

# Head of shelter for women says she won't resign

By Melissa Dribben

Staff Writer

The unorthodox, hard-driving executive director of Save Our Sisters (SOS), which provides shelter for battered women, was asked to resign yesterday by the board of directors.

The move came after months of internal wrestling over how the shelters should be administered and a festering personality conflict between the director, Sandy Ramos, and board members.

"I will never resign," Ms. Ramos told board Chairman Ronald D'Angelo at the informal meeting in her office. "You could give me 20 thousand million dollars and I would never resign."

Ms. Ramos founded the shelters in the 1970's, at first housing battered women in her Hackensack home.

For years, she crusaded in search of county funds, staging scenes to prove a point about funding priorities. Once she herded six poodles to a freeholders meeting after a large sum had been allocated for animal shelters but not for the women's shelter. She also passed out pink paper "lip-service" lips to selected politicians.

The Bergen County Board of Freeholders eventually granted Ms. Ra-



**Sandy Ramos**

*Founded the shelters in 1970's*

So she invited an attorney and a sympathetic board member, Frances Treanor, to attend the meeting.

While she waited for the chairman, Ms. Ramos sat at her oak desk, covered with drifts of paper, and talked about astrology, politics, and injustice.

On behalf of Ms. Ramos and on the advice of an attorney, Ms. Treanor taped the meeting.

D'Angelo said the board voted 7 to 1 to ask for Ms. Ramos's resignation

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