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NV ATTORNEY GENERAL HOLDS FIRST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW STATEWIDE TEAM MEETING

14 New Appointed Members Throughout Nevada Sworn In, Trained

Reno, NV - Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto today held the first meeting of the Attorney General Domestic Violence Fatality Review Statewide Team at the Best Western Plus Airport Plaza. The meeting brought together 14 newly appointed members who were sworn in and trained.

The group will review deaths statewide to create a greater understanding of the tragedies associated with domestic violence and will lead to the implementation of preventative interventions throughout Nevada.

At today's meeting, the group set goals for 2012, reviewed and discussed draft policies, learned about domestic violence related homicides in Nevada, participated in a mock fatality review exercise, and scheduled future meetings.

"I'm pleased and excited by today's first meeting of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team," said Masto. "We need to address domestic violence and improve our system responses to victims in order to save lives. The recommendations that will be coming from this group will greatly assist us in addressing this issue in the silver state."

"Today's meeting is a huge step in combating the high numbers of females who are dying at the hands of their partners in Nevada," said Matthew Dale, Director of the Office of Consumer Protection and Victim Services with the State of Montana Department of Justice. "The fact that this group has the support of the Attorney General is critical. While the Domestic Violence Fatality Review group won't solve the problem alone, it is a huge step in the right direction."

The latest Violence Policy Center report indicates Nevada ranks first in the nation per capita of women murdered by men with the use of a handgun in the United States.

The team consists of members representing law enforcement, prosecution, victim advocates, survivors, clergy, batterer's treatment providers, social services and education. A list of the members can be found here: <http://bit.ly/A9w5Cg>.

Mark Jackson, Douglas County District Attorney and newly sworn in member, said: “The Domestic Violence Fatality Review is the next best step in eradicating domestic violence in our state.”

“The importance of fatality review allows us to take a deeper look at the life and context of domestic violence fatalities,” said Susan Meuschke, Executive Director for the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence.

Masto introduced [Senate Bill 66](#), which took effect on October 1, 2011, authorizing the Office of the Attorney General to organize a multi-disciplinary team to review the deaths of domestic violence victims.

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