

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 26, 2015

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### **Board of Crime Control announces 2015 Program Highlight**

The Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC) announced today its recipient of the 2015 Program Highlight; the Montana Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission. The Program Highlight honors statewide or community-based criminal justice programs that merit recognition for providing effective services to address public safety-related issues.

The Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission is an agency under the Department of Justice whose goal it is to identify gaps in Montana's system for protecting battered women and to better coordinate multi-agency efforts to protect those most at risk of domestic homicide. The Commission members are appointed by the Attorney General and include representatives from state and private agencies, the medical and mental health community, law enforcement and the courts, Native Americans, the legislature and concerned citizens.

Deb Matteucci, Executive director of MBCC stated, "MBCC recognizes the exceptional work of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission to review these heartbreaking cases through a lens of prevention and accountability. Their efforts promote safety for victims and their children and will help Montana agencies to prevent future cases of domestic violence and homicide in Montana."

The Commission will be featured at the MBCC Board of Directors Meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 12, 2015 and will be recognized at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Crime Prevention Conference held in October in Missoula.

#### **About MBCC**

The Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC) is the designated state agency that administers millions of grant dollars dedicated to preventing and addressing crime statewide. MBCC is headed by an eighteen member board appointed by the Governor. Board members represent law enforcement, criminal and juvenile justice system stakeholders, and citizens, including the first Montanans, our state's Native Americans.

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