

**137.090 Considerations in determining aggravation or mitigation.** (1) In determining aggravation or mitigation, the court shall consider:

(a) Any evidence received during the proceeding;  
(b) The presentence report, where one is available; and  
(c) Any other evidence relevant to aggravation or mitigation that the court finds trustworthy and reliable.

(2) In determining mitigation, the court may consider evidence regarding the defendant's status as a servicemember as defined in ORS 135.881.

(3) When a witness is so sick or infirm as to be unable to attend, the deposition of the witness may be taken out of court at such time and place, and upon such notice to the adverse party, and before such person authorized to take depositions, as the court directs.

**137.680 Development of specialty court standards.** (1) As used in this section, "specialty courts" means drug court programs as defined in ORS 3.450, veterans' courts, mental health courts or any other similar court or docketing system.

(2)(a) The Oregon Criminal Justice Commission shall serve as a clearinghouse and information center for the collection, preparation, analysis and dissemination of the best practices applicable to specialty courts.

(b) After consulting with the Judicial Department, the commission shall develop evidence-based standards that may be applied to specialty courts. The standards must:

- (A) Be designed to reduce recidivism in a cost-effective manner; and  
(B) When appropriate, target medium-risk and high-risk offenders.

(3) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may issue an order applicable to specialty courts. The order may include a requirement that a circuit court that operates a specialty court review the standards described in subsection (2) of this section.

**408.430 Free services to veterans rendered by court administrator or county clerk.** The county clerk or a court clerk or court administrator shall administer all oaths required in matters of pensions, certify pension vouchers, affix the seal of the court whenever required, and make and prepare copies of any documents of record in the office and certify thereto any matter required by veterans seeking benefits from any agency or department of the State of Oregon or federal government, without any charge, fee or compensation.

**Sec. 1. Task Force on Incarcerated Veterans.** (1) The Task Force on Incarcerated Veterans is established, consisting of eight members appointed as follows:

(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint two members from among members of the Senate.

(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members from among members of the House of Representatives.

(c) The Director of Veterans' Affairs shall appoint one representative from the Department of Veterans' Affairs with expertise in services and benefits for incarcerated veterans.

(d) The Director of the Department of Corrections shall appoint one representative from the Department of Corrections with experience with incarcerated veterans.

(e) The Governor shall appoint two individuals who have been incarcerated veterans or who have had experience with incarcerated veterans.

- (2) The task force shall research, study and make recommendations regarding the following:
- (a) Outreach that may be done to incarcerated veterans with information about veterans' benefits and other benefit programs that provide services and resources to incarcerated veterans;
  - (b) Assistance that may be available for incarcerated veterans in applying for federal and state veterans' benefits and aid to which incarcerated veteran may be entitled on account of the incarcerated veterans' military service;
  - (c) Assistance that may be available to incarcerated veterans in appealing any denial of veterans' benefits or aid;
  - (d) Informational materials that may be created for incarcerated veterans;
  - (e) The process and recommendations for developing a comprehensive and coordinated statewide network of information and referral resources for incarcerated veterans; and
  - (f) Recommendations for how the Department of Veterans' Affairs may serve as a liaison for incarcerated veterans and incarcerated veterans issues with the Department of Corrections, reentry councils, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and others.
- (3) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.
- (4) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members of the task force.
- (5) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.
- (6) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.
- (7) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson or of a majority of the members of the task force.
- (8) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.
- (9) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim legislative committees with subject matter jurisdiction of veterans' affairs no later than September 15, 2016.
- (10) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall provide staff support to the task force.
- (11) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties in the manner and amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for expenses incurred in performing functions of the task force shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the Department of Veterans' Affairs for purposes of the task force.
- (12) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist the task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the task force consider necessary to perform their duties.

#### **408.230 Veterans' preference in public employment**

**414.044 Notice to Department of Veterans' Affairs of information regarding applications for health care coverage by uniformed service members and veterans; rules.** (1) As used in this section:

- (a) "Uniformed service" means the Armed Forces of the United States, the Army National Guard or the Air National Guard when the member is engaged in active duty for training,

inactive duty for training or full-time National Guard duty, the commissioned corps of the United States Public Health Service and any other category of persons designated by the President of the United States in time of war or national emergency.

(b) "Written information" means information that is in written form and includes but is not limited to information obtained by electronic means, such as electronic mail, facsimile or other form of electronic communication.

(2)(a) Subject to subsection (3) of this section, the Director of the Oregon Health Authority shall notify the Director of Veterans' Affairs at least once each month regarding receipt of written information from a member or veteran of a uniformed service in connection with an application for health care coverage.

(b) The notification required under this subsection is limited to notifying the Director of Veterans' Affairs of the name and residence address or mailing address of the member or veteran.

(c) The authorization of a member or veteran as required by subsection (3) of this section may be contained in the written information at the time it is received by the Oregon Health Authority or separately at another time, but the authorization must specifically authorize the notification to be made under this section.

(3) The Director of the Oregon Health Authority shall notify the Director of Veterans' Affairs as required by subsection (2) of this section only if authorized to do so in writing by the member or veteran of a uniformed service.

(4) The Oregon Health Authority, in consultation with the Department of Veterans' Affairs, shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section, including but not limited to the method of notification required under subsection (2) of this section