



**Citizens Advisory Committee  
Meeting August 18, 2023 - Noon  
Law & Justice Center  
Atrium**

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Citizen's Advisory Committee, and the Department of Criminal Justice Services exist to improve the safety of the citizens of Lewis and Clark County and ensure the equitable and efficient treatment of defendants, offenders, and victims.

**1. Call to Order & Reading of the Mission**

Tom Cordingley, Chair, called the meeting to order.  
The Mission Statement was read by Teresa Charlton.

**2. Introductions**

**Members present:** Tom Cordingley, Carolyn Belling, Ty Smith, Teresa Charlton, Moffie Funk, and CJCC Chair Judge Menahan (ex-officio)

**Members absent:** Karen English, Mike Mahoney, Joanne Romasko, Jen Gursky, John Lytle, Clair Swain, and Theresa Ortega

**Staff in attendance:** Jillian Danesi, Bri Lake, and Alexia Clark

**Others in attendance:** Mark Piskolich, Candace Payne, Lutisha McFarland, and Mark Nay

**3. Action Items – Tom Cordingley**

- Membership Vote for Applicant Mark Nay: No quorum, skipped.

**4. Landlord-Tenant Law – Judge Piskolich**

Judge Piskolich relayed his observations and insights from his court regarding landlord-tenant cases. Specifically, concern that tenants lack understanding of both their rights and responsibilities in renting. The group discussed possible action items for the CAC including:

- Create curriculum for schools, such as a version of life skills around landlord-tenant laws
- "First Time Tenant" Training (similar to "First Time Home Buyer" training)
- Reaching out to groups such as Montana Legal Services, Realtor's Association, Montana Self-Help program to assist with increasing education around landlord-tenant laws
- Advocating for a Tenant Association (similar to Missoula's)

Moffie and Teresa volunteered to look into possibilities.

**5. Non-Agenda Items**

Bri shared the CJS report with the group and announced that the interagency agreement between Office of the Court Administrators and CJS for the Pretrial Services program was approved by the Commission for fiscal year 2024.

**6. Public Comment**

No public comment.

**7. Next Meeting – September 15, 2023, 1200, Law and Justice Center**

**8. Adjourn**