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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHEYENNE – In a historic step to fight for local journalism and those who produce it in Wyoming’s capital city, the journalists of the Wyoming Tribune Eagle unanimously voted today to establish the Cheyenne News Guild.

Predecessors of the WTE have loyally served the citizens of Cheyenne and Laramie County since 1867, and our union will work to protect our newspaper’s legacy as an essential public trust in the city, county and state.

The economic realities of journalism won’t change, and we’ve continued to serve our local readers while adapting to the market’s shifting ecosystem. However, by forming a union, we will be able to better respond to these changes and, most importantly, have direct, face-to-face interactions with our employer regarding any potential issues or changes.

In 2015, Adams Publishing Group took ownership of our paper, and we continue to appreciate our local managers and the support they offer to us every week. While disappointed in APG’s decision to hire an attorney from Seyfarth Shaw, a Chicago-based law firm with a long history of anti-unionization efforts, we look forward to negotiating for a fair contract that considers the concerns of every member of our newsroom.

We also hope our decision to unionize resonates with other small, scrappy newspapers across the country. Regardless of where you are, the fact is simple: if you work in a newsroom, you should have a union.

We continue to enjoy our relationships with our local managers, and we look forward to bargaining for a fair contract in the coming months.

— The organizing committee of the Cheyenne News Guild