

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello OACA members!

Thank you again to everyone who attended the 2021 Spring OACA virtual conference. Please remember that each session of the conference was recorded for your convenience. While we don't have the capability to see how many of you visited the website to view the sessions, I believe providing these recorded sessions is a valuable resource to our members. We averaged around 50 people per live session.

I want to give a big thank you to all our Board members - without your help there wouldn't be an organization. OACA has been instrumental in providing educational resources and networking opportunities that benefit our membership. We will continue to bring these educational opportunities to our members, be it either virtual or in-person.

We have started to plan an in-person Fall conference at the Best Western Plus Agate Beach Inn, Newport. Cheri Coble, Conference VP, is working hard to make sure everything goes smoothly, and Emira Vejo, Education VP, is diligently working at getting speakers. We also are looking at the idea of recording the fall sessions, in case there are members who can't attend. The Fall conference will be October 10-12, 2021.

I would like to thank our members for participating in the survey monkey. As Board members, we take all your suggestions and ideas to heart. This is your organization, and we want to do the best for all our members.

I hope everyone has a safe and fantastic summer. See you all in October!

Debbie Arntsen
President

2021 POST-SPRING

REGON ASSOCIATION FOR COURT ADMINISTRATION

#### **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.

www.oaca.org

### CONFERENCE CORNER

2020 - 2021 has been very unusual, navigating the pandemic, and we have all had to adapt and engage in different ways. I hope you are all hanging in there even amidst all the change! It's hard to believe that 2021 is moving right along and that Fall is fast approaching! I hope you are having a wonderful spring (almost summer) and are gearing up for our Fall conference at Agate Beach Inn/Best Western in Newport in October! We are excited to hold an in-person conference this year after not being able to meet in person since Fall 2019.

**SAVE THE DATE:** The OACA Fall 2021 conference will be held **Sunday October 10, 2021 through Tuesday October 12, 2021.** 

Planning and mapping are still in the works but don't forget to set an early reminder to register, pay your membership dues and make your hotel reservations! Looking forward to connecting and hope to see you all at the Fall Conference!

Cheri Coble, Conference Vice President Erin Danaher, Director/Conference Eugene Municipal Court

## Are You In The Know?

Stay current with OACA events, question forum, conference materials, legislative updates, job openings and more!

Check out the Member Access section on www.oaca.org today.



### **MEMBERSHIP**

Not an official OACA Member yet? It's never too late to submit your membership application! Membership is valid through the end of 2021 and must be renewed each year. Don't miss out on the great opportunities that membership provides, including:

- Enriching education
- Access to the members-only section of the OACA website
- Discounted conference registration fees
- Ability to network with other court professionals

Remember, the membership application process can only be completed online. If you are unable to submit your application online and need assistance, please contact Mary Quinn, Membership Vice President. Let's increase our membership numbers, share our organization with other court professionals and refer a friend. Each active member that refers three new members in a calendar year will earn a free annual membership or earn a free conference registration for five new referrals in a calendar year! That's a huge incentive so be sure the new member provides your name on their application.

If you have any questions regarding your OACA membership, please contact me at (503) 786-7520 or email quinnm@milwaukieoregon.gov.

Mary Quinn, Membership VP Milwaukie Municipal Court

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### **CERTIFICATION**

Not familiar with OACA's certification program? There is a handout on our website under Education, which explains the certification program requirements and how to submit your certification paperwork. The spreadsheet will assist you with tracking classes and training sessions in the appropriate categories, along with date, type of credit (ex: OACA, NACM, etc.), coursework description and the credits earned. The spreadsheet will calculate the credits for you. Remember...it's your responsibility to complete the spreadsheet when submitting your application and paperwork for certification.

Think you may have enough credits for certification? Dig out all those conference attendance sheets and enter them onto the OACA Certification log sheet. If anyone has certification paperwork ready for any of the 3 levels of certification, please forward to Emira Vejo for review and approval. Spreadsheets and applications are located on the website. These must be included in your submittal for certification.

If you have any questions, feel free to email the Education Vice President.

Emira Vejo, Education Vice President Beaverton Municipal Court

### SPRING CONFERENCE SESSION REVIEWS

#### Surviving and Thriving During COVID

Jo Zulaica presented virtually and shared different coping mechanisms and framed out an emotional intelligence framework for leadership. The content was applicable to everyone no matter their position level.

Jo walked through different steps to conceptualize and illustrate how to take control of your body and infuse positive chemistry. Self-awareness was a key element in beginning the journey and that lends to controlling and managing your own internal environment. The importance of breathing, music, movement, laughter, hugging and meditation were some key components of aligning brain chemistry and creating positive neurons. How endorphins, oxytocin, serotonin and dopamine work in our bodies was highlighted to showcase the mechanics behind how the brain works and how to tap into happiness and balance. Some breathing techniques were also shared. The overarching concepts included 3 Steps:

1) Self-awareness 2) Resonance 3) Brain Hacking

I found Jo to be a very engaging presenter and the content was relevant and inspirational, especially considering our current climate. Being able to attune ourselves really assists with coping when external elements are impacting our lives. I highly recommend watching the recorded session while it is available on the OACA website.

Cheri Coble, Conference Vice President Eugene Municipal Court

### SPRING CONFERENCE SESSION REVIEWS

#### **Session Title: Department of Motor Vehicles**

During this session, several members of the DMV were present to speak about recent and upcoming changes, as well as answer questions from our members. We had a lot of catching up to do since the last DMV presentation in Fall of 2019!

In 2020 the Oregon DMV successfully rolled out their new system. All departments are now live on one system, allowing all incoming information to be updated in real time. They now offer DMV2U to customers, with services that allow individuals to pay their reinstatement fee, request a replacement license, view their driving record, and check their IID requirements. It even includes a virtual assistant for answering questions. More services will be available to customers at a future date, such as hardship permit applications and license, permit, and ID renewals. Once they are done fine-tuning the customer side of their website, the DMV will focus on creating a portal available for use by the courts. This portal will allow for the direct contact and online submission of forms to the DMV. In the meantime, continue to mail and fax in documents as needed. Due to the high volume of incoming faxes, the mailing of documents is still the general preference, while suspension clearances may continue to be faxed for expediency (current turnaround time is 24-48 hours).

As another change, the Oregon DMV is now part of State-to-State, a national verification system. Driving records are shared electronically, so courts can expect to see more convictions from other states when looking at a driver's history. Oregon DMV has started creating their own identification numbers and driver records to record convictions for drivers with out-of-state licenses.

As the DMV rolled out their new system, they also changed the names of their two units, and shifted many of the tasks assigned. The Oregon DMV is now comprised of the Driver Sanctions Unit (503-945-5037) and the Driver Transactions Unit (503-945-5033). The Driver Sanctions Unit is responsible for processing convictions, suspensions, diversion agreements, hardship permits, IIDs, driver improvement/habitual offenders, implied consents, and reinstatement requirements. The Driver Transactions Unit will process clearances/license reinstatements, eConvictions, SR-22 requirements, DUII treatment completion certificates, VWPP, and parking placards. Members can expect to work more with the Driver Transactions Unit than you might have previously.

With COVID-19 protocols in place, many courts have begun to rely on virtual court appearances. The DMV identified that if a judge orders a suspension and the defendant is not able to sign and receive a copy of the suspension notice in person, then the actual suspension will not take effect until the DMV itself has supplied the defendant with proper notice, 30 days after the court's initial order. If a defendant calls your court regarding the differing suspension date, have them call the DMV. The DMV can then sync up the suspension date to match what was ordered by the court.

### SPRING CONFERENCE SESSION REVIEWS

Many other topics were discussed as part of the presentation, and members had a great opportunity to ask about a wide range of subject matter throughout the session. House Bill 4210 was discussed further, involving the elimination of Failure to Comply Suspensions for the nonpayment of traffic tickets, which became operational on 10/1/2020 (any FTC suspension orders received by the DMV after 7/15/20 were not processed by the DMV). Members were updated about new hardship application eligibility and requirements, as well as recent exciting efforts by the DMV in coordination with OSP to increase IID compliance (including a coupon for free IID installation given to 800 of the oldest cases). The importance of getting DUII Diversion agreements to the DMV was emphasized, and it was identified that the court does not have the authority to vacate an IID requirement if imposed indefinitely by the DMV. DMV eConvictions are now being used by all circuit courts, half of the state's justice courts, and some municipal courts, with very positive results so far. A list of SR-22 insurance requirements was provided, and we were updated that as of June 2020, a three-year SR-22 requirement will no longer automatically start as soon as a defendant's court ordered suspension expires but will now only start once the defendant reinstates their license with the DMV. And by popular request, an updated Desk Reference Manual will be provided to OACA members as soon as it is made available, as well as a list of updated forms.

The DMV's technical issues were frustrating, but this session was informative as always! Erin Danaher, Director Eugene Municipal Court

#### **RAP Session**

I wanted to thank everyone that participated in the RAP session. I know that being virtual is quite different than being together. It was good to hear from everyone and to hear about how each of you is coping during COVID. There were many good questions and I hope everyone got the answers they needed. We talked about how long to keep court dockets 90 days and jury records is 3 years. We discussed how courts are doing jury trials, how to keep jurors 6 feet apart and how courts plan for jury trials. We talked about courts doing settlement conferences before they choose to go to trial. Most courts the jury trials are being settled before trial. We talked about the new measure 110 and found out that new legislation is being discussed on this issue.

During the RAP session we talked about suspending for FTA and how courts have been handling their fail to comply cases. We talked about how the last 2 ½ years, during COVID, has changed court procedures and staffing, in general. Some courts have gone to a 4-day work schedule, other courts have divided their staff to make sure court can stay open. The court budget has been affected; training is the first to get cut. We supported each other during this RAP session and gave ideas to each other.

Debbie Arntsen, President Beaverton Municipal Court



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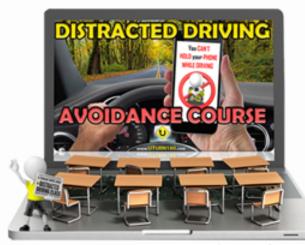
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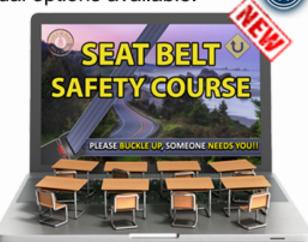
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### SPRING CONFERENCE SESSION REVIEWS

#### LEGISLATIVE UPDATES SPEAKER: JUDGE JULIET BRITTON, BEAVERTON MUNICIPAL COURT

First, I want to thank Judge Britton for stepping up to do this class in a short amount of time. The Board found out the evening of 04/16/21 that Judge Cross, Washington County Justice Court, could not make it on the 20th. Judge Britton stepped in and helped OACA with our first class of the year. It was nice to be back at conference even though it was virtual.

<u>DMV</u> The class started with DMV updates, which many of us are glad to get. A big one was SB 1601 (2020) that ran from 03/01/2020 to 12/31/20. This allowed the court to dismiss violations that had to do with DMV actions being needed, such as renewing drivers license, car tags, change of address/registration, etc. It was a way for the DMV to catch up on their volume. It was not extended Jan 2021, but DMV did send letters to courts and police asking for a rolling moratorium—if DMV credentials are 3 months expired, please don't cite. There was a question if DWS was included, since No Operator license was on the list. You could dismiss No Operator License, but not DWS. DWS would still need to appear or take care of the citation.

For a license, citizenship is no longer a requirement in Oregon to get an ODL (HB 2015,2019). Hardship licenses have changed with SB 1539. Courts no longer need to have hardships for court ordered DUII suspensions signed by the Judge. It also now does not allow a person with

2nd DUII in 5 years to get a hardship.

Courts can no longer suspend for a person who fails to pay their fines from HB 4210, (2020). FTP suspensions after 10/01/20 are not permitted. Suspensions prior to that will be honored in normal course. This got the chat session going. Some are using FTA to keep the suspension. Judge Britton says to do a show cause then do an FTA suspension after a major hearing like show cause. Some courts are already doing that with their FTP's. The length that each court keeps their suspensions active varied too. To find the length of a Judgment: ORS 18.194.

**DRUGS** You can now expunge cannabis charges SB 420 (2019) effective January 1, 2020. Marijuana was legalized in Oregon in 2015. They now have a way to set them aside from 07/01/15 and prior. This bill also eliminates many of the expungement processes needed for other crimes. You do not need to pay a filing fee, no fingerprint card, and no background check. If the state/city objects they have 30 days from filing date. It says the Judge must grant motion of expungement if defendant shows by a preponderance that the conviction is a qualifying marijuana conviction.

The updates also included measure 110: Decriminalization of Drug Possession. This bill started 02/01/21. It now creates a new violation category called "E". It decriminalizes heroin, cocaine and marijuana. The person will get a citation with a \$100 fine. Then they can come to court and get the fine waived if they do an evaluation within 45 days of receiving the citation. This measure also created an "Addiction Recovery Center" where the person is supposed to get their "evaluation" done. Currently the ARC is doing evaluations over the phone until they get their centers set up. This program Is state funded, so the evaluation is free. There was discussion among courts on what to do if they don't appear. Many are entering a default Judgment

for \$100 and sending them off to collections. With this, was the question on reporting. There is no where to report them. Judge Todd was on chat and suggested that they may have been intended to go to Circuit Courts so that they could possibly be reported. If too many citations, could that lead to a criminal charge? In Beaverton we were asked by the Washington County Circuit Court to take these low charges, as they are very busy. Some courts are handling them, some are not.

**COVID & CRIMINAL CASES** Some laws were passed in 2020 (Oregon Laws 2020, Chapter 12, section 6 (1), (a), (A)) permits the Chief Justice to extend or suspend anytime period set out in ORS-applies during a state of emergency. As Judge Britton pointed out, Municipal Courts & Justice Courts do not have to follow the Chief Justice orders, but she keeps it consistent and what they would get at another court they would get the same treatment here.

One that affects many courts with criminal dockets is that DUII diversion can now be extended at anytime (had been within 30 days of ending date). GO 20-041 Extends statutory time periods & requirements for DUII diversions. Some courts have extended past the normal extension dates, and even extend more than 1 time.

**EVICTION** A hot topic now in the news is rent moratorium. HB 4213 (2020) is the statewide eviction moratorium during the pandemic. Tenants could defer paying their rent between April 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020. HB4401 extended the moratorium through June 30, 2021. It is not automatic though. Renter must fill out and sign a sworn declaration. Judge Britton included the form in our class materials.

**CHAT** At the end the clerks had questions and comments on the material and other things relevant to courts.

- -Payment allocations for code violations or city ordinance violations? (some pay, some don't)
- -MIP? Some courts reach out to parents, some don't. You can suspend for MIP if it involves a vehicle.
- -Measure 110-record keeping. On (3): a court not required by this section to forward to any department for record keeping. Many send to Circuit Court. Hoping that if the were recorded maybe a criminal charge later for too many?
- -Truancy? Some courts do Truancy. Parent must attend. If defendant does not appear, parent is fined \$500. Some have status checks and work with the school and parents. This could change with schools closed and distance learning.
- -Community Service? Courts have many ways to calculate community service hours: \$15/HR, \$100 for 8 hours of work, \$10/HR, \$20/HR, work a festival for all 3 days and clear balance owed.

Overall, I enjoyed the beginning of our virtual conference. I look forward to many more OACA conferences.

Sue Carlile-Hopper Beaverton Municipal Court

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