

# Missoula County Media Release

**Contact: Kirsten Pabst**

County Attorney

[kpabst@missoulacounty.us](mailto:kpabst@missoulacounty.us)

April 4, 2019



## **County Attorney to Present on Secondary Trauma Program at National Conference**

Missoula County Attorney Kirsten Pabst will showcase the county's award-winning program addressing secondary trauma when she speaks at a national conference this week.

The National District Attorneys Association selected Pabst to speak at its Women Prosecutors Section Committee Meeting in Austin, Texas, on Friday, April 5. Pabst will present on the Secondary Trauma Group, a first-of-its-kind program designed to promote resilience and longevity for prosecutors and law enforcement who work directly with survivors of violent crime.

"Addressing secondary trauma has been life-changing for our staff," Pabst said. "It's so encouraging to see other jurisdictions following our lead in this critical and evolving field and recognizing the importance of reducing turnover and making this profession sustainable."

Secondary trauma is the cumulative effect of daily exposure to graphic material, children and adults in crisis, and human tragedies. It often results in shortened life expectancies, addiction, interpersonal conflict and turnover. The Secondary Trauma Group teaches prosecutors and staff data-proven ways to advocate for victims without compromising their own well-being.

In 2017, the program received a National Association of Counties Achievement Award and was named to NACo's Top 100 Brilliant Ideas in Government list.

For more information, email Pabst [kpabst@missoulacounty.us](mailto:kpabst@missoulacounty.us).

###