

February 22, 2005

**STENEHJEM TO DISCUSS ENFORCEMENT CONCERNS
AT MULTI-STATE METH CONFERENCE**

BISMARCK – Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem leaves for Arizona tomorrow to attend a Methamphetamine Summit hosted by the Conference of Western Attorneys General (CWAG).

The meeting will address the effect of new, tougher, meth related laws on surrounding states, and the problems faced by law enforcement, communities and families as a result of meth manufacturing and addiction.

Stenehjem will brief attorneys general from CWAG member states and territories about the impact of proposed cuts in federal funding on state and local law enforcement drug enforcement and prevention programs. At issue is the proposed elimination of Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) funded programs in the 2006 FY budget.

“Meth does not respect state borders. It is crucial for states to work together to address both the problems we face today, and our future funding needs. I am pleased to have an opportunity to brief other states about this situation,” said Stenehjem.

The attorneys general will hear briefings covering a variety of drug enforcement issues and will have an opportunity to discuss concerns with federal officials. At the end of the one-day summit, the attorneys general will announce a collective course of action for member states.