



Wheeler County

District Attorney

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March 18, 2015

Doug Harclerod
ODAA
610 Hawthorne Ave. SE, Suite 210
Salem OR 97301

Re: Letter on House Bill 3194

Mr. Harclerod,

Wheeler County has benefited greatly from the small grant that we received through the HB 3194 program. We received the minimum payment of \$50,000.00 and have been able to use it in several areas of restorative justice.

The first step was to create a less-than-half-time position of Community Service Coordinator who is in charge of the cases from Circuit Court and Justice Court where we have requested sentences of community service work in place of some or all of a sentence of incarceration. This new program has fashioned a new sentencing option and one that saves money in the Sheriff's budget for the line item for incarceration. That Office has been able to save approximately \$8,000.00 thus far, an amount which is one-third of the budgeted amount for incarceration sentences in this fiscal year. The Sheriff estimates that the 3194 program has resulted in a savings return of nearly 68 cents on each dollar invested.

In addition to the above duties of the Community Service Coordinator, the employee has also been working on projects for the Justice of the Peace as an assistant with the paperwork in court matters and projects for training, alternative counseling and work programs in place of incarceration days.

Wheeler County has seen positive changes in the way that we resolve criminal cases, and our Sheriff's Office and District Attorney's Office would very much appreciate a continuation of this valuable program for our criminal justice operation.

Please call or write to me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Daniel Ousley
Wheeler County District Attorney

cc: Bob Hermann