



FBI Media Release:

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
LITTLE ROCK FIELD OFFICE

PRESENTS

2010 DIRECTOR'S COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD TO

MARTHA DEAVER

PRESIDENT, ARKANSAS ADVOCATES FOR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS



Special Agent in Charge (SAC) Valerie Parlave is pleased to announce that Martha Deaver, the President of Arkansas Advocates for Nursing Home Residents (AANHR), is the recipient of the 2010 FBI Director's Community Leadership Award for the state of Arkansas. SAC Parlave will present a certificate of the award to Mrs. Deaver at a press conference at the FBI Little Rock Field Office on December 16, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. Mrs. Deaver, along with the other recipients from across the country, will be presented with the distinguished FBI award by FBI Director Robert Mueller, III at FBI Headquarters in Washington, DC in early 2011.

Since 1990, the FBI has recognized individuals and organizations whose achievements in the areas of terrorism, crime, drug, gang, or violence prevention/education have had an exemplary impact on the community. Each year, the SAC of each FBI Field Office selects an individual or organization that has made a major contribution in these areas. Martha Deaver's selection is based upon her diligent and dedicated work to not only improve the lives of the nursing home residents in Arkansas, but also across the United States, by protecting them from crimes and abuses committed against these elderly and infirm citizens, as well as raise the public's attention to this tragedy.

Martha Deaver is the President of AANHR, an organization dedicated to protecting the elderly from abuse and criminal activity. In addition to her advocacy work for those who are often incapable of protecting themselves, Martha Deaver has become a resource on these issues for numerous media outlets, public relations companies, and the public at large. Through her outreach efforts, Martha Deaver has raised the public's and the industry's awareness of the vulnerability of those in nursing home facilities. She has also worked extensively with federal and state agencies, such as the Arkansas Office of Long Term Care, that are responsible to keep these citizens safe from abuse and criminal activity.

Martha Deaver's tragic experiences with family members precipitated her journey as an advocate for the rights of nursing home residents. Her story was featured in the *Ladies Home Journal*. Martha Deaver worked for three years with Consumer Reports to produce an in-depth documentary on America's Nursing homes titled, "The Crisis in America's Nursing Homes." Through her tireless efforts, Mrs. Deaver also contributed to the 2004 Government Accountability Office report entitled, "Arkansas Coroner Referrals Confirm Weaknesses in State and Federal Oversight of Quality of Care".

In 2006, Martha Deaver received the "Janet Tulloch Memorial Award" from the National Coalition for Nursing Home Reform in being named their "advocate of the year" for her work in protecting the rights of nursing home residents.

In 2005, Martha Deaver created AANHR's first National Nursing Assistant Recognition Awards Banquet which recognizes Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) in the state of Arkansas for their dedication in caring for nursing home residents. She also organized the first state-wide rally for National Residents' Rights Week in 2004 and has chaired each of the last seven annual rallies at the state capitol.

Martha Deaver's efforts on behalf of the elderly and infirm in our nursing homes has placed her among the elite ranks of recipients of this prestigious FBI award. The Little Rock Field Office of the FBI is commending her efforts in this area by honoring her with this award.