# MONTANA PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION

# Fiscal Year 2008 Report to the Governor, Supreme Court and Legislature



Office of the State Public Defender

October, 2008

### MONTANA PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION



BRIAN SCHWEITZER GOVERNOR TARA VEAZEY CHAIR

## STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 496-6080 Fax: (406) 496-6098 44 WEST PARK STREET BUTTE, MONTANA 59701

October 10, 2008

Governor Brian Schweitzer P.O. Box 200801 Helena, MT 59620-0801

The Montana Supreme Court P.O. Box 203001 Helena, MT 59620-3001

The Montana Legislature c/o Kevin Hayes Legislative Services Division P.O. Box 201706 Helena, MT 59620-1706

Dear Governor Schweitzer, Supreme Court Justices, and Legislators:

RE: Montana Public Defender Commission Report to the Governor, Supreme Court and Legislature

Pursuant to 47-1-105 (9), MCA, the Office of the State Public Defender (OPD) must provide a biennial report entitled "The Montana Public Defender Commission Report to the Governor, Supreme Court and Legislature." Each interim, the commission shall also specifically report to the law and justice interim committee.

### **Description of Report**

- 1. All policies and procedures in effect for the operation and administration of the statewide public defender system and all standards established or being considered by the commission or the chief public defender.
- 2. The number of deputy public defenders and the region supervised by each; the number of public defenders employed or contracted within the system, identified

Governor Schweitzer Supreme Court Justices Legislators Page 2 October 10, 2008

- by region; and the number of attorney and non attorney staff supervised by each deputy public defender.
- 3. The number of new cases in which counsel was assigned to represent a party, identified by region, court and case type; and the total number of persons represented by the office, identified by region, court and case type.
- 4. The annual caseload and workload of each public defender, identified by region, court and case type.
- 5. The training programs conducted by the office and the number of attorney and non-attorney staff who attended each program; and the continuing education courses on criminal defense or criminal procedure attended by each public defender employed or contracted within the system.
- 6. Detailed expenditure data by court and case type.

This report is also available at <a href="http://publicdefender.mt.gov/forms/pdf/FY2008ReportToGovernor.pdf">http://publicdefender.mt.gov/forms/pdf/FY2008ReportToGovernor.pdf</a>

Please feel free to contact our Administrative Director, Harry Freebourn, if you have any questions regarding the information in this report. Mr. Freebourn can be reached at 496-6084, or <a href="https://hfreebourn@mt.gov">hfreebourn@mt.gov</a>

Sincerely,

Tara Veazey, Chair

cc: Montana Public Defender Commission Randi Hood, Chief Public Defender Harry Freebourn, Administrative Director

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Policies and Procedures</u>
Standards
Staffing Report
Case Counts
Caseload and Workload
<u>Training Report</u>
Expenditure Data

requ or acco	uest to the ( (406) 496- ommodation	Office of the 6080. The s for any	State Publ State of known dis	ic Defende Montana sability tha	r, 44 W. Par attempts to	vided upon re k St., Butte N o provide re vent a pers nment.	MT 59701 asonable
75 (	copies of this	s report wer	e produced	at an estin	nated cost of	f \$10.83 per o	copy for