



Minnesota Coalition
for Battered Women

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FIRST KNOWN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDE OF THE YEAR

Public awareness campaign honors Good Thunder city council member

Saint Paul, MN – Days after honoring the 34 known victims of domestic violence homicide in 2015 with the release of its annual Femicide Report, the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women has been notified of the state's first known domestic violence homicide of 2016.

Kimberly Hernandez, 48, was killed by her husband, Charles "Chuck" Hernandez, 60, at their home in Good Thunder. According to autopsy reports, Charles strangled Kimberly before committing suicide by suffocation. Kimberly was serving the last of her term on the Good Thunder city council.

"Every time our communities experience a domestic violence homicide, is sad and difficult," said Liz Richards, executive director of the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women. "This time, there is an additional layer of frustration and grief as the death of Kimberly Hernandez marks the beginning of the 2016 Femicide Report."

Over 500 agencies, organizations, and individuals raised the Live Free Without Violence flag, a public awareness campaign spearheaded by the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women, to honor the life of Kimberly Hernandez. The flag will fly for a week to bring attention to the impact domestic violence has on communities across Minnesota.

Individuals, businesses, organizations, and agencies are all invited to be a part of the Live Free Without Violence flag campaign.

For more information about the Live Free Without Violence campaign and domestic violence, contact Becky Smith at bsmith@mcbw.org or visit the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women's website at www.mcbw.org

If you are a victim experiencing abuse, contact Day One at 866-223-1111 to connect with services.

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