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## NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## AG Kaul Co-Hosts Northwestern Wisconsin Law Enforcement Roundtable

NEW RICHMOND, Wis. – Attorney General Josh Kaul co-hosted a regional law enforcement roundtable in northwestern Wisconsin yesterday with State Senator Patty Schachtner (D-Somerset). The roundtable was attended by police chiefs and sheriffs from St. Croix, Pierce and Polk counties.

"Thank you to the law enforcement officials from northwest Wisconsin who met with Sen. Schachtner, Rep. Stafsholt, and me," said Attorney General Kaul. "I look forward to continuing to discuss public-safety issues, including ways that we can work together to reduce the distribution and use of meth."

"We need strong partnerships between state and local officials to address northwestern Wisconsin's law enforcement needs," added Senator Patty Schachtner. "T'm pleased that our law enforcement officers were able to meet with Attorney General Kaul to discuss the addiction and public safety concerns facing our region."

Wisconsin communities have experienced challenges related to the methamphetamine and opioid epidemics. In 2017, 916 people statewide died from an opioid-related drug overdose<sup>1</sup>. In addition to the human cost, local communities continue to incur expenses related to treatment, incarceration, and foster care.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/opioid/index.htm</u>