



Montana Legislative Services Division
Office of Research and Policy Analysis
David D. Bohyer, Director

January 24, 2016

TO: Members of the Task Force on State Public Defender Operations
FROM: Dave Bohyer, LSD Research Director
RE: Federal Public Defenders and Federal Prosecutors

The Task Force at its December 10, 2015 meeting requested staff to report on the number of attorneys employed as federal public defenders in Montana and the number of federal prosecutor attorneys employed in Montana. Please accept this memorandum in response to the request.

According to the *Annual Report to the Board of Directors*, there were 12 attorneys employed in 2015 by the Federal Defenders of Montana (FDOM) and an additional 70 private attorneys with whom the FDOM contracted to provide legal services to eligible federal defendants.¹ The FDOM employed attorneys were distributed between FDOM offices in Great Falls (four attorneys), Helena (two), Billings (four), and Missoula (two).

According to the website for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Montana, there are 22 Assistant United States Attorneys in Montana.² Seventeen of the 22 federal prosecutors are deployed in the Criminal Division with five prosecutors stationed in Helena, five in Billings, three in Great Falls, and four in Missoula. The other five federal prosecutors are deployed in the Civil Division.

Two members of the Task Force, Ms. Holton and Mr. Holden, each have personal experience with the federal public defender system and may be able to answer members' specific questions.

Respectfully submitted.

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¹ *Annual Report to the Board of Directors*, by Tony Gallagher, Federal Defenders of Montana, undated.

² United States Attorney's Office District of Montana online at <http://www.justice.gov/usao-mt/>; p. 1.