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# Law and Justice Interim Committee

## 61st Montana Legislature

### SENATE MEMBERS

JOHN ESP  
GREG HINKLE  
CAROL JUNEAU  
JESSE LASLOVICH  
LYNDA MOSS  
JIM SHOCKLEY

### HOUSE MEMBERS

SHANNON AUGARE--Chair  
RON STOKER--Vice Chair  
BOB EBINGER  
DAVID HOWARD  
MIKE MENAHAN  
KEN PETERSON

### COMMITTEE STAFF

SHERI HEFFELFINGER, Research Analyst  
VALENCIA LANE, Staff Attorney  
DAWN FIELD, Secretary

## REVISED AGENDA

Thursday and Friday, December 17-18, 2009

**Law and Justice Interim Committee: Meeting #3**

Room 137, Capitol, Helena

*Please note: All times are approximate*

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## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2009

### Optional Visits

**Optional Site Visit:** Special committee tour of the Warm Springs Addictions Treatment & Change (WATCH) Program - Department of Corrections

- 8:15 a.m. For committee members not driving directly to Warm Springs, vehicles for car pooling will depart from the back of the Capitol
- 9:45 a.m. Arrival at WATCH West -- parking in lot to the North of the Dr. Xanthopoulos building. Meet at the archway in front of the Dr. Xanthopoulos building.
- 10:00 a.m. Tour of facility, observe groups, talk to staff and offenders
- 11:30 a.m. WATCH Graduation Ceremony  
  
\* 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - optional break away for members who want to visit state offices in Deer Lodge responsible for vehicle title processing re: MERLIN
- 12:30 p.m. LUNCH (served in the employee lounge)
- 1:00 p.m. Depart for Helena
- 2:30 p.m. Arrive in Helena

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**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2009**

3:00 p.m.      **Chairman Augare**, Call to order and roll call

**Department of Justice: Vehicle Title Registration (MERLIN)**

3:05 p.m.      **Brenda Nordlund**, Motor Vehicle Division, Dept. of Justice

- rationale for MERLIN
- procurement process
- progress report on vehicle title processing backlog
- what is DOJ doing to resolve lingering problems

3:30 p.m.      **Pat Gervais**, Legislative Fiscal Division

- Legislative Finance Committee oversight activities related to MERLIN

3:45 p.m.      Public comment on MERLIN

- **Ronda Wiggers**, County Treasurers' Association, and interested county treasurers
- **Riley Johnson**, Enterprise Rent-A-Car
- Any other public comment on MERLIN

Committee questions and discussion

**Public Defender**

4:30 p.m.      **Sheri Heffelfinger**, Overview of the final report from American University

4:45 p.m.      Roundtable, questions and discussion

- **Public Defender Commission** with Chief Public Defender **Randi Hood**

6:00 p.m.      Public comment

Adjournment

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**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2009**

**SJR 39 - Study of DUI Laws**

- 8:00 a.m.      **Chairman Augare**, Call to order and roll call  
Approval of September 28-29, 2009, minutes
- 8:05 a.m.      Panel #1: Felony DUI offenders and WATCH program
- **Rick Deady**, Treatment Contract Program Manager, Dept. of Corrections.  
- Primer on costs, capacity, demographics, curriculum, and outcomes
  - **Jim Rouse**, WATCH graduate
  - **Mark Madon**, WATCH Phase III participant
  - **Diana Koch**, Legal Counsel, Dept. of Corrections  
- statutory penalties and sentencing options for felony DUI offenders
  - **TBD, Dept. of Corrections**  
- cost and implications of making a 3rd DUI a felony  
- costs and implications for expanding WATCH
- 9:45 a.m.      BREAK
- 10:00 a.m.      Panel #2: Community corrections and administrative sanctions for DUI offenders
- **Pam Bunke**, Administrator, Adult Community Corrections, Dept. of Corrections  
- overview and statistics on DUI offenders under community supervision
  - **Yvonne Keller**, Alternatives Inc.,  
- SCRAM, how it works, how effective is it, what does it cost
  - **Col. Mike Tooley**, Dept. of Justice  
- South Dakota 24/7 sobriety program
  - **Brenda Nordlund**, Motor Vehicle Division Administrator, Dept. of Justice  
- drivers' license suspension and revocation provisions
  - **Steve Smith**, Director of Adult Services, Mountain Peaks, Great Falls  
- Ignition interlocks, how do they work, are they effective, what do they cost
  - **Mary Aggers**, probation and parole officer, Dept. of Corrections
  - **TBD**, offender perspective
- 12:30 p.m.      CATERED LUNCH FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN CAPITAL
- 1:00 p.m.      Panel #3: Judicial perspective, DUI courts, sentencing alternatives, treatment capacity
- **Jeff Kushner**, statewide coordinator for problem solving courts, Judicial Branch
  - **Hon. Heidi Ulbricht** municipal DUI court judge, Kalispell
  - **Hon. Katherine Irigoien**, 7th Judicial District Court, Sidney
  - **Hon. Karen Orzech**, Justice of the Peace, Missoula County
  - **Joan Cassidy**, Chemical Dependency Bureau, Dept. of Public Health and Human Services
  - **Mike Ruppert**, Chief Executive Officer, Boyd-Andrew Community Services
- 3:15 p.m.      BREAK

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**Continued -- FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2009**

- 3:30 p.m.      Public comment
- 4:15 p.m.      Committee discussion and work session
- *SJR 39 DUI study -- Identify committee's priority options for further consideration*
  - *Other areas of concern or interest to committee members for possible committee consideration*
  - *Next meeting agenda*
- 5:00 p.m.      Rule Review Activities  
                    Wrap-up  
                    Adjournment

*The Montana Legislative Services Division will make reasonable accommodations for people with special needs. If you plan to attend the meeting and will need special services or accommodations, please contact Sheri Heffelfinger at least 5 working days before the meeting at 406-444-3596 or by email at sheffelfinger@mt.gov.*