

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

AF 11-0765

APR 11 2017

ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION

ORDER

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Citing the State of Montana's multitude of challenges concerning self-represented litigants and litigants of modest means, and its mission to increase access to justice, the State Bar of Montana has requested permission to explore an alternate legal service model currently in use in the State of Washington, Limited License Legal Technicians (LLLTs). The State Bar, the State Bar's Paralegal Section, and the Access to Justice Commission wish to study the potential for a similar category of legal service providers in Montana.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that a working group, to include the following members, is appointed to study the idea of Limited License Legal Technicians in Montana:

- The Honorable Patricia Cotter, who will serve as chair of the working group;
- A member of the Paralegal Section of the State Bar of Montana, to be appointed by the Section Chair;
- A member of the State Bar of Montana, to be appointed by the President of the State Bar;
- A member of the Access to Justice Commission, to be appointed by the Commission Chair;
- An appointee of Montana Legal Services Association, to be appointed by its executive director;
- A representative from the University of Great Falls, to be appointed by the President of the University; and
- An appointee of the Alexander Blewett III School of Law, University of Montana, to be appointed by the Dean.

Each designated member shall provide his or her name and contact information to the Clerk of this Court, who shall notify the Chair when all members have been designated. The Chair shall organize meetings, giving preference to live meetings but with the option of telephonic or video-conferencing as participants' circumstances require. The working group shall meet as needed and be supported administratively by the State Bar of Montana.

The working group shall prepare a report for this Court within 6 months of the date of this Order. The Court will solicit public comment on the working group's recommendations after the report is submitted.

The Clerk is directed to provide copies of this Order to the Honorable Patricia Cotter, the Paralegal Section of the State Bar of Montana, the President of the State Bar of Montana, the Chair of the Access to Justice Commission, the Executive Director of the Montana Legal Services Association, the President of the University of Great Falls, and the Dean of the Alexander Blewett III School of Law.

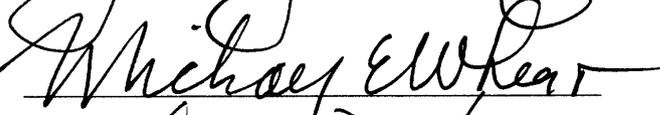
Dated this 11th day of April, 2017.



Chief Justice

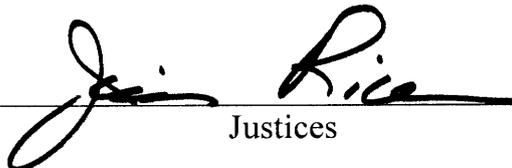












Justices