

Ravalli County Attorney

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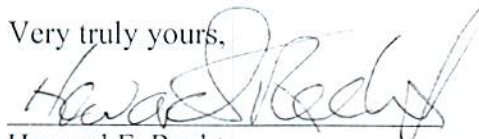
Re: Ravalli County IGT Agreement

Dear Ms. Oldenburg:

This letter is being written at the request of Commissioner Ray Hawk, Ravalli County Board of County Commissioners, concerning the Intergovernmental Transfer Agreement entered into between Ravalli County and DPHHS. As Commissioner Hawk has indicated in emails to Susan Haran, Ravalli County intends to continue its practice of sending the funds called for in the IGT Agreement directly to Western Montana Mental Health (WMMH). It is my understanding that Ravalli County has followed this practice for the last few years for two reasons. First, the expectation of the County when it entered into the IGT Agreement was that the funds paid to the State would be matched by State funds, and the total sum paid to WMMH. However, this did not happen. The funds paid by the County were not matched or sent to WMMH. Secondly, rather than being used for the purposes for which the funds were intended, the funds were used to cover salaries at the Montana State Hospital.

It is also my understanding that other counties are following this same practice, for much the same reasons.

Very truly yours,


Howard F. Recht,
Deputy Attorney


Jeff Burrows,
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

cc: Susan Haran

