

# GRAND FORKS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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**SHERIFF ANDY SCHNEIDER**

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**To: House Appropriations – Human Resources Division**

**From: Sheriff Andy Schneider**

**RE: HB 1012**

**Date: 2/4/2025**

**Chairman Nelson and Members of the House Appropriations Committee,**

**My name is Andy Schneider, and I serve as the Sheriff of the Grand Forks County Sheriff's Office. I am writing in support of funding for North Dakota Domestic & Sexual Violence in reference to House Bill 1012.**

**Law enforcement agencies across the state collaborate almost daily with domestic violence and sexual assault agencies in our local communities. Our organizations work together for mutual benefit by providing shared training to staff, attending collaborative meetings, tracking criminal justice data, and making criminal justice system improvements on an ongoing basis.**

**Domestic violence cases are some of the most volatile and unpredictable calls for law enforcement. Having support from experienced, trauma-informed resources like CVIC is critical to our success as deputies. One of the biggest benefits to our partnership is our ability to work together to prevent further violence or possibly deaths related to domestic and sexual violence. We now do this more efficiently through the Lethality Assessment Program, connecting victims of violence with a domestic violence advocate at the time of the incident. This increases awareness of safety services available to survivors while decreasing the likelihood that they will be killed during a future incident.**

**Last year, law enforcement in Grand Forks County screened 132 individuals for potentially lethal risks and more than 80 of them were deemed to be in high-lethality situations. Please support House Bill 1012 and the North Dakota Domestic & Sexual Violence Coalition's request for additional funding.**

**Thank you for your service to our State and to your communities.**

**Sincerely,**

*Andy Schneider*

**Andy Schneider**

**Sheriff – Grand Forks County**