

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA  
No. OP 26-0292

---

AUDREY CROMWELL, in her official capacity as GALLATIN COUNTY  
ATTORNEY,

Petitioner,

v.

AUSTIN KNUDSEN, in his official capacity as MONTANA ATTORNEY  
GENERAL,

Respondent.

---

**RESPONDENT'S NOTICE OF SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY**

---

APPEARANCES:

AUSTIN KNUDSEN  
Montana Attorney General  
CHRISTIAN B. CORRIGAN  
*Solicitor General*  
BRENT MEAD  
*Deputy Solicitor General*  
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
PO Box 201401  
Helena, MT 59620-1401  
Phone: 406-444-2026  
Fax: 406-444-3549  
Christian.Corrigan@mt.gov  
Brent.Mead2@mt.gov

*Attorneys for Respondent*

Respondent Austin Knudsen, in his official capacity as Montana Attorney General, hereby provides notice to the Court that on May 4, 2026, the Attorney General exercised supervisory authority over the Gallatin County Attorney in this matter pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 2-15-501(5). See Attachment A. The Attorney General has directed Petitioner to immediately dismiss this original proceeding. *See State ex rel. Fletcher v. Dist. Ct. of Nineteenth Jud. Dist. of State of Mont. In & For Cnty. of Lincoln*, 260 Mont. 410, 416, 859 P.2d 992, 996 (1993) (Attorney General “was well within his authority ... to direct the Lincoln County Attorney to file motions to dismiss the charges.”).

Petitioner and her counsel indicated via letter on May 4, 2026, that they will refuse comply with the Attorney General’s supervisory directive because the pending petition allegedly “raises ... the lawfulness of your decision to assert supervisory control over County Attorney Cromwell’s office.” See Attachment B. The petition, however, doesn’t challenge the Attorney General’s authority to invoke supervisory control over the Gallatin County Attorney’s Office. It merely asserts in Part II that the Court should terminate supervisory control because “[s]upervisory control is unnecessary once the Court declares the law.” Pet. at 18; *see*

*also id.* (“Once this Court declares the governing law, no supervisory control is necessary”). As such, the Court should deny the petition *sua sponte* because (among many other reasons) Petitioner lacks any legal authority to continue prosecuting this action. See Mont. Code Ann. §§ 2-15-501(5), 7-4-2716.

DATED this 4th day of May 2026.

AUSTIN KNUDSEN  
Montana Attorney General

*/s/Christian B. Corrigan*  
CHRISTIAN B. CORRIGAN  
*Solicitor General*

BRENT MEAD  
*Deputy Solicitor General*  
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
215 North Sanders  
PO Box 201401  
Helena, MT 59620-1401  
Phone: 406-444-2026  
Christian.Corrigan@mt.gov  
Brent.Mead2@mt.gov

*Attorneys for Respondent*

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Christian Brian Corrigan, hereby certify that I have served true and accurate copies of the foregoing Notice - Other to the following on 05-04-2026:

Raphael Jeffrey Carlisle Graybill (Attorney)  
300 4th Street North  
PO Box 3586  
Great Falls MT 59403  
Representing: Audrey S. Cromwell  
Service Method: eService

Rachel Elizabeth Parker (Attorney)  
300 4th St North  
Great Falls MT 59403  
Representing: Audrey S. Cromwell  
Service Method: eService

Austin Miles Knudsen (Govt Attorney)  
215 N. Sanders  
Helena MT 59620  
Representing: Austin Miles Knudsen  
Service Method: eService

Electronically signed by Rochell Standish on behalf of Christian Brian Corrigan  
Dated: 05-04-2026