



Big Horn County Attorney

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PRESS RELEASE

BIG HORN COUNTY ATTORNEY PLEDGES FULL AND INDEPENDENT PROSECUTORIAL REVIEW OF ALL AVAILABLE EVIDENCE ASSOCIATED WITH THE DISCOVERY OF SELENA NOT AFRAID

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 21, 2020

No Persons Connected to the Circumstances Surrounding the Disappearance of Selena Not Afraid Have Prosecutorial Immunity from the State of Montana

Hardin, MT —

From the Big Horn County Attorney:

The Big Horn County Attorney's Office is now seeking immediate production of all evidence associated with the efforts made by law enforcement in the search and location of Selena Not Afraid during January of 2020. The County Attorney's Office will utilize the investigative subpoena process under Montana law to ensure complete production of all evidentiary materials from the Big Horn County Sheriff's Office. Federal agency partners will be requested to provide all evidentiary materials through existing federal protocols for State prosecutorial review.

Consistent with the standards of conduct of a public prosecutor in light of an active investigation, the Big Horn County Community is advised and reminded of each of the following:

--The Big Horn County Attorney's Office represents the State of Montana in all State criminal prosecutions in Big Horn County. No characterizations of evidence or promises of immunity by the Big Horn County Sheriff's Office are binding upon the State of Montana in a criminal prosecution.

--The County Attorney's Office will not characterize the circumstances of the discovery of any dead body as reflecting foul play or *not* reflecting foul play until such time as all necessary and proper investigative leads are followed and all available evidence is reviewed and scrutinized.

--On January 14, 2020, the County Attorney's Office formally advised the Big Horn County Sheriff's Office that the search efforts for Selena Not Afraid are being considered both a missing persons search *and a criminal investigation.*

--The Big Horn County Sheriff has been advised not to make further public comment regarding this matter, unless done with consultation with the County Attorney.

The October 1, 2019, establishment of a Big Horn County Missing and Murdered Persons Task Force is intended in major part to guarantee best efforts are always made to provide closure to families in need of healing and to restore public faith and confidence in the investigative and prosecutorial procedures involving these tragic matters.

The public should rest assured that any provable State criminal activities surrounding the circumstances of the disappearance of Selena Not Afraid will be brought to accountability in a timely fashion.

For justice.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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