

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

### JO CO Justice System & Public Safety Services<sup>1-4</sup>

The 2012 expiration of federal funding for services resulted in two JO CO proposed levies as a solution. They both failed. **“Is JO CO providing a minimally adequate level of public safety services?”**

### SECURING OUR SAFETY (SOS)<sup>5</sup>

<http://securingoursafety.org/>

**Mission<sup>5</sup>** *“A Citizen-Voiced Plan to provide for a secure, stable and sustainable Josephine County.”*

**Securing Our Safety (SOS)<sup>6</sup>** Securing Our Safety (SOS) is a non-profit that formed in 2012 for the purposes of research and education on how to help the County provide the services that are required for a “secure, stable, and sustainable Josephine County.”

### SOS Board & Officers<sup>7</sup>

#### Securing Our Safety, Board of Directors:

Jay Meredith	(President), Finance Director
Cheri Adkins	(Vice President), Business Owner
Holly Lidey	(Secretary), Concerned Parent and Concerned Citizen
Bill Ertel	Real Estate
Mike Schneyder	Concerned Citizen – Retired
Jim Frick	Real Estate
Cliff Thomason	Real Estate and Construction Contracting
Laurie Norman	Attorney

#### Other Securing Our Safety Officers:

Grant Medley	Treasurer, Concerned Parent and Concerned Citizen
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## Community Response After Sheriff Had To Cut Services

**SOS Frequently Asked Question 33.<sup>8</sup> Why does SOS appear to be laden with City and County employees? How is that not “self-serving?”** Answer. SOS, *Securing Our Safety*, is a non-profit educational/research group formed in the summer of 2012 and officially incorporated in the fall of 2012. The group consists of people from all walks of life and fields of employment. There are City of Grants Pass and Josephine County Employees, who along with many others from the private sector or just concerned citizens in general, each week tirelessly volunteer their time towards a solution. The group is diverse and also needs a presence from those that work for local government so that questions about how the system works can be efficiently answered. SOS is purely a volunteer organization and consists of people wanting to make our home a safer place to live and raise a family. Enrollment is open to everyone and the public is invited to all of our weekly meetings. The group encourages others to share their ideas and thoughts.



### SECURING OUR SAFETY

“A CITIZEN-VOICED PLAN TO PROVIDE FOR A SECURE, STABLE AND SUSTAINABLE JOSEPHINE COUNTY”



### Respect for each other’s opinion is the only requirement.

The group’s mission is *“A Citizen-Voiced Plan to provide for a secure, stable and sustainable Josephine County.”*

SOS has to date surveyed nearly 1,200 County residents, almost all of whom desire solutions to restoring our local Public Safety and Criminal Justice Services. There may be some differences of opinion on the best solutions, but we desire to be a voice of the citizens and are currently working hard to collect as much input as possible and educate the public on the dangers of not having an adequately funded Criminal Justice System. (SOURCE: Many SOS Members, April 2013)

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

## Securing Our Safety (SOS) Board & Officers

**RESPECT Notes from September 24, 2013 SOS Public Meeting<sup>9</sup>** *“I would like to remind everyone that we need to ensure that we listen to everyone’s point of view, as I can assure you, what we don’t address now, we will certainly need to address later; “Solve the problem when it is small”; We have always taken and will continue to take the high road of respect; we may not agree with Mark or others who have opposing views when it comes to the safety of our community and how we get there, but we should permit others, actually promote them to speak, especially when they respectfully ask to be heard and then drive all the way into Grants Pass from Selma, to do so; it’s just the right thing to do; I will be asking you in a future to permit Mark to have some more time to speak; I will ensure that we agree on the amount of time beforehand and also, remind him and anyone who wishes to speak, to be respectful and to know that we simply cannot tolerate personal attacks; it serves no purpose and is a complete waste of time; everybody makes mistakes and we can’t move forward if we are unforgiving.”*

### Securing Our Safety, Inc.

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Grants Pass, OR 97528  
Tax ID # 46-1212712  
SecuringOurSafety@gmail.com  
[www.SecuringOurSafety.org](http://www.SecuringOurSafety.org)

2. HNA&HS. July 24, 2013. *Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society’s Mission*. Hugo, OR.

3. HNA&HS. July 9, 2013. *All Voters & Votes Are Legitimate*. Hugo, OR.

4. HNA&HS. July 24, 2013. *Government Needs Support*. Hugo, OR.

5. Securing Our Safety. Downloaded July 29, 2013. *Home Page of SOS*, <http://securingoursafety.org/>. Grants Pass, OR.

6. SOS. Downloaded July 29, 2013. *SOS Teams*. <http://securingoursafety.org/the-can-do-list/>. Grants Pass, OR.

7. SOS. Downloaded August 5, 2013. *SOS Board & Officers*. <http://securingoursafety.org/about/sos-board-officers>. Grants Pass, OR.

8. SOS. Downloaded August 5, 2013. *SOS Frequently Asked Question 33*. Grants Pass, OR. <http://securingoursafety.org/qa/#qa-33>

9. SOS. Downloaded September 26, 2013. *Notes from September 24, 2013 SOS Public Meeting*. Grants Pass, OR. <http://securingoursafety.org/notes-from-september-24-2013-sos-public-meeting/#more-2495>.

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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 cost 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



### HNA&HS Officers

Wayne McKy, Chair  
Lis Butowitsch, Treasurer  
Mike Walker, Education Chair

### Exploratory Committee Members

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Wayne McKy, Member  
Karen Rose, Web Master  
Jon Whalen, Member

### Justice System Exploratory Committee

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

### Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

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

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# SECURING OUR SAFETY (SOS) BOARD & OFFICERS

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Brochure Br. III.K.3.2.2  
Justice System & Public Safety Services Series



**Very Draft September 26, 2013**

*Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee*