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United States Senator Michael B. Enzi and the Wyoming Association of Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police (WASCOP) Announce Federal Grant for the Implementation of Innovative Biometric Technology System to Protect Children and Seniors

(Cheyenne, WY) – United State Senator Michael B. Enzi today announced the award of a federal grant for \$89,995 to the Wyoming Association of Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police (WASCOP). Senator Enzi made the announcement during WASCOP's meeting in Cheyenne at the Hitching Post Inn and Conference Center in Cheyenne.

Announcing the federal award, Senator Enzi noted that the funding will enable Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police across Wyoming to better protect children and seniors by implementing The Child Project™ and Senior Safety Net™. The systems enable law enforcement agencies to enroll, identify and locate missing children and adults through the use of iris recognition biometric technology.

Senator Enzi said, "I am pleased to announce the federal funding and grant award for the implementation of this innovative technology for the citizens of Wyoming. In particular, I want to thank all of the Sheriffs, Chiefs, Deputies and Officers throughout Wyoming for their daily commitment to making Wyoming safe for all of our families. I am honored that they asked me to assist them in securing this federal funding and truly appreciate the opportunity to be here today."

Sheriff Jim Pond of Albany County, president of WASCOP said, "First and most importantly, I want to thank Senator Enzi, on behalf on all of Wyoming's Sheriffs and Chiefs, for his determination and extraordinary efforts. We would not be announcing this grant – and implementing this remarkable technology for the families of Wyoming - without Senator Enzi's efforts to secure funding."

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"Second, I want to thank our Executive Director, Byron Odekoven, for his perseverance and hard work. I am pleased to be joining my fellow Sheriffs and

Police Chiefs in 39 states who have already implemented this remarkable technology and I am proud to announce that will be able to offer this service to the citizens of Wyoming at no cost to local taxpayers.”

Sheriff Pond continued, “As sworn law enforcement officers, we do everything we can each day to protect the citizens of our communities – particularly those most vulnerable like our children and seniors. We constantly strive to embrace improved techniques and technologies to improve public safety. Iris biometric technology and The Child Project™ are excellent examples of this innovation. Thanks to Senator Enzi’s efforts, we will be able to expand our capabilities across the State of Wyoming.”

Peter Y. Flynn, retired Sheriff of Plymouth County, Massachusetts and Co-Founder of The Child Project and BI2 Technologies, the creators of The Child Project™ said, “We are honored that Senator Enzi, Sheriff Pond and all the members of WASCOP have taken such a leadership role in this national effort. Through the hard work and determination of everyone involved, they have successfully accomplished what few other elected officials have been able to – secure federal funding specifically to benefit the families, children and seniors of the State of Wyoming.”

Flynn continued, “The Child Project™ is a secure nationwide network and registry that enables law enforcement and social service agencies to enroll, locate and positively identify missing children and adults with iris biometric recognition technology. Through this network, The Child Project™ compares the unique features contained in the iris against a database of individuals who voluntarily enroll throughout the country to determine identity. Participation is entirely voluntary, just as it is now with fingerprint and photo ID card programs.”

“I am very pleased to coordinate the implementation this innovative technology and important program,” said Byron Oedekoven, Executive Director of WASCOP. “Thank you for joining me in our effort to help identify and locate missing children, as well as seniors who may wander due to Alzheimer’s disease or dementia. I look forward to providing this added protection to the families of Wyoming.”

Iris recognition biometric technology positively determines the identity of an individual by capturing a high-resolution digital photograph of an individual’s iris. The technology can tell the difference between twins or even an individual’s right and left eye. The technology is non-intrusive. An image of the iris is captured by simply looking into the camera. The system was developed by Biometric Intelligence & Identification Technologies (BI² Technologies) of Plymouth, Massachusetts. For more information please visit The Child Project’s web site at www.thechildproject.org

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