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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A San Diego man was recently named by the Treasury Department to receive recognition at the Eighth Annual Treasury Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Ellsworth Pryor, Equal Employment Coordinator for the Internal Revenue Service in San Diego, was honored for his outstanding, continuous leadership in the equal opportunity effort of San Diego's Southeast Community.

Pryor, who lives at 5324 Santa Maria Terrace, is president of Neighborhood House, a settlement house in Southeast, and chairman of the Southeast San Diego Development Corporation, an organization of citizens concerned with the overall development of the Southeast Community. A long time member of the Urban League, Pryor serves on the Urban League's Environmental Task Force and its Community Education Committee. In addition, Pryor represents the City and the County on the CAMPS Commission (Cooperative Area Manpower Planning Systems) and is a member of the San Diego School District's Ad Hoc Committee to Study School Building Needs.

Pryor's concern for community self-development is best described by his close friend and cohort, Ambrose Brodus, project director of the Urban League's Community Organization Program. "He's the kind of man who responds to a request for help, and we've counted on him in many crisis situations." Others have counted on Ellsworth Pryor too, and last year honored him with a Man of Distinction Award, given annually to 21 outstanding San Diegans.

Pryor said he hadn't really become active in community activities until he arrived in San Diego in 1954 from Omaha, Nebraska.

"I had been active in the Episcopal Church, and I guess my church activity led me to other areas," said Pryor, who continues to serve St. Paul's Episcopal Church as a board member of Episcopal Community Services and as chairman of their Adult Rehabilitation Facility.

One of his first community activities in San Diego was his work with Rancho El Campo, a church honor camp for teenage boys. "It was probably my most rewarding experience, because I could rap with the kids on a gut level, and really get to know and help them."

Of his work in Southeast, Pryor said that some progress has been made over the years. "If I had to pinpoint my own feelings as to the most pressing problem in Southeast, I would have to say that the housing and environmental conditions are first on the list," he said, adding that school and transportation conditions will also have to be better developed.

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"The City is more responsive to the needs of Southeast than it was, say, three (3) years ago," he continued, "and perhaps we're not as active as we were three years ago, because of their increased sensitivity. Yet there is an awful lot still to be done."

Undoubtedly, Pryor will be part of these activities as he continues to contribute his time and effort to equal opportunity and self-development projects in San Diego.

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