



Washington County Juvenile Department

Recent Federal Immigration Developments

Federal immigration policy developments continue to create uncertainty for Oregon communities. Namely, there is concern regarding how recent Presidential Executive Orders may impact law enforcement in Washington County. The short answer is that Executive Orders only apply to federal agencies and have no real impact on how states and local governments operate.

Cooperation with and Assistance to Federal Immigration Enforcement Officials.

Oregon statutes specifically prohibit public agencies, including the Juvenile department, from cooperating with or assisting federal immigration enforcement officials. If a federal immigration enforcement official makes a request to the department related to immigration enforcement, we are required by law to deny the request and notify the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission of the request. ORS 181A.826. We are also prohibited from using any public facilities, property, money, technology, equipment or personnel for the purpose of investigating, apprehending, arresting, detaining or holding a person for immigration enforcement, unless presented with a criminal arrest warrant signed by a federal judge. Note that a judicial warrant is not a request, it is a command from the courts and the Juvenile department is obligated to obey the warrant.

Honoring Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Detainers. We do not honor any requests or ICE detainers from ICE to hold a person for ICE. A US District Court decision in 2014 (Miranda-Olivares v. Clackamas County) made it clear that holding a person on an ICE detainer was a violation of that person's constitutional rights. We will only hold a person for ICE if they present a criminal arrest warrant signed by a federal judge.

The mission of the Washington County Juvenile Department is to protect the public by reducing delinquency, to restore victims who have suffered harm from delinquency and to use effective practices to teach youth responsible behavior. As we engage in our work, we are committed to ensuring that all of our community members, regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, or any other protected status, have equal access to a just process and our services and support. For example, the Washington County Juvenile Department values unrestricted access to justice for all victims of juvenile crime. Similarly, all youthful offenders have access to appropriate education and treatment within our community. Family members can trust that they will be safe in our buildings and community. We will continue to work to strengthen the families of ALL of our community members as we are privileged to do this important work.

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Juvenile Department

222 N First Avenue, MS 47 · Hillsboro, OR 97124-3000

phone: (503) 846-8861 · fax: (503) 846-8886 · TTY: 711 · www.washingtoncountyor.gov/juvenile

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