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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lincoln, Nebraska - October 2024

ON OCTOBER 17, 2024, THE FAMILIES OF MISSING NEBRASKANS WILL GATHER TO LAUNCH THE FIRST ANNUAL "NEBRASKA MISSING PERSONS DAY". ED SMART, NANCY BIRD, JANNEL RAP AND FAMILIES OF THE MISSING WILL PARTICIPATE IN COMMEMORATING THIS LANDMARK DATE ON NEBRASKA'S OFFICIAL CALENDAR.

The official launch will be held at the following location and time:

October 17, 2024 10:00 a.m. First Christian Church 430 S 16<sup>th</sup> Street Lincoln, NE 68508

Nebraska Missing Persons Day serves as an awareness event for both the media and the public. More importantly, it serves as a venue for families to find support from the wider community and from each other. The event will feature several notable participants including Ed Smart, father of kidnapping survivor Elizabeth Smart; Nancy Bird, wife of missing Wall Street Journal reporter, David Bird, who unfortunately was found deceased; Denise Horvath Allan, mother of Charles Horvath, missing from Canada for 35 years; and Jannel Rap, sister of Gina Bos and the founder of the event's sponsoring nonprofit, GINA For Missing Persons FOUNDation.

Nebraska family members of the missing will have a chance to introduce their loved one's cases to bring further awareness to the media and the public. In addition, a choir comprised of family and friends of the missing will join to perform the song *October 17<sup>th</sup>*. This moving song encompasses their loss and how they cope.

The enactment of **October 17 – Nebraska Missing Persons Day** has been a collaborative effort of Nebraskans with missing family members. Their individual tragedies united their hearts to inspire a designated day to recognize their loved ones. The disappearance date of **Gina Bos**, missing from Lincoln,

Nebraska since October 17, 2000, was chosen to represent missing Nebraskans. Nebraska legislature's compassionate hearts made **Nebraska Missing Persons Day** a part of LB 1102, and with its passage they both recognized and affirmed the everyday anguish of the families of those who have simply vanished. Nebraska's elected officials have empathetically chosen to honor and recognize past, present and future missing Nebraskans. Sadly, we know that some future Nebraskans will also experience this kind of loss. The families who worked for this day feel NMPD will spread hope for years to come. Their goal is that NMPD will grow to the level of recognition that all missing Nebraskans deserve. The public, law enforcement and media are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Pre-launch NMPD CONCERT:
October 16, 2024
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
FREE EVENT

Featuring performances by:

Jannel Rap, Sean Beste, Baby Jason, Yvonne Perea, Gina Miller, and Kirk Hathaway

Meadowlark Coffee and Espresso

1624 South Street, Lincoln, NE

For more info, please visit www.411GINA.org

**Nebraska Missing Persons Day** organizers are family members of the following missing Nebraskans:

- Marilyn Alexander Hastings, NE Missing since September 21, 2001
- Regina Bos Lincoln, NE Missing since October 17, 2000
- Chance Englebert Gering NE Missing since July 6, 2019
- Tyler Goodrich Lincoln, NE *November 3, 2023*
- Jason Jolkowski Omaha, NE Missing since June 13, 2001
- Christopher Loupin Elm Creek, NE Missing since November 17, 2019
- Tarie Price Gretna, NE Missing since June 11, 2020

To see Nebraskans featured on 411GINA's website, please visit https://411gina.org/cases/ne.html

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