



# OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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## **ATTORNEY GENERAL MASTO, COUNTY SHERIFFS MARK ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH; ANNOUNCE MINERAL AND PERSHING COUNTIES JOIN VICTIM NOTIFICATION SERVICE**

*Nevada VINE Service Helps Crime Victims*

**Las Vegas, NV** – Nevada Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto, Mineral County Sheriff Michael Dillard and Pershing County Sheriff Richard Machado today announced that Mineral County and Pershing County joined the statewide automated Victim Information & Notification Everyday service.

“I commend Sheriffs Dillard and Machado for joining this service,” said Masto. “The service launch coincides with national Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Nevada leads the nation in domestic violence related homicides, and we must provide every resource possible to ensure the safety of all victims. This technology is a vital resource for victims of domestic violence. I want to ensure more crime victims know about the service now and every day.”

“Keeping victims safe and informed is my top priority,” said Dillard. “Domestic violence victims will benefit from having immediate access to offender information. I am thankful that the Attorney General’s Office is providing this vital service for the people of Mineral County.”

“The rural areas don’t always have as much access to certain services,” said Machado. “Nevada VINE is a tool that all victims can utilize. I am pleased to partner with Attorney General Masto to offer this service for the people of Pershing County.”

NV VINE provides free, confidential notification to registered victims upon an offender’s release from jail or prison and is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Users can contact Nevada VINE at 1-888-2NV-VINE (888-268-8463) or [www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com) to track the custody status of an offender or register to be notified by phone or e-mail in the event of a transfer, release, escape, or death. Live operators are available 24 hours a

day, seven days a week to assist victims who need help obtaining offender information or registering for notification.

Nevada VINE is provided by the Nevada Office of the Attorney General and local law enforcement agencies.

The service is currently online in the following areas: Carson City, Churchill County, Esmeralda County, Eureka County, Douglas County, Lyon County, Lander County, Mineral County, Nye County, Pershing County, Humboldt County, Elko County, Storey County, Lincoln County, White Pine County, Washoe County and Mesquite. The service is also available in the Nevada Department of Corrections.

### **Resources**

- More information about VINE can be found here: <http://ag.nv.gov/VINE>
- More information about domestic violence can be found here: <http://ag.nv.gov/domesticviolence>

### **Background**

A lifelong advocate for women, General Masto has worked on behalf of Nevada's families to strengthen state laws to prevent violence against women. In 2008, she created an advisory committee on victims of crime to address funding, resource and enforcement issues. The advisory committee successfully fought for state laws to authorize victims of sexual assault to seek a protective order, and to provide for penalties for the crime of strangulation involving domestic violence.

General Masto introduced a bill to organize a multi-disciplinary team to review the deaths of domestic violence victims, called the [Domestic Violence Fatality Review Statewide Team](#) (DVFRST), which she chairs. The DVFRST met last month to finish their first domestic violence fatality review and will release results and recommendations in January.

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