

MSOTA Fall Meeting Minutes
2020 Zoom (10/19/20)

- I. Chris Quigley called the meeting to order
- II. Minutes were read from the Summer meeting and were accepted as written
- III. Officer Reports
 - a. President
 - i. Chris gave an update on the Law and Justice Interim Committee
 - A. Reports from Officers
 - 1. Secretary Anne Harris No Report
 - 2. Treasurer:
 - 3. Vice President:
 - 4. President
- IV. Increasing outreach efforts (to include opening meetings on-line/webinar as well as a panel of evaluators/treatment providers for events such as the County Attorney Association meeting next fall).
- V. Issues with the SO/VO Registry and the Attorney General's Office role in addressing the issues. Mary Cochenour and Madison Matteoli
 - a. Madison working with offenders who fail to register and can prosecute both Federal and State cases from the SMART office on grant through the Attorney General's Office
 - b. Montana is not SORNA compliant with Tribal Governments and there are no MOUs in place and Mary is tasked to bring this into compliance.
 - c. Over half of Montana offenders are non-designated
 - d. Montana created our SO Registry 5 years before there was a federal mandate to do so and we included registration of violent offenders
 - e. 2007 Montana accepted some of the requirements of SORNA
 - f. Montana faces a 10% reduction of Federal Law enforcement funds and ineligible for additional funds "SORNA Bonus"
 - g. SORNA requires Offenders to register in different Tier levels and stipulates what is required for the offender to reduce Tier Levels.

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- h. Offenders moving to Montana are “0” level registrations unless they come from a state that Montana accepts as having comparable Tier designation
- i. Under SORNA Tier III are not allowed to petition for Tier reduction or elimination of requirement to register. Montana use to allow for Tier III offender to petition the court for reduction.
- j. If an offender is not designated they cannot petition for removal from the registry.
 - i. In 2013 83% of Montana’s offenders were non-designated
- k. SORNA requires that the registry must designate where the offender is either a student or employed, Montana does not do this
- l. On Blackfeet reservation the Tribe registers all offenders as Tier III and is in 100% compliance with SORNA
- m. SORNA requires use of an assessment tool for designation, some courts may still apply what the judge determines as a Tier level without consideration of the Risk assessment.
- n. Chris Q pointed out that the offense-based tier designation ignores the science of risk determination.
- o. The economics of SORNA registration had a major influence on the stakeholders of SORNA compliance in Montana.
- p. Juvenile registration is handled differently by SORNA from adults

VI. Committee Breakout sessions & Check-ins (working lunch)

- A. Membership
- B. Education Outreach/Legislative
 - a. Legislative, looking at issues of the registry: a way to identify risk as a dynamic factor to affect an offender’s tier designation.
 - b. How to keep the registry for use by law enforcement but not in a public forum
 - c. Jana is building a panel to speak to the legislature about the impact of the registry on their lives and their families lives when they return to the community.

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- C. Standards: Proposal to develop language into the MSOTA standards that covers how clients reenter the community and deal with the reality of the registration.
 - i. Such as a Disclosure plan, reinforcement for applying treatment principles when they are back in the community.

D. Ethics: Did not meet

VII. DOC Panel: Evidence-Based Programming Process and Implementation of SB 59

This panel will cover the implementation of SB 59, Codified as MCA 53-211 our selection of the CPC as our tool for measuring the efficacy of our institutional and contracted programs, what the CPC entails, which programs have been evaluated and what evaluated programs should expect from the process, and touch on the recommendations to the SOP program and our efforts to address the recommendations

Presenters:

Stephanie Turner LCSW Bureau Chief of Mental and Behavioral Health

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Connie Winner CSD administrator cwinner@mt.gov

Cynthia Wolken, Deputy Director Cynthia.wolken@mt.gov

Erika Wimmer, ewimmer2@mt.gov

Megan Coy programs and Facilities Bureau Chief mcoy@mt.gov

- A. With risk assessment offenders can be divided in corrections based on need derived from risk assessment.
- B. CPC=Correctional Program Checklist
- C. The committee is looking to dovetail an offender from the MSP program, to community-based supports.
- D. Do private programs adhere to the research?
- E. Karen T4C is rigid, Erika T4C is a component of a complete SO program. Erika compared it to scrimmaging and learning skills out of context of community. Community programs are the “real game,”

VIII. New Business

a. Officer nominations

- i. President Bo Smelko, Chris Quigley
- ii. Secretary Anne Harris
- iii. Treasurer: Kevin Wise
- iv. Vice President Hal Lewis

b. The slate was accepted

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IX. 4:00 -

Close Meeting