



Judicial Marshal Retirement Parity

2021 SB 297

Key Points

- OJD's judicial marshals are the only certified police officers in Oregon not currently included in the PERS 'Police and Fire' (P&F) classification.
- P&F PERS benefits are essential to recruit and retain qualified OJD marshals.
- Small fiscal impact to include Oregon's three DPSST-certified police officers in PERS P&F.

SB 297 – Judicial Marshal Retirement Parity

OJD's judicial marshals are the only certified police officers in Oregon not included in the PERS definition of "police officer." SB 297 classifies judicial marshals who are trained and certified as police officers by the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) as police officers for purposes of the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS).

Policy and Fairness. Making this change promotes fairness and is essential for recruitment and retention. OJD's two deputy marshals hold advanced police certifications, and the chief marshal holds executive police certification through DPSST.

OJD Marshal's Office has expanded its scope and professionalized operations to ensure court security:

- Authorized by legislature to receive and maintain police training and certification through DPSST.
- Manages threat assessments for judges and staff, provides protection for appellate courts, provides facility security in Supreme Court and Justice Building, responds to all law enforcement calls for service at those locations, provides community care-taking and emergency aid duties, and retains full arrest powers statewide.
- Trains other law enforcement agencies on threat assessment, court security, and dignitary protection.

Consistent with Federal Tax Law. SB 297 meets the PERS agency criteria for adding job classifications to P&F. Adding judicial marshals does not affect the tax status of the PERS system.

Small Fiscal Impact. OJD currently employs three judicial marshals. All three are DPSST-certified police officers. SB 297 will have a one-time cost to credit past service performed by current judicial marshals, and OJD will pay a higher PERS rate for judicial marshals in the future. Having certified police officers to manage security issues has saved OJD costs to pay for other law enforcement agency services.

Questions? Contact Debra Maryanov, Senior Assistant General Counsel at: Debra.C.Maryanov@ojd.state.or.us