

ORIGINAL

FILED

02/20/2018

*Ed Smith*  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: 00-329

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

00-329

FILED

IN RE THE DUES OF THE STATE  
BAR OF MONTANA

ORDER FEB 20 2018

*Ed Smith*  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

In September 2017, pursuant to Section VI of the Montana Supreme Court Internal Operating Rules, the Trustees of the State Bar of Montana petitioned the Court for dues increases for active, inactive, and senior members of the Bar. The Bar asked the Court to increase the dues for active members from \$200 to either \$285 or \$300, the dues for inactive members from \$125 to \$190, and the dues for senior members from \$50 to \$75. The Bar submitted that a dues increase is necessary to support its current operating expenses, including providing support to Court-ordered programs and Supreme Court Commissions.

On September 27, 2017, we invited public comments on the proposed dues increases. We directed that public comments be filed with the Clerk of this Court on or before November 17, 2017, and provided a December 1, 2017 deadline for the State Bar to file a response. We recently gave notice that the proposal would be discussed at a public meeting of the Court on February 13, 2018.

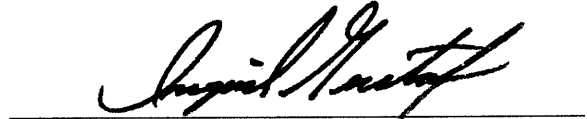
Having reviewed the petition, along with the comments in opposition and in support, and following discussion by the members of the Court and the members of the public in attendance at our February 13 public meeting, the Court has voted to increase the dues of active State Bar members to \$300, and to increase the dues of inactive members to \$190. The Court voted not to increase dues for senior members of the State Bar.

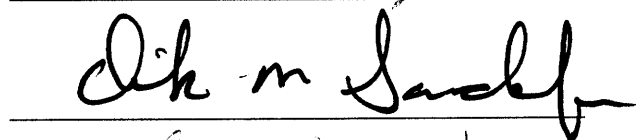
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that effective with fiscal year 2019 State Bar dues, the statements for which will soon go out to State Bar members, the annual dues for active members of the State Bar of Montana are increased from \$200 to \$300, and the annual dues for inactive members are increased from \$125 to \$190.

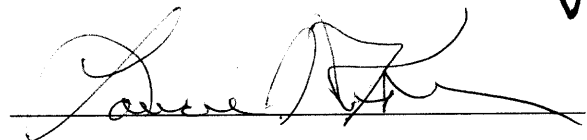
The Clerk is directed to provide a copy of this Order to the State Bar of Montana with the request that it be published in the next available issue of *The Montana Lawyer* and posted on the Bar's website. In addition, a copy of this Order shall be electronically posted on the website of the Judicial Branch,

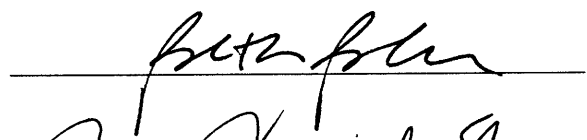
DATED this <sup>20</sup>20 day of February, 2018.

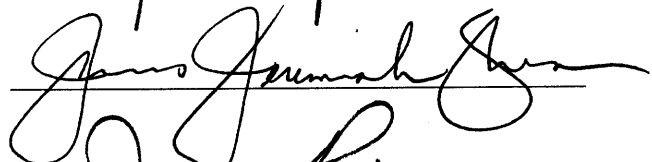
  
Chief Justice

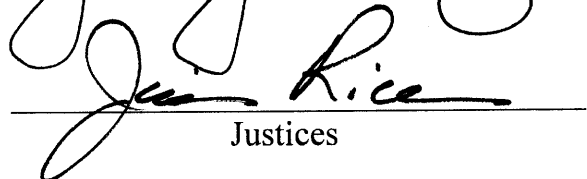
  
Justice

  
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