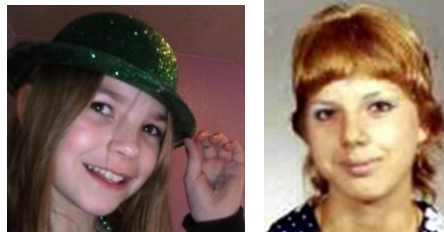


# PRESS RELEASE



## **For Immediate Release:**

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**Portland, OR** – Soroptimist International Northwestern Region along with many other agencies will come together to host the annual Northwest Conference Against Trafficking on **Saturday, January 9, 2010 at the Red Lion Hotel on the River in Portland, Oregon.**

The conference will offer breakout sessions, luncheon with keynote speakers, and an exhibit expo. **Melissa Baum**, mother of kidnapped McCleary, Washington 10-year old **Lindsey Baum** will be among the special guests; conference attendees will have a chance to meet with her during the exhibit expo. Baum will be joined by sister of **Jamie Grissim, Starr Lara**. Jamie was kidnapped from Vancouver, Washington in 1971 at the age of sixteen. Both Baum and Lara will be at the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children booth.

“Many of the hundreds of thousands of trafficked victims are also victims of kidnapping and abductions, having the families at events like this will help keep their loved ones’ faces and cases visible,” said Michelle Bart, one of the conference co-chairs.

Other speakers include: **Jane Velez-Mitchell**, host of “Issues” on HLN, **Col. William Hillar** (whose story was seen in the movie “Taken”), and **United States Senator Ron Wyden** (D-Or.).

There is still time to register for the conference, log onto [www.NWCAT.org](http://www.NWCAT.org).

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