

EXHIBIT 8
DATE Feb. 3, 2005
HB 2; Dept. of
Justice

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Rent for the Forensic Science Division

Crime Lab Lease

The Forensic Science Division in Missoula leases space from a private vendor. On February 1, 2000, the Department of Administration entered into a 15-year lease for the division's laboratory space. This lease allows for a \$1 per sq. ft. rent increase five years after the inception of the lease, or February 1, 2005.

Funding Request

The 58th Montana Legislature appropriated the necessary general fund increase to cover the lab's rent for FY 05. However, since the base year is FY 04, the increased rent for the coming biennium is not in the budget.

This request would increase the lab's annual rent budget for the 2007 biennium to cover the amount required by the lease. Since the crime lab leases 31,145 sq. ft., the annual increase is \$31,145 per year.

Total Request for Increased Rent: \$31,145 per fiscal year