

## Commissioners

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**From:** Staff MTRAP <info@montanarap.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2014 9:09 AM  
**To:** Commissioners; Ron Stoltz; Robert Jenni  
**Subject:** Attorney Letter on Safety of Michelle Pope  
**Attachments:** Attorney Letter to Ravalli County.pdf

Notice of letter for today's HR meeting update. Please place in commissioners correspondence.

Sincerely,  
Robert Myers

VISIT w/ Howard <sup>K</sup> put  
just in corresp



Robert C. Myers  
PO Box 921  
Hamilton, Montana 59840  
406-369-8015  
info@montanrap.com

January 27, 2014

Robert Jenni  
Human Resources Director  
Ravalli County, Montana  
215 S. 4th Street  
Suite B  
Hamilton, MT 59840

Dear Mr. Jenni:

I have been retained by Ms. Michelle Pope to bring suit against Bonnie Dugan, Jeff Burrows, and Ravalli County.

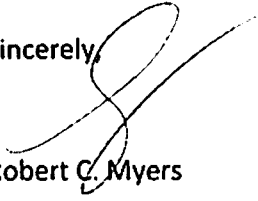
As Ms. Pope presented in her email to you dated January 26, 2014, she was warned that she might be in a dangerous situation in the Treasurer's Office as "Ravalli County has very peculiar ways" of dealing with suspected whistleblowers. This warning was motivated by the hearing of a conversation of Commissioner Jeff Burrows. This warning has caused my client substantial emotional distress and that distress is warranted given a previous attempt at framing Ms. Pope for stealing money by tax clerk Bonnie Dugan. The implication is clear that Ms. Pope was the employee who found that the deposit receipt files of all of Ravalli County departments and offices are either missing or unused in years and as such she must be tarnished.

Tax clerk Bonnie Dugan fabricated evidence with the intention of prompting an investigation alleging Ms. Pope of stealing money. Bonnie Dugan's attempt to frame Ms. Pope was shown to be fraudulent. It is a felony to fabricate evidence and then to cause an investigation to follow from that fabrication. You were aware of this and other acts of Bonnie Dugan and yet failed to contact law enforcement authorities, and failed to remove Bonnie Dugan from her position. Bonnie Dugan also threatened another employee with termination of employment for merely talking to her boss.

Commissioner Burrows it is neither arbitrary nor capricious to remove an employee who has engaged in illegal activity and who has promoted a hostile work environment. Bonnie Dugan has demonstrated she is not to be trusted with unfettered access to the public's money in the Treasurer's Office.

Ms. Pope demands that you provide her with a safe work environment free from the threat of illegal activity to harm her. Ms. Pope will return to work on Wednesday in the Ravalli County Treasurer's Office. I will seek a more immediate legal remedy to ensure her safety if Ravalli County fails to take the necessary and required steps to prevent any commissioner, officer, or employee of Ravalli County from causing harm to Ms. Pope. Ms. Pope is a bright, energetic woman who has provided a great service to the citizens of Ravalli County. Her honesty and expertise is needed in the Treasurer's Office more than ever.

Sincerely,



Robert C. Myers