

The investigator workforce is dwindling because of inadequate pay. A lack of available legal investigators exacerbates the existing attorney deficit, contributing to higher costs and less desirable case outcomes. Recruiting and retaining investigators is a cost-effective strategy for mitigating Oregon's public defense crisis.

A Stable Investigator Workforce Means Fewer Unrepresented People.

POP 104

Support POP 104 with an Investigator rate change effective July 2025

Investigators can:

- ✓ find facts
- ✓ manage clients
- ✓ help avoid trial
- ✓ interview witnesses
- ✓ strategize
- ✓ help settle cases
- ✓ allow attorneys to take more cases

It's cheaper to pay investigators to do their jobs than to pay lawyers to do investigation work

Oregon Public Defense Investigators are asking to be paid \$75/hr — the equivalent to what the state paid in 1985 — in order to retain experienced investigators and to recruit desperately needed new investigators to offset the current investigator shortfall and to help eliminate the Unrepresented Crisis in Oregon.

