

THE ECHO



OREGON ASSOCIATION FOR COURT ADMINISTRATION

MAY 2017 (POST SPRING)

ABOUT OACA

Oregon Association for Court Administration is a professional organization committed to excellence. The association was established in 1977 and is Oregon's only organization for court professionals and those interested in the Courts of Oregon. Our membership includes Justice, Municipal, Tribal and State Court Staff, students, vendors, active and retired judges, and others who share an interest in Oregon Courts.

OACA MISSION

The goal of the OACA Board is to provide beneficial and reasonably priced learning experiences. This is done through conferences held biannually, one in the spring and one in the fall. Each conference provides formal training and allows attendees the opportunity to network with people from similar court environments. The Board works very hard to develop the educational agenda for each conference.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT, CHRISTINE

Greeting, members!

I hope all who attended the spring conference had as rewarding of an experience as I did! This particular conference went off without a hitch. I was very pleased with the positive comments I heard throughout the days. Thank you to all who attended and help support OACA. Your board truly appreciates it.

As always, welcome to our new members! It was nice meeting you at the new member breakfast and it was great getting to know you all. I appreciated your willingness to share information about yourselves and your participation in classes. I hope you enjoyed your experience and I look forward to seeing you again.

The Past Presidents Reception was lively and entertaining. For the fall conference we will be changing it up a bit in honor of celebrating OACA's 40th anniversary! We will be holding more of a banquet style evening for everyone to enjoy. Possibly a theme? Possibly a raffle? Who knows! We will be throwing around fun ideas for all to enjoy. If you have any ideas, would like to help or have suggestions regarding entertainment for the fall conference in Hood River,

Continued on next page....

please email me at christine.watts@mcminnvilleoregon.gov I would appreciate it!

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our Fall Conference at The Hood River Inn from October 15th - 17th, 2017. We've already have some great speakers and topics lined up. The board is working diligently to ensure we have a packed full conference for you all to enjoy. Our very supportive vendors will be in attendance, so please join us!

The annual business meeting will be held on Sunday, October 15th, which means it'll be elections time! If you have any questions regarding any of the positions up for election, feel free to email me and I would be happy to discuss duties with you! Please, please, please consider joining the board. It has been one of the most rewarding experiences for me professionally and even more so personally. We would love your help with navigating OACA through our ever changing profession.

We are continually improving our website. Don't forget to log in and sign up for the emails AND the members only section forum boards. We are in the process of creating a Technology Vice President position. This position obviously wasn't needed when the organization was first created but we need it now! If you have any suggestions on what you'd like to see on our website let us know and we will make it happen.

If you are currently doing business with a vendor you think might be interested in joining our organization, please have them contact me so we can look at getting them involved with the fall conference.

With warm regards,

Christine





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The Oregon Association for Court Administration is a professional organization developed to provide educational opportunities for those individuals interested in the ongoing improvement of the administration of the court in the State of Oregon. By your signature below, you signify your understanding that your membership in OACA is subject to the By Laws of the Association.

Name (Please Print)

Court or Agency

Title

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Fax

Please fill out application how you would like it to appear on all documentation.

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☐ Renewal

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Signature

Date

Referred By (Please print clearly)

Annual Dues are per calendar year (January 1 through December 31) and must accompany this application. Membership in OACA is transferable if dues are paid with public funds and person terminates position. Make check payable to OACA, and forward the application and dues to:

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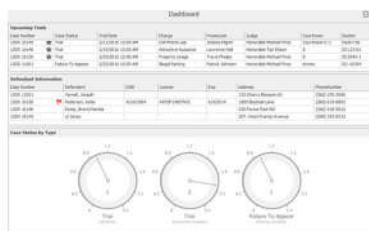
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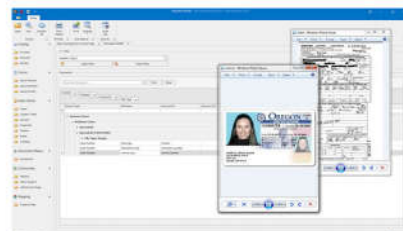
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We appreciate those of you who visited our booth during the conference and look forward to serving every OACA member. Please contact us today or visit us online to learn more!



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EDUCATION

Perhaps you heard me say this after our MSU class, but I want to emphasize it one more time. The level of participation in all of our classes was so impressive! We often feel uncomfortable being singled out or doing activities in front of a large group. However, at this conference I was so excited to see people jumping in and enjoying the activities. As we worked in teams to accomplish tasks or projects, it was apparent people were taking personal responsibility in their educational experience. This is wonderful! It makes for a better learning experience for all in attendance. Hopefully you felt the difference, too. I sincerely thank you for helping make the spring conference an exceptional occasion for learning, networking, and fun! See you in the fall!

Mary Shroll
Education Vice President






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CONFERENCE

Hello everybody!

Spring Conference was so much fun despite the rainy weather. You just never know what you are going to get at the beach during April. That being said, I absolutely LOVED The Hallmark Resort!!! I do not think I can express to OACA just how pleased I was with the hotel and their staff. They were simply amazing, especially considering that we hadn't been to that hotel for a conference in about 10 years. Everything ran so smoothly, which, I for one, greatly appreciate. I heard so many positive comments from the attendees and from the hotel staff about you all as well. The rooms were absolutely gorgeous and the food was scrumptious. I think it goes without saying that we will definitely be going back!

The education was top notch....like off the charts! The MSU session was engaging and very informative with tools that we all can utilize in our courts. Jeff Johnson was the speaker for our first class on Sunday and he is fast becoming one OACA's favorites. He has a knack for weaving fun anecdotes with group activities all while speaking about the topic, which made the morning session just fly by. That being said, every single session at this conference made an impact. Between the education and the hotel, this conference was one of my favorites.

The Past President Reception was a blast. We had a great turnout and Bret Lucich is a very talented musician who encouraged us all to join in the fun with him.

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He had us all singing karaoke and dancing for hours. A perfect way to end the first day of conference. We are looking to make some changes for future receptions, like possibly offering a buffet or plated type of dinner instead of just appetizers. There will still be entertainment but we may be going with a more themed type of event.

Thanks again to everyone who attended as we could not do any of this without you all. The Fall 2017 conference is at The Hood River Inn from October 15th-October 17th. Remember to SAVE THE DATE. Until then, have a safe and fun-filled spring and summer and I will see you in October.

Shawn Branson

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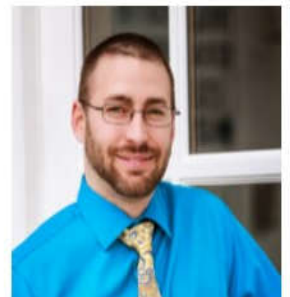
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PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION

PAST AND PRESENT



2017 Spring Conference Session Reviews

CHANGE MANAGEMENT: IGNITE THE POWER WITHIN

Jeff Johnson is the Chief Sales & Marketing Officer at Hawes Financial Group and is known for his great motivational speeches and incredible trainings. He understands the operations of the courts as well as the different types of individuals that we come in to contact with daily, whether it be our supervisors, other co-workers, defendants or other general public. This class was all about Change and the effects it has or can have in ones lives. He kept the class engaged throughout the entire morning using exercises as well as team building activities.

He started off by confirming that almost all people do not like change but that we all have to deal with it in some way, shape or form. He pointed out the principles of change and that a successful change requires the leader to (1) change ones environment by shaping a new path, (2) change ones emotions and (3) change one's mind by giving them a clear message. Change is hard and most people feel like they lose control or worry about the effect of the change once it takes place.

In Jeff's presentation, he pointed out that 'Trust' is where it all begins and that it starts from the inside. In order to make change happen successfully, we all must work together and trust the people, the process and the outcome. Change is work and the harder you work at it and the better attitude you have, the easier the change will be. "Begin with the end in mind"!

Mandy Balcom
Coburg Municipal Court



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Lorraine Nelson, President

CIS SECURITY ASSESSMENTS

CIS Security Assessment

This class was presented by Kurt Chapman and Dave Nelson from City County Insurance Services. This presentation went through the types of workplace violence, actions you can take to protect yourself and others and courtroom security.

There are three types of workplace violence: Customer/Client, Worker-on-Worker, and Personal relationships. Warning signs that you may notice can be a change in someone's behavior; such as, threatening, bullying, physical or emotional abuse or someone who is easily agitated or whose appearance has changed.

You should always be aware of your surrounding and if you are involved in a violent situation take precautions by not confronting the attitude, creating as much physical separation as possible and report any threats. It may also be a good idea to have a courtroom security risk assessment done on both the exterior and interior of a courtroom.

If you have any questions about a courtroom security assessment you can reach Dave Nelson at dnelson@cisoregon.org.

Also check out the full PowerPoint presentation at www.oaca.org

Amy Anderson
Hillsboro Municipal Court

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

While the topic of this class was less than uplifting, Todd Baltzel made the presentation very engaging. He discussed the behaviors of and effects on victims of domestic violence. As you may suppose, victims of domestic violence often suffer from lack of or low self-esteem, feelings of guilt or blame. Many victims are generally fearful, distrustful or anxious. The children who are either victims themselves or witness to domestic violence can suffer from PTSD, anxiety and other behavioral or social problems.

Offenders find and exploit their victims' weaknesses by becoming that which the victim desires or needs, then they slowly introduce abuse. Offenders are adept at isolating their victims from friends, family, church and work. Victims who self-medicate are fearful that they will not be believed or that they will be blamed.

You may ask, "Why doesn't he or she just leave" the domestic violence situation. Some of the barriers to leaving are fear of retaliation, threats of murder/suicide if they leave, fear of losing custody of children, fear that the justice system cannot protect them and many other reasons. Many victims often experience "trauma bonding" when their offender tends to their recovery. Leaving a domestic violence situation is a process, not an event.

The most interesting thing I learned was that the victim's brain is physically changed during the abuse. Because I was so intent on listening to this section, my notes are lacking. I encourage you to visit the OACA website for the class materials for more information.

One other item of great interest to me was the fact that law enforcement has changed their method of interviewing victims of domestic violence. Forensic Experiential Trauma Interviewing (FETI) is being taught to many area law enforcement agencies.

This method of interviewing allows the victim to tell their story without interruption. They interview the “primitive brain” to try to access other memories by asking such questions as what the victim smelled, saw, felt, or heard. This type of testimony is much more impactful on the Judge or Jury. This was one of the best classes on domestic violence that I have attended.

Dori Oliveira

Bend Municipal

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 15-16-17TH—2017

HOOD RIVER INN



COURT AND COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Morning Session

We had an entire day with speaker Rachel Marshall. Rachel Marshall is the Public Education and Community Outreach Administrator for the United States Courts, at the Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse in St. Louis, MO. She also serves in an advisory role to The Judicial Learning Center, Inc.

Ms. Marshall talked to us about the importance of communication. She pointed out that when people understand the information and it is communicated well, they in turn have a better attitude. When people don't understand, they tend to have a poor attitude. As a group, we talked about some of the misunderstandings of courts. Some of the things that we came up with were that we are "unfair", "biased", "connected with police", and "it's all about the money". We came up with a few things to overcome the misconceptions and build the public's trust. Some of which included, "transparency", "consideration", and "separation from police".

When communicating, it is important to remember who our audiences are. A court's audience is far wider than just defendants. Our way of communication is also much greater than just verbal. Forms of communication that reflect on the courts, other than in person are, remote and off-site. Examples of remote communication would be: printed materials, website, email, social media and video. An example of off-site communication would be an event or program. Rachel talked about assessing our audience needs and how to reach these audiences. We learned what a stakeholder was, and the analysis of them. Stakeholders are people or groups that have an investment, share, or interest in something as a business or industry.

The fundamentals of communication are:

Positive; Credible; Honest; Accessible; Open; Understandable
Credible

We did a group activity where we redesigned our webpage. This was a great way for us to put into practice the things we had been learning regarding communication and our audience. When we focused in on the audience needs, it allowed us to think about the things they need to use our resource successfully.

We ended with another group activity. We were given different scenarios where we focused on our audience, message, and discussed methods to communicate.

A great combination of sharing, working together, and great information given.

Melissa Harmon; Linn County Justice Court



Afternoon Session

Rachel talked about assessing needs. She encouraged us to think of who our audience will be and how we can gather information to find out exactly what the needs of our audience are. She talked about starting “small” and collect data from call logs, frequently asked questions, website use, events and speaking with other agencies. Moving on to the “medium” methods of appointing committees, attending meetings and community events, set up a help desk or distribute small surveys. The “large” methods included more complex surveys or focus groups, town hall meetings or an open house for your court.

After speaking with other people at my table it was interesting to hear other’s ideas on what we could do for our own cities or courts to gather information. It just shows how resourceful these conferences are and how valuable sharing our thoughts and ideas with others can be.

Kristina Thoma; City of Milton-Freewater

OREGON'S MEDICALLY AT-RISK DRIVER PROGRAM

What an interesting topic!

When you think of a person having their license taken from them, you may automatically think, bad driver, too many citations, DUI or they were getting too old to drive safely.

Kristopher Keys was full of information, it was a great insight on the processes, and the need for families, and health care providers to pay attention to medical issues a family member/person is going through regardless of their age. I enjoyed him, and liked that he got straight to the point.

Anastasia Olvera-Eichler
Fairview Municipal Court



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