



# The Cascade Effect: Trial by Fire

WRITTEN BY  
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A little over a year ago, on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, Cascade County Sheriff's Deputy, Jacob Tri, shot and killed Mike Hanson. The media's reporting of these events and the subsequent investigations and inquest did not provide justice or the clarity of truth regarding the death of Mike Hanson. In fact, Jacob Tri would receive a purple heart award for this incident, suggesting Cascade County is more interested in public relations and their image instead of the facts and truth.

The lack of accountability demonstrated by local governments encouraged a partnership between the Cascade County Libertarian Party (CCLP) and Montana Citizen's Council on Judicial Accountability (MTSCOJA). This partnership has worked diligently ever since a public inquest was held in June 2024, including several hundreds of volunteer hours researching this incident and background events. Despite the jury finding no criminal means leading up to Mike Hanson's death, the CCLP and MTSCOJA believe this inquest was handled with a high degree of bias and did not explore all questions necessary to find justice for Mike's death. Concerns and questions regarding this incident include, but are not limited to:

1. The warrant in question was for Pam Polejewski and not Mike Hanson, and was regarding Pam's bail conditions from a prior incident in 2020
2. The warrant is largely circumstantial and relies on prior history that was already part of the 2020 investigation, and did not demonstrate that any animals were in danger
3. Despite the lack of any immediate danger and having 10-days to execute the search warrant, Deputy Tri highly prioritized this investigation insofar as appearing onto Mike Hanson's residence without backup, a body camera, or non-lethal equipment



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4. Mike Hanson requested to see the search warrant and was ignored on at least five occasions before Deputy Tri decided to trespass by jumping a gate to the property
5. Deputy Tri lied while under oath during the inquest when he claimed Mike Hanson was shooting at Tri's person while a malfunction was being cleared, when simple audio analysis demonstrates Deputy Tri fired the first and second shots

To bring accountability to the Cascade County Sheriff's Office and educate the community, the CCLP and MTSCOJA started The Cascade Effect initiative. The goals of this initiative include: 1) providing the community with all available public documentation so they may have as much information, free of bias as possible, to make an informed decision of what happened on February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024; 2) educating the community through a podcast series which goes into the details of the shooting as well as the background of the incident; and 3) petitioning our court system to impanel a Grand Jury in order to adequately investigate this incident and the public officials who have refused to seek the truth.

The local community is instrumental to these efforts, and anyone interested should seek out how to get involved. Several ways to help

support the CCLP and MTSCOJA include:

1. Donate for advertisement and petition costs at <https://peacefulsea.network/supportcascade>
2. Get up-to-date on the latest public documentations and press releases at <https://TheCascadeEffect.net>
  - You can also subscribe with your email to stay up-to-date on the latest information
3. Watch the latest podcast videos available at either of the links above which cover the facts of February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024, who Mike Hanson is, analysis of the June 2024 inquest, and details of the Grand Jury process
4. Subscribe, follow, and share these links, videos, and updates to your friends and family, as the more people who know about this incident the better 'The People' can demand action
  - Twitter: @CascadeEffectMT
  - Facebook: The Cascade Effect
5. Request a live presentation ([thecascadeeffect406@gmail.com](mailto:thecascadeeffect406@gmail.com)) to detail the facts of February 23, 2024 and discuss the latest updates to the initiative. 📧

**THE CASCADE EFFECT**

**"MIKE HANSON GOT HIMSELF KILLED THAT DAY"**  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY JOSHUA RACKI

**"HAVING A SEARCH WARRANT IS MORE- IT, LIKE, BOLSTERS YOUR CASE, SO TO SPEAK. BUT IT'S NOT REQUIRED"**  
SHERIFF JESSE SLAUGHTER

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