



Law and Justice Interim Committee

59th Montana Legislature

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SHERI HEFFELFINGER, Lead Staff
VALENCIA LANE, Staff Attorney
FONG HOM, Secretary

AGENDA

Meeting #3

Thursday, November 17, 2005
Room 102, State Capitol, Helena

8:30 a.m. Secretary will note the role
Approval of Sept. 21-22, 2005 minutes

8:35 a.m. Predatory lending and consumer protection **(TBD)**

SJR 6: Study of Civil Legal Services for Low-Income Montanans

8:50 a.m. Follow-up information, **Ms. Sheri Heffelfinger**, Legislative Research Analyst

- ▶ highlights from last meeting
- ▶ summary of issues and options so far identified
- ▶ progress report on research to identify funding sources and budgets
- ▶ fact sheet on census data and demographics of poverty in Montana

9:00 a.m. Access to justice profiles: personal stories that illustrate problems and needs

- ▶ MLSA direct attorney services client **(TBD)** with commentary by **Mr. Klaus Sitte** on workload of MLSA attorneys and MLSA funding issues
- ▶ Self-Help Law project client **(TBD)** with commentary by **Tara Veazey** on resources needed to assist people to represent themselves
- ▶ Pro bono client **(TBD)** with commentary by **Chris Manos or Pam Bucy** on pro bono workload and issues concerning private attorneys
- ▶ Tribal issues, **American Indian speaker** with commentary by **Jim Taylor** on civil legal needs unique to American Indians.

10:00 a.m. BREAK

10:15 a.m. Public comment

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Thursday, November 17, 2005
Room 102, State Capitol, Helena

10:45 a.m. Roundtable discussion with key stakeholders to identify and analyze issues, moderated by **Rep. John Parker**, chairman

- ▶ Montana Legal Services Association
- ▶ Self-Help Law Project
- ▶ Access to Justice Committee, State Bar Association
- ▶ Equal Justice Task Force, Supreme Court
- ▶ Commission on Self-Represented Litigants, Supreme Court
- ▶ Montana Advocacy Program

11:30 a.m. Committee Work Session, **Rep. John Parker**, chairman
Define and prioritize the issues

12:00 noon LUNCH BREAK

SJR 40 Study of County Attorney Services

1:00 p.m. Follow-up information, **Ms. Sheri Heffelfinger**, Legislative Research Analyst

- ▶ highlights from last meeting
- ▶ summary of issues and options so far identified
- ▶ consolidated spreadsheet of county data in staff background report
- ▶ information paper and briefing on district attorney model and other models for delivering prosecution services

1:30 p.m. Report on county attorney office and caseload data so far collected: MCAA and MACo

2:00 p.m. Problem analysis from a statewide perspective, **(TBD)** Attorney General's Office

2:30 p.m. Public comment

3:00 p.m. BREAK

3:15 p.m. Round table discussion to define and prioritize issues and problems, moderated by **Rep. John Parker**, chairman

3:45 p.m. Committee Work Session, **Rep. John Parker**, chairman
Selection of options for further development
Instructions to staff

4:15 p.m. Planning activities of the Montana Board of Crime Control, **Mr. Roland Mena**
Update on the SJR 37 study of child protective services, **Sen. Williams**
Update on Public Defender Act implementation, **Steve Bender**
Rule review matters, **Valencia Lane**
Other business

4:30 p.m. Adjournment