grand relief to find myself surrounded by people with a big heart, people who accept you and share your sadness and pain.

PTV helped me to find an attorney who assisted me pro bono, to solve my medical and psychological problems at no cost at the Venice Family Clinic.

It is at this Clinic that I met Brigitte, a volunteer for PTV who was there to be the interpreter for the doctors and me. My meeting with Brigitte marked a turning point in my life here in USA. She gave me hope, restored my dignity, made me reborn from the ashes. She helped me find a job where I still work today. Which also mean that I now have my financial independence.

I would like to end this story by saying a big 'thank you' to PTV and its personnel for their inestimable work that they accomplish everyday to give back hope, smile and dignity to all shattered lives who come to them. I would also like to thank everyone who contributes to help PTV.

God bless you. "