

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE OVERSIGHT COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP, 2025

The Criminal Justice Oversight Council includes members appointed by all three branches of government, including legislators, executive agency leadership, and other criminal justice stakeholders appointed by the Montana Supreme Court, the Attorney General, and the Governor.

Appointments are made in accordance to [53-1-216, MCA](#).

Member	Role
<b>Rep. Amy Regier, Chair</b>	Member of the House of Representatives
<b>Jimmy Patelis, Vice Chair</b>	Member of the Board of Pardons and Parole
Rep. SJ Howell	Member of the House of Representatives
Sen. Berry Usher	Member of the Senate
Sen. Laura Smith	Member of the Senate
Hon. Luke Berger	District court judge
Hon. Mark Dunn	Municipal court judge
Alan Doane	Attorney general's designee
Director Brian Gootkin	Director of the Department of Corrections
Director Brett Schandelson	Director of the Office of State Public Defender
Director Charlie Brereton	Director of the Department of Public Health and Human Services
Sheriff Ross Canen	County sheriff
Scott Twito	County attorney
Eldena Bear Don't Walk	Member of a federally recognized Indian tribe located within the boundaries of the state of Montana who has expertise in criminal justice
Shantelle Gaynor	Representative of crime victims who also serves on the board of crime control established in 2-15-2008
Henry Seaton	Representative of civil rights advocates
Melissa Kelly	Representative of community corrections facilities
Amy Tenney	Representative of community corrections facilities

## ASSIGNED STAFF

Laura Sherley, Research Analyst  
Allison Dunbar, Legislative Secretary