

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY

In the Matter of Improving     )  
Safety in the Department of    )  
Community Corrections         )

RESOLUTION  
95-44

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Corrections Continuum of Safety Task Force met weekly from December, 1993 through July, 1994, to assess and make recommendations concerning the safety of all department staff; and

WHEREAS, the Department has taken the following implementation steps already:

- hired a Safety Coordinator
- funded safety equipment
- re-energizing site safety committees
- purchased new cage vehicles
- provided officers with new radio equipment

WHEREAS, many of the remaining recommendations of the Safety Task Force are supported by all stakeholders and can be implemented quickly and relatively inexpensively; and

WHEREAS, whether or how to arm parole and probation officers is an emotional and contentious issue and a potentially expensive issue for the Board and

WHEREAS, use of deadly force is the last step on the continuum of responses to dangerous situations and the County would lower the danger to the community and its own liability by ensuring that all employees are trained to competence in the steps on the continuum prior to use of weapons.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT, the Board of County Commissioners accepts the Continuum of Safety Task Force report and thanks its members for a careful and comprehensive study of the issue; and

THEREFORE, IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Chair, Liaison Commissioner, and Department Director will develop a plan which recommends options for consideration regarding the Task Force report. The plan should be completed following review of the recommendations by the management support service staff on issues related to labor relations, legal liability, risk management, and budget, but should be completed and presented to the Board on August 1, 1995, in a briefing.