

Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization

For Immediate Release

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Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO) Mourns the Passing of Montana Miner and Activist, Les Skramstad

Redondo Beach, CA ... January 24, 2007 --- The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO), an organization dedicated to serving as the voice of asbestos victims, today mourns the passing of Les Skramstad. On Sunday, January 21, Les, age 70, lost his eleven year battle to diseases caused by asbestos, including mesothelioma.

For three years, Les worked as a sweeper at Zonolite, a vermiculite mine in Libby, Montana. Les was diagnosed with asbestosis in 1996 and then mesothelioma in 2007. Les became an activist to warn people about the dangers of asbestos and fight for justice. "This didn't happen to us, this was done to us," stated Skramstad.

"Les will be always remembered for his honesty, courage, integrity and his unwavering commitment to justice and asbestos disease awareness," said Linda Reinstein, Executive Director and Cofounder of Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO). "More than 30 million homes, schools and office building are still contaminated with deadly asbestos, which has still not been banned."

"Les was a hero. If there was ever anyone who had their moral compass pointing in the right direction, it was Les," said Margy Urnberg, ADAO National Representative Director and former Libby resident.

The occurrence of asbestos-related diseases, including mesothelioma, lung cancer and asbestosis, is growing out of control. Studies estimate that during the next decade, 100,000 victims in the United States will die of an asbestos related disease - equaling 30 deaths per day.

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Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO) was founded by asbestos victims and their families in 2004. ADAO seeks to give asbestos victims and concerned citizens a united voice to help ensure that their rights are fairly represented and protected, while raising public awareness about the dangers of asbestos exposure and often deadly asbestos related diseases. ADAO is an independent organization funded through voluntary contributions and staffed by volunteers. For more information visit www.asbestosdiseaseawareness.org

Media Contact:

Doug Larkin

Director of Communications

Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO)

Phone: (703) 250-3590 x1245 Cell: (202) 391-1546 doug@asbestosdiseaseawareness.org