

**Exhibit Number:** 3

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**This exhibit exceeds 10-page maximum; therefore only a small portion of the exhibit is scanned for your research. The original exhibit is on file at the Montana Historical Society and may be viewed there**

EXHIBIT 3  
DATE 3/10/05  
SB 208

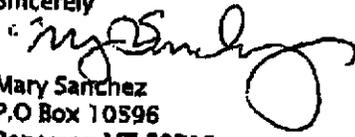
1/18/2005

Montana Board of Crime Control;

My name is Mary Sanchez and I am a stalking victim. The Network against Sexual and Domestic Abuse office, also known to me as the Victim's Advocates office has been invaluable to me during the past seven months. I was referred to them by the Bozeman Police department shortly after the stalking began and I would like you to know how much they have helped me during this extremely difficult time. I don't know what I would have done without their support and assistance. Most importantly they were there for me, whether I needed someone to talk to or someplace to go just to feel safe, they always made the time for me and made sure that I knew whatever they could do all I had to do was call them. They check on me occasionally if they don't hear from me and make sure I am ok. They go to court whenever there is something concerning the case so that I don't have to face the man who continues to stalk me. As well as being advocates for me in all the court proceedings they continue to be of great support for me emotionally, they have loaned me books on the subject and done everything they can to see to it that I am kept up to date on what is happening, and that I understand what is happening with the case. On the one occasion that I had to go to court to get an order of protection against this man there were right there beside me to see to it that I understood my rights as a victim and again to support me emotionally.

Jan, Kathy and Gloria have been and continue to be great advocates for me and I don't know how I would have been able to get through the last few months without them. I hope and pray that their office continues to get the financial support to enable them to continue to do for me and other women in similar situations the wonderful work that they do. Thank you for your continued support of their much needed and appreciated services

Sincerely

  
Mary Sanchez  
P.O Box 10596  
Bozeman MT 59719

1/12/05

Montana Board of Crime Control  
Violence Against Women Act Grant Funding

Re: Gallatin County's Victims Services Unit, Bozeman, Montana

To Whom It May Concern:

My family and I would like to express our sincere gratitude, and appreciation of Victims Services, Gloria Edwards, and Jan Brownell for their constant help and guidance through the criminal justice system. My sister, Deane Cowan, and her boyfriend, Chester Reistad, were murdered February 20, 2004 in Bozeman, MT. To make it worse, (if that is possible), the murderers are my sister's son, and a friend of his.

Gloria's (and Jan's), sincere caring and concern for the families' feelings, and ensuing personal and legal issues, has made it easier for all of us to bear this terrible tragedy. My brother, Gary Cowan, wished me to state in this letter that "Gloria Edwards is an effective, and conscientious public servant". He is a retired lawyer, and this is high praise from him!

Sincerely,



Lex Marsh (sister of victim)

and all the family members and friends, including: Jim Marsh (brother-in-law of victim), Gary Cowan (brother of victim), Lara Bienack and family (niece of victim), Bill Cowan (nephew of victim), Wendy Wood and family (niece of victim), Anna Stewart and family (niece of victim), and lifelong friends, Amelia and Lee Johnson and family.

**Edwards, Gloria**

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**From:** LEOSPRIDE3@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, January 21, 2005 1:45 PM  
**To:** gedwards@co.gallatin.mt.us  
**Subject:** Letter from Crystal

Montana Board of Crime Control,

Jan 19, 05

I am writing this letter in regard to the Gallatin Valley Victim Services. I understand these services exist on grants and donations. I hope this will continue for future victims and families.

This has been a very traumatic experience for all of my family and the girls in the office have made every effort to insure our comfort both physically and emotionally. I feel as though going through this without the help of Gloria would be impossible. I was directed to the office after my niece was sexually assaulted by her biological father. I have legal placement as a kinship foster care provider until we can finalize the adoption. We have been to trial resulting in a hung jury and will be going again in March. Gloria is my outlet for information that would take more than one phone call to accomplish otherwise. Court dates, results from hearings, who to talk to and where to go. It is very comforting to know someone is there to make sure I am informed on the status of my ex-brother in law, he has threatened my family's safety on more than one occasion and we need to know immediately if he were ever to be released. There are also times when it is hard to reach one of the county officials and with a phone call to Gloria she can usually pass on a message.

I really hope this program can continue and be able to grow in the future, Gallatin County is really expanding and with the growth in crime and drugs along with the population that is going to leave a lot of victims and family's who would be lost in the system without the help of the victim's services office.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

Crystal Kant

**Bozeman Municipal Court**

615 South 16th Avenue, Suite 123

Bozeman, MT 59715

**Karl P. Seel****Municipal Judge**, January 11, 2005**(406) 582-2040****Fax (406) 582-2041**

TO: Montana Board of Crime Control

RE: Violence against Women Grant

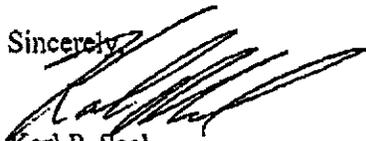
As a former prosecutor I have experienced first hand the wonderful work performed by the Victims Services Office in Gallatin County. I have seen them apply the personal attention and concern that is so badly needed for victims of domestic violence, sex crimes harassment and stalking. These victims are particularly in need of assistance and in a way that the 'conventional' participants in the legal system are unable or ill equipped to provide.

Their professional approach to victim assistance has served to help the prosecutors do a better job and has greatly benefited the victims.

As a newly appointed judge I have drawn upon their special expertise to help provide information for the Court and communication with the victims. A judge cannot devote the full measure of time to help citizens with their needs before, during and after court is in session.

This valuable service is one of the best "investments" law enforcement can make toward reducing violence in our communities. I write in support of any and all assistance that can continue to be made to keep this program a viable resource in Gallatin County.

Sincerely,

  
Karl P. Seel

**STATE OF MONTANA  
DISTRICT COURT  
EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT-DEPARTMENT 2**

**MIKE SALVAGNI**

*District Judge*

**TIMOTHY FALLAW**

*Staff Attorney*

**KRISTIN COIL**

*Court Reporter*

**LAW & JUSTICE CENTER**

615 South 16th Avenue, #207

Bozeman, Montana 59715

(406) 582-2140

January 13, 2005

Montana Board of Crime Control

P.O. Box 201408

Helena, MT 59620-1408

Re: Gallatin County Victim Services Program

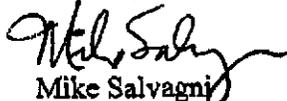
Greetings:

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) supports the continuation of a grant for Gallatin County's Victim Services Program.

The track record of Gloria Edwards, Director of the Victim Services Center, and Jan Brownell, Victim Advocate, is truly noteworthy. They are maintaining a commitment to broaden and diversify their funding through legislative efforts to charge fees for certain criminal convictions. They have taken advantage of their office in Gallatin County's Law and Justice Center, which has a stream of victims, nonstop. Gloria Edwards serves as one of our most involved members of the CJCC Advisory Committee, as well as serving on the Department of Corrections Advisory Council under the administration of Director Bill Slaughter. Victim Services was central in promoting a safety assessment for the County, and has worked tirelessly to enhance service delivery. Most important, the statistics speak for themselves. The advocates do their job, and provide a dignified place for victims to seek help. Last year (FY 2003-4), the Program assisted 674 victims, essentially holding its own with the previous year's count.

Victim Services has become a critical part of Gallatin County's criminal justice team, and is respected across the state as an excellent model.

Sincerely,



Mike Salvagni

District Judge; CJCC Chair

CJCC Members: Municipal Judge Karl Seel, County Justice Scott Wyckman, County Attorney Marty Lambert, Chief Public Defender Mariah Eastman, County Commissioner John Vincent, Probation and Parole Officer Steve Ette, Youth Probation Officer Gwen Massey, Sheriff Jim Cashell, Municipal Police Chief Greg Waldon

**Student Health Service**

MSU • Bozeman  
P.O. Box 173260  
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Telephone (406) 994-2311  
Fax (406) 994-2504  
TDD (406) 994-4790

January 14, 2005

Montana Board of Crime Control  
303 North Roberts  
Helena, MT 59604

Dear Subgrant Review Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Montana State University Victim Options In the Campus Environment (the VOICE Center) to express my full support for the grant funding sought by the Gallatin County Victim Assistance Program.

As Director of the VOICE Program, it is my responsibility to assist victims of sexual and domestic violence on the Montana State University campus. The Victim Assistance Office is an important resource for the victims we work with. All of the clients I have referred to the Victim Witness office have returned praising the staff's ability to understand and explain the status of cases, accuracy, compassion, and willingness to go out of her way to make them feel more at ease.

The VOICE Center has received support and mentoring from the Victim Assistance Office, including professional staff training and outreach and education. Most recently, the VOICE Center has worked with the Victim Assistance Office in the creation of a countywide Sexual Assault Response Team. This type of collaboration, I believe, strengthens the community's response to victims and increases both the quality and quantity of services that victims receive.

In addition to a firm commitment to providing direct services, the Gallatin County Victim Assistance Office continues to revise and expand its program in order to make itself as accessible and useful as possible to victims. As stated earlier, the Victim Witness Office provides an invaluable service to the people of Gallatin County.

The VOICE Center looks forward to continued collaboration with the Gallatin County Victim Witness Assistance Program, and strongly supports the requested grant funding.

Best,

Christian Sarver, Director  
VOICE Center, Montana State University-Bozeman  
406.994.7142

