

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET SOUTH CENTRAL TREATMENT ASSOCIATES

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FAX TO: Pam Burke DOC FAX #: 444-7909

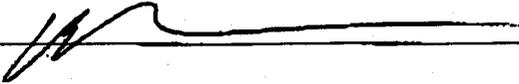
FROM: Mike Sullivan DATE: _____

SUBJECT: SOS TOTAL PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 10

URGENT REPLY ASAP PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REVIEW FOR YOUR INFORMATION

COMMENTS:

Let me know if I can help in any way.
Call # 861-6371 - Also note attached MSOTA
info. All is on our website MSOTA.org



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January 30, 2007

FAX TRANSMITTED LETTER TO: 406-444-7909

Ms. Pam Bunke
Division Administrator/ACCD
Department of Corrections
P.O. Box 201301
Helena, MT 59620

RE: MSOTA Stats

Dear Pam:

The following is information requested earlier today. Accompanying this fax will be some historical information regarding MSOTA. If this isn't a very good fax, just simply do a Web search for MSOTA and you can find our website on the Internet.

There are active outpatient adult sexual-offender treatment in the following communities:

Libby	Whitefish	Kallispell	Missoula
Great Falls	Havre	Lewistown	Helena
Butte area	Bozeman area	Billings	Wolf Point

Most, although not all, adult programs have a juvenile sex-offender treatment program as well.

MSOTA programs are of varying sizes. For example, our program in Billings accommodates somewhere between sixty (60) and seventy (70) adult sex offenders at any given time. I recently spoke with Fred Lemons, in Bozeman, who told me that his program was somewhere between twenty-five (25) and thirty (30) adult

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offenders. I suspect that somewhere between twenty-five (25) and forty (40) adults would be a reasonable average for programs.

Most programs can accommodate new offenders as they are either Sentenced and/or discharged from the penitentiary. The problem becomes that frequently offenders' risk levels are such that it is troubling for the practitioner, and many sex offenders do not have resources to pay for treatment. As you know, these treatment programs are private facilities and, therefore, services have to be paid for.

The length of treatment varies for sex offenders in the community. At SCTA, it generally takes about forty-two (42) months for an individual to fully complete sexual-offender treatment. Some offenders can complete treatment in less time, and some offenders require a longer period of treatment. As I am sure you are aware, many pedophiles require some type of life-long treatment and/or supervision.

It is also important to point out that having completed the prison program is no guarantee that the individual is ready to be in the community free of any treatment services. Our experience is that most individuals from the prison, even those that have completed the treatment program there, require a standard outpatient sex-offender treatment program. In this day and age, I think a "better safe than sorry" approach is warranted.

As I am sure you are acutely aware, it seems that the pendulum regarding this population has swung to a highly punitive point. Over the years, it has moved back and forth. I think that Cable News probably has a lot to do with the legislative process and community attitudes at this point.

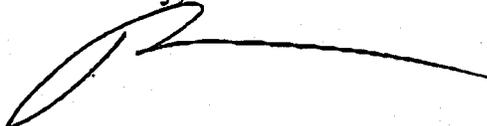
I think it is also important for the legislators to understand that this is not a "one size fits all" dichotomy. There are many different types of sexual offenders, with a variety of risk levels. Longstanding MSOTA programs have a fairly good track record in our respective communities for managing the risk of offenders that we have treated. There have been very few reoffenses across the state in the nineteen (19) or so years that I have been as South Central Treatment Associates.

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Another area of need seems to be Pre-Release beds for sex offenders. Since the mid-90's, we have had a very tight working relationship with Alpha House, here in Billings. Unfortunately, programs in other communities with Pre-Release Centers have not enjoyed that same relationship. It would be nice to see an incentive for these other centers to take sex offenders into pre-release from their own home areas. We have tried real hard in Billings to not have it become the toxic wasteland of Montana, and thus have been very cautious in the screening process of sexual offenders.

At any time, if you need information, please contact me. If you need any clarification regarding what I have provided, let me know. In addition to the office number, my cell number is 406-861-6391.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Sullivan, MSW
Director

MDS/jdo

HISTORY

The Montana Sex Offender Treatment Association (MSOTA) was first established in 1986 as an organization composed of various professionals who work directly with sex offenders. MSOTA's purpose is to promote the highest standards in the evaluation and treatment of sex offenders.

Over the years, MSOTA has developed a broad base for recognition and acceptance throughout the social service and criminal justice systems in Montana. It has been influential in establishing standards for evaluation, treatment, and treatment providers. Individuals who have reached clinical member status within the organization are recognized as possessing specialized knowledge, skills and abilities to treat and assess sex offenders. Additionally, the organization promotes legislative issues relative to sexual abuse. MSOTA is guided by a set of ethical principles that each member is required to follow.

In 1990, a major effort was undertaken to disseminate evaluation standards of care for the treatment of sex offender to professionals throughout the state of Montana who work directly with sexual abuse related matters. The effort included District Court and Federal Court Judges, State and US Probation Officers, the Department of Public Health and Human Services Division Social Workers, Juvenile Court Workers, County Attorneys, and Public Defenders. Since that time, the standards have been updated and disseminated as changes have been made. MSOTA has also been influential in legislative matters and with the Department of Corrections' policy regarding sex offenders.

MSOTA was one of the first state organizations of its kind. Other states have followed its lead in establishing their own state chapters. Most MSOTA members are also members of The Association for the

MSOTA HISTORY

Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA). ATSA is the international association for the treatment of sexual abusers. All MSOTA clinical members must be licensed within their respective disciplines to perform mental health services in the state of Montana.

The association meets on a quarterly basis with meetings held throughout the state. Elected officers serve a two year term as do the MSOTA Board of Directors.



PURPOSE

The Montana Sex Offender Treatment Association (MSOTA) promotes education and training throughout the state and region. A number of MSOTA clinical members are recognized nationally for their work and expertise in the area of evaluation and treatment of sex offenders.

The relatively small population of Montana has enabled the association to coordinate efforts and provide consistency of services throughout the state.

The association has a number of committees to address specific concern including:

- Legislative
- Ethics
- Membership
- Evaluation/Treatment Standards
- Education



COMPOSITION

The Montana Sex Offender Treatment Association's board is composed of a number of highly respected professionals throughout the state. This presently includes professionals from a variety of disciplines including the judicial, criminal justice, and social service systems. The board services to provide additional input, support, and direction to the association.

Currently, MSOTA has approximately 40 active members. Membership falls into two categories:

Clinical Members: Professionals who are qualified to perform independent evaluations of sex offenders as well as direct treatment. MSOTA members are required, at a minimum, to have a master's degree in social work, psychology, or counseling and an appropriate state license to perform mental health therapy. They are required to have 2000 hours of supervised experience in the evaluation and treatment of sex offenders. They must pass written and oral examinations and submit work samples which are reviewed by the membership committee.

Associates: Mental health professionals who are not certified as a clinical member or professionals who perform non-therapeutic services in working within the field of sexual abuse. This includes case management, probation and parole, social services, etc. Associates are required to apply for membership and must provide letters of recommendation as well as documentation of education and training.

All members of the association are held to ethical standards which are outlined in the Code of Ethics of the Montana Sex Offender Treatment Association (MSOTA).