

**OFFICE OF THE APPELLATE DEFENDER  
REPORT TO THE MONTANA PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION**

**February 21, 2008 through April 15, 2008**

The Appellate Defender Office (ADO) took in a total of 13 new appeals in February (three of those were contracted out of office) and 15 new cases in March (one contracted out of office, six cases kept by OPD). Five of these cases were either dependent/ neglect, mental health or juvenile cases. We are currently awaiting either transcripts or the district court record to be filed before appointment on eight of these cases. There have been two new cases as of April 15.

Since February 21, 2008 we have filed 17 criminal opening briefs; three dependent/neglect opening briefs; seven criminal reply briefs; five dependent/neglect reply briefs and five Anders briefs.

Briefs filed within ADO by month:

|         |           |         |           |         |                           |
|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|---------------------------|
| 08/2006 | <b>5</b>  | 03/2007 | <b>14</b> | 10/2007 | <b>21</b>                 |
| 09/2006 | <b>5</b>  | 04/2007 | <b>18</b> | 11/2007 | <b>16</b>                 |
| 10/2006 | <b>12</b> | 05/2007 | <b>15</b> | 12/2007 | <b>17</b>                 |
| 11/2006 | <b>15</b> | 06/2007 | <b>14</b> | 1/2008  | <b>18</b>                 |
| 12/2006 | <b>10</b> | 7/2007  | <b>18</b> | 2/2008  | <b>20</b>                 |
| 01/2007 | <b>14</b> | 8/2007  | <b>19</b> | 3/2008  | <b>21</b>                 |
| 02/2007 | <b>12</b> | 9/2007  | <b>23</b> | 4/2008  | <b>13</b> (as of 4/15/08) |

There are 231 appellate cases open within the ADO.

FTE within ADO            94

Regional FTE                11

Contract                      19

Postconviction Relief      7

There are 100 inactive cases pending opinion.

We've closed 131 cases to date.