

Public Information Office

For Immediate Release:

Date: Nov. 27, 2013

**'FEMALE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROFESSIONALS: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE'**

Minot State University's Criminal Justice Club will host "Female Criminal Justice Professionals: Past, Present, Future" Dec. 5 in the Conference Center, 7 p.m. The theme commemorates MSU's Centennial Celebration. Mary Maring, the keynote speaker for this augural symposium, is a North Dakota State Supreme Court justice.

"As a graduating senior in the criminal justice program and CJ Club president, it is an honor to have someone of such vast experience in my chosen field speak to the community and campus as Justice Maring, now in her retirement year," Max native Carly Swanson said. "In addition, panelists will share their journeys, adding to an very exciting and educational evening for people of all occupational ranges."

March 1, 1996, Gov. Edward Schafer appointed Maring to the North Dakota Supreme Court upon Justice Beryl Levine's retirement. She has been re-elected as a North Dakota Supreme Court justice consistently. She currently chairs the Joint Procedure Committee, the Judicial Education Commission and the Juvenile Drug Court Advisory Committee. She serves on the Juvenile Policy Board, the Commission to Study Racial and Ethnic Bias in the Courts, the Administrative Council and the Alternatives to Incarceration Interim Legislative Committee. She has chaired the North Dakota Judicial Conference, the Gender Fairness Implementation Committee and the Study Implementation.

Maring graduated in 1975 from the University of North Dakota School of Law with a Juris Doctorate degree. After law school, she worked as a law clerk for the Honorable Bruce Stone, Hennepin County District Court, Minn. In 1976, she entered private practice, practicing law in North Dakota and Minnesota and federal courts for 20 years. She handled cases in many areas of civil litigation and is certified a civil trial specialist. She has served in leadership positions in the North Dakota and Minnesota Bar Associations.

-more-

## **CJ Club's Symposium-2**

Panelists will discuss their career paths and emphasize the triumphs and obstacles they experienced as they relate to being female in the criminal justice field. They are:

- Shannon Lackey, senior patrolman, Minot Police Department
- Nancy Murphy, retired from the Minot Police Department and currently with Minot's Domestic Violence Crisis Center
- Ashley Beall, Ward County assistant state's attorney
- Penny Erickson, Ward County jail commander
- Connie Portscheller, judicial referee with the Northwest Judicial District (panelist but not speaking)
- Tasha Morin, port director with Customs and Border Protection, Office of Field Operations in St. John at the North Dakota port of entry
- Kristie Chole, Ward County juvenile court supervisor
- Kari Salmon, State of North Dakota probation officer for Ward County and formerly with the Minot Police Department

There will be a question-and-answer period. This event is free and open to the public.

For additional information, contact Melissa Spelchen, assistant criminal justice professor and CJ Club advisor, at 858-3465 or [Melissa.Spelchen@minotstateu.edu](mailto:Melissa.Spelchen@minotstateu.edu).

-end-