**NOV. 12 PANEL: LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE COMMUNITY:**

**SYSTEMIC BIASES REGARDING RACE AND ETHNICITY**

Building trust between law enforcement and communities and people of color has proven to be both extremely difficult and of vital importance in our currently divided country. For this reason, the Moscow Human Rights Commission and the Latah County Human Rights Task Force are joining together to sponsor a two panel webinar discussion series on “Strengthening Relationships with the Community and Law EnforcemenT.” The first webinar panel will be on Thursday, November 12 at 7pm to 8:30pm addressing “Systemic Biases Regarding Race and Ethnicity.” A second panel on “Mental Health and Crisis Intervention Training” will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 8 at 5pm to 6:30pm. The Zoom Webinar link is **https://uidaho.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_POaj19lITxCs1Ij\_DUup9A**

With the reinvigoration of the Black Lives Matter movement, brought about by the tragic deaths of black men and women at the hands of law enforcement, the sponsoring organizations want to take a proactive approach to prevent unnecessary conflicts and episodes of this nature from happening in our community. The panel is designed to answer questions about current efforts such as Moscow’s community policing policy, as well as to investigate ways of improving ongoing communication and trust. Topics to be discussed include hiring and training policies, handling of bias and difficult situations, accountability and outreach to communities of color. Questions from listeners are welcome.

Panel members will include Moscow Chief of Police, James Fry, Latah Sheriff, Richard Skiles, and community leaders, Dr. Yolanda Bisbee, Chief Diversity Officer and Executive Director of Tribal Relations at the University of Idaho and Trymaine Gaither, Recruitment and Career Coordinator & MESI Coordinator for the Honors College at Washington State University. The panel will be moderated by Erin Agidius, member of the Moscow Human Rights Commission and deputy director for the UI Office of Civil Rights and Investigations. More information is available on the Latah County Human Rights Task Force website, wwwhumanrightslatah.org.