



Legislative Testimony

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

March 6, 2017

The Honorable Jackie Winters, Co-Chair
The Honorable Duane Stark, Co-Chair
Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety

RE: Smart Supervision Grant

Co-Chairs Winters and Stark and members of the Ways and Means Public Safety Subcommittee, for the record, I am Jeremiah Stromberg, Assistant Director of the Community Corrections Division for the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC).

I am here before you today to request authority for the department's submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice in the amount of \$343,775.

I want to thank this committee for hearing my request today, given the short timeline we have remaining to apply for this grant, which is due March 7. In addition, I want to personally thank Julie Neburka and Dustin Ball for their efforts in supporting our grant application and assistance in being heard before you today. This grant required coordination and collaboration between DOC and all 36 counties, which is why it took us almost to the deadline to be able to present to you today.

In 2012, DOC was the recipient of this very same grant in the amount of \$290,000. It allowed us to create an advanced parole and probation officer academy, in which more than 90 percent of the POs statewide were able to participate. Training topics included case management strategies, evidence-based practices, gender specific supervision, and how to effectively work with victims of crime. The academy was a great success and, to date, the Bureau of Justice continues to use it as a model for other states in how best to implement training practices. In addition, our training and techniques will be a featured presentation at the 2017 International Corrections and Prisons Association Conference in London.

Moving forward to today, this 2017 grant submission will allow DOC and county community corrections agencies to progress the on-going implementation of evidence-based practices in community supervision. Consider this as the next round of advanced academy training specifically designed for lead workers, supervisors, and managers. Topics ranging from improving basic competency to building an implementation and sustainability plan will be the goals of the academy. With this grant, leaders from both rural and urban settings will be able to participate at no cost to the county or the state beyond employee time.

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Managers will be more equipped and trained to assess and address areas of need within their agencies; new practices and cultures will ensure momentum and focus are not lost; and as before, a research team will oversee the design and implementation and will continually provide feedback and recommendations to the project team.

The saying in the field is that the implementation of new strategies and supporting change lives or dies by your front line supervisors. We want to increase the likelihood that new and emerging techniques within our profession-not only live, but thrive.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Submitted by:

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