



Brian Schweitzer
Governor

OFFICE OF THE STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER STATE OF MONTANA

Chief Public Defender
Randi Hood

MONTANA PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION BRIEFING FEBRUARY 5, 2010 MEETING LEGISLATIVE/BUDGET MEETINGS AND TIMELINES

Law and Justice Interim Committee

- Future 2010 meeting dates: February 8- 9, April 5, May 17-18, July 12, and September 3.
- Met with Commission on December 17, 2009
- Met on September 28 and 29, 2009
 - Panels for 3 issues:
 - Animal hoarding (Ed Sheehy)
 - DUI (Chris Petaja)
 - DNA (Jon Moog)
- Met on August 3, 2009 to discuss their work plan for the interim
- Potential Legislation:
 - SJR 29 – Study retention of biological evidence in felony cases (DNA)
 - SJR 39 – Study DUI laws and enforcement
- Agency legislation due to the committee during the summer of 2010

Web site: http://leg.mt.gov/css/Committees/interim/2009_2010/Law_and_Justice/default.asp

Legislative Finance Committee

- Future 2010 meeting dates: March 4-5, June 3-4, October 7-8, and November 16.
- Agency performance reports due in written form on FTE and contractor evaluations for the March meetings
- Agency reported on “net cases” “case durations” and “collection of fees” on before January 1, 2010 deadline

Web site: http://leg.mt.gov/css/Committees/Administration/Finance/2011_lfc_default.asp

62nd Legislative Session and Budget Process

- Begins – January 2011 and progresses through April 2011
- Governor’s budget due to legislature in November-December 2010
- Agency budgets sent to OBPP in late August 2010
- Agency began the budget process in November 2009
- Agency’s draft budget items presented to the Commission on December 18, 2009
- Budget reductions to the Commission’s budget due to the budget office by 1/29/2010
- Agency alerted Budget Office of potential funding shortfall - May 2009 and January 2010
- Agency alerted Commission of this shortfall in July, October, and December 2009