

MONTANA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY

RIKKI HELD, et al.

vs

STATE OF MONTANA, et al.

CDV 2020-307

MINUTE ENTRY FOR

JUNE 20, 2023

This was the time set for Day Seven (7) of the Non-Jury Bench Trial, in the above-entitled cause. Present in the Court were Nate Bellinger, Philip Gregory, Roger Sullivan, Melissa Hornbein and Barbara Chillcott, Counsel on behalf of the Plaintiffs along with all Plaintiffs and Michael Russell, Thane Johnson, Emily Jones, Mark Stermitz, Lee McKenna and Selena Sauer, Counsel on behalf of the Defendants.

Court resumed at 9:05 am.

Court and Counsel reviewed exhibits from trial and those not offered. Exhibits P-23, P-223 and P-75, were offered and with objections were admitted. Exhibits P-138, P-216, P-217, P-233, P-234 and P-235, were offered and with no objection were admitted. **Exhibits P-32, P-136, P-137, P-139, P-149 and P-151, were offered, objected to, and the Court's decision was withheld until the Thomas Transcript is reviewed.**

DDQ Permit Exhibits; P-237, P-239, P-240, P-241, P-242, P-243, P-245, P-246, P-249, P-251, P-255, P-256 and P-258, were all offered and with no objections were admitted. Demonstrative Exhibits PD-1 through PD-800 were all offered and with objections to all, the Court will decide which, if any will be admitted, upon review of this case. Counsel asked that the Court take Judicial Notice of information provided within Exhibit P-316, and with no objection, the Court will take Judicial notice of the information and Exhibit P-316 was admitted.

The Court asked that both Parties submit final Proposed Findings, simultaneously and shall be due Two (2) weeks from today. Defendant's Counsel motioned to have Proposed Findings limited to Twenty (20) pages, and with objection, the Court denied the motion and will not limit the number of pages to be submitted.

Counsel gave brief closing arguments and will submit briefs of the remaining closing arguments, with the submitted Proposed Findings, at which time this matter will be deemed submitted for decision.

HON. KATHY SEELEY
PRESIDING JUDGE

MIKE RAFFEL
Court Reporter

cc. All Counsel of record for Plaintiffs and Defendants.