



# JUDICIAL BRANCH

---

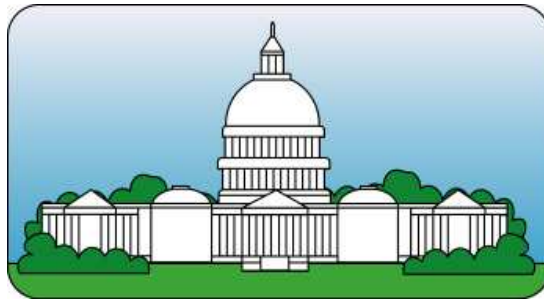
Oregon Judicial Department

Chief Justice

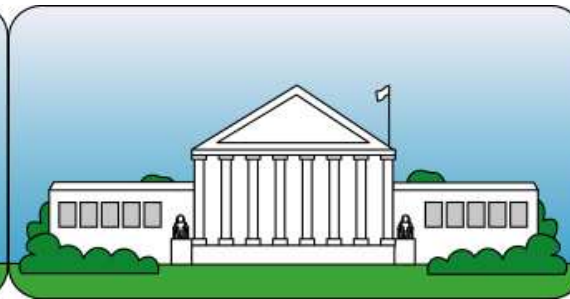
Recommended Budget 2015-17

JUDICIAL BRANCH

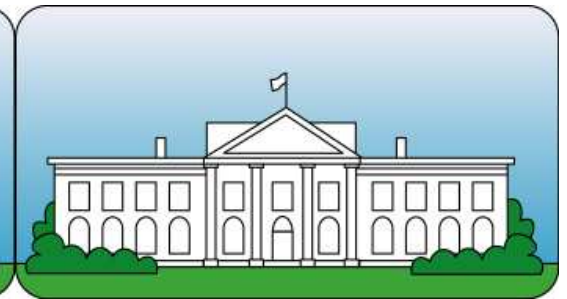
# Oregon Branches of Government



Legislative Branch



Judicial Branch



Executive Branch



Oregon Judicial Department

Office of Public Defense Services

Commission on Judicial Fitness

# Oregon Judicial Department

## *Mission Statement*

As a separate and independent branch of government, our mission is to provide fair and accessible justice services that protect the rights of individuals, preserve community welfare, and inspire public confidence.

## *Goals*

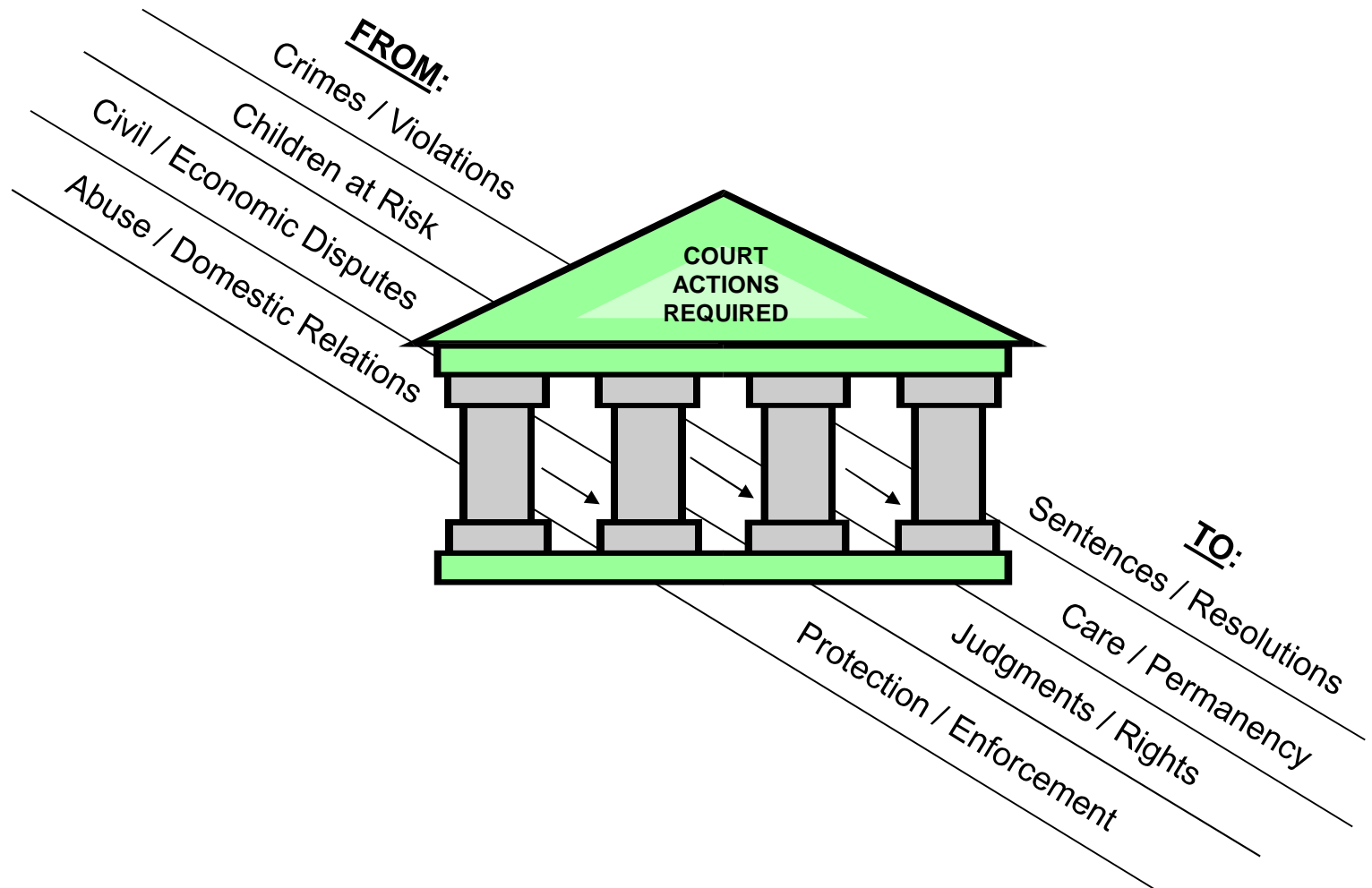
- **Access:** Ensure access to court services for all people
- **Trust and Confidence:** Earn the public's enduring trust and confidence
- **Dispute Resolution:** Help people choose the best way to resolve their disputes
- **Partnerships:** Build strong partnerships with local communities to promote public safety and quality of life
- **Administration:** Make courts work for people

## *What We Do*

Oregon state courts strive every day to provide impartial justice completely and without delay, while being open and accessible to all Oregonians.

# COURTS ARE AT THE CORE

of the Critical Path to Preservation of Public Safety, Protection of Families in Crisis, and Economic Stability of Oregon



# Major Budget Drivers and Environmental Factors

The court system is a reactive institution by design. “Everything” can come through our doors. We resolve the disputes that parties bring to the courts.

## Law Changes

- State and federal laws and constitutions (rights, remedies, crimes, and mandates)
- Ballot measures and initiatives
- Case law decisions
- Jurisdiction and venue changes
- Procedures in civil, criminal, family, and other case types

## Workload Drivers

- Volume and type of court filings
- Case complexity (i.e., seriousness or severity, number of claims, number of parties, procedural steps and hearings)
- Increases in self-represented parties (pro se)
- Availability and adequacy of technological management tools
- Increases in treatment court services
- Demand for data and information
- Statutory deadlines, timelines, and priorities

## Economic and Demographic Factors

- Adult and juvenile crime rates
- State’s economic and employment health (poverty and unemployment levels)
- Demographic factors and changes (i.e., population growth, age, and diversity; number of children under age of 18)
- Prevalence of substance abuse, poverty, domestic violence, and other social stressors
- State / Federal revenue and funding stream changes

## Criminal Justice Partner Activity

- State and local law enforcement levels (arrest rate and investigation)
- District attorney and public defender staffing levels
- District attorney charging decisions, including felony vs. misdemeanor vs. violation
- Availability of jail and prison space
- Availability of pretrial, probation, and post-prison supervision services and staffing levels
- State and local human services staffing and services levels
- State and local prevention, intervention, and treatment resources available including substance abuse and mental health services

# Chief Justice Budget Priorities

## **IMPROVE ACCESS TO THE COURTS AND TIMELY JUSTICE BY:**

- Maintaining courts open every judicial day and operating at effective levels of case processing, with adequate judicial resources
- Completing implementation of Oregon eCourt in remaining 17 Circuit Courts and the Tax Court and institutionalizing maintenance by funding infrastructure support
- Funding Judicial Compensation at POCC recommended level + CPI
- Increasing court staff support for families, self-represented parties, and protected persons
- Funding permanent court staff for drug and other specialty courts
- Providing safe and suitable court facilities

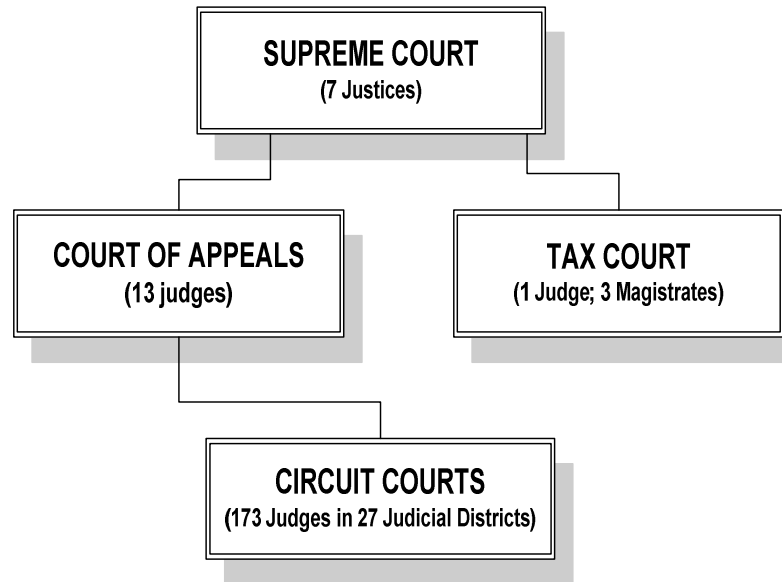
# Ongoing Challenges

- Delivery of core court services by fewer court staff has resulted in:
  - Reduced daily public service counters and phone coverage hours
  - Longer public wait times and fewer court services to provide assistance
  - Delays in scheduling, entry of judgments, and warrant recalls
- Increased numbers of self-represented litigants entering the court system with fewer court resources to provide assistance
- Uncertain funding sources to support successful Treatment and Specialty Courts
- Implementation of the Oregon eCourt Program in courts operating with insufficient resources
- Address serious life / safety and security issues that exist in many court facilities

# Court Structure and Administration

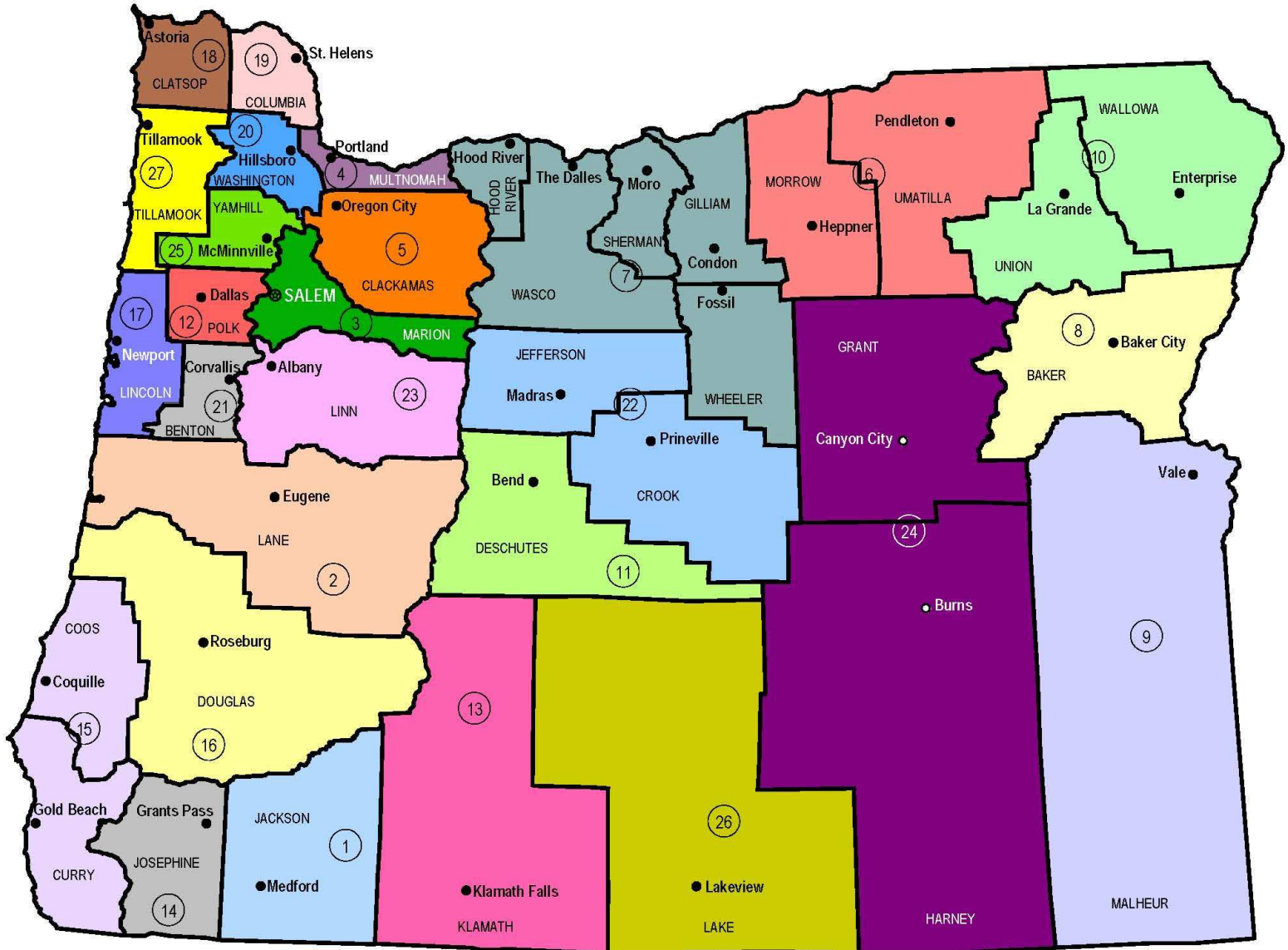


# OJD Court Jurisdiction Structure



- Effective January 1, 1983 the Legislature consolidated Oregon's district, circuit, and appellate courts into a unified, state-funded court system known as the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD). Municipal, county, and justice courts continue outside of the state-funded court system and control.
- The judges of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Tax Court, and Circuit Courts are elected for six-year terms.
- There are 27 judicial districts comprised of one or more counties. (See map next slide)

# Oregon Judicial Districts



There are 27 judicial districts with a circuit court in each county.

JUDICIAL BRANCH

# Supreme Court

- Seven Justices; elected statewide; select Chief Justice; hear cases *en banc* (as one panel): State Court of Last Resort
- Discretionary review of Court of Appeals decisions; accept or deny petitions for review
- Required Review (statutorily mandated jurisdiction)
  - Direct appeals in death penalty cases
  - Appeals from Tax Court decisions
  - Review of attorney discipline and judge discipline
  - Review of ballot measure titles
  - Prison and energy facility siting disputes
  - Other direct review cases
- Discretionary Review with original jurisdiction
  - Habeas corpus
  - Mandamus
  - Quo warranto
- **Stats:** Average 900-1000 filings per year
- **Programs:** Appellate eCourt (electronic from filing to disposition); electronic brief banks; web-casting of oral arguments; court outreach program to hold oral arguments in schools and communities

# Court of Appeals (Intermediate)

- 13 judges elected statewide; usually sit in three-judge panels
- Must accept and decide all:
  - Appeals from circuit courts (criminal, civil, domestic relations, juvenile)
  - Appeals from state agency rules and actions
  - Appeals from local government decisions
- Part of the Appellate eCourt system
- **Stats:** Appeals filings range from 2600-3000 per year
- **Programs:** Appellate Commissioner's office; Appellate Settlement Program; Trading Benches Program; court outreach program to hold oral arguments in schools and communities

---

## Tax Court

- Sole jurisdiction over matters arising under state tax laws
- Regular Division: One statewide elected Tax Court judge; presides over trials without a jury on matters of direct jurisdiction; appeals go to Supreme Court
- Magistrate Division: Three appointed Tax Magistrates; informal proceedings try or mediate all assigned tax appeals; appeals to Regular Division (except no appeal of small claims decisions)
- **Stats:** Last two years – 1,152 appeals filed; 815 property tax / 337 income tax

# Circuit Courts

- General jurisdiction trial courts
- Courts of record
- 27 judicial districts

## Public Safety

- Felonies and misdemeanors
- Violations
- Juvenile delinquency
- Protective orders (stalking, domestic violence, elder abuse)

## Families in Crisis

- Dependency (child abuse and neglect)
- Child support
- Domestic relations (divorce, child custody, adoption)
- Termination of parental rights

## Economic Functioning

- Establish and collect debts
- Foreclosures
- Interpret and enforce contracts
- Personal injury
- Landlord / tenant
- Consumer protection
- Employment disputes

## Other

- Civil commitment
- Post conviction
- Probate
- Guardianship / conservatorship

**Stats:** Average 542,000-552,600 cases a year or over 1 million cases a biennium; each case can require many activities and events in pre-trial, trial, and post-judgment phases; some (e.g. juvenile) last many years

# Circuit Court Functions

- Provide appropriate and timely dispute resolution
  - Docket management and case management
  - Treatment / Specialty courts dockets
  - Arbitration / mediation programs (e.g. Family, Small Claims, FED, etc.)
  - Settlements, jury, and court trials; expedited or informal proceedings
- Assist self-represented litigants (in-person and self-help)
- Provide ADA and language services for proceedings
- Appoint and / or preside over statutory advisory committees (criminal justice, family law, court security / emergency preparedness)
- Maintain public outreach activities
- Coordinate with OJD initiatives (legislative, outreach, docket management, access to justice, etc.)
- Adopt Supplemental Local Rules (SLRs) to structure local processes in accordance with Chief Justice's statewide Uniform Trial Court Rules (UTCR)
- Maintain positive relationships with government agencies and community partners

# Treatment and Specialty Courts

- **Benton**: Adult Drug
- **Clackamas**: Adult Drug, Community, Domestic Violence, DWI, Family Dependency Treatment, Juvenile Drug, Mental Health
- **Clatsop**: Adult Drug, Family Dependency Treatment, Mental Health
- **Columbia**: Adult Drug, Family Dependency Treatment
- **Coos**: Mental Health
- **Crook**: Adult Drug
- **Curry**: Mental Health
- **Deschutes**: Domestic Violence, Family Dependency Treatment, Mental Health
- **Douglas**: Adult Drug, Domestic Violence
- **Harney**: Adult Drug
- **Hood River**: Adult Drug
- **Jackson**: Family Dependency Treatment
- **Jefferson**: Adult Drug, Mental Health
- **Josephine**: Adult Drug, Mental Health
- **Klamath**: Adult Drug, Family Dependency Treatment, Juvenile Drug, Veterans
- **Lane**: Adult Drug, Juvenile Drug, Veterans
- **Lincoln**: Mental Health, Domestic Violence
- **Linn**: Domestic Violence, Family Dependency Treatment, Juvenile Drug
- **Malheur**: Community, Juvenile Drug, Mental Health
- **Marion**: Adult Drug, Family Dependency Treatment, Juvenile Drug, Mental Health, Veterans, Other
- **Multnomah**: Community, Domestic Violence, DWI, Mental Health, Veterans, Other
- **Polk**: Adult Drug
- **Union**: DWI, Family Dependency Treatment, Juvenile Drug
- **Wallowa**: DWI, Juvenile Drug
- **Wasco**: Adult Drug, Family Dependency Treatment
- **Washington**: Adult Drug, Juvenile Drug, Mental Health
- **Yamhill**: Adult Drug, Family Dependency Treatment, Juvenile Drug, Mental Health, Other

# Case Filing in Circuit Courts

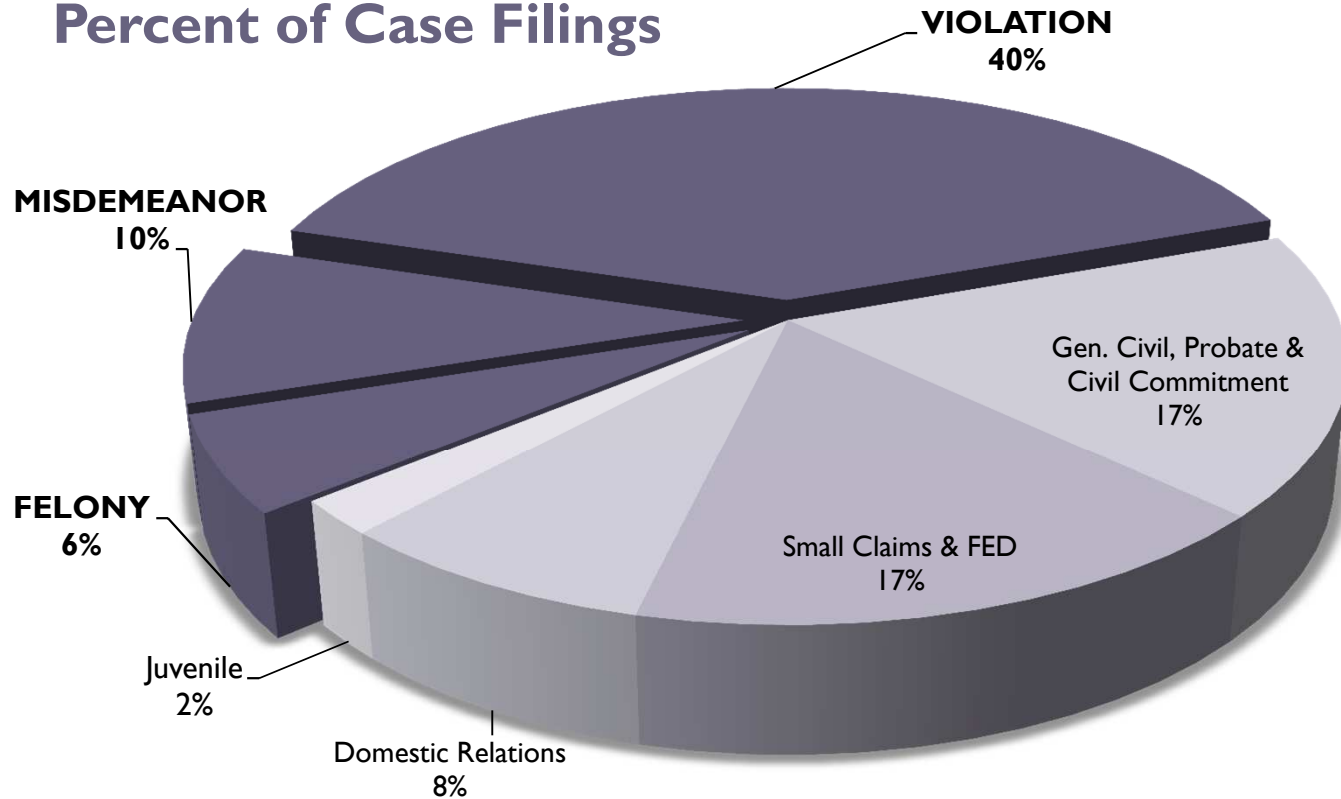
Case Category	2011 (OJIN)	2012* (OJIN/OECI)	2013* (OJIN/OECI)
Civil	68,997	70,090	75,187
FED	23,452	22,562	20,004
Small Claims	73,673	76,075	70,259
Dissolution	17,176	17,397	16,790
FAPA	10,818	10,181	9,649
Other Dom. Rel.	19,925	17,701	17,459
Felony	31,086	31,980	32,464
Misdemeanor	59,589	57,529	53,029
Violation	214,654	211,504	215,080
Juvenile	14,013	12,924	11,783
Mental Health	8,871	9,459	9,582
Probate	10,347	10,196	10,642
<b>Total</b>	<b>552,601</b>	<b>547,598</b>	<b>541,928</b>

\*Footnote: 2012-2013 – uses two system case management systems that have different counting events, so not direct correlation.



# Circuit Court Filings by Case Type, 2013

## Percent of Case Filings

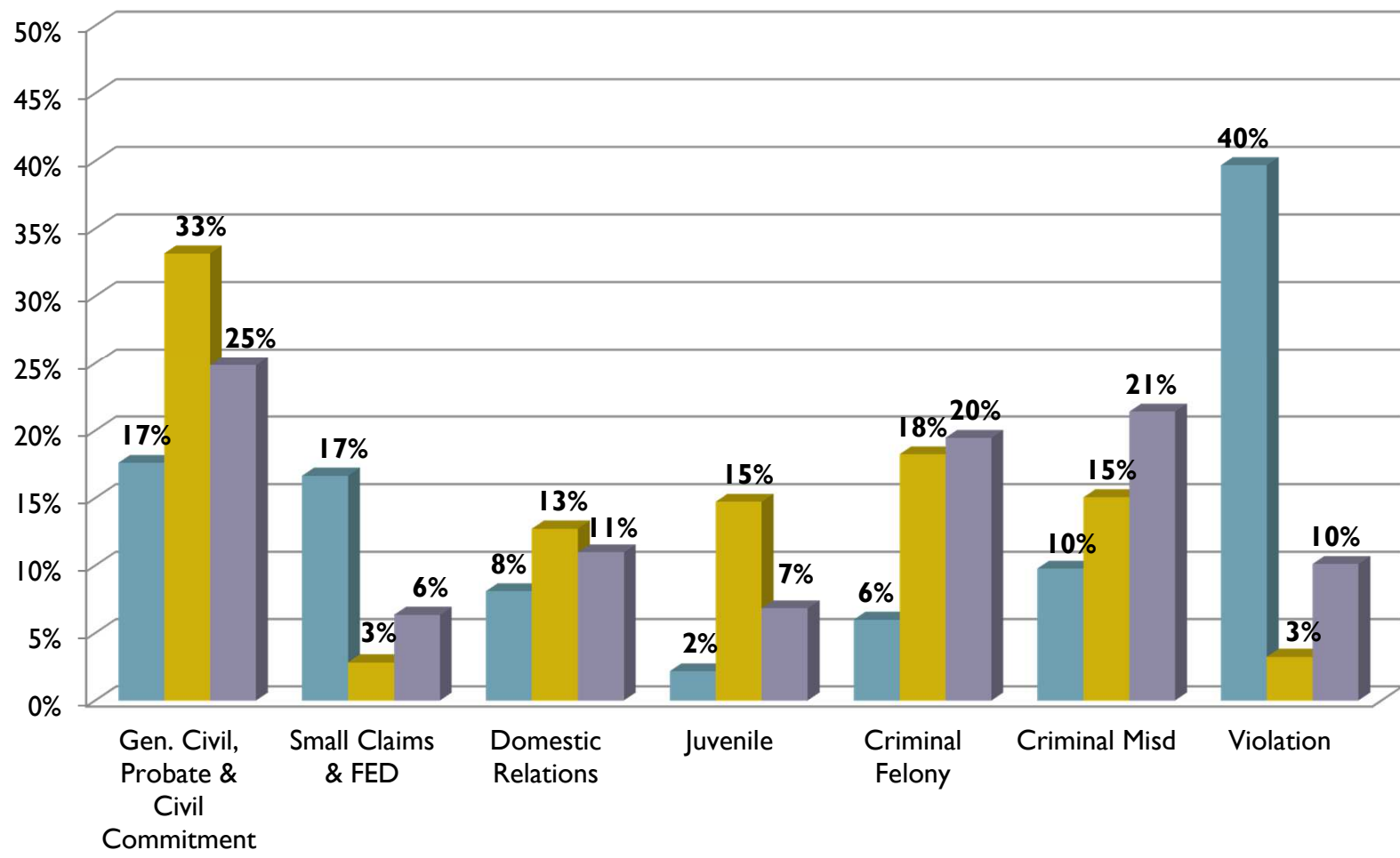


- **Felony** case filings have the greatest proportional impact on the courts, requiring extensive use of combined staff and judicial resources
- **Violations, Small Claims, FED** cases represent large numbers of filings but require comparatively less judicial and staff resources per case; violations also represent 75% of the fines revenue collected by OJD
- **Juvenile, Civil, Domestic Relations** cases constitute a greater percentage of judicial time than staff time to process these cases

# Translating Filings into Workload

## Oregon Circuit Courts in CY 2013

■ Percent of Cases Filed in 2013   ■ % Judicial Workload Generated   ■ % Staff Workload Generated



JUDICIAL BRANCH

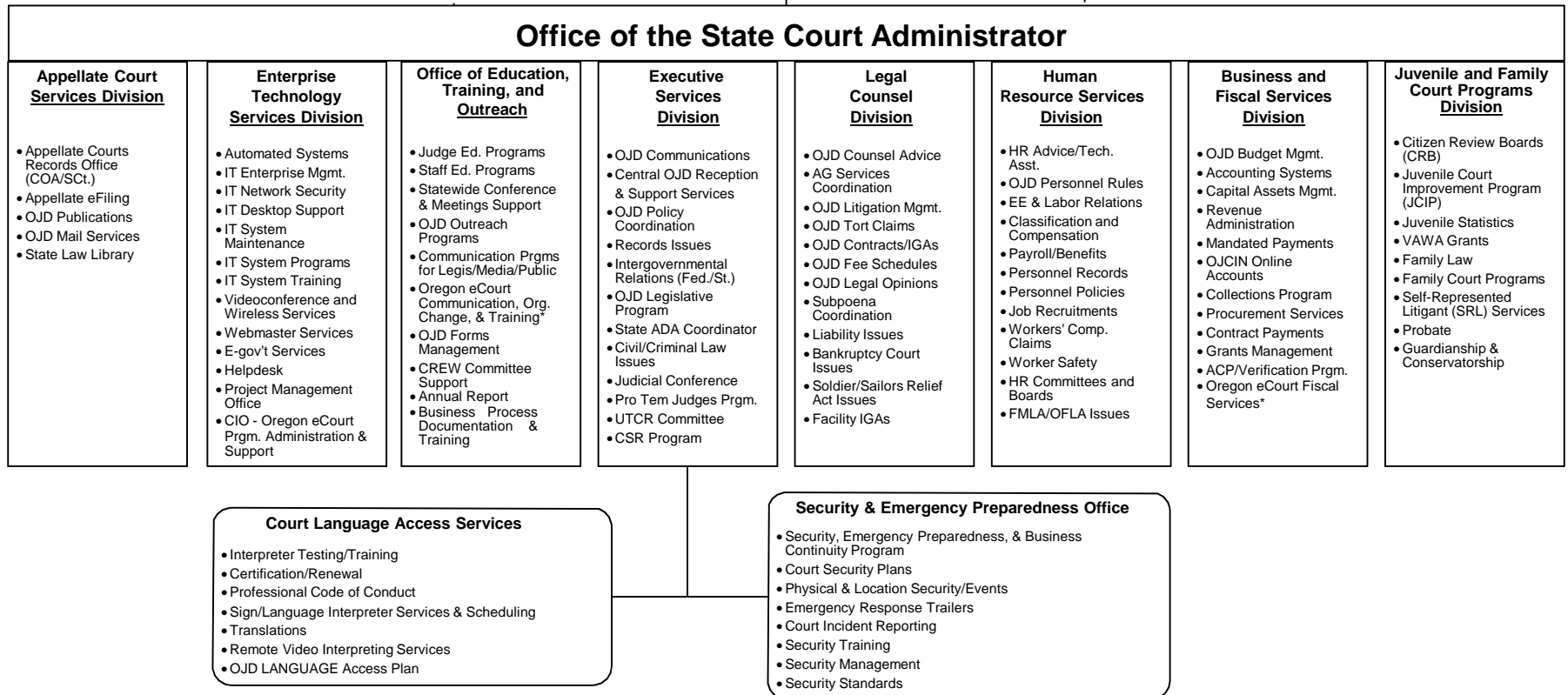
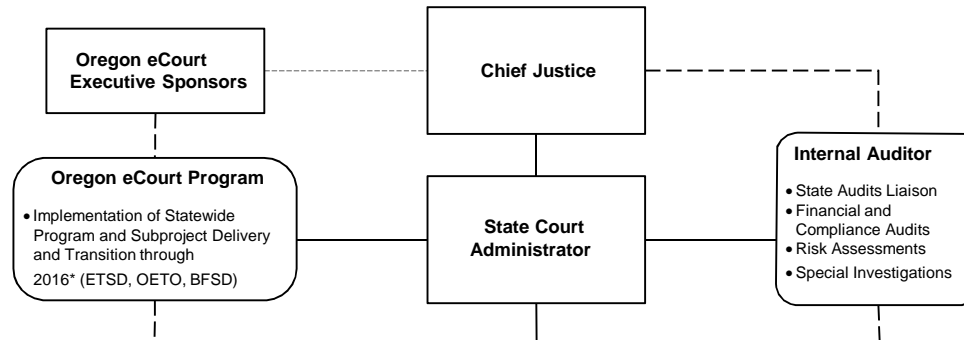
# Office of State Court Administrator (Unified State Court System Infrastructure)

- Assist and support the Chief Justice in carrying out statutory statewide administrative duties
- Court administrator for the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, and Tax Court
- Through division managers, deliver infrastructure services to the courts (budget, accounting, legal counsel, technology services, security, human resources, audit, education)
- Provide statewide personnel plan administration and enforcement
- Prepare and submit budget requests, legislative reports, and fiscal impact statements for state court system
- Implement budgets and legislative changes affecting OJD
- Survey court administrative methods, business, and conditions
- Provide statewide public information services regarding the courts and statistics
- Provide education, training, and technical assistance programs for judges and staff
- Manage grants
- Set retention schedules, policies, and standards for court records
- Administer Citizen Review Board (foster care review) program and Juvenile Court Improvement Program
- Administer Certified Shorthand Reporter Program
- Administer Court Interpreter Certification Program and services
- Ensure compliance with federal and state “entity” legal requirements for OJD

# OFFICE OF THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

## (Organization/Main Areas of Responsibility)

(January 2015)

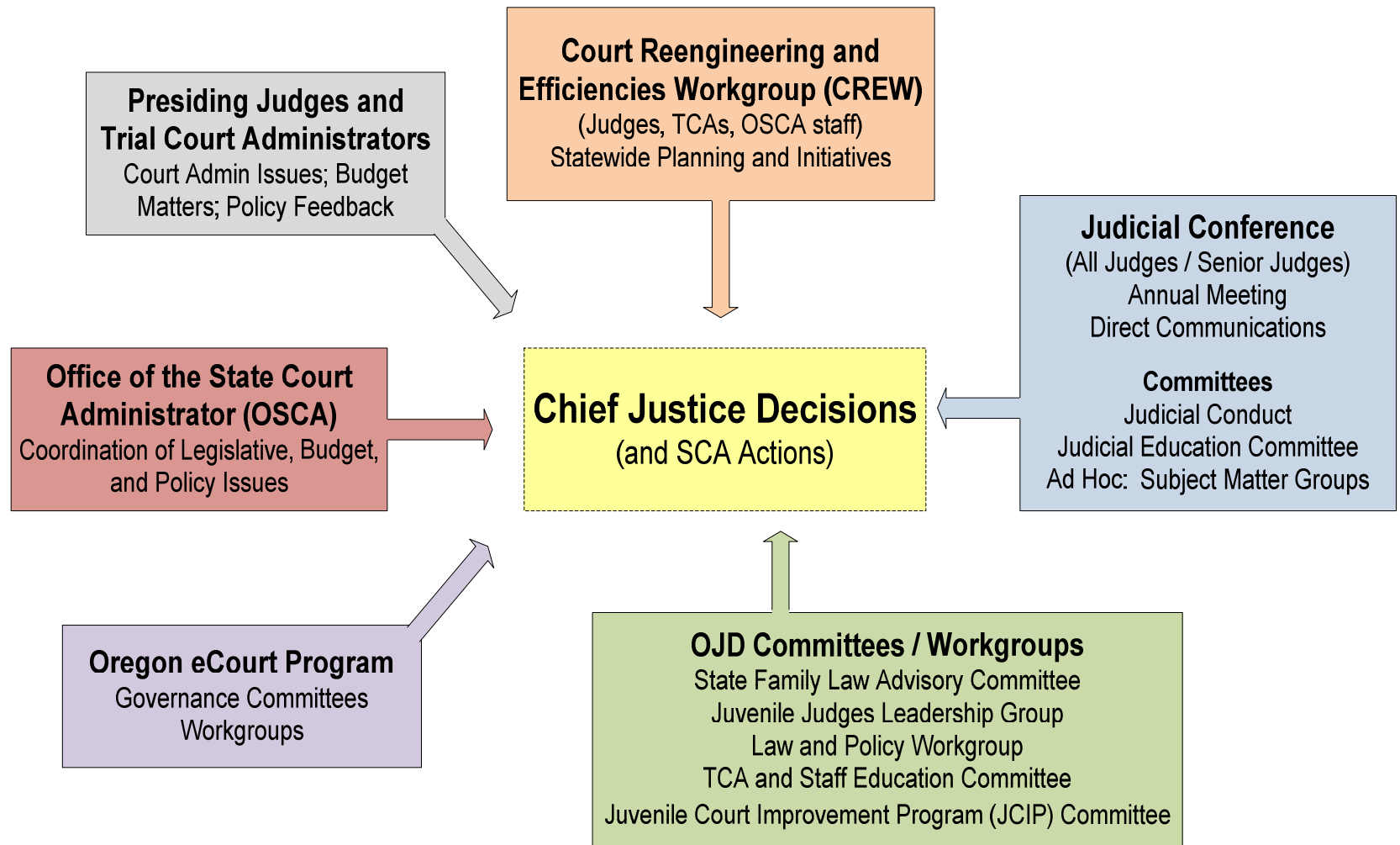


# Major Court Governance and Reform Initiatives 2013-15

# OJD Court Administration Overview

- **Chief Justice:** Supervises the state court system, appoints the Chief Judge of Court of Appeals, Presiding Judges of the circuit courts, and the State Court Administrator
- **State Court Administrator:** Chief Operating Officer, exercises OJD administrative authority and policy leadership for the Chief Justice and the courts carried out through division directors and staff
- **Presiding Judges:** Oversees the local docket management and operations of circuit courts, appoints and works with the Trial Court Administrator
- **Trial Court Administrators:** Manages day-to-day operations of assigned circuit court and its programs and services
- **Judicial Conference and Committees:** Groups established by statute, Chief Justice Order, policy, or charter that study the organization, jurisdiction, procedure, practice, and methods of the administration and operation of the courts and make recommendations for improvement

# OJD Governance and Advisory Structures



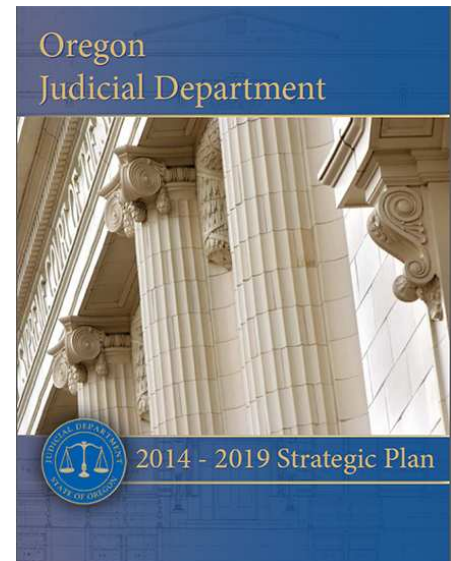
# Court Reengineering and Efficiencies Workgroup (CREW)

- Began 2010 to provide a structure to evaluate and improve judicial organization and administration
- Subcommittees
  - Communication – Best methods / systems to distribute and exchange with stakeholders, attorneys, the public
  - Business Processes – With Odyssey, evaluate how we can improve workflows and docket procedures in a consistent statewide manner
  - Organization and Structure – Changes to promote effective ways to deliver timely judge sharing and remote judging services statewide
- Recent Actions:
  - Adopted OJD Strategic Plan 2014-2019
  - Adopted Oregon Docket Management Initiative and statewide principles
  - Manage and review interactive forms for statewide consistency
  - Promote consistency in business processes



# OJD 2014-2019 Strategic Plan

- Identifies key strategic areas and action items for five vision goals
- Continues strategic areas and objectives from 2009-13 Strategic Plan
- Aligns with CREW and Chief Justice priorities
- Highlights / Examples:
  - Implement the Oregon eCourt Program Plan
  - Implement a Court Facilities Renewal Plan
  - Adopt State Docket and Caseflow Management Principles
  - Improve Public User Services for Self-Represented Litigants
  - Provide Continuity and Stability for Treatment Courts
  - Promote Juvenile Court Improvement
  - Automate Performance Measure Data Collection



# Budget Structure and Changes

# OJD Budget Components

## General Fund

- **Judicial Compensation**
- **Operations**
  - Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Tax Court
  - Circuit Courts
  - Office of the State Court Administrator
- **Mandated Payments**
  - Trial and Grand Jury Compensation
  - Interpreters
  - ADA Compliance
- **Oregon eCourt Maintenance**

# OJD Budget Components (By Fund Type and Source)

## **General Fund**

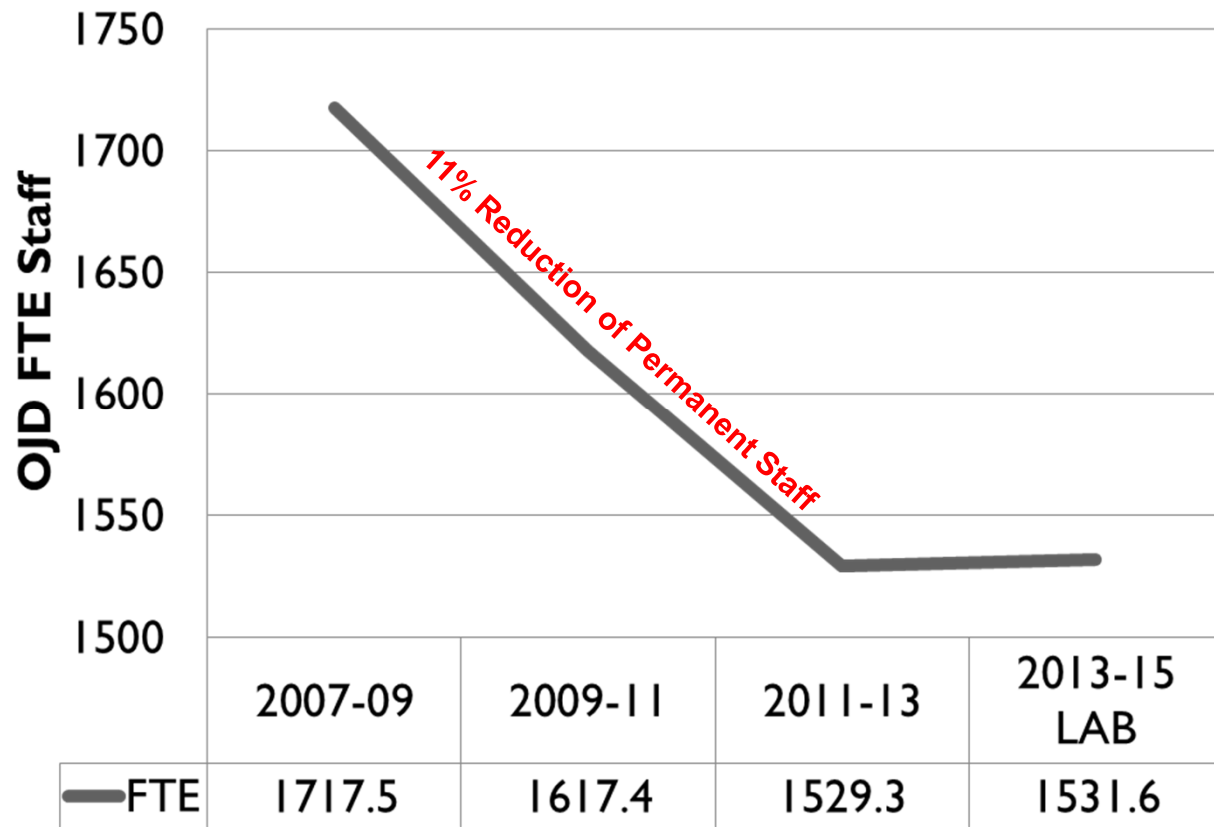
- Debt Service
- Third-Party Collections
- Pass-Throughs (County Law Libraries and Mediation Funds; Council on Court Procedures; Oregon Law Commission)

## **Other Funds / Federal Funds**

- Security and Facility Funding (CFA)
- State of Oregon Law Library (OF)
- Publications (OF)
- Application Contribution Program (OF)
- Technology Fund (OF)
- Citizens Review Board / JCIP Grants (OF/FF)
- Other Grants (OF)
- Oregon Courthouse Capital Construction Improvement Fund (OCCCIF) (OF)
- Legal Aid Pass-Through (OF)

# Judicial Department Permanent Staff by Biennium

Significant permanent staff losses during recession



# Revenue and Collections

# OJD Biennial Revenue

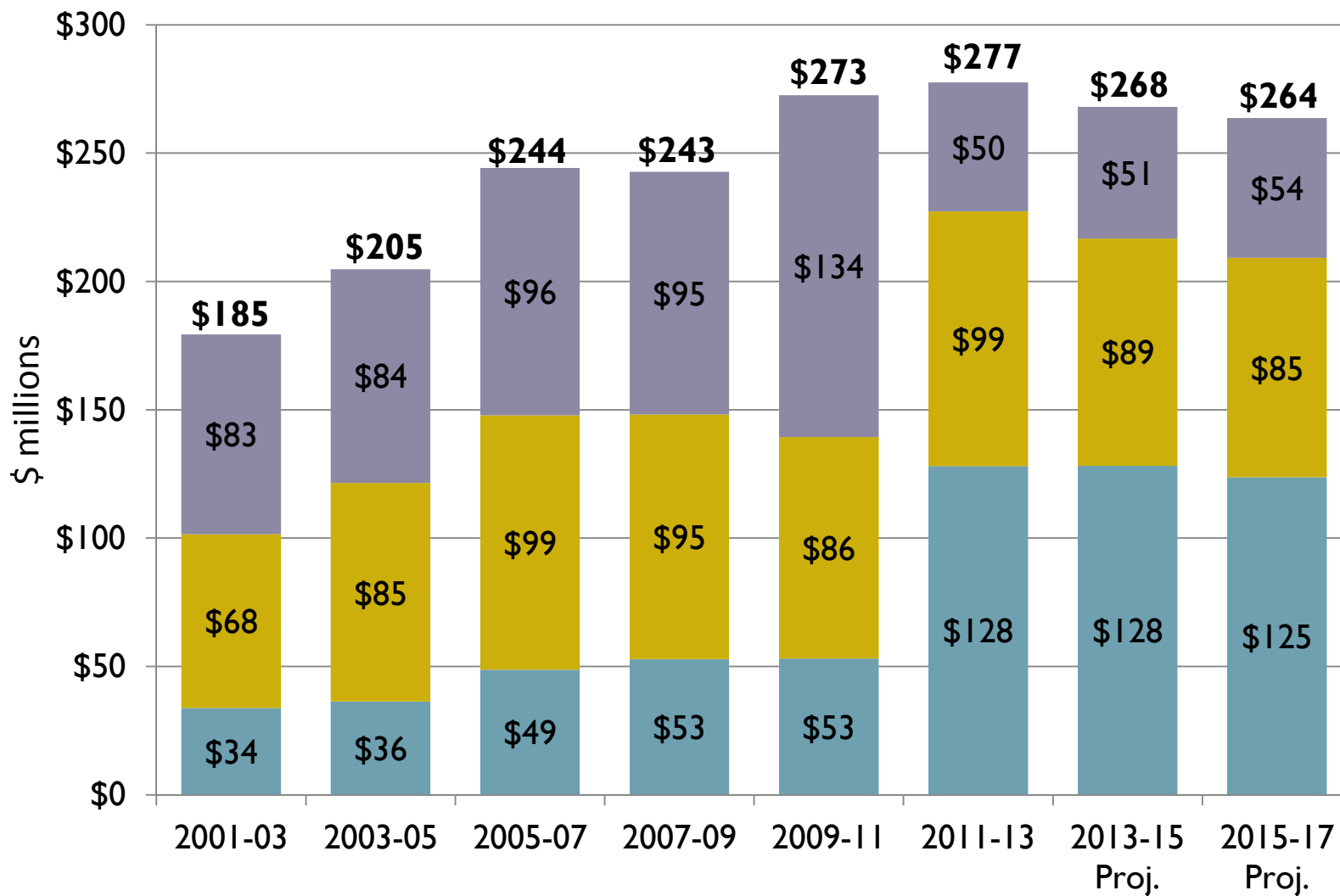
## Revenues consist of:

- Statutory filing and case fees (to GF)
- Court fines (to CFA)
- Restitution (to Crime Victims / Other)
- Funds from other state agencies and grants (to Other)
- Publication sales and subscriptions (to Other)

continued...

# OJD Biennial Revenue

General Fund CFA Other



JUDICIAL BRANCH

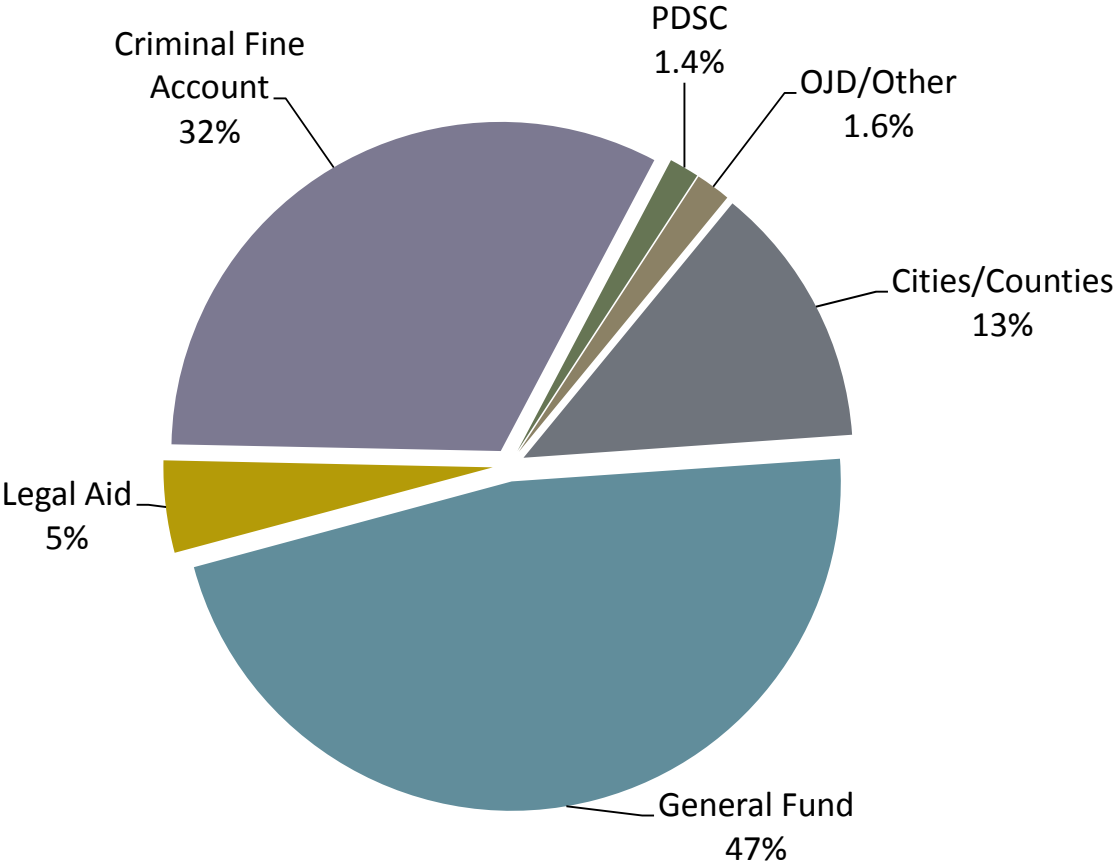


# Revenue Changes, 2009–2015

- 2009-11
  - HB 2287 increased revenue by approximately \$30 million through increased fees and offense surcharges to replace GF shortfalls
- 2011-13
  - HB 2712 continued the revenue levels from HB 2287, but directed the revenue to GF and CFA
- 2013-15
  - GF and OF projected revenues remain stable
  - Projected CFA revenue decline may be caused by:
    - Decline in revenue from original HB 2287 surcharges and assessments; revenue was directed into the CFA in 2012 and collections on those cases had mostly been completed
    - Fewer violations cited into circuit courts
    - Collection referrals temporarily delayed during Oregon eCourt go-live activities
- 2015-17
  - OF revenue projected to increase
  - Projected GF and CFA revenue decline may be caused by:
    - Decline in violations and other non-criminal case filings
    - Collection referrals temporarily delayed during Oregon eCourt go-live activities

# 2015-17 Estimated Revenue Distribution

\$264 million Total Funds



JUDICIAL BRANCH

# Collection Systems

- **Court Staff**

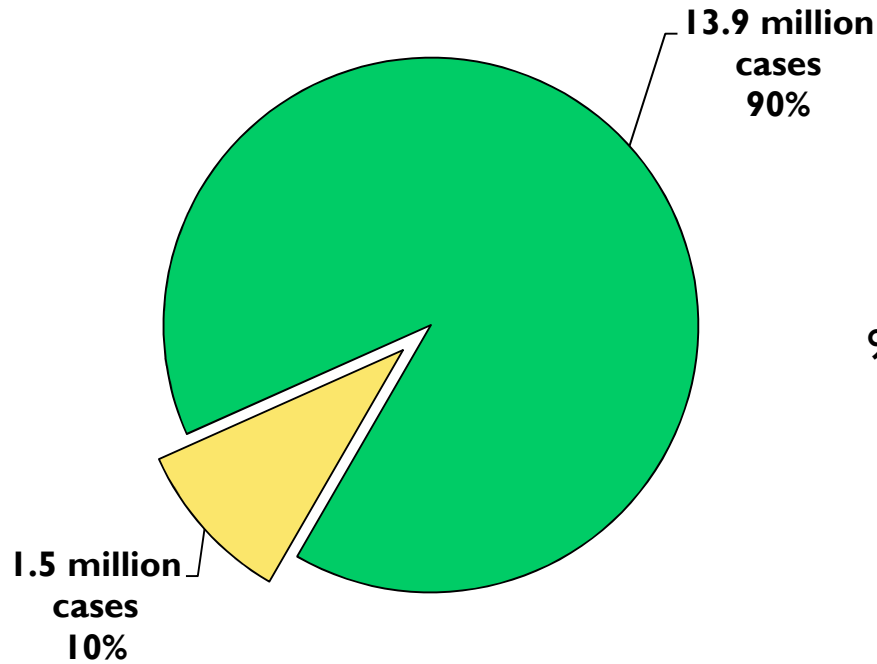
- Cashiering, setting payment plans, initial collection letters, monitoring drivers license sanctions and reinstatements.

- **OSCA Staff**

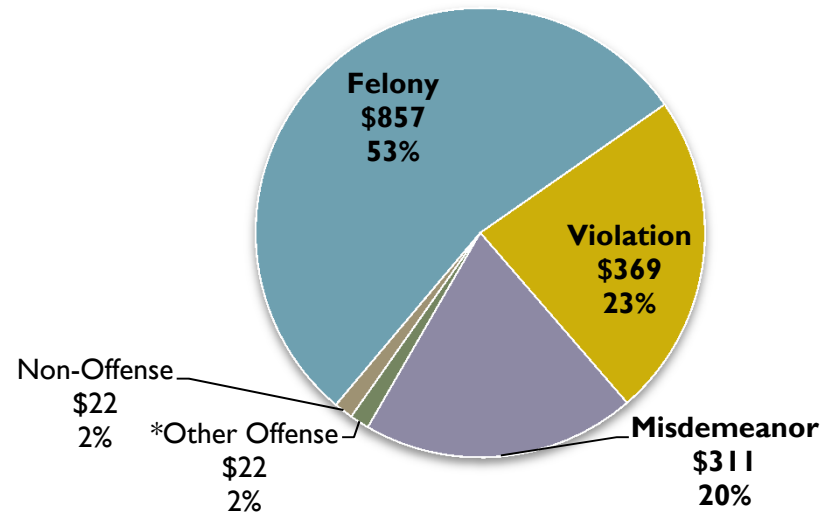
- **Centralized Debt Management:** Assign delinquent debt to DOR or private collection firms, maintain statewide debt management automation.
- **Continuous Referral:** Assigned all delinquent and inactive debt, "stale debt," to outside collections; over 70% of outstanding receivables currently placed for collection.
- **Other Collection Activities:** Use of tax refund intercept, wage garnishments through DOR / PCFs, and license sanctions reinstatement.
- **Provide Assistance:** Assist court staff with collections / accounting functions, support financial system, perform analysis of financial and collections data.
- **Develop Efficiencies:** Develop and pilot innovations for implementation at a statewide level (i.e., Central Violations Bureau, Automated License Sanctions, Electronic Deposit, Electronic / Online Payment).

# Collections

## 90% of Cases are Paid in Full



## Historical Debt (\$ millions) 99% of OJD Debt is from Offense Cases (crimes and violations)



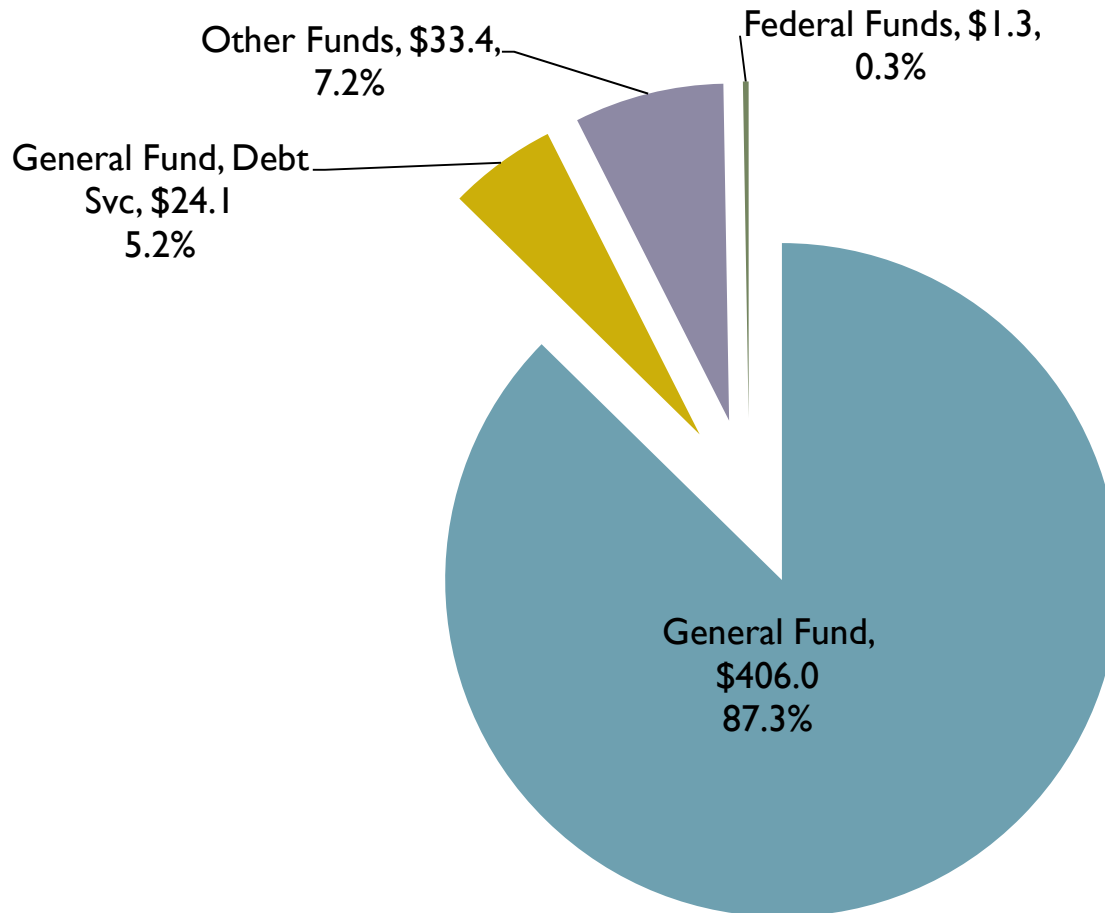
\*Other Offense includes extradition, contempt of court, juvenile delinquency, appeals from local courts

# Budget Overview

## Current Service Level

# 2015-17 Chief Justice Current Service Level

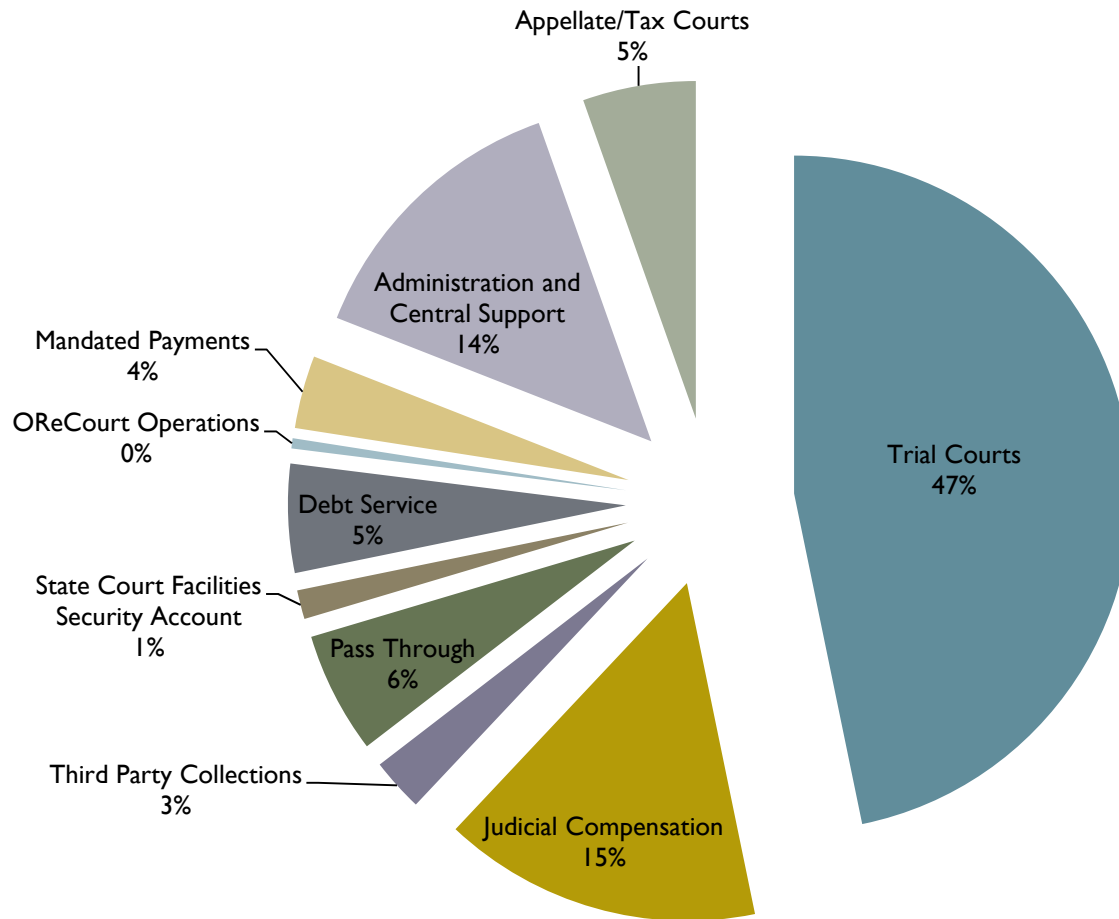
(by funding source in millions)



**\$464.8 million Total Funds**

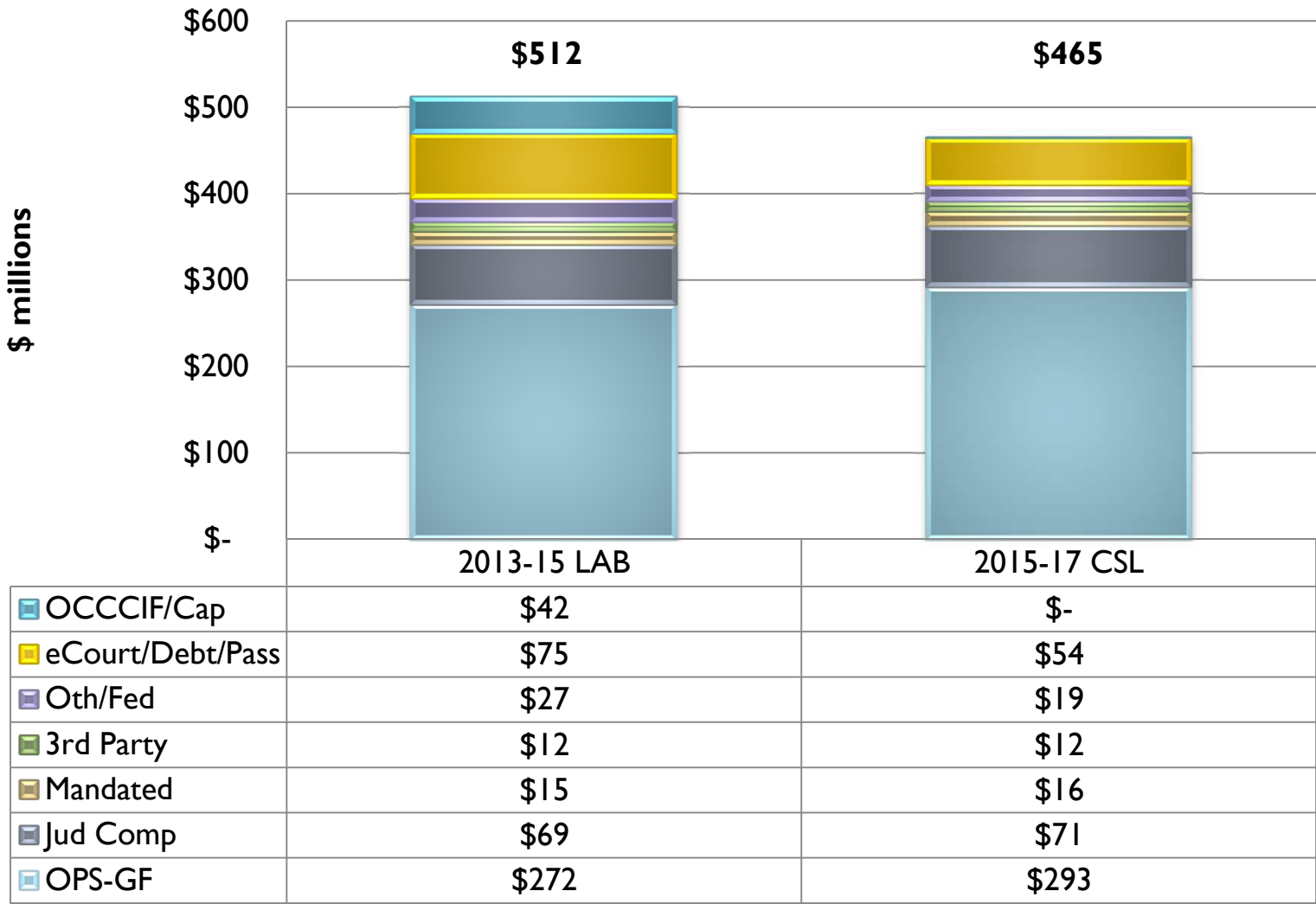
# 2015-17 Chief Justice Current Service Level

## All Funds



**\$464.8 million Total Funds,  
\$430.1 million GF**

# 2013-15 LAB v. 2015-17 CSL





## 2015-17 CSL Changes from 2013-15 LAB

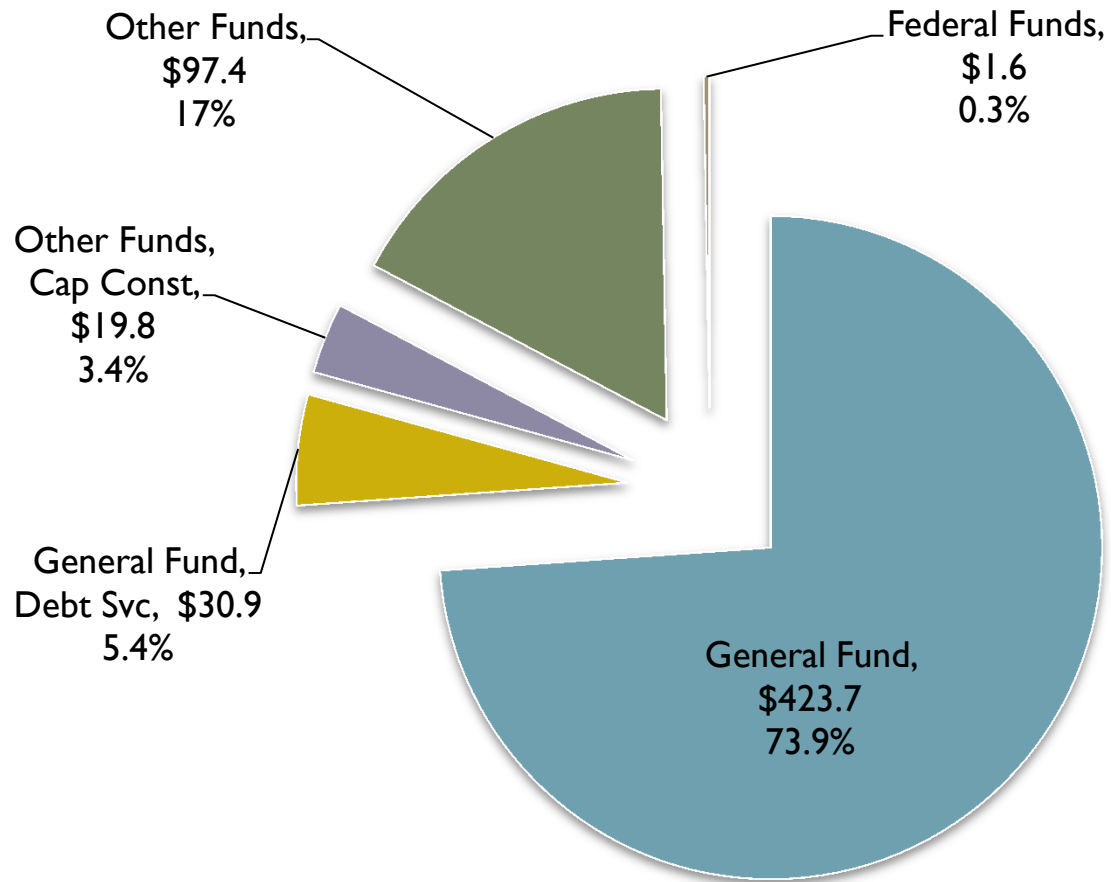
- **General Fund changes (+6.78%):**
  - Debt Service (+\$6 million)
  - Staff Personnel Plan Adjustments and Phased in Court of Appeals Panel (+\$10 million)
  - Classification Study of Manager/Technical (+\$1.8 million)
  - State Government Service Charges (+\$4 million)
  - Inflation (+\$2 million)
  - Flexible Benefits (+\$3 million)
- **Other Fund changes (-68.92%):**
  - 2013-15 Oregon eCourt Program (-\$24.5 million)
  - 2013-15 OCCIF (-\$38 million)
  - Supreme Court Building (-\$4.4 million)
  - State Court Facility Account (Capital -\$3.5 million)

# Budget Overview

## Chief Justice Recommended Budget Policy Option Packages

# 2015-17 Chief Justice Recommended Budget

**Chief Justice  
Recommended Budget  
\$573.4 million Total Funds**



# Major Elements of Chief Justice Recommended Budget

- **Continue Services from 2013-15**
  - Fund the Current Service Level budget
  - Renew services funded in 2013-15
    - Finish implementation of Oregon eCourt
    - Local courthouse replacement and improvement
- **Chief Justice Priorities for New / Restored Funding**
  - Provide resources to support and maximize benefits from Oregon eCourt system
  - Continue progress toward appropriate judicial compensation
  - Seismic and system upgrades for century-old Supreme Court Building
  - Stabilize court security funding for circuit courts
  - Improve court services by adding judicial and staff resources
  - Help families in crisis access justice
  - Stable funding for Treatment Courts

# Policy Option Packages

(\$ in millions)

PKG	TITLE	GF COST	OF COST	FTE	DESCRIPTION & PURPOSE
301	Oregon eCourt Debt Service	\$2.9			Debt service requirements for new bond sales to support continued Oregon eCourt development and implementation.
302	Oregon eCourt Program		\$17.3	22.24	Complete the implementation of Oregon eCourt, provided funding through the sale of XI-Q bonds.
303	Courthouse Capital Construction & Improvement Debt Service	\$3.8	\$1.1		Debt service and cost of issuance associated with increased bonding sold during 2015-17 biennium.
304	Courthouse Capital Construction & Improvement		\$34.9		Funds to be distributed to counties for the state match portion for courthouse replacement projects.
305	Judicial Compensation	\$4.9			Salary increases for judges; assumes a two-stage implementation.
306	New Judgeships and Support Staff	\$0.8		3.36	Three new judicial positions and support staff in trial courts.
307	Centralized Family Law Program	\$0.5		3.0	Increased resources to support the Family Law Program.
308	Continued Effective Circuit Court Programs (Drug Courts)	\$2.8		15.75	Support for drug court coordinators and related positions, allowing program security and success.
309	Support Effective Circuit Court Programs (Family Law/Pro Se Facilitation)	\$1.1		8.85	Trial court resources to assist Oregonians in accessing the courts when they choose to be self-represented.

continued...

# Policy Option Packages

(\$ in millions)

JUDICIAL BRANCH

PKG	TITLE	GF COST	OF COST	FTE	DESCRIPTION & PURPOSE
310	Circuit Court Public Service Staff	\$2.3		18.4	Funding to achieve minimum service-level requirements at the local court level.
311	eCourt Technical Ops, Training and Business Process	\$1.2	\$3.3	20.26	Permanent staff support for Oregon eCourt (Odyssey) Operations as implementation is completed and training, maintenance and support move to the GF.
312	Treatment / Specialty Courts Grant Funding		\$3.3	14	Authority and expenditure limitation for grants that either extend into the 2015-17 biennium or are expected to be renewed.
313	Restore Local Court Security Account Funding Levels		\$2.5		Restores funding through the Criminal Fine Account to local security accounts to match 2009-11 funding levels.
314	Local Court Facilities Infrastructure		\$3.7		Funding from the Criminal Fine Account for priority life-safety and other projects in county courthouses.
315	Supreme Court Building Preservation and Seismic Retrofit		\$19.8		Capital Construction funds and bonding authority to perform further replacement, renovation, and seismic upgrades to the Supreme Court Building. An additional \$10 million is required to meet the seismic event level planned for the State Capital Building.
316	Judicial Resources Pro-Tem and Hearings Referees	\$2.7		4.55	Additional resources to circuit courts in the form of Pro Tem judge support and new Hearings Referees to reduce case backlog and days to trial.

# Oregon eCourt Program

**Policy Option Package 302 – Oregon eCourt Program** (\$17.3 million OF, 22.24 FTE): Funds complete implementation of the program in the 2015-17 biennium. The Oregon eCourt Program is a comprehensive business transformation and service delivery initiative, launched in 2008.

**Policy Option Package 301 – Oregon eCourt Debt Service** (\$2.9 million GF): Required debt service for additional bond funding for program activities funded during the 2015-17 biennium.

**Policy Option Package 311 – Oregon eCourt Technical Operations, Training, and Business Process** (\$1.2 million GF, \$3.3 million OF, 20.26 FTE): Provides permanent staff support for Odyssey operations as implementation is completed and training, maintenance, and support move to the General Fund. Increases capabilities to provide resources to circuit courts as operational process and information technology infrastructure changes are made to leverage the full capabilities of the new Oregon eCourt Odyssey system.

# Judicial Compensation

**Policy Option Package 305 – Judicial Compensation** (\$4.9 million GF): Enacts Public Officials Compensation Commission recommendations with a cost-of-living adjustment for Oregon’s 194 elected judges, who remain among the lowest-paid state judges in the country. 2015 HB 2338

**Expected Outcomes of Package:** The requested funding will move judicial salaries closer to the national median and help ensure that the State of Oregon can continue to attract qualified candidates, and promote a diversity of expertise among Oregon’s trial and appellate judges.



continued...



# Judicial Compensation

## CIRCUIT COURT JUDICIAL SALARIES

(July 1, 2014 – NCSC)

Ranking	State	Amount
1	District of Columbia	\$ 199,100
2	Hawaii	\$ 189,456
3	Illinois	\$ 187,018
4	California	\$ 184,610
-----		
--	US Average	\$ 159,334
-----		
26	Arizona	\$ 145,000
27	Iowa	\$ 143,907
-----		
41	West Virginia	\$ 126,000
42	Kentucky	\$124,620
49	Oregon	\$ 119,468*

POP #305  
\$144,342

JUDICIAL BRANCH

\*Oregon salaries increased to \$124,468 effective 1/1/2015

# Helping Families Access Justice (OSCA)

**Policy Option Package 307 – Centralized Family Law Program** (\$0.5 million GF, 3.0 FTE): Restore resources to support the state court Family Law and Protected Persons Programs.

**Expected Outcomes of Package:** Restore centralized family law resources in the Office of the State Court Administrator to:

- Provide program and analyst support for state court programs for self-represented and self-help persons in areas of domestic relations, other family law, guardianship, and conservatorship (protected persons)
- Create consistent and up-to-date tools, materials, to support court program operations in family law, guardianship and conservatorship, and forms
- Provide support for legislative interactions and task forces
- Coordinate improvement efforts for OJD and service partners and volunteers in family law, guardianship, and conservatorship
- Enhance coordination between OJD and service partners on intersecting processes and programs (e.g., DOJ Child Support, parenting, and visitation)
- Oversee mandated Appropriate Dispute Resolution (ADR), Family Law Mediator qualifications rules

continued...

## Helping Families Access Justice (Circuit Courts)

**Policy Option Package 309 – Support Effective Circuit Court Programs (Family Law/Pro Se Facilitation)** (\$1.1 million GF, 8.85 FTE): Provides trial court resources to assist Oregonians in accessing the courts when they choose to be self-represented. (Companion package to POP #307)

**Expected Outcomes of Package:** In-person resources will be available in the courthouse to assist parties in navigating the judicial system for family law matters and for self-represented and self-help litigants. Court Facilitators help individuals by providing materials, forms, and resources. Court Facilitators help make court processes more efficient by judges having the necessary and complete forms and documents for matters before them with self-represented persons.



# Fund Treatment / Specialty Courts

**Policy Option Package 308 – Continue Effective Circuit Court Programs (Drug Courts)** (\$2.8 million GF, 15.75 FTE): Provides GF support for drug court coordinators and related positions, allowing program stability and success.

**Expected Outcomes of Package:** Due to the complex, multifaceted nature of drug courts, stabilized funding for coordinator positions will ensure effective programs are maintained and consistent reporting is performed so that best practices can be measured and replicated.



-----

**Policy Option Package 312 – Treatment / Specialty Courts Grant Funding** (\$3.3 million OF, 14 FTE): Provides authority and expenditure limitation for grants that either extend into the 2015-17 biennium or are expected to be renewed. This entire Other Funds limitation is needed if POP #308 is not accepted to continue providing Treatment / Specialty Court functions performed by OJD employees.

**Expected Outcomes of Package:** If POP #308 is approved, this policy option package can be reduced to approximately \$0.5 million to provide the Other Funds limitation for existing grants into 2015-17 biennium not covered in POP #308.

# Improve Court Services (Judicial Resources)

**Policy Option Package 306 – New Judgeships and Support Staff** (\$0.8 million GF, 3.36 FTE): Funds three new judicial positions and support staff in circuit courts. 2015 HB 2337

**Expected Outcomes of Package:** Adds one new judicial position and support staff in Marion, Washington, and Multnomah Circuit Courts.



- The last increase in elected judicial positions in these three counties was the 2001-03 biennium
- The last increase in any circuit court judgeships was in the 2005 session (elected position terms commenced Jan. 2007)
- Since 2001, population has risen by approximately 220,000 residents (represents over half the population growth in Oregon during time period)
- Weighted judicial workload studies conducted each biennium consistently qualify these courts' needs for more than two judgeships each no matter the level of case filing fluctuations annually
- No other court has similar trends over the past decade
- Each of these courts has space for courtroom and offices

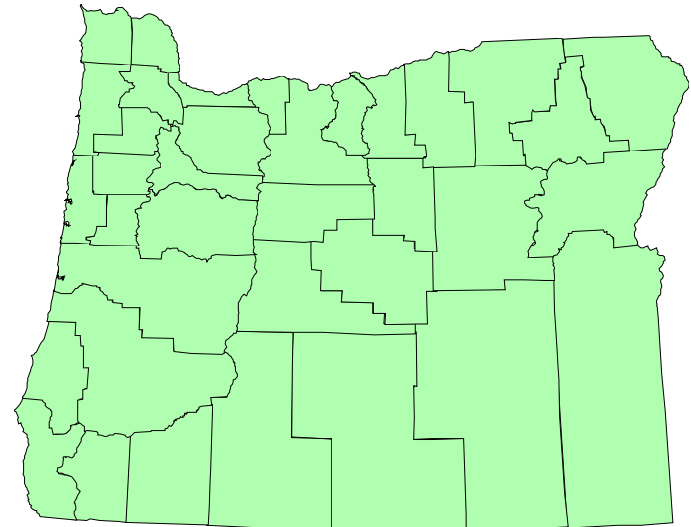
continued...

# Improve Court Services (Judicial Resources)

**Policy Option Package 316 – Judicial Resources Pro-Tem and Hearings Referees** (\$2.7 million GF, 4.55 FTE): Funds additional resources to circuit courts in the form of Pro Tem judge support and new Hearings Referees to reduce case backlog and days to trial.

**Expected Outcomes of Package:** Provides Hearings Referee positions in Deschutes, Josephine, Marion, and Linn Counties and specific Pro Tem judge funding in nine counties to reduce case backload and reduce disruptions in court calendaring and trial assignment. These judicial resources are in addition to requests for new judgeship positions in POP #306.

These courts have demonstrable needs for on-going dedicated supplemental judicial resources to keep dockets current. Pro Tem and Referee positions allow for full and/or part-time assistance as needed for, specific caseloads and coverage hours or for multiple locations. This allows coverage to be arranged for times when courtroom space is available or adjustments as case filings fluctuate.



# Improve Court Services (Staffing)

**Policy Option Package 310 – Circuit Court Public Service Staff** (\$2.3 million GF, 18.4 FTE): Provides funding to achieve minimum service-level requirements at the local court level.

**Expected Outcomes of Package:** Due to significant FTE reductions in court operations staff during the past recession, while circuit courts are open on most business days, many are not operating full hours of service. Service issues during peak access times at counters continue to impact Oregon's busiest courthouses. This package is designed to add additional clerical positions, to be assigned by the Chief Justice, to deliver the following service-level requirements:

- Ensure a 72-hour maximum for timely entry of court documents for enforcement of legal rights and judgments
- Ensure a 24-hour maximum for timely entry of recall of arrest warrants notifications
- Support a minimum of 7 hours of daily public and telephone access to court services

# Safe and Suitable Courthouse Facilities

**Policy Option Package 314 – Local Court Facilities Infrastructure** (\$3.7 million OF): Provides funds from the Criminal Fine Account for priority life-safety and other projects in county courthouses.

**Expected Outcomes of Package:** Fund projects prioritized in coordination with the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) Court Facilities Task Force. Includes fire alarm systems, fire sprinkler systems, ADA access, electrical upgrades, safety and security upgrades, and other critical building systems. Actual expenditures are based on engineering studies and competitive bids.



continued...



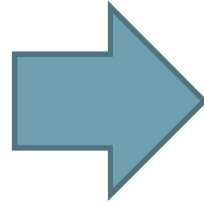
# Safe and Suitable Courthouse Facilities

## **OJD State Court Facilities and Security Account 2013-15 Funding \$3.55 Million – Five Projects**

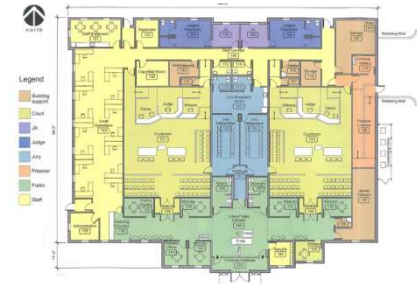
### **Union County Courthouse Replacement \$2 million**



1930 era hospital  
worst rated courthouse



New County Courthouse  
Spring '15 groundbreaking



- **Curry County Courthouse Roof Replacement \$150,000**
- **Life/Safety and Access Projects \$1.4 million**
  - Gilliam County – Fire suppression system and alarms
  - Curry County – Fire suppression system and alarms
  - Columbia County – Elevator replacement / ADA

continued...

# Safe and Suitable Courthouse Facilities

## State Matching Funds for Courthouse Replacement

**Policy Option Package 304 – Courthouse Capital Construction and Improvement** (\$34.9 million OF): Provides state bonds for matching funds for county courthouse replacement projects.

**Policy Option Package 303 – Courthouse Capital Construction and Improvement Debt Service** (\$3.8 million GF, \$1.1 million OF): Provides debt service and cost of issuance associated with increased bonding sold during the 2015-17 biennium. This is a companion package to POP #304.

**Expected Outcomes of Packages:** This package completes the Jefferson courthouse, continues the Multnomah project, and provides initial funding for projects in Lane, Hood River, Tillamook, and Crook counties.

continued...

# Safe and Suitable Courthouse Facilities

## State Matching Funds for Courthouse Replacement

### 2015-17 Planned Courthouse Replacement Projects

- Ongoing project funding from projects approved in 2013-15
  - Multnomah County - \$24.6 million
  - Jefferson County - \$2.5 million (finish project)
- New projects - \$7.8 million
  - Crook County
  - Hood River County
  - Lane County (planning)
  - Tillamook County
- Bonding / limitation for bonded funds only

Jefferson County Courthouse



Multnomah County Courthouse



continued...

# Safe and Suitable Courthouse Facilities

**Policy Option Package 315 – Supreme Court Building Preservation and Seismic Retrofit** (\$19.8 - \$29.8 million): Provides Capital Construction funds and bonding authority to perform further renovation and seismic upgrades to the Supreme Court Building.

**Expected Outcome of Package:** This investment will replace all of the critical interior building systems and preserve this historic building for future generations, provide comfort and safety for building occupants and the public.

continued...



# Safe and Suitable Courthouse Facilities

**Policy Option Package 313 – Restore Local Court Security Account Funding Levels** (\$2.5 million OF): Restores funding through the Criminal Fine Account to local security accounts to match 2009-11 funding levels.

**Expected Outcomes of Packages:** Restores funding lost during the 2013-15 biennium due to Legislative changes to local security funding through Criminal Fine Account and funding received from justice and municipal courts in Oregon. The shortfall at this time is anticipated to be a one-time impact, and funding from justice and municipal courts may reach pre-legislative changes from CFA in the future, but will not make up lost revenue.



# Chief Justice Budget Priorities

## **IMPROVE ACCESS TO THE COURTS AND TIMELY JUSTICE BY:**

- Maintaining courts open every Judicial day and operating at effective levels of case processing, with adequate judicial resources
- Completing implementation of Oregon eCourt in remaining 17 Circuit Courts and the Tax Court and institutionalizing maintenance by funding infrastructure support
- Funding Judicial Compensation at POCC recommended level + CPI
- Increasing court staff support for families, self-represented parties, and protected persons
- Funding permanent court staff for drug and other specialty courts
- Providing safe and suitable court facilities

# Oregon eCourt Overview and Policy Option Packages

# The Vision

*Oregon eCourt will give courts and judges the tools they need to provide just, prompt, and safe resolution of civil disputes; to improve public safety and the quality of life in our communities; and to improve the lives of children and families in crisis.*

---

Better Access

Better Information

Better Outcomes



# What is Oregon eCourt?

- OJD business transformation process started in 2008
- Replace aging Oregon Judicial Information Network (OJIN) system
- Electronic courthouse – available 24/7
- Efficiency – replace 50 million pieces of paper each year
- Real-time access = time savings for customers and stakeholders



# The Past: A Brief History

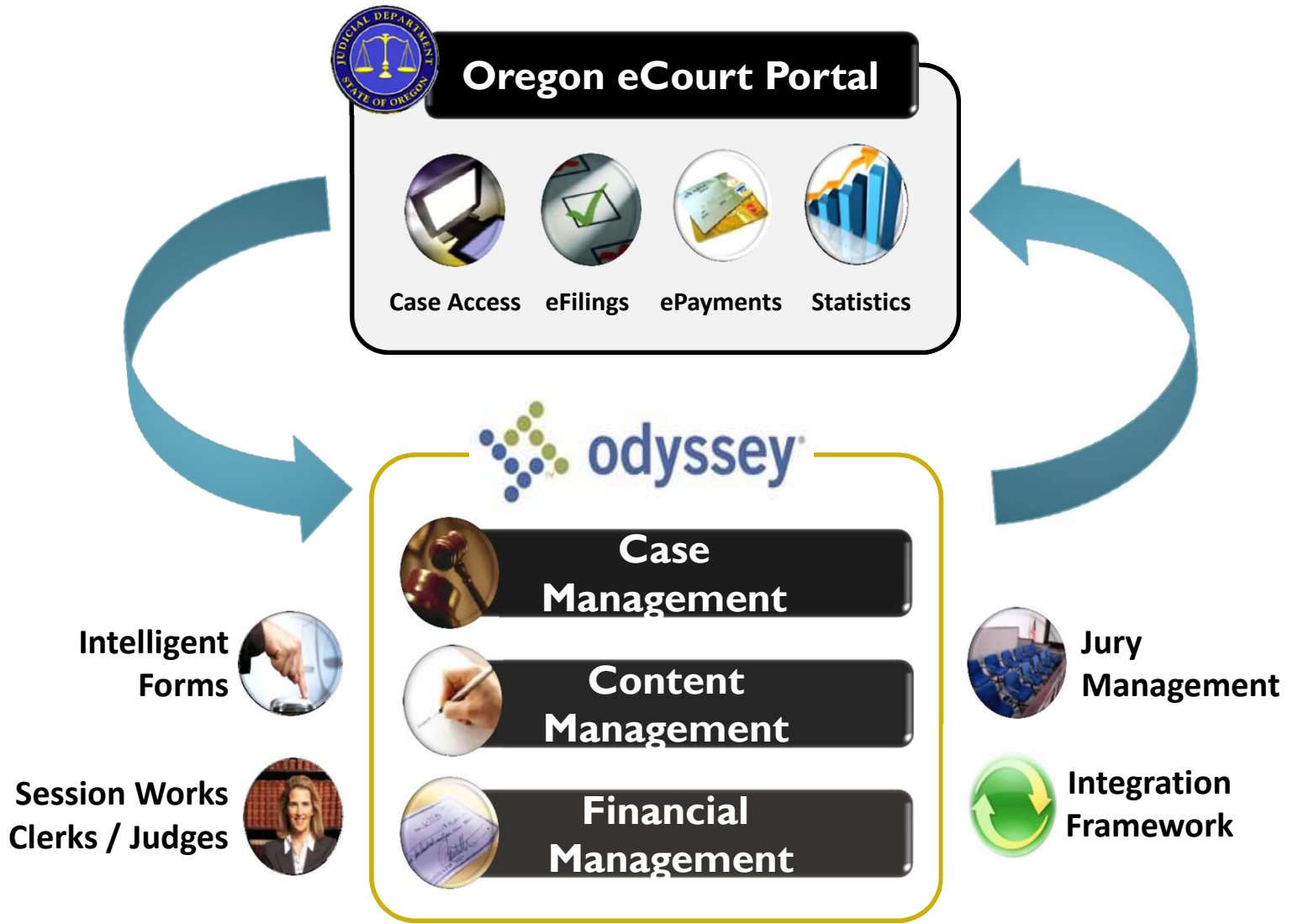
- OJD Technology Committee convened in 2004 to develop the Oregon eCourt concept
- Launched Oregon eCourt in 2008 after legislature accepted the OJD business case and provided funding
- Adopted Single-Solution Provider (SSP) strategy in 2010 – single vendor provides all components
- Selected Tyler Technologies, Inc., through a competitive RFP process
- Completed 37 legislative program review deliverables in 2011-12
- Implementation started in 2012 with pilot and early-adopter courts

# Benefits From Oregon eCourt

- **For Courts**
  - Replaces 30-year old OJIN system
  - Makes court processes more efficient – automate processes and instant access to current information
  - Use improvements from national network of Odyssey users
- **For Litigants and Stakeholders**
  - 24/7 ability to file documents and access court information
  - Increased statewide consistency in court processes
  - ‘Intelligent’ forms assist self-represented litigants file pleadings
  - Improve integrations to send / receive court information
  - Simplified search function in a person-based system
- **For the Public**
  - More efficient and effective court system
  - Ability to make payments online
  - Enhanced security to protect information

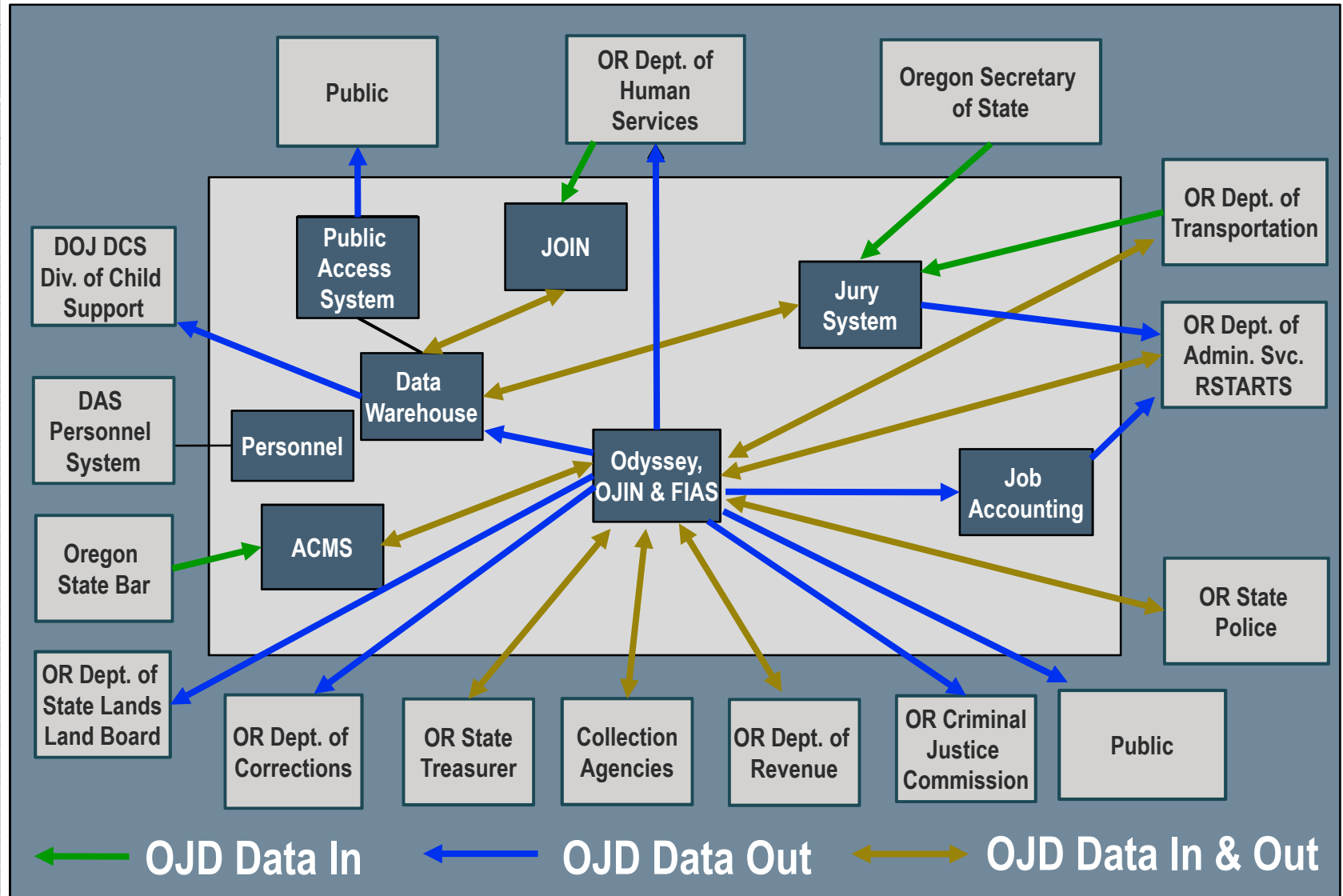
# SSP Approach

JUDICIAL BRANCH



# Partner Integrations

JUDICIAL BRANCH

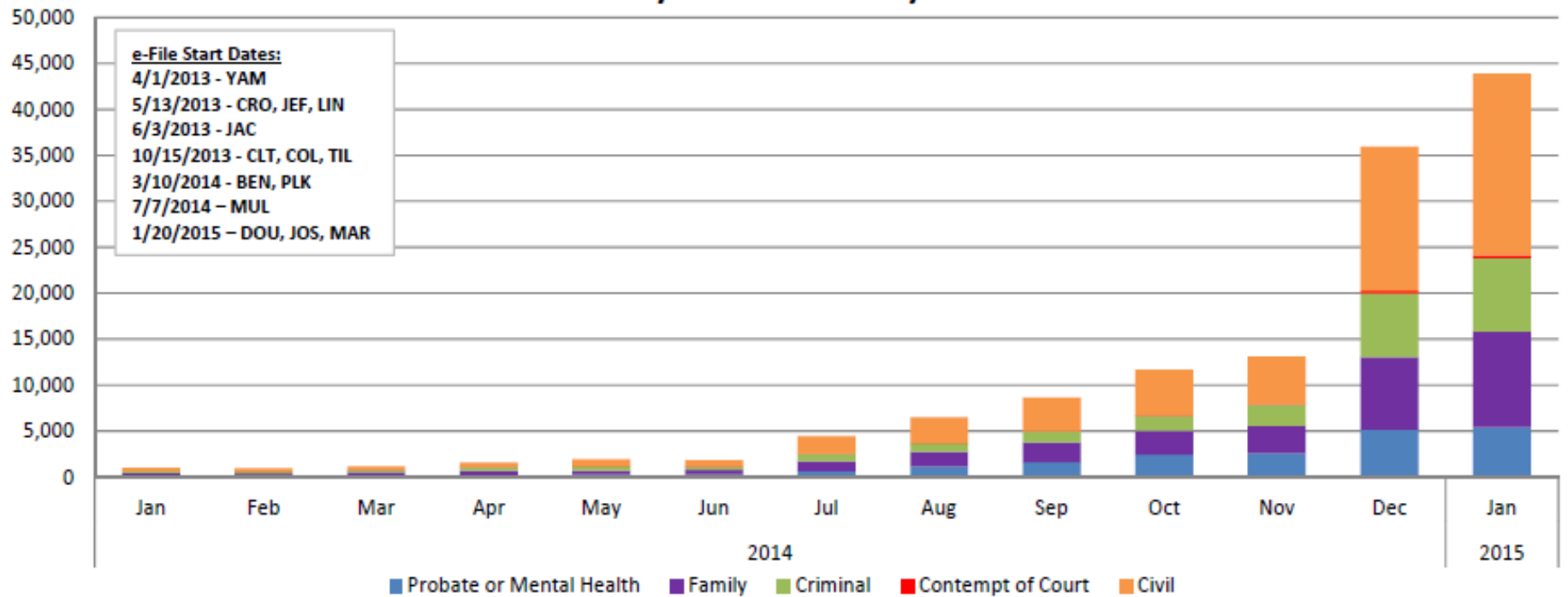


# eFiling – File and Serve

- File and Serve is integrated with the Odyssey system
- Numerous training options and availability for filers and courts
- Mandatory eFiling effective December 1, 2014 in current Odyssey courts; 60 business days after go-live for future courts
- System is convenient and easy to use
- Quick reference guides, FAQs, and file code reference guide for proper filing
- Statewide rejection policy to support consistency through the courts and to our customers

continued...

### e-File - Total Accepted Filings January 2014 - January 2015



Case Category	14-Jan	14-Feb	14-Mar	14-Apr	14-May	14-Jun	14-Jul	14-Aug	14-Sep	14-Oct	14-Nov	14-Dec	15-Jan
Civil	348	330	373	451	713	647	1,909	2,779	3,619	4,928	5,144	15,667	19,743
Contempt of Court	0	6	1	8	8	13	18	46	53	56	66	267	311
Criminal	221	206	282	458	485	397	765	958	1,199	1,651	2,297	6,957	8,004
Family	208	269	300	436	434	524	1,077	1,546	2,149	2,603	3,003	7,879	10,422
Probate or Mental Health	195	126	196	213	254	236	646	1,164	1,595	2,419	2,564	5,163	5,412
<b>Total</b>	<b>972</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>1,152</b>	<b>1,566</b>	<b>1,894</b>	<b>1,817</b>	<b>4,415</b>	<b>6,493</b>	<b>8,615</b>	<b>11,657</b>	<b>13,074</b>	<b>35,933</b>	<b>43,892</b>

Note: Some eFilings submitted during the last part of the month are not reviewed by court staff until the following month; therefore, the total filings attributed in this report for the previous month might vary slightly from what was previously reported.

# OJIN Screen – example

Session A - [24 x 80]

File Edit View Communication Actions Window Help

Host: OJN400 Port: 23 Workstation ID: SCAITDW091 Disconnect

JPC 7/10/12 3:15 PM  
Case Register..... Yamhill County District Court Status Closed INAC  
Case#..... 88SC0695 Metropolitan Agencies Inc/Rucker Darla Jean  
Small Claims Contract

---

ROLE	PLAINTIFF	ADDRESS & PHONE
1 Plaintiff	Metropolitan Agencies Inc	

ROLE	DEFENDANT	ADDRESS & PHONE
1 Defendant	Rucker Darla Jean	
2 Defendant	Rucker Darla Jean	
3 Defendant	Baker Darla Jean	
Also Knwn	Baker Mrs William D	

ENTER DT	FILE DT	EVENT/FILING/PROCEEDING	SCHD DT	TIME	ROOM
1 4/21/90	8/23/88	Claim Case Cause: MONEY OWED			
2 4/21/90	8/23/88	Complaint			
3 4/21/90	8/23/88	Payment of Filing Fee Initial 36.30			

F5=DSPATY F7=DSPCASFIN F10=BROWSE FWD F11=BROWSE BCK

MA A

1902 - Session successfully started Adobe PDF on Documents\\*.pdf



# Odyssey Screen – example

CV080042

File View Tools Help

**odyssey**

CV080042

ESigs Forms Save Exit

Summary Detail Parties Events Service Hearings Conditions Causes Disposition Time Stds Financial Prot. Orders Warrants Bonds Documents Appeals Notes Notifications

**A & E SECURITY AND ELECTRONIC VS. FORTALESA INC\_**

Status **Appeal**  
 Filed 01/25/2008  
 Type **Contract**

County Yamhill  
 Judicial Officer  
 Financial Balance 0.00

**Causes** **Dispositions**

1.	- Original Action	Remedy Sought	Prayer Monetary	Action	Amount	01/25/2008
						<b>12,497.12</b>

**Most Recent Events & Hearings** **Case Summary**

05/08/2012 **Court Notes**  
*Comment: file was E-transmitted to COA;*

07/14/2011 **Order (Judicial Officer: Tichenor, Carroll J)**  
*Comment: w/motion to release deposit on undertaking; Court Action: Signed; Court Action Date: 06/14/2011; Signed: 06/14/2011*

06/09/2011 **Bond (Judicial Officer: Tichenor, Carroll J)**  
*Comment: Action: Signed; Court Action Date: 06/09/2011; Date 2: 06/09/2011*

05/20/2011 **Hearing - Objection**  
 9:00 AM  
*Comment: TO SUFFICIENCY OF UNDERTAKING ON APPEAL CJT TO HEAR - 20 min ATTY STONE TO CALL IN (FOR J. BRIDGES) 503-435-3083; Events: 05/12/2011 Notice - Hearing*

05/12/2011 **Notice - Hearing**

05/04/2011 **Objection**  
*Comment: to Sufficiency of undertaking on appeal; Room: XRDY; Party: Defendant FORTALESA INC\_*

05/04/2011 **Affidavit**  
*Comment: in support of Def's ORS obj.; Party: Privately Retained BRIDGES, JOHN*

04/26/2011 **Motion**  
*Comment: for stay of execution of judgment; Party: Plaintiff A & E SECURITY AND ELECTRONIC*

04/26/2011 **Declaration**  
 Party: Privately Retained WALTERS, ERIN C  
[View more events](#) [View more hearings](#)

**flags & actions due**

04/25/2008 [Review Arbitration - Eligible](#)  
 04/29/2008 [Review Arbitration - Assigned](#)  
 04/30/2008 [Review Answer - Counterclaim](#)  
 05/20/2008 [Review Fast Track](#)  
 06/09/2008 [Review Telephone Call - Incoming](#)  
 10/20/2008 [Review Fast Track](#)  
 01/26/2009 [Review Fast Track](#)  
 03/11/2009 [Review Fast Track](#)  
 04/06/2009 [Review Fast Track](#)  
 04/08/2009 [Review Fast Track](#)

[View More Actions Due](#)

9/14/2012 2:27pm Messages



# Session Works – Judge Edition

**Offense Violation** DOB: 8/14/1981  
Age: 32

**Hearing - Sentencing**

**136222**

**RAMBOW, SARAH LYNNE**

Attorney: None / Pro Se

Charges:

- 1 Contempt Of Ct/Punitive-Other  
3/1/2013 33065OT Violation Unclassified  
FPN : 00000000 :
- 2 Contempt Of Ct/Punitive-Other  
4/1/2013 33065OT Violation Unclassified  
FPN : 00000000 :
- 3 Contempt Of Ct/Punitive-Other

Page 1 of 5

**FOR THE RECORD OF THE COURT**

**CASE SUMMARY**

**CASE NO. 136222**

State of Oregon VS. SARAH LYNN RAMBOW | Location: Tillamook  
Filed On: 8/1/2013

136222

Search for a document

01/07/2014

Order

Def admits all allegations and enters into da diversion

01/07/2014

Petition - Make Admission


all allegations

**CASE INFORMATION**

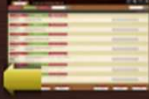
Case Type	Offense Violation	Degree	Date
Offense			
1 . Contempt Of Ct/Punitive-Other	Jurisdiction: Tillamook County District Attorney FPN : 00000000 :	Violation Unclassified	03/01/2013
2 . Contempt Of Ct/Punitive-Other	Jurisdiction: Tillamook County District Attorney FPN : 00000000 :	Violation Unclassified	04/01/2013
3 . Contempt Of Ct/Punitive-Other	Jurisdiction: Tillamook County District Attorney FPN : 00000000 :	Violation Unclassified	06/01/2013
4 . Contempt Of Ct/Punitive-Other	Jurisdiction: Tillamook County District Attorney FPN : 00000000 :	Violation Unclassified	07/01/2013

**CASE ASSIGNMENT**


Current Case Assignment



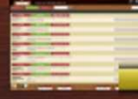
Home View




Session Manager



Notes



Set Status



Mark Complete

# Taking a Court Live



JUDICIAL BRANCH

# Implementation Process

**Preparation**

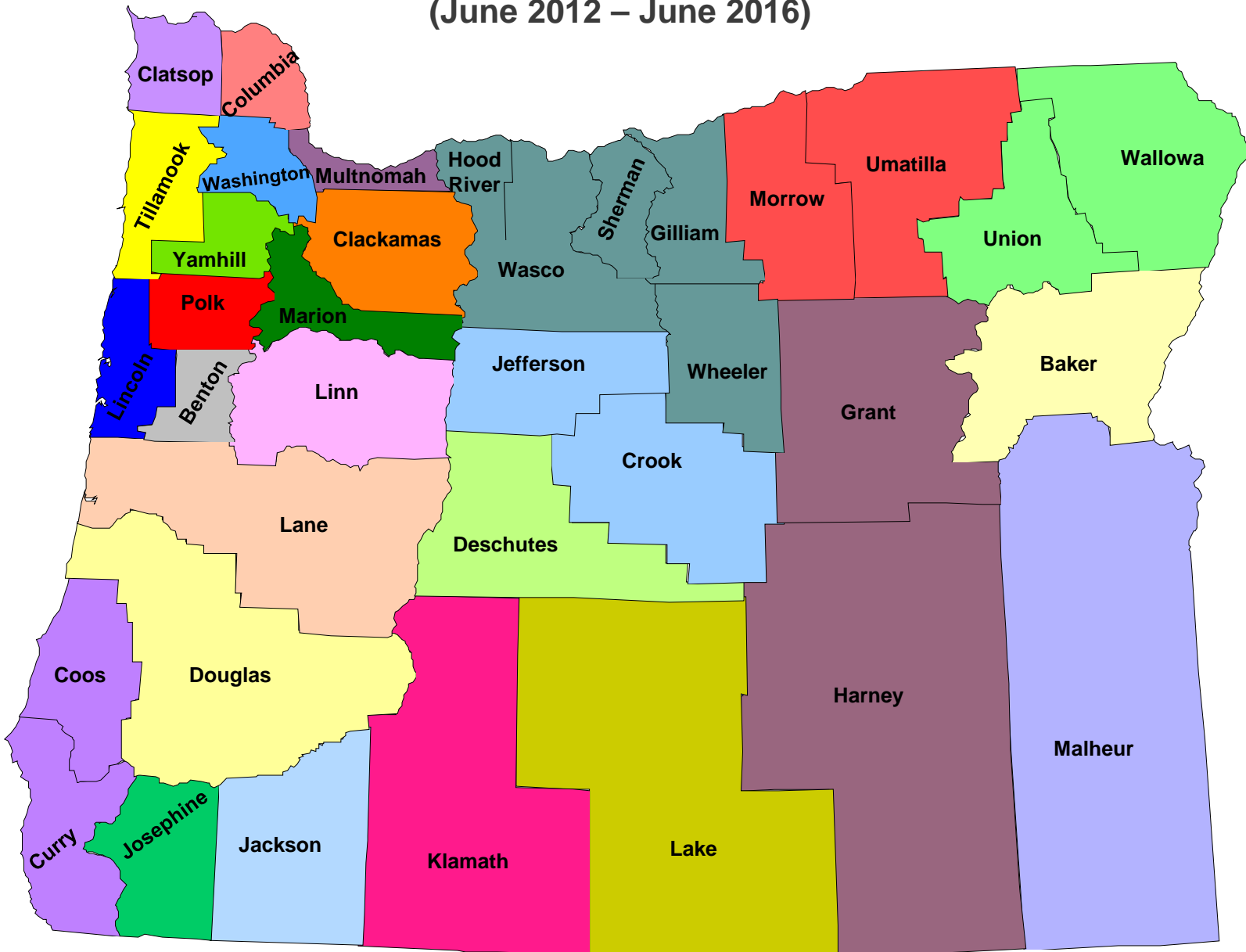
**Implementation**

**Go Live**

- Preparation:
  - Core group in each court extensively trained on Odyssey system
  - Court identifies / documents local court business processes, workflows, and queues (docketing, calendaring, local reporting, local data needs, local partner integrations)
  - OSCA conducts a technical assessment of equipment / capacity needs
- Implementation:
  - Core court group tests numerous data conversions from OJIN to Odyssey
  - End User Training occurs four to six weeks prior to go-live date (dockets reduced but maintain active court schedules and customer service)
  - No input in OJIN or Odyssey and manual financial receipting for a few days prior to go-live weekend
- Go-Live:
  - Input all pending case information from prior week into the Odyssey System (Sunday)
  - Court begins in new system on Monday (no more OJIN)
  - ETSD, OETO, BFSD, and Tyler provide two weeks of on-site go-live support

# Implementation of Oregon eCourt

(June 2012 – June 2016)



# Oregon eCourt Roll-Out Schedule

JUDICIAL BRANCH

Quarter	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
1 <sup>st</sup>		Jackson (March) ✓	Benton Polk (January) ✓	Lane Lincoln (March)	Washington Tax Court (March)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Yamhill (June) ✓		Multnomah (May) ✓	Deschutes Klamath Lake (June)	Baker Grant Harney Malheur Morrow  Morrow Union Wallowa  (June)
3 <sup>rd</sup>		Clatsop Columbia Tillamook (August) ✓		Coos Curry  Hood River Wasco Gilliam Wheeler Sherman  (September)	
4 <sup>th</sup>	Crook Jefferson Linn (December) ✓		Douglas Josephine Marion (December) ✓	Clackamas (December)	

# Accomplishments By The Numbers

- 2** Number of Oregon appellate courts using new case management and eFiling systems
- 3** Number of years since first pilot court started using Odyssey
- 14** Number of circuit courts now using Odyssey, and where eFiling and online document access is available
- 25** Percent of all payments to OJD made in January 2015 using ePay
- 36** Number of counties in which ePay, OSP eCite, and intelligent FAPA forms are available
- 63** Percent of all OJD cases migrated to Odyssey

continued...

# Accomplishments By The Numbers

- 744** Number of statewide and local court processes documented
- 1,464,800** Number of dollars paid in January using ePay
- 5,238,513** Number of documents migrated into Odyssey
- 15,282,651** Number of OJIN cases migrated into Odyssey
- Countless** Reference guides, online help system pages, and web pages developed



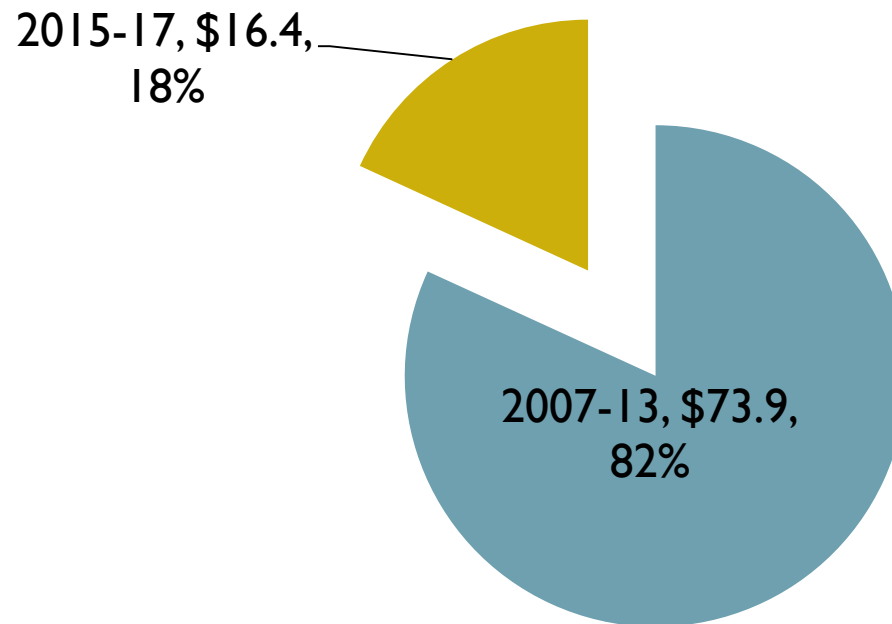
# What's Left To Do – 2015-17

- Finish statewide implementation in Tax Court and 17 circuit courts
- Go-live events every three months
  - 2015: March, June, September, December
  - 2016: March, June
- Complete development of 100+ identified statewide business processes
- Complete roll-out of eFiling in all counties (implementation, training, and outreach)
- Establish permanent support for ongoing maintenance, training and other functions

# Oregon eCourt Expenditures

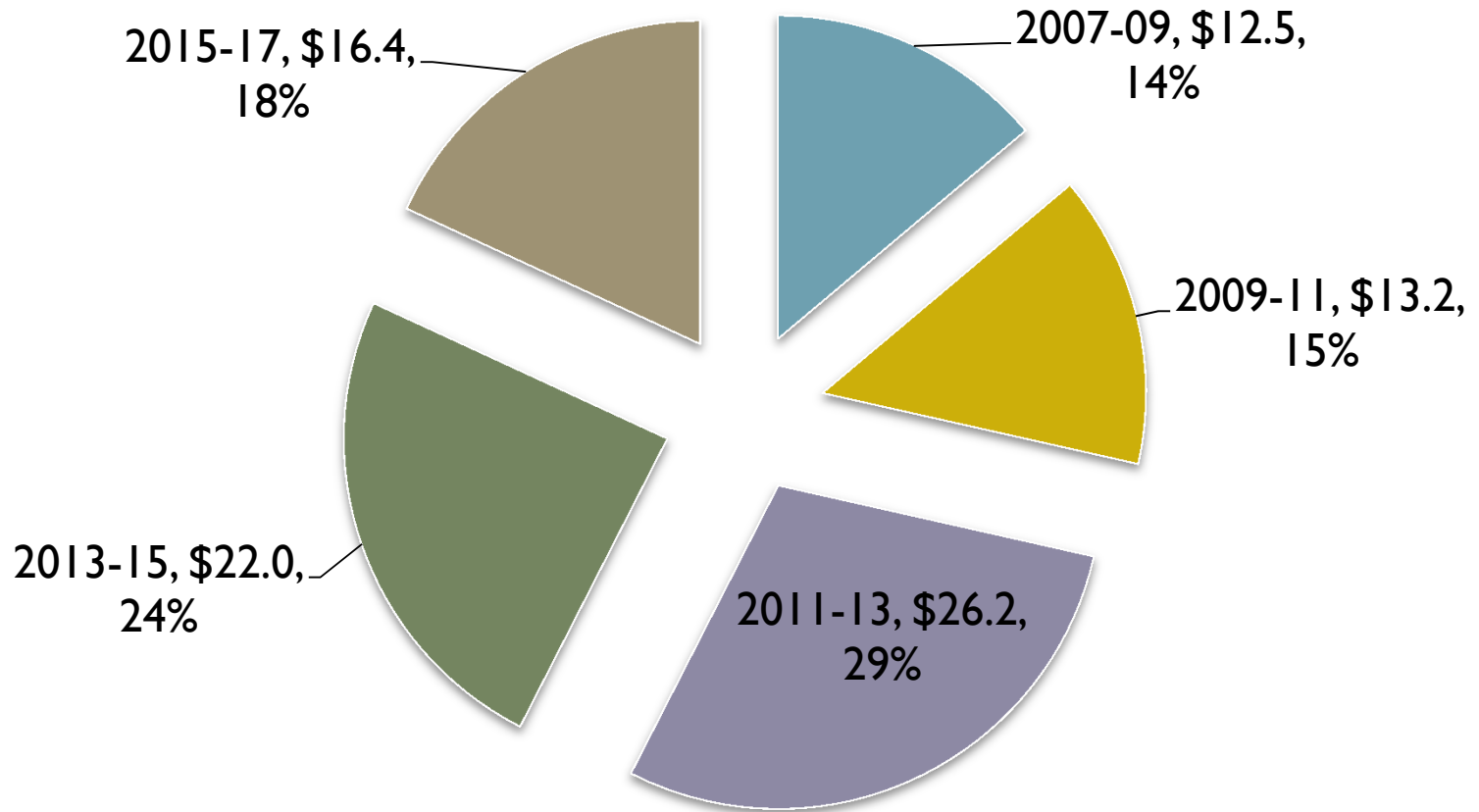
## All Fund Types

(\$ in millions)



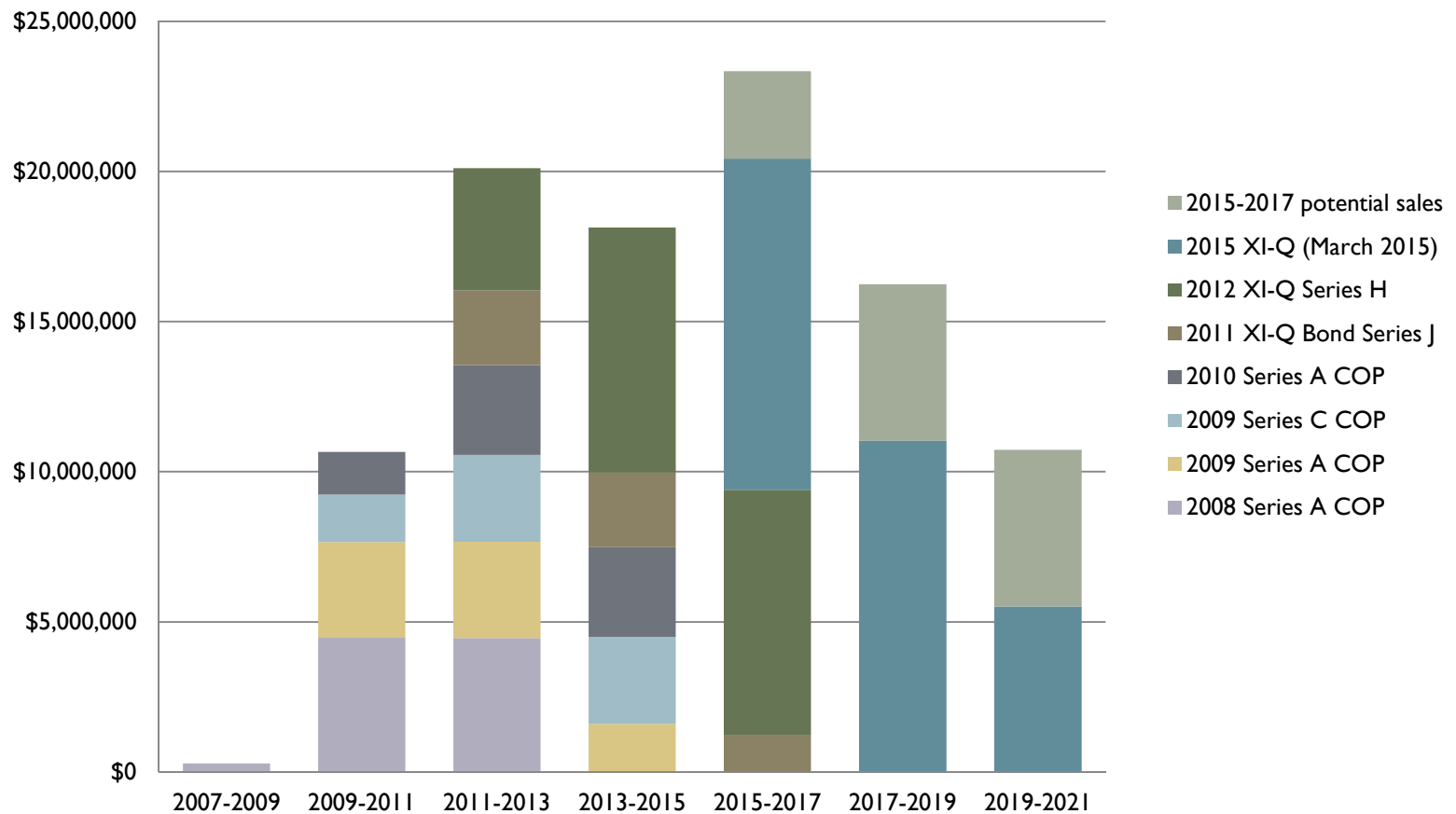
# Oregon eCourt Implementation Costs

(\$ in millions)



# Oregon eCourt Debt Service

JUDICIAL BRANCH



By end of 2013-15 \$42.3 million of issued debt will be retired

# Oregon eCourt – POP (301/302)

**Policy Option Package 302 – Oregon eCourt Program** (\$17.3 million OF, 22.24 FTE): Final funding to complete Oregon eCourt implementation. The Oregon eCourt Program is a comprehensive business transformation and service delivery initiative, launched in 2008.

**Policy Option Package 301 – Oregon eCourt Debt Service** (\$2.9 million GF): Required debt service for additional bond funding issued in 2015-17 biennium to complete implementation activities.

**Expected Outcomes of Package:** Completion of the initial system development and configuration for core components; finish implementations in Tax Court and all remaining circuit courts; all remaining courts will finish end user training; documentation, configuration, and implementation of local court processes; support for yearly software upgrade which requires analysis, testing, review, training, and documentation.

# Oregon eCourt – POP (311)

**Policy Option Package 311 – Oregon eCourt Technical Operations, Training and Business Process** (\$1.2 million GF, \$3.3 million OF, 20.26 FTE): Provides permanent staff support for Odyssey operations as implementation is completed and training, maintenance, and support move to the General Fund. Provides central resources to support circuit courts as operational process and information technology infrastructure changes are made to leverage the full capabilities of the new Oregon eCourt system.

**Expected Outcomes of Package:** Centralized core support for all statewide and local business processes, technical analysis and support, software upgrades, statewide training to ensure consistency and efficiency, and ongoing outreach services for business partners and the public. Statewide consistent and reliable documentation of statewide business processes and regular education and training which is essential to maintain, improve, and support all performance measures set for the Oregon Judicial Department.

## OJD Key Performance Measures:

- Rely on consistent business processes and data entry
- Will benefit from process analysis and efficiency changes
- Require ongoing technology and business processes education and training of judges and staff
- Need the support from Policy Option Package 311



# Online Help System – example

OJD Business Processes v.3.2 - Internet Explorer provided by Oregon Judicial Department

http://ojdodyprod/Help/CM/Custom/index.htm


File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Favorites Abiqua Forest Products, In... APS Products Mobile Sol... Bark I Mt. Scott Fuel Co. B... Californ

OJD Business Processes v.3.2

Contents Search Glossary

? Welcome  
? What's New  
? References  
Appeals  
Arbitration  
Bankruptcy  
Calendars and Hearings  
Change of Venue or Transfer  
Civil  
Contempt  
Court Administration  
Court Appointed Counsel  
Document Management  
Due Dates and Time Standards  
Exhibits  
Family  
Felonies and Misdemeanors  
Financial  
Forms  
Joint and Several



## OJD Business Processes Documentation

---

### What's New?

**Version 3.2 - Odyssey 2013 (released 02/19/14)**  
[New topics and updated topics include:](#)


**Version 3.1 - Odyssey 2013 (released 12/24/13)\*\***  
[New topics and updated topics include:](#)



# Online Help System (Business Process example)

Contents Search Glossary

Home > Felonies and Misdemeanors > Criminal Charges > Changing the Charge Degree



## OJD Business Processes Documentation

### Changing the Charge Degree

In this Topic [Hide](#)

- [After Filing but Prior to Sentencing](#)
- [After Successful Completion of Probation](#)
- [At Case Initiation](#)
- [At Sentencing](#)

Changes to the degree of a charge examples include:

- Misdemeanor reduced to a violation
- Felony reduced to a misdemeanor

#### After Filing but Prior to Sentencing

- 1) Go to the *Charges (F12+C)* tab of the case.
- 2) Click **Amend** and select the charge to amend.
- 3) In the **Reason** text box, select **Accusatory Instrument Filed**.
- 4) In the **GOC** drop-down list, select **DA Elect**.
- 5) Select the degree from the **Degree** drop-down list to match the new penalty type.
- 6) Click **Save (Alt+S)**.

#### After Successful Completion of Probation

- 1) If the Defendant's charge is reduced down after the successful completion of probation, go to the *Disposition (F12+O)* tab.
- 2) Click **Disposition**.
- 3) Select the disposition of the charge to modify.
- 4) Select the charge to change the penalty type.
- 5) Select the appropriate degree.
- 6) Click **Continue (Alt+C)**.

# POP 3 | I Supports

- Business process and training functions to support law changes and maximize the benefit from Oregon eCourt
  - Provide legal analysis and feedback on statewide business processes to ensure statewide consistency
  - Ensure accuracy and legality of business processes for the courts to maintain and increase court standardization and efficiencies; law changes affect forms, codes, data entry, reports, etc., and required continuous training
  - Support court efficiencies and performance improvements through business process analysis and training
  - Participate in national networking, analyze improvements from other users
- Technical services to maintain the Odyssey system:
  - Provide Help Desk for users
  - Test and implement periodic patches and annual updates
  - Perform general system support and maintenance
- Business services support
  - Centralize accounting services to relieve courts and achieve efficiencies

# Court Users' Perspective

- Robert Kleker
  - Jackson County Trial Court Administrator
  - Chair, Change Control Workgroup

Oregon eCourt is making the courts' internal work easier and more efficient, and we are expanding the tools that will apply those benefits to the work of the legal community, public safety agencies, social service agencies, and the public at large. These internal and external improvements will provide **better access**, **better information**, and **better outcomes** for all Oregonians.

— *Chief Justice Thomas A. Balmer*



# COURTS ARE AT THE CORE

of the Critical Path to Preservation of Public Safety, Protection of Families in Crisis, and Economic Stability of Oregon

