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MIDWESTERN GOVERNORS SUPPORT NATIONAL METHAMPHETAMINE AWARENESS DAY
Department of Justice will sponsor Awareness Day on November 30th.

Washington, D.C. - The U.S. Department of Justice has announced that Nov. 30th will be National Methamphetamine Awareness Day, drawing national attention to a crucial issue that Midwestern governors have been working on for years.

Methamphetamines have been spreading through the Midwest for years. “Meth addiction is one of the steepest, most slippery slopes in our society, and too many are hitting rock bottom because of meth,” said MGA chairman and Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty.

MGA governors have been very active in combating meth. They played an active role in the passage of the Combat Meth Act this summer, and last December, the MGA hosted a regional meth summit in Indianapolis to discuss innovative approaches to the problems related to meth production and use.

“It’s not only destroying the lives of users, but it can pose huge dangers to families and entire communities where it is manufactured and used,” said Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich, former MGA chair. “We are marshalling our resources and are committed to combating this problem through innovative legislation and initiatives.”

Through National Methamphetamine Awareness Day, the Department of Justice hopes to raise awareness about the effects of meth abuse.

U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales will host federal, state, local and community leaders to discuss the implications of meth abuse on communities in the United States. The Department of Justice hopes this opportunity will not only spread a message of prevention, but also educate current meth users on available programs.

The DOJ also is teaming up with government, private-sector and nonprofit organizations in order to broaden the impact of its message. Federal officials have also released a presentation designed to be used by educators in the law enforcement community as well as by community groups and local leaders. The presentation will be posted on the Department of Justice Web site.

The MGA supports the Department’s efforts as a much-needed step in the right direction, and looks forward to working more with federal officials as part of efforts to combat meth production and use.


The purpose of the Midwestern Governors Association is to foster regional development, attain greater efficiency in state administration, facilitate interstate cooperation and improve intergovernmental relationships, and to provide a medium for the exchange of views and experiences on subjects of general importance to the people of the Midwestern states.