

Multnomah County Sheriff's Office 501 SE HAWTHORNE BLVD., Suite 350 • Portland, OR 97214

Exemplary service for a safe, livable community

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February 9, 2017

Oregon State Legislature Members of the Joint Ways and Means Public Safety Subcommittee C/O Senator Jackie Winters and Representative Duane Stark, Co-Chairs 900 Court Street, NE Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for DPSST/HB 5034

Dear Senator Winters, Representative Stark, and Members of the Public Safety Subcommittee,

The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), expresses its support of the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST), in its funding requests, especially with regard to training. MCSO is charged with a dual mission of law enforcement and corrections operations. Recruiting, equipping, training and deploying members to fulfill our dual mission is the most important administrative responsibility on my Executive Team's shoulders; meeting operational challenges and delivering excellent public service depends on having enough quality members to do the job. As a result, MCSO's success is directly tied to DPSST partnership.

MCSO relies on DPSST to develop talented members who are culturally competent; ethically, physically and emotionally fit for duty, and well trained, highly skilled and responsive to the needs of the community. For example, MCSO looks to DPSST to: 1) Coordinate a Basic Academy for Corrections Deputies – MCSO routinely sends six (6) members; 2) Conduct a Basic Academy for Law Enforcement – MCSO routinely sends three (3) members; and 3) Implement maintenance training to ensure our established members remain Certified in the State of Oregon.

The partnership between MCSO and DPSST does not stop with Deputy Sheriffs and Correctional Deputies. MCSO trusts the professional development of its law enforcement and corrections supervisors to DPSST's Supervisory Academy. Additionally, MCSO seeks out DPSST insights on best practices such as Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), to further ensure our members are interacting with vulnerable populations in crisis safely and compassionately.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and in advance for your support of DPSST. Time is of the essence for training funding as it takes six (6) weeks to train a Corrections Deputy and sixteen (16) weeks to train a Deputy Sheriff. These time estimates do not include MCSO human resource or field training requirements. With retirements ever looming, MCSO is constantly striving to maintain safe staffing levels in spite of attrition.

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