



# MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: 09/23/13)

## Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 2/3/15  
Agenda Item #: B.1  
Est. Start Time: 10:00 am  
Date Submitted: 1/30/15

**Agenda Title:** Board Briefing on Suicide Watch in Multnomah County Jails in Response to FY2015 Budget Note

*Note: Title should not be more than 2 lines but be sufficient to describe the action requested.*

**Requested Meeting Date:** February 3, 2015 **Time Needed:** 45 minutes  
**Department:** MCSO **Division:** Business Services  
**Contact(s):** Chief Deputy Linda Yankee  
**Phone:** 503.988.4308 **Ext.** 84308 **I/O Address:** 503/3/MCSO  
**Presenter Name(s) & Title(s):** Chief Deputy Linda Yankee, Chief Deputy Michael Shults and Dr. Shea Marshman

## General Information

### 1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

This is the second in a series of four Board briefings based on the FY15 budget note.

### 2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results.

Over the past 2 fiscal years, the workload and associated staffing cost of suicide watches in the jail has steadily increased. Suicide prevention training, physical plant modifications, and suicide watch policy changes to prevent in-custody suicides have resulted in a significant reduction in suicides; from 1-2 successful suicides per year to only 1 suicide in almost 4 years. However, these changes have also resulted in increased staffing costs to safely monitor individuals at risk of self-harm while in custody. The Board of County Commissioners has requested a quarterly report on "the use of overtime by the Sheriff's Office and the length of time spent on suicide watch".

### 3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).

During FY2014, overtime costs for suicide watch exceeded \$2 million. MCSO is exploring staffing alternatives to reduce the cost of suicide watches and the BCC funded 5 FTE for Corrections Health to provide 24/7 mental health staffing. On-going analysis by MCSO's Planning and Research Unit will provide insight into the fiscal impact of these changes over the coming year.

### 4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.

See above

### 5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.

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**Required Signature**

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**Elected Official****or Department/** Daniel Staton /s/

1/30/15

**Agency Director:** \_\_\_\_\_**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Please submit electronically. Insert names of your approvers followed by /s/ - we no longer use actual signatures. Please insert date approved."*