



**RELEASE DATE:**

**October 27, 2006**

## **4<sup>th</sup> Annual National Family Violence Apprehension Detail**

On Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Fugitive Warrant Division coordinated the metro law enforcement agencies' efforts to arrest persons with outstanding family violence warrants. Nationally, the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Violence Apprehension Detail included over 150 County Sheriff's Offices, Police Departments, Probation Departments, and community agencies from 35 states. Locally, the **Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Omaha Police Domestic Violence Unit, Sarpy County Sheriff's Office, Bellevue Police, Council Bluffs (IA) Police and the Iowa Adult Probation Office** made 133 warrant attempts, which resulted in the arrest of 40 individuals, an apprehension rate of 30%

It has been well known that victims of family violence are often reluctant to report to law enforcement agencies. Of over half of the domestic violence crime that went unreported, 13% of the persons claimed they did not report the crime to law enforcement because it was "not important to police." This collaborative effort, coordinated by the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, hopes to raise awareness about the problem of family and domestic violence in our community and demonstrates to offenders that they will be held accountable for their violence. The metro area law enforcement agencies involved in this sweep acknowledge that this social problem is important to Omaha metro area law enforcement. As such, this Annual Family Violence Warrant Sweep is part of the metro area law enforcement agencies' continuing effort to keep the public and media informed about our victim/witness services.