



PRESS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA

WILLIAM J. IHLENFELD, II
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

1125 Chapline Street, Federal Building, Suite 3000 • Wheeling, WV 26003 • (304) 234-0100 • Contact: Fawn E. Thomas, Public Affairs Specialist

January 27, 2011
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. Attorney Makes Two Presentations on *Stop Domestic Violence Training Tour*

MORGANTOWN and ELKINS, WEST VIRGINIA — United States Attorney William J. Ihlenfeld, II, made presentations on the *2010-2011 Stop Domestic Violence Training Tour* in Morgantown and Elkins on January 24, 2011.

The West Virginia State Police in Morgantown hosted the first meeting which included the Rape and Domestic Violence Information Center (which is based out of Morgantown and serves Monongalia, Preston, and Taylor counties) and HOPE, Inc. (which is based out of Fairmont and provides services to Doddridge, Gilmer, Harrison, Lewis, and Marion counties).



*Pictured from left to right:
Harriett Sutton, Director of HOPE, Inc.;
U. S. Attorney William J. Ihlenfeld, II; and
Judy King-Smith, Director of RDVIC*

The *Stop Domestic Violence Training Tour* is an opportunity to express to the advocates the importance that the United States Attorney's Office places on prosecuting cases involving Interstate Domestic Violence,

Interstate Stalking, Interstate Violations of Protective Orders, and Federal Firearms Laws.



*Pictured from left to right:
Rickie White, Assistant Director of WAIC;
U. S. Attorney William J. Ihlenfeld, II; and
Marcia Drake, Director of WAIC*

Citizens Bank of West Virginia in Elkins hosted the second meeting which included advocates from the Women's Aid in Crisis (which is based in Elkins and serves Barbour, Braxton, Randolph, Tucker, Upshur, and Webster counties).

PRESS RELEASE

Page 2

January 27, 2011

The training provided by USA Ihlenfeld will continue throughout the month and coincides with National Stalking Awareness Month. “This year we are challenging West Virginians to fight stalking by learning more about it,” said USA Ihlenfeld. “Unlike other crimes, stalking is not a single, easily identifiable crime but a series of acts and a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause that person fear. Stalking may take many forms, such as assaults, threats, vandalism, burglary, or animal abuse, as well as unwanted emails, text messages, cards, calls, gifts, or visits. Communities in our state that understand stalking can better support victims and combat the crime.”

The Stop Domestic Violence Training Tour will make stops in Martinsburg, Keyser, Parkersburg, and Wheeling. Later in the year Ihlenfeld plans to visit colleges in the Northern District of West Virginia to educate students about the dangers of dating violence.

- END -