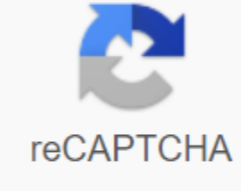




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Columbia county oregon probation officers

Through social partnerships, Columbia County offers customers access to a variety of services designed to increase customer job search opportunities and that emphasize non-criminal thinking and decision-making skills. These include transitional housing, work crews and treatment programs. Learn more about our customer -- and providing ways to increase public safety is our department's responsibility. This is done as follows: home visits of clients by parole/probation officials regularly scheduled reporting requirements for clients random testing for drug court ordered drug and alcohol evaluation and treatment court ordered the work of domestic violence crew and evaluation of sex offenders and treatment of regular polygraph tests for offenders The sexual electronic monitoring of mandatory participation in behavior change programs the court ordered restitution supervision fees and the court ordered the financial obligations of transitional housing supervision specialty participants of the Court of Supervision JRI (Justice Reinvestment Initiative) participants Victims Assistance Program Columbia County committed to prevent additional harm to victims of crime. The staff of our victim support program will stand up for your dignity, safety and rights. Learn more on victim services. -- Victim Information & Notification Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) enables victims of crime to access timely and reliable information about offenders. This free online service is completely confidential. Learn more about VINE -- Our department works with community groups and human services agencies, and ensures continuity of surveillance, incarceration and programming to manage criminal behavior. We work with the Oregon Department of Corrections, the Oregon Youth Authority and local criminal justice agencies. This partnership provides a cost-effective way of taking criminals to account while helping them to change their criminal behaviour. Through these programs, we ensure public safety and seek to reduce recidivism by supervising the individuals referred to in the Juvenile and Adult Division sentenced to probation, post-prison or parole. ADULT DIVISION The Adult Division of the Department of Community Justice is responsible for supervising adult offenders sentenced by a court to probation or released for supervision after imprisonment or parole from a correctional facility. Visit the Adult -- JUVENILE DIVISION The Juvenile Division of the Columbia County Department of Community Justice is committed to protecting the public and reducing crime by taking young people accountable to their and their communities. Visit the Juvenile Division -- VICTIMS ASSISTANCE Columbia County is committed to preventing additional harm to crime victims. Under Oregon law, you have as a victim in a criminal case and it is important to know these rights. The county's probation department has seen huge turnover under Janet Evans, who retired this year. Columbia County's parole director and probation department retired this summer, but not before at least half a dozen employees left the department because of what they described as bullying and harassment from it. Complaints about Janet Evans during her six years at the helm of the Columbia County Department of Justice prompted four investigations into her leadership, including a 2018 probe that found that she showed disrespect for professional courtesies toward others and contributed to a dysfunctional work environment. Former and current staff described a lack of training that led to dangerous situations for both temporary officials and probation officers and the offenders they served in a system designed to help those who committed crimes change their behaviour and get back on their feet. Former parole officials and a superintendent said that employees who got on Evans' wrong side could expect to find themselves ostracized from co-workers, ridiculed, and kept to standards not applied to those in Evans' corner. I have never dealt with anyone so unprofessional or deceived in my career. Eventually, I decided to do what was right for my health and well-being, and I left the agency I care about, wrote Trinity Monahan, a former parole and probation officer in Columbia County in 2017 in a letter to a colleague obtained by Spotlight. Monahan, who also serves on the St. Helens School Board, currently works as a parole officer and superintendent in Multnomah County. Evans joined the county in 2014, coming from a career with juvenile offenders. In Columbia County, Evans oversaw the monitoring of both adolescents and adults. She is not a certified parole officer and probation officer, but she holds certificates for minors, according to the county's HR department. The culture of isolation She's a funny woman, (but) the things that came out of her mouth would shock the sailor, Kris Etnner told Evans. It seemed that if you participated, you were accepted. If you have not participated in this behavior, you will be ostracized. I saw it clearly with Patsy (Sadler) and Trin Monahan. Etnner, who was disbanded in 2017 while still on probation, said she initially participated in some of the teasing that Evans encouraged. He got to the point where it was just ridiculous, vile and intimidating. And then I stopped and became a person who was ostracized as Trin was and Patsy was, said Etnner. Sadler, who retired in 2019, has been a frequent target of abuse, she Monahan both reported in documents obtained by Spotlight. Sadler filed a complaint in 2015 stating that Evans singled her out and downplayed her. At one point, she said, Evans accused her of deceptively, and records show Evans has repeatedly ordered multiple investigations into Sadler's performance starting this year. Sadler is African American. Evans, like most department employees, is white. In one case, Sadler oversaw a client who, due to a physical disability, regularly blurred her speech and seemed intoxicated. Evans argued that Sadler should have ordered a drug test, although the client had completed treatment and was only a month under supervision. Those standards were not those other employees were kept, her colleague Monahan wrote. Etnner said she was clearly told not to train or seek advice from Monahan or Sadler. I learned the most from them and Nicole (Read). Etnner said. I had no experience and I had to get my training from someone, and Justin (Hecht) didn't. Read, a parole officer and superintendent who left the department in 2019, declined to talk to Spotlight for this story. Justin Hecht, the current caretaker of the adult department, declined to comment. Crossing the line of Monahan's letter set a timeline recounting two years of work under Evans. In May 2015, Monahan sent an email to Evans expressing concern about his cooperation with her. But instead of taking steps to improve that relationship, Monahan claimed Evans had become more hostile to both him and Sadler. In his 2017 letter, written about a year after the county left employment, Monahan described the work environment as hostile and toxic. He said sexual remarks and comments about employee bodies were not only frequent, but encouraged by management. Sadler said Evans never commented on Sadler's race, but still felt that Evans racially discriminated against her because she did not treat other employees in the same way. But the county sided with Evans. In a June 2015 letter to Sadler, the county's human resources director, Jean Ripa, wrote that the county inquiry had reported that instead of harassment, it appears that your complaints about Ms. Evans stem from your dislike of Ms. Evans's management style. Sadler declined to comment for this story. Monahan also declined to comment on the recordings, but said the incidents and reports described in the letter and investigations were a thorough reflection of my experience. In one county investigation into Evans, investigator Craig Stoelk wrote that many employees have confirmed that Evans will call selected employees to her office for community visits and show them videos of oil being squeezed from pimples or abscesses - even comparing oil to a specific employee who got on evans' wrong side - and videos of people vomiting during amusement park rides. Hecht, who continues to for county county The head of the adult department, told Stoelk that he and Evans used similar shock-value videos in new rental interviews to see if a potential new member of the department would fit into the group. Hecht stated that to some extent, little is asked of the applicant that really even relates to work-related qualifications and greater emphasis is placed on how well this person will fit into Ms. Evans's new social order. Stoelk wrote. Hecht declined to talk to Spotlight for this story. Rocking the boat Thomas Blum, who spent 10 years overseeing the crew's social work, said his first impression of Evans was positive. It wasn't until Evans joined the county that an investigation was launched into the department's office manager, who was eventually sentenced to prison for embezzling more than \$650,000 in county funds during her nearly 30-year employment. But Blum's opinion of Evans quickly collapsed. Not long after Evans joined the county, Blum told her he wanted to apply for the position of probation officer. He said Evans told him he shouldn't be bothered because he was too old to change careers and had other plans for him. However, when Blum gave two weeks in advance, he said that Evans had not even admitted his departure. Etnner, a rookie parole and curator, had a rough ride yet. Etnner worked in the parole department and probation officer for just over a year before Evans released her. She previously spent more than 14 years as a police officer in Grants Pass and trained in defensive tactics. Despite Etnner's many years of experience, she said Evans didn't let her carry a gun with her. Other curators at the same time said that almost all officers were armed when they conducted home visits. Etnner said she was told she had to complete a probationary academy course and then had to wait until she was certified as a temporary official and superintendent. Eventually, at the end of February 2017, Etnner confronted Evans and told her that he felt unsafe without being able to carry a gun. She was released this spring.

By March 2017, I had received only positive feedback, Etner said. And then I expressed my concerns about my personal safety and training, and bam. ... It seemed that everything I did was wrong as the case was being built against me. In one incident, Etner described that her client had a contagious medical problem, but placed him in a temporary housing unit. Etner said Evans stood at the door of her office and loudly admonished her, saying that Etner's decision put others at risk. Evans then proceeded to berate her client in the lobby, she added, and let everyone know what his medical problem was. It was experience, said Etner. I was shocked. In Etner's letter to the agreement, Evans wrote that Etner lacked conflict resolution skills and demonstrated an inability to comply with Next week, Spotlight examines how the Columbia County government responded to complaints filed against Janet Evans before retiring this year, in the second part of this two-part story. We hope to be kept informed and committed to financing our efforts. The quality of local journalism takes time and money. Please support us in protecting the future of social journalism. Page 2 Patrick Kessi says he is moving out of the city limits. He did not apply for re-election this year. Scappoose City Council President Patrick Kessi has announced that he will resign, effective Monday, October 5. Contacted by Spotlight Thursday, October 1, Kessi said he would be buying a new home and moving out of the city limits of Scappoose. The City Card states that council members must be within the city limits, so Kessi will no longer be eligible to serve. Kessi was elected to the council in November 2016 and began his four-year term on 1 January 2017. Since January 2019, he has served as President of the Council. Kessi did not apply for re-election this year. Kessi said he was pleased with his relationship with other council members over the past four years. I sincerely appreciate the work we have done together during my four-year service, Kessi said. The council, the staff, the mayor put the community first, before any personal program. It's a great way of doing things, and I hope it will work that way for many years to come. I am very excited about the future of Scappoose. The statutes of the city of Scappoose state that council vacancies are filled after appointment. The council will meet on Monday evening, during which time it is expected to formally announce a vacancy. We hope to be kept informed and committed to financing our efforts. The quality of local journalism takes time and money. Please support us in protecting the future of social journalism. Page 3 Tree planting project along Northwest Rock Creek Road will take place in October this year after the culvert replacement. A tree planting project will bring road closures to Northwest Rock Creek Road near Northwest Skyline Boulevard north of Hillsboro this month. The project is after a culvert was replaced under Rock Creek Road earlier this year, prompting nearby slopes to redevelop. Planting works will take place on weekdays (Monday to Thursday) from 7:30 to 16:00 from Tuesday, October 6. The work will require some road closures to stage plants, equipment and supplies to be used during the day because Rock Creek Road is only one lane wide above the culvert, said Multnomah County, which maintains a section of road, in a statement. The road will remain open when crews do not work on the The work is expected to be completed by Thursday, October 29. When the road is closed above the culvert, orange road closure signs will be placed on the intersections, Multnomah County said. The detour route when the road is closed is Northwest Skyline Boulevard to Elliot Road to Rock Creek Road. The culvert replacement project was completed in March. The culvert was replaced because the bottom was rusty, allowing it to clog with dirt and rocks, a county spokesman said. It failed after a clogged culvert created a lake upstream in Rock Creek, threatening a road and a nearby property. The new culvert is two feet wider than the old culvert, and it is made of non-rusting material, Multnomah County said. We hope to be kept informed and committed to financing our efforts. The quality of local journalism takes time and money. Please support us in protecting the future of social journalism. Page 4 Locations along the Lower Columbia River will include St. Helens, Rainier and Longview, Washington. The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership has announced a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to build and install rain gardens in the field to reduce pollution in runoff and improve water quality. With the Grattix Box project, in collaboration with Port of Vancouver and Oregon State University, the nonprofit will install Grattix boxes to purify stormwater at industrial locations in St. Helens and other Columbia River communities, including Longview, Washington and Rainier. Ten boxes have already been built by Oregon State University students, and the remaining fields will be built in partnership with the Port of Vancouver, the partnership said last month. Grattix boxes are large containers with wetlands, soils, sand, rocks and other materials that together filter out up to 95% zinc and 85% copper from runoff. They are installed below the downspouts to treat runoff, especially from galvanized metal roofing common in industrial zones. The boxes are easily replicatable and will serve as a model for other industrial properties to treat their outflow efficiently and inexpensively. The use of Grattix boxes was initiated by port of Vancouver, a partner in an EPA-funded project. As noted in the partnership, contaminated runoff is a major problem in the Pacific Northwest. Galvanized metal roofing materials are treated with zinc to protect against corrosion. Copper is also widely used in industrial applications. But when they get into rivers and streams, zinc and copper in the runoff have a toxic effect on salmon and other aquatic species. The grant is aimed at reducing toxicity in the Columbia River. Funding comes from the Colombia Basin Recovery Fund. Placement locations for the fields have not yet been determined, but the Estuary Partnership will target industrial properties from St Helens to Longview located along Columbia to have the greatest direct impact on water quality. You hope that we will be kept informed and we rely on local journalism takes time and money. Please support us in protecting the future of social journalism. Page 5 MORE STORIES Details Pamplin Media Group September 30, 2020 A cult company based in Prineville reaches an agreement to sell a company to a non-state investment firm called Heritage Group. Group.

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