

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

**RESOLUTION NO. .**

Approving a Sole Source Exemption Request for the Department of Community Justice to Contract with Code for America.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:**

- a. The Board, acting as the Multnomah County Public Contract Review Board (PCRB) and pursuant to PCRB Rule 47-0275, must approve sole source procurements for Services Contracts of \$150,000 or more.
- b. The Department of Community Justice's Crime Victim Service Unit is responsible for advancing the goals of DCJ's Strategic Plan related to the long-term commitment to crime victims' rights and needs. The most recent strategic plan emphasized the importance of creating a victim's services unit. The Victims Service Portal will provide that unit and DCJ's partners with the tools necessary to provide high quality services to those victims served.
- c. DCJ recently served as the lead applicant of a group of three partners (including the Oregon Department of Corrections and the District Attorney's Office) for a fellowship with Code of America, a nonprofit organization that pairs teams of technologists with local governments in order to redesign digital services. The NOI for this fellowship application was approved by the Board on May 12, 2016.
- d. DCJ was recently awarded the fellowship and will need to execute a contract with the Code of America in order to receive fund-matching in the form of technologists who will provide consultation, design, building and testing services of a fully-customized Victims Services Portal through which crime victims will be able to log in and access information supplied by the State Courts, the District Attorney's Office, the Parole Board and the Department of Community Justice regarding their offender's case.
- e. The total cost of the project will be \$500,000. Code of America will provide 50% of the funding needed, the Department of Community Justice will provide \$125,000, the Department of Corrections will provide \$100,000 and the District Attorney's Office will provide \$25,000.
- f. The Portal concept is in response to growing recognition that crime victims' rights are often lost in the complex process of an offender moving through the criminal justice system. Victims are typically engaged by the District Attorney's Office soon after the crime occurs, where their right to information, input and participation in the case against the offender is described and support offered. There is currently no mechanism to relay victims' preferences and needs as the offender moves through the criminal justice system. This disconnect results in the need for victims to continually reassert their rights to a system they do not understand or know how to access. It is not uncommon for victims to lose track of where the offender is, the status of their case, or even when or where they will be released, all of which can have a dramatic impact on the victims ability to work through trauma related to the crime and feel personal safety.

g. The Portal will protect the victim's privacy while simultaneously allowing them to register at any point in time, identify what type of information they want to receive, and modify their preferences throughout the offender's time in the criminal justice system. The Portal will seamlessly support the victim as they change and process their experience over the course of years while ensuring their right to privacy, information, and input throughout.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:**

To approve a two-year sole source procurement authorizing the County to contract with Code of America.

**ADOPTED this 1st day of September, 2016.**

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

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Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:  
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By \_\_\_\_\_  
*Bernadette D. Nunley, Assistant County Attorney*

**SUBMITTED BY: Scott Taylor, Director, Department of Community Justice**