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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. We believe an informed public will consider the question behind the 2013 Measure 17 - 49, the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Three Year Local Option Tax: "Is JO CO providing a minimally adequate level of public safety services?"<sup>1-2</sup>

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

[http://www.oregon.gov/CJC/Pages/about\\_us.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/CJC/Pages/about_us.aspx)

The Criminal Justice Commission's purpose is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of state and local criminal justice systems by providing a centralized and impartial forum for statewide policy development and planning. The commission is charged with developing a long-range public safety plan for Oregon, which includes making recommendations on the capacity and use of state prisons and local jails, implementation of community corrections programs and methods to reduce future criminal conduct. In addition, the Commission has a role in funding and evaluating Oregon's drug courts. The commission also conducts research, develops impact estimates of crime-related legislation, acts as a statistical and data clearinghouse, administers Oregon's felony sentencing guidelines and provides staff to the advisory committees regarding asset forfeiture and racial profiling. Commission members are appointed to four-year terms by the governor and confirmed by the senate.

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

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## Justice System Exploratory Committee

### Justice System Exploratory Committee Research

The Justice System Exploratory Committee, Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society, researched the Criminal Justice Commission's web site and could not find any information on the history of CJC's authority for "*minimally adequate level of public safety services*." It is assumed there is no reference on the CJC's web site to "minimally adequate level of public safety services" because in 2012 the Oregon Legislature gave this authority to the Oregon Governor.



### CJC's Authority

**Repealed**<sup>3</sup> Under former ORS 203.095 (2009) (SB 77 (2009)) CJC adopted rules (OAR 213-070-000 (2011)) pertaining to public

safety services guidelines to aid CJC in determining whether a county provided a minimally adequate level of public safety services in certain defined areas. In 2012, the Oregon Legislature amended ORS 203.095 to remove CJC's authority in this regard, and to give the Governor authority, in certain circumstances, to determine whether a county is providing a minimally adequate level of state required services. HB 4176 (2012). As a result, CJC repealed its rules (OAR 213-070-000 (2011)) pertaining to determination of a minimally adequate level of public safety services.

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

3. Oregon Bulletin. December 1, 2012. *Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, Chapter 213*, Rule Caption: Changes to Notice Rule, Updating Sentencing Guidelines, and Repeal of SB 77 Rules. Salem, OR.

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## Oregon (OR) Criminal Justice Commission

### Oregon Governor's Responsibility Under House Bill 3453<sup>3</sup>

The bill provides that the Governor of Oregon may proclaim public safety fiscal emergency for one or more counties where fiscal conditions compromise county ability to provide "*minimally adequate level of public safety services*." Under 3453 the Governor could enter into agreements with local county commissioners to raise money for additional law enforcement services. Half of the money would come from state coffers and the other half would be in the form of higher local taxes.

**Research to Continue** Although the CJC no longer has responsibility, it provided an invaluable service in addressing the standards and criteria to determine "*minimally adequate level of public safety services*" that will continue to be researched. It premise follows.

*There are substantial differences between counties in terms of, among other things, their geographic and demographic characteristics, historic crime rates and their willingness to tolerate certain levels of crime and their past and present funding of various public safety services. Given these, and other, substantial differences, writing rules for how to determine whether a particular county is providing "minimally adequate public safety services" is a difficult task. What services should be taken into account, what are the key data elements in measuring a particular public safety service and how should they be measured?*

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

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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

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### HNA&HS Officers

Wayne McKy, Chair  
Lis Butowitsch, Treasurer  
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### *Justice System Exploratory Committee*

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

### Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

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

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# OREGON CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

Brochure III.E.1.6.3  
Justice System & Public Safety Services Series

## Standards & Authorities



**Very Draft August 2, 2013**

*Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee*