

May 20, 2016



To: Senate Interim Committee on Rules and Executive Appointments
The Honorable Diane Rosenbaum, Chair
The Honorable Ted Ferrioli, Vice-Chair
The Honorable Ginny Burdick, Member
The Honorable Brian Boquist, Member
The Honorable Lee Beyer, Member

From: Chief Geoff Spalding, President
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police

Sheriff Brian Wolfe, President
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Re: Support for reconfirmation of Colette Peters as
Director of Department of Corrections

Dear Chair Rosenbaum, Vice-Chair Ferrioli and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police and Oregon State Sheriffs' Association, please accept this letter of support for the reconfirmation of Colette Peters as the Director of the Oregon Department of Corrections (ODOC).

Ms. Peters is a leader who demonstrates a strong commitment to building collaborative relationships between the Department of Corrections and municipal, county and state police agencies. This includes our collaborative work regarding Justice Reinvestment as well as daily ongoing operations together as public safety entities.

During the last 25 years, Ms. Peters has been involved in many parts of the public safety continuum – from juvenile to adult corrections. She has worked as a front line staff member in juvenile correctional facilities; a crisis mediator and victims' advocate inside a law enforcement agency; a research associate; Oregon's Inspector General; Director of the Oregon Youth Authority, and now ODOC Director for the last four years.

In addition, Ms. Peters is a staunch believer in allowing research and data to drive policy decisions. Especially in these times of scarce resources, it is ever-more important to focus on research-based programs and services that ensure taxpayer dollars are spent wisely and effectively. She is committed to making sure that the investments made in Oregon's corrections system will ensure a safe environment for staff, and achieve the greatest positive impact on our adults in custody, and those on supervision in our communities.

Since becoming Director of ODOC in 2012, Ms. Peters' department has gained considerable ground in building relationships with other public safety agencies, making Oregon's corrections system more

efficient, effective, and innovative. Always keeping her eye on public safety, Ms. Peters has led ODOC through significant reforms that are improving outcomes for offenders, their families, and our communities. She has proved her commitment to public safety, the accountability of the adults in her custody, and evidenced-based programs, treatment and work opportunities to improve re-entry.

As statewide associations of law enforcement leaders that represent agencies small and large, rural and urban throughout Oregon, we look forward to working closely with Director Peters and the Oregon Department of Corrections to continue to improve our criminal justice system. We are hopeful that you will choose to reconfirm Director Peters to lead the ODOC during this time of critical importance.

Sincerely,



Chief Geoff Spalding, President
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police



Sheriff Brian Wolfe, President
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Cc: The Honorable Peter Courtney, Senate President