

MISSOULA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
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INFORMATIONAL
April 6, 2015

New PIO at the Sheriff's Office

Dear Missoula Media,

We are excited to officially announce that we have a new Public Information Officer here at the Missoula County Sheriff's Office! Brenda Bassett, a former Missoula news reporter and anchor, accepted the position, and we are very excited about the talents and skills she brings to the role. Brenda will help ensure that Sheriff McDermott's promise of open communication with our local media and transparency with the community we serve is met.

Thank you for your patience as we transitioned from having a sworn PIO, to a civilian one. We need all of our sworn staff serving in a law enforcement role, and we are confident that Brenda's media background will serve you well when you call our office for information. She will have full access to case information in our office. Please trust that the only information she will be instructed to withhold is information that might compromise an investigation or further harm a victim of a crime.

Brenda will be working Monday through Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm. **During non-business hours** we ask that you continue to call dispatch and request that the shift supervisor call you back.

We would like to invite a representative from each Missoula media outlet to attend a meeting on Monday, April 20, 2015 at 11:00am at the Sheriff's Office. This date will allow Brenda a few weeks to get settled, but then we would like you to provide feedback on how to improve communication as we start a new chapter in our PIO program. We invite you to help us make the program the best it's ever been.

Brenda's Contact Information:

Main Office- 285-4810

Desk- 258-3322

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