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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.<sup>1-4</sup> **“Is JO CO providing a minimally adequate level of public safety services?”** The voting citizens in JO CO are basically split on the level of PSS they want, and are able, or want, to pay for. This split is not considered good or bad; it is considered a reflection on the citizens practicing their legitimate right to have differences of opinions when they vote.<sup>3</sup>

**HJSEC’s ADEQUATE INFORMATION STANDARDS**<sup>6</sup> In its research of the JS&PSS issue and sub-issues, the HJSEC will analyze and document selected available information on the JS&PSS issue for compliance with its adequate information standard and its five analysis elements (EI).

- Analysis EI 1. Information Is Understood Or Not
- Analysis EI 2. Supporting Arguments Are Made Or Not
- Analysis EI 3. Standard(s) of Review
- Analysis EI 4. Applicable Evidence/Facts
- Analysis EI 5. Primary Refs. & Sources of Information

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1. Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (HNA&HS). July 9, 2013. *Justice System Exploratory Committee*. Hugo, OR.  
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. Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee (HJSEC), HNA&HS. August 22, 2013. *Adequate Information to Justice System & Public Safety Services Issue Scope Of Work*. Including Appendix A. Hugo, OR.

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## Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee (HJSEC)

**Adequate Information Standard**<sup>7</sup> An informed citizenry and informed decision-making need the facts and, to have and understand, the substantive standards and criteria that apply to a public action identified by the decision-maker.

**ANALYSIS ELEMENT 2. SUPPORTING ARGUMENTS ARE MADE OR NOT**<sup>5-7</sup> The public decision-maker’s responsibility is not only providing information to the citizenry. He should also provide a statement, opinion, or conclusion with the PROS (supporting ideas) and CONS (opposing ideas) of an argumentative issue. The rationale is extremely important. The primary objective is to persuade people to change beliefs that many of them do not want to change. For example, you’ve been asked to write a paper that advances and supports an action you’ve reached. You identify the main point about a topic—the central claim of your paper. What counts as effective support for this claim? Here are three accepted ways to support your argument. They can be used separately or in combination, according to your purpose and audience.

**Statistics** Statistics convey information in numerical form, often referred to as data. Statistics are most accessible and convincing when they are used sparingly and in combination with an explanation of why the numbers are significant. Remember that even though statistics are considered factual, numbers can be presented in different ways to suggest dramatically different conclusions. Pay attention to any conflicting information you find and be sure to provide the full context of statistical data.

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## Supporting Arguments Are Made Or Not

**Examples** Appropriate examples can support the decision-maker’s contention that a general statement is true. Not only do they provide specifics and details in support of a claim, but the vivid description they often include helps to capture and retain the citizen’s attention.

**Expert Opinion** Expert opinions are based on factual evidence but differ from fact in that they are interpretations of fact. For example, economist determining a fiscal condition may consider the same data set and observation yet offer differing interpretations of this information. The fate of the criminal—mental hospital versus prison—may depend upon which argument is more convincing. The fact that experts can draw different conclusions from the same information shows that opinions may not be as reliable as facts or personal experience, but they are a useful and common means of supporting an argument. The opinions of experts in the field you are studying or the issue before you are valuable both to determine your own perspective and to support your claims.

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

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6. HJSEC, HNA&HS. September 9, 2013. *Adequate Information & Analysis Methodology*. Hugo, OR.  
7. HJSEC, HNA&HS. September 10, 2013. *Adequate Analysis: Information Is Understood Or Not*. Hugo, 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 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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### Justice System Exploratory Committee

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

### Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

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

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## ADEQUATE ANALYSIS: SUPPORTING ARGUMENTS ARE MADE OR NOT

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Justice System & Public Safety Services Series



*“The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew.”*

December 1, 1862 Annual Message to Congress --  
Concluding Remarks by Abraham Lincoln.

**Very Draft September 10, 2013**

*Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee*