



## A Proud Day in L.A.

By Executive Director Julie Gutman  
July 6, 2010

Dear Friends –



*Abdulaye in Council Chambers*

On June 25, [torture survivors met with Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa](#) as the Program for Torture Victims was [officially honored by the City of Los Angeles](#) (.pdf) for its 30-year record of work on behalf of torture survivors. In addition to adopting Councilmember Jan Perry's resolution honoring PTV and condemning torture, the Council declared June 26 Victims of Torture Day in Los Angeles. Co-founder Dr. Jose Quiroga and I addressed the Council, [accompanied by Gloria Pink](#), owner of the legendary Pink's Hot Dogs and one of many businesses that have donated to PTV as part of the new ["Profits for Peace" campaign](#).

At the center of it all were the humble men and women who have courageously rebuilt their lives after enduring unspeakable horrors. As they quietly recited their stories and thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak, [L.A.'s status as a haven for refugees and the city of second chances](#) took on a deeper meaning. Here were immigrants from around the

world, tortured and abandoned by their own countries, receiving a hero's welcome from elected officials of their adopted homeland.

"Los Angeles has always opened its arms to those in need, and it is in that spirit that the Program for Torture Victims carries on its noble work," said the mayor, whose city is home to the largest number of refugees, asylum seekers, and torture survivors in the country. Endorsing PTV's Profits for Peace campaign, the mayor said, "I hope that people around the city will join me in supporting PTV, and in so doing will help heal the victims of torture who now call Los Angeles home." Read the mayor's [press release](#) (.pdf).

What a proud day for L.A., and for PTV.



*Councilmember Perry presents the certificate to PTV clients and staff*

# Profits for Peace – Make Your Purchases Count

With a festive lunch at the downtown institution Takami Sushi, PTV successfully launched “Profits for Peace,” in which local businesses are donating a portion of their proceeds to support our work.

In the first week, the campaign raised several thousand dollars that will go directly toward our services for torture victims. Our sincere thanks to those who have responded to our appeal, and to all the participating businesses for their generosity.



*Rossana at City Hall*

We're off to a great start – but **we need your help to reach our goal of \$10,000 by the end of July.**

It's easy: simply patronize any of the [businesses listed in our “Profits for Peace” guide](#) (.pdf), and you will be contributing to our life-saving work on behalf of people like Rossana, a torture survivor from El Salvador who was raped and brutalized during that country's civil war. “I had no job, no home, no family. I wanted to die,” said Rossana,. “PTV saved my life, and I am now able to help others in Los Angeles without fear I will be tortured.”

If you can't get to any of the participating businesses, you can still help us reach our goal by [making a donation](#).

Together we can give hope to torture survivors.

Warmly,

Julie Gutman  
Executive Director  
jgutman@ptvla.org  
[www.ptvla.org](http://www.ptvla.org)

---

*Join us in celebrating 30 years of service and rebuilding lives by donating to PTV.*

## Program for Torture Victims

3655 S. Grand Ave, Suite 290 Los Angeles, CA 90007  
T: (213) 747-4944/ F: (213) 747-4662/ info@ptvla.org  
Visit us at [www.ptvla.org](http://www.ptvla.org)