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## Josephine (JO) County (CO) Justice System (JS) & Public Safety Services (PSS)

### JO CO Justice System & Public Safety Services

The 2012 expiration of federal funding for services resulted in two JO CO proposed levies as a solution. They both failed.

**Political Rewards**<sup>3</sup> In politics, a mandate is the authority granted by a constituency to act as its representative. High satisfaction by voters is a good sign for re-election. Rightly or wrongly, when neighbors think things are going well in the county, they tend to reward the elected officials they see as being in control, the county commissioners.

**Power of Representatives** The power of representatives is curtailed by the U.S. and Oregon constitutions, and the JO CO home charter, but the power of a sweeping reelection is usually considered a mandate to carry-out a politicians interests.

The concept of a government having a legitimate mandate to govern via the fair winning of a democratic election is a central idea of representative democracy. New governments who attempt to introduce policies that they did not make public during an election campaign are said to not have a legitimate *mandate* to implement such policies.

Elections, especially ones with a large margin of victory, are often said to give the newly elected government or elected official an implicit mandate to put into effect certain policies. Also, the period during which a government serves between elections is often referred to as a mandate and when the government seeks re-election it is said to be seeking a "new mandate".

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## Oregon House Bill (HB) 3453

**Political Rewards** Usually if the politician makes the correct decisions or lucks out, he will be reelected. If the voters feel better with their lives they will reward a sitting elected official with re-election. If they feel poorly with their lives they will elect the other guy.

1. Reelection & Acknowledgment of Leadership.
2. Responsibility and Respect.
3. Respectable Salaries and Benefits
4. Power and Challenge

**Power Corrupts?**<sup>3</sup> We have all heard the saying "Power corrupts; absolute power corrupts absolutely." Thank goodness that it actually:

1. Brings out the Best in Some People, and
2. The Worst in Others

New scholarship is bringing fresh subtlety to psychologists' understanding of when power leads people to take ethical shortcuts—and when it doesn't. Indeed, for some people, power seems to bring out their best. After all, good people do win elective office, and no few business executives want to do good while doing well. "When you give good people power," are they more able than others "to enact that moral identity, to do what's right?"

The answer is yes. People's sense of "moral identity"—the degree to which they thought it was important to their sense of self to be "caring," "compassionate," "fair," "generous" and so on—shaped their responses to feelings of power.

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## Political Rewards

**Oregonian June 6, 2013**<sup>4</sup> It's one of the first things we learn in civics class: Governments are instituted to secure the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

**Oregonian June 29, 2013**<sup>5</sup> Rural counties have seen budgets for essential services evaporate as timber harvests and federal payments intended to offset the loss of those jobs have faded. A civilized state cannot allow this neglect to continue.

**Oregonian July 8, 2013**<sup>6</sup> House Bill 3453 contains both pain and promise for some of the state's most financially beleaguered counties.

**Oregonian July 8, 2013**<sup>7</sup> House Bill 3453 is of potentially huge significance for rural counties without money for public safety services.

**Want more information?** Contact a member of the *Exploratory Committee*.

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1. Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (HNA&HS). July 9, 2013. *Justice System Exploratory Committee*. Hugo, OR.

2. Hugo Neighborhood Association. July 9, 2013. *All Voters & Votes Are Legitimate*. Hugo, OR.

3. Shea, Christopher. October 2012. *Why Power Corrupts*. Smithsonian Magazine.

4. Monaghan, Brendan, Guest Columnist. June 6, 2013. *Brendan Monaghan: Federal Timber Policy Sows Discomfort in Southern Oregon*. "Oregonian." Portland, OR

5. Oregonian Editorial Board. June 29, 2013. *Lawmakers Expect To Sine Die: Oregon Legislatures Today*. "Oregonian." Portland, OR

6. Mapes, Jeff. July 8, 2013. *County Rescue Bill Approved by Oregon Legislature*. "Oregonian." Portland, OR

7. Har Janie. July 8, 2013. *Lawmakers Expect To Sine Die: Oregon Legislatures Today*. "Oregonian." Portland, OR

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## Exploratory Committee's Mission

**Mission** An independent Justice System and Public Safety Services Exploratory Committee (*Exploratory Committee*) to investigate the JO CO Justice System & Public Safety Services (JS&PSS) issue was formed under the leadership of the Hugo Neighborhood Association and Historical Society (HNA&HS).

Big picture ideas for the exploratory effort include the following.

1. Identifying the JS&PSS issue.
2. Identifying the JS&PSS sub-issues for research and analysis.
3. Identifying a range in level of services
4. Identifying a range of costs for services.
5. Identifying revenues for services.

The ultimate goal is an adequate justice system and public safety services. Is it possible to have a higher level of service for a lower cost? The purpose of the *Exploratory Committee* is to gather information adequate enough to understand the JS&PSS issues. This includes educational outreach efforts.

The *Exploratory Committee's* purpose is limited to investigating and researching the JS&PSS issues. It will not make evaluations of right or wrong, nor make recommendations on how to vote.

The contents of this brochure are expressions of the opinions and beliefs of those that contribute based on their thoughts and experiences. Hopefully, their efforts will assist the public toward informed decision-making.

- Donations Are Not Tax Deductible -

Edited by Mike Walker, Member, Exploratory Committee

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### *Justice System Exploratory Committee*

<http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/justicesystemexploratorycommittee.htm>

### HNA&HS

<http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/>

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# Political Rewards Of Proactive Decision Makings

Brochure IIIJ.1  
Justice System & Public Safety Services Series

**Very Draft July 16, 2013**

*Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee*