



KEIZER POLICE DEPARTMENT

930 Chemawa Road NE • PO Box 21000 • Keizer OR 97307
www.keizer.org • Phone 503-390-3713 • Fax 503-390-8295

February 9, 2017

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety
Oregon Legislature

Dear Co-Chairs Winters and Stark and Members of the Committee:

RE: DPSST Budget and the Center for Policing Excellence

Law enforcement across the United States has been on the defense, but law enforcement in Oregon has moved steadily forward with initiatives, programs, and training that have made us a national model. While many of those programs and initiatives are practiced elsewhere, what's unique is the training and statewide influence provided by DPSST. And while all legislatures can and do affect local law enforcement agencies' resources and activities, few state legislatures have the ability to influence the philosophy of law enforcement the way Oregon's does.

Policing research is clear that we can police differently—more efficiently and fairly—and that we can reduce crime and the costs of crime by doing so. The Center for Policing Excellence at DPSST was created to educate police leaders on the research and to make evidence-based policing practices easier for them to implement in their communities. Established by just one half-page of text in HB 3194 (2013), the Center's influence has exceeded expectations.

You can be proud that the Center for Policing Excellence has diffused the philosophies of legitimacy and procedural justice throughout the curricula in every discipline at every level, from basic classes through leadership and supervision. And you can be proud that DPSST inculcates every student with evidence-based thinking, sometimes overtly, sometimes subtly in discussions and scenarios.

Still, there is work to be done. While Community Corrections has vast experience with evidence-based practices, most of Oregon's police officers and sheriff patrols have very little. Policing research continues to be out of reach for almost every one of the nation's and state's medium and small agencies. The Center for Policing Excellence is working diligently to make policing research available and applicable to Oregon's peace officers and their communities.

I encourage you to continue to fund Oregon's Center for Policing Excellence. I also encourage you to take advantage of downstream savings by expanding the Center's influence and thus Oregon's peace officers' ability to reduce crime and the costs of crime.

Thank you,


John Teague
Chief of Police