

Regular Crime Task Force Meeting

Civic Center, 2 Park Drive South,
Gibson Room 212, Great Falls, MT

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Sandra Guynn called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Great Falls Crime Task Force Members (TFM) present: Nicole Griffith, Sandra Guynn, Sara Sexe, Jeff Newton, Jesse Slaughter. Also present was Ex-officio TFM Rick Tryon. Shawna Jarvey and John Parker were absent. Cascade County District Court Judge John Kutzman substituted for John Parker. Shane Etwiler participated virtually.

Chairperson Guynn announced that Mary Lynne Billy resigned due to personal obligations (via June 24, 2021 email).

RECOGNITION OF STAFF: City Manager Greg Doyon, Police Captain Rob Moccasin, Police Captain John Schaffer, Deputy City Attorney Jeff Hindoen and Deputy City Clerk Darcy Dea.

TASK FORCE AGENDA ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 14, 2021, GREAT FALLS CRIME TASK FORCE.

TFM Slaughter moved, seconded by TFM Sexe, that the CTF approve the meeting minutes of June 14, 2021.

Chairperson Guynn asked if there was any discussion amongst the TFM or comments from the public. Hearing none, Chairperson Guynn called for the vote.

Motion carried 5-0.

2. BRIEFING FROM MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, DIVISION OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION, ADMINISTRATOR BRYAN LOCKERBY.

Montana Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation Administrator Bryan Lockerby reviewed and discussed the attached PowerPoint presentation, which included agencies the Division of Criminal Investigation supports, Department of Justice Rocky Mountain HIDTA 2021 Threat Assessment, HIDTA weapons seized from 2012 through 2020, multi-jurisdictional drug task forces funded by the Montana Board of Crime Control (Edward Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant Program), 2020/2021 MHP interdiction heat map, Narcotics Bureau investigations 2020, Montana in-custody events involving law enforcement, registered sexual and violent offenders in the city and county, 2020 Elder Fraud Report, Montana OCP reported internet scams, resources, recommendations and Montana Substance Use Disorder Task Force Strategic Plan.

Vice-Chairperson Newton received clarification that crime is unique to each community in the State.

Ex-officio TFM Tryon received clarification that methamphetamine related arrests were down in 2020 due to COVID-19 since jail intake was down and courts were closed. He further received clarification that the white section on a Power Point slide indicates jurisdictions not funded by the Edward Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant Program.

Vice-Chairperson Newton explained that the City utilizes Edward Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant funding for certain programs; however, Cascade County does not qualify for HIDTA funding.

TFM Etwiler received clarification that different tier levels for registered sexual and violent offenders determines the requirements with regard to reporting their address.

3. **BRIEFING FROM U.S. DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, ACTING U.S. ATTORNEY LEIF JOHNSON.**

Acting U.S. Attorney Leif Johnson introduced Assistant U.S. Attorneys Jessica Betley, Ethan Plaut, Jeff Starnes and Jared Cobell. Acting U.S. Attorney Johnson reviewed and discussed the attached PowerPoint presentation, which included federal crimes relevant to violent crime, Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), Yellowstone violent crime stats, Yellowstone Substance Abuse Connect (SAC) 2020-2023 Action Plan and 2021 grant opportunities and resources for violent crime reduction initiatives.

Acting U.S. Attorney Johnson encouraged TFM to consider PSN's, grant funding and reaching out to local and state agencies for assistance with regard to violent crime initiatives. He added that maintaining crime data is important when applying for grants.

TFM Sexe received clarification that if the CTF is interested in pursuing PSN's, it should collaborate with the County Attorney, Police and Sheriff Departments, as well as Federal Law Enforcement.

4. **BRIEFING FROM CASCADE COUNTY ATTORNEY, JOSH RACKI.**

Cascade County Attorney Josh Racki reviewed and discussed the attached PowerPoint presentation, which included office resources, Civil and Criminal Division primary and secondary mission, challenges, needs and drivers of crime in Great Falls.

Cascade County District Court Judge John Kutzman arrived at 4:55 p.m.

Ex-officio TFM Tryon commented that the City is a HUB for mental health; however, there is a lack of community resources for mental health treatment.

County Attorney Racki responded that mental health facilities are overwhelmed and there is a reduction in funding. He added that it is difficult and time-consuming supervising mental health individuals released back into the community.

TFM Slaughter added that having the right type of resources for mental health is important.

TFM Sexe received clarification that the County Attorney's office collaborates on criminal cases with the U.S. District Attorney's office. She further received clarification that County Attorney Racki encouraged pursuing PSN's as a potential solution to reduce violent crimes.

TFM Griffith received clarification that studies show that Adult Drug Treatment Court is successful; however, the success rate for Juvenile Drug Treatment Court is undetermined.

5. BRIEFING FROM CITY OF GREAT FALLS CHIEF PROSECUTOR, NEIL ANTHON

Chief Prosecutor Neil Anthon reviewed and discussed the attached PowerPoint presentation which included legal department attorneys and staff, criminal division mission and work flow, contempt of court, offenses against person, property, public administration and public order cases, drugs/paraphernalia and traffic offenses, ordinance violations, comparison of legal departments, 2020 citations per prosecutor, projected citations per prosecutor for 2021, how many trials are currently scheduled, criminal division pressures and burdens, case management techniques, long term challenges and future opportunities.

Chairperson Guynn received clarification that the Civil Division provides risk management for the City and the Criminal Division handles criminal, as well as City Ordinance violations. She further received clarification that Driving Under the Influence (DUI) cases have always been contentious.

Vice-Chairperson Newton received clarification that the Criminal Division deals with repeat offenders on a regular basis and mental health and socioeconomic are factors.

Chief Prosecutor Anthon explained that there is a potential agreement between the City and Cascade County Law Clinic to provide pro bono legal representation and resources to qualified individuals. He further explained that the Law Clinic is funded by the Cascade County Bar Association, Montana Justice Foundation and United Way.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM TASK FORCE.

Manager Doyon reported that upcoming CTF meetings would consist of local judiciary and abbreviated budget presentations. He requested that TFM advise him of other supporting community agencies that would be beneficial to CTF meeting discussions.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

Kevin Westie, 602 35th Street North, expressed support with regard to providing youth with religious, mental health or counseling assistance.

Ex-officio TFM Tryon inquired about the process with regard to filling Mary Lynne Billy's vacant position.

City Manager Doyon responded that either Mary Lynne Billy or the American Indian population would make a recommendation.

DISCUSSION ON UPCOMING MEETING DATES.

Chairperson Guynn announced that the next scheduled CTF meeting would be on July 12, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. in the Gibson Room.

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business to come before the CTF, Ex-officio TFM Tryon moved, seconded by TFM Sexe to adjourn the **regular meeting of June 28, 2021, at 5:55 p.m.**

Motion carried 5-0.

Sandra Guynn, Chairperson

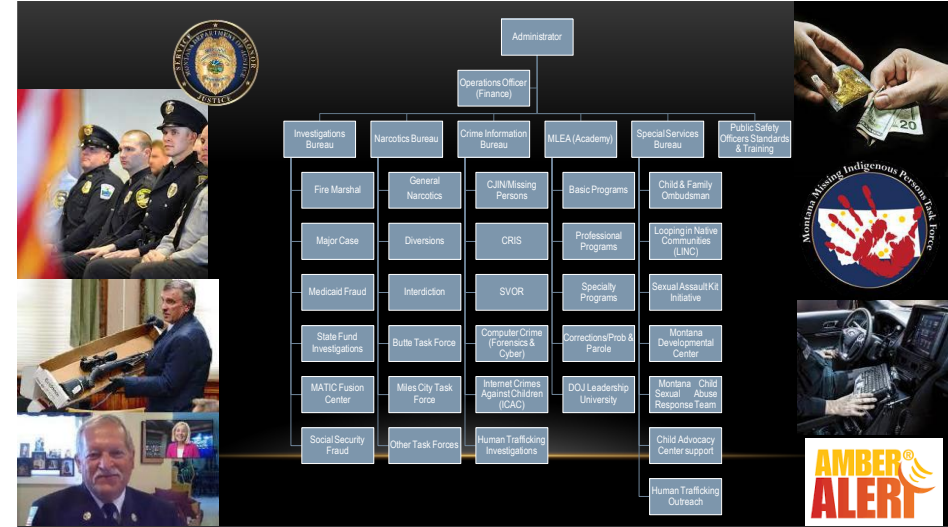
Acting Secretary – Deputy City Clerk Darcy Dea

Minutes Approved: July 12, 2021

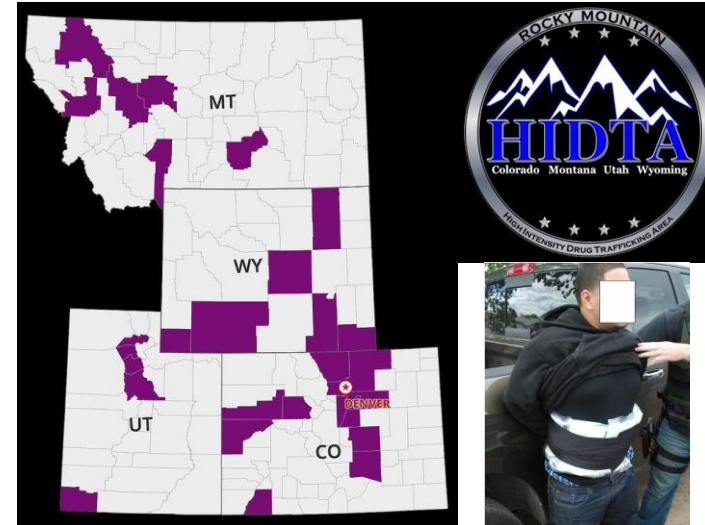


Great Falls Crime Drug Task Force

Bryan Lockerby, MT Department of Justice
Division of Criminal Investigation



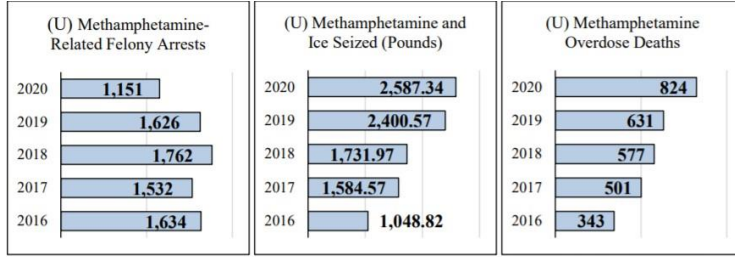
- Heston Silbert, Director** Department of Public Safety (AZ) **David Rhodes, Sheriff** Yavapai County Sheriff's Office
- Stan Hilkey, Executive Director** Department of Public Safety (CO) **VICE-CHAIRMAN Robert L. Ticer, Chief** Loveland Police Department
- Kedrick R. Wills, Director** Idaho State Police (ID) **Craig T. Rowland, Sheriff** Bingham County Sheriff's Office
- CHAIRMAN Bryan E. Lockerby, Administrator** Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation (MT) **Trenton Harbaugh, Sheriff** Custer County Sheriff's Office
- Ryan Miller, Deputy Chief** Department of Public Safety (NV) **Lazaro Chavez, Deputy Chief** Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
- Tim Johnson, Interim Secretary** Department of Public Safety (NM) **Steven Hebbe, Chief** Farmington Police Department
- Jess Anderson, Commissioner** Department of Public Safety (UT) **Cameron M. Noel, Sheriff** Beaver County Sheriff's Office
- Forrest Williams, Interim Director** Division of Criminal Investigation (WY) **Roy Eckerdt, Chief** Powell Police Department



- Montana Executive Board**
- United States Attorney, Vacant (Acting)
 - Billings Police Chief, Rich St. John
 - DCI Administrator, Bryan Lockerby



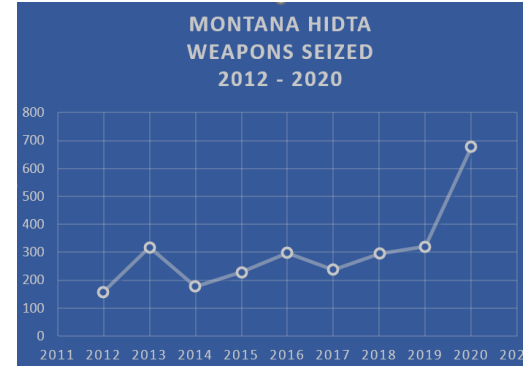
ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIDTA 2021 THREAT ASSESSMENT



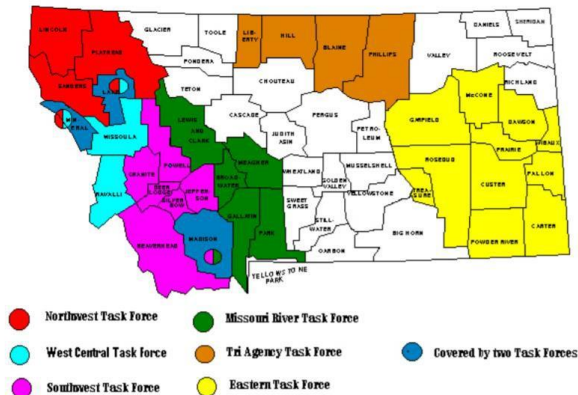
(U) Source: RMHIDTA PMP

(U) Source: RMHIDTA PMP

(U) Source: CDPHE, MATIC/DPHHS, SIAC, WDH
(U) 2020 Data is preliminary



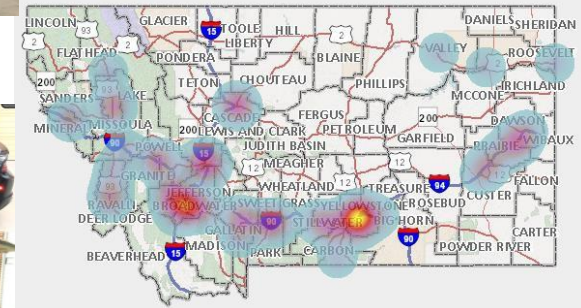
Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Forces
Funded by the Montana Board of Crime Control
Edward Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant Program



Origins/Destination of highway drugs:
WA, ND, MN, ID, OR, CA

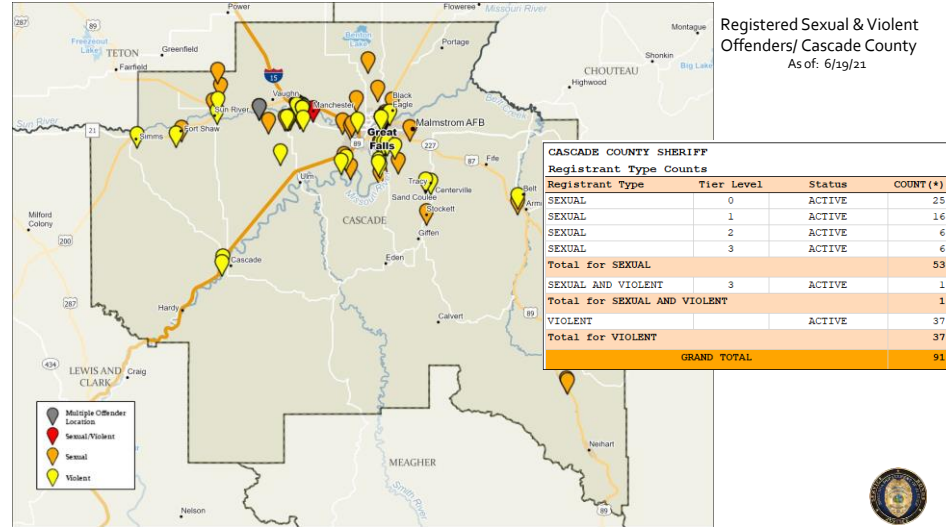
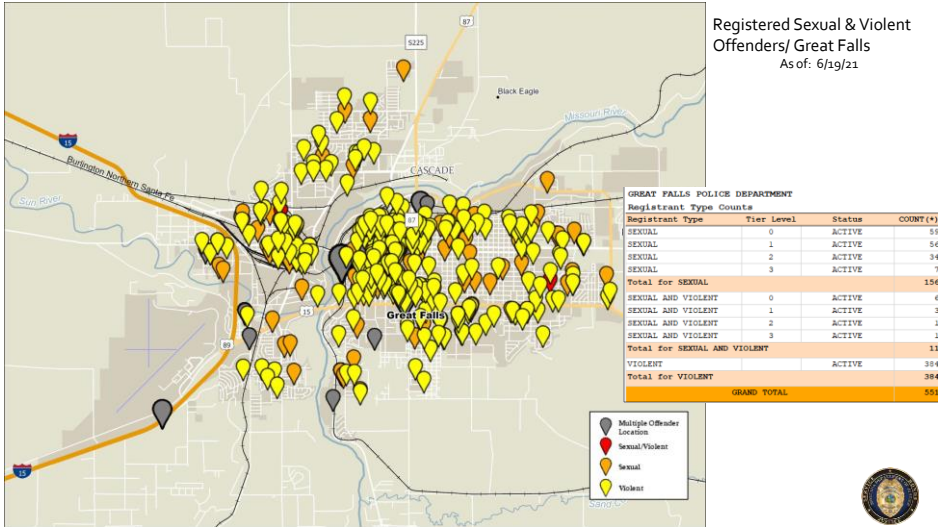
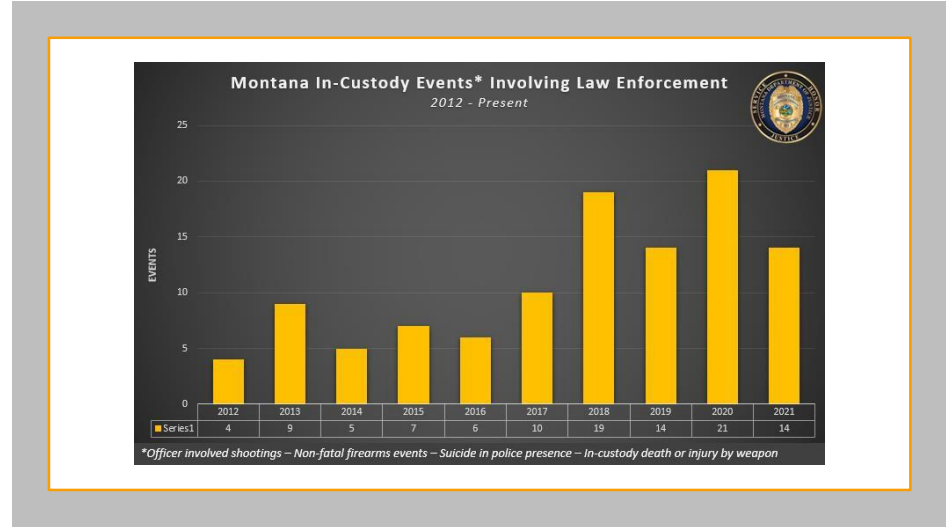
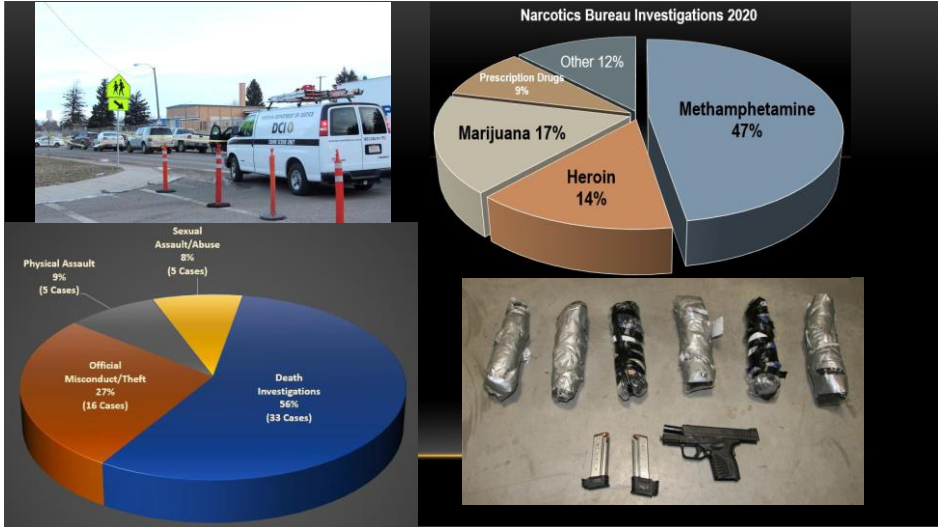


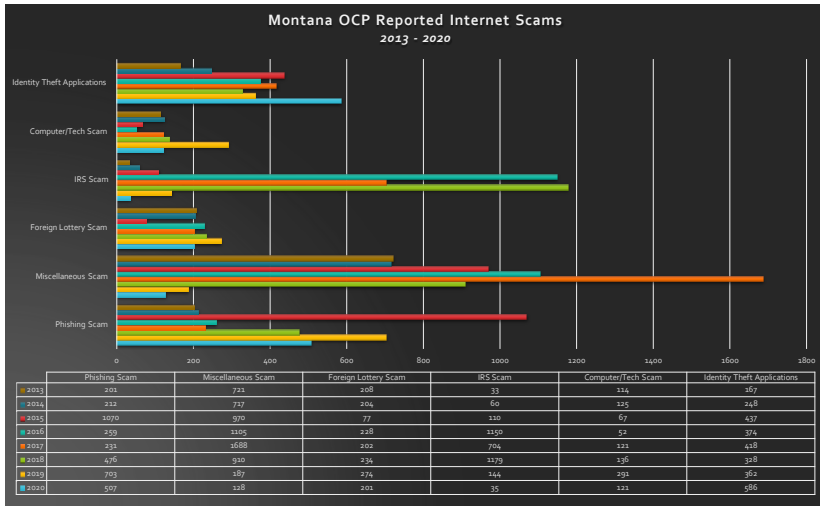
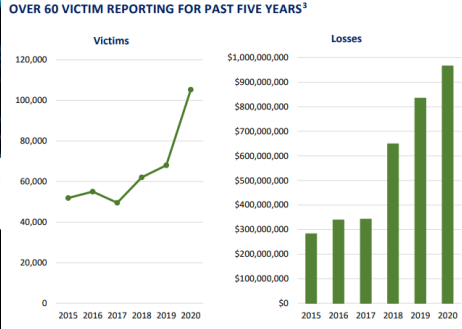
Interstate-90 is the most common route for both in and out-of-state drug trafficking.



2020-to-date MHP Interdiction Heat Map

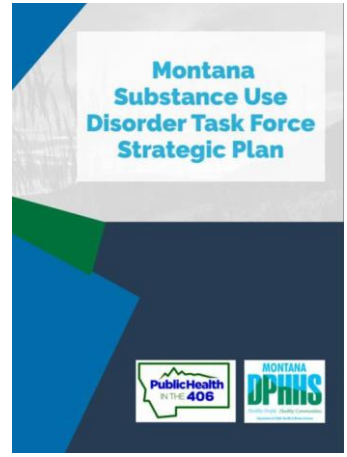






SUBSTANCE USE IN MONTANA
A summary of state level initiatives for the Department of Justice

Some resources...



Some recommendations...

Drug Poisoning Mortality 2007-2018

The continual monitoring of emerging drug trends allows us to devise more effective interventions based on drug type



Recommendation:
Leverage partnerships with the medical community for faster exchange of information on drug trends that impact EMS





Missoula police investigating fentanyl overdoses, 1 death



Montana Health Alert Network DPHHS HAN ADVISORY Cover Sheet

DATE
May 28, 2021

SUBJECT
Increased Fentanyl-related Overdose and Fatalities in Montana

INSTRUCTIONS
DISTRIBUTE to your local HAN contacts. This HAN is intended for general sharing of information.
• **Time for Forwarding: As Soon As Possible**
• Please forward to DPHHS at lshaban@mt.gov
• **Remove this cover sheet before redistributing and replace it with your own**



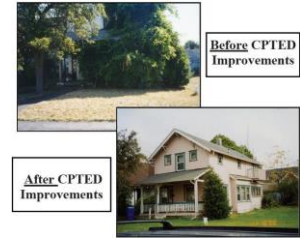
For LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT reference only
DPHHS Subject Matter Resource for more information regarding this HAN, contact:
EMS / Trauma Section
406-444-3995

For technical issues related to the HAN message contact the Emergency Preparedness Section at 1-406-444-0929

DPHHS Health Alert Hotline: 1-800-701-5769
DPHHS HAN Website: www.han.mt.gov



Recommendation:
Take advantage of internal resources to preemptively create safe environments



Recommendation:
Increase public education, awareness, and outreach



U.S. Attorney's Office District of Montana Great Falls Division

Leif M. Johnson, Acting U.S. Attorney

- Chief Judge Morris
- Six Prosecutors: Three general Criminal AUSAs
- FBI, DEA, ATF, HIS all have agents working GF
- HIDTA Drug Task Force
- 120+ Indictments per year

Federal Crimes Relevant to Violent Crime

- Felon in Possession
- Drug Trafficking
- Use of Guns
- Lying to get guns
- Hobbs Act Robbery
- Carjacking

Project Safe Neighborhoods

- Federal, state, local collaboration to reduce violent crime
- Targeted prosecutions
- Tactical Meetings
- Agreements to share the burdens of prosecuting local violent crime
- Community Coalition to develop strategies for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation

Can we do that here?

- Informal PSN
 - How to do it -

Yellowstone Connect



The Substance Abuse Connect (SAC) coalition, with funding from Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force, created the Substance Abuse Connect 2020-2023 Plan to substantially reduce drug-related crime and addiction in Yellowstone County. Over two hundred individuals and eighty organizations were engaged in the planning process, including issue experts by profession and by lived experience, policy and budget makers, and front line workers in prevention, diversion, treatment, and law enforcement.

The Problem

The impacts of Substance Use Disorders reverberate throughout our community. Fifty percent of Yellowstone County residents say their life has been negatively impacted by SUDs. An estimated 4,000 adolescents and adults are dependent on or abusing illicit drugs and more than 9,500 are dependent on or abusing alcohol in our community. Methamphetamine is the #1 illicit drug of choice for patients in treatment and is contributing to a rise in violent crime and child welfare cases. The violent crime rate grew 81% in Yellowstone County from 2010-2017 and child neglect cases in Yellowstone County grew 149% from 2014-2018. Eighty percent of neglect cases are due to substance use, and eighty percent of those are related to methamphetamine.

Yellowstone Connect

Our Areas of Work

Overall Goal

Substantially reduce drug related crime and addiction through effective prevention, treatment, and diversion

System Capacity

Increase the ability of our community to work collectively to address and prevent substance use

Diversion and Treatment

Divert people from drug related crime through access to effective and appropriate level of care/treatment.

Prevention

Increase access to effective substance abuse prevention for all youth and adults and for those at high risk for methamphetamine initiation

“*In Billings, meth is cheap and the high lasts for a long time...The meth available on the streets today is more powerful than the drug used to be 20 years ago. Many people will sell meth just to get their own amount to use, or you can trade pills for meth and then sell it. If you want meth you can get it, meth is so easily available that it's hard not to use it...Crime and meth go hand in hand. I wasn't in trouble for the first 24 years of life, but soon after starting meth, I got 10 felonies and 32 misdemeanors...Once you start using meth it will take everything from you. You need help but it is hard to build trust with the system when you are scared of punishment.*

-Quotes from Billings Felony Drug Treatment Court Graduates

Funding



FACT SHEET

The U.S. Department of Justice provides grants and other resources to support local, state, and tribal law enforcement agencies and community organizations in their effort to achieve safer communities. This document inventories in alphabetical order open and closed U.S. Department of Justice grant opportunities for Fiscal Year 2021 and highlights other resources such as training and technical assistance and publications.

In addition, on April 8, 2021, the President announced a commitment throughout the executive branch to support community violence intervention (CVI) strategies to reduce gun violence and other violent crime. For a listing of government-wide grants that can be used to support CVI, see <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2021/04/08/cv-grants>. For more information on the Biden-Harris administration, visit <https://www.whitehouse.gov/biden-harris-administration/>.

The information provided in this fact sheet is not an exhaustive list of all available grants and other resources but highlights the funding and other support available through the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ).

District of Montana Great Falls Division

Leif M. Johnson, Acting U.S. Attorney



Cascade County Attorney's Office

The Cascade County Attorney's Office

- Office Resources
 - 16 attorneys & 12 support staff
 - 2 Divisions (Criminal & Civil)
 - 2.5 in Civil
 - 13.5 in Criminal
- Civil Division
 - All legal issues affecting Cascade County
 - Land use planning, contracts, employment issues, board of commissioners, county claims etc.



The Cascade County Attorney's Office

- Criminal Division
 - Over 1500 misdemeanors a year
 - 831 felony cases filed in 2020
 - 1077 search warrants in 2020
 - On call 24/7
 - 340 DN cases filed in 2020
 - 59 youth court cases in 2020
 - 24 mental health commitments in 2020
 - Average felony case load is 75 active felonies
 - 25 cases tried in 2019 (22 in Yellowstone).
 - All the other stuff (post conviction, parole board, expungement, removal, treatment & veterans court, probation revocations, etc.)



The Cascade County Attorney's Office

- Primary Mission
 - Prosecute all felony offenses in the county
 - Represent the Department in DN cases
 - Prosecute misdemeanors outside of a city limits and for State Agency's
 - Prosecute all youth offenders
 - Probation revocations



The Cascade County Attorney's Office

- Secondary Mission
 - Work with police and deputies in active criminal investigations
 - Draft all felony search warrants in Cascade County
 - On call for questions and advice 24/7
 - Veterans and Adult and Juvenile Treatment Court



The Cascade County Attorney's Office

- Drivers of Crime in Great Falls
 - Substance abuse
 - Mental Illness



The Cascade County Attorney's Office

- Challenges
 - Manpower and case load
 - Delays in cases
 - Lack of community resources for chemical dependency & mental health treatment
- Needs
 - More people
 - Pretrial and misdemeanor probation resources



The End

LEGAL DEPARTMENT: STATE OF OPERATIONS

SARA R. SEXE, CITY ATTORNEY
JEFFREY HINDOEN, DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY
NEIL ANTHON, CHIEF PROSECUTOR
MARK DUNN, DEPUTY PROSECUTOR
JACOB WALMSLEY, PROSECUTOR

LEGAL DEPARTMENT: ATTORNEYS

 **SARA SEXE**
CITY ATTORNEY

 **MARK DUNN**
DEPUTY PROSECUTOR

 **JEFFREY HINDOEN**
DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY

 **JACOB WALMSLEY**
PROSECUTOR

 **NEIL ANTHON**
CHIEF PROSECUTOR

LEGAL DEPARTMENT: STAFF

 **SANDY RANIERI**
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

 **ROBIN BEATTY**
PARALEGAL/LEGAL ASSISTANT

 **CHARLOTTE GRAVES**
LEGAL SECRETARY

 **ROMAN JACOBSON**
FILE CLERK, PART-TIME

 **MICHELE HAACK**
OFFICE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST

CITY OF GREAT FALLS CRIMINAL DIVISION

The mission of the Criminal Division is to:

Ensure respect for and compliance with city and state criminal laws by holding offenders accountable through fair and effective prosecution and enforcement;

Advocate on behalf of crime victims to ensure the preservation of their rights to personal safety, restitution, and participation in the criminal justice process;

Prevent crime and improve the quality of life in the Great Falls neighborhoods by working proactively with residents, business owners, police, fire, community development and other departments and agencies to identify and resolve community problems; and

Educate and advise the public and city departments on criminal justice system (i.e. jail administration, sentencing guidelines diversion programs, municipal court procedures, etc.).

CITY OF GREAT FALLS CRIMINAL DIVISION

Working with Law Enforcement:

- Provide legal advice, including charging decisions, to Law Enforcement Officers (LEO).
 - Need to be available 24/7.
- Help LEO with Search Warrants and Investigative Subpoenas.
- Provide LEO with updates on the changes in the law.
- Provide briefings/trainings on issues Legal Department is seeing.

CITY OF GREAT FALLS CRIMINAL DIVISION WORK FLOW

Initial Appearance/Arrestment:

Review charging documents, determine number of offenses, prepare and make bond arguments, make plea offers, prepare and make sentencing recommendations (including restitution), provide information to the Court and Defense Counsel, etc.

Pre-Trial Preparation:

Staff creates files. Gathering LEO report, photographs, videos, 911 call, etc.

Attorneys review files: Determine if any additional information needs to be gathered for prosecution. Determine what witnesses need to be subpoenaed for trial. Subpoenas are prepared. Determine what legal motions/notices need to be prepared and filed.

Staff prepares discovery: Sends out restitution letters. Gathers remaining documentation requested by attorney. Staff makes copies and prepares discovery, including redacting. Staff prepares any legal motions/notices. Returns discovery packet and any motions/notices to attorney to review and sign off. Once approved files any motion/notices with Court and sends out Discovery to Defense Counsel.

CITY OF GREAT FALLS CRIMINAL DIVISION WORK FLOW, CONT.

Pre-Trial Preparation Continued:

Omnibus Hearings (pre-trial hearing held approximately one month prior to trial). Friday prior to Omnibus Hearings attorneys review each file to verify discovery has been provided and received. Follow up if there are any issues. Attorneys verify no additional LEO reports have been completed. Attorneys file out Omnibus Hearing Forms provided by the Court. Discuss cases with *pro se* defendants.

The week of the Omnibus Hearings staff finishes subpoenas, gets them issued by the Court, serves some of the subpoenas, and provides the others subpoenas to process server to be served.

Staff tracks the return subpoenas to help determine if there are any witness issues.

Attorneys prepare responses to any motions filed.

CITY OF GREAT FALLS CRIMINAL DIVISION WORK FLOW, CONT.

Pre-Trial Preparation Continued:

Jury Confirmation Hearings (pre-trial hearings generally held on Monday on the week of trial). Friday prior to Jury Confirmation Hearings, Attorneys review files to determine any potential issues.

Jury Confirmation Hearings. Court determines what trials have been confirmed and the order of the trials. Trials are scheduled for Wednesday, Thursday, Friday for the week.

If jury is confirmed, attorneys and staff prepare jury instructions, motions in limine, etc. Attorneys and staff contact witnesses to set up interviews. Attorneys and staff prepare for trial.

Trial:

Attorneys and staff coordinate to handle trial, including witness coordination. Jury trials will take at least one day.

CITY OF GREAT FALLS CRIMINAL DIVISION WORK FLOW, CONT.

Post Trial:

- Sentencing Hearings
- Track Sentencing Conditions
- File Motions to Revoke Sentence
- Prosecute revocation hearings
- Prosecute any appeals (Civil Division)

SO FAR IN 2021 (JUNE 22, 2021)

Total: 4389

- Contempt: 344
- Offenses Against Person: 273
- Offenses Against Property: 517
- Offenses Against Public Administration: 148
- Offenses Against Public Order: 124
- Drug/Paraphernalia: 27
- Traffic: 2873 (188 DUI)
- City Ordinance Violations: 83

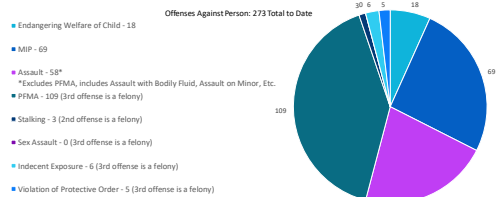
CONTEMPT OF COURT

Failures to Pay Fines

- 2021: 344
- 2020: 485
- 2019: 580
- 2018: 694
- 2017: 764
- 2016: 788
- 2015: 774
- 2014: 650

OFFENSES AGAINST PERSON CASES: 2021

Assault, Partner/Family Member Assaults (PFMA), Stalking, Surreptitious Visual Observation, Unlawful Restraint, Custodial Interference, Sex Assault, Indecent Exposure, Violation of Protective Order, Endangering the Welfare of a Child, Minor in Possession (MIP), etc.



OFFENSES AGAINST PERSON CASES: 2020

Endangering Welfare of Child - 47

MIP - 169

Assault - 140*

*Excludes PFMA, includes Assault with Bodily Fluid, Assault on Minor, Etc.

PFMA - 237 (3rd offense is a felony)

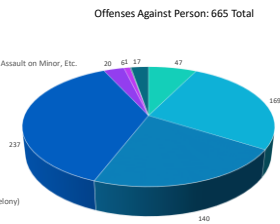
Stalking - 20 (2nd offense is a felony)

-Prior 12 years a total of 50 charges

Sex Assault - 6 (3rd offense is a felony)

Indecent Exposure - 1 (3rd offense is a felony)

Violation of Protective Order - 17 (3rd offense is a felony)



OFFENSES AGAINST PERSON CASES

2019: 633 (200 PFMA)

2018: 616 (204 PFMA)

2017: 642 (209 PFMA)

2016: 527 (171 PFMA)

2015: 609 (165 PFMA)

2014: 645 (191 PFMA)

OFFENSES AGAINST PROPERTY: 2021

Criminal Mischief, Criminal Trespass to Property, Criminal Trespass to Vehicles, Theft, Deceptive Practices, Forgery, Theft of Identity, etc.

(Damage/loss over \$1500 becomes a felony.)

Offenses Against Property: 517 Total

- Thefts: 248
- Criminal Mischief: 55
- Trespass: 181
- Forgery: 20

OFFENSES AGAINST PROPERTY CASES

2020: 1610

2019: 1591

2018: 1784

2017: 1424

2016: 1094

2015: 1010

2014: 964

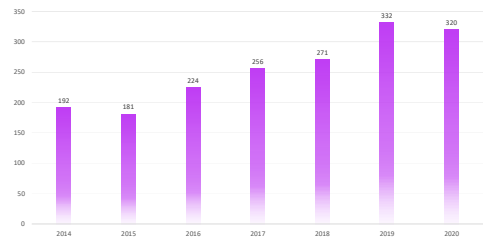
OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: 2021

False Reports, Resisting Arrest, Obstructing a Peace Officer, etc.

Offenses Against Public Administration: 148 Total to date

- False Reports: 8
- Resisting Arrest: 26
- Obstructing: 110

OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION



OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC ORDER: 2021

Disorderly Conduct, Public Nuisance, Obscenity, Cruelty to Animals, Privacy in Communication, etc.

Offenses Against Public Order: 124 Total to date

- Disorderly Conduct: 114
- Privacy in Communication: 8 (3rd offense is a felony)

OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC ORDER

2020: 367
2019: 289
2018: 300
2017: 306
2016: 411
2015: 345
2014: 453

DRUGS/PARAPHERNALIA

2020: 123
2019: 140
2018: 119
2017: 140
2016: 135
2015: 148
2014: 172

TRAFFIC OFFENSES

2020: 6587 (DUI: 361)
2019: 7297 (DUI: 306)
2018: 6900 (DUI: 258)
2017: 8595 (DUI: 359)
2016: 8881 (DUI: 368)
2015: 7348 (DUI: 370)
2014: 7549 (DUI: 381)

CITY ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS

2020: 389
2019: 866
2018: 579
2017: 1084
2016: 1147
2015: 959
2014: 1049

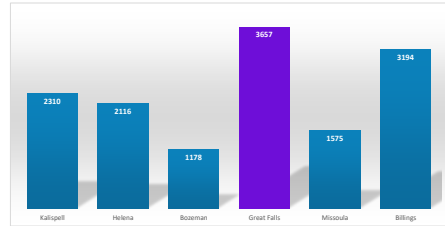
2020 COMPARISON

City	Population	2020 Citations
Kalispell	24,565	4,620
Helena	33,124	4,231
Bozeman	49,831	4,713
Great Falls	58,434	10,970
Missoula	75,516	9,451
Billings	109,577	15,970

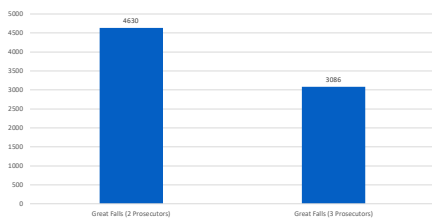
COMPARISON OF LEGAL DEPARTMENTS

Jurisdiction	Criminal Attorneys	Civil Attorneys	Staff	Total
Kalispell	2	2	1 ^{1/2}	5 ^{1/2}
Helena	2	2	4	8
Bozeman	4	5	4	13
Great Falls	3	2	4 ^{1/4}	9 ^{1/4}
Missoula	6 (plus 1 intern)	3	10	19
Billings	5	4	9	18

2020 CITATIONS PER PROSECUTOR



PROJECTED CITATIONS PER PROSECUTOR FOR 2021



HOW MANY TRIALS ARE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED?

As of 3/23/2021

- 149 Bench Trials
- 267 Jury Trials

- September 10, 2021



CRIMINAL DIVISION PRESSURES

- Increased number of jury trials and represented defendants
- Montana Supreme Court cases
 - Limited ability to waive jury trials for failure to appear
 - Holding that prosecutors will be witnesses if they speak with witnesses or defendants
- Jail overcrowding and inability to arrest suspects
 - Leads to more defendants with multiple pending cases
 - Working with CCSO on creative jail alternatives

PRESSURES, CONT.

- Cases are becoming more adversarial
 - Increased motions, motions in limine, discovery disputes
- Cases are continued multiple times
 - Requires City to re-subpoena witnesses, which causes frustration and lack of cooperation
 - Clogs the docket and may cause speedy trial issues in other cases

PRESSURES, CONT.

- Cases are becoming more complex
 - More charges, more witnesses, etc.
 - More evidence available that has to be reviewed and provided
 - Surveillance video, WatchGuard videos, 911 calls, GFFR/GFES reports, photographs, interview audio/video, etc.
- COVID-19 issues

CRIMINAL DIVISION BURDEN

- Currently, the City of Great Falls Criminal Division staff processes more citations than counterpart cities
 - 4,122 citations per prosecutor (2019)
 - Next highest was Billings with 3,434 (2019)
 - 3,657 citations per 3 prosecutors (2020)
 - Next highest was Billings with 3,194 (2020)

CASE MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

- Great Falls offers initial deferred prosecution agreements
 - 1608 in 2020
 - 368 as of 3/25/2021
 - Higher than any other large city
- More reliance on plea agreements
 - Case load affects whether attorneys have the time to prepare for and go to trial on close cases

TECHNIQUES, CONT.

- Change in processes that reduces workload but does not provide the best service to the public
 - Example: Amending DWS to No Valid DL if defendant gets a valid driver's license
 - No longer making those offers because of the time it took and extra work it created
- Cascade County Law Clinic potential cooperative agreement

LONG TERM CHALLENGES

- Unsustainable
- Unable to provide desired level of service to community
- Potential for details to fall through the cracks
- Claims by defendants' counsel

SUMMARY OF LEGAL DEPARTMENT STAFF

Closest two cities in population

- Bozeman: staff of 13
- Missoula: staff of 19

Great Falls has 9 %.



FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

- Critical needs to improve Criminal Division efficiencies – (denied for FY22 due to budgetary constraints)
 - Paralegal/Legal Assistant/Investigator
 - Prosecutor
 - Purchase of criminal case management software
- Cascade County Law Clinic cooperative agreement
- CCSO jail alternatives

