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Montana Department of Justice Plays Key Role in Breaking Up Bakken Drug Trafficking Ring

BILLINGS – Today, the Division of Criminal Investigation at the Montana Department of Justice took part in a press conference coordinated by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Montana announcing interagency enforcement efforts in several Bakken-related drug cases.

Attorney General Tim Fox issued this statement regarding the interagency cooperation that resulted in the indictments of one dozen people who were involved in the drug ring: "Project Safe Bakken illustrates just how well agencies at all levels can partner to get things accomplished. This operation will ultimately have a major impact on crime and drugs in Eastern Montana, thanks to the collaborative work of our Division of Criminal Investigation, the Richland County Sheriff's Office, the Sidney Police Department, and our federal partners."

Bryan Lockerby, Administrator of the Division of Criminal Investigation at the Montana Department of Justice, issued this statement regarding the State's role in Project Safe Bakken: "The Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) at the Montana Department of Justice is pleased to be a part of the unified initiative in Eastern Montana with our local and Federal partners. With the continued challenges that the explosive growth of the Bakken oilfield has had on our Montana communities, DCI is committed to providing support in minimizing the crime impact to our hard-working citizens. This recent enforcement action clearly demonstrates our combined efforts to defend Montana's values and work jointly with not only our local and federal partners, but also North Dakota agencies who are just as deeply committed to the safety and security of their citizens."

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