

**Opinion No. 198.**

**County Officers—Hours Per Day.**

**Held:** Elective County Officers are obligated to perform their duties as set forth in the law, and to keep their offices open for transaction of business during the hours the law prescribes, but are not obligated to work any certain number of hours per day.

August 26, 1946.

Mr. J. M. Watts  
County Attorney  
Musselshell County  
Roundup, Montana

Dear Mr. Watts:

You have requested an opinion of this office as to the number of hours per day which an elected officer is required to work in the performance of his duties.

I concur in substance with your opinion which was forwarded with your request. There is no statutory set number of hours an elected officer must work in the performance of his duties. The duties of the various elective county officers are established by law. Sections 453 and 4736, Revised Codes of Montana, 1935, set forth the hours which all county offices must be kept open for transaction of business; the offices must be kept open continually from 9 o'clock A. M. until 5 o'clock P. M. every day of the week, except on holidays, and at such other times when the accommodation of the public or the proper transaction of business requires.

It is therefore my opinion elective county officers are obligated to perform their duties as set forth in the law, and to keep their offices open for transaction of business during the hours the law prescribes, but are not obligated to work any certain number of hours per day.

Sincerely yours,  
R. V. BOTTOMLY,  
Attorney General