

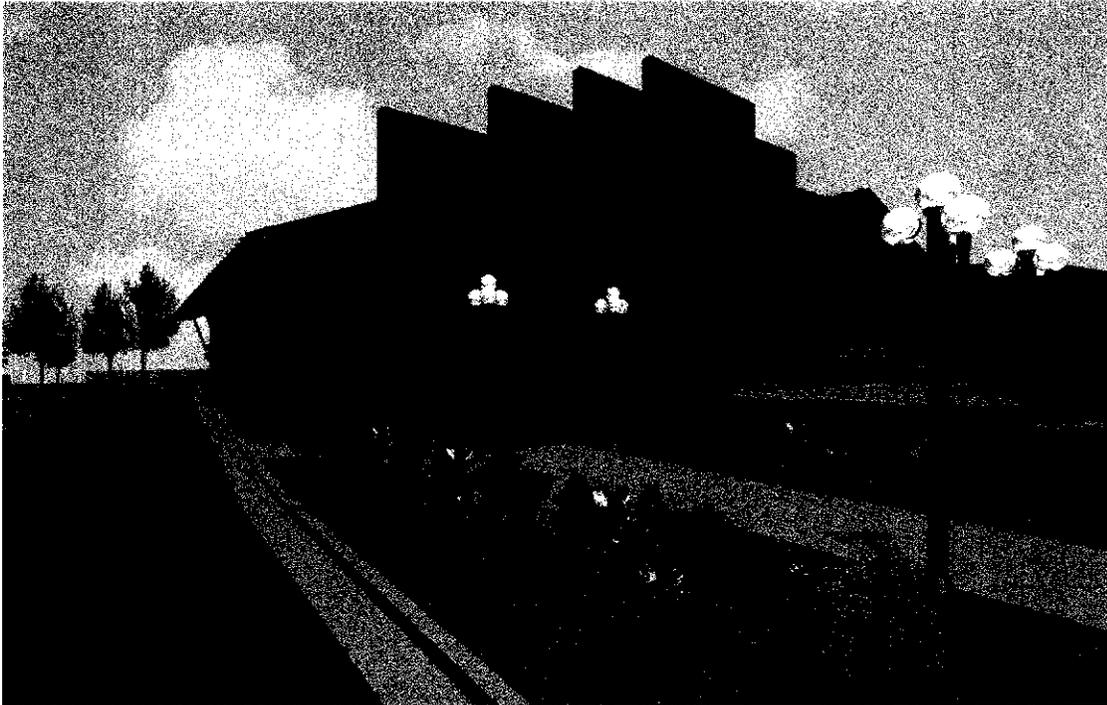
SENATE STATE ADMIN.

EXHIBIT NO. 2

DATE 1.12.05

BILL NO. SB 73

*Proposed  
Montana Law Enforcement Museum  
Great Falls, Montana*



Courtesy of WRS Architecture Firm

To: Claudia Johnson

January 10, 2005

From: Terry Tyler, Montana Law Enforcement  
Museum and Memorial

Re: Senate Bill 73

### **A Message from Montana Law Enforcement Officers**

The Board of Directors of the Montana Law Enforcement Museum and Memorial (MLEM) is comprised of current and retired officers from around the state, survivors of fallen officers as well as the Attorney General's Office and needs your support regarding SB-73. The bill was requested by the Board to clarify the original intent of its members regarding the location of the Memorial. Current language identifies the location of the Memorial as "being in the Montana law enforcement museum located in the old Montana state prison in Deer Lodge". The original intent of the Board was to gain Legislative recognition and approval of the memorial not to permanently locate the memorial or museum in Deer Lodge. Given that you will hear testimony both for and against SB-73 the MLEM Board felt it was important you were aware of the circumstances surrounding our amendment request.

The MLEM Board has the obligation to safeguard and display items and exhibits gifted to the MLEM by agencies and individuals. Documentation regarding the transfer of all items exists at the museum. The MLEM has had a landlord tenant relationship with the Powell County Museum & Arts Foundation (PCM&AF) since the museum's inception in 1982. Lease language stated that title to artifacts would remain with the MLEM and that the PCM&AF would be responsible for maintenance of the facility.

As the MLEM is a business the Board is also responsible for making decisions that affect the stability and growth of the museum and memorial. For several reasons the Board decided in 2002 to relocate the MLEM and Memorial. Some of those reasons are: declining attendance at the museum, no improvements to the building by PCM&AF, the facility not in compliance with the American's With Disabilities Act, the Boards inability to obtain grant funding due to the sub-lease arrangement with PCM&AF and no space for expansion. Requests for proposal were sent out and a new location was selected.

Representatives from Powell County will be at the hearing on Wednesday to speak in opposition to SB-73. The MLEM Board understands their apprehension as any business that leaves a small community is disheartening. The MLEM does not employ any Powell County residents or provide significant revenue to the community. As the lease was for \$1.00 annually and the PCM&AF provided a stipend to assist in staffing they were losing money.

We look forward to speaking with you and your committee on Wednesday.

Terry Tyler  
Museum Co-ordinator

# *Montana Law Enforcement Board of Directors*

- Montana Attorney General
- Montana Law Enforcement Services Division
- Montana Law Enforcement Academy
- Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association
- Montana Association of Chiefs of Police
- Association of Montana Highway Patrolmen
- Montana Association of State Fish and Game Wardens
- Montana Livestock Inspectors Association
- Montana Police Protective Association

- ■ Montana County Attorneys Association
- Montana Retired Police Officers Association
- Montana Corrections Association
- Montana Coroners Association
- Malmstrom AFB Security Police Association
- Butte-Silver Bow County Law Enforcement
- ■ Great Falls Police Department
- A Member Of: Museums Association Of Montana
- A Member of the Cascade County Museum Consortium

**ATTORNEY GENERAL**  
**STATE OF MONTANA**

Mike McGrath  
Attorney General



Department of Justice  
215 North Sanders  
PO Box 201401  
Helena, MT 59620-1401

January 10, 2005

Jerry McGee, Chairman  
Montana Law Enforcement Museum  
221 Breckenridge  
Helena, MT 59601

Re: Temporary move of MLEM display

Dear Mr. McGee:

Attorney General McGrath has asked me to review a question that has arisen over efforts to move exhibits from the Montana Law Enforcement Museum (MLEM) to a traveling display in Great Falls.

Because the Museum's board is charged with management and oversight of existing donated exhibits, the Museum's Board of Directors has within its discretion the authority to re-locate exhibits of the Museum and Memorial to the traveling display in Great Falls.

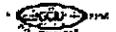
Please let me know if you have any further questions regarding the MLEM display.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Galen Hollenbaugh".

GALEN HOLLENBAUGH  
Deputy Chief of Staff

c: Glen Stinar





# MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

225 North Roberts ♦ P.O. Box 201201 ♦ Helena, MT 59620-1201  
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December 21, 2004

Chaplain Terry Tyler  
Montana Law Enforcement Museum, Inc.  
P. O. Box 2603  
Great Falls, MT 59403

Dear Chaplain Tyler:

Thank you for your letter of December 3, 2004. We appreciate your consulting with us on the issues you are experiencing. Obviously we can't favor one community over another, but we do favor actions that keep local museums open and viable.

It is also important for a museum to responsibly manage its collections as effectively as possible and to preserve the public trust. Therefore, having proper collections management procedures is legally and ethically essential. Part of this is conducting comprehensive and spot-check inventories to test your collections and the status of the artifact management system. With limited funds, small museums should work towards a full inventory as their ultimate goal, and at minimum, should develop a plan to accomplish this over time.

To prepare for a move of the magnitude the Law Enforcement Museum plans, there should be some documentation to ensure that each item packed is tracked to the new museum. An inventory could provide you with the basic information to use for packing and unpacking lists to utilize during the move. In essence conducting an inventory could provide you with helpful information and assure that you can account for the items in your collection. It would also help preserve the public trust, showing that the museum is acting responsibly in preserving the artifacts in your care.

★ [ The above suggested actions comply with standard museum procedures and standards. They are, however, actions that should be determined by the museum and its governing body. From the information you provided, the Powell County Museum and Art Foundation appears to have only landlord status, and does not appear to have the authority to direct the museum's actions. However, it would be prudent to review all legal agreements between the two organizations to make sure that all terms are being met in light of this change in status.

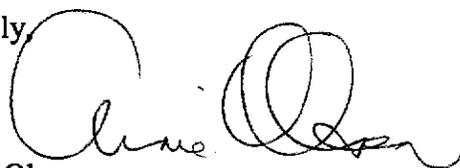
Because the museum was in close proximity to the facilities of museums run by PCM&AF, it may be cause for concern by some that artifacts may have migrated between the two over the years. It may not be necessary, but it may be prudent to put any misperceptions to rest before the museum moves so that the public is assured that all is well. Perhaps the curators of each institution could work together to go over any formal or informal loan agreements that may have taken place over the last 20 years; each curator researching files that indicate any loans or

Chaplain Terry Tyler  
December 20, 2004  
Page 2

transfers. It would then be apparent if any issues arise that need to be formalized, negotiated and/or resolved. If there are none, then all parties and their publics can be assured by a written statement that things are in order.

I hope this advice is helpful to you in preparing for your move. Please let me know if we can be of further assistance to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arnold Olsen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping tail.

Arnold Olsen  
Director

SN:rha



**Montana Police Protective Association**

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Since 1930

[www.mppaonline.org](http://www.mppaonline.org)

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Senator Jeff Mangan  
Montana Senate  
P.O. Box 200500  
Helena, Mt. 59620-0500

Dear Senator Mangan:

I am writing this letter to express my support of the efforts being taken by the Montana Law Enforcement Museum Committee to have the museum and memorial relocated to Great Falls, Mt.

The members of the Montana Police Protective Association have always held the Law Enforcement Museum in the highest regards and feel that it is imperative to continue to support the museum in whatever way we can. The Montana Law Enforcement Museum is a vital link not only to the general public in Montana but also to future generations of Montana law enforcement officers to the past. These citizens and law enforcement officers will be able to review and understand the history, traditions and evolution of law enforcement in our great state.

The MPPA has been well aware of the financial difficulties that the Law Enforcement Museum has been faced with over the past years. MLEM Chairman and MPPA representative Jerry McGee has kept the MPPA Executive Board and member associations up to date with the MLEM committee recommendations and actions in regards to their goal of moving the museum and memorial to Great Falls.

I believe that moving the MLEM and law enforcement memorial to your fine city would not only fulfill the expanding needs of the museum itself, but would be beneficial to all law enforcement officers throughout the state of Montana by having a more populous and centralized location.

In closing, on behalf of myself and the over 500 members of the Montana Police Protective Association I would like to express my gratitude to you for supporting our efforts. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Levi J. Talkington, President  
Montana Police Protective Association

## PD Projects

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**From:** chaplain coordinator [mleom@montana.usa.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 11, 2005 9:09 PM  
**To:** McGee Jerry; Tim Shanks; PD Projects  
**Subject:** Re: Moving the Museum  
**Importance:** High

----- Original Message -----

**From:** "Cashell, Jim"  
**To:** "mleom@montana.usa.com"  
**Subject:** Moving the Museum  
**Date:** Tue, 11 Jan 2005 15:25:31 -0700

To Whom it may concern:

The board of the Montana Sheriff's and Peace Officers Association is supporting the move of the Museum to Great Falls.

Jim

James R. (Jim) Cashell

Sheriff, Gallatin County  
615 South 16th Avenue  
Bozeman, Montana 59715  
(406) 582-2125

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9-8-2001

# Cash-strapped tribute on the move

## Montana Law Enforcement Museum running low on visitors, money and space

BY VERA HAFHEY  
of The Montana Standard

DEER LODGE — A museum and a memorial dedicated to Montana's police officers are out of cash, out of room and on the move, according to members of its board of directors.

Terry Tyler, coordinator for the Montana Law Enforcement Museum, Inc., said that nonprofit organization, housed in the old Montana State Prison in Deer Lodge, is accepting proposals for

its relocation.

"We've basically run out of local funds," Tyler said during an interview this week.

The attraction is owned by various criminal justice associations across the state, and relies on donations to raise the \$10,000 a year needed to operate.

Tyler, who serves as the Cascade County sheriff's chaplain, said trustees voted to close the doors of the museum and memorial on Sept. 30, a month ahead of schedule. That's because of a decline in tourist traffic and a need to expand, coupled with a loss of financial backing from private and corpo-

rate benefactors.

In a July 13 letter from the Powell County Museum and Arts Foundation, director Andy Towe blamed a dismal 2001 tourist season at the old prison's museum complex for the funding cutback. The foundation leases the old prison and operates other attractions including a frontier museum, toy museum and antique car display.

Towe said the foundation's monthly commitment to the law enforcement museum of \$880 during the tourist season would probably halt after the July payment.

"We will not be able to contribute

See TRIBUTE, Back Page

## Tribute ...

Continued from Page A1

ly further funds to your operation this year, and may not be able to contribute next year, either," Towe warned.

Towe explained that attendance at the prison museum complex during 2001 has dropped 20 percent below last year's count of 35,000. And that number shows a significant decrease from the 50,000 visitors per year from the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s, Towe said.

The old prison site seemed ideal at first, but over time,

renting the obscure, second-floor location proved to be a handicap, Tyler said.

"We thought it was a nice idea, because prison is basically the end road of law enforcement," he said.

Now, the cramped quarters mean a loss of potential inventory as Tyler refuses acquisitions from sheriff's departments in the state's 56 counties.

"If we were given the funds and the space to do it, we could double our size tomorrow," Tyler said. "We've had to turn down a lot of things."

Patty Cowan, secretary of the chamber of commerce in

Deer Lodge, said the loss of the museum and memorial will affect tourist trade, but added that the out-of-the-way attraction was often overlooked.

"The first time I went to the old prison, I missed it," Cowan said. "The exposure there is really bad. Those that can find it go through it, but they have to climb the stairs."

In addition to historical displays, the museum features the Montana Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial and sponsors an annual event in memory of Montana's 114 peace officers slain in the line of duty since 1863. The museum and

memorial have been operational for 16 years, Tyler said.

Expansion plans for the museum and memorial's historical archives include development of a police vehicle collection, interactive exhibits, an interpretive theater, a regional training auditorium, project workrooms and a chapel for the law officers' memorial, Tyler said.

Criteria for the new location include a minimum of 10,000 square feet to accommodate growth, public accessibility and community support.

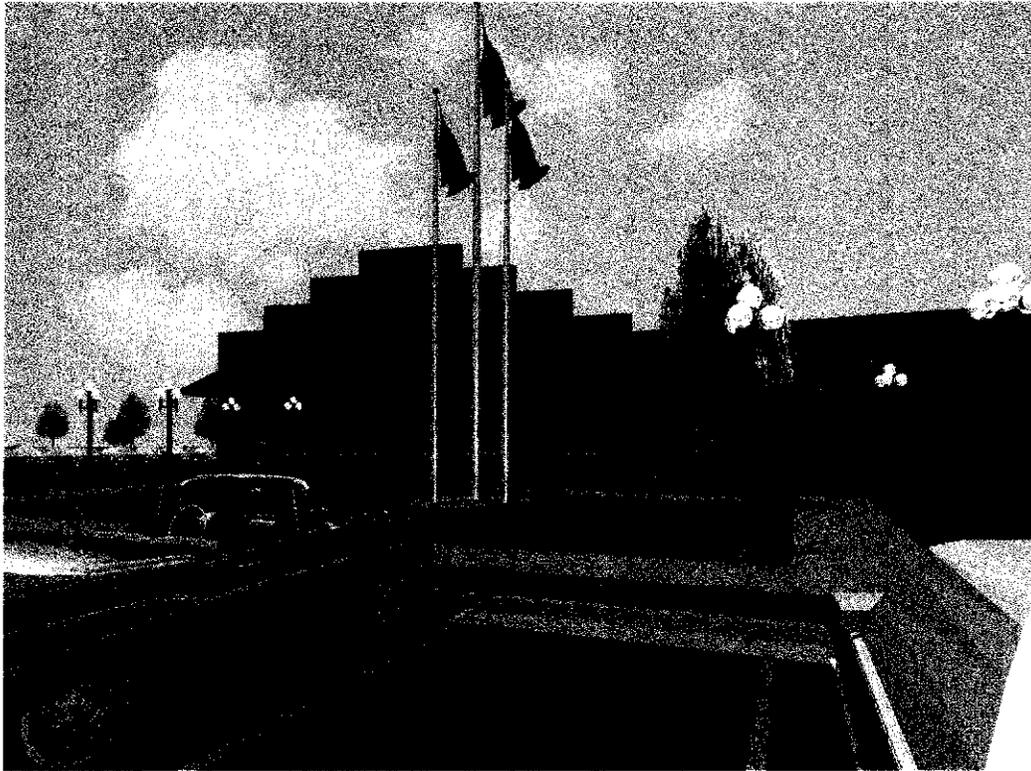
## ***Objectives behind SB-73***

1. Gain approval for amending HB 427  
with SB-73

If necessary discuss the following:

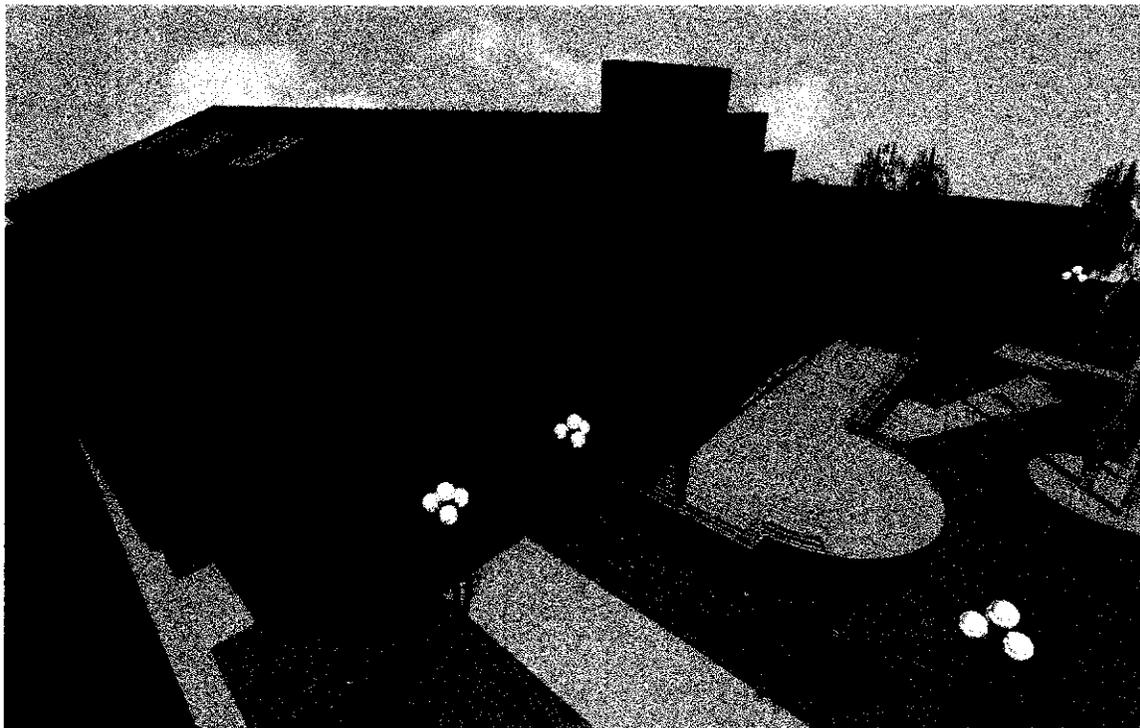
- To provide a brief history regarding the Montana Law Enforcement Museum and Memorial
- Discuss the necessity for relocating the Museum and Memorial
- Discuss positive impacts of moving the Museum and Memorial to Great Falls
- Discuss the wording of HB-427
- If necessary, discuss concerns Powell County Museum and Arts Foundations has

*Proposed  
Montana Law Enforcement Museum  
Great Falls, Montana*



Courtesy of WRS Architecture Firm

*Proposed  
Montana Law Enforcement Museum  
Great Falls, Montana*



Courtesy of WRS Architecture Firm

*Structural problems at the existing  
Montana Law Enforcement Museum*



**Crumbling hand rails**

*Current Montana Law Enforcement  
Museum Displays*

